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Allow us to compete openly for capital in international markets

# SA needs investments not charity - Ackerman

SOWETAM

12 FEBRUARY 1991

**SOUTH AFRICA does not need - or seek - charitable handouts from the international community, according to a leading local businessman.**

Speaking yesterday at the World Economic and Agro Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Mr Raymond Ackerman, chairman of Pick 'n Pay Stores Ltd said: "I must stress that I'm not here with a begging bowl.

"The South African economy is eminently capable of developing its own potential if permitted to do so. We simply ask that we be allowed to compete openly for investment capital, trade and development loans in the world's financial markets.

## Leaders

He was speaking to an audience including an array of world political and business leaders, like Wilfred Maartens, the Belgian Prime Minister; Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German Foreign Minister; Jan Vlietski, the Polish Prime Minister; the Deputy Trade Minister of Japan; Sir James Goldsmith, the International financier, and some 700 senior delegates from the IMF, GATT, the World Bank, and major international corporations.

FOCUS



RAY ACKERMAN

Should punitive economic measures by Europe and America persist, a new black government in Pretoria may inherit an economy not even able to satisfy the demands and expectations of its own population, let alone be able to stimulate economic activity elsewhere in Africa, he warned.

That could have dire consequences for the country, he said. "Economic decay will almost certainly make it impossible for an already-fragile democracy to survive in a new South Africa, an unable to prevent the new multiparty democracies elsewhere in Africa from sliding back into

authoritarianism.

"South Africa's future, therefore, is integrally linked with that of Africa as a whole. Given international, economic and political trends, it is realistic to suggest that South Africa must become the economic engine room of a continent which has steadily dropped on the priority agenda of the developed world.

"Your governments and companies are in a position to help all in Africa achieve the "de facto" economic independence it so desperately needs to legitimise its "de jure" political sovereignty", he said.

## Investment

South Africa would undoubtedly attract investment capital for it is seen by the international business community as being both reliable and able to guarantee a decent rate of return.

Already, in fact, a number of leading world companies in the food industry alone have expressed direct interest in investing in South Africa.

On the subject of sanctions, Mr Ackerman said in the light of President de Klerk's announcements at the opening of parliament last week, these were no longer an

issue. There can be no doubt South Africa was speedily and irreversibly on course to a new and equitable political dispensation.

"Unfortunately, these bold political steps come at a time when the world economy is preoccupied with decreasing growth rates and the problems of reconstruction in eastern Europe. Moreover, funds available for Africa are not what they were, and European trade and investment in Africa is on a downward slide.

"We in South Africa are ideally positioned to spearhead an economic recovery on our continent. We are better placed than most to export skills, experience and technology into Africa: in spite of sanctions (so vigorously applied by northern nations) our economic infrastructure is still the most sophisticated on the continent. The need for a strong, vibrant economy in South Africa, therefore, has continental, and even international implications.

"South Africa already trades with almost every country in Africa - exporting products worth some R5,6 billion last year - and despite sanctions, trade with African countries increased by more than 45 percent during the last 24 months."



# Mandela Witness Missing; Trial Halted

By **CHRISTOPHER WREN**  
New York Times

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The criminal trial of Winnie Mandela stopped abruptly on Monday when the prosecution announced that one of its main witnesses against her was believed to have been kidnapped Sunday.

Mandela, wife of African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, is charged with four counts of kidnapping and four counts of assault in the abduction and beating of four youths who were taken to her home in Soweto in late December 1988.

The youngest, 14-year-old James Moeketsi Seipei, was later found with his throat cut. The

other three were freed.

On Monday, Winnie Mandela formally pleaded not guilty to all charges, as did three co-defendants. Her chief bodyguard, Jerry Richardson, was convicted last year of Seipei's murder and sentenced to death. He is appealing.

The trial began Monday after two days of preliminary motions.

Jan Swanepoel, the lead prosecutor, requested a short recess to fetch his first witness, Kenneth Kgase, one of the three survivors of the abductions and beatings.

They testified against Richardson and were expected to repeat the charge, made during his trial, that Winnie Mandela had taken part in the assault. But Swanepoel

returned to court to ask presiding Justice M.S. Stegmann for a day's delay in the proceedings.

"I have just now been informed that one witness was kidnapped last night," Swanepoel said. "I don't know if it is true, my lord, but if it is true, it is a very serious development, because it will obviously intimidate other witnesses."

The three witnesses, he said, had been living under the care of the Methodist Church at a house in Johannesburg.

Stegmann adjourned the case until today to give police time to search for the missing witness, who was identified as Gabriel Pelo Mekgwe.



Associated Press

**Uproar:** Winnie and Nelson Mandela (left rear) arrive Monday at the Rand Supreme Court as police scuffle with African National Congress supporters.

## Ambush Kills 17

Seventeen people were killed and 29 were wounded after gunmen ambushed a motorcade of members of the Inkatha Freedom Party outside the town of Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, police said Monday.

It was the worst single incident of violence in Natal Province since the African National Congress and Inkatha concluded a peace accord in Durban on Jan. 29.

David Ntombela, a local Inkatha leader, accused "ANC people" of having ambushed the two buses and a pickup truck that were bringing Inkatha followers home from a mass prayer meeting.



# Winnie trial witnesses may get protective custody

Mercury Correspondent

**JOHANNESBURG—**The Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand, Mr Klaus von Lieres, was last night considering placing State witnesses in the kidnapping and assault trial of Mrs Winnie Mandela in protective custody following Sunday's alleged kidnapping of a key witness.

After disclosing that Mr Gabriel Peto Mekgwe, 21, had been abducted from the Methodist Church in Soweto, the State's chief prosecutor, Mr Jan Swane-poel, yesterday told the Rand Supreme Court he could not continue with the case when witnesses' lives were in danger.

The trial was postponed until today to allow police to search for Mr Mekgwe.

A police spokesman last night confirmed detectives were searching for Mr Mekgwe and investigating claims of his abduction. At the time of his disappearance Mr Mekgwe was under the care of the Methodist Church and the Legal Resources Centre.

## Activist

When contacted last night, Mr von Lieres said other witnesses in the trial were not in protective custody but he was considering the possibility.

Mr Mekgwe is at the centre of the trial as he is one of the four youths allegedly abducted from the Soweto Methodist Church in December 1988 and taken to the Diepkloof, Soweto, home of Mrs Mandela where they were assaulted.

One of the youths, 14-year-old activist Stompie Moeketsi Seipel, was taken from the house a few days later and murdered by a former bodyguard of Mrs Mandela, Jerry Richardson.

Shortly before Mrs Mandela's court case began last Monday Mr Mekgwe made headlines again when reports alleged he and another man abducted along with Stompie, Mr

Barend Mono, were being employed by the African National Congress (ANC).

The reports were dismissed by the ANC.

## Protest by nurses

Mercury Reporter

**ABOUT 150 nurses** from KwaZulu and Natal provincial hospitals marched through central Durban yesterday protesting about disciplinary proceedings against some of their colleagues.

The march follows inquiries into charges of misconduct against nurses from Prince Mshiyeni, Edendale, and Johannesburg hospitals, who participated in a recent strike, and a nurse from R.K. Khan Hospital, who took part in a protest march last year.

The nurses marched to Commercial City, where they handed in a memorandum calling for the withdrawal of all charges.

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## NEWS

# Mandela hopeful about interim government idea

**JOHANNESBURG—**ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela said he was optimistic that the ANC and the Government would be able to resolve both the questions of a constituent assembly and an interim government.

Speaking on SABC's late night current affairs programme, *Agenda*, last night, he said though the ANC and the Government had started 'talks-about-talks' from different positions, remarkable progress had been made and agreements had been reached at the end of their previous two summit meetings.

And that is why I am very optimistic that even on the question of a constituent assembly and an interim government, we will be able to reach agreement.

There have been some problems which have cropped up, and some of them are so serious that they can even displace the peace process. I consider them to be very grave mistakes, but on both sides (the ANC and the Government) there are men and wom-

en who require peace, and that gives us confidence.

On the question of continued political intolerance and violence among supporters of the ANC, the Inkatha Freedom Party, and the Pan Africanist Congress, in spite of recent peace initiatives, Mr Mandela said it would be unrealistic to expect that a single meeting between the ANC and the IFP would resolve the question of violence.

'We require to do much more ground work,' he said.

'Until a machinery has been set up and that machinery begins to work efficiently, you must expect that there will continue to be clashes.'

He reminded that a 'joint-machinery' had been set-up with Inkatha providing for joint tours of strife-torn areas by IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and himself, while a joint ANC/PAC-liaison committee was being established to address problems of political intolerance. — (Sapa)

## Mandela meeting off

Mercury Correspondent

**CAPE TOWN—**The meeting between President de Klerk and the deputy president of the ANC, Mr Nelson Mandela, on Thursday, has been postponed to February 25.

A statement from the President's office yesterday said the meeting had been postponed at the request of Mr Mandela. No further details were given.

Thursday's meeting was to have discussed a memorandum on education submitted by the ANC to Mr de Klerk on January 29, three days before the opening of Parliament.

The memorandum addresses several aspects of black education as well as education in general, and was a result of efforts by the Education and Training Minister, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe to 'stimulate dialogue' on these issues.



# Angola 'will be S A's best trading partner'

CAPE TOWN—Trade with Angola was beginning to take place now and in the future it would be South Africa's best partner in Africa, Foreign Affairs Director-General Neil van Heerden said yesterday.

In an interview, Mr van Heerden said Angola was a very rich country but 'is not a bread basket'. Entering into trade with Angola would be beneficial to both parties.

Apparently, Angola has wanted to enter into formal trade with South Africa since at least 1988, but the Government had resisted because of the Angolan civil war and the related tension, with the MPLA Government accusing S A of supporting Unita to destabilise the country.

Various business initiatives have been started in the past few years and especially since the Namibian settlement in 1988 and, according to a business source, this has paved the way for a warming of relations between the two countries.

## Ceasefire

One of the primary attractions for South Africa are the rich oil fields in Angola, which could offer substantial benefit to the economy.

Mr van Heerden said he could foresee that in the next two years trade might be normalised with Angola, but there first had to be a ceasefire in the country and the peace process had to be working before South Africa would want to make any formal arrangements.

A ceasefire would open all sorts of channels and therefore South Africa had a strong vested interest in making it come to fruition.

'We have been working hard to get this ceasefire as soon as possible,' he said.

Mr van Heerden's positive response follows an unusually lengthy two-hour meeting last Friday with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Luanda, where they discussed Angola's allegations at the Joint Commission talks that South Africa had started to resupply Unita with military hardware.

## Mercury Correspondent

Angola claimed there were many cases of aircraft violating its airspace. Mr van Heerden said it had been explained to the Angolans that there were many other countries who

were supplying aid to Unita, most notably the U.S.

'We know that there are also other agencies involved,' said Mr van Heerden.

He said the temptation for the MPLA to blame South Africa was always there and the Government had agreed to deal with the allegations on a bilateral basis and had held extensive talks about these.

Mr van Heerden said: 'We continue to support the right of the people of

Unita to participate fully in the political and social life of Angola,' and South Africa would put pressure on the Angolans to allow the necessary medicine and foodstuffs, controlled by aid agencies, to be delivered to Angolans in the south of the territory.

Mr van Heerden was unequivocal that no authorised flights had left South African territory to violate Angolan airspace and was firm that there were neither official nor unofficial activities with Unita in violation of the signed agreement.

THE NATAL MERCURY, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1991

## THE FORUM Letters to the Editor

### Cohen hit nail on the head

SIR — The United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr Herman Cohen, I think unknowingly, hit the nail right on the head when he said 'there is a tradition in Southern Africa of intolerance to opposition within the black community'. Mr Cohen expressed the hope that the black leadership would put a stop to this before it became a civil war.

It is a great pity that world leaders such as Mr Cohen have not yet learnt, despite the military take-overs and one-party states in Africa, that with the Africans there can never be the white man's style of government with an 'opposition', and certainly no such thing as 'shared power'.

In South Africa we have whites, Indians, coloureds and nine black ethnic divisions, each with their different cultures and language, and this diversity is the root of our problem.

We already have civil war in South Africa due to the fact that the white man is seen to be in the process of a surrender of power. The declared aim of the ANC is to make South Africa ungovernable and in the townships they have certainly succeeded.

Mr Cohen mentions that R82 000 000 in United States aid will be given for black education, but it is quite impossible for the white man to build schools (and houses, hospitals, etc) to keep up with the black birth rate, nor will jobs be available.

The most sensible use for this money would be to establish clinics throughout the country to educate blacks in family planning. Certain disaster faces this lovely country unless blacks learn to control their urge to reproduce without thought of the consequences.

Durban

L F MAURICE

Does Mr Dubois really think that rationally discriminatory measures will be acceptable in a new South Africa?

Mr Marais said the action planned by the NP, on which its 1989 General Election campaign was based, contained a clear and emphatic commitment to rid South Africa of all vestiges of social or other discrimination.

He attacked the chairman of the CP in Port Natal, Mr Duncan Dubois, saying that he was desperate to score a political point for his increasingly irrelevant party.

THE National Party MP for Port Natal, Mr Johan Marais, has rejected a call by the Port Natal branch of the CP that he should resign because he was elected to Parliament with a mandate to 'keep schools white' and to maintain the Group Areas Act.

Political Reporter

to resign

MP Marais snubs CP call

N. Mercury



THE NATAL

# MERCURY

12 FEBR. 1991

## SAP'S THUNDERBOLT

THE MASSIVE crime prevention operation launched by the S A Police, Defence Force and traffic authorities at the weekend will be seen as a huge success by most people, if for no other reason than the almost unbelievable number of suspects that were apprehended and the equally amazing range of crimes with which they were connected.

Final statistics show that more than 11 000 arrests were made, in connection with misdemeanours ranging from stolen firearms, cars and livestock to murder, rape and possession of gold, uncut diamonds and illegal explosives.

Predictably, the ANC made disapproving noises and wanted to know the racial breakdown of those held. But, again, most people will agree that in the wake of the current tremendous upswing in crime, both petty and serious, some action was needed and will be needed again.

Coincidentally, Defence

Minister Magnus Malan chose this weekend to announce that more than a billion rands are to be lopped off the budget for defence.

We ask what better way can those rands be used than to increase the rewards, the preparedness and the striking ability of the police force to cope with the lawlessness in the land?

Some observers have said this lawlessness should be seen in terms of the war-front moving from the border between Namibia and Angola into our backyards. If that is the case, there would be ample justification for the use of that billion in the way we suggest.

It would also help to prevent a recurrence of last year's pay-related mass defections from the police force, and in so doing raise the standards of the crime prevention efforts of the S A P and improve the lot of those whose unenviable task it is to stand in the 'thin blue line'.



# Britain seeks greater understanding with SA

N. MERCURY

12 FEB. 1991

## Mercury Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—Britain wished to deepen its relationship with South Africa and Prime Minister John Major was 'very much' looking forward to meeting President de Klerk, the British Minister for Overseas Development, Mrs Lynda Chalker, said yesterday.

Speaking at Tuynhuys before meeting Mr de Klerk, Mrs Chalker said that Britain wished to increase understanding between the two countries which was already on a firm footing thanks to the ground-work established under Mrs Margaret Thatcher's prime ministership.

Earlier, Mrs Chalker, the first British Minister to visit South Africa since Mr Major's rise to power, announced substantial increases for British scholarship programmes for disadvantaged students in South Africa.

## Projects

Asked if changes in South Africa could herald further increases in British aid to South Africa, Mrs Chalker said Britain had been steadily working away at giving help particularly to education and other community projects over the past five years.

Mrs Chalker said she knew Mr Major was keen on working not only with South Africa but with southern Africa for peace, stability and progress 'because these are the things that matter to all the people of southern Africa'.

Britain had welcomed Mr de Klerk's opening of Parliament address 'and I'm here to learn more about what it entails', she said.

## Exchange

Mr de Klerk confirmed that the talks would chiefly focus on British aid to South Africa.

However, he added: 'We will also use the opportunity to exchange views generally about South Africa's position and southern Africa's position in relation to Africa.'

'We will obviously also be talking about the relationship between the South African Government and the British Government generally.'

Last night Mrs Chalker met a variety of community leaders and the chairman of the Independent Development Trust, Dr Jan Steyn, at the home of the British ambassador, Sir Robin Renwick.

## Fugitive Coetzee ready to fly home

By Ian Hobbs

LONDON—Self-confessed political killer Dirk Coetzee last night said he was prepared to fly home immediately to help Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok make the 'full, complete and very ugly' details of the alleged 'Death Squad' murders public.

'I want to tell him exactly who the very senior and powerful officers in the police force are who should be suspended immediately — and why,' said Mr Coetzee.

'Nobody is safe and the police cannot be trusted, not by Mr Vlok and certainly not by the majority of South Africans and the ANC, until these men are removed from their positions of great power,' said Mr Coetzee.

Mr Coetzee said what he wanted first and foremost was State aid to appoint a legal team for himself in South Africa — before he returned.

With guaranteed immunity, he was prepared to return home 'forthwith' to have, firstly, a face-to-face meeting with Mr Vlok.

In Cape Town yesterday Mr Vlok said the police would do Mr Coetzee no harm if he came back to South Africa to give evidence about alleged hit squads in open court.

He issued an open invitation at the Cape Press Club to Mr Coetzee to return to South Africa and face the 'final test ... and that is the test of an open criminal court'.

'The police will not prosecute him, the police will do him no harm,' he said.



## A bloody setback

N. Mercury 12 FEB. 1991

NOBODY expected the historic peace meeting between Mr Nelson Mandela and Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi in Durban two weeks ago to produce instant results. The cycle of violence and retribution that has claimed many hundreds of lives and disrupted entire communities in Natal over the past six years has built up smouldering resentments between the ANC and Inkatha that could hardly be extinguished by fine words and a handshake, no matter how fast the good news of the peace accord spread.

Nevertheless, the massacre of 17 people, apparently Inkatha supporters returning from a prayer meeting, in a bus ambush outside

Pietermaritzburg on Sunday is an appalling setback to the high hopes of a fortnight ago.

It is important to establish the facts and not to jump to conclusions, but it appears that this was no random act of violence. The careful planning of the ambush and the number and type of weapons used make it unlikely that those who perpetrated it were not aware of the peace accord.

If that is so, we are looking either at another example of leadership authority being flouted, or at the possibility that someone is trying to run a cynical double agenda. Joint ANC-Inkatha efforts to promote peace in the region must be pursued visibly and energetically.



# Troops in to

X N. Mercury

12 Febr. 1991

# prevent



# bus revenge

By Philani Mgwaba  
and Ingrid Oellermann

**SECURITY** force reinforcements were sent to the Taylor's Halt district near Pietermaritzburg yesterday where at least 17 people were slain and a further 29 were injured in an attack on busloads of people returning from an Inkatha peace rally late on Sunday.

The scores of extra men were brought to avert a possible revenge attack by a group of Inkatha supporters which had swelled to almost 5 000 by early yesterday.

There were fears that a revenge attack would take place during the night.

But as the Inkatha supporters were on the march yesterday morning, a KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member, Mr David Ntombela, managed to persuade the angry group from attacking the KwaShange area.

By midday yesterday the group had dispersed and the situation was stable.

Mr Ntombela said yesterday that those killed were Inkatha members who were ambushed late on Sunday while travelling in two buses from a meeting at KwaQanda, a rural settlement outside Pietermaritzburg.

## Stayaway

The meeting was apparently a report-back on results of the recent peace talks between Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela.

It is understood that the attackers lined both sides of the road, firing on the buses with rifles and pistols, as well as stoning them.

'The people are angry about the attack and I had to dissuade them from attacking KwaShange. No one went to work because the people wanted to go to KwaShange and avenge the deaths of their friends and relatives,' Mr Ntombela said.

Mr Ntombela said another 11 people were injured in the attack and he expected more bodies to be found because some people had not returned home since the attack.

In KwaShange, several residents said a group from Elandskop had stopped buses yesterday morning, looking for people who lived in areas where the ANC was known to have support.

One resident, who refused to be named, said: 'Schools are closed and people did not go to work for fear that their homes would be attacked. Everybody is armed and ready for a possible attack from Elandskop.'

● The ANC last night invited Inkatha, the PAC and other 'anti-apartheid organisations' in Natal to institute jointly a commission of inquiry to uncover those responsible for the attack.

The ANC condemned the attack 'in the strongest possible terms' and extended 'its deepest condolences to the bereaved families and all those who sustained injuries'.

● Our Pietermaritzburg Bureau reports that police were still combing the KwaShange district yesterday for bodies.

A police helicopter circled above the area yesterday.

Mr Ntombela and two local chiefs, Mr Nsikayezwe Zondi of Sweetwaters and Mr Vusi Ngcobo, addressed thousands of angry Inkatha supporters who gathered in groups yesterday.

They urged them not to take the law into their own hands. The crowds disbanded after several hours.

An S A Police spokesman, Maj Pieter Kitching, said the dead and injured had been found scattered over a wide area indicating they had been fleeing.

The majority had bullet wounds or stab wounds and some had been hacked with axes.

The injured were admitted to Edendale and Grey's hospitals but by late yesterday only two victims remained in hospital.

Maj Kitching said when the buses were stopped by gunmen who began shooting, many of the passengers panicked and jumped out of the buses and fled. The buses drove off.

● See also Page 8 and Editorial Opinion



## Parliamentary briefing

### Confusion turns to mirth

CONFUSION over who is the ruling party in the House of Delegates turned to mirth yesterday during the second reading debate on the Labour Relations Amendment Bill.

Winding up his address to an extended committee the independent MP for Durban Bay Mr Arulsivathan Naidoo asserted that 'the ruling party in the House of Delegates supports this Bill'.

Greeted with cries of 'which party?', Mr Naidoo responded: 'I do not know which party'.

Clearly opting for a neutral stance, he added: 'Rather, I will conclude by saying that all members in the House support the Bill.' — (Political Correspondent)

### F W likely to ask Reddy to stay on

By Chris Whitfield, Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—The struggle for power in the House of Delegates remained in a state of flux last night with both major parties lobbying for position before President de Klerk makes a decision on the composition of the Ministers Council.

Mr de Klerk is expected to move on the issue tomorrow or Thursday and there is a growing feeling here that, given the present political situation, he will ask Dr J N Reddy and his Ministers Council to 'stay on'.

However, Mr Palanisamy Devan, one of four Solidarity MPs who crossed the floor during the no-confidence debate on Friday and who is tipped as leader of a new alliance party, frankly admitted yesterday that 'it was an endeavouring to get more members'.

#### No-confidence

One Solidarity member had already handed him a membership application form, he claimed.

It is understood the new party — an alliance of Mr Amichand, Rajbansi's National People's Party, independents, the four Solidarity members who defected and the minor parties in the House — will be called the Republic Party.

However, it cannot bank on the support of seven MPs who voted against Solidarity in the

no-confidence debate. They are the three Democratic Party representatives and four from the Merit People's Party.

That leaves the alliance with only 16 MPs — three less than the 19 who stayed with Solidarity in the no-confidence vote.

#### Defected

In the circumstances, President de Klerk would probably stick with Solidarity's Ministers' Council in spite of the vote on Friday to have it reconstituted.

However, Mr Devan was confident more Solidarity members could be convinced to join the new party.

On the other hand, Dr Reddy said yesterday he expected some of the Solidarity members who had defected to return to the fold.

If the situation is not clarified before Wednesday Dr Reddy may ask the President to dissolve the House and hold an election.

Mr de Klerk was yesterday asked by the Natal Indian Congress and the Transvaal Indian Congress to disband the House of Delegates and withhold MPs' salaries and perks, writes Veven Bissetty.

In a strongly worded statement yesterday, the organisations said the Indian community 'has had enough of this mockery' and therefore 'urges you to disband the HoD'.

## Portrait of Mrs Suzman handed over to Parliament

Mercury Correspondent

VETERAN civil rights campaigner Helen Suzman, the former MP for Houghton, was honoured yesterday when a portrait of her was handed over to Parliament.

The portrait painted by her daughter, Mrs Francis Jowell, was accepted by the Acting Speaker of Parliament, Dr Helgard van Rensburg, at a ceremony attended by a number of former colleagues.

#### Sole voice

Mrs Suzman, who was first elected to Parliament in 1953 and retired in 1989 as South Africa's longest-serving MP, was a member of the United Party and was a leading member of the 11 MPs who broke away from the UP in 1959 to form the Progressive Party.

She was the Progressive Party's sole representative in Parliament between 1961 and 1974, when six other Progressive Party MPs were elected.

Mrs Suzman then became part of the Progressive Reform Party,

the Progressive Federal Party, which became the Official Opposition in 1981, and the Democratic Party.

Dr van Rensburg described her as 'one of the great parliamentarians of all time'.

'If you wanted to debate with her, you had to know what you were talking about or come off a bad second. I developed a great respect for her,' Dr van Rensburg said.

Referring to the pending repeal of the Population Registration Act, Mrs Suzman said she was once called a subversive in the past for suggesting this.

'I would not say "I told you so" but I would think it quite a lot.'

#### Nasty

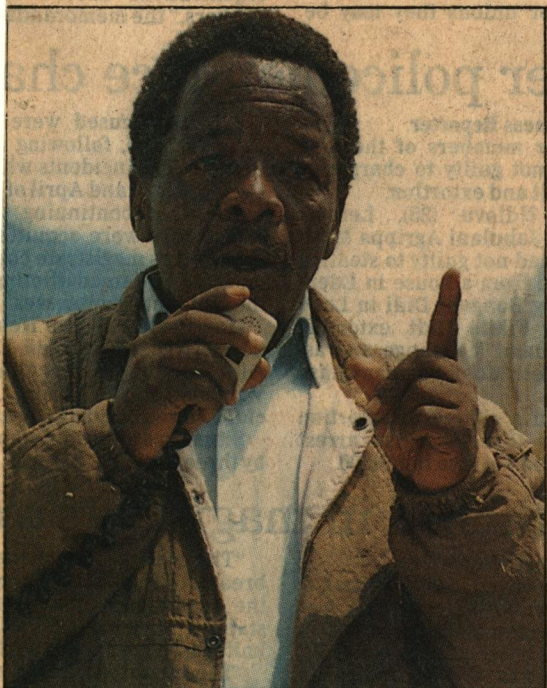
She said she missed Parliament, particularly the cut and thrust of debate, 'which was always to my liking, preparations for debate and thinking up nasty interjections'.

Mrs Suzman added: 'I even miss fighting with Harry Schwarz.'



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NATAL WITNESS



KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member David Ntombela (above) urged a crowd (right) at a hastily arranged meeting at the Sweetwaters bus depot yesterday not to retaliate after the Sunday night's bus ambush.

**Pics: Mike Matthewman and Scotch Macaskill**





12/2/91 STAR  
NEWS

# Youth leader fired shots, court hears

By Melody McDougall  
Vereeniging Bureau

Another two witnesses yesterday told the Vereeniging Supreme Court they had seen Themba Khoza, chairman of Inkatha Transvaal Youth Brigade, fire shots at people at the Sebokeng hostel on September 4.

One of the witnesses also told the court he had seen a white policeman fire a shot into the air at the scene the same morning.

James Nogubane was testifying at the judicial inquest into the deaths of 42 people at the Sebokeng hostel.

The inquest is being chaired by Mr Justice Eddie Stafford.

In his testimony, Mr Nogubane, a Sebokeng hostel resident, said he and a roommate, Dwebityale Yelani, had left their room on the morning of September 4 after hearing shots being fired outside between 4 am and 5 am.

They had gone to Hostel 3, Block E, where they had seen a group of Inkatha members

wearing red headbands.

Mr Nogubane said: "The Zulus fired shots at us."

While they were running away, he saw Mr Yelani had been wounded.

Mr Nogubane said he had later returned to the scene to fetch Mr Yelani - who had been injured in the mouth and chest. He had arranged to have the man taken to hospital, where he later died.

Mr Nogubane said he had seen Mr Khoza "shooting at the people", soon after he had witnessed a white policeman firing the first shot into the air.

## Fall

Earlier, another hostel dweller, Shadrack Mokoena (18), told the court he had been in his room when he heard shots. He had seen a group of Zulus at Block E fire shots at a man (Nicholas Skosana).

"I saw that it was Themba Khoza who was firing. I saw the deceased fall and then hid away in my room," Mr Mokoena said.

He told the court he knew Mr Khoza as he frequently visited room 20 at the hostel.



## NEWS

# Mandela: we will accept any election verdict

By Julianne du Toit

Nelson Mandela, deputy president of the ANC, last night said his organisation would accept and obey the verdict of an election — even if the results went against it.

However, he took considerable trouble to stress that the ANC represented most of the nation.

Mr Mandela was speaking to TV's Agenda presenter Harald Pakendorf about his first year of freedom, a year to the day since he was released from almost three decades of imprisonment.

### Hopeful

And despite the fact that President de Klerk recently rejected the option of an interim government and a constituent assembly, Mr Mandela announced himself very hopeful that his organisation and the Government would reach an agreement on these issues.

Remarkable progress had been made during the two summits, even though "we start from different positions" and problems had cropped up which could have disrupted the peace process, he said.

The European Community had made a grave mistake in reviewing its stand on sanctions, he said.

"There will be more mass action in the country. With widespread instability, the environment will not be conducive to investment."

He admonished the press for having portrayed him as threatening the EC on this issue.

Mr Mandela condemned right-wing projects to "dismember the country", but added that if they held discussions with the ANC, "most fears would be removed".

Mr Pakendorf needed Mr Mandela on the organisation's apparent reluctance to end the bitter four-year conflict by talking to Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Mr Mandela shrugged this off, saying he and Chief Buthelezi had been in almost constant contact since his release from prison.

"Bad blood" between the organisations had made it difficult "to do the spadework" and soften hard attitudes, he said.

Also, after only one meeting it was unrealistic to expect conflict to end.

"Until the machinery is set up and working efficiently, you must expect more clashes."

When questioned about his health, Mr Mandela said: "What dominates is a feeling of well-being, but I am not a young man any more and the work load is heavy."

On February 26 he was going to take a holiday.

"It will be a highly guarded secret and not even the National Executive of the ANC will know where I am, since the last time I took a holiday, they called me back after only three days."

Mr Mandela twice admonished Mr Pakendorf for interrupting him.



# Don't take revenge, armed crowd urged

12 FEBRUARY 1991

NATAL WITNESS

by WYNDHAM HARTLEY  
and CRAIG URQUHART

THOUSANDS of Inkatha supporters were persuaded yesterday not to attack kwaShange — after the toll of Sunday night's bus massacre rose to 17 people killed and 29 wounded.

A stayaway had been called by Inkatha in the upper Vulindlela area in response to the attack, and more than 5 000 heavily armed men gathered at Taylor's Halt to seek revenge.

However, David Ntombela — a member of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly — interceded and urged the people to exercise restraint.

A short while later, Ntombela, with senior police officers, again interceded, this time in Sweetwaters, where a spontaneous gathering of Inkatha men wanted to avenge the killings.

The killings occurred when KwaZulu Transport buses were returning to the rural settlement of Sweetwaters from nearby Taylor's Halt, where the passengers had met local residents to discuss moves to promote peace in Natal.

This followed the peace accord between ANC leader Nelson Mandela and president of Inkatha Freedom Party Mangosuthu Buthelezi two weeks ago aimed at ending a bloody feud between supporters of their movements which has claimed more than 4 000 lives in the past five years.

Ntombela told the men, who were armed with traditional weapons and firearms, that he was speaking in his individual capacity and not as a member of Inkatha.

"We stand for peace and, although they call me a warlord, I never killed anyone," Ntombela said. "No one should take the law into their own hands."

Ntombela said there was a definite feeling among the chiefs that they did not want ANC people in their areas.

"There were no guns on our people who were killed at kwaShange — be patient, talk to God, and the chief and indunas will tell you what to do," he said. He added that the world could now see "who is sparking the trouble all the time" and that it was not Inkatha.

Police Captain Danie Meyer told the crowd that an attack on kwaShange would be pointless as there were only women and children left in the area, and he urged the men to disperse peacefully.

In the meanwhile police discovered more bodies scattered in the veld near the scene of the original attack. Police spokesman Major Pieter Kitching said spent shotgun and R1 cartridges were also found.

The National Executive Committee (NEC) of the African National Congress (ANC), in a statement issued from Johannesburg, condemned the attack in "the strongest possible terms" and extended condolences to the bereaved and injured.

The ANC invited the Inkatha Freedom Party, the Pan Africanist Congress and other anti-apartheid forces operating in the Natal region to jointly institute a commission of inquiry into the incident.

Inkatha national chairman Frank Mdlalose said last night that peace efforts between Inkatha and the ANC were still definitely on course. He had discussed the bus incident with ANC national executive member Jacob Zuma, and they had agreed they would "jointly look into the matter".

Mdlalose said there was still a strong commitment to peace, and that the leadership of neither side wished to point fingers.

"We must investigate together and then together decide what action to take."

However, the ANC Natal midlands region claimed in a press statement that people leaving an Inkatha meeting on Sunday attacked Gezibuso, killing two elderly residents of the area.

The statement said the branch was also concerned about some of the comments made by police at Ntombela's meeting, which "again indicate their partiality in the conflict".

"Rather than apportion blame at this stage, before all the facts are known, we believe that an independent inquiry should be conducted as soon as possible into Sunday's events," the statement read.

Ntombela dismissed the accusations as "rubbish".

BELOW: The body of one of the men found near the scene of Sunday night's bus massacre which left 17 people dead.





# We're nobody's mouthpiece —

STAR

IT IS not unknown for editors to make a point of commenting on readers' letters. Sometimes the object, all too obviously, is to outsmart the letter writers.

This has always seemed to me to run counter to the principle that the letters page is primarily readers' territory and that the editor should try to keep out of it, except where it may be necessary, for instance, to correct a factual misstatement.

FW Thorpe of Midrand complains that the editor did not reply to a question he put at the end of a recently published letter. This letter criticised one of The Star's editorials on the grounds that it had not "bluntly and unequivocally" condemned the ANC for "ignoring the arms embargo and retaining their huge armoury", particularly AK-47 rifles.

Mr Thorpe's last sentence ran: "Or is it possible that you support the action of the ANC?"

I must say that when I read the letter in The Star, I took this last

sentence to be a rhetorical question, to which Mr Thorpe would not have expected an answer.

However, it appears he posed it in all seriousness, going so far as to envisage the possibility that "The Star's aim might be to become the ANC's mouthpiece if they gain government control".

I therefore asked the editor-in-chief, Richard Steyn, to comment. He says: "The Star is no more supportive of the ANC than it is of the NP or any other political party. The newspaper agrees with the ANC on certain issues and disagrees strongly on others.

"We are nobody's mouthpiece and never will be. The reason why I declined to respond to Mr Thorpe's innuendo is that it was a classic 'have you stopped beating your wife'-type question, impossible to answer satisfactorily in one or two short sentences."

□ □ □

A RECENT cartoon by Andy has displeased one or two readers. It

Ombudsman

JAMES  
McCLURG



showed a figure clearly recognisable as Marike de Klerk holding a telephone receiver and saying to her equally recognisable husband, "It's Willem, dear — he wants to be reclassified."

The innuendo was obvious and the caricature of the State President singularly unflattering. But was the cartoon in what one reader calls "shocking bad taste"?

At one time, it is true, such a topic would have been out of bounds for a cartoonist on a reputable newspaper. But those days, with their strong flavour of what is now called "elitism", have vanished.

In Britain, for instance, the press and even television are merciless in their caricaturing of the

Royal family.

What many people do not recognise is that this marks a revival of an old British tradition. In Victorian times, the Prince Consort was mercilessly lampooned in journals like Punch and the sacred person of the good Queen herself was not spared.

It is possible to have misgivings about this trend. I feel a certain sadness watching the British mercurily butchering an institution that most of them, when it comes down to it, deeply cherish.

But it is quite unrealistic not to expect ripples from this wave of irreverence to wash up on our shores.

I doubt whether Andy's cartoon upset many households.

□ □ □

IN HIS television column, On the Box, in the Saturday Star of January 19, John van Zyl attacked SABC-TV for failing its viewers in three ways: information, culture and education.

Criticising the intellectual level

of Good Morning South Africa, he wrote: "You can always judge a television service by the sort of ideal viewer that it seems to be addressing. I have no doubt the ideal viewer GMSA wants to address is a rural, white Afrikaans-speaking person with a Std 8 certificate."

Erika Smuts of Randburg denounces Dr van Zyl for showing (I translate from Afrikaans) "ignorance, shallowness and insensitivity". She divines from Dr van Zyl's column (correctly, I have no doubt) that he wants television to play a role as a "communication medium in 'the new South Africa'".

However, she says, he should remember that "these people to whom he refers so disparagingly are going to play an important part in the future of our country".

She calls on him to forget the "false status of so-called intellectual achievements" and contends that the value of people lies "not in their income, language, standard of education, race or place of

residence but rather in their outlook on people and the world".

Ms Smuts's concern for the individual and emphasis on the contribution they make to society are commendable, and I shall not contest what she says. However, the relevance of these views to the SABC's shortcomings in the cultural field escapes me.

On one point, though, I am entirely with her: the kind of stereotype conjured up by Dr van Zyl to typify an uncultured person would be better discarded before we enter what we hope will be a healthier, more harmonious South Africa.

## How's that again?

A CALL for a hospital to introduce a nappy-washing service was pooh-poohed by health committees this week. - Darlington and Stockton Times.

● If you have a complaint about editorial matter in The Star, write to the Ombudsman, c/o The Editor's Secretary, Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000. □

editor-in-chief

STAR  
12 FEBRUARY  
1991



## Mandela's cheek

WHEN Mr Mandela is quoted as saying "This is the price we are prepared to pay in order to have a say in determining our own affairs," when urging the EC to maintain sanctions (The Citizen, February 9) he is not speaking for me.

In fact, his arrogance in speaking for anyone other than himself is monumental. I am sure he is not speaking for all those miners and other workers who have been retrenched or have lost their jobs through the application of sanctions.

The incredible financial ignorance displayed by the ANC is frightening. Do they not yet realise that the further down the tubes our economy is pushed, the less there will be for everyone when

and if — we get a Black government?

And one must credit overseas investors with some sense. They have only to look at the rest of Black Africa to see what has happened — and what will probably happen here if the ANC's ideas on finance are put into operation.

Mr Mandela is living in

cloud-cuckoo-land. While his fellow Blacks starve through lack of work, he lives very comfortably with no fear of retrenchment. And he has the cheek to say this is the price WE are prepared to pay. He can speak for himself, not for the rest of us.

**R E CHINERY (MRS)**  
Johannesburg

## Our history is lost to us

SONETAN 12 FEBRUARY 1991

SIR - I wonder why our African leaders, particularly politicians, academics and professional people, know nothing about our history.

Our present African generation is completely lost. Our school children up to matric level, do not know their ancestral kings.

They don't know their ancestral land and boundaries.

Our nationality and traditions are fading away gradually because of criticism from our politicians who view them as racism and discrimination towards the different African nations of this country.

The idea is that all Africans should not use ethnicity when addressing each other, instead they should use blacks. For an example: Good morning, sir. My name is Mafofela, a black man from Lesotho.

Really is there any sense in that? Why not an African of Mosotho origin?

Do these people really accept the colonialist illegal republic of South Africa, formed by stolen territories from their rightful owners?

Slave mentality has dragged them into collaboration with the apartheid system in all its various political, social and economic manifestation.

How can we be a one nation in a one country while we have never been a one nation and have never lived together as one nation in a single country?

By accepting this false structure we are really furthering and collaborating with the evils of the apartheid system.

The reincorporation of all territories stolen at gunpoint from their rightful inhabitants by the marauding Christian racist settlers' regime could be the only peaceful solution and democratic approach towards negotiations.

We should maintain our position of refusing to negotiate and not be

fooled into legitimising our own slavery and oppression.

The minister of Back to God Church once said that South Africa is no-man's-land and therefore it is free for every Tom, Dick and Harry.

I gave him a quick answer; no-man's-land is a graveyard.

Self-determination and a democratic form of government exercised not only for the people but also by the people could be our first priority.

**SELIMO NTHOLE**  
Kroonstad

## WORD of GOD

### Prophecy [Old Testament]

For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

Psalms 22:16