

Mpumalanga hit by a wave of death

Natal Witness
21/8/90

by DONNA NEWAY

FIFTEEN people have died violently — four in attacks on homes by a group of armed assailants and 11 in a horrific motor accident — in Mpumalanga in the past three days.

Four people were fatally shot and one seriously injured when a group of men allegedly dressed in camouflage and KwaZulu Police uniforms went on the rampage in the area on Monday night.

"A large group of attackers, estimated by residents to be between 50 and 60 strong, crossed the Umlazi River at about 9 pm," said Democratic Party spokesman Radley Keys.

"They went into the Mbutho area of Njobokazi from different angles and moved from house to house brandishing shotguns.

"The first person killed was 20-year-old Thandi Meyiwa, who was sleeping in the home she shared with her boyfriend, Mziwezinsizwa Magutshwa (25), and their two children aged one and three.

"They heard a knock on the door and, when they didn't answer, it was kicked in and a group of men entered demanding youths for recruitment.

"When Meyiwa protested, they allegedly replied 'Zip your mouth, you bitch' and opened fire, killing her and seriously injuring Magutshwa in the right arm," said Keys.

A short while later, Mlingi Shoji (25) was shot dead in his home by the gunmen and brothers Lu and Mbuzeni Meyiwa, aged 17 and 14, were the third and fourth victims of the assailants.

A resident claimed that the attackers left with the threat "We're coming back for the rest of you".

"Magutshwa had meanwhile alerted the police, but they failed to respond. He then phoned the SADF, who arrived

at the scene of the killings at 5 am the following morning," said Keys.

"A house-to-house search was conducted by the soldiers, who positioned themselves next to the bodies until the SAP arrived at about 10 am."

A large number of shotgun shells were found in the vicinity.

A witness to the morning's events alleged that KwaZulu police who arrived at the scene were laughing and joking about the killings.

KwaZulu police spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Steve Khanyile, said he was not in a position to comment on allegations of KwaZulu police involvement in the killings.

"I will investigate the validity of these claims and make a formal statement tomorrow," he said last night.

Keys said: "On Thursday I made a request that the SADF be posted in the area, after residents told me they were living in the bushes for fear of attacks on their homes.

"However, the people have told me that soldiers are nowhere to be seen.

"We again request that the SADF patrol the area and pitch camp there," he said.

SAP spokesman Lieutenant Henry Budhrum confirmed Monday night's killings but said the identities of the attackers were unknown.

According to yesterday's official police unrest report, a group of five men were responsible for the murders.

In a dramatic accident in the township yesterday morning, a resident used an axe to free the dead and injured from the wreckage of a minibus crushed by an SADF troop carrier.

Eleven people, two of them soldiers, were killed in the collision, which occurred outside Sishi's Shopping Centre at 6.30 am.

"I heard a big bang like an explosion

and ran out of my house to see what had happened," said a resident.

"A minibus from Mophele had been crushed in a collision with a Casspir and its 19 passengers were trapped inside the vehicle. Nine of them were already dead," she said.

"My neighbour came running out with an axe and smashed the doors and windows of the minibus to release the injured.

"The bodies of two soldiers were trapped beneath the Casspir. They must have been flung off in the collision," she said.

"The 10 injured minibus passengers were admitted to St Mary's Hospital in Mariannhill."

SADF spokesman Lieutenant Johan Lubbe confirmed that two Cape Regiment soldiers had been killed and 13 other soldiers slightly injured in the accident.

The names of the dead cannot be released until their next of kin have been informed.

"The cause of the accident will be determined in an SADF investigation and until this has been completed, no further details can be divulged," said Lubbe.

Another Mpumalanga resident was admitted to Edendale Hospital after being shot in the neck by a companion while driving through Inchanga on Tuesday evening.

The two men were on their way to kwaMashu when an argument developed, said a police spokesman.

"The passenger drew a gun and shot Wiseboy Hlophe (18) in the neck, before pushing him out of the car and driving off," he said.

Hlophe was found lying by the roadside by police and rushed to hospital, where he is in a stable condition. No arrests have been made.

y, August 2, 1990

NEWS

Reservations about CCB disbandment

N. Witness 2 Aug. 1990

CAPE TOWN — Numerous anti-apartheid organisations have welcomed the announced disbanding of the Civil Co-operation Bureau as a "victory for the democratic process", although expressing reservations.

Barney Jordaan, spokesman for the Campaign for a Judicial Inquiry into Hitsquads said yesterday: "But now, more than ever, the Harms Commission of Inquiry must be allowed to investigate CCB activities in foreign countries."

The campaign played a prominent role in urging President F.W. de Klerk to appoint the Harms Commission of Inquiry into alleged politically-motivated murders.

Two of its main subsequent demands included the disbanding of the CCB and extending the brief of the Harms Commission to include probing security force "hitsquad" activities outside the country's borders.

This has been continually refused by the Government.

Jordaan cautioned that few details about the actual disbanding of the unit were available and some aspects of General Geldenhuys' announcement still gave reason for concern.

"We want the assurance that the CCB will not be replaced with something similar and want to know who will be disbanding the unit," said Jordaan.

The African National Congress yesterday welcomed the move but demanded that the people implicated in its activities be charged.

In a statement the ANC also expressed the organisation's concern over the appointment of the CCB's former commander, Major Gen-

eral A.J. (Kat) Liebenberg as head of the SADF. "His elevation in the military establishment suggests that the Government has no intention of disclosing the full extent of the Special Forces role and Liebenberg's personal involvement in those operations."

"We demand that the Government and defence force personnel who established and commanded these structures be charged and held accountable for their crimes."

The End Conscription Campaign said in a statement that, while it welcomed the disbanding of the CCB, it was sceptical of the Government's intent to cease actions of intimidation and harassment.

It said the recent explosion outside the venue of an ECC meeting in East London indicated the campaign of intimidation and harassment had not ended.

The Five Freedoms Forum called for the widening of the terms of reference of the Harms Commission.

De Klerk announced on Monday he would not consider expanding the commission's frame of reference until he had received and studied a report of the findings once it had been submitted to him by Mr Justice Louis Harms.

The FFF said this was an "attempt to sweep responsibility under the carpet".

"Though very necessary, the simple act of disbanding the CCB is not enough," said the statement.

"The criminal activities of all members (of the CCB) must be investigated up to the highest level." — Sapa.

Re: Mandela

AUG. 2 1990

To the Editor:

The liberal media is ignoring the Communist background of its hero, Nelson Mandela.

When he was arrested in 1962 at a farm in South Africa, police found an arsenal of hand grenades, land mines, and high explosives, the plans of 107 buildings and installations to be blown up, and a handwritten document entitled "How to Be a Good Communist" (4/11/86 Washington Inquirer). His wife, Winnie, has endorsed the barbaric execution ritual of "necklacing," where a gasoline-filled tire is placed around a victim's neck and set afire (2-19-89 HT). One year ago, her gang of bodyguards kidnapped and killed a 14-year-old black boy (2-27-87 USN & WR). The media, instead of showing Winnie's Mercedes and luxurious house, made much of Nelson's poor four-room shack.

Tucked away in a dusty corner of Transkei Province, South Africa, is Mrs. Evelyn Mandela. After the 1957 divorce she drifted into obscurity to raise their four children, two of which died of natural causes brought about by lack of proper nourishment.

Mandela's daughter, Makaziwe, is now married to a Ghanaian and attending the University of Massachusetts where she is studying for a doctorate in Anthropology. She tells of the bitterness created when her father ran off with a young social worker named Winnie Madikizela, now Winnie Mandela. She also tells how her mother learned about the divorce only after reading about it in the newspaper.

"It was very difficult," recalled Evelyn Mandela. "Nelson contributed nothing to the rearing of our children. I don't know what I would have done without the help received from the government."

The Public Speaking

This is a partial picture of the terrorist to whom the President wants to throw open the doors of the White House. This is the man for whose release religious fanatics of the National Council of Churches thank their God. This is the man of whom the liberal leaders in Detroit's city government will soon name a street. This is the man that instead of leading his people out of bondage, is misleading them straight into the abyss of perpetual Marxist inhumanity.

The liberal press, as usual, try to crucify Senator Helms because he will not accept this man who operates with a Marxist-Leninist philosophy, a man who calls Castro, Cadhafi and Arafat friends.

I for one thank God for Senator Jesse Helms and pray there will be more like him that have "guts" to stand up to these hypocrites in Washington.

E.B. Cook

Carthage, Rt. 2

TEACHERS CAUGHT IN POLITICAL CROSSFIRE

by Heidi Gibson

THE ANC-aligned Vulindlela Youth Congress (VYC) and the Inkatha-aligned Vulindlela Youth Brigade (IVYB) have issued conflicting directives to teachers caught up in the current education crisis.

Claims by KwaZulu Minister of Education Dr Frank Mdlalose that all teachers return to schools as the politically motivated violence was over by April have been refuted by the VYC who have called on all teachers to ignore his statement.

A VYC spokesman said the organisation totally disagreed with Mdlalose's statement on the grounds that "our members still continue to be killed in this area, intimidation, forced recruitment and assaults on innocent people still continue unabated, the warlords are still at large and in certain areas fees are being collected to buy arms, and we still have thousands of homeless people staying in Edendale as a result of the March war".

The spokesman said the present education crisis was a political issue and should not be divorced from the political problems facing the country. "We call on all reasonable teachers to ignore the call until all the perpetrators of violence, particularly the warlords, are prosecuted," said the VYC spokesman.

Meanwhile the IVYB have made a "clarion call" to teachers to "stop playing games" at the expense of the future of the youth and to return to schools or resign.

In a statement to *Echo* the IVYB said they were totally astounded by the unfounded allegations made by teachers that there was an Inkatha hit list.

"It should be noted that when normality had been restored after the March 1990 violence, teachers complained that they were not protected in the Amakhosi areas. However, it was the Amakhosi who guaranteed safe passage to teachers and pupils who returned to school," said the IVYB.

"It should also be recalled that intimidation of teachers was carried out in Edendale and Imbali by ANC supporters, and teachers and pupils were told that they should go to school in the Amakhosi areas. No acts of intimidation have taken place in the Amakhosi areas to date other than those perpetrated by the teachers themselves," the IVYB spokesman said.

The IVYB said the tragedy of the situation was that over 40 000 pupils were affected by "political posturing" with the result that their education was suffering "irreparable damage".

The spokesman also blamed "the chief offender Harry Gwala" for stalling meetings between the ANC-backed Edendale Crisis Committee, youth organisations and the Inkatha community.

"We totally reject payment of these teachers who have robbed the children of their education for over four months. We call on the teachers to come to their senses and remember that they are public servants who should serve the people and not political activists," said the spokesman.

THE CITIZEN COMMENT

1 August 1990

The crux

THERE are suggestions of dirty tricks and disinformation by the Security Police, and the liberal Press is in full cry against the government.

One is led to believe that there is a deliberate attempt to destroy the image of Mr Joe Slovo, the general secretary of the SA Communist Party, in order to get him dropped from the ANC team that will resume negotiations with the government next week.

There is also a suggestion that the government is trying to break up the ANC-SACP alliance by driving a wedge between Mr Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president, and Mr Slovo.

All this fits in very well with the SACP's own attempts to distract attention from itself and from the Tongaat meeting, which was not as innocent as Mr Slovo claims it was.

Certainly talking about creating a people's militia and not being bound to any agreement between the ANC and the government is not kid's stuff.

From the information at our disposal, the recent arrests of ANC-SACP members have nothing to do with the Tongaat meeting but arise from Operation Vula, the ANC plan to build up its underground structure, infiltrate weapons and men, and to stage an insurrection should the negotiations fail.

The fact that armed infiltrators have been coming into the country and that they have set up arms caches is not denied by the ANC. The fact that the ANC plans to "seize power" in the event of the negotiations failing has been publicly announced by Mr Chris Hani, the chief of staff of Umkhonto we Sizwe and a member of the Communist Party's publicly announced leadership.

The fact that Umkhonto has been deploying its cadres inside South Africa has also been announced by Mr Hani.

And Mr Hani's announcements were made before anyone even heard of the Tongaat meeting or Operation Vula.

In other words, there was no need for Special Police "dirty tricks" to smear the SACP and the ANC when Mr Hani himself disclosed the nature of the plan.

Furthermore, Mr Ronnie Kasrils, another SACP leader, who attended the Tongaat meeting, has confirmed that the ANC has been infiltrating men and arms, his excuse being that there is no ceasefire.

It is a specious argument, for if a guerrilla-terrorist force takes advantage of negotiations to build up its strength under cover of the talks, it is being duplicitous.

Moreover, Mr Kasrils, who is a former intelligence chief of Umkhonto, admits that what was discussed at Tongaat amounted to a "revolutionary discourse".

And it does not require a big jump to get from discourse to action.

Unfortunately, because Mr Slovo may have been wrongly linked to the Tongaat meeting — he claims he was not there — he and Mr Mandela have been able to dodge the real issue and that is whether the ANC-SACP alliance was infiltrating arms and men and plotting insurrection.

The government, too, has been taking far too much cognisance of the controversy over Mr Slovo rather than concentrating on Operation Vula.

Mr Slovo was a member of the ANC president's committee which launched Operation Vula, so he is not free of involvement.

Other ANC leaders are also on the committee. The State President, Mr F W de Klerk, should be asking Mr Mandela today whether Operation Vula is as sinister as the police have suggested, whether he supports it, whether he agrees to the infiltration of armed men and weapons and the setting up of safe houses, and whether he condones the plan to seize power if the negotiations fail.

That is the crux of the crisis of confidence between the government and the ANC-SACP.

And Tongaat is a major aspect of it.

Assurances must be received that the ANC-SACP alliance is totally committed to peaceful negotiation, that it will stop building up its armed cadres while negotiations are in progress, and that it will not plan any insurrection, for whatever reason, now or later.

It is as simple as that.

BUSINESS

Nationalisation concept: a tactical success for the ANC

WHILE the use of the nationalisation concept as tactical political rhetoric by the ANC has caused some temporary damage to confidence in domestic business and overseas investor circles, it has placed the reduction of inequality and the restructuring of the economy in the centre of the political arena, say economists at the Trust Bank.

In the June edition of their publication Econovision they point out that South Africa's income distribution is one of the most unequal in the world, a situation which is not the result of normal market forces.

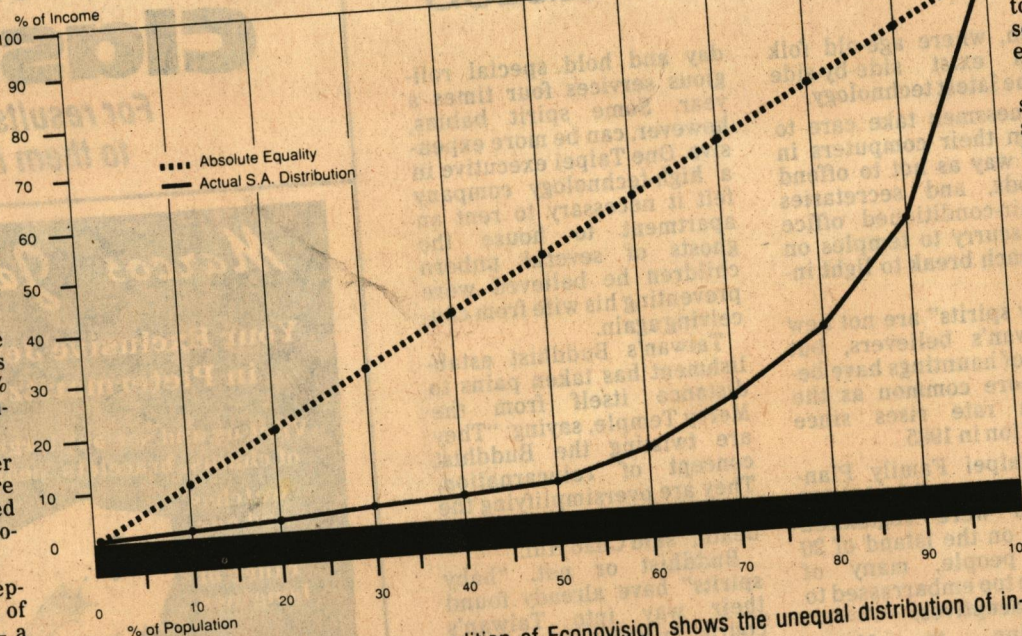
As illustrated in the graph the top 10% of the country's income earners receive as much as half of the country's annual income while 50% of the population receive only 10% of the annual income.

"Suddenly, the question is no longer whether redistribution and reparations are necessary, but how they can best be achieved without damaging the country's long-term economic growth performance.

"There is a growing awareness and acceptance that there will have to be some form of economic restructuring in South Africa — a restructuring of priorities, institutions, government finance and overall investment spending, development opportunities, and eventually in the pattern of income and wealth distribution.

"In short, the great 'economic restructuring' debate has at last taken off in earnest — demonstrating the tactical success of Nelson Mandela's rhetoric," they say.

On the topic of nationalisation the Trust Bank says that it shares the general scepticism surrounding nationalisation as a future option. One of the main reasons was that domestic financial considerations render any substantial nationalisation impossible.



The graph from the Trust Bank's June edition of Econovision shows the unequal distribution of income in South Africa.

Government's debt already totals some R85 billion, and already some R12 billion tax revenue per annum is devoted to paying interest on this debt. There is simply no way in which any South African Government can borrow the tens of billions of rands needed to buy the mining industry alone from the private sector, and pay the billions of rands in added interest. And to pay for the nationalised industries with tax revenue would necessitate so big a tax increase as to kill off much of the private

economy — or massive cutbacks in more essential components of existing Government spending.

Furthermore, the need for higher future Government spending on basic services like education, housing and health will be a far greater priority for any future government than spending billions of rands on purchasing private industries.

Because of South Africa's open economy and the country's urgent need for infusions of

international investment and loan capital, no future South African Government can afford to apply economic strategies which would scare off foreign business, investors and bankers.

Although the Trust Bank says that nationalisation can be discarded as an economic strategy they acknowledge that as a tactical manoeuvre, it has been highly successful.

The main factor preventing a deep recession in South Africa is the absence of serious inflationary pressure in the economy, the real personal tax relief announced in the budget and the prospect of rising social expenditure by Government in coming months and especially next year, they say.

In particular, if the CPI inflation rate falls to 12% early next year as we expect, the average wage-earner will still experience a small but real increase in spending power. This lower inflation trend would also make some declines in interest rates possible, although without any cut in real interest rates.

A predicted 2% fall in prime and mortgage rates in the next nine months will provide some relief to homeowners, say the economists.

They do not foresee a collapse in consumer spending and say that consumer-related sectors such as household appliances, clothing and footwear and the residential property market could well be on a rising trend by the middle of next year.

While Econovision predicts that the country's downswing will last into next year with a gradual recovery in mid 1991, they say sectors related to business spending including computers, commercial vehicles and passenger cars, non-residential property, construction, machinery, engineering and heavy industry could see a downturn throughout 1991.

Mzolo's lawyers may seek interdict against police

by Heidi Gibson

LAWYERS acting for African National Congress Enhlalakahle organiser Alfred Mzolo are considering applying for a court interdict restraining members of the Greytown South African Police Force.

Mzolo's lawyer Dev Maharaj told *Echo* that there was a strong possibility that they would be applying for the interdict in light of the latest attack in which Mzolo's house and bakkie were destroyed minutes after SAP members searched his home.

This latest incident, which took place last week, marks the seventh clash between Mzolo (57) and SAP members of Greytown.

Maharaj said Mzolo's home had been searched on numerous occasions and he, his wife and daughter had been allegedly assaulted by two members of the SAP on June 20.

Mzolo is also currently facing a charge of illegal possession of weapons after police said they found a home-made gun, an AK47 bullet and a shotgun in his home.

Meanwhile, a handful of empty cartridge cases, a full magazine, two empty petrol containers and a pick-axe were found on Mzolo's premises in Mapanga Road on Friday — the day after his house was torched.

Mzolo said he was woken at 11.30pm by a Lieutenant Fourie, a Mr du Preez, Mr Khumalo and two other policemen all dressed in plain clothes, who told him they had come to search the house.

Mzolo said he saw three bakkies and a yellow Toyota Corolla parked outside his home.

"My son Caiphus let them in. They did not say why they were searching the house but they did not find anything and left. Du Preez said to me: 'Good night Mr Mzolo, sleep well, we will see you soon'," he said.

Minutes later he said he heard shots being fired and his front dining-room exploded into flames.

Mzolo, his wife Annie, their six children and some other youths also sleeping in the house escaped unhurt through a back window.

When he went to the front of the house, Mzolo said he saw a yellow Toyota Corolla and bakkie leaving the scene and Lt Fourie sitting in his own car.

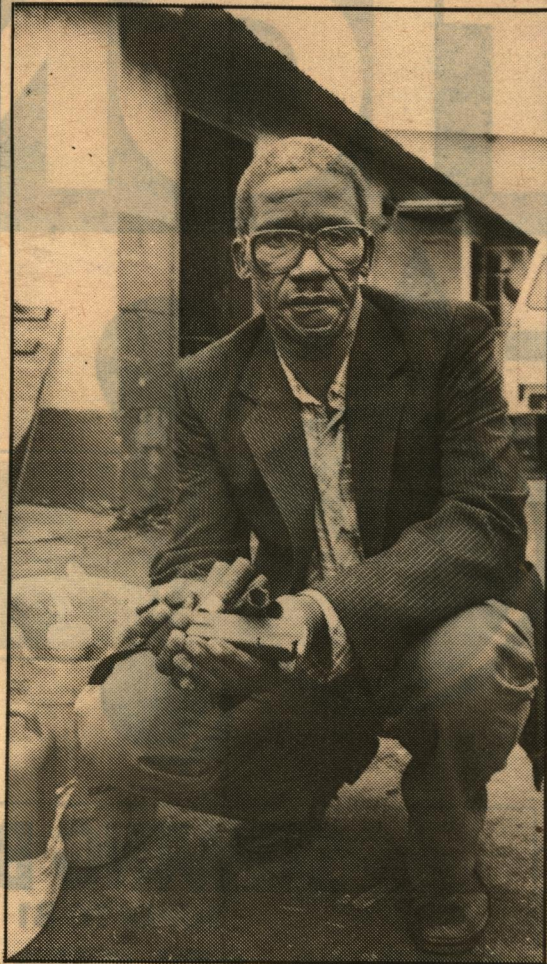
"I said to him, 'so you are here Mr Fourie' and he just sped away," Mzolo said.

When an *Echo* team arrived last week Mzolo said although he had been visited by members of the CID, he had not yet made a statement to the police.

The official police response to the incident from SAP liaison officer Major Pieter Kitching was as follows: "It is evident from his (Mzolo's) statement to the press that Mr Mzolo is trying to implicate the police in the attack on his house. The SA police denies any involvement.

"On Thursday, July 27 Lt Fourie was following up information concerning the illegal possession of firearms and a couple of houses were searched. Whilst they were busy a patrol vehicle in the area reported that house E479 Mpanga Road was on fire. Lt Fourie rushed to the scene, but shots were fired on them by unknown attackers when they stopped. They had to drive off for their own safety. Shots were also fired at the patrol vehicle. Members of the Riot Unit were called to the area to monitor the situation. Early this morning Mr Mzolo declined to speak to detectives when his house was visited," said Kitching.

"An attempted murder docket, for the attack on the policemen, and an arson docket has been opened," he said.



ANC organiser for Enhlalakahle Alfred Mzolo displays the empty bullet shells, full magazine and empty petrol containers found the day after his home and car were torched. In the background bullet holes have perforated the walls and fridge.

PIC: Nash Narandes

Mpumalanga N. Witness 2 Aug. 1990 hit by a wave of death

by DONNA NEWY

FIFTEEN people have died violently — four in attacks on homes by a group of armed assailants and 11 in a horrific motor accident — in Mpumalanga in the past three days.

Four people were fatally shot and one seriously injured when a group of men allegedly dressed in camouflage and KwaZulu Police uniforms went on the rampage in the area on Monday night.

"A large group of attackers, estimated by residents to be between 50 and 60 strong, crossed the Umlazi River at about 9 pm," said Democratic Party spokesman Radley Keys.

"They went into the Mbutho area of Njobokazi from different angles and moved from house to house brandishing shotguns.

"The first person killed was 20-year-old Thandi Meyiwa, who was sleeping in the home she shared with her boyfriend, Mziwezinsizwa Magutshwa (25), and their two children aged one and three.

"They heard a knock on the door and, when they didn't answer, it was kicked in and a group of men entered demanding youths for recruitment.

"When Meyiwa protested, they allegedly replied 'Zip your mouth, you bitch' and opened fire, killing her and seriously injuring Magutshwa in the right arm," said Keys.

A short while later, Mlingi Shoji (25) was shot dead in his home by the gunmen and brothers Lu and Mbuzeni Meyiwa, aged 17 and 14, were the third and fourth victims of the assailants.

A resident claimed that the attackers left with the threat "We're coming back for the rest of you".

"Magutshwa had meanwhile alerted the police, but they failed to respond. He then phoned the SADF, who arrived

at the scene of the killings at 5 am the following morning," said Keys.

"A house-to-house search was conducted by the soldiers, who positioned themselves next to the bodies until the SAP arrived at about 10 am."

A large number of shotgun shells were found in the vicinity.

A witness to the morning's events alleged that KwaZulu police who arrived at the scene were laughing and joking about the killings.

KwaZulu police spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Steve Khanyile, said he was not in a position to comment on allegations of KwaZulu police involvement in the killings.

"I will investigate the validity of these claims and make a formal statement tomorrow," he said last night.

Keys said: "On Thursday I made a request that the SADF be posted in the area, after residents told me they were living in the bushes for fear of attacks on their homes.

"However, the people have told me that soldiers are nowhere to be seen.

"We again request that the SADF patrol the area and pitch camp there," he said.

SAP spokesman Lieutenant Henry Budhram confirmed Monday night's killings but said the identities of the attackers were unknown.

According to yesterday's official police unrest report, a group of five men were responsible for the murders.

In a dramatic accident in the township yesterday morning, a resident used an axe to free the dead and injured from the wreckage of a minibus crushed by an SADF troop carrier.

Eleven people, two of them soldiers, were killed in the collision, which occurred outside Sishi's Shopping Centre at 6.30 am.

"I heard a big bang like an explosion

and ran out of my house to see what had happened," said a resident.

"A minibus from Mophele had been crushed in a collision with a Casspir and its 19 passengers were trapped inside the vehicle. Nine of them were already dead," she said.

"My neighbour came running out with an axe and smashed the doors and windows of the minibus to release the injured.

"The bodies of two soldiers were trapped beneath the Casspir. They must have been flung off in the collision," she said.

"The 10 injured minibus passengers were admitted to St Mary's Hospital in Mariannhill."

SADF spokesman Lieutenant Johan Lubbe confirmed that two Cape Regiment soldiers had been killed and 13 other soldiers slightly injured in the accident.

The names of the dead cannot be released until their next of kin have been informed.

"The cause of the accident will be determined in an SADF investigation and until this has been completed, no further details can be divulged," said Lubbe.

Another Mpumalanga resident was admitted to Edendale Hospital after being shot in the neck by a companion while driving through Inchanga on Tuesday evening.

The two men were on their way to kwaMashu when an argument developed, said a police spokesman.

"The passenger drew a gun and shot Wiseboy Hlophe (18) in the neck, before pushing him out of the car and driving off," he said.

Hlophe was found lying by the roadside by police and rushed to hospital, where he is in a stable condition. No arrests have been made.

Natal witness

2 Aug. 1990

Mandela and De Klerk are conciliatory after talks

JOHANNESBURG — Talks between Nelson Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk yesterday were followed by what appeared to be conciliatory statements from both men, claiming "misunderstandings", "erroneous deductions" and the "wrong impressions" had coloured their perception of recent events.

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela intimated he was at fault for believing De Klerk wanted SACP general secretary Joe Slovo omitted from the ANC delegation to hold another round of talks with the Government on August 6.

And from the opening remarks of De Klerk's statement, it appeared as if the Government was also preparing to concede certain points in the argument surrounding the "plot" furor.

De Klerk said Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok would soon issue a statement "to

correct wrong impressions" in view of the "erroneous deductions" made during investigations into the alleged plot to seize power.

In a statement issued after the three-hour meeting with De Klerk, Mandela said he wished to clear up a misunderstanding arising from a previous meeting with the president concerning the role of Slovo.

"I thought that the State President had demanded that Joe Slovo be excluded from the delegation of the ANC. (But) the correct position is that the State President was disturbed by evidence placed before him of statements and actions which went against the spirit of the Groote Schuur Minute. These were seen to go against the trust which had been built over the past months."

"I... made an undertaking that I personally, together with the National Executive Commit-

tee, will do whatever we can to ensure that steps are taken to guarantee strict adherence to the Groote Schuur Minute."

He said he was "positive" that the August 6 talks will go ahead in good spirit.

It was not clear whether Slovo would be in the ANC delegation on August 6.

After the talks De Klerk said that he had stressed "the imminent breach of trust, mainly as a result of recent developments".

However, he said in view of Mandela's statement after yesterday's meeting it had been decided to go ahead with the August 6 meeting where the "problems" concerning the alleged plot to seize power would be discussed further.

• South African religious leaders have called on Nelson Mandela to publicly state his religious convictions following his attendance of the SA Communist Party rally on Sunday. — Sapa.

Imbali youth (17) charged with 11 murders

by CRAIG URQUHART

A 17-YEAR-OLD Imbali youth, charged with eleven counts of murder, seven of attempted murder and one of robbery with aggravating circumstances, pleaded not guilty to all the charges in the Supreme Court yesterday.

The accused is alleged to have committed all the offences in a three-month period from October 1988 to January 1989.

He is charged with, inter alia, shooting dead an 11-year-old boy, a member of Inkatha who was returning from a funeral at Mpumalanga, and a uniformed member of the South African

Police force. He is also charged with taking the policeman's firearm.

Mr Justice Didcott determined that the case would be held in camera because the accused is a juvenile. As a result, his name and the names of several key witnesses may not be published.

The gallery was cleared of all spectators — including one man who was removed after shouting that the accused had killed his brother.

A witness testified that he saw his girlfriend being assaulted by the accused in October 1988.

He said he saw him kicking and slapping her and she warned him that the

accused would shoot him.

"When I refused to leave, he fired several shots at me," the witness said.

He explained that he was struck in the back by a bullet when he started running away and he showed the court a two-centimetre entry wound in the middle of his back. He also showed the court a large bump below his armpit where the bullet is still lodged.

The man said he managed to run to his house, but the accused "and others" then fired shots at his home. He said that after he had managed to lock the doors, he collapsed.

The trial continues today.

Man pleads not guilty to 10 murders

by SONYA SCHOEMAN

AN Imbali man pleaded not guilty in the Supreme Court yesterday to the murders of trade unionist Jabu Ndlovu and her husband and daughter, who were killed as a result of an attack upon their Imbali home in May last year.

Petros Ngcobo (43) is facing another seven charges of murder, seven of attempted murder, and four of arson. He pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

Ngcobo denied any knowledge of the various incidents and claimed he was not present when the offences were committed.

The State alleges that a firearm legally owned by Ngcobo was used in the commission of the crimes, and that he either personally fired shots or furnished the perpetrators with the fire-

arm, knowing they intended to commit the crimes in question.

It is also alleged that he at least foresaw the possibility of his firearm being used to commit the crimes. Ngcobo denied these allegations.

The accused was allegedly involved in a number of attacks on homes where shots were fired and in which Sibongile Zondi, Gretta Dlamini, Wonder Mkhize and Theminkosi Gcabashe were killed, or died as a result of the attacks.

One of these alleged attacks was on the home of Jabu Ndlovu, a Cosatu shop steward and key figure in the National Union of Metalworkers of SA, whose husband, Jabulani, and daughter, Khumbi, died at the scene as a result of gunshot wounds.

Jabu Ndlovu, the State alleges, died on June 1, last year as a result of pneu-

monia associated with septic burns.

The State also alleges that Selby Caluza, Lucky Geza and Maxwell Mbatha died as a result of gunshot wounds.

In a statement Ngcobo claimed that he lent his firearm to his brother, Thu Ngcobo, on a number of occasions as he required it for self-defence. Thu Ngcobo was a prominent Inkatha member who was shot dead outside a fast food outlet in the city centre in January this year.

Ngcobo said it was also possible that his brother took the weapon without his consent at times as he knew where he kept it, but he denied his firearm was connected to any of the crimes or, if it was, that he knew or foresaw the possibility that it would be used during, or for the furtherance of them.

The case continues today.

Foreign investors 'still interested in Natal'

Witness Reporter

FOREIGN investors are still interested in investing in KwaZulu and Natal despite recent economic and political difficulties in the region, says KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation (KFC) executive director Marius Spies.

In an interview with The Natal Witness, Spies also stressed the magnitude of the region's unemployment problem and said that 80% of all rural households in the vicinity of the Durban/Pietermaritzburg industrial complex were so poor that they were unable to meet even their most basic needs.

"In South Africa, so-called first world and third world economies co-exist as in other developing countries, but this dualism phenomenon has been entrenched by our notorious racial legislation. Apartheid has added a number of artificial socio-economic barriers to the real barriers already in existence.

"About 75% of total income and wealth in this country is concentrated in the hands of 25% of the population. In the Durban functional region, 80% of rural households are unable to satisfy their minimum needs, falling as they do

below household subsistence levels. In the urban areas, 18% of households are below the minimum needs level, and the figure for informal settlements is 40%."

Spies said the KFC had had great success with its industrial decentralisation efforts. It had successfully established 298 industrialists, including 53 foreign companies, which employed almost 42 000 people. A single breadwinner in KwaZulu supported as many as 12 dependents and industrial development was therefore currently contributing towards the livelihoods of about half a million people.

"Agriculture is treated as a form of enterprise in its own right and an average of 11 agricultural loans are currently advanced each working day.

"Another avenue which has proved highly successful is the holding of trade shows, like The Natal Witness/Echo Business Show, designed to bring the first and third world economies into contact with one another.

"The myth that the black entrepreneur is a doubtful credit risk should be debunked once and for all," Spies said.