

16/4/11

Magnus attacks Mandela's view

Citizen Reporter

GENERAL Magnus Malan, the Minister of Defence, yesterday made a sharp attack on the deputy leader of the ANC, Mr Nelson Mandela and warned him that the government and the majority of South Africans rejected Communism.

In a speech at the official inauguration of the Midlands Military Base in Kimberley, Gen Malan said on Wednesday Mr Mandela had referred to Marxism and had said that he was not ruling out an alliance with Marxists.

"He is clinging to them," said Gen Malan.

"Today I am telling him directly that the government and the overwhelming majority of South Africans reject Marxism totally.

"We are anti-Communist, and we are not

prepared to bow before a failed and outdated system," he said.

The road ahead had to be through elections, legality and democracy, as it was understood in the West, and on this there could be no compromise.

He also attacked Mr Mandela over recent remarks on television concerning sanctions, in which the ANC deputy president warned European investors that unless they consulted the ANC over the lifting of sanctions, the ANC would make the country ungovernable.

"Such remarks only serve to confirm the worst fears of big investors — namely that in the future South Africa blackmail and violence will form part of the political process," he said.

If South Africa was going to descend to the level of what he called "tribal Africa", then it would not attract any investment, and was heading towards an era of acute poverty.

It was imperative that people measure their words in South Africa, because the world was listening to what was being said here.

"What is said can take the bread out of people's mouths. Mr Mandela should take particular heed of this," he said.

In a later speech at Beaufort West, where he spoke to national servicemen and their families, he said national service would remain in effect.

Because of changes in South Africa, the question had arisen among many people on the continued necessity for national service.

"I, therefore, wish to use this opportunity to remove all doubt about it. National Service, as presently constituted, will be retained," he said.

It was the nursery for Citizen Force and commando units of the future, he said.

Although there had been cuts and rationalisation within the Defence Force, it had kept its essential "muscle and engine power", and although it was not a world force, the SADF was unequalled in the region.

Ntombela warns ANC of IFP revenge missions

NATAL WITNESS 23 JAN 1991

by SIZA NTSHAKALA
Political Reporter

DAVID Ntombela, the Elandskop-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) leader, warned of "revenge missions" against provocative ANC supporters if shooting incidents against IFP supporters continued.

Ntombela was responding to a shooting incident involving a KwaZulu Transport bus in the Henley Hill area yesterday morning. Apparently most of the passengers were IFP supporters.

While the police said there was no record indicating the incident was reported to them, the area manager of the KwaZulu Transport Jim Scott confirmed "five bullets were shot at the driver's cabin area injuring a driver in the shoulder".

Scott said the bus was transporting commuters to work when the incident occurred at 5.15 am.

"The driver bravely drove into the city and was rushed to Medicity Hospital where he was treated and discharged later. No

passengers were killed or injured. The company does not know the motive behind the shooting," said Scott, adding it was the second attack of this nature this week.

"The first incident was on January 16 at Nene's Butchery in the Nxamalala area. It was at night, but fortunately no commuters were hurt or killed. In that incident there were three shots fired at the driver's cabin but the driver survived without being hurt."

Ntombela directed a stern warning against "blood thirsty ANC supporters" to mend their ways immediately or face the consequences.

A spokesman for the ANC's midlands office said they were not aware of any such incidents involving their members. He said the ANC had not been informed about the shooting.

Ntombela accused the attackers of trying to spoil the planned meeting between ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi.



DAVID NTOMBELA . . . warning

Right-wingers tell of revenge killings

THREE members of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging and the Orde van die Boerevolk shot dead seven people on a bus at Avoca in October last year in retaliation for the earlier stabbing of white people on the Durban beachfront, a Durban magistrate heard this week.

The three men — David Petrus Botha (46), the "commandant" of the AWB in Richards Bay, Adriaan Smuts (38), a veldkornet involved in AWB operations, and Eugene

Marais (28), also of Richards Bay — appeared before J. Pieterse on Monday.

Botha and Smuts pleaded guilty to seven counts of murder and 27 counts of attempting to murder the occupants of the bus. They also pleaded guilty to charges of illegal possession of firearms and ammunition and illegal possession of two teargas grenades.

Marais pleaded not guilty on all counts. His advocate, H. de Vos, reserved his defence.

The State alleges that on October 9, 1990, Botha was "very upset" when he heard that a number of black youths led by an adult and all wearing PAC badges and T-shirts stormed into a shop on the beach-front and robbed the owner of knives. The youths had then stabbed a number of whites pedestrians, eight of whom were injured and one died later of his injuries.

The matter was adjourned until March 4 to the Supreme Court in Durban. — Sapa.

Police assaulted us, say bus attack victims

Witness Reporter

CHIEF Mhlabunzima Maphumulo and victims of last week's bus attack in Eastwood called a press conference yesterday to show the injuries they allegedly sustained at the hands of riot control policemen following the attack.

Six ANC supporters were injured when fighting broke out between Inkatha and ANC supporters on a KwaZulu Transport bus in Eastwood while the bus was en route to Table Mountain on Thursday.

Maphumulo claimed three of the injured men were picked up

from his home in Maqongqo by an SAP and SADF vehicle on Friday morning. He said no reason was given for their detention.

Two of the men — Mkhandeni Maphumulo and Philane Buthelezi — said yesterday they were taken to the Oribi riot unit camp where they were undressed and blindfolded with their shirts. They said they were then taken into "a forest" and assaulted by the police who demanded to know where an AK47 rifle and a .303 rifle were.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Henry Budhram confirmed the men were questioned but strongly

denied any assault took place.

Maphumulo said that on Saturday morning KwaZulu policemen, special constables and riot unit policemen arrived at his kraal in Maqongqo shortly before it was attacked.

He said "a young boy" died after being beaten to death by police and residents were prevented from seeing his body before it was taken to the mortuary.

Budhram said an "18-year-old man" was shot dead after the occupants had ignored a verbal warning and had opened fire on the police.



State President F W de KLERK and ANC deputy president, Mr NELSON MANDELA last night together received the Newsmaker of the Year Award from the Johannesburg Press Club. With them is Mr HANS LOMBARD, the chairman of the Press Club.

Mandela: Why we want interim govt

THE ANC had called for an interim government ahead of negotiations because it wanted to begin the reconstruction of a law-abiding society as soon as possible, the organisation's deputy president, Mr Nelson Mandela told the Johannesburg Press Club last night.

"I fear that the longer we postpone the installation of a government that enjoys the confidence of all sections of our society, so long shall we be condemned to endure this steady drift towards lawlessness, with all the dangers that it entails," Mr Mandela said.

The most effective means of building a law-abiding society, he added, was to cultivate respect for the law.

goals.

Of his election as one of the two Newsmakers of the Year, Mr Mandela said: "It is a sign of the times our country is passing through that this year this prize is shared by two people, who trace their respective political ideals to opposing poles on our national political spectrum."

The award signified the growing and visible consensus that has begun to emerge among the overwhelming majority of South Africans, Mr Mandela said.

This consensus was cutting across racial and political affiliations, he added.

"(But) this consensus has to be built up slowly

and we have finally arrived at it by a route that was extremely painful and costly to our national resources, among which we must count human lives lost or broken."

The majority of South Africans were compelled under pain of imprisonment to reside in the urban areas, and the right to life would be meaningless if it did not translate into an accessible, dependable and free health service.

South Africa also required a system of equitable, free primary and secondary education and training as well as a system of tertiary education, backed up by strong State support, he said. — Sapa.

ty, some analysts believe a power vacuum could lead to armed conflict between ethnic and religious factions.

"The risk of civil war is very real, very likely," said an Asian diplomat in Baghdad, one of the few remaining in the Iraqi capital. "The frustration, the desire for revenge could explode like a vol-

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Bid to extradite 3 Mandela co-accused from Botswana

C171254 23/02/97

By Fred de Lange and
Stephane Bothma

THE Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday requested the Botswana Government to extradite three of the missing co-accused in the Winnie Mandela kidnapping and assault trial.

The extradition request followed an application by the Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand, Mr Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau (SC) for the provis-

ional arrest of the three youths, who had been traced to the Dukwe refugee camp in Botswana.

Mr Von Lieres confirmed yesterday that he had brought an application for the provisional arrest of three men in terms of the extradition agreement which existed between the South African and Botswana Governments.

The three missing co-

accused in the high-profile Winnie Mandela trial are Mr Joseph Jabu Sithole (18), Mr Mpho Gift Mabelane and Mr Sibuso Brian Mabuza (19), had in December last year, last reported to the police in terms of their bail conditions before disappearing.

The current whereabouts of a fourth missing accused Mr Katiza Cebekhulu (22), is still unknown.

Police were also still investigating the alleged kidnapping of a key State witness in the trial, Mr Gabriel Pelo Mekgwe.

A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said in Cape Town that an extradition request was receiving urgent and immediate attention, but would not elaborate.

South African Government sources would not comment on the chances of the application succeeding, but the extradition agreement between the two countries has been in force since 1969.

The three men, along with a fourth accused, Mr Katiza Cebekhulu were due to stand trial in the Rand Supreme Court with Mrs Mandela and three others on charges of kidnapping and assault.

Their trials were separated from that of Mrs Mandela when police announced that they were missing.

The General Council of the Bar (GCB) and the Association of Law Societies of South Africa (ALS) said in a joint

media statement yesterday, they were deeply concerned at these recent events, which adversely affected the administration of justice in South Africa.

"An adequate system of witness protection by the State has also been shown to be lacking in a case which obviously called for such a measure.

"In addition, the unseemly conduct of certain demonstrators outside the precincts of the Supreme Court was far from conducive to the dispassionate atmosphere required for the hearing of a controversial criminal trial."

The joint statement also condemned the murder last week of Mr Bheki Mlangeni, candidate attorney with a Johannesburg firm, by an explosive device apparently intended for former SAP captain Dirk Coetzee.

Azapo has proved its concern in Aids crisis

I REFER to your editorial on Aids (Saturday Star February 16) and wish to make some comments.

The Black Consciousness Movement shares your concern about the Aids threat to our people, as well as being alive to other dangers to them which you do not mention.

Our external mission, the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania (BCMA), has recorded its concern about drug abuse among our people in its monthly mobilisation pamphlet, Letsetse (The Flea).

Alas, though availed to the media, this concern received scanty coverage, presumably because it was not tinged with a black, green and gold hue...

Late last year, Azapo recorded its concern about the Aids threat, advising our people to take it seriously and endorsing safe sex.

I should remember, for the press release came from yours truly, as the then incumbent Transvaal vice-president.

PETER Robinson's column, "Break Points", does not appear in this issue but, from next Saturday, will be carried in Weekend.

Besides a small piece in your sister paper, The Star, I do not recollect it appearing anywhere else in the media — again, I suppose, because of the absence of the magic colours which the media finds irresistible.

Besides these poorly reported press releases, the brainchild of the martyred Azapo health secretary, Dr Abu-Baker Asvat — the Community Health Awareness Project (Chap) — also receive indifferent attention from the media.

For the record, Chap is actively involved not only in educating the community about the dangers of Aids, but also engages in taking pap smears (a screen for cervical cancer, which is rampant among black women), testing blood pressure, screening for sugar diabetes, assessing babies for proper growth, etc.

In the light of this information, I trust you now realise that it is not absolutely correct to editorialise: "No South African black leader has as yet grasped the implications (of Aids)."

**Dr Gomolemo Mokae,
Head: Education Secretariate,
Azapo, Ga-Rankuwa.**

I have lost faith in ANC leaders

I WAS happy when our leaders, Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and others were released from prison. We had campaigned for their release for a long time, and we had high respect for them. We admired their dedication to freedom of our people.

But today, I am disappointed with the leadership. Everybody says the ANC is largely responsible for the violence among organisations. But what have the Mandelas and Sisulus done about this? They have not hesitated to meet with De Klerk and Vlok, but to this day they have not addressed Cosas for its barbaric "one school, one organisation" and Cosas' dictatorship in some schools.

While ANC leaders found time to address rallies and launches of branches of Cosas during school hours (causing loss of learning time for students), these leaders have not yet fully gone out to educate their followers about the aims of the liberation struggle. They have not yet seriously worked towards stopping their followers from brutally killing members of other liberation organisations.

They have not given their supporters proper political education. Why?

The ANC leadership is aware of the violence by its followers but is doing little about this. I have lost trust and confidence in this leadership.

If I sound bitter, it is because, in the words of Frantz Fanon, "I want my voice to be harsh, I do not want it to be beautiful, I do not want it to have all dimensions. I want it to be torn through and through, I do not want it to be enticing, for I am speaking of man, of the day-to-day rottenness of man, of his dreadful failure."

M Themba, Kwa Thema.

Sandton's life doesn't revolve around roads

If John Sampson ("Road revamp will benefit Sandton environment" — Saturday Star February 16) believes what he says in his letter, he is totally out of touch with the needs of the people who live in Sandton, and certainly not qualified to be the director of any environmental department.

We, the public, are sick and tired of being told what is good for us. We are no longer children to be told to eat our carrots because they are good for us and will make our hair curl.

Mr Sampson's views sound marvellous in theory, but he has quite obviously not studied the proposed Major Roads Plan for Sandton in conjunction with the proposed Densities Plan.

Had he done so, he would have realised that, if these proposals were to be carried out fully, Bryanston would be lacerated by his "network of fast-moving arterials connecting important destinations to each other and the freeway system."

Does Mr Sampson really believe that the major object in the lives of most people is to get into their cars and whiz along a dual carriageway, so that they can have their daily walk in the Field and Study Centre, or Ernest Uhlmann Park, or do their shopping at Sandton City?

Does he not realise that it is the home which constitutes the most important part of the environment for most people: that this is where they live, eat, sleep and raise their children; that this is where many of them have spent a goodly proportion of their lives creating gardens and planting trees which enhance the environment.

What is really needed in Sandton are imaginative traffic-management strategies, intelligent road markings which help to minimise the possibility of accidents, and attention to such things as road verges, turning lanes and pavements.

The roads should be designed to make for a smoother, not necessarily faster, flow of traffic and to make them safer for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

When all is said and done, we find that there is not enough money to build these roads anyway, yet we dare to budget for millions of rands for their construction, when the people of neighbouring Alexandra have no tarred roads or even decent houses in which to live. Haven't we got a little mixed up in our priorities?

**M J Laing,
Bryanston.**

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M Themba, Kwa Thema.

23/2/91

[Signature]

Inkatha men jailed for revenge murders

NATAL Witness 23/2/91

by ALFRED KGATLE
Supreme Court Reporter

TWO members of an Inkatha mob which went on a rampage, indiscriminately attacking houses in Imbali on a December afternoon, were yesterday sentenced to a total of 20 years' imprisonment for murder.

Appearing in the Supreme Court yesterday, Imbali's Inkatha ward secretary Themba Samuel Mtshali (37) was jailed for 15 years' and 10 years' for two counts of murder. The sentences are to run concurrently.

His co-accused, an 18-year-old youth, was found guilty on one count of murder and sentenced to five years in jail.

The two were found to be part of a revenge mob which attacked two households and shot dead two people in December 1989 following the death, earlier that day, of Mtshali's brother, Mzwandile, a policeman.

The group allegedly included prominent Inkatha member Jerome Mncwabe, who was himself killed in May last year.

From court evidence it emerged that the mob drove to a house belonging to someone called Mvelase. Shots were fired at people sitting on the veranda, killing Sifiso Berthwell Zondi.

The mob proceeded to Maurice Phuthini's house and car-

ried out a similar attack resulting in the death of Maxwell Molefe.

Sentencing the two, Mr Justice Broome said that, while he appreciated the provocation caused by the death of their brother, the court could not accept this type of irresponsible and undisciplined conduct.

"You were part of a trigger happy gang which indiscriminately killed people regardless of whether they were responsible for the death of your brother," he said.

He said it was clear that the mob had attacked the families just because they thought they were "amaqabane" (UDF members).

He rejected Mtshali's claim that he shot Zondi in self-defence after he was attacked by an armed group on his way to see his injured brother in hospital. Ballistic evidence indicated that Zondi was shot in the back of the head at close range with Mtshali's gun.

Mr Justice Broome said it was clear that the mob referred to by both accused was "non-existent".

The youth was acquitted on the charge of murdering Zondi after the judge ruled that there was insufficient evidence, as his role in Zondi's attack was "not clear".

Wembezi pupils allegedly intimidated

Witness Reporter

ALLEGATIONS of intimidation at schools in Wembezi township near Estcourt continue despite a statement earlier this month by KwaZulu Education Minister Lionel Mtshali that KwaZulu schools were open to all pupils who were prepared to learn.

At the start of the school year, pupils who could not produce Inkatha membership cards

were turned away from Wembezi schools.

Although these pupils have now been admitted, it appears that intimidation is still occurring at some schools.

A parent of a pupil at Bekunda Higher Primary School said last week two men came to the school and told children that they must each produce an Inkatha membership card on

that day by their next visit. However, they did not return.

The school committee of Wembezi High School has issued a statement following a meeting between the committee and parents of pupils.

The statement said it was resolved that a school report was the only document a student should produce for admission to the school.

Pat Mkhize, a lawyer and mediator, comments on how education could end violence

Schools must teach conciliation

TODAY'S meeting between the deputy president of the ANC, Nelson Mandela, and the president of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, gives hope that the violence that has caused so much loss of life, and which is affecting the economic strength of our country, will be curbed.

The meeting in itself will not produce magical results like stopping fighting, but will surely set the tone that people may fight over an idea without becoming enemies.

It will contribute towards a healthier way of looking at conflicts so that people involved in a face-to-face discussion tend to

concentrate on the problem rather than attacking people as in the case of communication through the media.

It should, however, be remembered that the two leaders are not the actual movers of violence although they may be politically accountable for the acts of their various supporters.

As I ponder all possible solutions to violence, I feel that education about various methods of resolving conflict is essential.

It is heartbreaking to hear people calling upon others to resolve their disputes in a peaceful manner when they themselves have not even the slightest skill in dispute resolution.



Pat Mkhize... Mandela-Buthelezi meeting will make for a healthier way of looking at conflicts.

There is not a single educational institution in South Africa that includes in its syllabus conflict-related subjects or courses.

There is not a single university in South Africa which has a centre on conflict, negotiation and mediation which makes available theoretical and practical facilities to its students and interested members of the community.

If courses such as mediation, negotiation, facilitation, conciliation, mini-trial, hybrid alternative dispute resolution, alternative dispute procedures and others were on offer, those taking such courses would be of great value to their communities.

The universities of the Witwatersrand or of Zululand, for example, admit students from various regions of South Africa.

Such students would spread their negotiating or mediating expertise to the whole of South Africa after completing their studies.

Knowledge and training in conflict resolution would enable us to resolve not only political conflict and labour, environmental and

civil cases; it would also enable us to resolve family conflicts, such as marital problems, child abuse and misunderstanding between neighbours. Skills in conflict resolution would enable us to assist people in conflict to resolve their differences before their relationship became permanently impaired.

Almost all black law schools offer purely legal courses to their law students. The structure of such syllabi conditions students to "thinking like lawyers", thus denying them other ways of looking at matters.

Legal education in general methodically constrains students not to immerse themselves in

their clients' lives, but rather to attend to only that which is "legally" relevant in a situation, to ignore what other people may be doing in response to the problem, and effectively persuades students to think of themselves as the pre-eminent problem-solvers.

I suggest that for us not to be ashamed by our much talked-about new South Africa, we will have to start now educating and re-educating ourselves about ways to resolve conflicts without hatred, bloodshed and misery.

Processes like negotiation and mediation are not of recent origin; they were used long ago by our traditional societies, and they were successfully used. □

Intimidation at root of 'most SA violence'

Intimidation is at the root of much of the violence in South Africa, according to the latest SA Institute of Race Relations Survey.

In recording the mix of positive and negative trends in South African society during 1989/1990, the annual survey, which was released this week, draws particular attention to the way in which coercion is threatening two vital institutions — black schools and the press.

It notes that some ANC leaders have tried to address the problem and have called for discipline — particularly on the part of the youth.

Lost

What wholesale intimidation has done to black education is encapsulated in a quoted statement by Dr Oscar Dhlomo (when he was KwaZulu's Minister of Education) in which he said "national academic genocide" was being committed by people who did not have their own children in the schools they were disrupting.

The survey quotes at length from a report by senior Sunday Star journalist Jon Qwelane in which teachers and principals complained they had lost control to certain educational and students' organisations. They disobeyed those parties at their own peril.

A headmistress said: "We

have been thoroughly intimidated and we know it. We are even afraid to speak out, because we will be called 'sell-outs' and 'reactionaries' and be dealt with mercilessly."

Referring to a new form of censorship — the intimidation of black journalists — the survey quotes a number of discussions at which journalists spoke of the risks they took (including one threatened by necklacing) if they openly criticised some of the political organisations or their leaders.

The senior assistant editor of the Sowetan, Thami Mazwai, is quoted as saying that "the battle for the media continues".

Whereas the Government had previously succeeded in getting sectors of the press as its apologists, it had now become commonplace for all organisations to do the same.

The survey found that criticising strategies, such as class boycotts, was considered taboo by political activists.

It also noted that the Inkatha-owned Ilanga newspaper had dropped circulation by more than 20 000 copies through a "well-orchestrated campaign" of intimidation.

Distribution trucks had been held up, while gangs of "faceless people" had threatened to burn down shops that sold the newspaper.

People, who had bought the newspaper in defiance of the campaign against it, had been forced to eat it, the survey said.

— Sapa.

ANC outnumbered at talks with Inkatha

By Patrick Laurence

DURBAN — ANC delegates will be outnumbered more than three to one by Inkatha representatives when the two organisations meet in Durban today in a bid to end their violent enmity.

The 20-member ANC delegation, headed by deputy president Nelson Mandela, will face a 67-member team from Inkatha, led by Inkatha Freedom Party president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

It will be the first face-to-face encounter between Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi since Mr Mandela's release from jail nearly a year ago, a year which has seen a marked escalation in the bloody conflict between the two organisations.

The discrepancy in numbers is, in part, a consequence of the formula for the peace talks.

The ANC's national executive committee has about 40 members. Inkatha's central committee has 120 members. Thus each side is represented by about half of its executive members.

The ANC delegation includes the chairmen of its three Natal regions, Jacob Zuma, who is considered to be a "dove", Harry Gwala, who is viewed as a "hawk", and Willus Mchunu. All three

men have an intimate knowledge of the violence which has claimed at least 4 000 lives since mid-1987.

The Inkatha team includes several chiefs, who, like the ANC's regional chairmen in Natal, have seen the violence at ground level all too often.

One of the reasons for the large Inkatha delegation is to ensure that whatever agreement emerges from the meeting seeps down to grassroots level as quickly as possible. In the rural areas of KwaZulu, tribal chiefs are in the best position to convey it to the people.

The meeting will, it is understood, be co-chaired by Alfred Nzo, secretary-general of the ANC, and Frank Mdlalose, national chairman of the Inkatha Freedom Party.

No formal agenda has been released but the talks will focus on the violence and ways of ending it. If they go well, the need for black unity or a "patriotic front", may figure prominently.

The success or failure of the talks will, however, be measured by the extent to which Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi are publicly seen to jointly exhort their followers to abandon violence.

Mandela tells FW: you have no right to rule

23/2/91

PATRICK LAURENCE

THE African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela last night told President de Klerk to his face that his government had "no moral right to govern".

Mr Mandela added it was not his intention to "heap insults on or offer offence", merely to offer a conclusion deduced from general principles. His statement was "a judgment which any democrat can make".

Mr Mandela and Mr de Klerk were both guests of the Johannesburg Press Club at a dinner where they were jointly given the "Man of the Year Award".

Mr Mandela was accompanied by his wife Winnie, who was wearing a turquoise dress with a red floral motif. A radiant Mrs Mandela smiled graciously at the press

and looked stunning.

In his prepared text, released earlier under embargo by the ANC, Mr Mandela referred to his wife's trial, saying: "I wish to use this platform to unreservedly condemn the bully-boy tactics of some of those who have come to demonstrate their support for my wife, Comrade Nomzamo Winnie Mandela, during her court appearances."

But in his speech last night Mr Mandela cut out all references to his wife, some of which chastised the "bully boys" for compromising the integrity of the ANC and violating its principles.

Mr Mandela reaffirmed the ANC's call

TO PAGE 2.

Mandela

FROM PAGE 1.

for the installation of an interim government during the negotiating process, a call which Mr de Klerk unequivocally rejected in his February 1 speech to Parliament.

Mr Mandela referred to the rising rate of crime, describing it as a "wave of terrifying proportions" which threatened to reduce South Africa to ashes.

He identified one of the causes as the Government's failure to fulfil a fundamental principle: all governments must derive their authority from the consent of the governed.

Speaking without notes, Mr de Klerk responded sharply to Mr Mandela's call for an interim government to

replace the present government before a new constitution emerges from the negotiating table.

"Interim government, if it means a government with no democratic base, cooked up in dark rooms, I cannot accept," Mr de Klerk said.

"Constitutional change in a sovereign country must take place in a constitutional manner. Before that can take place we need to negotiate in the very real sense of the word."

"Let us get on with negotiation. Let us put proposals (on the table). If there are parties, if there are movements who want a phased approach, let us have such proposals."

But we cannot first create a constitutional vacuum and then in a vacuum try to build a new constitution.

Why should ANC condemn the alleged kidnapping of witness

LAST week the Sunday Star published no less than seven articles on the so-called Winnie Mandela Trial. The headings ranged from "Justice is fighting for its life", "A Samson blinded by his love", "The fight for the ANC soul", to "ANC bungles Winnie's trial" and "My life is dead".

There are two main themes running through these stories. The first one seems to go like this: The ANC and Nelson Mandela should be criticised for not condemning the alleged kidnapping of a witness. If it does not do so, this implies that a future government will be unjust. The second: The ANC blundered by pledging solidarity with Mrs Mandela and pointing out the political dimension to the case, and also by organising demonstrations and placards bearing her photograph outside the court.

Let me start by stating quite clearly that the Support Committee, NOT the ANC, produced the poster proclaiming support for Mrs Mandela and her family. The supporters of Mrs Mandela do not come from one particular political organisation, church or town. Some will be ANC, Presbyterian, white, living in Johannesburg, others could be Africanist, atheist, black, and homeless. Whoever gave Mr Tony Leon, MP, his information was either misinformed or mischievous.

Maybe the same source would do well in advising the honourable member for Houghton that the accused in the case are facing eight charges, four of assault and four of kidnapping, and not merely with "unlawfully and intentionally assaulting Stompie with open hands with intent to do grievous bodily harm".

As for the article of Mr John Carlin of Great Britain, one need not read further than the introduction to realise the weightlessness of the rest of the article. The main complaint of Carlin is the ANC's failure to condemn the "alleged" kidnapping of a witness.

Why should anyone bear the onus of condemning something which is so indistinct. Supposing the ANC did wish to condemn. What must it condemn? So far there are three theories regarding the disappearance of Mkgwe.

Firstly, it is the "alleged" kidnapping by one man, according to one of the co-witnesses, or by three men, according to the other witnesses.

Secondly there is the theory that emerges from a person who called The Citizen, Sowetan

and Sapa claiming to be Mkgwe and to have left Johannesburg voluntarily for Harare because he is no longer prepared "to betray his comrades".

Thirdly there is the information from reliable sources within the civil service who reportedly informed the Conservative Party that Mkgwe was abducted by members of the National Intelligence Service. Now, which of these things must the ANC condemn? Can anyone really expect the ANC or the NIS, for that matter, to do more than merely confirm or deny the allegations?

The answer that one may obtain from the authors of the articles will most likely be that the ANC bears the onus to condemn any of the possibilities. This would be based on the fallacious and overriding theme of the articles, including the editorial, that it is justice that is threatened, or per Tony Leon: "Justice is fighting for its life".

What justice? Can Leon or any others seriously argue that there can be justice in this "old South Africa". Must any person or organisation in their right senses really regard a person who, for example, is in hiding from the police, skips bail or escapes from custody, as "a fugitive from justice"?

I venture to say that Mr Leon et al would not hesitate to assist or conceal a person who came to his house asking for shelter if he had just managed to escape from Adolf Hitler's courts, Idi Amin's courts or a kangaroo court in the township. If I'm right the sole reason would be that he does not perceive those courts to be the courts of justice.

Besides, as it is aptly put in a verifiable letter to the Support Committee brought by a hostel-dweller from Soweto: "The duty of the ANC is to attain our freedom and to take power from the minority government, not to look for witnesses."

As for John Carlin, who may perhaps be forgiven for his naive views on the ground of ignorance, we can only recommend that he gets a copy of Alan Paton's "Cry the Beloved Country" and look for a passage that says "If the Law is unjust..."

In South Africa, justice is not fighting for its life, it has not yet been born.

Cyril Jantjes,
Chairperson of the newly formed
Winnie Mandela Support adhoc Committee