

ARITE) _

20A THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER Sunday, February 17, 1991 eee.

Bomb Kills S. African Lawyer
Who Alded 'Hit-Squad Probe

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG South Afnca
â\200\224 Exploding headphones killed
an activist lawyer when he.
switched on a tape recorder that
was mailed to his 'office. Associ
ates on Saturday blamed govern-
ment-linked death squads g

Bheki Mlangeni, 32, died Fnday
night when he put on the head-
phones and pressed the play but-.

ton at his' home in the Soweto .

township, â\200\234police Capt Ruben
Bloomberg said. . %
Mlangeni got the recorder and

headphones by mail; in a package

originally mailed to .a former .

police officer who testified about
death squads before a board of
inquiry Mlangeni had worked with.

The officer never -received the

bomb, and it was sent to Mlangen- =

i's office, which was fisted as the *
return address, the board said in-a
statement: The recorder and head-
phones were mailed with a tape
labeled: â\200\234â\200\230Evidence of Hit Squads.â\200\235

et g g e

Assocrated Press

â\200\230Gnevmg Relatlve' Activist Winnie Mandela comforts a relative of
assassinated African Natlional Congress attorney Bheki Mlangem
- of anti-apartheid activists.

â\200\234The explosives were appar- B

ently concentrated on the right
ear,â\200\235 a friend of Mlangeni's, Chris

Ngcobo, told the â\200\230South African

Press Association. â\200\234Theri [saw this
Walkman (recorder) next fo the
body. It was a mess.â\200\235 Â« *'

Mlangeni, an African Nauonal

Congress member, worked for the.,
law firm of Cheadle, Thompson
and Haysom. He had worked with
the private Board of Inquiry into
Informal Repression, which inves-
tigated allegations that govern-
ment death squads killed dozens

i

t

The board submitted informa-
tion to a judicial commission,
which concluded some police and
military figures had attacked anti-
apartheid figures, but there was no
evidence of organized government

. death squads.

Law and Order Minister Adnaan
Vlok said police would do all they

S PPN

200\224

: could to solve the case

The government has always
denied operating death squads
and says it has disbanded the
Civilian Cooperation " Bureau,
which the board of inquiry sug-
gested had sponsored the attacks.

v Wi aedbet

Will ANC|

Be Loser
At Trial?

Image Could Suffer |
If Case Dismissed

By CHRISTOPHER S. WREN
New York Times & i

7

_JOHANNESBURG, South Africa

â\200\224=.Winnie Mandela's kidnapping
and assault trial i

the ANC_deputy leader, was post-
poned by Judge M.S. Stegmann
until March 6, after one of the
stateâ\200\231s principal witnesses disap-
peared and the two others refused
to-testify against Mandela, citing
fear for their lives. g
Unless Jan Swanepoel, the state
prosecutor, can fi first wit-

â\200\230Four of Mandelaâ\200\231s co-de
dants have jumped bail, frustrating
hopes that one of them might be
persuaded to testify against her.

â\200\230Yet that would hardly vindicate
Mandela, who once said she wel-
comed the opportunity to confront

. the allegations against her in court,
because the ANC's credibility in
the-affair has been stretched with
South Africans of all races.

. *It will remain a blot on the ANC
far years if justice is not done,
because they let it happen,â\200\235 said a
black journalist from Soweto.

-A popular reaction was summed
up by the Weekly Mail, the anti-
apartheid newspaper, when it said,
â\200\234The central question being asked
is: Are leading political figures
above t 2"

He said his organization had

nothing to do with the disappear-
ance o :

Militants Seek Linkage

Mandela is standing trial in connection with common crimes, and not for her political activities, though her militant supporters are working to blur the distinction. .

Mandela and her three remaining co-defendants are charged in connection with the kidnapping on Dec. 29, 1988, of four black youths who were whipped, kicked and beaten in her home. b

â\200\234The youngest, James â\200\234â\200\230Stompieâ\200\235

- Mogeketsi Seipei, 14, was found

nine days later in a Soweto field with his throat cut. Mandelaâ\200\231s head

bodyguard, Jerry Richardson, was |
convicted on May 25 of killing the |

boyâ\200\230and sentenced to death.

â\200\230The three survivors testified at Richardson's trial that Mandela punched and whipped them and Stompie before leaving them to her bodyguards. They were expected - to repeat their testimony at Mandelaâ\200\231s trial. - , ST e Ll B ek |

*Mandela says she was away in the Orange Free State at the time. |

â\200\234After pledging to let justice its course, the

: 'joined
â\200\234Alfred
x :

â\200\230â\200\234Members of the Winnie Mandela Support Ad Hoc Committee have been waving placards outside the Johannesburg courthouse that say, â\200\234Stg Harassing Our Mother Winnieâ\200\235

Bodyguard Disbanded
They do not seem to speak for

black South Africans who remember-the thuggish ior of the

club was ac

guards; the nationalist group hasâ\200\235

Right-wing whites have begun

exploiting the trial, contending that, such justice will become the norm should the ANC be allowed to take power. :

â\200\230Eugene Terreblanche, leader of the ~ Afrikaner Resistance Movement, - a neo-Nazi paramilitary group, told a rally in Alberton that the refusal of witnesses to testify showed that law and order had failed under ANC pressure.

The trial has subjected President F.W. de Klerkâ\200\231s motives to scrutiny, since it emerged that the state

-failed to protect witnesses in custody, lost track of the four missing

defendants and waited nearly 21 - months before charging Mandela - in September. - AN

N s
h: gâ\200\230bczms\oh Hmd

< b his

GU =

R T T 3

=gy -\, 0L

â\200\224â\200\224 =\ .

3 1 o]
The ANC's failure to condemn the alleged kidn 3ppin

of a key witness in the Winnie Mandela trial has caused

widespread criticism overseas. â\200\231
Sfrom JOHN CARLIN of The IndeÃpendent in London.

This comment comes

LINDED, like by
lave,
beth, {nto betraying his
better nature, Nelson

Mandelaâ\200\231s fall from grace in the
past week has potentially tragic
implications for himself, for the
African National Congress and
South Africa at large.

His failure â\200\224 and by ex-
tension, that of the cowed
ANC leadership â\200\224 to con-
demn the kidnapping of a key
State witness in the trial of
the organisatiowâ\200\231s head of so-
cial welfare, Wimme Mande-

justice and what sort of de-

the post-apartheid nation.

All it would have taken for
the ANC to emerge clean, if not
quite smelling of ruses, after the
â\200\230disap ce of Gabriel Pelo
Mekgwe on Sunday night, world

what had happened and calling
on those responsible to see to it
that he returned to give evi-
dence in court.

Perhaps, too, some reassur-
.ance might have been given to
the {wo other State wiinesses,
who refused to testify for fear of

L their lives after-they learnt

what had happened to their

Instead, the only official ANC
response was a statement deny-
ing a report in The Star in
Johannesburg which said that
three ANC men had been seen
stealing off into the night with
Mr Mkgwe

nothing to do with it, thus im-
plying that ANC people might
have been responsible. Talk of
an investigation carried as
much ring of conviction as simi-
lar claims by the South African
Police

Already struggling to keep up
with F W de Klerk's forceful
image-building, the ANC has
suffered in its 79-year history suf-
fered such a blow to its credibili-
ty as a worthy government-in-
waiting. Mr Mandela himself

inconsistent. © ,

The Weekly Mail, & news-
paper with a courageous five-
year record of dedication to the
anti-apartheid cause, spoke out
against the ANC with unprece-
dented fire yesterday.

to allow appalling behaviour to

" 4 be excused in the name of

&2 the editorial asked.

{ The only thing that has been
] proven is that there is grave
] cause for concern about the

ANC's attitude to justice and { e

legal system. The problem was

SWAD A S TAL a need, like Mac-

la, has raised disturbing.
questions about what sort of

democracy may be expected in

have been 2 statement deploring

has never looked so lame and

Is the ANC going to continue.

G e A 'UE =

symbolised by the arrogant © R

ANC marshals who took control 2
of the streets, strotting aroond X
in makeshift military fatigues
and abusing journalists and
othersâ\200\235 i !

Referring to the dancing the
marshals were performing in
the streets outside the court-
room, the Weekly Mail romnded
off its editorial with a bang: â\200\234Is
{iis what the ANC promises ma
future system- The rule of the
Toyì-Toyi Macoute?â\200\235 .. â\200\224
The Star, 2 Iiberal newspapet

far from unsympathetic to the
"ANC, had equally strong words
in its main editorial on Thurs-
day. Describing Ars Mandela's .

- â\200\234enterie of loyal and aggressive: â\200\224
supportersâ\200\235 within the ANC as
â\200\234pld hands at brutal persuoâ\200\231
sionâ\200\235, The Star said the fmpres-
sion was being created that the
ANC condoned â\200\234the subversion
of formal justice when it suits
-.. A government-in-waiting
that tolerates assaults against
the very structmres on which a -
civilised society .must be built

. Teffects a danger o all who
aspire to a free, fair democracy.
Condonation threatens to bring
the age of the new Mafia wpon
US-â\200\235

As for ANC members con-
tacted yesterday, the mood flue-
tuated between embarrassment, .
despair and determination to
fight from within the organisa-
tion for democratic change.
Those who fzvoor the violence,
intolerance and aunthoritarian-
ism of which Mrs Mandela has
become a symbol, presumably
see no canse for dismay.

â\200\234As an organisation,â\200\235 thed _
statement said, the ANC had =~ â\200\224â\200\224â\200\224

WEArisminEthat ,

there are a geod rmtmber of offi-
cials in the top leadership body,
the National Fxecntive Commit-
__t8&, who would like nothing bet-
ter tham to be rid of Mr Man-

delaâ\200\231s troublesome wife, but

dare not speak out through fear
of hira and the damage he could
inflict; on their political careers.

There is also the realisation,
among those who see that the
ANC's strength is its weakness,

that without Mr Mandela as

leader, the organisation would -
be a shadow of the political.
force it is. .

And what could be seen as an
admirable loyalty on the part of
the organisation's leadership for
the undoubtedly heroic Mr Mz-

- dela that indeed the loyalty he

feels for his wife may also be
seen as admirable that IS actually
a betrayal of the ANC's broader
democratic principles and a be-
trayal of the many thousands
who have suffered and toiled
in the organisation's name.

144 3108

a

[L

_â\200\230other witnesses

-

et

-+

b

"

-~

- see how the

1. Harare by

fearful that they too mi

YOS I F. P

s CM

& \$8%-

THE PAPER FOR THE PECPLE

â\200\230W WO questions Lie at the heart of

*"H the Great Winnie Trial Whodmn-

: ait: Who abducted Gabriel

â\200\230B Megkwe, 3 key prosecutian wit-
ness? And who, or woat, are the two
who refose lo testify
afraid that they are

afraid of â\200\224 S0

. prepared to risk five or more years in

jail?

: lol we know the answers, evernts
of the past few days will continne to

" provoke public disbelief Seldom can 2

single trial have produced so many
embarrassments for the police and the
ion and made sech a mockery

of due proesss i our legal system.
First, four of Mrs Mandelaâ\200\231s co-

aceused jumped bail last December
a2 fact not diselosed unill just hefore
the trial began. (As the Sundzy Times

. revealed last week, at least one of the

absconders felf comfident emough of

avoiding arrest to turn up at court and trial was progressing in his absence)-

Then, even before any evidence was led, came the disappearance of Mr Megkwe - apparently abducted from Soweto by persons unknown although 2 police Identikit was issued showing

- the face of one of them. Phone calls

purporting to have been made from Mr Megkwe have been received by several newspapers, but there is no certainty they are genuine

Finally, came the refusal of the other two principal witnesses to testify, to be abducted-

od. What else could 1 Justice MS

2 .- Stegmann do except Warn them of the

consequences of . their stand and adjourn the trial to allow them to

reconsider?

It is a - 230 hapstoor's um' f'nt to see in calculated attempt (0

these events a frustrate the course of justice - 224

" - 230 though comparatively that is what they

threaten to do.

The situation is bedevilled by the

in - extracordinary degree of incompetence-

L R e R L T

- crowd outside court. They

A - a photographer should have told him

Role of the press

passed, the police have attacked this newspaper for identifying 2 fugitive from the Wigtie turned up In the

claim the

As is usual when - 201 they are embarr-

Mandelz trial who

m- v

The facts are these the photographer was approached by the fugitive, who spoke to him, agreed to be photographed, and then slipped away in the

crowd. The photographer did not raise

an alarm because he thought with

goo@thathgm:â\200\230zghtbeld.\ledif

" O H A

| Whodunnit? Th
| is the question !

tence on the part
wants such an imp
ceed to judgment
Believes it has enr
comviedon â\200\224 Â¥
and witnessas
casual mammer
Especially |

secarify SET
witnesses Io
not put uD
place instea\200\235
streets Â¥
Belated Â¢
now he
schemes

For its
is negesF
name an
the disag
This is o
case ha
roofs em
cialâ\200\235 AD
unoffcia
ers. SUZSeSUOns luen 4 rpmmâ\200\224â\200\224â\200\224â\200\224. -
group, acang independeatly, I3y be
responsibie are not only logical buk
pe . .
This is a tricky moment foT the
ANC. It is vital to the imterests of
justice that the case against Mrs Man-
dela is dealt with in accordance with
the law. But it isno less fraportant that
an organisation that considers iizelf 2
government-i.n-waii~\201ngâ\200\230 should dis-
Tance itself vigorously from egira-
legal activities or even the tzint of
them. :

Instezd of reacting gver-sensitively
to what people might dednce from
news reports, the ANC should be mak-
ing stremuous efforts fo establish
ezactly what happened to Mr Megkwe
and whece he is, 2nd using ifs influence
o havehimrermmedsotbatthetrial

T e RwR 8%Â«

may proceed

â\200\234On the available evideace, it would
appear tp have 3 greaier chznee of
doimg this than the police. ;

promised 2 copy of fhe photograph

after publication. They raised lo chjec-
tHom

Three poinis arise Firstly, the
Sopreme lg:?\];t has roled that tze law

â\200\230does not demaud heroism from the

ordinary and the photographer
had no duty to risk his lifec Secondly,
the goï¬\201ceazâ\200\230euqabletopmtectci¬\202im

45 was

gai w-nshrp vengeance,
vividly confirmed by the refnsal of wii- .

nesses to testify at the trial Thirdly,

this newspaper did its job of gathering,
L : o o

checking and paohlisiing Â¥

. public interest. It remains anly for the

@oot

|

SO e e

&â\200\230 B:}nggprni¬\201

e

e â\200\224â\200\224â\200\224â\200\224â\200\224 et o

e psman Ty

arce has a
ourt of Que

FOR William Bubier, 8 gum-
~chewing Amcrican, and Betty,
hus pmtinum-blondc wife, it
was what holdays were all
about. On & tnp 10 Squth Af-
fice, they Were able 10 dem-
onstraie their suppent for
Nelscn Mandela's african
National Congress by pavinga
visit 10 the Rand Supreme
Court in JohanncsouiE.
In e dock was Mandclaâ\200\231s
wife, Winnie, resplendent in
long African robor. Â\$nae ic AÂ¢
cused of kidnapping end as-
caylt, This mattered little 10
the Babiers Jeaning over the
rail, they shook her hand
warmly, William Bubier
handed her a \$50 npie s â\200\234a
ood-luck charm''. Later,
tty posed for holiday snap-
ehots outside the court with 2
oup of Mandela supporters
who were chanting *Qur
pautlan comrads Winnic.â\200\235
The presence of the Bubiers
at the trial last week foruifcd
the notion that {arce iy never
far below the surface of pol-
itical Â¢vents in South Afnca.
But their jovial attepndance
was by no Means the only un-
usual zspect of the drama un-
foldinz ln and around Counl
4E. Adding to the surreal na-
ture of the affair were reports
that onc of WinnicÂ¢ Mand.1aâ\200\231s
co-de{cndants, who has sup-
posed!y been hunted by police
after absconding OB hail last

17 FEBRUARY 1991 Â» THE SUNDAY TIMES

field day at

by Stephen Taytor, Johannesburg

He been seen near
here he spoke 10
reporters. He remains at
perplexing was
he state's elusive
<5, Ciabriel Mkgwe,
haunted in his pyia-
mas last Sunday
later, a man He
porâ\200\230lcru cÂfaVINE

â\200\230ephoned THe-

by helicopter 10
When pressed for
this improbable
story, he hung up.

not for the unde-
menace and intimi-
has brightened th
Winnipeg Mand
the man man)
as their next pre-
al collapse He
bbed her of the
her innocence

South Africans

chance to prove

rule of law in what
President W de Klerk calls
the new South A i
into confusion
Sunday when
of three plain-
charges against
her three 0
ot a Methodist
Soweto with three
men identified by 0
per as ANC mem

started last
Mkgwe, ont

Mandela and

- By the end of the

has not - been seen . since.

The ANC issued 2 state-
ment denying that it was
â\200\234organs:monally respon-
sibleâ\200\235 for the disappearance,
inviting speculation that in-
dividual members of the ANC
probably were. And when

Kenneth Kpase and Thabiso Mono, the other two plain-lits, were brought to court but refused to testify, saying they feared for their lives, the ANC was silent.

Perhaps its most questionable act, however, was to involve itself in a NEWS conference held on Thursday by the mother of a 234-year-old mother-in-law, who was allegedly abducted at the same time two years ago as Mkgwe. Kgax, and MODO, and was poisoned at Winnie Mandela's home before being murdered by Jerry Richardson, her chief bodyguard.

Muananki Seipol, Srompic's mother, once expressed bitterness towards the ANC. But in front of the press. Accompanied by an ANC official, she announced she had joined the T ERIU Lant Otubna and

absolved Winnie Mandela of

any responsibility for her son's death. Instead, in a joint statement with the ANC, she blamed a 234th racist TCRIME that rules our country through the barrel of a gun. The ANC said it was attending a 23450 that she cannot be misquoted a 235.

c'wtk. the

_ English-language a 230gc ipress, was: voicing "grave concern about

the ANC's attitude to justice a 204c, and asking why it had treated the case, involving ordinary criminal charges, as a political trial. Hisulse being asked why Winnie Mandela's defence is being paid for by the International Defence and Aid Fund, the London-based group that provides support in human rights and political cases. Criticism's also being focused on the prosecution. on what one commentator called a lack of a 234dedication and efficient practice (a 230m", and on

| why better provision with not

made for looking after the Lhroe witnesses. in view of the

en Winnie

politically explosive nature of.
the nal.

The plaintiffs were sup- .
poscd 10 Nave Leen living in e
ngafehouseâ\204ç in Johannesburg,
but when Kgase Was asked in
court what he had been doing
since helping 10 incriminate
Richardson last May, he said:
#1 poking after myself.â\200\235

Edward Southey. president
of the Association O Law
Socicties, said: â\200\234The statc has
5 rÂ»nmncihi!iiy ta protect wit-
nesses in important nals,
whether political or commer-
cial. The whole affair smacks
of gangstensm, and bodes ex-
tremely-ilt for the future of
Justice. i this country.â\200\235 P

Professorâ\200\235 Dirk van Zyt
smit, dean of law at the
University of Cape Town,
said the real issue was what
commilment the state was
|nk:puuâ\200\230d o inahe [the 2t~
urity of witnesses afier a triak.
Jte suggested that the state
shonld think about giving wit=
NCSSUS DOW identiges *'as
beheve has been done in
Northern Irelandâ\204ç.

â\200\230T'he government said 11 was
examining more effective
methods of safeguarding Wit
nesses. Robie Coctsee, the jus-
tirn miniginr, indieated ther?
Might have been reluctance
W tike the withesses intos
proteciive custody under sec-
urity legislaun which had
been â\200\234viciously sitacked as
unfairâ\200\231. Âç

Whautever provisions 8Âç
mude. lawyers seÂç little pros-
poct of the case procedding
much boywnd its scheduled
resumpiion on March 6. Jus.
yice Sicgmann. (he presiding
judge. has indicited hc may
then Jail Kgase and Mon7in=
delinitely if they still refuse 10
testify:. They have said -they
ure. prepared for jail, but may
give eyvidence if Mekgwe le-
appears 10 testify as weil.
Mberwise, - the prosecution
seems bound 10 collapse.

Throughout all this, Nelson
MANACIA NAS MAnaned B 50Â«
rope prescnce lm the, public
pallerys During the many

Breaks he has been at his
wafe's side, touching and
cmbracing her. i{ one thing 18
corlpin about the case, jtisthe !
devotion of South AfrIcRâ\200\231s
most famous former prisoner
Lo the woman in the dock.

e AT

.,_...:_.<._,_,_,_-_.,_-_._..._-_.....-,_-.....-._.....â\200\224-_,_,_,.4 e gy gy T

|â\200\234ANC people aÃ©cused of gunning down Inkatha s@porters %6

'@

O\â\200\230i{nâ\200\231CjorrespondÃ©ï-\202t

DURBAN â\200\224 Fourteen
~ pagsengers died [n a hail
of butets and 11 v e ing
jured when two buses and
a bakkie were ambushed
by gunmen near Taylorâ\200\231s
Halt outside Maritzburg
yesterday.

The victims were return-

ing from an Inkatha prayer
meeting attended by about

45000 people. . 7

As a crowd of thousands
gathered in thÃ© â\200\230area this
morning, KwaZulu Legisla-
tive Assembly 'delegate
David Ntombela accused
â\200\234ANC peopleâ\200\235 of staging the
ambush. e

He said he was told that
some of the victims had been
beheaded after being killed.

Various types of weapons,
including Rls, Rds, AK-47s
and pistols, were used.

Mr Ntombela said the gun-

men stood on both sides of
the road in what he de-
scribed as a well-planned
ambush.

The bakkie in which Chief

â\200\230NW Zondi was travelling

was shot at and his brother
Phillip was wounded.

The ambushed buses were
among the first to leave the
meeting and were heading
for Sweetwaters.

It was the third recent at-
tack on Inkatha Freedom
Party supporters after they

had left gatherings.!

Another member of the
KwaZulu Legislative Assem-

bly, Velaphi Ndlovu, said the ambush was at the same

place that 13 children had

been shot dead in 1987 in an incident regarded by Inkatha supporters as the cause of much of the ensuing violence.

Mr Ntombela said the people who had stayed over after the attack, and who were gathering again today,

were outraged at the continued ANC attacks and trouble-making.

They (the ANC) want to finish off all the Inkatha members. We need to. - Goveri wat all know the ANC intends to take over the country and is causing all the fighting.

They protest about our traditional weapons and say we must not go about with our sticks, assegais and the like, but they do nothing

about the AK-47s which their own men have,

How long must we accept these attacks on people who have come to a prayer meeting? Enough is enough. - A»

Mr Ntomela said yesterday's meeting had been called to inform people of the peace initiatives of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Nelson Mandela.

Bekkersdal fighting
Page 3.

444 3198

Â« -0 @

L

s a8 o8

N L e AL P

P B

H
s a e s e

N

IR LI

'{i_ï¬\201r'i,': 'i'ii ft!iai~;'

-
Â£l
L]
-
-
]
Â»
l
[
.
Â»

LXK R XS

vir ._iâ\200\234&"l A

iV

Ny

P0t B
Syt

i
/

A%

R

!

a\(' \ A RALEE

VOS: I FÂ°F

â\200\224 AN A

HE peace accord reached by the

ANC and government this week

has finally paved the way for negotiations to STAIT in earnest.

And the possibility of a multi-party conference now seems a reality. - At face value it would seem the government scored more points the ANC by reaching an accord. However, the reality is that both parties will benefit in the short and long-term.

* By agreeing to abandon plans for a private army the ANC will now have a firmer platform from which to demand that organisations like the AWB, the OB and other white rightwing groups do the same.

The ANC also agreed that no Umkhonto we Sizwe training would take place within South Africa's borders. Surely the AWDB must do the same.

They also agreed that no threats of armed action or terrorism violence would be made. People like AWE leader Eugene Terreblanche CP leaders Andries Treurnicht and Ferdi Hartzenberg are past masters of these games. . The crackdown on possession of AK-47s and other automatic weapons should bring relief to all South Africans, even to those not involved politically. - Banks, motorists, train commuters and ordinary men in the townships have been victims of these lethal weapons. The AK-47 has also played a sinister role in inter-organisational conflict.

FTER Winnie Mandela's court

case has been finalised and whether

or not she is found guilty,

there will still be more questions than answers in the application of

under normal circumstances a court case involving abduction and assault of an ordinary citizen would not have attracted so much publicity, controversy and questioning of the integrity of SA law. - .

Mrs Mandela's defence blames the Press for prejudicing its case in the eyes of the public, and the Al Jazeera pattern of political manipulation.

members. .

But the ANC and defector advocate George Bizos have turned an ordinary criminal case into a political trial. :

What we want to know is who pays

Now is the time for
negotiations

; incising *

Law favouring

the role of law to high-profile political.; _
Pk .10 know how and why- four cosacsmsedit:

harassment aimed at one of its leading

to start

From the government's side, we are
pleased to hear that the bulk of political
exiles will get safe passage home.
Unbearable anxiety has been experienced
by the more than 20,000 exiles
and their families.

Also pleasing was the undertaking to

monitor closely the actions of the SAP.
Police have been a cause for concern
since the ANC, the PAC and other
political organisations were dissolved
a year ago. :
. Security forces have been blamed
for complicity and direct involvement
in many unrest-related incidents. Even
the Goldstone Commission, set up by
President FW de Klerk to investigate
the Sebokeng massacre last year, ap-
portioned blame to the SAP.

Indemnity for political prisoners
was yet another significant decision by
government. Negotiations would have
failed without this concession.

However, while both parties have
agreed to act in good faith, the ANC
agreement we want to warn the ANC
and the government that these initia-
tives may take time to filter down to
grassroots level.

We hope both parties will not be too
hasty or eager to accuse each other of
misdeeds should there be obstacles.

Africans should be

gra

ership of Nelson .

Elsewhere, without them, we believe
conflict would still be locked in a
stalemate, .

i ?

]
 the mig
 Bizos and his team for their sexvices?
 And why have the ANC leadership and
 its many SUpportiers grced every ocra-
 sion of Mrs Mandelaâ\200\231s appearance m-
 court?
 ~..As for the law, wesare equally keen |-
 who should have appeared with Mrs
 Mandela disappeared under the noses
 of the police. One of the co-accusad
 had the andacity o show up in conrt 38
 part of the crowd which came {o e
 In a case of this magnifnde oue
 would have expected the State to pro-
 tect ifs witnesses until the case was
 We believe the ANC has shot iself
 in â\200\230the foot by attracting so much
 publicity to e Winnie Vandela case.
 .. A low proflle would have showm
 - ftegrity and givea the ANC the creds=
 - bility expected of a ffure g0

Winnie trial taints the AN

L 3 tumahale)

Jchin Matisonn

HE Winnie Mandela case has
wwome. @ tar baby. AH who
uch it find it impossible to
isuck themselves. Dhstin-
tished anmn-apartheid cam-
ugners and organisations,
urnalists ' and lawyers who
we weahered many a govern-
ent-induced storm, are being
arred by this case,
While the prosecutor was
fing reporters that the latest
zarre huns in the case might
ul lo i collapse, an equally
zarre drama was being
acted ir this dusty little town-
ip 90 nucs south of Johannes-
Irg.

Tumatole was the home of
smipie Mokheresi Seiper, the
ardered child activist whose
sher stil works as a domestic
svant tn neighbouring Parys,
2 white town on the Orange
ex Star side of the border.
attity oo a shop wall has Been
ered, but the onginal is sl
able: Winnie murder. She
led Stompie.â\200\235

I'ne losal branch of the ANC
led a news conference to say
it Mrs seipel, as a loyal ANC
siner, supports the local
meh's position that Stornpieâ\200\231s
irder L'\fiilâ\200\2304 lâ\200\224\.\â\200\224t qum;ui &

R

racist regimeâ\200\231, and to reject
repore in a local newspaper
ich sad local â\200\230comradesâ\200\231
e trying to muzzle her.

WMis Sapel was at the news
werence, flanked by local
~C office- bearers who proved

just the opposite of whar hey
mtended by repeatedly answer-
mng jor her and dechning to

transate questions addressad to
her.

Evantually, at
msisence, she was told thar
repoiters wanited to kiow
whetier she was withdraving
the oitiasm she made of Mrs
Mandela last year.

Her face immediately log its
blankness. She became ani-
mated and forceful and :aid,
repesteing the words five times:
â\200\230Frm ikl not satisfied.â\200\231

â\200\230Because sheâ\200\231s the mother of
the aation, and as an ANC
memder, {’m expecting her to
come to me and clear up tieese
rumcurs.â\200\231

The reporter who wrote the
origizal article alleging that Mrs
Seipa was being kept quietis a
respected, experienced Hack

reporiersâ\200\231

WORLD NEWS . -

wurnahst, Doc Bikitsha But
the Tumanole AMCYS statement
said: It is very painful for us to
realise that (Mrs Seipei) is being
harassed by the pres for its aim
to boost sales and profit.â\200\235

At the ANCâ\200\231s Joiannesburg
office, there is suence about the
case. When Nefsor Mandela,
deputy president of the ANC,
went around the office the day
before the trial opered and sin-
gled out people who should
attend, they did as he asked.

Mandela intervenss on behalf
of his wife both ehind the
scenes and in public. When
asked at a pews conference
whether his wife sheuid not be
suspended from ber position as
head of the ANCâ\200\231s social wel-
fare department unti the case is
settled, Mandela told the
reporter tha’ he would come to
be ashamed of that question.

The Mandeias leave co’Uthtoqraph by Juhn n l(uus.

At a regional mestisig of the
ANC, when elcenons woere held

o its local executive, Mandela made 3 grand entrance and received thunderous applause Winnie Mandela was elecured by show of hands under the appreciative gaze of her husband,

There are some on the national executive committee who are disturbed by her growing power. They include former fellow inmates with her husband on Robben Island and senior former exiles now back in the country. When asked what they propose to do about it they shrug. She's a part of the legacy of the country's traumatic apartheid past, they say

Burt Winnie Mandela is not without support. While many rank-and-file members, especially in Soweto where she lives, are hostile to her, she has support in other areas, where her undoubted courage in wading into difficult situations is admired. It is accepted that, as seems increasingly likely, the argument her cannot be sustained in the face of wretched and abducted witnesses, she will be on the 15th February

The prosecutor, Jan Seanepe, said on Monday that he would not put witnesses in protective custody because no protection is secure. They can get

2 witnesses in prison, or with a car

bomb. He admitted he could not recall when a witness had been got by a car bomb.

This lax attitude seemed to

not change during the week, but 2

was clearly too late. ANC officials

privately worry that the ANC is applying a different standard to this case. They admit that Mandela has told supporters not to maintain the people's courts as a justice system, but rather to

let the courts handle criminal cases. Yet in this case, the NEC put out a statement condemning the prosecution as political harassment,

The legal team is being funded by the London-based International Defence and Aid Fund, which pays for legal defence in human rights and political cases.

The same fund paid for the defence of Jerry Richardson, the so-called coach of the Mandela United Football Club, when he was convicted of murdering Stompie.

Local journalist J. W. M. defended the [DAY decision on the grounds that Winnie Mandela's actions of

harassment placed her squarely in the category of those who tried to use the law to silence those who disagreed with her.

their claim. One of the best of the world's

el s ol ree

ter bersive,

Back in Tumahile, a member of the pro-ANC National Union of Mineworkers, said he respected Nelson Mandela, but regarded his case in a quite different category. a I'V.II.(

it's very difficult,â\200\235

and oopat
ABELS <. POâ\200\224
ShanLL AR L Wy

dimt 3

i o
i ihai ST AERTAT T

he sand.

=

; 5o
g (â\200\235)\;{Ot 1
Q(EQW1SC>VW \&\ Vde:1 \3â\200\2307 \â\200\231\LS

lOUcâ\200\234

N

widespread criticism
from JOHN CARLUIN

[The ANC's failure to condemn the alleged kidnapping
of a key witness in the Winnie Mandela trial has caused
overseas. This comment comes
of The Independent in London.

TD A

i LINDED, like n, by
lave, seduced, like Mac-
beth, into betraying his
better nature, IVelson

~
—

Al

\g c
gspti-\201mï-\201ons for himself, for the
African Neational Coogress and
South Africa at large.

His failare â\200\224 and by ex-
tension, that of the cowed
ANC leadership â\200\224 to con-
demn the kidnapping of 2 key
State wï-\202nesi in tge gnafl of
the organisationâ\200\231s head of so-
cial welfare, Wimme Mande-
la, has raised disturbing
questions about what sort of
justice and what sort of de-

the post-apartheid nation.

All it would have taken for
the ANC io emerge clean, If not
quite smelling of roses, after the
â\200\230disappearance of Gabriel Pelo
Mekgwe on Sunday night, would
have been a statement deploring
what had â\200\230happeded and calling
on those responsible to see to it
that he returned to give evi-
dence in court.

Perhaps, too, some leassur-

.ance might have been given to
the two other Sizte wiimesses,

| their lives after they learnt
what had happened to their
friend. - 2

I was a siztement deny-
ing a report in The Star in
Johannesburg which said that
three ANC men had been sesn

Mr Mekingwe

stztement said, the ANC had
nothing to do with it, thos im-
plying that ANC people might
have been rasponsible. Talk of
â\200\234an investigationâ\200\235 carried as
much ring of conviction as simi-
lzar claims by the South African
Police.

Already struggling fo keep up
with F W de Klerkâ\200\231s forceful
image-bailding, the ANC has
pever in its 79-year history suf-
fered such a blow to ifs credibll-
ity as a worthy government-in-
waiting. Mr Mandela himself

~inconsistent.

The Weekly Mail, 2 news-
paper With 2 courageous five-
year record of dedication fo the
anti-apartheid cause, spoke out
against the ANC with unprece-
dented fire yesterday.

to allow appalling behavigur to
_be excused in the name of

"7 the editorial asked.
â\200\234The only thing that has been
proven is that there is grave
canse for concern about the
ANC's attitude to justice and the

T R R T T A Y QT

legal system. The problem was

o TR D Y A T YT T T

mocracy may he expected in

who refnsed to testify for fear of -

Instead, the only official ANC*

stesling off into the might with

â\200\234As am organisation,â\200\235 thed

has never looked so lame and

â\200\234Ts the ANC going to continue.

ATAAS â\200\224 \"

symbolised by the arrogaat -

ANC marshals wio took control
of the sirests, strotting around
in makeshiff military fatigues
and abusing journalists and
others.â\200\235 4
Referring to the dancing the
marshals were performing In
the streets outside the court-
room, the Weekly Mail rounded
off its editorial with & bang â\200\234Is
s what the ANC promisesma
future system- The rule of the
Tovi-Toyi Macoute?â\200\235 :
The Stzr, & Iberal newspaper
far from unsympathetic to the
ANC; had equally strong words
in i, maim editorial on Thurs-

czv â\200\230Descriting Mrs Mandelaâ\200\231s -
- â\200\234egererie of loyal and aggressive:

supportersâ\200\235 within the ANC as

â\200\234pld hands at brutal persaa-â\200\231

sionâ\200\235, The Star said the impres-
sion was being created that the
ANC condoned â\200\234the subversion
of formzl justce when it suils
... A government-in-waiting
that tolerates assaults against
the very strnctmres on which 2
civilised society must be built

. Tepresents 2 danger to all who

aspire to a fres, fair democracy.
Condopation threatens fo bring
the age of the new Mafia apen
us.Â» .

As for ANC members con-

tacted*yesterday, the mood fine-

tuated between embarrassment,

despair and determination to

fight from within the

tion for democratic cÂçhange.
Those who fovour the violence,
intolerance and aothoritarian-
ism of which Mrs Mandela has
become a symbol, presumabiy

see no canse for dismay.

â\200\224

WEAT iy certain s that

there are a good number of officials in the top leadership body, the /National-jixewi\201ve Cormmittee, who would like nothing but

to get rid of Mr Mandela's troublesome wife, but

inflict; on their political careers.

There is also the realisation, among those who see that the ANC's strength is its weakness,

that without Mr Mandela as

leader, the

force it is, -

And what could be seen as an admirable loyalty on the part of the organisation's leadership for the undoubtedly heroic Mr Mz-

- Mandela indeed the loyalty he

feels for his wife may also be seen as admirable â\200\224 IS actually a betrayal of the ANC's broader democratic principles and a betrayal of like many thousands who have suffered and toiled in the organisation's name.

A T A T I e T T i T T

organisation would -
be a shadow of the political