

STAR

19 Nov. 1988

NATION-building, the concept outlined by *Sowetan* editor Mr Aggrey Klaaste at a dinner in Johannesburg last month, could be the link South Africa needs to "tear down" the iron curtain separating white from black.

In Mr Klaaste's words, nation-building involves a "rebuilding of the structures in all forms in our societies for the good of all South Africans".

In an interview this week, he said his speech had aroused enormous interest both locally and internationally. He had become a celebrity overnight, with communities throughout the country inviting him to speak and people visiting him at his office in Industria.

"I'm too busy to cope with all this," he said. "I see myself as a facilitator of an idea."

Far and near

"I'm not in competition with political parties. I'd be happy for anyone to take the concept and build from there."

He said people wanted to help with nation-building. In recent weeks they had come from far and near to tell him as much. He was particularly impressed by an Afrikaner who travelled from Pretoria to tell him how much the nation-building concept meant to him.

"He said he thought it was time December 16 — the Day of the Covenant — was changed to include South Africans of all races," Mr Klaaste said. "With even one Afrikaner thinking this way, nation-building has made quite a start."

... beginning with a garden competition!

WINNIE GRAHAM

How can a nation be built? Mr Klaaste plans to make a small start based on an idea from the young man who drives his car ("I don't drive myself," he explained).

The driver had said he wanted to start a garden competition in Orlando East.

"I promised to help. If we can turn just one corner of Soweto, involving no more than 300 houses, into an attractive ethnic little centre with a restaurant and art gallery, perhaps the man in Mayfair or wherever will be tempted to come and see for himself how we live."

"It will have to be a natural, voluntary desire on his part. No one can force people to visit the townships."

"Right now, people think there's a murder or a necklacing in Soweto every other minute. Whites don't seem to realise that blacks also keep dogs and goldfish, get married and have babies. Black people are not a threat or danger."

The garden competition in Orlando East, he said, was generating tremendous excitement. One high-powered businessman had even offered to give trees to beautify the area.

Mr Klaaste would love someone from the white community to

come and stay in Orlando East to "get the essence of the place by living with the people."

He said he believed an architectural student doing post-graduate work would find an enormous amount of material for a PhD there. In exchange, he might come forward with ideas of how to improve the environment.

Though the editor talked affectionately of Soweto, he remembered the sad day when officials drove into Sophiatown and bundled the first families into trucks for the move to Meadowlands.

"We had planned to resist the removal but we were taken by surprise," he recalled.

So alike

"When we first moved into our new houses in Soweto, they were so alike we couldn't find our way home."

"We would walk down a street asking people: 'Do you know which is my house?'"

Mr Klaaste, born in Kimberley, was just two or three when, in the 1940s, his father came to the Reef to work as a clerk on the mines. In those days he dreamed of being a marathon runner, "though I realise now I was far too lean for that".

It was while he was completing a BA degree at the University of the Witwatersrand that he started free-

lancing with black magazines and newspapers. When he became a fully fledged journalist, he and his peers, he said, wrote mainly for the fun of seeing their names in print. He moved in a hard-drinking, hard-living group and was forever being arrested.

"Those were the days of curfews and pass laws; when a black man wasn't even allowed to buy his own liquor," he said. "Everyone was a criminal — or a potential criminal."

But he read a lot. It was a book by a Nigerian writer, Chinwenzu, that excited his imagination. He wrote of bygone African kingdoms, of the days before colonialism and slavery — and what he wrote thrilled Mr Klaaste.

Roots

"He told me black people aren't just a bunch of savages with no history, that we came from decent roots."

When Mr Klaaste travelled abroad he met South African exiles who asked him what the blacks in this country were doing other than protesting. It was then the idea of nation-building started to grow.

"This country has such talent, such wonderful people, we have to get it right," he said. "If we don't, the entire southern African will crumble because of us. Nation-building is a commonsense idea. No one can attack it — but we have to start rebuilding the structures."

And he includes black and white South Africans in the good things that must result from the reconstruction.

Man behind the massacre

DAILY NEWS — 19 NOV. 1988

He saw his own mother commit bedroom suicide

Caroline Hurry

JOHANNESBURG: Barend Hendrik — also known as "Henry" - Strydom, the former policeman who allegedly ran amok in Pretoria on Tuesday killing six people and injuring 17, confronted death at an early age - he watched his mother commit suicide.

Barend was seven years old when he witnessed his mother's suicide. Mrs Strydom called Barend into the bedroom, put a gun to her head and pulled the trigger.

"Only Barend knows what his mother's last words were, but after the shooting he became a very quiet, introverted child," said a family friend.

His father, Nic, an elder in the church and a Conservative Party candidate in the recent municipal elections, was stunned by the news of the mass



Barend Hendrik Strydom

shootings. "I did not bring up my son to shoot people," he said. "We are a religious family."

Yet for the young Strydom death somehow became a cause for mockery. He even posed for a photograph holding the decapitated head of a black accident victim in one hand and brandishing a knife in the other.

"He hated kaffirs," said Mr Louis van Dalen, a CP candidate and colleague of Strydom senior. "I know that's no reason to shoot them but I think his moth-

To Page 3 ➡

Man behind the gun massacre in Pretoria centre

➡ From Page 1

er's suicide might have affected him."

After his mother's death Barend was raised by his grandmother, Ouma Sannie until his father Nic Strydom married Daphne Raubenheimer, a divorcee with three children.

Barend moved in with his father, stepmother and her children Carol, Bernadus and Marius.

Carol, a BA graduate from Wits now works as a typist for the Heidelberg Police. Bernadus works in the detective branch of the Heidelberg SAP and Marius is writing matric at the Heidelberg Hoër Skool.

Nic Strydom is well respected in Heidelberg. A former policeman who retired last year for medical reasons, Stry-

dom senior is an elder in the Hervormde Kerk and recently stood as the CP candidate in the municipal election, narrowly losing to Ernst du Preez, the Independent candidate.

His wife Daphne suffers from ill-health and underwent a major bladder operation a few weeks ago.

"Daphne is so shocked by the Pretoria shootings, she can hardly speak," said a neighbour.

The Strydom family was first informed of the massacre by the newspapers.

"It was a great shock for my wife and I," said Mr Strydom. At this point his son had not made his court appearance. "The first time I'll have a chance to speak to my son is when I see him in court. I haven't

yet been able to speak to him.

"I have no idea of what was going on in Barend's head when he killed those people.

"I did not bring up my son to shoot people. We are a religious family."

Barend Snyman was seen in church every Sunday. "He was a very good boy," said Mrs Marie van Dalen. "He was terribly shy but always very respectful; he never smoked or drank alcohol."

Barend didn't mess around with girls either. "He never had a girlfriend in his life, he was far too shy," said a woman who matriculated with Snyman in 1983 from the Heidelberg Hoër Skool. She asked not to be identified. The headmaster, Mr Francois Botha hardly remembers Snyman at all. "He was a very quiet boy," he said.

Last year, Ouma Sannie, Strydom's "surrogate" mother died of an illness a few months before Strydom was dis-

charged from the SAP for possessing AWB documents.

Like his father, Strydom was a fully-fledged member of the AWB, but his father refused to comment about the Wit Wolwe, an underground terrorist organisation of which Barend Snyman claims to be a member. "I know nothing about them," he said.

In a farewell letter to his parents, the alleged gunman thanked them for being "wonderful parents".

"What I am about to do," he wrote, "is not a punishment for you. It serves as the first shots in the Third Freedom War which is already being waged."

A typed note attached to the letter and also written at the weekend was signed "Wit Wolwe".

At this stage police investigations would appear to indicate that the Wit Wolwe is not a properly constituted organisation and may, in fact, have only one member — Barend Hendrik Strydom himself.

UDF secretary 'had hostile intent'

Delmas trial: five guilty of treason

CITIZEN

19 Nov. 1988



Archbishop DESMOND TUTU at the Delmas treason trial yesterday.

By Ilse de Lange

FOUR senior members of the United Democratic Front, and a member of the Soweto Civic Association were yesterday found guilty in the Pretoria Supreme Court of treason.

Mr Justice Van Dijkhorst found Thomas Madike Manthata (48), UDF national secretary, Popo Simon Molefe (36), publicity secretary, Mosiuoa Gerard Patrick Lekota (40) and Transvaal regional secretary, Moses Mabokela Chikane (40), guilty of treason.

He found that Manthata, who was a member of the Soweto Committee of Ten and the Soweto Civil Association (one of the founding members of the UDF) was aware of, and fully identified with the aims of the UDF — which was to destroy the Black local authorities through mass action by violent means, in order to render the Republic of South Africa ungovernable.

Manthata, who was the master of ceremonies at activist Steve Biko's funeral, and who attended the launch of the Vaal Civil Association in 1983, was clearly in the camp of the Black consciousness group, and went along with Azapo's revolutionary policy, he said.

Action

Documents found in his possession, advocated organised mass action and predicting that "blood would flow" after August 1984, as well as a speech made by the accused at a protest meeting in Sharpeville on August 19, 1984, clearly belied his alleged peaceful profile, the judge said.

He said words used by Manthata at this meeting, to the effect that councillors should be killed if they refused to resign, "was not said in jest". Manthata arrived in the Vaal Triangle during the first day of the riots, that started on September 3, 1984 — he had no business there, the judge said.

He said the state had proved that Manthata had the necessary hostile intent against the Government of South Africa to which he, as a citizen, owed allegiance.

The court found that Molefe, Lekota and Chikane — all highly intelligent, articulate men — had been amongst the dominant leadership of the UDF an organisation that the court found to be revolutionary, with its aim the violent overthrow of the Government of South Africa.

Mr Justice Van Dijkhorst said the three men were amongst the co-conspirators of the UDF and the ANC — "there was a conspiratory core inside the UDF apple."

The three were all leaders in their own right. All of which made a valuable contribution to the leadership of the UDF. They all actively identified with, and executed the policy of the organisation.

Involved

- Molefe, a committed activist of long standing who supported the Freedom Charter, was deeply involved in the formation of the UDF.

As national secretary, he travelled extensively for the UDF, and made numerous speeches — all of them showing strong ANC leanings.

Mr Justice Van Dijkhorst described "Terror" Lekota, a prolific public speaker, as "strongly pro-ANC" and a revolutionary. He stood for the total isolation of South Africa from the outside world.

Lekota's speeches often lauded the ANC. He however did not openly preach violence, but was more subtle — his aim was to create a revolutionary climate that could be used to the UDF's advantage in the future.

Lekota, who spent time on Robben Island with the Rivonia trialists after being convicted of terrorism, had learnt about the Black freedom movement "at the knee of Nelson Mandela" — and he had

learnt his lesson well, the judge said. Lekota joined the Release Mandela Campaign after his own release.

Though Chikane did not maintain as high a profile as the other two UDF leaders, he nevertheless played a leadership role in the organisation. He was deeply involved with Cosas, and its boycott action in Black schools.

Boycott

Though the UDF could not be seen in public as supporting a schools boycott, there was never a clear call to Cosas to stop their destructive action in the schools, the judge said.

Seven of the accused, who all had links with the Vaal Civic Association and were involved in protest meetings against rent increases and the Black local authorities as well as a protest march which started early on September 3, 1984 and culminated in wide-spread riots and clashes with the police, were all found guilty of terrorism.

Mr Justice Van Dijkhorst found Gcinumuzi Petrus Malindi (28), Tsietso David Mphuthi (51), Naphtali Mbuti Nkopane (43), Tebello Ephraim Mamakgula (38), Sekwati John Mokoena (36), Serame Jacob Hlanyane (40) and Hlabeng Sam Matlole (64) guilty of terrorism.

He found that they knew that a stay-away that was being called for at the time, could only be effective if enforced by violence.

Illegal

They also knew that the protest march was illegal, and inevitably would lead to a violent confrontation with the police. They fully accepted this and took part with the intent to induce the Lekota Town Council to resign, or at least repay a rent increase.

The court could however not find that one of these accused had fully realised, and identified with the UDF's ultimate aim, which was to make the country ungovernable through violent mass action.

A further five accused Mr Morake Petrus Mokoena, Mr Bavumile Herbert Vilakazi, Mr Simon Tseko Nkoli, Mr Palemotse Jerry Tlhopane and Mr Thabison Andrew Ratsome were yesterday acquitted on all charges against them. The court found that the state had not proved its case against them beyond all reasonable doubt.

Mr Patrick Mabuya Baleka, Mr Oupa John Hlomoka and Mr Tebogo Geoffrey Moselane were acquitted earlier.

Mr Justice van Dijkhorst postponed the trial to December 5, when council for the defence will commence with its case for mitigation.

Trial

PFP MP for Houghton, Mrs Helen Suzman, South African Council of Churches head, the Rev Frank Chikane, Dr Beyers Naude, US ambassador to South Africa, Mr Edward Perkins, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu were at the trial yesterday.

Mrs Suzman was ash-faced as the judge announced his verdict of treason on the three UDF leaders.

Archbishop Tutu raised a clenched fist as he walked down the steps of the court.

Acquitted activists were surrounded by family, friends and a barrage of photographers as they took their first steps to freedom.

The man who seeks a rebuilt S Africa



NATION-BUILDING: this is the way to a better future, says Mr Aggrey Klaaste, editor of *Sowetan*, who hopes for a reconstructed South Africa.

● Picture by John Hogg.

STAR - 19 Nov. 1988

Govt in quandary over Mandela

DAVID BRAUN
Political
Correspondent

GOVERNMENT appears to be in a quandary over the release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

On the one hand the authorities do not want Mandela, who is recovering from a lung infection in a Cape Town clinic, sent back to jail.

On the other, Government is too nervous simply to release him for fear of unleashing forces it may not be able to control.

According to senior sources in Government, the most likely action the Government will choose will be a phased release. This process may not start until next year.

Some authorities believe the next step should be to confine Mandela to house arrest, so he can stay at home and be united with his family.

"We cannot simply dump Mandela back in the community. We do not know what the impact of that would be. We would not want to see vast crowds clamouring to get near him or welcoming him because we might lose control of the situation," a senior source told Saturday Star this week.

But the choice remains solely that of State President Mr P W Botha, and, for the moment, he is not saying anything.

'One of our most pressing problems'

Security chief *THE STAR 19 NOV. 1988* reports sharp rise in terror incidents

MALEOSKOP (Northern Transvaal) - While unrest continues to level off, the rate of terror incidents in South Africa is soaring dramatically.

This emerged from a special briefing of parliamentary journalists by the Chief of the Security Branch, General Basie Smit, in the Northern Transvaal this week.

The briefing was held at the SA Police counter-insurgency training farm at Maleoskop, near Groblersdal. It was attended by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and several other police generals and senior officers.

General Smit said that, in the eight years from 1976 to 1984, there were 267 cases of terror. In the four years since then there were 847.

This had become one of the security force's most pressing problems and everything possible would have to be done to reduce this, he said.

According to General Smit there was a sharp rise in the number of terror victims as a result of the surge in incidents.

From 1976 to 1982, 26 people were killed in terror attacks.

In 1983 alone 22 people died, dropping back to 15 in 1984 and then 23 in 1985.

In 1986 56 people were killed, 30 died in 1987 and, so far this year, 38 had died.

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The number of people injured in terror attacks had also risen dramatically with 345 in 1986, 341 last year and 500 so far this year.

General Smit said the number of ANC terrorists eliminated had also increased over the years.

Whereas 42 were arrested in 1986 and 63 in 1987, 63 had been arrested so far this year.

The number killed was 29 so far this year, compared with 25 in 1987, 40 in 1986 and 15 in 1985.

General Smit also gave a breakdown of the terror targets.

Of the 245 terror incidents so far this year, 56 were aimed at the police, 14 at the SA Defence Force, six at the judiciary, 65 at the system (including local authorities), 30 at the economy and 73 at civilians.

The general said attacks against the system peaked in the two months before the countrywide municipal elections, but attacks against these targets had fallen away considerably since the polls.

General Smit would not elaborate on his earlier announcement that more organisations could be restricted.

He said memoranda on two organisations had been forwarded to the Minister for a decision in this regard.

R6 000 fine will encourage poachers'

A R6 000 fine imposed on Mr Antonio Vieira of Johannesburg on Monday following the discovery of rhino horn and elephant tusks worth R1,3 million in a hidden compartment in his truck, has been slated as "a major blow to conservation in Africa".

The penalty coincides with escalating incidents of carnage by poachers in black African states and claims of a dramatic increase in the smuggling of rhino horn from South Africa to Taiwan.

Saturday Star has the name of a South African-based foreign official who is said to be involved in the illicit Taiwanese trade.

Conservationists said the Botswana court case, in which Mr Vieira could have faced a jail sentence or a fine of several million rand, was important as it showed whether

JUNE BEARZI

or not it would contribute towards smashing flourishing smuggling rackets and help save the continent's elephant and rhino.

"If anything, the fine encourages smuggling and poaching," said Mr Rupert Lorimer, Progressive Federal Party (PFP) spokesman

Taiwan a main link in rhino horn trade

on environment affairs.

The 94 rhino horn found in Mr Vieira's truck were almost three percent of the remaining endangered population in Africa, angry conservationists say.

Information which came to light this week shows that Taiwan has become a major link in the illicit rhino horn

trade and that horn prices have doubled in that country over the past 12 months. Several reliable sources, some in Taiwan, say a foreign official with close ties to an embassy in Pretoria is involved.

Mr Esmond Bradley Martin, an internationally renowned author who runs Rhino Help International in Nairobi, said he recently did research on the rhino trade in Taiwan. He explained:

"Traders in Taiwan, who freely told me about this illicit commerce, said Taiwanese businessmen purchase rhino products in South Africa and bring them into Taiwan. This trade will soon, if it has not already, put pressure on the remaining rhino populations in Africa. Traders in Taipei and Kaohsiung confirmed that all their African horn is coming from South Africa."

Mr Martin said he was

aware that a Pretoria businessman, a skin dealer in the Cape and a foreign official in South Africa, had recently been shipping horn, ivory and animal skins to Macao and Taiwan from South Africa.

Mr Pat Carr-Hartley of the Chobe Wildlife Trust said he attended the Vieira court case and was shocked at the outcome.

"We now intend approaching Zimbabwe to put pressure on Botswana as we believe the horns in Vieira's truck probably came from rhino in the Zambezi valley in northern Zimbabwe."

This week, reports were made of the killing of 10 rhino — five in Swaziland and five in Zimbabwe. Another 23 are unaccounted for in Swaziland's Hlane nature sanctuary and are suspected to have been slaughtered by poachers.

Mr Ted Reilly, responsible for game sanctuaries in Swaziland, said the five carcasses were found during a rhino count. He said they had all been killed in the past two months, which suggested that an organised gang using sophisticated weapons and vehicles had made specific trips to Hlane in search of horn:

Over the last few weeks the Saturday Star has highlighted ruthless money-making syndicates in southern Africa which have been systematically wiping out the continent's endangered species.

A Pretoria-based dealer is believed to have stockpiled tons of ivory and rhino horn in Hong Kong worth R26 million. Allegations have also been made that members of the SA Defence Force were involved in the illicit ivory trade.

A spokesman for the SADF said a board of inquiry had been set up to investigate the allegations and that Brigadier Ben de Wet Roos had appealed to anyone with information to come forward. The spokesman said the hearing could take some time as statements had to be thoroughly investigated.

The board of inquiry can be reached through Major JD Spammer at the Directorate of Legal Services, Private Bag X159, Pretoria, 0001 or by telephoning (012) 26-4611.

Colonel Victor Haynes, head of the public-relations directorate of the SA Police, has also confirmed that police are investigating allegations of illicit ivory and rhino dealings.