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Sunday Times

JOHANNESBURG
JUNE 14, 1964.

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No. 3037. Established 1906.
Registered at G.P.O.
as a Newspaper.

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Lieut. Van Wyk's moment of decision at Lillieleaf Farm . . . then . . . "Ons slaan toe!" (Let's get cracking!)

RIVONIA: THE INSIDE STORY

Gen. Van den Bergh and Dr. Yutar comment on S.A.'s historic trial

RIVONIA WIFE



Mrs. Albertina Sisulu, in tribal dress . . .

SOUTH AFRICA'S most historic trial since the Jameson Raid ended on Friday when eight plotters were sent to jail for life at the end of the sensational Rivonia affair.

The sentencing of Nelson Mandela and his collaborators was the climax in a story of intrigue, treason, muddle, money-fiddling, betrayal and brilliant detective work.

The SUNDAY TIMES tells the inside story, gathered by its Chief Reporter, Carel Birkby, in exclusive interviews with Major - General R. J. van den Bergh, Deputy Commissioner of Police in command of the country's entire detective force, Dr. Percy Yutar, Deputy Attorney-General of the Transvaal, who prosecuted in the trial, and many others who were concerned in the investigation.

By CAREL BIRKBY
SUNDAY TIMES CHIEF REPORTER

THE Rivonia trial, the last chapter in a fantastic tale of detection, is officially regarded as the smashing of organised subversion in South Africa—but Major-General R. J. van den Bergh, Deputy Commissioner of Police in command of the C.I.D., though gratified, still strikes a warning note.

In an exclusive interview in Pretoria after the trial, General Van den Bergh told me:

"The police have not taken up the view that these communists—for that is what they all are—can be looked on as finished.

"Should remnants try to regroup, we will try to adopt suitable countermeasures.

"It is as though you arrest a gang of burglars . . . There may be another.

"So we shall remain on the alert.

"Personally I am on the conservative side and don't want to make extravagant claims. But I can say that they have been dealt a severe blow.

"The case in its final shape was the result of fine team action.

"The department was satisfied that the investigation under the supervision of Brigadier H. J. van den Bergh, head of the Security

Branch, was in able hands, as results eventually showed. "The Rivonia raid took place on July 11 last year, and I myself left for overseas on July 13 in connection with the investigation into allegations about Defence Force matters, so I had little to do with the business at that stage. In any event I dealt with a large number of cases and this was just one of them.

"Lieut. W. P. van Wyk, who was in charge of the detailed investigation, did a big job. But a large number of detectives were involved, and all contributed materially.

"The big moment in the investigation was when Lieut. Van

Wyk led the raid at Rivonia and found all quiet—and had to make the big decision whether to press on.

"Just as I delegated this matter to Brigadier Van den Bergh, so the Attorney-General (Mr. R. W. Rijn) delegated it to his deputy, Dr. Percy Yutar.

"When it was decided that he should conduct the case we were happy that it was in able hands. He presented the case to court in masterly fashion. He is a very fair prosecutor, but he can put his case firmly.

"We tried throughout the Rivonia affair to be as human as possible. But it must be remembered that the trial has shown that this was treason, and that

Continued on page 4

Police guard S.A. House

SUNDAY TIMES Correspondent

LONDON, Saturday. DEMONSTRATIONS against the life sentences for Nelson Mandela and his fellow accused continued in Britain over the weekend. Demonstrators were round South Africa House again this afternoon, and the building was guarded by police all day.

Tomorrow a meeting and demonstration is due to be held in Trafalgar Square. In Edinburgh last night a torchlight procession of 500 people marched through the streets in protest against the sentences.

In Glasgow last night Cecil Williams, the South African actor who was arrested while driving Mandela from Durban to Johannesburg in August, 1962, was among the speakers at a student demonstration against the Rivonia Trial.

Many students carried anti-apartheid banners in a march through the city. Williams now works for a Scottish Community Drama Association.

He was in prison in South Africa for three months in 1960, and two years later was put under house arrest. He escaped through Bechuanaland and came to Britain in January last year.

U.K. waits for appeal Page 3.

See "Overseas wave of protests"—Page four.

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Seven flown to Robben Island

CAPE TOWN, Saturday. THE seven non-Whites sentenced to life imprisonment in the Rivonia Trial yesterday were flown from Pretoria to Cape Town last night.

They are being detained on Robben Island, a senior police officer on the island said this evening.

The eighth man sentenced to life imprisonment—Dennis Goldberg—was not taken to the island "as only non-White prisoners are detained here," the officer said. He did not know where Goldberg was being detained.

The seven are Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Matoolei, Andrew Mlangeni and Ahmed Kathrada.

The officer, who spoke in a telephone interview from Cape Town, said the men were brought to the island by ferry this morning. —Sapa.



A smiling Lionel Bernstein on bail yesterday—with his wife, daughter Toni and son-in-law Ivan Strassburg.

Rivonia Q.C.'s wife killed in crash

Braam Fischer shaken, unhurt

SUNDAY TIMES REPORTERS

MRS. MOLLY FISCHER, wife of Mr. Abraham Fischer, Q.C., senior Defence Counsel in the Rivonia Trial which ended in Pretoria on Friday, was killed in a car accident on the Sand River Bridge near Winburg in the Free State last night.



MR. BRAAM FISCHER . . . throw, clear.

Driver attacked, car burnt

WALVIS BAY, Saturday. THE police this evening dispersed a crowd of several hundred Ovambos after they had assaulted a Coloured driver, overturned his car, and set fire to it.

The incident occurred here shortly before 7 p.m. when the Coloured man and his wife and children were travelling along the main road from Walvis Bay to Swakopmund.

At a point where the road passes the boundary of the Native township an Ovambo staggered across the road in front of the car, and was knocked down and killed.

Children fled

Several hundred Ovambos then set on the driver, dragged him from the car, and assaulted him. His wife and children fled. The Ovambos then rolled the car over and set fire to it.

The Coloured man escaped from the car, and was picked up by a passing vehicle and taken to the police station. He suffered minor facial injuries.

According to the District Police Commandant at Walvis Bay the position is now under control and no further incidents are expected. —Sapa.

Mr. Fischer was very badly shaken, but not seriously hurt. Mrs. Elizabeth Lewin—she is a friend of the Fischers' daughter Ilse—was also in the car, but also escaped serious injury.

Mr. and Mrs. Fischer were travelling to Cape Town for the 21st birthday of their daughter, Ilse, who is a student at the university.

On a bridge over the Sand River—within about 100 yards of the place where the historic Sand River Convention was held in 1852—Mr. Fischer's car swerved to avoid an approaching motorcycle, which in turn had swerved to avoid a cow crossing the road.

Fell in pool

The car careered over of control over the side of the bridge and fell into a deep pool of water under the bridge. Mrs. Fischer was probably drowned while she was in the car.

Mr. Fischer and Mrs. Lewin were thrown clear of the falling vehicle, and were later taken to the Venterburg Hospital by the Police, to whom the accident had been reported by passing motorists.

Mr. Paul Fischer and Mr. Peter Fischer, brothers of Mr. Braam Fischer, rushed from Bloemfontein to Venterburg last night when they heard of the accident.

They had expected Mrs. and Mr. Braam Fischer to spend the night in Bloemfontein before continuing on their journey to Cape Town.

When the brothers reached Venterburg, they decided to return to Johannesburg with Mr. Braam Fischer, and were travelling through the night. They were expected to reach Johannesburg at about 3 a.m.

Dr. Percy Yutar, Deputy Attorney-General of the Transvaal, who led the State's case against the Rivonia accused, whose defence was led by Mr. Fischer, was told of the tragedy by the SUNDAY TIMES at midnight.

He said: "I am terribly upset. My mind is in a whirl. I never knew Mrs. Fischer, but I've known Braam for a long time.

"We've been together for a long time and have been opposed. Poor, poor Braam . . ."

Related to Smuts

Mrs. Fischer, whose baptismal name was Susanna Johanna, was a niece of Mrs. Issie Smuts, wife of General Smuts. She was 56 years old.

Mr. Fischer is a son of the late Mr. Justice P. U. Fischer, now lead 2-1 with the final two singles games to be played today. (See Page 18).

Bernstein, on R2,000 bail, back under house arrest

SUNDAY TIMES REPORTER

RELEASED on bail of R2,000 yesterday after 11 months in prison, Lionel "Rusty" Bernstein yesterday greeted his wife and eldest daughter, Toni, at the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court—and then, his bail paid, left for a "do-not-disturb" family reunion.

Bernstein, who was acquitted on all charges in the Rivonia trial, was in court yesterday charged with alleged offences under the Suppression of Communism Act. He appeared briefly before Mr. E. B. Standen, who remanded the case until June 26.

Conditions of house arrest still prevail. After the court adjourned Bernstein stayed on the veranda outside the court room with his daughter, son-in-law and brother, while wife Hilda and defence

attorney, Mr. Joel Joffe, arranged to find the bail money. It is understood that Mrs. Bernstein had brought R1,000 with her to court to go towards the bail if it were granted. The other R1,000 was raised within about 30 minutes.

Bail unopposed

In court, the prosecutor, Mr. W. P. Theron, said that as Bernstein had been an awaiting-trial prisoner for so long, he would not oppose the application for bail and would not ask for any conditions to be attached as Bernstein was under a Ministerial order to report daily to the police.

Mr. V. C. Berrange, with him Mr. George Bizos, instructed by Mr. Joel Joffe, appeared for the defence.



An embrace for Lionel Bernstein from his daughter, Mrs. Toni Strassburg.

BABY SHOT IN 10 SECONDS



WITH POLAROID LAND CAMERA

HOME GARDEN, SUNDAY, 21st.—At 3.10 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon a baby boy was shot with a Polaroid Land camera. Ten seconds later his smiling father had this fabulous snapshot as a permanent memory in his hand. It was confirmed by reliable witnesses that the Polaroid Land camera is the only camera that can produce a finished picture in ten seconds.

Our informed sources say that it was fortunate that the baby was not shot in colour as this would have taken sixty seconds to develop a finished print.

See the Polaroid Land cameras at all leading photographic dealers.

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U.P. OPPOSES VORSTER BILL

From STANLEY UYS
SUNDAY TIMES POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CAPE TOWN, Saturday. THE Justice Group of the United Party in Parliament has considered the provisions of the General Law Amendment Bill introduced by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Vorster, this week, and has recommended that the United Party should oppose the Bill.

Mr. M. L. Mitchell, United Party M.P. for Durban North and secretary of the Justice Group, told me today that there were no provisions in the new Bill which the Government required urgently to add to its existing powers for the maintenance of law and order in South Africa.

"One can understand," he said, "that the Government needs to introduce a law generally to deal with the administrative difficulties which have cropped up during the year. But there can be no excuse for bringing forward the obviously contentious clauses dealing with police powers at a stage when Parliament is sitting from morning until late at night and when the opportunities for studying and debating the clauses are inadequate.

"There are at least eight clauses to which strong exception is taken and it is felt that the Bill, in any event, should not be considered in the circumstances and haste of the dying days of Parliament."

The provisions to which the U.P. takes the strongest objections include:

- The Secret Commissions clause (Broederbond);
- Accomplices and Compulsion clauses;
- Population Register clause;
- Extension of Imprisonment clause;
- 12-Day No Bail clause.

"The United Party's objections

are consistent with the attitude it has always adopted—that we have no sympathy with saboteurs, underground organisations or any attempt to change government by unconstitutional means," said Mr. Mitchell.

Civilised

"We believe, however, that no man should be punished on suspicion alone, and that, in the process of proving their guilt, the State should allow them the rights and privileges allowed them by any civilised State.

"It is for this reason that the United Party will not oppose the provision extending the scope of the provision concerning sabotage training, which will apply only to a person whose guilt has been proved in a court of law.

"The clause dealing with the Commissions Act has obviously been introduced to validate the Cabinet's decision to investigate the Broederbond.

"In terms of the amendment, the existing Commissions Act can be ignored altogether and the Bill specifically provides that the Cabinet may make regulations for the preservation of secrecy." Furthermore, the protection given to the public under the Commissions Act can be ignored in terms of the powers granted under this clause.

Drastic

"For example, a person summoned to give evidence before a commission need not submit himself if there is sufficient cause. This could include giving evidence

Collection Number: A3299

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PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive

Location: Johannesburg

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