

“Get out,”

yelled

A.N.C.

rebel

A “Rand Daily Mail” reporter sat in the hall at Orlando as tempers at the A.N.C. Congress flared. He was the only White man there—and three times he was threatened by members.

This is his story:

I had become increasingly worried about the tension which was building-up. Making sure that the exit was clear, I went to stand at one of the doors.

An Africanist rushed towards me, his face contorted, and yelled at me: “Get out! Get out!”

I did not wait to argue.

#### ESCORTED OUT

The caretaker of the building escorted me to the front of the hall, and after about 10 minutes, when the noise inside had subsided, I entered again.

Chief Luthuli was urging the crowd to proceed with the conference. I stood at the back of the hall. A non-White photographer told me that he had tried to photograph the disturbances. Three men had threatened to assault him.

A man rushed up to me. “Go peacefully now,” he said. “We do not want to have to hurt you.”

Again I made a hurried exit. For the rest of the evening I remained outside.

#### ASSAULT PLAN

On the second day of the conference, I was told that the chairman had tried to get a message to me the previous night, telling me to leave. He had heard that some people intended to assault me, the only White person present.

Walking out of the hall on the Sunday morning one of the guards at the door told me not to return to the conference.

“You b—— white,” he said. “If I catch you here again I’ll kick you to pieces.”

I complained to A.N.C. officials about the incident, and they obtained an apology from the guard.



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