

JANUARY 1997

Thurs 2

The first fee paying tourists have made the first trip to Robben Island (qv 19/12), since it was officially handed over to the Department of Arts and Culture. A cross section of tourists - from a physicist to a former prison officer made the 40 minuet boat journey from Cape Town to the Island.

From the jetty they were transferred in a bus, first to the quarry; pure white limestone, that did so much damage to the presidents eyes, then through the prison to the cell which measured 2 metres by 3 metres in area.

Mon 6

As the name Mandela becomes respectable it is becoming less of an attraction as a focal point for any number of student 'veneration.' Buildings, and bars, that were named after the then imprisoned leader of the ANC are being renamed throughout the world of higher education.

More than 30 universities once had Mandela buildings, now it is down to 11; with more in the process of changing their affiliations. Those that have voted to let the name go include Warwick, Durham and Exeter Universities. New College, Oxford is one that has voted to keep its affiliation.

In a move to end the decade of violence that has engulfed KwaZulu Natal the two main political parties in the region have put a proposition to Nelson Mandela that would go a long way toward this aim.

Following the example of the extension of amnesty for political crimes that has recently agreed (qv 14/12) J Zuma of the ANC and the Inkatha regional representative, F Mdlose have proposed such an extension for the troubled province.

Outbreaks of violence, most recently in Rustenburg, have been claimed by a previously unknown right wing group; the Boer Attack Troops. The Troops have also claimed responsibility for a bomb attack on 24/12 that killed 4 people in Worcester in the Western Cape.

In a recent fax message the group stated that there targets were the president, communists and Muslims.

Cartoon "..... Left at the Nelson Mandela building, no, the Joanna Lumley ... oops, no, the Oasis building."

Tues 7

South African police yesterday arrested Jan de Wet, one of three white right-wingers wanted (qv 6/1) in connection with Christmas Eve bombings that killed four people in a small farming town.

Three children and an adult were killed and dozens of people were injured when two pipe bombs exploded in a supermarket in Worcester, near Cape Town. - **Reuters** -

Thurs 7

Pass Notes this date 1963 the singer Adam Faith is arrested for breach of contract after he is refused permission to perform before a mixed race audience and then attempting to leave the country.

Sat 11

Notable British immigrants, to South Africa seem to be settling in Cape Town and its suburbs. These include J Aspinall, zoo owner and Zulu chief and Earl Spencer (qv 11/8) and his family where the brother of Diane, Princess of Wales is still embroiled in a civil action in the courts.

Tues 14

There was a low key welcome for Diane Princess of Wales, as she flew into the Angolan capital of Luanda. Her visit, seen by many as an image building exercise, is also to boost recognition of the work done by the Halo Trust, a charity set up to deactivate abandoned anti - personnel mines, that litter the countryside.

South Africa is considering selling tank control systems, worth 3 billion rand (£392 million) to Syria. The deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, is finding out whether the sales would violate Washington's Counter Terrorism Act, which requires the United States to impose sanctions on countries which provide lethal military equipment to state sponsors of terrorism, according to press reports.

Syria is on Washington's list of states that sponsor terrorism. - **AP** -

Wed 15

Day two of Diana, Princess of Wales, visit to Angola sees her meeting victims of land mine injuries and attending mine awareness classes at a school near Luanda.

The threat, by the United States administration, to suspend aid to South Africa because of a proposed arms deal with Syria (qv 14/1) has brought an angry response from the office of the president. A spokesman called any such threat 'bullying and insulting.

Whilst President Mandela is immensely popular in the USA Washington is concerned with Pretoria's relationships with Arab governments - Libya and Iran. The reaction of Israel is that any such deal would upset the balance of power in the region.

Thurs 16

Day three of the 'royal visit'. Diane, Princess of Wales, on her last full day in Angola on behalf of the Red Cross visits Cuito and Huambo; both heavily fought over in the recent civil war. Again she met many amputees, victims of anti - personnel mines.

Back in London, her comments that "All that I am trying to do is help," were criticised by an unnamed Conservative MP. Whitehall sources said that although her remarks were within government policy, on the issue of a world wide ban of this inhuman way to wage war, some would say that the remarks aligned her with Labour's "immediate ban" policy.

Cartoon She says "have we got a mine detector in blue." as the Princess of Wales enters Cuito and Huambo in Angola

Fri 17

South Africa's defence force chief, General G Meiring, is on a list of more than 60 soldiers implicated in apartheid - era dirty tricks including state - sponsored murder, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission said yesterday.

The commission's deputy chairman, Alex Boraine, and the research head, C V Vincencio, said General Meirwing had been named in a 1992 report commissioned by the then president F W de Klerk. - *Reuters* -

Sat 18

The former Archbishop D Tutu has had his enlarged prostate gland removed after an operation on 15/1. After examination the gland was found to contain cancerous cells. Further tests will have to be conducted to determine if the cancer has spread to other parts of the body.

The influential head of the United States Foreign Relations Committee, Senator J Helms, has urged Washington to suspend all aid to Pretoria if it makes the foreign policy decision (qv 15/1) is given the go - ahead.

South African Broadcasting Corporation transcripts of the evidence given to the Truth Commission; seen through the eyes of A Krog, one of the country's leading poets.

Sun 19

Like other world 'notables', Gandhi, Nixon and Kennedy, the film makers have come round to the celluloid portrayal of Mr Mandela's life. His autobiography, recently published, "Long Walk to Freedom" is to be ready for screening by the end of 1999. It will be directed by Anant Singh, a native South African.

There will also two other film portrayals of the Presidents life."Mandela and De Klerk" will detail only the short period time; from the release from prison to the first democratic elections. It is aimed at the United States cable television market, and directed by D Wicht.

The third, a drama documentary, is an independent production by J Manell, will use material supplied by the president- in the form of extended interview.

Disclosed documents, from British Intelligence on the expanding role of Executive Options (qv) who's influence is growing beyond the troubled states in Africa, and is showing an interest in the Asian countries. Their legitimate interests - from oil production in Angola to air transport, based outside Pretoria, are controlled from a London address - 535 Kings Road, Chelsea named Plaza 107.

So concerned are the South African government that from as far back as 1995 (qv 1/10) it has been preparing legislation that will control the sale of military or intelligence services to the same licensing as for military hardware. These proposals are now going through the parliament.

Wed 22

Black staff yesterday accused whites of hijacking the Truth Commission. Senior black officials, some who have threatened to resign, complained that they were being undermined and passed over for crucial policy making jobs.

The deputy chairman of the commission, A Borrairie, a white, himself accused of racialism denied the claims saying many of the commission's top posts were held by blacks. He said talks would be held, on 30/1 to clear the air.

Thurs 23

South Africa's president Nelson Mandela and his cabinet yesterday deferred a decision on a controversial arms sale to Syria which could lead to the United States cutting off aid. The cabinet secretary, J Gerwell, said more talks would be held.
Reuters adb

Fri 24

United Nation mediators said yesterday that Angola's government and its Unita rivals had postponed the formation of the country's unity government scheduled for 25/1.

Namibia a Times Newspaper Supplement the government is targeting manufacturing, tourism, energy and manufacturing 's the prime sectors for new business.

The Trans Kalahari and the Trans Caprivi highway projects will provide the backbone of a network, serving rural areas as well as connecting land locked countries to the coast.

When a new diamond processing factory opens next year, Namibia will join Russia and Botswana as the only countries where diamonds are cut and polished.

Newly established Export Processing Zones have tax, land and free training incentives to attract foreign investors.

Sun 26

Delays in the formation of a government of national unity, in Angola, (qv 24/1) have again been blamed on the undecided role for Jonas Savimbi.

In the province of Luanda, now known as the 'Klondike of Africa,' because of the large diamond fields which is Unita controlled there is a reluctance to relinquish such a benefit to the MPLA government. It is said that the former rebel leader would like an executive role in government. The ideal would be control of these, and other diamond fields.

Book 'The Race for Africa' by A Thomas and published by the BBC

Mon 27

The Royal Regiment of Wales, who recently rebuilt Rorkes Drift (qv 10/9) have signed a friendship treaty with members of the Zulu dominated 121 South African Infantry Battalion. Missing from the ceremony, at a base in KwaZulu Natal was Chief Buthelezie, because of a long running dispute with the Zulu monarch.

Despite the inability of 'notables' in Angola (qv 26/1) to form a government of national unity, the UN peacekeeping force continues to make arrangements for withdrawal in accordance with a 1996 Security Council resolution that 'the pace of withdrawal is commensurate with [the] progress achieved'.

There are plans for a battalion of troops to leave each month. Since 12/96 troops from Korea and the Ukraine have left. This leaves the largest deployment in the United Nation's history; 8,175 depleted by 650.

Tues 28

Five former police officers, Colonel Snyman [then] Detective Sergeant G Niewoudt, Warrant Officer R Marx, Captain D Siebert and W/O Beneke are expected soon to apply for amnesty to the Truth Commission over the death of S Biko (qv).

The basis on which the plea is submitted, over the death of the leader of the Black Consciousness Movement, is that Mr Biko was 'handled robustly' but at no time was there any intention to kill him.

At least 14 people were killed and mutilated after an attack at the village of Nhenga, in the Eastern Cape. Police said that the cause of the attack was a series of thefts from nearby Mtafufu settlement. - **AP adb** -

Wed 29

The lawyer for the five seeking amnesty over the death of S Biko (qv 28/1) has said that they will give a full account of the events that led up to his death in 1977. F de Merwe also said that his clients, all aged around 75, had been shunned by their former masters and that all they were doing was “acting to protect a government within the culture of the day”.

At a separate press conference, in Port Elizabeth, the deputy chairman of the Truth Commission, A Borrain, gave further details of the deaths of the Pebco Three, who were community workers, and teacher M Gonwrie (qv) - who all vanished from the province during the 1980's.

A case for not granting amnesty has been made by the Nonsikelo Biko, his widow, ‘does anyone have the right to pronounce forgiveness on behalf of society that has been robbed of such life and talent’.

Leader Comment - **Apartheid's warped pathology** - South Africa must seek those dodging the Truth Commission. Despite solving this twenty year old crime the Chairman must pursue those who have failed to come forward and apply to tell all. Like the former Justice Minister, J Kruger, they should not be all wed to “chuckle in private,” at their escape.

Fri 30

A leaked summary of a report, commissioned by F W de Klerk, the Steyn report details of given of links between members of the British SAS and members of ‘third force’ units of the South African military.

The report by the officer in charge of all the intelligence functions of the military had been suppressed by both the then government and the ANC who where expected, and did, form the 1994 government. This was due to its findings; that elements of the military had stockpiled military hardware around the country, and overseas, to restore order if events took a disastrous turn.

The basis for assuming, rightly, that elements of British military became involved with apartheidic military was the known fact that in 1992 Kas Enterprises (qv 2/3) had worked in the region on security work. Founded by the instigator of the elite force Kas Enterprises had been involved in the fight to prevent rhino and elephant poaching. Members then drifted into other ‘security’ work inside the countries borders.

The report has been used by the Truth Commission to help it investigate military activities during ‘the struggle’.

FEBRUARY 1997

Sat 1

The death of C Hani,, assassinated in 1993 (qv 11/3), and long suspected by Winnie Madikizela Mandela to have been a plot by the security forces and moderates in the ANC has been reignited by the revelations of the girl friend of a member of the security forces who was himself found dead in 1994.

The unnamed women told the Weekly Mail and Guardian that she had typed letters for military intelligence that proved it had knowledge of the death of the leader of the SACP prior to its public release.

These letters will be used by the those convicted of the killing, J Walus and the National Party politician C D Lewis, as evidence to support their application for amnesty to the Truth Commission.

Sun 2

During a raid by police on the home of Dr W Basson, a former brigadier, evidence was discovered that details the use of chemicals, drugs and poisons during the apartheid era.

The papers were taken from the offices of the Directorate Covert Collection in 1994 (qv 20/11) after a raid by Military Intelligence. This was to prevent these 'dirty tricks' from falling into the hands of the ANC. So alarmed was President de Klerk that he ordered an inquiry, that led to the writing of the Steyn report (qv 31/1).

Doctor Basson, who was the former head of the SADF 's Seventh Medical Battalion, is now a specialist medical advisor to the army was found to have 1,000 Ecstasy tablets with a street value of R60,000 / £8,200 at his home.

Thurs 6

South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Committee said yesterday that it had been told that the black consciousness leader Steve Biko had been poisoned and not, as widely believed, beaten to death.

"We received a document [the Steyn report] making this claim and are investigating it", D Ntsebezi, the commissions chief investigator, said in a statement. - *Reuters* -

Fri 7

The worst rioting seen in the country, since the 1994 general election, has occurred in a township outside Johannesburg. Eldorado Park, a Coloured township, was the scene of violent protest; two deaths and 175 injured. One of those alleged killed was reported to be a child.

The demonstrators were protesting at the local councils decision to increase the local rates and cut services to those who refuse to pay the increase. Townships for black residents are not being asked to pay any extra; a clear case of discrimination say the leaders of Eldorado Park's Civic Association.

Sat 8

Changes in the internal structure of Inkatha, the predominant political party in KwaZulu Natal province. Deputy premier F Mdalosie of the province, has resigned at the age of 65 because of his continuing ill health.

Of more concern is the resignation of Z Jiyane, the movements Secretary General. The reason he felt that he had to go was announced for 'personnel reasons'. It is understood that the real reason was his failure to persuade colleges that Inkatha should be more democratic in format.

All the main political parties have been considering their future; the thought of alliance with the smaller parties much in vogue for the next general election in 1999.

Inkatha, talking to the Democratic Party, which itself has had talks with the Pan African Congress, under there recently elected leader Bishop S Mogba. The ANC government has renewed its offer to the PAC to merge, rejected by the previous leadership, is still being considered on the eve of the new parliamentary session.

The main Opposition party, the National Party, is also making moves towards the smaller parties before any move to shed its present name before a new name and launch.

The government talks, with all those mentioned, could just be a manoeuvre to crush ant move by the National Party to create a unified Opposition. - **The Economist** -

Sun 9

The export of wine, from Cape Province, up from 200 cases in 1990 to today's 40 million, is under threat if a report from the BBC's Food Programme is believed by the liberal consumer in the west.

The countries leading wine writer, E Platter, said in the broadcast that the condition of the black employees had improved little since the change of government. The province is run by the National Party.

So concerned are Marks and Spencer, Britain's largest importer of wine from the region, it has sent transcripts of the 3/1 programme to its suppliers asking for assurances that there methods of production are 'ethically' correct.

The wine producers association, the KWV, has thoughts of privatisation. With assets of approximately R3.5bn. For its 4, 751 white members it is seen as a way of protecting the life style, enjoyed before 1994. One factor not considered, is how much

of those assets were gained at the expense of paying the prison labour as little as 7p a day.

Leader Comment **Boycott South African Wines Again** Here we go again. The South African wine industry is 'terrified that publicity about its treatment of its workers will provoke new protest'. The whites have been 'little affected by the switch to majority rule'.

Cheap labour - from Romania, Argentina and even South Africa [still] produce cheap wine. But "the one thing that really hurts global companies is global boycotts".

Sun 16

Using the provision of the Restitution of Land Bill, introduced in 1994, (qv 12/11) descendants of the former residents of an area of Elandskoolf, in Cape Province, have returned as owners of the farmland.

Originally, in 1861, the land belonged to the Dutch Reform Church, who then sold it in 1961. It was purchased by a Boer farmer, who had local protesters jailed in Cape Town, for indicating that the purchase was fixed to exclude any Coloured buyer.

Recently the land was compulsory purchased, for R4m / £560,000 by the government and handed back to the to those who were squatting on the land, including the so of one of the original protesters.

As recompense the Dutch Reform Church contributed R500,000 to finance a plan to build 170 permanent homes and other social programmes on the 3,000 hectare expanse - leaving a 50 hectare farm for the farmer - the son of the of the '61 'fraud.

Mon 17

Lesotho army troops put down an 11 day police mutiny, overwhelming the rebels with a dawn onslaught of heavy gunfire which forced at least 30 policemen to surrender. The army said nobody was hurt.

The leader of the rebels, identified as Second lieutenant P Molasi, and two other rebel officers managed to escape and reach the palace of King Letsie the Third where they were arrested, diplomats said.

Lieutenant Molise and seven other officers took over the police headquarters in the capital, Maseru, 11 days ago to demand amnesty for the murder of 3 fellow officers in 1995. They called a strike, and it was unclear whether the officers would return to work today. - *Reuters* -

Wed 19

Following the call to end the monarchical style of 'absolute' rule in Swaziland which culminated in a strike in 1996 (qv 27/1), a second, lasting 3 weeks has just ended. On this occasion four leading members of the Swaziland Federation Of Trade Union's,

including J Sithole the movements general secretary, were jailed for intimidation; with no right of bail.

These court proceedings all took place while a conference of international trade unionists was taking place in the capital, Mbane. They have now left the country, threatening international trade union action; a blockade to try and force the absolute monarch, King Maswati the Third to release those detained and make changes to the archaic system of government.

Thurs 20

In an endeavour to improve police efficiency an overseas consulting firm, Mc Kinsey, has been brought in for a 12 month period. Coming to the end of its mandate 'Project Lifeline' initially 'took apart' 9 police stations, subsequently increased to 47, in the hope of identifying measures that would not waste resources and become more user friendly to the local population.

One of those chosen was Moroka police station, the largest in Soweto, which serves 1.2m people. It is typical for the residents who may live in brick homes or in the tin shack squatter camp. Only 65% of the residents are employed.

Chosen on Mc Kinsey's 4 principals, that the area has a very high crime rate, a poorly equipped police station, ill trained officers and a dissatisfied community Soweto's largest station came high on the list.

In 1993/4? there were 5,000 serious crimes which included 233 murders. Only an 8% conviction rate was recorded. In '95/6 the reporting of crime - after statistics were routinely recorded - burglaries were down 14% to 800, armed robberies down 39% to 630. There was only a slight reduction in the murder rate.

Renamed the Police Service, more user friendly, the bureaucracy is still endemic large proportion of serving officers, 1 in 12; 11,485 personnel still serve at police headquarters in Pretoria. Added to this, with government restrictions on recruitment, there is a shrinkage of manpower; 3,000 officers have left the force in the last 12 months. - **Time, 15 - 21/2** -

Fri 21

President Mandela and his chosen companion, Graca Machel, made their first official appearance together. They were attending a literacy awareness meeting in Soweto. Also there sharing the platform was the president's ex wife, Winnie Mandela.

In a move, that pre-empted the international community's concerns over the continuing use of anti-personnel land mines Joe Modise the defence minister has announced in cabinet, the ban, use, development, production, and stockpiling of these weapons of destruction.

This announcement comes just before a gathering, in Mozambique, to discuss ways of implementing a global ban on their use. Pretoria will destroy a stockpile of 160,000 held by the military.

Sat 22

“Given the present rate at which land mines are being cleared in Angola, a child born in 250 years from today has the same risk of stepping on a land mine as the first victim in that country 38 years ago - **Mail and Guardian, South Africa** -

Sun 23

Politics has again entered the world of a supposed united rugby code. Controlled in the Transvaal, and at national level, by L Luyt (qv) who is chairman of Safru faces a challenge for his position - in the province - by B van Rooyen his provincial deputy.

The differences between the two first surfaced 4 months ago. Mr Rooyen a self made man of mixed race and chairman of a consultancy firm challenged for the lesser of the two posts. Confident of enough support in a secret ballot, the voting method was changed by the Safru chairman to a show of hands, which the challenger lost.

This, and the recent resignation of the Springbok coach because of alleged use of racist remarks, has pushed the government into ordering an inquiry into what it is claimed a whites dominated game.

Investigations will concentrate on where has all the money gone that was supposed to be used to develop the township game gone. Sponsorship and business deals are to be investigated. A three national tournament, with New Zealand and Australia has had its television rights bought by R Murdock for £334m. No details have been revealed as to how it will be used to benefit anybody. The government inquiry should also petition the games international ruling body to keep a watching brief on internal developments.

Continuing findings that racial prejudice is still flourishing in private circles. With laws making racist actions illegal, in private it still continues. The ‘k’ word is much used by whites at their dinner parties, and the like.- **Essayist A Johnson** -

Though black domestic servants now work for black madams, to do so is to lose face in the township. Coloureds also feel discriminated against, not as much by whites but by the black majority.

Following the jailing of four officials of the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions (qv 19/2) King Maswatie the Third was summoned to Johannesburg by the president. Mr Mandela indicated that he would prevent South African unions assisting their Swaziland opposite number imposing a trade boycott, if the king would release the union officials. The king refused the deal, and it was vetoed by those held.

This rejection has brought the government affiliated Cosatu movement fully behind any move to introduce an international trade boycott against the kingdom.

Mon 24

Personal experience of Chris McGreal's the Guardian's correspondent dealings with the police after his home was burgled and his car stolen. - **Johannesburg Diary** -

Tues 25

Tentative steps to impose a ban on the use of land mines in Southern Africa has began at a conference in Mozambique. Pre - emptied by the announcement by J Modise (qv 21/2) this contentious issue comes before any move by the United Nations to impose a world wide ban.

Attending the regional discussions will be about 200 representatives. From non governmental organisations, Oxfam, Red Cross to the Mines Advisory Group, they will discuss how to abandon the use of this vicious weapon of war.

Mr Mandela has added impetus to see the issue is resolved satisfactorily; Graca Machel is the conference patron.

News item, in London the High Court has ruled that the former foster mother of Child P can remain in England after a previous hearing in 1996 (qv 16/8)., so long as his South African parents continue to agree. - **Radio 2 news 4pm** -

Wed 26

A South African firm said yesterday it would build the world's largest modern airship, twice the length of a Boeing 747, and take tourist on a 10 day cruise to New York.

The Hamilton Airship Company said the aircraft, which it hopes to name after President Mandela, will travel at 56mph on the 8456 mile voyage to New York. It hopes the airship will cross the Atlantic next year. - **Reuters** -

Thurs 27

South Africa's former police minister Adrian Vlok [qv] has applied to the country's truth commission for an amnesty, his lawyer said yesterday. The move makes him the first member of an apartheid cabinet ready to admit abuses.

His lawyer, J Wagener, said that Mr Vlok was one of 80 serving and former policemen seeking a pardon. He declined to give details about which acts Mr Vlok or the policemen were seeking amnesty for - **Reuters [adb]** -

Pass Notes this date 1900, reporting the deaths of British soldiers on Spion Kop, during the Boer War.

Fri 28

Despite a slick media campaign, showing the benefits of paying your taxes, the revenue collection authorities say only about one per cent of those targeted have come

forward to pay what they owe. The most frequent users of the service have been scorned lovers, seeking vengeance.

On the last day for amnesty from prosecution the authorities say there are still 240,000 people and business who owe £958m / R6.5bn in back tax and interest payments. Figures from the authorities show that 7,000 have applied for amnesty; fewer than one third of those targeted. The returned £41m / R300m in unpaid tax and interest.

According to a tax expert at the University of Witwatersrand the failure to honour the debts is due to the 'old 'South Africa's inability to catch tax dodgers, who were mainly whites. The recently empowered black businessmen, who are also among the culprits, excuse their behaviour with the resigning that to do so would be like paying for their own oppression.

MARCH 1997

Sat 1

The education of children at Potgetersrus Primary school of today is little different from that of the position in 1996 (qv 23/2); continuing racial clashes between white and black students.

Plans muted, at the time, for the Afrikaner parents to withdraw their children to be educated in a private school have so far come to nothing; due to the lack of funds and employed teachers not wishing to leave secure employment. The principal reason is that the sacked school governor, Koos Nel, has not received a licence from the local authority to run such an establishment.

Looking at the issue of multi racial education over the whole country the events of 12 months ago, in this north west provincial town, are not typical.

Sat 8

Detailing the activities of the quasi military organisation, seen at work in Sierra Leone 1995, Executive Outcomes (qv 7/5). The company is now associated with many legitimate businesses through its links with Branch Energy; a mining company. These have broadened again with the take-over of Branch Energy by Carson Gold of Canada. The nominal parent company for Executive Outcome is the Strategic Resources Company, which has, an alleged 32 companies under its management. All involved in 'security work' of one kind or another. Therefore Executive Outcome has more than enough resources available to mount operations.

Their military job in Sierra Leone, finished, after democratic elections in 2/96, their presence in the country is still felt. Having 'neutralised' areas of the Revolutionary United Front; the governments civil war opponents, they set up legal front companies to operate economic facilities, such as abandoned bauxite mines, in the location.

Another service they perform, of a humanitarian nature, is to collect abandoned 'child soldiers' from both sides of the recent conflict and hand them over to the care of aid workers at a local orphanage. Once settled the traumatised young people are desensitised from the horrors of war.

Sun 9

Remnants of Battalion 31, an elite squad of native tracker's, have been abandoned by the South African army at a disused military base on the edge of the Karoo desert, 45 miles from Kimberly on the banks of the Vaal River.

Schmidtsdrift camp is the home to an original 500 'Bushmen' and their dependants who took South African nationality, rather than face a hostile reception in their newly independent Namibia.

Near to starvation, 100 have died of malnutrition since arriving, they waited on promises from the military of pensions - that never came. They are now cared for by a government agency, with the hope that they will be allowed to leave this desolate area to a small farm where they will be, at least able to grow enough food so as not to be a burden to anyone.

Tues 11

South Africa's ruling African National Congress met in Johannesburg yesterday to decide whether to reveal the names of alleged apartheid informers now in President Mandela's government - *Reuters* -

Thurs 13

Thousands of angry Zulus marched through Johannesburg yesterday to remember those Inkatha supporters who died on a march in 1994 (qv 29/3). There were clashes with the police, in which two party members were killed and six injured.

The 1994 march, on the headquarters of the ANC in Shell House, in which eight people died, has seen no trial of those suspected of the crime.

In his first budget the finance minister, Trevor Manuel, introduced measures that would further encourage overseas investors to invest in the country's future and therefore preventing any further breakdown in the social fabric of society.

Home grown companies will also be able to invest overseas, for the first time, to the tune of £4m / R30m. Funds from company pensions will still not be allowed to be invested overseas; a legacy of the apartheid era.

The defence budget will be slashed by almost R667.7m. This extra finance will be used to improve the efficiency of the police force and to double the house building programme, one of the main promises in the ANC's election manifesto. A drive to make the government more efficient, and thus save money, will also help implement these promises.

Fri 14

A recent visit to Mozambique by the president of the World Bank, J Wolfenson, has highlighted the sound economic advice given to the fledgling government after the recent election. The government of national unity followed guidelines of orthodox liberal reforms to bring in stabilisation to the faltering economy. These included bringing down inflation and the exchange rate and increase revenue. Following this advice from the World Bank will see the Mozambique's economy grow, it is forecast, at 7 - 8% each year for the next 2 years.

So encouraged by these prospects that \$6b of foreign investment have been attracted to the country. This amount is double the overseas commitment that has been promised to sub Saharan Africa - excluding South Africa. Actual foreign investment, in 1996, was \$445.5m.

Cyril Ramaphosa, who left the political field in 1996 (qv 15/4) has gone to the Johnnic Group. He has taken the path of 'black enrichment' say his critics, where he has joined other notables, including Dr N Motanla and two others, who between them hold twenty five company directorships. Another criticism is that these notables do not run operations but are just figureheads to show that company 'africanisation' is continuing.

A move by the National Empowerment Consortium, which is made up of 23 partner organisations including 15 trade union organisations, can claim to represent more than the black elite is about to launch a share selling scheme which will be open to all, with R300 to invest.

Using the slogan Ikageng; Tswana for Develop yourself the NEC hopes to raise R135m [\$31m] to make purchases for black empowerment. - **The Economist 15 - 21/3 -**

Mon 17

Harassed by one of the countries leading paparazzi, F Jasan; Earl Spencer, who himself courted legal action in 1996 (qv 11/8), has been granted a Supreme Court injunction to prevent the award winning photo journalist 'interfering with his privacy'.

Fanny, born to mixed parentage, a black father and a Coloured mother, in 1953 and lived in the Coloured suburb of Heathfield in Cape Town till 1960. Then, under the Group Areas Act, we forcibly removed to Guguletu township.

He first came to world attention when he was the only journalist, with his camera, to take pictures inside the former homeland of Bophuthatswana, at the time of the AWB inspired defence of the 'independent' state. The most famous of which was the image of the dead right wingers allegedly shot by homeland police.

Tues 18

Diane, Princess of Wales, used a supposed trip to visit her brother Earl Spencer as a 'blind' to highlight the problem of Aids in the country. During a twenty minute meeting with President Mandela, at his Cape Town residence she was complemented on her work in Angola (qv) and her other commitments.

It is estimated that 5% of South Africa's 41m population will be HIV positive, and that 500 will die, every day by the year 2000.

South African anti - apartheid activist Allan Boesak said he was innocent yesterday after his appearance in court in Cape Town on 30 charges of theft and fraud [from 1996 -qv 14/12] involving more than one million rand [£140,000] of foreign aid. His trial was delayed till 4/8. - **Reuters -**

Thurs 20

The last will of a dying inmate, L Tigstrom, could hold the key to the 11 year mystery of who killed the Swedish prime minister, O Palme, a defence lawyer, P Svensen, said in Stockholm. - AP - authors note - see diary, 1996 - 6/10, for links to security personnel]

Fri 21

With the latest revelations concerning the death of O Palme (qv 20/3) the authorities have promised further investigations to clarify the details revealed in the will of L Tigstrom by a Stockholm lawyer to the Swedish media.

The death, although planned, occurred out of sequence. King Gustav was planned to be the first victim of 'revenge on society motive.' The killing was carried out by C Petterson, who was cleared by the courts in a 1989 trial. He himself died in prison, a convicted bomber, always denied any involvement with the death of the prime minister.

Sat 22

One year on, this time 1996 (qv 20/3) Winnie Mandela was divorced from the president. The time has not gone good for her, going unrecognised in the streets of Soweto, her popularity diminished. So away from the media spotlight is she that one of her officials, a press officer, has taken to working in an antiques shop.

In the case of Nelson Mandela, there is the well documented relationship with Graca Machel, who is still resisting a marriage proposal from the president.

Mon 24

Concern is growing about the honesty of an elite police squad after a recent raid on the home of a squad member. The unit concerned is a dedicated protection squad for senior members of the government and members of their families.

The recent police raid found a hoard of missing articles - the defence ministers clock radio, the finance ministers gold watch and the education ministers bathroom scales were among the items recovered.

Wed 26

Thirteen members of the Inkatha Freedom Party have been convicted of the murder of political rivals in 1995 (qv 21/12?). The killings of members of the ANC took place in Shobashobane, a village about 60 miles south of Durban.

Giving evidence before a parliamentary committee prisons minister, S Mzimela, said that the government were actively considering the use of disused mine shafts to house prisoners who had to be kept in maximum security.

Giving evidence he said "If it's doable, and cost effective, the fact that it's underground is irrelevant, it's just more secure," noting that 100 or more prisoners escaped from South African jails.

Fri 28

As the UN 's peacekeeping force continues it's staged withdrawal from Angola (qv 27/1) moves on the political front have increased the chance of the setting up of a government of national unity being realised.

The recently elected Secretary General of the United Nations, K Annan, on a visit to the country has used his influence on the leaders of Unita to persuade those members elected as members of parliament in the 1992 general election to take their places in the legislature. The movements leader Jonas Savimbi, however, will remain at his headquarters in the Central Highlands, the town of Bailundo, because of fears for his life. His aides say his life is threatened by hard-line members of the MPLA.

The dispute between the two former combatants has always been one of 'source of revenue', oil on the government side and diamonds for Unita. With the former rebels controlling much of the precious stone production (qv 26/1) in the north east of the country, they were reluctant to hand over this revenue to their former foes.

This financial imbalance, between them, has now been rectified. In an agreement with the government Unita is to be allowed the legal right to set up its own mining operation and to talk to overseas companies about concession rights.- **The Economist** -

Sat 29

Argument that the recent budget (qv 13/3) has done little, in the long term, to improve the prospects for the country and has little effect on the white population; who in the main did not vote for the ANC government 3 years ago.

The elements of the budget that dealt with the spending of the police and prison departments, a 23% and 14% increase respectively, was no way of finding a solution to the social problems that cause crime, but a continuation of 'old apartheid' repression.

Financial measures introduced, particularly the relaxation of exchange controls, is of little significance as new investors are not bound by the old criteria. All these measures will encourage is the flow of money overseas. This, along with the relaxation with the ease of obtaining a travel visa, due to rejoining the Commonwealth, will only facilitate the exodus of whites overseas.

If these measures continue, a situation similar to what happened in Angola and Mozambique, on independence being granted will ensue - leading to a greater social explosion, than there is now.

Sun 30

Economic migrants, as many as 150,000 are caught and returned to Mozambique every year, continue to flood in over and under the 'snake of fire.' The apt name for this eastern border crossing, it was lethally charged with electricity during the liberation struggle, still is an attractive option for those seeking work inside South Africa.

There are two classes of 'illegals'; those that are willing to pay the equivalent of £80 will be led by a guide through the now, since 1994, desensitised fence to be picked up on the South African side. and driven in a mini bus to guaranteed employment. The less well off will pay the equivalent of £3.50 and take lorry ride to be smuggled through at a border post. Some are not successful, and even if they are, they face the danger of animal attack as the border is within the Kruger National Park.

APRIL 1997

Fri 5

Thabo Mbeki, the acknowledged 'heir apparent' to Nelson Mandela, goes on a pace towards this goal. A comparison of office statistics gives some indication of this. The office of the deputy president has had a 20% increase in its budget, while the amount spent by the president's own office is down 11%. Office staff numbers 96; this includes himself. There are plans to increase staffing levels by another 65.

Despite this grooming for the role of president Mr Mbeki's popularity with all South Africans is not on the same level as his boss. A recent opinion poll showed that 68% of all voters supported the present incumbent, but only 25% - 6% of whites - wanted Mr Mbeki to succeed him. - **Time Magazine**

Sat 12

A government of national reconciliation in Angola was yesterday sworn in at a ceremony attended by 13 heads of government. However the ceremony was boycotted by the Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

The long awaited formation of government, in which Unita has four ministers and seven deputy ministers, ends the United Nations monitored peace process that began with the 1994 Lusaka Accord. The UN's 6,600 member multi national force is to start disbanding within seven days.

Anton Dembo, Unita's vice president read a message from Mr Savimbi, who appealed to all sides to cement a democratic system. - **GDN page 21 C 1 adb -**

Tues 15

There is growing newspaper speculation about the number of present members of the government who were, at one time or another, working for the security forces during South Africa's war of liberation. The speculation has been heightened by the recent sacking of S Nkabide, the principal ANC official in KwaZulu Natal's Midlands region. The reports say that he worked for the apartheid regime since 1992.

Known to media sources there are lists of alleged spies in circulation that name at least 5 members of the present cabinet. One of these, P Mokoba the deputy minister of tourism and the environment, has made a plea to the ANC leadership to clear him of any involvement.

Wed 16

Members of the ANC's women's league are to investigate the assets of the Mobutu family inside South Africa. The possibility of far reaching consequences was first

noted when it became apparent that the staff wages of the Mobutu family owned Orchidea hotel in Johannesburg had not been paid for at least four weeks.

This lack of funds, from the family of the Zairian president, who is fighting for his political career, has been noted by T Modesia MP and a member of the Women's League who poses the question; "If I for instance a person salted away money overseas and then became persona non grata, what happens to the assets?"

Speaking before the Cape Town parliament foreign minister, Alfred Nzo, reiterated that which his deputy had earlier delivered to the parliamentary defence committee; the two principal leaders of the warring sides in civil war in Zaire were committed to a face to face meeting to negotiate the future disposition of the troubled country.

Thurs 17

With the eyes of the world on South Africa, in its role as African peacemaker, President Mandela is trying to broker a meeting between the two 'principals' in the conflict in Zaire. Towards this aim he had been expected to meet the rebel leader L Kabila in Cape Town. South African government sources predict a meeting between the two leaders within the foreseeable future.

The South African mining conglomerates, De Beers and Anglo American, have been forced to alter their working practises in the central African country. De Beers and its subsidiary have had to end its support for the ailing regime of president Mobutu if it wishes to continue working in the new Zaire. The rebels, the Alliance for the Freedom of Congo – Zaire, were able to make these demands as their forces control all the areas where there is any diamond production.

In the future the conglomerate will have to work alongside the American firm; American Mineral Fields thus losing its monopoly in an industry worth, at a conservative estimate, £300m per year. To buy into the lucrative precious metal extraction industry AMF paid £625m / \$1bn to the rebels to be allowed to dig for copper, cobalt and zinc. The substantial downpayment is to be used to finance the final push to liberate the country.

Further commitment to a foreign policy role as a participation in a trans African peace keeping force is evident with members of the South African army's attendance at a training ground in Zimbabwe. Gathered in the north west of the country were military personnel from eight sub Saharan African nations. They were participating in a joint command structure practising the role of a United Nations peacekeeping force for the region.

According to one of the 16 military officers on the management team, a member of the British Military Advisory training Team, and a force from the Zimbabwe National Army, "they have become extremely effective peacekeepers" The British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the government of Zimbabwe financed the project to the tune of £300, 000 and £600, 000 respectively.

Fri 18

Following the recent involvement of President Mandela, in the crisis over the civil war in Zaire (qv 17/4) a formal invitation has been issued to that countries president to have joint talks with L Kabila the rebel leader.

Mon 21

Emphasising the differences in the lifestyles of the Mandela family (qv 22/3) comes the news that not only do employees of Winnie Mandela have to take second jobs, but she herself is so reduced in circumstances that the former first lady has had to hold a garage sale to make ends meet.

At her home in Soweto, her base throughout to long campaign to free her estranged husband, the one time mother of the nation is selling jars of soil that is supposed to have come from Hero 's Acre. On sale for £7 / R50, they come with a certificate of authenticity.

Cheque fraud allegations have been made against N Dimaan aged 22 the son of nelson Mandela 's first child Zenani and her husband a Swazi prince. The presidents grandson is one of two people, who have already been in a Johannesburg court, charges relating to the false presentation for payment of R5, 000 which they knew was not lawfully theirs.

Cartoon two newspaper hoardings “Genuine soil from Mandela 's back garden” a second; “Genuine soil from Brookside back garden.” linking the plight of divorced W Mandela and Britain 's Channel 4 soap opera Brookside

Thurs 24

Despite being aware of the authoritarian and anti democratic government of Malaysia, the South African president will welcome Dr Mahathir on a state visit, where he will present him with the Order of Hope; the countries highest honour.

The Malaysian president has been honoured in this way as a recognition of the role his government played in the support of the ANC during the liberation struggle and a financial contribution, of £4. 6bn / R33bn made at the time of the general election.

Also under consideration is a R1. 5Bn investment from the Malaysian State Oil Company, along with R4bn from the Kuala Lumpur government to help redevelopment in Johannesburg. The States armed forces hope to purchase Rooivalk 'attack' helicopters, for 'defence' purposes.

South African imports to Iran have risen 200% since 1995. Trade with Indonesia, China and North Korea have risen four fold since 1993.

Diplomatic relations have been established with all the countries who showed support during the 'struggle' despite them having questionable human rights records; according to western values.

The leader of the right wing AWB, Eugene Terreblanche (qv), has been convicted by a court in Porchefstroom, of the attempted murder of a black employee and the assault of another black employee. The Boer farmer is due to be sentenced in 6/97.

Fri 25

The mining of asbestos, that employed 270 men, at the Kuram Mine which is on the edge of the Kalahari Desert in the Northern Cape, has ended. The mine is the last in the region that gave employment to 5, 500 during the industries boom period of the late 1970 's.

A black colleague of the NUM 's shop steward, with 40 years service is offered 74 weeks pay as compensation for loss of his job. On the top rate of pay this deal is only worth £4, 800 / R33, 000. A white employees severance pay is based on the £600 / R4, 000 per month he earns; a higher rate that the blacks earn.

DEVELOPMENTS

In the election for president of the ANC 's Women 's League Winnie Mandela triumphed, though not without being challenged by Dr Zuma who pulled out of the contest at the last minuet.

In a straight fight, former guerilla commander T Modesia, the ex wife of the president polled 656 votes, T Modesia 114. In a separate contest, for the position of vice president, the defeated candidate gained 232 votes with Modesia gaining 527 votes.

Applications for amnesty, to date, before the Truth Commission number 5, 500. The research team, of 75, is expected to analyse 15 – 20, 000 written statements in order to produce a final report. The president is expected to be handed the first copy on 14. 3. 1998.

It has been decided that further investigations will be made into the role of the Botha and de Klerk governments and their links with the security forces – despite details of the 'third force' already disclosed. This will include the use of chemical and biological weapons; details of which were supplied by W Basson (qv 22/2)

Other fields of investigation is the role that the judiciary and the media played in the abuse of human rights and its manipulation of the media for propaganda purposes during raids inside Angola.

MAY 1997

Sat 3

If there is agreement, at a meeting of the ANC 's National Executive Committee, the entire leadership that was in post since 1962 will seek joint amnesty for apartheid era crimes from the Truth and Reconciliation Committee. - AP [adb] -

Mon 5

Nobel peace laureate Desmond Tutu yesterday made an impassioned plea to South Africans who were involved in apartheid - era crimes to request amnesty before 10/5.

Bishop Tutu, speaking on television about the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, emphasised the deadline and said that anyone who did not come forward to confess was liable for criminal prosecution. - *Reuters* -

Tues 6

South Africa's former ruling National Party said yesterday that its leader F W de Klerk would not seek amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission investigating apartheid - era crimes.

Mr de Klerk, who repudiated apartheid in 1990, has repeatedly insisted that he was never party to any decision to kill apartheid's foes. - *Reuters* -

Thurs 8

With the approach of the deadline, 10/5, for application for amnesty for crimes committed during the apartheid era the Truth Commission will make an approach to Winnie Mandela. A member of the Commission, Y Sooka, said that the investigative body were proposing to subpoena the ex wife of the president.

This decision had been made after it became known that one of her former employees, J Richardson, coach to the infamous 'Winnie Mandela Football Club,' had lodged an amnesty appeal implicating his boss in four killings. One of these is the death of S Moketsie in 1989 (qv 10/2). The exact circumstances of the boy's death are still not fully understood.

Another leading member of the last National Party government, General M Malan, has appeared before the Commission to ask for forgiveness only. The former Defence Minister will not apply for amnesty; he does not see the need despite an admission that he set up the Civil Cooperation Bureau (qv) and ordered cross border raids. His argument is that all his actions were within the legal powers of the state.

Speaking before former military colleges he expressed the opinion that the last act of the last National Party government, in 1994, should have been to grant amnesty to all.

Fri 9

The future of the National Party, as a unified opposition party, was thrown into confusion as F W de Klerk the stopped work of Roelf Meyer, party negotiator, during the Codesa talks (qv), and his team from working on the future role of the National Party. This snub could see Mr Meyer resign, to lead a new political grouping of party moderates in a new alliance.

The former president was acting on the advice of Hermus Kriel, National Party premier in Cape Province, who said that he agreed with Mr Meyers principal of providing a more effective opposition but differed on tactics.

The Cape premier, the only National Party led province, wanted a broad based movement that encompassed all shades of opposition, from inside the ANC, SACP and the trade union alliance; Codesa. This broad based approach was backed by the KwaZulu Natal caucus.

The Prime Minister of Namibia, H Geingo, has chosen Leeds University as the place of learning that he will base his study for his Ph.D. on. The subject will be researching will be Namibia's political transition to a multi party democracy. The former Swapo freedom fighter will be able to use his intimate knowledge of the long campaign.

The choice of Leeds University was made because of the establishments well respected Department of Politics, which has long shown a deep commitment to southern African politics.

Sat 10

The final day for amnesty applications, to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, has seen only a further 500 fresh inquiries thus bringing the total to approximately 6,000.

Accusing the Commission of 'theatrics' Chief Buthelezie and warlords of the Inkatha Freedom Party have refused to testify before it. Having already apologised, the KwaZulu Natal premier said that during the liberation war "Inkatha never chose the path of violence or planned violence.

The decision, by General Malan (qv 9/5), not to seek amnesty was criticised by the deputy chairman of the commission, Dr A Boraine,. As a matter of self interest he should re - consider his decision, he indicated.

Mon 12

With the passing, of the agreed amnesty deadline, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has accepted approximately 8,000 applications. Those who have chosen

not to submit a plea, notably P W Botha and F W de Klerk, now leave themselves open to criminal prosecution, if implicated by others.

Last minuet applications were received from two former members of the last National Party government. Piet Koornhoff, who held various cabinet posts from 1972 to 1984. His plea for forgiveness was based on the misery and hardship caused by the introduction of the pass laws and forced removals of thousands of the population. Also Adriaan Vlok who'd detailed his plea earlier (qv 27/2).

Others associated with the last administration to avail themselves of this last chance were Eugene de Koch (qv) General C Vilgeon, for a failed secessionist plot; before the '94 election. There was a surprise application from the 'managing director' of the CCB, J Verster, who had earlier made a failed attempt to blackmail the National Party over the units covert actions in Europe.

The ANC delivered 370 claims. Among these were ones from T Mbeki, deputy prime minister, D Omar the Justice Minister, Joe Modisaane the Defence Minister, M Mahara the Minister of Transport and Z Skewiya the Minister of Public Administration.

Thurs 15

According to the Council of South African Banks there has been 164 attacks on the banking industry since the start of 1997. Especially targeted are the cash dispenser machines in the Gauteng province, which includes the main industrial region round Johannesburg. So severe is the crisis that some insurance companies are refusing to offer cover for these thefts.

Figures from the Prison Service show that in 1996 prisons were losing 100 inmates a month, not by the actions of a clever lawyer, simply because the police could not produce the material evidence that would gain a conviction. The accused had paid about £400 to have the evidence stolen. This is less expensive than the cost of hiring a lawyer.

Infighting within the African National Congress's Women's League deepened yesterday with allegations that supporters of Winnie Mandela had threatened the life of a woman who challenged her for the presidency. The ruling ANC called for an investigation of the charges..

In an interview with the Star newspaper Thandi Modisaane, W Mandela's rival, said that she would be "destroyed" if she challenged the former wife of the president. "I was made aware I was being followed everywhere went at the conference venue. - AP -

Fri 16

When the former Education Minister and president, F W de Klerk, made his appearance before the Truth Commission on 14/5 his response to the questions from Desmond Tutu brought the former archbishop near to tears.

During a television interview the Chairman related how he found it difficult to believe that “when you say you didn’t know - and I know, I am among many who went to this government with information about the sort of things we are now investigating ... there was almost an avalanche of information - to say you didn’t know, I find that difficult.”

A court in Durban has convicted Captain D Coetzee a former member of the CCB and two others of the 1981 killing of lawyer and ANC activist G Mxenge. Now a member of the ANC the leader of the assassination squad had in 1996 applied to the Truth Commission for amnesty (qv 9/3), for all his political crimes. Sentencing has been delayed till 7/97.

Sat 17

South Africa’s National Party said yesterday it would no longer co - operate with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission saying the panel was biased against it The party spokeswoman, S Camerer, said in a statement that the party were considering taking the commission to court to compel it to be impartial. - AP -

Mon 19

One of the architects of South Africa’s post apartheid policies of reconciliation Roelf Meyer, resigned from the former ruling National Party and from parliament at the weekend after a dispute over the party’s political future.

The minister, noted in 9/5, he wanted the National Party to disband in the interests of building a broad, moderate alliance to challenge President Mandela ’s ruling African National Congress

In an interview Madikizela Mandela, despite still being idolised by the black youth of the country, if the reaction of B Monegi, a 31 year old who is a student in archive studies at the Technicon of South Africa is typical of the poor black person, said “I still see Winnie as mother of the nation, because she’s done so much for the underprivileged people of this country and sacrificed so much for us” still has her financial hurdles to overcome.

In 1995 an air charter firm attempted to her seize furniture and other assets to cover a £16,200 bill. She was sued by Foster Webb Air for the hire of a Lear jet which took her and her cronies to Angola in 1993, allegedly to conclude a diamond deal. In the same year a major bank was granted a default judgement ordering her to pay£70,660 owed on the mortgagee of the Soweto mansion she built for Nelson’s release.

Earlier this year she was told she had to pay, out of her own pocket, £14,000 back to the government; as half the payment of an unauthorised trip to Ghana made in 1994. Finally the state attorney is attempting to recover£5,250 for the unauthorised use of official vehicles.

Tues 20

Following cases of theft from the homes of government ministers, whilst under the protection of the police (qv 24/3), a number of the elite squad are to be prosecuted. S Mufamadi, the Minister of Safety and Security has revealed.

In a written parliamentary reply the minister revealed that 198 of the service's 1,800 members faced charges and that already 120 had criminal convictions. The convictions include five of attempted murder and two each of rape kidnapping and armed robbery.

The charges pending include 22 of murder, 18 of attempted murder, 23 of assault and one of public indecency.

Sun 25

Inland from the Skeleton Coast of Namibia is an area populated by the Himba who live round the Epupa Falls on the River Kunene. They have lived there for at least the last five hundred years without any significant intrusion from the outside world.

If the government in the capital, Windhoek, has its way the river will be dammed to produce hydro - electric power for the greater good of the economy, and at the expense of the long term residents. At the moment Namibia has to import 60% of its power from across the border. This scheme is to halt an expected shortfall of electricity needed by the year 2000.

Opponents of the dam project see the siting of the dam as a snub to the governments political rivals, who are themselves supported by the Himba. There is another option that would leave the land round the Falls, and its 300 foot river gorge in tact, build the concrete wall one mile south of the tribe's 'garden of Eden.'

Wed 28

A traditional chief in the mountain kingdom of Swaziland has banned the use of condoms, citing Biblical law and claiming that they misuse and waste a man's reproductive fluid.

His decision has shocked the health authorities, which has been encouraging condom use to prevent the spread of HIV. Chief J N Maseko, of the Ekhupele area in the north, told his subjects that using a condom violated God's laws and incidents of their use should be reported to him. - AP -

Fri 30

Angolan troops have overrun the diamond rich north - east of the country, driving thousands of civilians from the areas held by the former rebel Unita movement, military and diplomatic sources said.

The action threatened a fragile peace process sponsored by the United Nations following the ousting of Mobutu Sese Seko from the former Zaire, which once supported Unita. - **Reuters** -

Sat 31

Following the consideration of the McKinsey report (qv 20/2), which was an inquiry into the efficiency of the police force, M Kahn a former head of South African Breweries has been brought in. His specific challenge will be to overhaul the force, and to put it on a more business footing.

To the black population, the appointment is acceptable because in his former role SAB employed many black - many in managerial roles. The company sponsored their favourite sports league - soccer. The whites find him right for the position - even though they would have preferred the position to go to W Bratten, a former New York police chief - because he is the son of Lithuanian immigrant parents who made good.

The Economist

Kind hearted game rangers in the Kruger National Park seeking a humane way to control booming elephant numbers preferred birth control to culling. Unfortunately an experiment using hormone implants, which mimic the human birth control pill, have had the unforeseen effect of keeping the she elephants permanently on heat. Consequently, the lust - crazed bulls could not or would not leave them alone - **GDN, Overview, an extract.**

Leader Comment "An alarming increase in the availability of the 'rave' drug Ecstasy is putting Johannesburg's school children, some as young as 12, at serious risk, police, pharmacists and drug abuse counsellors said. Police say they are confiscating increased quantities of the 'young drugs', much of it being pushed in schools. - **The Star, Johannesburg** -

JUNE 1997

Wed 4

A strike by Angola's army into diamond rich areas held mainly by the opposition Unita movement could be the final blow to the once powerful rebels, analysts say.

Western diplomats say Unita were caught off guard when government troops began a raid from the east into the Lunda Norte province and has been unable to defend its diamond wealth, worth up to £400 million annually.

The government, after a military build up in the northern border town of Dundo, launched the strike 14 day ago, describing it as a clean up operation to flush out armed refugees from neighbouring Congo. Western diplomats believe that was a pretext by the government to reclaim land from Unita.

Analysts said that if the government continues its offensive towards Unita's stronghold of Lusamba, it could mean the end for the movement. "If they lose Lusamba, it's all over for Unita," said one. - *Reuters* -

Fri 6

Despite being of an age when death is expected at any time, the Nazi's of Namibia, a former German protectorate, are still making their presence felt. At issue is a newspaper advertisement in the Windhoek Observer, that commemorated the death of Rudolf Hess.

The Namibian prime minister, H Geingob, has taken legal action, up to Supreme Court level, on the grounds that the advert incites racial hatred.

Sat 7

Mayuni, a village in the Capavari Strip of northern Namibia, is the centre of an experiment in the preservation of the rare flora and fauna of the region. This attempt by the northern population, who have for so long been beholden to the minority white population; even since independence 7 years ago, are now the initiates in a project that will benefit them alone.

For so long this area has been prone wide ranging poaching, from the population of the neighbouring countries, who were tempted by the abundance of elephants and lions that frequented the area. With the support of the government in the capital, Windhoek, local poachers have turned game keepers to protect these endangered species.

The thinking is that the locals will protect endangered species that threaten local crops and villages. Tourism will be encouraged to attract foreign currency, to cull wayward

animals. as a way of providing funds to finance other tourist friendly schemes. This would help to develop this under developed region of Namibia.

Sun 8

The wines producers in the country are again at the centre of controversy (qv 9/2). Not this time the conditions of employment for the workers, more serious, members of the KWV wine co - operative have been found to be exporting home produced wine as French champagne.

Under the labels 'Paul Lambert and 'Charles Lennard', the champagne; which by international law and treaty in this named region of France were prepared to export 20,000 cases to the United States.

At the culmination of the attempt, in 1990, 252,000 bottles had been imported from French manufacturer St Gobia. From Portugal were delivered 240,000 corks and an equal number of foil capsules. Bogus labels for the bottles were obtained by senior members of the co - operative. The cost of all this deception is put at R663,000.

The trail of the counterfeit consignment then goes cold till 1991. In that year the American Bureau of Tobacco and Firearms had traced a part of the consignment to the town of Clearing in the state of California.

Subsequently, many thousands of cases were sent for auction in Cape Town. Local purchases were told that the stock had been refused an import licence to the USA, and that the sale was to recoup storage costs.

Mon 9

Contentious issues will dealt with at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, that begins in Harare at this time. Issues raised by the governments of Namibia Botswana and Namibia are the partial lifting of the 1989 world ban on ivory trade. This would allow them to trade ivory culled from their 150,000 elephant population A petition from South Africa to trade white rhino products, expanding its current permit to export just live animals

There is expected to be a lot of opposition to these motions, especially from the USA and other western countries. When the time for a vote comes the delegates from the region suggest a secret vote, thus avoiding confrontation from the opposition, who are also donor nations.

The benefits seen by these governments to to a resumption of trade would be community projects that are essentially local based (qv 7/6).

Tues 10

Unconfirmed reports that could end the dispute between the ANC and the leadership of Inkatha, and secure a peace deal in KwaZulu Natal, have been hinted at.

The post of second deputy president vacated by F W de Klerk, when the National Party resigned from the government of national unity in 1996 (qv 10/5), will be offered to Chief Buthelezie. As a response the Inkatha leader would have to resign the chairmanship of KwaZulu Natal house of traditional leaders. As part of the package there would be amnesty, for political crimes, for a number of Zulu 'warlords'.

These still unconfirmed moves, seen as a major initiative for peace in the province, is also an effort to encourage the Inkatha Freedom Party to co - operate with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Thurs 12

In an effort to protect the future of the black rhinoceros population in South Africa, which number only 8,119, the state of Queensland in northern Australia has proposed a plan that would also exploit the huge tourist potential of the region. It is proposed, by the State's tourist industry that the black rhino could be settled on the vast savannah grasslands, that make up much of the state. Approval for the plan will be sought from Mr Mandela when the tourism minister visits within the next seven days.

Vast herds of elephant, and other migratory animals, will have their movements disrupted as the Botswana government has built a fence along its border with Namibia. The fence runs alongside the Capavarii Strip, and its intention is to prevent allegedly diseased cattle crossing the border. In 1996 the Botswana government had to slaughter 300,000 cattle suffering from cattle lung disease.

The two countries are also in dispute about their common border, which runs along the Chobe River. Ever since Namibia's independence the two have argued over the ownership of Sedudu Island, an uninhabited land mass in the middle of the river. Ownership now awaits the decision of the International Court in the Hague.

An internal crisis, for the government in Windhoek, is the proposal to draw water from the River Kavango and run a pipeline to the Namibian capital. To take water from this river - which feeds the Okavanga Delta, will affect the wildlife that lives in the area. This will have an effect on tourism, which is of enormous benefit to the country.

Fri 13

Angola's former rebel movement Unita is strongly resisting an army bid to oust it from the diamond rich north east, military and diplomatic sources said yesterday. A senior military source said Unita might have thrown six or seven battalion into the battle. Western diplomats said the fighting could restart civil war that plagued Angola for 20 years.

A precarious balance between the Angolan government and Unita - which controls much of the countryside - was upset last month when Unita's main backer, Mobutu S Seko was toppled from power in neighbouring Congo by a rebel force which had Luanda's active support. - **Reuters** -

Sat 14

An invitation to members of the British Darts Association to tour the townships has been made Darts South Africa. The aim, as with all township initiatives, is to give the young people something to occupy their time rather than drifting into the criminal scene.

Some well known British personalities, Eric Bristow and 'Jockey' Wilson, have not been invited, as they have split from the BDA, in a new association.

South Africa's murder rate averaged 65 a day for the first three months of this year police said. "This is a marked improvement since elections in 1994," the minister S Mufamadi said. - *Reuters* -

Mon 16

The United Nations mission in Angola has found no evidence of the heavy fighting said to be raging in the diamond rich north eastern part of the country. Representatives of the former rebels, the government and the UN flew to Luanda Norte in north eastern Angola but found no evidence of clashes, a UN statement said.

The former rebel organisation Unita insisted that Angolan government troops mounted an offensive three weeks ago, killing dozens of people and causing thousands to flee their home..The government denies these charges. Unita warned that the alleged offensive endangered the 1994 peace agreement. - *AP* -

Tues 17

The Truth Commission is to begin a series of hearings that will expose the links between the security forces and the medical profession during the 'struggle' under the spotlight. A submission, from the Health and Human Rights Project, will detail the use of military conscripts during their training at a base near Pretoria.

Under the control of Dr A Levine, a psychiatrist at the Voortrekkerhooget military hospital, conscripts that admitted homosexual tendencies, would be 'therapy' to re-programme them. This aversion therapy would take the form of electric shocks, and pictures of naked men, while the pictures in Playboy magazine would see the naked women described in 'glowing terms.'

In all 35 doctors are expected to be called to give an account of evidence, that has been collected by the Health and Human Rights Project. This is a joint initiative between the University of Cape Town and a centre that has had dealings with the victims of torture and abuse. Other documented links, between the two, that will come under investigation is the alleged torture of civilian in Namibia.

Neo Nazi leader Eugene Terreblanche (qv 24/4) has been jailed for six years today for trying to murder a black man who worked for him and assaulting another Judge Eksteen was expected to rule later on whether Eugene Terreblanche, leader of the AWB, could be given the right to appeal against the sentence and conviction.

South African president, Nelson Mandela, is today to be awarded the Rotary International movements highest honour at a world convention in Glasgow. The award, for world understanding, is to be received on his behalf by the South African High Commissioner to the UK M Msimang. YEP Newsfile, page 4 C1 : People page 5 C1

Wed 18

A move by South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, to have the elephant downgraded from the endangered species list at the Cities conference (qv 9/6) has failed. The vote, 75:41, was not enough to secure the 2/3rds that was required.

The defeat will not deter the governments of the region in a renewed attempt at a later date to seek alteration to the Category A list. This aim will be helped by consideration of two amendments from the Pretoria regime, that were tabled too late for the conference to consider.

The essence of the amendments would see an 18 month delay on ivory sales, until unacceptable regulation system was in place. Also any sales would be halted if these sales were shown to have increased the poaching of the elephant.

Fri 20

Despite the recent vote, at the the Cities conference (qv 18/6), Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe have convinced the other delegates to downgrade the elephant onto Appendix 2. This will allow a controlled trade in tusk ivory.

As from 1999 these three countries will be able to export 59.1 tonnes of ivory to Japan. This amount will only make a small inroad into their combined stock of over 150 tonnes. In acknowledgement that the sale of legal ivory require strict control methods the World Fund for Nature has donated £65,000 to ease the burden. It has also urged other agencies to increase donations to elephant conservation.

The world of rugby union, still shaken by the recent outburst of B van Rooyen, who has made allegations about the business management of Sarfu (qv 22/2), and prompted a government inquiry, is not good. Within the next 14 days he will appear before the Board to defend a charge of bringing the game into disrepute.

Away from internal politics, the state of the game, as far as bringing black and 'Coloured' players into national prominence, varies from state to state.

Boland; mixed race population, passion for rugby, a Sarfu success. Prominent hopefuls, wing three quarters, J Stevens and M Hendriks both of whom are 'coloured' Border; a stronghold of black rugby. Wing, K Malotana.. Eastern Province; rich rugby playing tradition among black and 'coloured communities. Formally most associated with the apartheid Saru's organisation. S Plaatjies, a former SA Schools captain. Gauteng Falcons; largest and most powerful province, an impressive development programme, but still there has been no 'coloured' or black player has represented them. Griqualand West; Kimberley 's 'coloured' townships have always seen rugby played, but development policy is now stuttering.

Mpumalanga; A conservative white region without any real tradition of black rugby. There has been, if any, progress to creating a 'rugby culture. Much has been made of the fact that the province's junior school squad of 20 includes four black boys. Natal; Achieved little outstanding, in development terms. Rugby is seen as not an option in this soccer dominated province. North West; Little black rugby tradition in these conservative farmlands. Northern Transvaal; One black player in their senior side. Northern Free State; The development of black rugby, played mainly in the town of Welkom, remains at the "creating the right culture" stage. Free State; Development has foundered over the legacy of apartheid. South Western Districts; Dominated by neighbouring states. Wing, D Kayser, will appear in the Emerging Springbok side. Western Province; Safu's most representative region; home to C Williams. Six of Western Province's players have made the 1997 Elite Development Squad; a clear sign of the area's strength in non racial rugby.

Sun 22

With Eugene Terreblanche the leader of the AWB, free on bail (qv 17/6), with a decision on an appeal pending, The residents of Ventesdorp's black township, Tshing, are apprehensive. More than most to feel this way, is J Ndzima who survived an attack that was an element of the recent trial.

Working as a petrol; pump attendant at the town's Shell garage his 37 year old victim was nearly throttled by him and then attacked by the leaders dog; Saidanha. "I was shocked, was Mr Ndzim's response, after seeing him walking the streets of the town

Wed 25

South Africa's truth commission plans to subpoena Winnie Mandela to appear before a closed hearing, an official said yesterday after a newspaper reported that some of here former bodyguards [aka J Richardson, 8/5] had implicated her in amnesty applications. - AP -

Fri 29

The International Monetary Fund's 'star pupil' in Africa - Mozambique - is to be allowed a little more economic freedom.

In the near future, the government is to be allowed to spend an extra 20% of total spending - \$14m - to repair damage caused by the civil war. Also wage restraints, imposed on civil servants are to be lifted. Credit will also be extended to firms that suffered during the recent conflict. - The Economist -

Sun 29

With the arrival of the expected subpoena for Winnie Mandela (qv 25/6) witnesses, co accused and the families of missing children are prepared to come forward and appear before the Truth Commission. It is hoped that the information offered will shed further light on the events that led to her trial and conviction of S Moketsie in 1989

One of the people now prepared to add to the common fund of knowledge is K Cebekhula, who would have also stood trial with Mrs Mandela in the 1991 trial, but fled the country (qv 4/2) across the border to Zambia. His flight from justice, some say, was at the bequest of the ANC who at the time were trying to minimise any risk to the then wife of the leader of the ANC.

At that time he was visited by a Conservative MP, Emma Nichols, a champion of human rights who has taken it upon herself to act as his public face, as his whereabouts are known only to a few people. The now ex MP; she lost her parliamentary seat at the recent British election, is prepared to fly to Johannesburg to discuss the evidence that the former member of the Mandela Football Club is prepared to give the Truth Commission.

Other family, and relatives who have a vested interest in the outcome of the forthcoming interview are the family of Dr Asvat, the Mandela doctor, and the father of L Solo, aged 21, who was a member of the Mandela Football Club, who was last seen in 1988 injured in the back of a vehicle. Another co - defendant who served 2 years in jail, O Falati, is now saying that to protect her 'principal' she gave perjured evidence.

As an unnamed man, a member of the country's intelligence services, awaits trial, in Britain, for smuggling a small amount of cannabis into the country has let it be known that he is prepared to tell what he knows on the murky dealings of Dr W Basson (qv 2/2).

The Director of Covert Collections (qv) operative first came into contact with Dr Basson in 1992 when Ecstasy tablets were smuggled into London aboard a plane carrying Springbok fans who were coming to England as support for a game of rugby that would herald the lifting of the world wide sporting boycott. The drugs were to be used to buy military hardware.

Such is the value of the evidence offered the chief investigator for the Truth Commission has asked permission to speak to him., to gather further insight into the workings of the former head of the Seventh Medical battalion and the Roodaplatt Research Laboratories near Pretoria.

JULY 1997

Wed 2

A South African convicted of 11 murders, including that of a girl aged 10, during a six month period was sentenced to five life sentences plus 140 years in Pietermaritzburg on 31/6. Five of the murders occurred after C R Zidcode was released on £42.50 bail in 8/95. - AP -

Fri 4

The rate of HIV infection; Aids in the country is estimated to be 2.4m which is three times the rate in the USA. Also, according to the Department of Health's anti natal survey the HIV infection rate has risen from 1 - 14%. These figures show a fair indication of the rate of infection present in the economic workforce.

It is calculated that over the next 5 - 10 years the ration of infected, to non infected members of the population, will be of the ratio 1:4. By the year 2010 life expectancy will have fallen from the present 63 years to only 40 years.

Southern Life Insurance, the leader in the field, has forecast that such a grip on the population will this epidemic have, that one percentage point will be removed from the Gross Domestic Product by 2005.

The ongoing internal dispute, over the supply of piped drinking water to Windhoek, the capital of Namibia (qv 12/6), is based on the environmental effects of two schemes. A short term solution, would see 20m cubic metres of water taken from Okavango river. The long term proposal is to extract 100m cubic metres by the year 2025.

The government officials dismiss any criticism that the project will affect tourism in any substantial way. The long term scheme would only draw 1% of the water flowing through the Okovango. This would mean that the annual flood waters would fail to reach some 35 sq kilometres of the delta; 0.2% of the area.

To counter criticism, from the government in Botswana the Windhoek government commissioned a report, after a dry summer in 1996. This has not been released at present. The environmentalists in Botswana would rather that it's neighbour made use of a plentiful supply of sea water and set up a desalination process. - **The Economist** -

Sun 6

Cigarette consumption in South Africa, as in most African countries, is falling. According to Dr Y Salloje only 47% of the population new that smoking caused cancer. Between the years 1990 - 1995 smoking has fallen from 14.7% to 5%. This

dramatic fall in sales is partly due to a government policy of placing a 50% tax on the retail price of a packet.

Mon 7

A report on the state of tourism, in southern Africa, published by Action for Southern Africa, the pressure group born out of the Anti Apartheid Movement in 1994 (qv 29/10), makes the point that the economic benefits are not reaching the local population.

The continent is only attracting 1.8% of the world trade; 3.1% in 1975. Those employed locally is only 1 : 70 of the population; 1 : 10 internationally. British tour operators sent 25,000 people to South Africa in recent times.

The report states that the lack of local economic benefit is due to the fact that bookings have been arranged 1995. through multi national tour giants, Thomas Cook, and they stay in multi national owned accommodation like the Holiday Inn Company.

To make amends, for this in balance, 'positive discrimination' should be made towards South African owned tour companies, who are more likely to use locally owned hotels and facilities.

Tues 8

South African police have smashed a civil service crime syndicate after suspicion about strange finger prints found on pension pay - out vouchers. According to Inspector N Mgqokomashe, the marks were hard to identify. But on closer inspection, these proved not to be fingerprints, but penis prints.

They were being used to endorse payments to dead or non - existent claimants and three members of the Eastern Cape health department now await an embarrassing encounter with the beak. - **Diary, GDN page 19 C1** -

Beginning a visit to Britain President Mandela is accompanied by Graca Machel (qv), who in her own right is to be awarded a honoured degree from Essex University. The widow of the Samora Machel is still adamant that she will not marry the South African president.

Wed 9

There was a low key arrival at London's Dorchester hotel for Mr Mandela and his 'official companion,' G Machel. Soon after arriving the president said he was "not of sufficient status" to answer questions on the possibility of the couple marrying.

Thurs 10

A report by the human rights group, the National Society of Human Rights, in Namibia has accused the security forces for being responsible for the disappearances of 1,768 Angolans from across the countries northern border.

Those missing were taken from Cuando Cuambo province, nominally under the control of Unita the enemy of the MPLA government, who are their allies of the Namibian regime.

Justifying the killings, which were sparked off by the 1994 rape and killing of 3 Namibian women President Nujama described the incident as a “well planned and executed attack by Unita.”

Fri 11

Arriving at the University of Essex Graca Machel (qv 9/7) was very much her own person. Accompanied by the South African president, who commented “It’s her day today. She’s the boss.” The purpose of the visit was for the former Education Minister of Mozambique to receive academic recognition of her work for the United Nations - to study the effect of war on children.

Later she accompanied Mr Mandela as he had a one hour meeting with Tony Blair, the British prime minister.

Sat 12

Exiled returnee K Toolis, a former reporter on the Namibian newspaper, notes that the South Africans have departed; but the country remains strangely familiar.

The Truth Commission has been refused permission to hold hearings inside the country, for fear of bringing to light the terrorist crimes of members the current Swapo government, when fighting for an independence from the Pretoria regime.

These crimes, purging members of the non Ovambo ethnic grouping, were first revealed in 1985, by parents of the ‘disappeared’ who were thought to number between 800 to 2,500 spread throughout camps in Sweden, the USA and Britain.

‘Notables of the present government who would be expected to account for their actions, if the Commission had been granted access, would be S Hawala the head of the Namibian Armed Forces , H Hamutenya the Trade Minister and Foreign Minister, T B Guirab. Namibian president S Nujama would also be asked for an account of his actions.

Sun 13

Leader Comment ”The jubilation over the Cities agreement (qv)] should be tempered with concern with what would happen to elephant herds throughout Africa... It would be good if elephant herds increased because of communities seeing a commercial value in encouraging of the breeding of the animals - **The Sowetan** - **quoted Time 30/6** -

Fri 18

Lawyers acting for Winnie Mandela have exchanged letters with the Truth Commission over their insistence that she must appear before them to give an account

of her actions at the time of the disappearance, and subsequent death, of Stompie Moketsie (qv) Others in the Soweto home of Winnie Mandela, O Falatie and J Richardson, have both served time in prison in connection with their actions over this incident.

Actions of a former ANC official, by 'loosing' the documents to prevent J Richardson, the former coach of the Winnie Mandela Football Club from making an application to the Truth Commission, was only discovered by accident when commission members came to his prison cell.

At the time of Winnie 's testimony other witnesses will be called, chief among them will be the 'missing witness' at the 1991 trial - K Cobekhula.

Her legal representatives make the point that the commission has taken no action to force the former prime minister, P W Botha to testify before them.

Wed 23

An increase in violent crime has led to calls for the death penalty to be reintroduced in South Africa, where it was abolished in 1989 provides the opportunity for small time street trading in pro - death sentence car stickers, priced at R3. *authors note* and ruled illegal by the constitutional court in 1995 (qv 7/6) - GDN page 10 C7

Max, the gorilla shot by a fleeing robbery suspect last week, returned to his enclosure at Johannesburg Zoo yesterday. Warden P Cronje said Max, aged 27 was healing well. AP

Thurs 24

A High Court action, brought by Earl Spencer (qv 17/3) , against the Guardian newspaper has been won by the Earl. The court has ruled that in its reporting of a case involving the brother of Diane, Princess of Wales and a freelance journalist it did not substantiate the papers claim that Earl Spencer's treatment of the journalist was akin to the treatment metered out to the black population during the apartheid years.

The Guardian now accepts that the legal action was only to protect the privacy of his family, and not to embarrass him over his relationship with a new girlfriend S Ekina.

The former leader of the Transkei, Bantu Holomasia, who resigned in 1996 (qv 10/12), over allegations of corruption who then went on to form the National Consultative Forum is to form an alliance with the New Movement Process, which is run by the former National Party member Roelf Meyer, who resigned from parliament (qv 19/5), over a dispute with de Klerk over the future direction of the party. The two political misfits will be joined by by a former member of the ANC S Ncambinde, who was expelled from the party over allegations that he had worked for the security forces during 'the struggle.'

With this alliance recently formed bi elections had to be held, in the Midlands region of KwaZulu Natal, due to the resignation of five supporters of S Ncambide who were

all councillors. subsequent events led the police to believe that the feud between the ANC and Inkatha had surfaced again. On the night of 22/7, in the town of Richmond, five men, including two newly elected councillors, were gunned down.

Speaking on behalf of the National Consultative Forum, Mr Holmasia said that it was too early to claim that the killings were political. He added, if those responsible were members of either the NMP or NCF they would not be welcome in the alliance.

The Security Council, of the United Nations, has issued a highly critical report of Unita's readiness to end any threat to return to civil war in Angola. The report made clear that there is a fear that the country may go the way of Cambodia, if no action is taken to prevent this.

In a effort to control the actions of the former rebels sanctions have been tightened. Despite an arms and fuel embargo the threat of freezing the movements foreign bank accounts is in prospect.

Fri 25

A ruling by the House of Lords, in London, could have wide implications for the foreign employees working for a London registered company. The case brought by a former employee of RTZ., the Lonhro owned mining company operating in Namibia.

Mining engineer, E Connell who was aged 27, at the time of his spell at the RTZ uranium complex at Rossington in Namibia. is suing the mines owners for negligence after he developed throat cancer while performing repairs to one of two ore crushing machines over a three year period.

The decision to seek permission for the case to be heard in London, rather than in Windhoek, was it was felt that there was not the legal or scientific expertise present that will be needed to achieve justice. There is also the fact that there is no legal aid available to assist claimants.

The firm acting for Mr Connell, Leigh Day and Co, will now investigate the best way to assist any members of Namibia's National Union of Mine workers who feel they have a claim for compensation against the multi national company. to bring them before a London court.

If the experience at Randfontein Gold Mine, 25 miles west of Johannesburg, is indicative of the situation throughout the industry then the country's economy will suffer.

In recent weeks 3,600 employees have been paid off. One employee, D J Ngoveni, an underground worker from Mozambique, with 25 years service at the face, will receive only \$2,800 / R12,800 as a final payment to take home to his wife and 5 children in Maputo.

This is still a dangerous occupation; in the last week 15 miners have been killed in a single accident.

With the world wide production of gold falling over the last 10 years to 2,500 tonnes, production in South Africa has remained fairly static at 5,000 tonnes with the number of employees falling to 350,000. In a effort to seek job security, for those jobs that remain, the NUN has agreed with a management proposal to link wage increase to an increase in production. - **The Economist 26/7** -

Sat 26

Denel, born out of Armscours, the state armaments manufacturer, has gone to law to prevent further disclosures over controversial arms deal.

The newspapers, The Star, the Weekly Mail and Guardian and the Sunday Independent had all revealed details of the companies plan to sell G6 howitzers, capable of firing nuclear shells, worth £1 billion to Saudi Arabia.

This is the second time that South Africa and the company, has been in the spotlight over it's foreign policy; sales (qv 15/1) to countries that the USA consider being unfriendly.

Media lawyers are confident that the 'gagging order' imposed on the 3 newspapers, which prevents any further disclosures, will be overturned at a subsequent appeal; on the grounds of a gross violation of the new constitution.

Mon 28

With the assurance that the Truth Commission is to begin hearings, within four weeks, into the role of the media during the struggles the English language newspapers have started to defend themselves against charges of colluding with the white regime.

These accusations have been brought by black employees who were subject to 'petty apartheid' even in the offices newspapers whose supposed outlook was an anti authoritarian outlook.

Tues 29

State of the Arts scene, three years after independence, a personal view. **J Cartwright**

Thurs 31

Honouring Steve Biko (qv), the founder of the Black Consciousness Movement and subject of the film Cry Freedom.

A bronze statue is to be unveiled, by President Mandela on 12/9, the 20th anniversary of his death in police custody. Also a bridge in East London will be renamed in his honour. The statue has been paid for with contributions from the three 'principals' of the film - a highly critical epic of the former regime.

AUGUST 1997

Fri 1

Secure in the knowledge that he is the 'president in waiting,' deputy president Thabo Mbeki (qv 5/4) has had his elevation assured during the recent Mandela visit to London; "the real ruler of South Africa, the de facto ruler, is Thabo Mbeki ... I am shifting everything to him" said Mr Mandela.

Other would be challengers have been 're deployed or resigned from the political field. The Gauteng premier, P Lekota, victim of a witch hunt in 1996 (qv 27/12), has been appointed head of the new national upper house. With Cyril Ramaphosa (qv) retired from politics and soon to be followed by Tony Sexwale into the commercial world the way ahead is clear for the first deputy president - **Economist** -

As promised in 1996 (qv 22/7) Michael Jackson will perform 3 concerts in the country in 10/97. Such is the demand for tickets, for this extended part of his HiStory World Tour, that queues have been forming outside ticket office venues in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban 36 hours before sales commence. - **YEP People page 5**

Sun 3

Orania, home to the most idealistic of the Afrikaner population; conceived in 1992 (qv 17/12), and given fresh impetus in 1996 (qv 2/6) now has a population of about 600. Among prominent members of the community is Betty Verwoed, the widow of a former prime minister, who was assassinated about 30 years ago.

With a national population of about 2.6m, the Afrikaner seems reluctant to take up residence on the 3,000 hectares of land purchased from the water board, which is situated 90 kilometres from Cape Town, on the edge of the desert, in Cape province.

With this level of land occupation, so low, the government is happy to see the dream of a Volkstad die a natural death.

With still approximately 6,000 cases for amnesty to consider before it the Truth Commission is near to begin hearings into a plea for amnesty from the convicted killers of Chris Haini who was assassinated in 1993 (qv 11/4). According to C Carolus, deputy president of the ANC, this is a test case for the commissions credibility.

Detailing the life and times of the relatives of all those involved, directly or in – directly, to the massacre of 11 'supposed terrorists' at the Trust House farm settlement, Natal, in 1988. The 11 were in mourners at a funeral.

Telling their feelings and experiences, are former police officer Captain B Mitchell , convicted of the killings, amnesty granted (qv 11/12), his wife Karen. Also

unburdening their thoughts are some of the survivors of the security force raid, in which they tell of Mitchell's tearful attempt at reconciliation; some believed. Also his promise to educate orphaned children and support widows, who were left without family support and now have to survive on R47 a month government handout.

SA Tape - Special (8) - Omnibus BBC1 South African born novelist J Cartwright has spent 3 years looking at the hopes and expectations of his countries leading artists. How have the arts fared in the new climate?

Film; Bophal BBC1 directed by M Fremam 1993, fact based drama, conflict faced by a policeman father when his son joins the anti - apartheid activists.

Wed 6

The production rate of the clockwork radio, see SA Tape 55, has reached 20,000 units per month. The inventor, Trevor Baliss, is now in talks with a computer manufacturer Apple to develop a clockwork version.

Rather than submit to questioning by the Truth Commission the Dutch Reform Church; 'the National Party at prayer' has produced its own report, by synod member F Guam. The outcome of the 82 page report is that the church apologises for its stance and confesses "it was concerned about Afrikaner survival, and had not always shown regard for the miserable existence of other people."

The Truth Commission has granted Captain D Coetzee (qv), a member of the Civil Cooperation Bureau, an amnesty for his crimes committed against the opponents of apartheid.

Fri 8

In an attempt to reclaim unpaid rates councils in the Gauteng province have begun disconnecting electricity supplies to home where the occupiers have not paid. their bills. To prevent illegal re - connection Telekom employees have also removed the cable by angry township residents.

The 52 local authorities are aiming to recover £360m / R2.7bn which has been unpaid since 1994. The moneys collected would be used to improve the infrastructure of the poorer areas in the townships around Johannesburg. Authorities say that about 2,000 homes are being disconnected every day.

Residents, opposed to this radical action have, since this policy was introduced in 2/97, have caused the death of 4 people, stoned local councillors and fire bombed some homes.

The regions premier, Tony Sexwale, already marginalised from contesting for the role of national president by Thabo Mbeki (qv 1/8) has confirmed that he will leave the world of politics in 1999 for a life in commerce.

Sat 9

The talks aimed at ending the long running dispute between the ANC and Inkatha, in 1996 (qv 30/9), have been derailed as the Inkatha delegation has withdrawn its co - operation.

The cause of the breakdown, according to B Ngubane the chairman, is the hostility faced by the party from the Truth Commission's investigators. They accuse the movements leader, Chief Buthelezie, of having knowledge of killings carried out by Inkatha aligned 'hit squads'.

Talks will resume when Nelson Mandela shows a 'commitment to peace and reconciliation,' said the chairman.

Sun 10

Mark Thatcher, ever ready to protect his privacy (qv), has taken to employing security guards at his home in Cape Towns exclusive suburb of Constantine. After a raid by the police it was discovered that the son of the former British prime minister was employing police reservists to act as security guards.

The role of the police reservist is to act as unpaid back up to the regular force. During the raid a member of the reserve force was wearing his police insignia and carrying a police radio. The monitoring of police radio bands is an offence. Senior Superintendent J Starrenburg, of the South African Police Service indicated that any breach of police regulations will be taken seriously.

Tues 12

Leading politicians and members of the Communist Party are backing the case for rejecting the amnesty plea of the killers of C Hani that they are making to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

With the aid of a leading barrister, G Bizos, Limpho Hani and her two children are making the case that the assassin of her husband, J Walus (qv) and the right wing politician C D Lewis should serve the full term of imprisonment sanctioned by the court.

National Coalition Forum (qv 24/7) detailing the killings, and concern of a still active 'third force.'

Things learned while overseas

Pretoria Town hall, has for the last 10 days, been the venue for arguments for and against granting amnesty to those associated with the death of Chris Hennie in 1993. Convicted of killing the former leader of the South African Communist Party, J Walus (qv 12/8) along with the right wing politician C D Lewis are making representations to the Truth Commission

Limpho Hani, the widow of the left wing activist, who is now a prospective candidate for the ruling ANC, and his two children sit impassively as her lawyer, G Bizot, argues the case that amnesty must be refused and that the two should remain in jail, as the trial verdict indicated.

Outside the court building there are mixed feelings over the outcome. Red shirted supporters of the Communist Party hold placards that indicate a refusal of amnesty. Others in the crowd warn that if the two are freed they should be on the next plane out of the country if they do not want to become victims of a revenge killing.

The Washington Post says that the Clinton administration is to sell 6 C130 cargo planes to the Angolan government, a calculated snub to its former protégé, Unita. This move is in addition to supporting a new wave of sanctions against the former rebels.

These sanctions, approved by the United Nations, will see the Unita office in Washington shut down and entry visas refused to the movements members. These sanctions have been agreed upon because of the continued fighting in the north east of the country. Also, in recent weeks, 30,000 former guerrillas have fled from the UN supervised assembly points.

Pretoria is hoping for a multi million pound arms contract from Kuwait. The Gulf State is in the market for artillery. South Africa, in competition with the United States, Canada and China, is hoping to provide its G6 cannon.

The time is imminent when K Cebekhula (qv 29/6) is about to return from his self imposed exile, in London, to give evidence about the disappearance of S Moketsie (qv).

The Truth Commission has now issued a subpoena to Winnie Mandela to appear before them to tell all she knows about the former member of the WMFC. In response a spokesman has indicated that the former wife of the ANC leader, had nothing to hide and a full response could be given in open court and the world's media.

Under pressure from the United Nations and the international community the role of Nelson Mandela the 'regional peace facilitator,' gathers momentum.

Despite playing host to President Kabila of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who is on a state visit - he will act as the link between the two sides that are at war in the Sudan and East Timor.

President Kabila is to ask for assistance in organising a full shakedown of the DRC's infra - structure.

When K Cebekula gives evidence before the Truth Commission (qv 25/8) he will enter the Witness Protection Scheme as there has been threats made against his life.

Delayed is the role of Mandela as regional facilitator (qv), in respect of the conflict in the Sudan. Colonel J Garong, the leader of the rebel SPLA, has delayed his visit to Pretoria by 48 hours, blaming transport problems.

The former president F W de Klerk has announced his resignation as leader of the National Party and as a member of parliament, with effect from 9/9. He will spend his time writing his memoirs, to "put the recent events of our recent history" in "their correct perspective." - **Daily Nation, Kenya** -

Cartoon The value of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission laid bare – **Daily Nation**

Thurs 28

Pik Botha, South Africa's former foreign minister, said yesterday that he may conditionally accept nomination for the National Party leadership to be vacated by F W de Klerk on 9/9.

Mr Botha said he had been asked by party members to stand for the leadership and had agreed to do so on the condition that the party reclaimed its position in President Nelson Mandela's government of national unity.

"Individual members of the National Party have asked me to take over the leadership and I will take up the post if they agree that we approach the government to re-enter the government of national unity", he said. - **Reuters** -

Fri 29

The United Nations security council has approved further measures against the former rebels in Angola (qv), recommended by the members of the general assembly. They have also sanctioned, because of the worsening security situation, a slowing down in the withdrawal in the peacekeeping force. The remaining 2,650 strong force will not be reduced until at least 11/97

Mr H Kriel, the premier in the Western Cape, has ruled himself out as a contender in the forthcoming battle to replace de Klerk (qv) as leader of the National Party. In reality, and in his own words "my political career from the same era as Mr de Klerk. It would therefore not be in the interest of the National Party if I was elected leader."

Another candidate, for the position, M van Schalwyk (37) the party's executive director had been a clear favourite to replace de Klerk until it became known that he had been a paid agent of military intelligence during 'the struggle'.

Whilst a student, at Rand Afrikaans University, as well as being president of the national student organisation, he ran a front organisation, 'Youth Power,' which supplied information to the security forces.

Pik Botha (qv28/8) has indicated that his role, if he gains the position of National Party leader, as a caretaker leader until the party is led by a black politician. He did not say who this person was, although there was such a candidate who was known to him. Some people see the former foreign minister's chances of succession slight as his reputation as a heavy drinker is likely to count against him.

SEPTEMBER 1997

Thurs 4

Leader Comment, **Mandela 's Olympian Task** with Cape Town's bid as the site for the 2004 Olympic Games, South Africa is asking the world to 'take Africa seriously.' Doubts, expressed earlier, about the activities of the criminal elements have now been addressed - in the interests of the 'mother city' activities will be suspended, in the name of 'patriotism'. Also sorted has been the accusation that the bid is an extension of the 'old apartheid ways.'

With the now deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, likely to be the nations president at the start of the Cape Town games it would be a new birth for his new government - giving a new boost to foreign investment and new economic success - now on the decline.

Fri 5

The testimony of Winnie Mandela before the Truth Commission, set for 25/9, will be much anticipated with the knowledge that a statement from K Cebekhula (qv) has been made public.

The statement says that he was ordered to point out the home of local doctor, Dr Asvat. For this information he was paid £2,600 / R20,000. The assassins of the Soweto doctor, who treated S Moketsie (qv) and urged his hospitalisation, were jailed for life after their trial in 1989, and are now applying for amnesty before the Truth Commission

Released has been the report by the Crisis Committee, which was instigated by the top echelons of the ANC, to investigate all the ramifications that were affecting Winnie Mandela and her Football Club, during this period of high political intrigue.

Leader Comment, **Winnie Faces Accusers** if South Africa is to become recognised as a member of the 'OK' society, now is the time to begin the process of 'tell all.' These revelations should start with Winnie Mandela and her Football Club. Time will tell whether the ANC wishes to reveal anything further of their actions in their detention camps in Angola, during 'the struggle'.

The 'time bomb' of the links between W Mandela, S Moketsi and her Football Club need to be told. With 'telling all' to the Truth Commission her actions will go some way towards explaining the "tragedies that have to be investigated."

Sat 6

Despite the presence of president Nelson Mandela the International Olympic Committee, meeting in Switzerland, voted against Cape Town, one of the favourites, as the host city for the 2004 Games.

Voting patterns; In the first round, there was a tied vote with Buenos Aires with 16 votes each. In a run off won Cape Town triumphed 62 : 44. In the second round the South African challenger defeated Stockholm, who only managing 19 votes. The third round saw Cape Town's defeat with only 20 nominations. This left a forth round where Athens polled 52 to Rome's 35.

The presence of the South African president, a frail looking 79, had, in his own words, "given a remarkable youthfulness to my spirit." Support from the 107 delegates gathered was not altogether due to brilliance of the cities aspirations, but more to do with the movements links with the anti apartheid campaign in the sporting world. This was started when the International Olympic Committee expelled Pretoria in 1970.

Sun 7

Truck drivers along the N2 and N3, in KwaZulu Natal, from the port of Durban are being blamed for the noticeable increase in the number of Aids cases (qv 4/7). Selling sex, with a condom R30 /£4, and without R60 / £8 is an added attraction to at overnight stopovers priced at R10 /£1.30.

In an effect to combat what the government calls 'the new struggle' doctors from the Medical Researched Council, based in Durban, are testing a vaginal cream on 150 roadside workers. The cream containing Nonoxynol 9 may protect the women from the HIV infection. Indications are that 50% of prostitutes are so infected.

The indication of the hold that HIV infection has over the country is the prevalence in the rural areas. Researcher M Lune puts forward the hypothesis that truckers and the migrant worker policy of the previous regime bear heavy responsibility for the spread of sexually transmitted diseases that can lead to HIV infection.

Although not statistically proved the policy of removing men from the rural scene, housing them in single sex hostels with free access to alcohol and commercial sex workers is an open invitation for infection.

To stem this infection it is suggested that the government develop the rural based economy and thus nullifying the need to provide men with their 'home comforts'.

Mon 8

Angola's Unita movement will fulfil the terms of the Angolan peace agreement and will not go back to war, its leader J Savimbi was quoted as saying in an interview published on Saturday by the Portuguese news agency Lusa - **Reuters** -

Wed 10

Allegations have been made that link the disappearance of K Cebekhulu (qv) and the then still imprisoned leader of the ANC. In a new book, 'Kazims Journey,' by Fred Bridgland, a former media correspondent in the country, the author claims that Nelson Mandela asked the then president of Zambia, K Kaunda, to keep Cebekhulu in 'a safe

haven'. The papers came to light in 1991 when an aid to new Zambian president was searching in the archive.

As announce F W de Klerk (qv 27/8) has left the political scene. His replacement as leader of the National; Party is M Schalkwyk. The 105 National Party members gave the former intelligence officer their overwhelming support, with 75 votes.

Mr de Klerks final speech to parliament was greeted by an ovation from the assembled National Party members. In his speech he took credit for the political reforms and for the release of Nelson Mandela, etc.

Replying for the government the sports minister Steve Tshwete said that this brief period of history, although it dazzled the world, he had not been able to keep his reform measures on track, he had been lenient in punishing political violence and unduly influenced by the 'old guard,' who forced the Party out of the government of national unity.

When the new National Party rose to give his first speech as leader he was greeted from the government benches with hisses of CCB, CCB; an allusion to his time spent with the 'hit squads' of the 1980's.

Noted by the diarist a missed BBC television programme, Inside Story, concerning Winnie Mandela's involvement with K Cebekhulu (qv).

Thurs 11

During day long testimony before a sitting of the Truth Commission, in the town hall of Port Elizabeth, former policeman H Snyman has continued his evidence into the circumstances into the death of Steve Biko (qv 28/1). In his submission before the commission he maintains that the death of the former leader of the Black Consciousness Movement was an accident; at no time was there any intention to kill him.

Emerging in London, after six years in hiding, K Cebekhulu has urged that Winnie Mandela should face retrial over the circumstances surrounding the death of S Moketsi. So keen is the Truth Commission to hear his evidence it is to consider taking his evidence outside South Africa; to lessen any threat to his life.

Fri 12

Dialogue, Room 615 Port Elizabeth Town Hall, during the Truth Commission hearings into amnesty plea by H Snyman and others who have been convicted and jailed over the death of Steve Biko the founder of the Black Consciousness Movement.

In acting as the main plaintiff, H Snyman, is having to face fierce questioning from the Biko's family lawyer, G Bizos, and the former police interrogator is not up to the challenge.

Implicated in the detention of K Cebekhulu Nelson Mandela (qv 10/9) will give no reaction until he has finished reading the book 'Katziers Journey' by F Bridgland.

Sat 12

In what Nflomo Biko, the widow of the founder of the Black Consciousness Movement, described as " a proud and exiting day," the South African president unveiled a life sized statue of her husband. The life sized statue will stand in the centre of Port Elizabeth.

In an other remembrance of the life of an anti apartheid campaigner, a street in the Namibian capital, Windhoek, has been renamed after Anton Lubowski who was one of few white members of Swapo.

Leader Comment, Van Schalkwk is seen as De Klerk's chosen heir and almost contradictorily, believes he represents a different generation, one with a new vision for both the party and the country. He needs to spell that out unequivocally. We must warn Van Schalkwk that racism is still a bogey that will continue to haunt the National Party - **The Star** -

The tragedy of the Truth Commission is that all good South Africans were secretly working against the system says P D Uys, the noted comedian and broadcaster.

Mon 15

With the backing of the ANC's Women's League Winnie Mandela is to stand for the post of deputy president of the Congress at the annul conference, during 12/97. The post is expected to fall vacant as Thabo Mbeki, it is assumed will be voted in as ANC president.

With strong backing throughout the movement because of the governments slow progress on fulfilling election promise, it is conceivable that Mrs Mandela could become South Africa's deputy president after the next general election.

Wed 17

The Truth Commission has begun a series of hearings into the role of the media during 'the struggle', In the first detailed eye witness evidence a self confessed police spy told what he knew. J Horak, who worked for the police for 27 years while working on a series of English language newspapers including the Rand Daily Mail and had some tales to tell.

Most illuminating was the admission that throughout the media world many insiders were recruited by the intelligence services to pass on information. This was because to have a trained operator working under cover was very expensive.

Leaving the police service in 1990, after being accused of 'going soft' on the press he was targeted by his former colleges - the CCB (qv) put a contract out on him, which forced him to leave the country, even then there was an attempt on his life. Mr Horak began working for the present government after the election - founding the National

Intelligence Agency, but had to turn down an overseas diplomatic post down because of his failing health.

Fri 19

Confidence in the government, already shaken by the prospect of electing a controversial new ANC deputy president in Winnie Mandela (qv 15/9) the countries leading economic journal the Financial Mail says that she was a clear front runner in the race and quotas senior ANC officers saying she can "win hands down." An internal row has broken out between officials and members of the cabinet.

The Housing Minister, S M Mahhanyele, has been accused by the auditor general, H Kleuver, of awarding new building contracts to friends and relatives in the province of Mpumalanga. The president has been advised to set up a commission of inquiry into the allegations. These are dismissed by her cabinet colleges as a political vendetta against the ANC, brought on by the media and the auditor general.

Sun 21

Jerry Richardson who is serving a long prison sentence for murder and now in the process of applying for amnesty before the Truth Commission has, during a television interview, implicated Winnie Mandela in the murder of a Soweto resident.

A friend of Zindi Mandela, K Zwanne, 23, was according to the one time manager of the Winnie Mandela Football Club stabbed to death on the orders of the former wife of the president as she was a rival for the love of a man she was infatuated with; a revolutionary and member of the WMFC named as Shakes.

Mon 22

With Winnie Mandela 's appearance before the Truth Commission due 25/9 the reliability of C Kebekhulu as a witness of the events under investigation have been called into question. This doubt is also felt about some of the officials and police that were, and still are, investigating allegations surrounding the WMFC.

The author F Bridgland, a former Daily Telegraph correspondent, of Katzi's Journey, the story of K Cebekhulu's 'flight ' to Zambia, is as much in awe of Baroness Nicholson as she is of the former ANC activist. Writing in the forward to the book the former Conservative MP writes that it was her former friendship with the F Chiluba that had Cebekhulu released from a Zambian jail.

Winnie Mandela's appearance before the Truth Commission is her make or break stance in the field go South African politics. Her past misdeeds; the murders, shady deals and political intrigues will count against her. On the darker side, in respect of the whole political system, she will face little censure. This would not bode well for the future of a country so recently admitted to the democratic free world.

Tues 23

Winnie M Mandela is seeking postponement of her questioning by South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation commission, a commission spokesman said yesterday. He

said her application would be heard in Johannesburg on 25/9, the day she was due to answering questions. - **Reuters** -

Letter **F Bridgland, 59 Broughton Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3RJ**, The author of the controversial book, full title Katzier's Journey: Beneath the surface of South Africa's Shame, is well aware of the fallibility of the evidence provided by Cebekuhulu. He only emphasises that if it was not so crucial at the relevant time why was he spirited out of the country and kept under detention in Zambia?

Wed 24

Despite winning a power struggle to continue as president of the Transvaal Rugby Union with B van Rooyen (qv 20/6) the doyen of South African rugby L Luyt (qv) now faces a much stiffer challenge to his authority.

In a challenge to the almost autocratic role of the Sarfu president a judicial commission has been set up. This will be fronted by Mr Justice J Browde will concentrate on allegations of profiteering and nepotism

The review, ordered by Steve Tswete, is the culmination of a long running dispute between Gauteng's Rugby Union president and the Sports Minister over the running of the Afrikaners favourite sport.

Fri 26

Questions about the death of K Mosou, 23, whose body was spotted by the roadside in the 18th of December 1988, and subsequently identified in 1995 at the time of the re opening of the old inquiry into the WMFC, will form a new strand to the questioning of Winnie M Mandela, at a hearing before the Truth Commission.

The 'in camera' hearing, having been denied a postponement (qv 23/9), will also be detailing her associations with the already known cases of S Moketsie and Dr Aswat as well as this young women from the Transkei, who became a house guest; member of the famous Football Club, in the Soweto home of Mrs Mandela.

Her death has been blamed on the assumption that she was a police informer, along with two other youths, L Sono and S Tshabalala, who are missing presumed dead. All three killings have been admitted by J Richardson (qv), who himself was a police informer. These two were sheltering at his Soweto home where two ANC operatives were lured into a trap, for which the 'coach' of the WMFC was paid £1,400 / R10,000 by one of the policemen who attempted to capture them. One was unfortunately killed; Richardson's handler. Some of the reward was used to provide facilities for the Club.

Sat 27

Appearing 'in camera' before the Truth Commission Winnie Mandela demanded the right to defend herself against the 18 criminal charges that are outstanding against her, in open session, to decide the issue "once and for all."

Despite granting the request, the full hearing will begin on 24/11, there was still a preliminary hearing. These shortened session, at an office in the centre of

Johannesburg, was only one hour in duration. Much of the time was spent arguing the pros and cons of the evidence to be called and the so called breaches of Mrs Mandela's constitutional rights.

OCTOBER 1997

Wed 1

South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission said yesterday that it had ordered former president P W Botha to testify on his government's strategy to quell black resistance during apartheid.

"The commission has subpoenaed the former state president P W Botha to give evidence at its forthcoming hearings on the roles played by armed forces and the state security council during the apartheid era," the commission chairman, Bishop Desmond Tutu, said in a statement. - *Reuters* -

Fri 3

Born out of the National Consultative Forum (qv 24/7), on 27/9, was the United Democratic Movement; a new political party. The broad aim of the UDM is to challenge the de facto one party rule of the ANC and to encourage the more liberal whites to turn away from voting along racial lines.

To challenge the establishment's hold on power the United Democratic Party will campaign for the re introduction of the death penalty, which was ruled illegal in 1995 (qv 7/6). It will also fight for what is termed a "national moral regeneration" on issues such as abortion.

The results of a recent Opinion Poll show that out of the black population, which makes up 76% of the whole population 72% support the ANC, 62% of the whites - 13% of the population) back one of the 3 traditionally white parties. Just 3% of whites support the ANC. - *The Economist* -

Wed 8

A Truth Commission hearing in Cape Town, scene of a 1993 PAC attack on a predominately white congregation (qv 26/7) in which 11 people died, was told by a former member of the Anzianian Peoples Liberation Army, the military wing of the PAC, that the attack was justified.

Brigadier D Mofeking, now a member of the South African Defence Force, told the hearing that this attack, and others like it, were justified as whites were legitimate targets. The PAC neither regretted or apologised for the attack on the congregation of St James Church.

The evidence was given to the commission during a series of hearings at which it is hoped a clearer picture of atrocities by armed forces on all sides of the conflict.

Fri 10

Further sittings of the Truth Commission (qv 8/10) have looked into the whites understanding for the need for excessive violence. At the Cape Town hearings evidence was supplied by former police commissioner, J van de Merwe (qv) as to why these deaths occurred.

His interpretation was that the orders for the 'elimination' and to 'neutralise' of suspects, that were written from the state security council were interpreted wrongly by those that had to carry out the orders. The death of suspects occurred when police officers lives were threatened

Also giving evidence was Major Craig Williamson (qv), a police spy during the '70s and '80s. Whilst denying earlier evidence from Major de Koch (qv) that he was involved in the murder of Olaf Palme his evidence did state that the 11th commandment for an operative was .."thou shalt not get found out."

Severe campaigns against the black liberation movements, especially the ANC, were carried out because they were backed by the Communist Party. These actions were also justified by the whites because they were seen to be under foreign control.

Sat 11

Mozambique, five years hence from the end of a devastating civil war, is much beholden to the help of overseas organisations to develop a viable economy. In effect this means that a lot of the economy is run by foreigners; in what is in reality a training role for their Mozambican colleges.

One example of this is the Customs and Excise service. This is being rebuilt by C Outhwaite from Britain. who has been hired by the government to train others in the role of collecting tax revenue, which will be used to build a strong economy.

Other countries are sending people to perform similar tasks, the Dutch are overhauling the legal system, others are running health and education projects. Foreign aid equals 60% of Mozambique's budget. There are 160 foreign aid agencies working in the country. More than 900 companies are in private hands as well as some that are owned by overseas companies. One such is the American company, the Enron Corporation, which is operating the Pande gas field.

These projects are all well and good, until the money runs out, to feel any long term benefit the Prime Minister, Mr Mocumbi, and the man who will have the responsibility to finance these improvements - Finance Minister T Salomao - will need to exploit the potential of isolated northern provinces - improving the roads and communications systems is a priority and the rural population has to be lifted out of subsistence farming. - **The Economist** -

Sun 12

Agriculturists are investing R15m / £2m in a factory that will nurture the growth of the type of cactus from which the drink Tequila is produced. The Mexican trade representative in South Africa says to name it Tequila would be illegal under the rules of the World Trade Association. In response the company spokesman says that the product is superior to the Mexican brand as it has a higher alcohol and sugar level.

The deputy defence minister, Ronnie Karalis, has been unwittingly dragged into the aftermath of a spy scandal involving the United States and East Germany, at the height of the Cold War.

Tues 14

Despite granting an 'open hearing' to defend herself against a number of allegations Winnie Mandela (qv 26/9) appeared at a second 'in camera' hearing before the Truth Commission. Most of the time was spent on identifying witnesses that she said would provide credible evidence in her favour. It has emerged that at the last hearing that four people were named who were likely to be subpoenaed to appear before the Truth Commission.

Wed 15

Former foreign minister, Pik Botha, appearing before the Truth Commission has given the overview of the workings and the responsibilities of the State Security Council, at a hearing in central Johannesburg.

The wording used in security council documents - including 'eliminate', 'destroy' or 'neutralise' had different meanings to the interpretation used by the armed forces when representatives appeared before the truth commission (qv 8/10). The interpretation intended, by the Security Council, would only result in the deaths of alleged terrorists when the security forces carried out cross border raids into neighbouring countries. In the domestic context the words could refer only to detention without trial

The increase of 53% and 4 times the national murder rate, of farmers has led to a delegation of leaders of the South African Agricultural Union to seek reassurance from President Mandela that steps will be taken to curb this phenomenon. The president was able to pacify the delegation by saying the government would mount an investigation as to whether the deaths were part of a countrywide campaign to destabilise it.

Tues 16

Former police minister, A Vlok, appearing before the Truth Commission to enhance its knowledge of the State Security Council's work and defend its actions against claims of human rights abuses, and police interpretation of its orders.

Commenting on the number of police officers applying for amnesty, 150, who must believed they had committed crimes the former police minister said that this number was small in comparison to the total number of police officers; 100,000.-

Also testifying was the former deputy minister, L Wessels, who said that he had no political defence because he “did not want to know.” He had “his suspicions,” but ever since the days of Steve Biko and the outbreaks of hostel violence, in the mid 1980’s he had not enquired to closely into National Party policy.

There had been no joint State Security Council presentation to the Truth Commission because of clashes between former presidents Botha and de Klerk.

Fri 17

After admitting forging the name Ronnie Karalis (qv 12/10) in an attempt to trap three would be spies in the USA the FBI has apologised to the deputy defence minister and to the Pretoria government for “any embarrassment it might have caused.”

Letter **A P Pitel, London NW3**, a former South African police officer, on how police standing orders changed after the imposition of the state of emergency in 6/85. He gives the ‘rank and file’ understanding of those who had to carry out the instructions of the state security council (qv 16/10).

Mon 20

Winnie Mandela has backed the call for the reintroduction of the death penalty (qv 23/7) with a call for a referendum on the issue. This call comes at a time when her challenge for the position of deputy president of the ANC is made all that more difficult as there has been moves by her rivals to meet her challenge. One of her rivals, M Phosa, has withdrawn from the contest and urged his supporters to back a second contestant, Jacob Zuma for the vacant position.

A proposed trip to Libya by President Mandela has angered the American government. In the eyes of Mr Mandela remarks from a Washington spokesman are an indication of how black governments are seen by the white international company.

Wed 22

En route to the Commonwealth Conference in the Scottish capital President Mandela will make a stopover in Libya, to continue a friendship with the president. Evidence is also emerging that the death of Samora Machel, the first leader of an independent Mozambique, was not an accident.

The Attorney General of the Transvaal has come across ‘new evidence’ that contradicts the 1997 official report into the death (qv 10/7). According to the findings of the Attorney General the death was the work of a covert South African unit if the military, Stat Com, who specialised in psychological operations.

It is now rumoured that the president survived the original plane crash only to die from poison, administered by an unnamed doctor, who later died in an unexplained car crash.

Thurs 23

A co accused of Dr A Boesak, who was ordered to stand trial 1996 (qv 14/12) has appeared in court and is expected to be sentenced soon. Mr F Steenkamp, a former bookkeeper for the now defunct Foundation for Peace and Justice appeared before the Cape Town High Court said that he was only following the example of his boss, who he called 'his idol', in spending moneys that had been donated for the black victims of apartheid.

Mon 27

South Africa's Truth Commission said yesterday that its chief investigator, D Ntsebeza, was under investigation in connection with an attack on a pub which killed four people during the apartheid era.

Mr Ntsebeza has been accused by one of the gunmen in the 1993 Heldeberg Tavern killings of supplying a get - away car.- **D Beresford GDN page 12 C4 -**

In the same way that the politicians, members of the media and security forces have had to explain their role in 'the struggle' before the Truth Commission, now it is the chance for the legal profession and members of the judiciary to explain their actions over the recent times. Called the 'most important of sessions ' by D Tutu and his fellow commissioners they felt justifiable in their 'distress that not one member of the legal profession or the judiciary had bothered to turn up.

In an opening session, in Johannesburg, the former archbishop said that such disregard for the commission showed that those called to appear had "not changed their mind set that properly belongs to the old dispensation."

So angered by these actions was the wife of a former death row occupant and former MP, R McBride, that she called on the members of the commission to use legal means, a subpoena, to force an explanation of what Paula McBride called a bigger abuser of power than all the state assassins in shoring up the system.

A decision is expected later, from the commissioners, on any such action.

Thurs 30

At a meeting in the Western Cape, the only province ruled by the National Party, the ANC has nominated six all African candidates to challenge for the role of Congress leader, after the resignation of Nelson Mandela, in 12/97.

The choice is only a reiteration of the policy advocated by Thabo Mbeki; one that will favour the disadvantaged and not the needy.

NOVEMBER 1997

Sat 1

Following the death, in 1996, of King Moshoeshoe the Third on 16/1 his son Letsie has been crowned monarch of this mountainous kingdom which is entirely surrounded by South Africa. In front of a crowd of 15,000 of his loyal subjects and in the presence of Prince Charles along with the regions leaders King Letsie the Third was crowned ruler in a four hour ceremony in the capitals athletics stadium.

Sun 2

Tourists still flock to sample the delights of Cape Town, but there is still a war raging between the local gangs and the vigilantes out to destroy them. The two sides, of this seemingly never ending battle, being fought among the squatter camps on the edge of the ocean side taw nier the drug gangs and the mainly Islamic in outlook - People Against Gangsters and Drugs; Pagad.

The anti drugs group came into prominence in 1996 (qv 8/8) with the killing of R Staggie one of the leaders of the main criminal gangs. The campaigners have now taken to targeting the small time pushers and made mistakes, resulting in the deaths of innocent people, which has led to reprisals.

The police inactivity is blamed on the apartheid era concept of these gangs; providing corrupt police officers and politicians with an 'unofficial income.'

Tues 4

Claims that the chief investigating officer for the Truth Commission (qv 28/10) D Ntsebeza a lawyer who defended political prisoners, was linked to a Pan African Congress car bomb attack on a Cape Town bar in 1993 were unfounded Desmond Tutu told a press conference.

During the press conference it was revealed that Mr Ntsabeza's accuser, B Sibaya, had been 'primed' to make this accusation whilst under torture in 1994, by elements of the 'old order' who were trying to discredit the work of the Truth Commission.

The confession came after it emerged that Mr Sibaya, a township gardener, earning £80 / R480 per month had R500,000 in his bank account which he could not account for.

The Truth Commission had asked that President Mandela set up a high level investigation to determine the facts.

Wed 5

Allegations have been made, in the Cape Town parliament, of the misuse of funds by the African National Congress that have been donated from London. A cross party grouping, including the Pan African Congress and Inkatha, have detailed complaints that £20,000 donated by the London business community and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy has been used by the ANC exclusively.

Seconded from London, two advisers to Britain's deputy prime minister were to work with the Cape Town parliamentarians, to promote Westminster style democracy. Those opposed to foreign funding for internal politics claim that the two, Hardwick and Eldwick, were operating from within the offices of the ANC helping to draft press releases and formulating policy documents.

Judge Richard Goldstone (qv) is to conduct an independent inquiry into the allegations that D Ntsebeza, an official of the Truth Commission, was involved in the 1993 car bomb attack on a tavern in Cape Town. The investigation comes despite a retraction by B Sibaya (qv 4/11).

South Africa's controversial rugby boss, L Luyt, beat off a challenge from an African National Congress MP yesterday for the presidency of the South African Rugby Football Union.

Dr Luyt, whose administration of the game will be subject of a commission of inquiry (qv 24/9), won a landslide victory at the union's annual general meeting in Cape Town. He took 33 votes against seven for Mluleki George, the union's senior vice-president. A second challenger Keith Parkinson, president of the Natal union, also received seven votes - GDN page 14 C7 -

Thurs 6

Officials in Cape Town were left embarrassed yesterday by a council vote denying their most famous resident, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the freedom of the city. The Nobel peace laureate and chairman of the Truth Commission was denied the honour by the failure of the National Party councillors to vote in favour of the motion.

The release of state papers, under the 30 year rule, concerning the case of D Tsfandas (qv), who has been detained for 30 years as a 'guest of the state president' after he assassinated H Verwoed, has thrown some light on his life and questions his motives.

Fri 7

The time of testament of the business community to account for its actions during the apartheid years has begun, with written submissions before the Truth Commission, prior to oral examination at a later date.

The Chamber of Commerce, which could be said to have benefited greatly from the economic reality of the apartheid era, has only entered a submission six and a half

pages long, while H Openheimer of the Anglo American Co-operation is planning his own submission.

Statistical evidence in these 6 pages suggests that the black miners wage has increased 429%, since 1960, but in reality a novice miner in 1973 is worse off in real terms than his forbear in the 19C. There has been no submission from another of the large mining conglomerates, Consolidated Gold Fields South Africa, who during the period in question employed some of the most brutal security forces in the land, which stifled the black miners economic progress

Notable for its submission are the Afrikaner business community; engaged in soul searching. One example is the SALON Insurance Company, one of the largest in the country, who asked for forgiveness for, renting out the building to the police department from which Steve Biko fell to his death.

A damning criticism of South African business, as a whole, has come from C Ball, who as Chief Executive of Barclays Bank in the 1960's was exiled by P W Botha for his forward thinking; "most businesses were bystanders, rather passive rather than innocent".

Britain is one of nine countries who will tender to supply military hardware; corvettes, submarines, helicopters and tanks. The order worth £1.7bn will be placed by the government soon.

Sun 9

The inside story of the failure of Jane Turner, see SA Tape 39, My Beloved Father C4 20/6/93, to find those that were responsible for her fathers death. Dr R Turner was an academic at Durban University, and a contemporary of Steve Biko and an anti apartheid campaigner.

A township dance academy, in Ennerdale township outside Johannesburg and the associated squatter camp Orange which is run by P Palman, is turning the world of this formerly 'all white' pastime on its head. With additional teaching from qualified ballroom dancing teacher, P Kgole, blacks and coloureds, as young as 10, are taking on their white peers and succeeding despite the poor conditions at the Ennerdale Academy of Dance.

So wide spread is the sport that a multi racial official body, Fedansa, has been constituted to break down further the barriers between the racial classes.

Wed 12

Victim or benefactor, a three day session of the Truth Commission will decide this issue in regard of the Chamber of Businesses to its actions during the 'struggle'. At the opening session Archbishop Tutu accused corporate South Africa of making vast profits due to the abundance of cheap labour available. He called for the community to make restitution for these excessive profits.

In a similar vein Professor S Terreblanche, an Afrikaner academic, made a proposal that a wealth tax be imposed; 0.5% of profits for 20 years on those businesses that have assets above £250,000. As a measure of restitution this measure could benefit the whole population, as it may allow other taxes to be reduced.

A spokesman for the black business community, J Hlongwane the president of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce, made a plea for assistance from his white counterparts. He also accused them of buying up township properties and the financial sector of starving black business of funds.

Sat 15

The Daily Telegraph reported that a South African Cathedral had placed pieces of marble over the word 'kaffir' on its memorial to colonial soldiers explaining that the word was a 'blanket term of abuse for blacks'. Then it used it seven times in the piece and once in the headline. Obviously the word isn't offensive enough, particularly to the Telegraph, and its proprietor, Conrad Kaffir. - *Zeitgeist*, T Bussmann, GDN Weekend

Tues 18

With under seven days, till public hearings before the Truth Commission, into the so called Winnie Mandela scandal she herself has given a long interview to the Johannesburg Star newspaper.

In the interview she says that despite the efforts of the ANC leadership to unite the candidates for the post of deputy president behind her rivals, with its unanimous backing for Jacob Zuma in the forthcoming contest, she still believes that she will become deputy president, "if my people want me."

As to the allegations of her involvement in murder and kidnap she dismisses these claims as the work of a police unit, Strat Com, who worked with the already acknowledged 'third force'. Her other accusers, K Cebekhula (qv), is dismissed as a "lunatic." The British peer, Emma Thompson, a "mad cow." For the Truth Commission's chairman Desmond Tutu is marked down as an apologist for the activities of the apartheid era cabinet ministers.

The estranged wife of the president said that these cabinet ministers were "the perpetrators of the worst brutality and atrocities any country had ever seen" - while victimising her.

Wed 19

The Truth Commission have released the names of 43 people who have been asked to remain available, to be called as witnesses, during the imminent 5 day hearing into the actions of Winnie Mandela in respect to the murder and kidnap charges levied against her.

Those called include F Chikane and F Mufamade, who were members of the Winnie Mandela Crisis Committee of 1988 which was set up to investigate the details

surrounding the death of Stompie Moketsie (qv), who are now notable members of the government. Gauteng provincial premier Tony Sexwela, will be called to explain the ANC 's role in the disappearance of K Cebakulu. Other Party notables to be called include Albertine Sisulu.

Those that will be called to defend Winnie Mandela include Paul Erasmus, a security force officer and member of Strat Com; a military intelligence 'dirty tricks' unit. His evidence will admit that the unit had sustained an ongoing campaign of discreditable. In her defence the Justice Minister, D Omar said recently that "You cannot compare the allegations against Winnie M Mandela with the crimes of apartheid in their scale or quantity".

The former president, P W Botha, who has long refused to testify before the commission now has no option after being with a subpoena. The former president, who has recently announced his engagement, has consistently described the commission as a "circus."

The Commissions chairman and former head of the Anglican church, Desmond Tutu, calls for the Church to be forgiven for its "arrogance" during the apartheid years.

Thurs 20

An official of South Africa's main Afrikaner church said yesterday it was wrong for the church to have taught that the bible justified apartheid. The admission came from the moderator of the Dutch Reform Church, F Swanepoel, at a hearing of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. - AP -

Fri 21

The former president, P W Botha, has accepted the subpoena issued by the Truth Commission (qv 19/11) to attend sessions beginning on 5/12. It is hoped, in the words of A Borraine the deputy chairman of the commission, will give "invaluable information concerning the period under the Commission 's review and without his input the commissions final report will be that much poorer."

Responding to the recent newspaper interview given by Winnie Mandela (qv 18/11) Steve Tswete, the sports minister, down played the role played by the former cabinet minister during 'the struggle.' This attack was seen as the beginning of a campaign to blacken her character before her challenge for the soon to be vacant post of deputy president of the ANC. In the article she was called a "charlatan who needed help," and a closet right winger who had made little contribution to South Africa.

The Truth Commission has added the charge of involvement in the death of S Dlomo aged 18, to the catalogue of cases that Winnie Mandela will have to explain when she makes her appearance before them. Mr Dlomo was a prominent member of the Detained Parents Support Committee when he was killed in 1/88.

This is just one of five more cases that the commission will want explanations about. Also included is the death of a detainee, S Sithole, who is the father of her grandchild by her daughter Zinzi.

Sat 23

In a last minuet attempt Winnie Mandela has attacked the credibility of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission - which begins a five day session to investigate her and the activities of the Winnie Mandela Football Club.

Mrs M Mandela, aged 63, told ABC 's Nightline programme that the commission was influenced by a pro - apartheid "third force" which she said was under the control of the African National Congress.

Mon 24

A social welfare centre, on the outskirts of Johannesburg, is the setting for the long awaited series of hearings by the Truth Commission into the activities of Winnie Mandela and her Football Club.

In front of the world's media the truth commission, who will hear from Mrs Mandela near the end of the five day session, will sit through evidence from about thirty six of her former friends and colleges.

Recap; Murders S Moketsie, Dr A Asvat, F Masomi, K Mossacu, S Dlomo (qv 21/11) Shot dead 23.1.1988, Maluke and Mbenge ANC guerrillas and police sergeant Pretorius. Disappeared; L Sono and S Tslababa in 11/88. Attempted murder; L Inkanenge Kidnap; brothers Makanda. Suicide; S Sithole (qv 21/11).

Tues 25

Inside the Johannesburg Institute of Science building Winnie Mandela sat, at first smirking and then listening more intently, as a steady stream of relatives of the dead and missing gave an account of the last moments of their loved ones.

The witness N Shabalaba, the relative of the 'disappeared' Steve, demanded of Mrs Mandela "She did kill them, just like Stompie ... I want Winnie to give my son back. I want his bones".

The last witness of the day, J Morgan her former driver in the days of the 'Football Club,' overturned his evidence given at the 1991 trial. At the earlier hearing he had testified that the former cabinet minister had been away from her Soweto home. Now he was saying that she in fact at the heart of the action in the attack on Stompie Moketsie over the four day period in 12/89.

At the end of the day long session the former wife of the president left the Institute and went to a local police station, where she laid charges against K Cebekhulu (qv). The recently returned Mr Cebekhulu is expected to give vital evidence to the Truth Commission hearings.

Leader Comment - **The Serious Case against Winnie** The evidence, on day 1, was 'grimly heavy' against her. But the evidence of ordinary people caught up in her anger is even more damaging. Crucial evidence from N Sono, an ANC activist, on behalf of his son is denounced by W Mandela as "figments of imagination."

The ANC must now face up to a tarnished public image - after so long trying to hide it - which inevitably will also tarnish the movements image of the 'struggle'. As the commission has no power to indict her, her political career may not be at an end -

"She has continued to campaign and mobilise on grass roots issues neglected by the leadership - an omission they should now regret".

Wed 26

With a charge of criminal libel laid against him, by W Mandela, over the contents of the book Katzia's Journey written with F Bridgland K Cebekhulu (qv) and his minder Baroness Nicholson have flown back to Britain. Earlier at the continuing hearings of the Truth Commission the credibility of the former ANC fighter had been attacked over the alleged lies contained in the book.

Inside Johannesburg's Institute of Science building, on day two, the main witness to give evidence was Xavia Falati, a former confidant and co - defendant in the 1991 trial. Not only did she accuse Mrs Mandela of the murder of S Moketsie and the assault of other boys in her care, but of organising a train massacre in 1994 that almost wrecked the transition to majority rule.

Soul Searching; All over the country people on both sides of the former conflict are being asked to confront their own abuses under apartheid. Can this process only deepen the country's divisions, or can the establishment of a common memory of the past improve the chances for a bright future.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu is presiding over a process which he hopes will conclude in a new narrative for a new nation. But some, like Chief Buthelezie believe the whole exercise of reconciliation is 'a circus,' while ex - prime minister PW Botha calls it a sham - **A O' Hagan Eastern Cape, G2 page 1 -**

Thurs 27

In a surprise move, after her pledge to return to Britain with K Cebekhulu, the former MP E Nicholson arrived at the Institute of Science building in Johannesburg to announce that she is to bring a private prosecution against Winnie Mandela over the murder of S Moketsie on behalf of his mother; J Serpel. The father of L Solo, one of the 'disappeared,' would also be joining in the legal action.

At the hearings proper evidence was heard from Archbishop P Veyrn, who at the time was the vicar in residence in the Soweto manse from which S Moketsie and the other youths were abducted. The witness denied any sexual activity between himself and those under his protection; fear of which, was the main claim of those under investigation, for the abduction of the youths.

Emma Nicholson, a profile; her dealings with the author, the witness and the 'principal.' Whilst the aforementioned private prosecution might go nowhere this might be enough to curtail the remaining ambition of Winnie Mandela thus saving the neck of the ANC and the government.

Fri 28

A senior police officer, A Cachalia the head of the national police secretariat, has urged the Truth Commission to recommend to the government that anyone with a serious conviction should not be allowed to stand for public office, a swipe at Mrs Mandela 's bid to become the deputy president of the ANC, as she has a charge of kidnap to her name.

In this latest session of the commission's hearings he also alleged that she was a police spy for the apartheid regime; as were so many of those associated with her, J Richardson her driver was one, who have testified against her.

Mr Cachalia and a colleague, M Morobe detailed the attempts, in the early 1980's of the United Democratic Front, to sideline the influence of the then 'Mother of the Nation' by circulating a letter asking the community to distance themselves from her influence. Some of those who signed the letter have been a victim of a vendetta - which has run right through to this date. One such victim has been Cyril Ramaphose who has lessened in influence to the benefit of Thabo Mbeki

Sat 29

Winnie Mandela was targeted by members of Strat Com; P Erasmus (qv) and J Mc Pherson. Their intention was to discredit her and the ANC throughout the British and South African press.

This acknowledgement of a campaign of destabilisation is part of the defence that Mrs Mandela will use to defend herself on the various charges she faces. Although on examination the known facts have not been disputed - so lessening any mitigating circumstances.

In a further move the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has granted amnesty to Thabo Mbeki and five other cabinet ministers for their actions during the anti apartheid era.

Sun 30

Eagerly anticipated is the evidence that Albertine Sisulu will present to the Truth Commission within the next 24 hours. The long time friend of Winnie Mandela, but now her most bitter enemy will be an eye witness insight into the surroundings of Dr A Asvat's death, in his Soweto surgery.

Mrs Sisulu was at the time the nurse - receptionist for the doctor when members of the notorious Winnie Mandela Football Club burst into the building. One of those members, Z Mabatha, then shot the physician dead with a gun given to him by Winnie

Mandela. In earlier evidence he said he was paid £2,500 / R20,000 to commit the killing.

Unlike many of the other witnesses called to give evidence before the Truth Commission Mrs Sisulu has accepted an invitation to do so. This is seen by some as an indication that the whole truth may be forthcoming.

The character of the former British MP, E Nicholoso, has been called into question over her giving financial backing to K Cebekhulu and the mother of S Moketsie. With Mr Cebekhulu safely out of the country, away from the threat of criminal charges (qv 25/11) the former MP has remained in the country to champion the private prosecution against Winnie Mandela over the murder of S Moketsie. She was unable to say whether the former ANC detainee would return but if he did accompanying him would "powerful friends".

DECEMBER 1997

Mon 1

It has emerged that at the same time that Thabo Mbeki (qv 29/11) and five others were granted amnesty for their political crimes the son of the chairman of the Truth Commission was granted a similar honour.

Trevor Tutu, was convicted of a 1989 car bomb attack on East London airport in 1991. In his defence he stated that the attack was following the ANC's policy of trying to make the country "ungovernable."

It was not until the media, in early 1997, pointed out that Mr Tutu had not begun to serve any of the three and a half sentence imposed that he was jailed.

The estranged wife of the president, Winnie Mandela, has denied, in a interview for Dutch television that she had ever worked against her own people. President Mandela has ordered an investigation of former generals suspected of planning a coup, a newspaper said yesterday.

Tues 2

Amid claim and counter claim of witness intimidation and changing stories on day 6 of the latest series of sessions of the Truth Commission it was the turn of Albertine Sisulu to tell all she knew.

In her evidence she seemed to step away from, what might be seen as the accolade as the women who went down in history who implicated Winnie Mandela in the murder of Dr Asvat, by saying that the writing on an appointment card that carried Winnie 's Mandela's name was not written by her. With this apparent change in her evidence one of the commissioners accused her of "trying your very, very best to say as little as possible that might incriminate Winnie Mandela". To this the wife of Oliver Tambo retorted " I don't think it would be proper for me to tell lies here".

This change in evidence is crucial to the defence claimed by Winnie Mandela as she has always said that she was away from Soweto at the time of the doctors death, a claim made in her defence at her 1991 trial by J Richardson, her driver.

As to those who had been convicted of the killing of the Soweto doctor C Mbatha failed to appear after being hospitalised due to the effects of dehydration. His co - accused,T Diamane, only agreed to give evidence after Archbishop Tutu agreed to provide protection for himself and his family.

Wed 3

Winnie Mandela who is appearing before South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, was reprimanded by leaders of the African National Congress yesterday for accusing them of betraying the voters.

The reprimand seems to be designed to thwart her challenge for the ANC's deputy presidency in 14 days time. If she wins she could stand in elections for the country's deputy president.

The acting ANC's general secretary, C Carolus, said Mrs Mandela had committed an "improper and cowardly" act last month when in an interview with a Johannesburg newspaper she criticised the party and government. - AP adb -

Thurs 4

Convicted killer J Richardson aged 49 (qv) took the stand on Day 8 of the latest session of the Truth Commission that is making an attempt to understand the conduct of Winnie Mandela during 'the struggle.'

Mr Richardson's evidence was all that it was expected to be - the confession to the killing of S Moketsie and the knowledge of the death of the 'missing' L Sono and S Tshabalala.

Upon his cross examination by members of the 6 man commission the former driver for the WMFC made a complete rebuttal of his earlier statements, he denied and then admitted that he was a police informer, made vague allegations about the police who were involved in the case. At one point he even suggested that Mrs Mandela was working for the police.

This apparent confusing evidence will be a boost to the defence that Mrs Mandela will draw on when she makes her long awaited appearance before the Commission - in the next 24 hours.

Fri 5

Winnie's day of evidence; Day 9 of this latest session of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was called at her request. During the belligerent questioning from members of the commission she denied much of the wrongdoing attributed to her and the so called Winnie Mandela Football Club. Who she did blame for the conspiracy were factions in the media, Church and members of the security forces.

In despair Archbishop Tutu pleaded with Mrs Mandela to ask forgiveness from her accusers for alleged crimes committed. She had earlier called the charges "hallucinations, ludicrous fabrications and lunacy." In the spirit of reconciliation Joyce Sepie, the mother of S Moketsie, moved to the front of the hall and embraced the woman she blames for the death of 'little cigarette.' At an earlier time the Archbishop had threatened two members of the ANC's women's league with prosecution after an alleged attack on the mother of Stompie in the toilets.

In a last ditch effort to regain some credibility Mrs Mandela, who hopes to be elected as the movements deputy president, attacked the commission by indicating that these sessions were set up with the sole intention of preventing her to reach this position.

Clearly this is not so as the Truth Commission (qv 27/9) were only acting on her wishes.

A Swedish prosecutor is due today to move for a retrial against the man convicted and later cleared of the murder of prime minister O Palme [qv 12/96]. The prosecutor was reported to be about to send a letter to the supreme court that includes new evidence. Christian Petersson, convicted and cleared - then linked to a conspiracy. *Reuters adb*

Sat 6

The decision by the ANC's women's league to nominate Winnie Mandela for a political post (qv 15/9) is to be reviewed in the light of her performance at the recent sessions of the Truth Commission.

In his closing speech the chairman, Archbishop Tutu, did not enhance her cause when he praised those who had testified against her.

The former president, P W Botha, failed to attend a hearing of the Commission, with a legitimate reason; the subpoena issued 25/11 was technically invalid.

Winnie's tragedy is strength turned to weakness The strength of defiance when resisting the dark forces of apartheid South Africa turned to her weakness when away from the power of post apartheid South Africa that she had suffered so much for.

The future for the emerging country can be best summed up with the words of an American writer " the truth about the past is really all we have to guide us in the present." So in effect what the Truth Commission's mission has to facilitate is an understanding of the past in order to free South Africa from the fear of the past and to reconcile the people with the past so that the country can go forward from strength to strength into the next century. - **M Woollacott** -

Sun 7

The London life of K Cebekhulu (qv), living in the London flat of his benefactor Emma Nicholson. Having mastered the art of reading he has now turned his attention to the discipline of writing by taking private lessons near the flat in Victoria. The former ANC renegade now says his life will now centre on London as to return to South Africa would be too dangerous.

Eye witness account of the Winnie Mandela Truth Commission sessions. His one criticism of its work, in the case of the disgraced former cabinet minister, is that not enough pre hearing investigation was completed to stop the women's political progression. This in depth investigation was carried out around the members of the white dominated police force and the military who testified in the hope of being granted amnesty - and in most cases were. - **R Malan** -

Tues 9

A judge at the long drawn out high court inquest into a number of deaths of Inkatha supporters has criticised the government; a decision that is likely to cause a political storm.

The deaths occurred in 1994 (qv 29/3) during and after a march on the Johannesburg headquarters of the ANC 's Shell House. Judge Nugent, who has presided over the six month long hearing said that the evidence of those who fired on the demonstrators, from inside the building, did so because they thought that those inside the building were in danger of or that there was any conspiracy with the security forces to assassinate leading members of the movement.

Of the 1,000 sworn statements and 8,000 pages of evidence from 80 witnesses the police efforts were of a poor standard - much of the evidence was inaccurate and unreliable to varying degrees. Concluding evidence will be given within 24 hours.

State radio has said that the rethink by the ANC 's women's league on nomination of Winnie Mandela for a top post in Movement (qv 6/12) has been withdrawn. There has been no conformation of this.

Wed 10

A South African judge found yesterday that the killing of eight Inkatha demonstrators outside the African National Congress headquarters in 1994 amounted to at least attempted murder, but there was insufficient evidence to warrant criminal prosecution.

Judge Robert Nugent, who had presided over the six month inquest into the "Shell House" massacre and other deaths in Johannesburg on March 28 1994 said there was no justification for ANC guards to have fired on the crowd, that the killings could be avoided if the police had listened to ANC appeals to keep marches away from the building and that the Inkatha Freedom Party committed vandalism intimidation and murder on that day.- **D Berseford, GDN page 14 C7 -**

Thurs 11

P W Botha, the former South African president, faces prosecution if he fails to appear before the truth commission, said President Nelson Mandela yesterday.

Mr Botha has refused to appear, calling the commission a circus and a witch hunt against apartheid leaders. anyone refusing to obey a subpoena can be charged with contempt and punished with a fine and up to two years in prison. - **AP -**

Fri 12

A lawyer opposing amnesty for Steve Biko's killers told South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission yesterday he was convinced Biko was punched to death, although none of the killers admitted it. G Bizo's said " Before they get amnesty they

must say who delivered the fatal blow. They covered it up at the inquest [in 1977] and are covering it up now.”

In applications for amnesty to the truth panel, five former policeman have confessed to fatally beating Biko during an interrogation. But they claim none of them punched him and that they just pushed him around. - AP adb -

Sat 13

An explanation, by one of the policemen seeking amnesty over the death of Steve Biko, before the truth commission (qv 12/12).

“Three of us grabbed hold of Biko after which we moved with him in the direction of the corner of the room and ran with him into the wall,” he said.”His head made contact with the wall first,whereupon he collapsed and landed on the floor.”

Another policeman said it was common practise to beat information out of prisoners and admitted “it is possible that we overreacted”.

Biko died of head injuries after hours chained without medical attention . His family oppose an application for amnesty from the killers. - Overview 6 -12 Dec, GDN page 18 -

Sun 14

A raid, by officials of the Department of Home Affairs who were investigating a claim concerning illegal immigrants, discovered Chinese nationals dismantling part of the Pelindaba nuclear complex.

As the Chinese workers only had visas that enabled them to hold meetings, and do no manual work, Department officials served an order on the South Africa Atomic Energy Commission to provide a full list of employees, their function and visa status within 21 days.

It is thought possible that the sale of these components, Zirconium tubing which sheaths the fuel for nuclear reactors, was encouraged upon the post apartheid regime by the Western powers as a way of preventing the technology of falling into the hands of the government of Libya.

The London life of K Cebekhulu (qv 7/12) has been disrupted; he has walked out of the flat provided by his benefactor Emma Nicholson. The dispute is centred around Moines that he thinks are due to him from the book Katzi's Journey and a film; Winnie Mandela - the Missing Witness.

He had been given £1,000 by the former Conservative MP and was expecting a share in a further £34,000 from the film rights which was written and scripted by F Bridgeland.

Mon 15

A formal approach, by President Mandela, to the leadership of the Inkatha Freedom Party to facilitate a merger between the two political parties has not been dismissed out of hand. Chief Buthelezie, who has been offered the post of deputy president in any merger, has turned down an invitation to attend the ANC's triennial conference which takes place in Mafikeng - the timing is wrong - will send a high powered delegation instead.

The move must be looked on with favour, by the Zulu dominated organisation as relations between the two have been cordial recently. There has been no outward opposition to the ANC even after the inquest ruling against the ANC (qv 9/12).

Wed 17

In a day long speech, lasting at least five and a half hours and 53 pages in length, Nelson Mandela made his farewells as president of the African National Congress. The speech, at the Movements triennial conference in the town of Mafeking, was a broad range attack on the media, non governmental organisations and those inside the ANC who say party membership as a careerist move - "a means to advance their personnel ambition ... for their own gratification."

The minority white population was accused of biding its time till the social conditions affected their privileges then they were accused of planning a move against the government. The bulk of the mass media were accused of campaigning against any real change to "keep their dominant position, achieved as a result of the apartheid system."

The most moving scenes, before the 3,000 delegates was the embrace between the president and his former wife. This is despite the possibility that Winnie Mandela aspires to the post of the movements deputy presidency.

Leader Comment - **Nelson Mandela 's Tough Legacy** the presidents achievements over the last five decades, of fighting poverty and the lack of human dignity as well as for a non racial South Africa would be enough for anyone. To add to this 27 years in jail then attain the heights of the state presidency is so much more. There is still more to do - which was the real focus of his speech.

His judgement of the white population and the media has been influenced by the failure of the Truth Commission to persuade the majority of the former white leaders [aka PW Botha] to testify before it. Media sources would focus their attention on stories of black incompetence. There was a lack of immediate evidence of attempt to destabilise the government - an over retain on Mandela's part. His criticism of the ANC was an attempt to put the message that it will be its only chance "to participate in a new world." Internal documents show that the Movement is also prepared to deal with this issue - a new style of leadership to include members who have joined since 1994.

Economic measures will have to be found, which move away the dependence of the white businessman - who has provided funding for his township counterparts. Even though the government has used this community to attract overseas investment. The next president - T Mbeki? - will have much to do to satisfy his political allies and the trade unions will "prove an even harder task."

Thurs 18

Realising that she had little 'solid support' - despite being nominated from the conference floor Winnie Mandela chose not to challenge Jacob Zuma for the post of Deputy President of the ANC. his left the way clear 'for the Natal based official to become the Movements Deputy President.. Also elected, unopposed was Thabo Mbeki,as President. K Motalan [secretary general of the NUM] Party secretary general. M Msimang [High Commissioner, London] Treasurer General.

The leader of the Democratic Party, Tony Leon, has called on the Attorney General of the Witwatersrand, to bring further charges against Mrs Mandela in view of the evidence given to the Truth Commission at the W Mandela hearings (qv 24/11). Mr Leons thinks that the relatives of L Sono and S Shabalaba and M Dlamani gave sufficient evidence that charges of assault, kidnap and even murder could be brought against the former wife of the president.

Fri 19

Continuing elections to the ruling body of the ANC have seen the following results. These will be no liking of the new president. The new party chairman, P 'Terror' Lekota beat of a challenge from Steve Tshwete 1, 775 : 859. The former president of the Free State, ousted in 1996 (qv 8/12) had the support of the SACP and Cosatu. The post of Deputy General Secretary went to T Mtinso, a member of the Communist Party.

The closing speech, from the Congress President, made strenuous efforts to diminish the impact of the comments made by President Mandela (qv 17/12) with the explanation that his words were an assessment of his time in office.

Despite withdrawing from the election for high office Winnie Mandela (qv 18/12) will stand as a candidate for a seat on the national executive of the Congress.

Sat 20

Archbishop Tutu; an interview. From the seventh floor of the Truth Commission building in Cape Town the prelate ponders what to do next; subpoena the assumed president in waiting or members of the judiciary?

A showdown between Bishop Tutu 's truth commission and P W Botha moved closer yesterday when the former state president failed to answer his subpoena. Bishop Tutu immediately laid criminal charges against Mr Botha. The attorney general of the Western Cape said he would give Mr Botha two weeks to explain his decision before acting. - D Beresford GDN page 14 C 6 -

Sun 21

Votes cast by delegates to the national executive committee of the ANC put Cyril Ramaphosa at the top of the list, while the disgraced Winnie Mandela was placed at number fifteen.

The speeches made at the official transfer of power, from Nelson Mandela to Thabo Mbeki as the new leader of the African National Congress, could give rise to concerns for the future of the only truly multi party state on the African continent.

There are fears that an onslaught of killings could break out between those loyal to the two main political parties if the ANC and Inkatha talks (qv 15/12) should fail. Even if they succeed violence could still break out from those opposed to what would be seen as a de facto one party state.

With strong support from the delegates the new president voiced his concerns about the conduct of the press, which in public is expressed usually by his associates, could lead to curbs on the press as he /they are accused of being Euro sceptic and calls for a regulatory body. All of the above may just be 'playing to the gallery' as Mbeki has already stated that he is an economic pragmatist and approves of conservative business and fiscal matters.

Leaving the London flat of Emma Nicholson K Cebekhula (qv 14/12) has now found employment in a care home in the Home Counties. He is undecided whether to return to South Africa, even though the security forces and government officials have told him that he may not survive long as an enemy of Winnie Mandela. In the future the former ANC activist hopes to regain copyright control attached to the book and film of his recent exploits.

The recently ennobled former Conservative MP explains that Mr Cebekhulu 's 'donated' royalties, of £33, 000, have gone to one of her charity organisations which will be soon operating inside South Africa. This is unlikely says Mr Cebekhulu as he never was in control of the royalties to make such a promise.

A readers poll, in Britain 's Independent on Sunday newspaper to readers to nominate their choice of Hero and Villain of 1997 has placed Earl Spencer (qv) at number 3 and 8 respectively. Nelson Mandela is placed at number 6 on the Heroes list, while his estranged wife is number 4 on the Villains list.

Leader Comment **Mandela 's Miracle Must be Kept Alive** Equating the 1960 's 'Wind of Change' speech by British prime minister, Macmillan, with the 'Enemies of Change' speech by the outgoing president of the ANC.

“It is to be hoped that the ANC stays true to its course proclaimed so frequently by Mr Mandela from the dock. For if the ANC degenerate into a search for scapegoats and enemies within, the future for Africa is grim.”

Wed 31

In a move to make it easier for whites to apologise to their black counterparts an Internet web site has been opened by the Truth Commission; <http://www.Truth.org.za>. Over the festive season. As of this moment only seventy one messages have been left for all to read.

Typical cyberspace confessions range from the indignant; "I am an Afrikaner who has grossly been misled by my peers of the time. I was led to believe that all was well in the Christian and worldly sense. I now realise that this was not so and will do all in my power to make amends for the wrongs of the past." - **U Swart Sanderton**

to the apologetic; "I am sorry for what I did during the bush war. I am sorry for being a racist during the apartheid years. " - **D Stols, Centution** -

The only 'notable' to use this facility has been Craig Williams (qv), who writes "My grandfather fought in WW1, my father in WW2. I fought apartheid 's war and I pray my son will be the first male in four generations of my family not to fight a war. "