Dr. Neil Aggett
photo: Sunday Times
Johannesburg

Thozamile Gqwela, Saawu's president.

South African Students
Press Union NATIONAL

Dave Lewis, GWU (secretary-general)

South African Students
Press Union NATIONAL

LAST SALUTE ... the black power salute at the funeral
of Mr. Griffiths Mxenge at the weekend.

RAND DAILY MAIL

PINT-SIZED PROTEST ... 10-year-old Kuben Naldoo
outside the magistrate's court in West Street, Johannesburg, yesterday.

Picture: Martin Feinstein

EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN
for SOUTH AFRICA

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LENT

—For A Free Southern Africa—

1982
DEATH · DETENTIONS · TRADE UNIONS · US
THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Lent 1982

'We must show to the government that we are not an organization just in South Africa - that the workers' movement is an international movement. We must show that to the government. And we must show that the sanctions that they fear so much in South Africa - they will come one day. And they won't come from the British government or the American government. They will come when the British workers and the American workers don't want to deal with blood-stained South African goods.'

- Dave Lewis, leader of the General and Allied Workers' Union, at the graveyard in Johannesburg following the funeral of Dr Neil Aggett, 13 February 1982

The murder of Neil Aggett marks another stage in the movement toward the final struggle for the new South Africa. Thousands of trade union members and others from all over the country filled the Cathedral of St Mary the Virgin in downtown Johannesburg and packed the street outside for the funeral of the young medical doctor and union official who the South African Police say hanged himself 5 February while in incommunicado detention.

Parents, wives, husbands, relatives and friends of the scores of other South Africans in police detention were among those at the service in which the traditional Anglican and the burning patriotism of the day were intertwined. Jan Theron, general secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers Union to which Neil Aggett belonged, declared in his eulogy: 'When they speak of suicide, we say he was killed. We put the blame where it lies, with the government of the country and with the security police who do its dirty work for it.' He spoke of Pretoria's intention to conduct a 'show trial against trade unions, a trial in which comrades are expected to give evidence against one another. We can see today that Neil is dead because he would not play that part.'

The thousands marched behind the hearse through the center of the city and adjacent white suburbs to the cemetery four miles away, carrying banners, singing freedom songs and bearing high the green, gold and black flag of the banned African National Congress - while police hovered nearby but did not intervene. After the burial, they stayed on in the hot African summer sun to listen to their leaders. Dave Lewis, speaking for the democratic trade unions, said: 'Neil's work and Neil's death will bring us together. His death is a great price to pay for the union movement, but we must now clearly see who the common enemy is.'

(continued, over)
A glimpse at the methods employed by this enemy came shortly thereafter when Ms Helen Suzman read to her fellow members of parliament from a detainee's letter smuggled out of prison. The scene was reminiscent of what we know of the last days of Steve Biko who was murdered by security police in 1977. Neil Aggett was made to run in place or do push-ups while naked. He was beaten with a rolled up newspaper or a belt when he slackened. The police began immediately to insinuate disinformation both to protect themselves against public outrage and to raise questions about Aggett's loyalty to his comrades. Lt Gen Johann Coetzee, chief of the security police, announced that Aggett had left behind a partially finished statement and that it would probably be used as evidence at the inquest and at an upcoming trial.

Pretoria is shortly to hold show trials (a few have started) aimed at proving to its electorate the dangers it perceives as fast gathering around it. World opinion favoring economic sanctions against the apartheid regime is growing. African National Congress guerrillas increasingly penetrate the heartland of 'white' South Africa's urban and industrial regions. Countrywide opposition has reached a level and intensity not before known. Nothing so infuriates and terrifies Pretoria than unrace-conscious cooperation and common identification among black and white South Africans - so concrete in the independent trade unions, so vividly demonstrated at Neil Aggett's funeral. A generation of trade unionists, students, journalists, churchpeople, professionals, all across the spectrum have a vision of a South Africa cleansed of apartheid and police repression. Particularly chilling to Pretoria are the numbers of young Afrikaners joining this commitment. These people are the future leaders of South Africa. They are the South Africans we must support.

Americans must know who the Pretorians are, the nature of the regime the US government puts its trust in, defends, works with. Nothing is more revealing than their own deeds and words. The murders and detentions speak volumes. Here is an excerpt from an official South African government commission report to parliament. Persist through the tortured language and you will find madness:

'The strategies and activities of the anti-South African forces permeate and pervade the whole societal structure and use all means at their disposal, which range from the legal to the illegal, the permissible to the impermissible, from political warfare to subversion and terrorism, from the "ideology" of liberalism through that of black consciousness to that of communism, from capitalism to socialism, and exploit the division of the two white peoples and the divisions between the radical and moderate blacks and that between white and black.

'Whilst we do not suggest collusion, the similarity between the selective anti-South African propaganda conducted by the United Nations on the one hand, and The New York Times and Washington Post on the other hand, is striking and, we suggest, symptomatic of the worldwide propaganda South Africa must no less suffer in the face of an inadequate information counteraction. It appears that the intensity of the anti-South African campaign also reflects a joint liberal-Communist approach resulting from a leftward mind set. Add to this the efforts of the World Council of Churches, the third world, the multinational corporations, and one gets an inkling of the true extent of the anti-South African propaganda war aimed at breaking down the home defenses, the morale of the community. The propaganda campaign has effectively contributed toward the creation of the "pariah image" of South Africa. And it is intensifying.

'The external onslaught has as its aim nothing less than the political and moral subversion of the white man, his replacement by a black majority government in a unitary state with, depending on who wins, guidelines for a Marxist, radical-socialist or liberal-democratic welfare-capitalist, sociopolitical system.'

'Well, there's no question about our repugnance for apartheid. We're also aware that a great many people in South Africa feel the same way and have been trying and striving for years to - to do something about it.'
We deplore this inhuman treatment of prisoners of conscience and call upon the responsible authorities of this South African bantustan to cease and desist this brutality and other violations of human rights. We further demand that church personnel and representatives of the Red Cross be given access to hospitals and prisons of this territory for pastoral visitations, inspection and reporting.'

Rev Dr Paul A. Wey, general secretary, Lutheran World Ministries, New York
22 January 1982

In South Africa's backwater bantustan of Venda, two Lutheran pastors will be brought to trial in June charged with murder and terrorism. The Rev N.P. Phaswane and the Rev M.P. Phosiwa have been held in incommunicado detention since early November 1981, shortly after a guerrilla attack on the police station in Venda's largest town, Sibasa. Two policemen were killed. At a preliminary hearing on 12 February 1982, the clergymen asserted they had been tortured - electric shock treatment to the genitals; one showed wounds on head and hands. A German Lutheran church official who observed the proceedings stated: 'My initial concern about the two ministers' welfare was transformed into alarm.'

There is alarm too about the Lutheran dean of the local district, the Very Rev T.S. Farisani. He has been in detention since last 9 November and has twice been in hospital, having been badly tortured. His wife, Ms Regina Farisani, was not allowed to see him or send him food and clothing. Ms Farisani, a school teacher, lives at the mission house outside Venda's 'capital' of Thohoyandou with their two children - Mdzumbulolo, 2, and Mdeluvelo, 5 months - under constant police surveillance. The German church delegate was given permission to visit the imprisoned churchmen but their bishop, the Right Rev Solomon Serote, was refused admittance to Venda and Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, was expelled when he asked to pray with the detainees.

Another churchman of Venda is beyond any visit. Tshifhiwa Isaac Muofhe, 28-year-old Lutheran lay preacher, was detained by police on 11 November 1981. Two days later he was dead. He had been beaten mercilessly. His widow, Ms Lilian Muofhe, now alone with her 6-month-old baby, was detained and interrogated by the Venda police on the state of Mr Muofhe's health and whether he had any interest in politics.

Venda is one of the South African regime's buffer areas it has set up along its borders with independent African states to try to fend off the ever-increasing military activity of the African National Congress. Venda is in northern Transvaal province facing Zimbabwe with a 5 km cordon sanitaire patrolled by the South African Defence Force. On Venda's east is Kruger National Park, beyond which lies Mozambique. The Venda bantustan contains an impoverished population of about 350,000; another 150,000 Venda 'citizens' live in 'white' South Africa. A Dutch Reformed Afrikaner missionary describes Venda thus: 'The whole system rests on money and corruption.' Pretoria's hand-picked President Patrick Mphwethu is described by London's ECONOMIST as 'a semi-literate who speaks his own language haltingly and needs an interpreter for any other.' The army and police chief is a former South African security policeman, the now Brigadier T.R. Malaudzi.
Open letter to Senator Roger Jepsen:

In December, many of us signed a petition which was sent to your office, protesting the "wave of arrests" of labor leaders and church people in South Africa. We mentioned specifically the detention of Dean T. S. Farisani, a leader of the northern diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa.

Having heard nothing from your office, we are contacting you again about the deteriorating situation in South Africa----a country which President Reagan chooses to call "our friend and ally".

Dean Farisani and three other Lutheran pastors from the Venda area of South Africa are still in detention. It has been confirmed that the four have been brutally tortured, and at least one of them is in critical condition. In addition, a Lutheran parishioner, Tshifhiwa Muofhe, died on the second day of his detention.

Our earlier petition asked that you "convey our displeasure" to Ambassador Sole of South Africa. Now we are instructing you, as our elected representative, to express our outrage to the Ambassador and the barbaric government he represents!

The United States did not take lightly the atrocities of the Nazi regime. What has happened to our nation that we now refer to the "new Hitlers" in South Africa as our friends and allies???

Sincerely,

[Signatures and addresses]
On July 28, Winnie Mandela was taken to Compol Buildings again, and Major Swanepoel asked abruptly who was Thembi Mandela? She replied, "He is my eldest stepson," and the Major then said, "He is dead." He had been killed in a car accident. She was too shocked for control, and she broke down and wept.


The South African regime has pursued an obsessive vendetta against Ms Winnie Mandela for 20 years. The 47-year-old wife of Nelson Mandela - the African National Congress leader serving a lifetime sentence on the Robben Island prison colony - has been banned, detained, banished, charged and brought to trial since 1962. She has not been convicted in court for anything but infractions of extra-judicial police decrees. She has been free of restrictions for only 10 months during those 20 years. In August 1976, following the Soweto uprising, Ms Mandela was detained for five months. Upon her release she was subjected to another five-year banning order. A few months later - at dawn - security police descended upon her Soweto home and trucked her off into banishment in a country town in the Afrikaner stronghold, the Orange Free State province. At the end of 1981, the police renewed her banning order for yet another five years - till 31 December 1986.

Winnie Mandela lives under constant surveillance by the vengeful Pretorian authorities. Her banning orders forbid her to leave her house nights and on weekends, to receive in her home more than one person at a time and then only her doctor and lawyer. The new order relaxes one earlier provision. Now Bishop Frederick Amore of Bloemfontein or Bishop Desmond Tutu from Johannesburg or another priest may celebrate Holy Communion with her in her home; heretofore they had to stand outside the frontyard fence. She has nevertheless started a first aid and baby care service among the African community and instituted a home gardening project with seeds donated by the South African Council of Churches and other organizations. Before Christmas Ms Mandela was granted the rare privilege of traveling to the funeral of a younger brother. Her car went off the road and she suffered a broken arm, fractured ribs and lacerations. When she entered a nearby drugstore, the security police closed it. She was not arrested but had to endure the harassment that has marked her life in her country. Back home, she set to spading the garden with her good arm.

NEW YORK TIMES correspondent Joseph Lelyveld writes about her last visit to her husband. 'She saw him on Christmas and the day after, each time for 45 minutes, which was 15 minutes longer than any previous visit. They were not allowed to discuss anything political, including her ban. Allister Sparks writes in THE OBSERVER of London that in the Mandelas' 24 years of marriage 'she and Nelson have been together for fragmented spells totalling only four months'.

Write this heroic woman: Ms Winnie Mandela
802 Phatakahle Township
Pretoria, OFS, 9400
South Africa.
Pretoria has introduced in parliament a bill which aims to enhance greatly South Africa's military preparedness. The draft legislation would expand military training to include all white men between the ages of 17 and 60. Men 60 to 65 would go into a reserve force.

General Magnus Malan, the US trained South African Defence Minister, told his fellow members of parliament there were two reasons for the projected law:
- South Africa must be placed on a ready for war basis to meet threats of internal subversion, and
- South Africa must be prepared to withstand external threats which could develop into conventional warfare in the event of a 'general uprising'.

A Defence Force spokesman said the growing threat originates with the Soviet Union which has advanced its planning for a 1990 takeover of all Southern Africa to 1985. General Malan stated that neighboring African states had increased their ground forces and their armor and aircraft since 1977 by several hundred percent. Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique possessed advanced air defense system which now protect guerrilla bases and would be used when the time came for conventional war against South Africa. All these countries, of course, have been repeated targets of Pretorian assaults and undercover operations. Rationales for the new law are covers for Pretoria's growing aggressiveness.

Young white South African males are now drafted at age 18. The proposed law lowers that age to 17. Draftees at present serve two years on active duty, then revert to a citizen force where they are subject to call up for 240 days service over the next 8 years. The new system would make it 720 days over a 12-year period. Following that, citizen force soldiers would go into a new active citizen force for a further 5 years. After that, they would still be on call for periodic terms of duty up to age 60. Those 60 to 65 go into a 'controlled national reserve'. One purpose of the new scheme would be to bolster regional 'commando' forces to fill in on guard duty in areas where guerrillas operate and where insurrection might break out, which are just about anywhere in South Africa today.

Conscription for Coloured and Indian men and for white women was reportedly abandoned. Industrial and business leaders have expressed concern over the effects the drastic mobilization scheme might have on the working of the country; they have called for a re-examination of the bill. Pretoria is getting more and more caught in the stringent commands of history, beset by political, military and economic pressures as it attempts stubbornly to cling to white domination.

FORCED STERILIZATION

A senior South African government official has warned that compulsory sterilization and abortion might become necessary in the future to control the country's population growth, especially among blacks, if family planning measures were not taken voluntarily. Dr J. de Beer, director general of the Department of Health and Welfare, testifying before the science committee of the President's Council, forecast that South Africa would be plunged into chaos and misery unless the growth rate was cut. The President's Council, an advisory body, consists mainly of whites, with a few Coloured and Indian persons. No Africans sit on the board.

According to de Beer, the maximum population South Africa could support without strain is about 68 million. The population last year was officially said to be at 27,319,980. Calculations say it would rise to 38,404,800 by the year 2000, and to 47,304,870 by 2020. The white population is close to zero growth (a major worry in the apartheid state) despite immigrants of 20,000 to 30,000 per year. Africans, by contrast, are growing 1.6 percent a year; official figures say 50 births an hour. The Institute of Race Relations says 134 African babies died last year out of each 1,000 live births; the figure for whites is 20 per thousand. The University of Pretoria reports South Africa's urban African population could double to 26 million by the end of the century, regardless of the rigorous application of influx control.
Colin Winter
1928 - 1981

Colin O'Brien Winter, former Bishop of Namibia, died 17 November 1981, at the Namibia International Peace Centre in London. He had suffered two massive heart attacks since 1974; on the 13th anniversary of his consecration a third struck him down.

Bishop Winter had been expelled from his diocese — which encompasses all the International Territory of Namibia — by officials of the illegal South African occupation in 1972 after four years as chief pastor. He returned to England where — at the express wishes of Namibian Anglicans — he remained their bishop — in exile. He established the Peace Centre, first near Oxford, later in London's East End. With his health deteriorating and after a pace maker had been implanted to try to help his damaged heart, Colin Winter resigned his See in February 1981. He was succeeded by the diocesan suffragan, Bishop James H. Mauluma. Colin leaves behind his wife, Mary; five grown sons and daughters; a large, close-knit family; and a worldwide family of those who loved him and drew counsel, inspiration and love in return from him.

Colin Winter was born in the English Midlands on 10 October 1928. He grew up in the depression and knew firsthand the suffering of the impoverished. His commitment to pacifism and the priesthood developed early on. He was educated at Oxford and at Ely Theological College. Three years after his ordination, Colin Winter in 1959 accepted the invitation of Archbishop Joost de Blank to go to South Africa. In 1964, Bishop Robert Mize asked him to become Dean of St George’s Cathedral in Windhoek, Namibia. When Bishop Mize was deported by the South Africans in 1968, Dean Winter was elected to succeed him.

Namibia was in storm. The World Court had failed to rule against South Africa's defiant occupation of the International Territory and SWAPO had launched its war of liberation. The Namibian people were acting for their freedom, and Colin Winter lent his energies and voice on their behalf. He toured Europe and North America, preaching, speaking, exhorting support for the oppressed of Southern Africa. He declared at the United Nations that though he personally was committed to non-violence he stood behind the liberation struggle. The nationwide strike of Namibian contract workers in 1971/72 found the Bishop of Namibia solidly in support. Pretoria summarily expelled him as an 'undesirable'.

Colin Winter's farewell eucharist at a London parish church — a Mass of the Resurrection brought together loved ones from the immediate and the farflung family. Exiled Namibians and South Africans; students from Zimbabwe; refugees from Chile, El Salvador, Argentina, Palestine, the Philippines, Eritrea, Zaire, many of whom had gone through prison and torture; trade unionists; churchpeople; anti-apartheid activists; pacifists; anti-nuclear campaigners; people from the Continent, Wales and Ireland and the north of England and from the East End; from all the continents, all of them touched and blessed by Colin during his too brief but boundlessly loving life. One bouquet of the many massed around the altar came from 'the prisoners of Armagh and the men in H-blocks Long Kesh'.

Colin Winter was at times tagged a 'turbulent priest' or an iconoclast. He challenged bureaucrats and oligarchs and the stone-faced who perpetuate racism, privilege and brute rule. Throughout all, Colin was true to the Law and he embodied the Prophets.
Shooting down of men, women and children, massive police raids, detentions without trial, torture, deaths in detention, cruel prison sentences and conditions are all common fare in South Africa. Add public butchery. On 20 November 1981, the body of Umgisi Griffiths Mxenge, a prominent attorney, was discovered lying in Umlazi stadium near Durban. His wife, Ms Nonyamezelo Mxenge - herself a lawyer - had spent the night before searching for her missing husband in hospitals and at police stations. She found his remains at a mortuary. She described the sight to the press: 'His throat was slashed, his stomach ripped open and his ears almost cut off. The rest of the body was covered with stab wounds.'

Griffiths Mxenge had spent much of the adulthood of his 46 years in detention, in prison on Robben Island or under banning orders. He was detained in 1966. In 1967 he was given two years on Robben Island for furthering the aims of the African National Congress. A 1961 graduate of Fort Hare, he was able to complete his legal studies only after Robben Island. He was served with a five-year banning order in 1973. In the police crackdown following the Soweto uprising of 1976, Mxenge was held for 103 days under the Terrorism Act for refusing to turn state's witness. Over the final five years of his life, Griffiths Mxenge acted as attorney in many political trials and was the lawyer for the families of Joseph Mdluli and Mapetla Mohapi, both murdered by the South African security police while held in detention. Mxenge and his family had been targets of harassment and death threats. The day before he disappeared, their two dogs were found dead - poisoned.

The funeral was held at King Williams Town. It drew a large crowd, and, as such occasions do in South Africa, provided a forum for political expression. Speakers included: Dr Nthato Mmotlana of the Soweto Committee of Ten; Ms Albertina Sisulu, recently unbanned wife of ANC leader Walter Sisulu who is serving a life sentence on Robben Island; Mr. Archie Gumede of the Release Mandela Committee; Mr Khehla Mthembu of the Azanian Peoples Organization; and Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches. Strong attacks were made on Pretoria's homelands policy and the imminent 'independence' of the Ciskei bantustan nearby. Amid singing of freedom songs, the bishop said the homelands were 'bantustans ruled by unscrupulous creatures who owed their allegiance to Pretoria and collaborated with apartheid'. Others called on the South African regime to negotiate with the African National Congress as 'the only people who matter'.

During the funeral alert youths discovered informers in the crowd. They took a tape recorder from a woman believed to be in the company of a man who thereupon drew a pistol. Before he could fire the crowd set upon him crying 'kill the sell-out'. He was kicked and stoned. Although Bishop Tutu intervened, the man was dead on arrival at hospital. He was a security policeman from the Transkei bantustan.

Pretoria is trying to implicate the ANC in Mxenge's murder. The South African Police general who heads the Security Branch says he is investigating an allegation that ANC money sent to the lawyer for defense trial purposes was used in other ways. It is instructive to read the new Penguin book published in London, INSIDE BOSS by former South African agent Gordon Winter who used his profession as a journalist as cover. He writes of the Z squad, a hit team set up years ago by the Bureau for State Security (BOSS). BOSS has since been superseded in the area of dirty tricks by the intelligence services of the South African Defence Force and the South African Police. SADF reconnaissance commandos were recruited into the Z squad. Some were involved in the latest unsuccessful coup attempt in the Seychelles. A prominent ANC official was assassinated several months ago in Zimbabwe. The Z squad's counterpart in occupied Namibia is Koevoet - Crowbar. South African terror teams will undoubtedly strike farther afield, even as far as the USA. As the hard-pressed and increasingly maddened Pretoria regime strikes out against its opponents, real or imagined, in South Africa and in other countries, it will use any method, any tool, any hired hand.
THE BITTER SWEET STRUGGLE.

500 other Wilson-Rowntree workers were also unfairly fired because they went on strike. An injury to one is an injury to all. In support of the 3 workers who refused to fix the machine.

The struggle of the workers against the bosses is part of our struggle for a better life. All the members of the community must stand together.

The bosses gave the name of SAAWU supporters to the security police. And 40 workers were detained. The bosses and chief sebe told the SB not to release the detainees.

NOW THE WORKERS AND THEIR UNION SAAWU ARE CALLING ON THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA NOT TO EAT OR BUY SWEETS MADE BY WILSON-ROWNTREE. A BOYCOTT IS BEING ORGANISED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

The workers believe that unity is strength.

And they are standing together.

But 3 of England's largest and most important trade unions support SAAWU and the struggle of Rowntree. They are pressuring the bosses in England to support it too.

But the bosses are frightened of a union which represents the workers' interests. So they are refusing to be recognised. SAAWU. They are trying to break the organisation of the workers.

Show your support for the workers' struggle.

BOYCOTT WILSON-ROWNTREE.

And make sure that your friends do too.
FUNERAL SCENE . . . A mourner leaps on top of the hearse carrying Nell Aggett's coffin as thousands press round in an emotional scene after the funeral service in St Mary's Cathedral, Johannesburg, on Saturday.

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Address Correction Requested

—For A Free Southern Africa—