

EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN for SOUTH AFRICA

339 Lafayette Street, New York, N.Y. 10012 PHONE: (212) 477-0066

—For A Free Southern Africa—



SEPTEMBER

1984

THE EMPIRE TREMBLES...

Just a couple of months ago it appeared that Pretoria was well along in re-establishing its dominance over southern Africa: the Nkomati treaty with Mozambique, a ceasefire with Angola, its grip tight on Namibia, the rear bases of the ANC of South Africa and SWAPO of Namibia imperiled, a triumphal tour of Western Europe for P.W. Botha and others in the planning, elections for a 'new dispensation' coming up which would condemn part of South Africa's black population - the so-called Coloureds and Indians - to a revised stranglehold.

Then the townships exploded. Demonstrations against the apartheid elections, the relentless uprooting of settled African families, raising of rents for poverty-stricken urban blacks, months-long ferment in schools, a steadily building nation-wide resistance and police reaction thereto (more South Africans were detained through August than in all 1983), a growing number of bombs at government installations - were foreshocks to the uprising in the first week of this month.

In occupied Namibia as well the people's defiance of Pretoria grows firmer. Namibian soldiers fight on in the north, and throughout the country a renewed purpose spreads. The South African regime's front group, the Multi-Party Conference, is crumbling, as have all that have gone before. A congress of the SWANU political organization overturned its president for being too compliant with the occupation, swept a new executive into office and invited SWAPO's Secretary-General, Andimba Toivo ja Toivo to speak.

Pretoria's proud edifice is cracking from its built-in contradictions, its stupidity, its inhumanity.

SOUTH AFRICA AT WAR

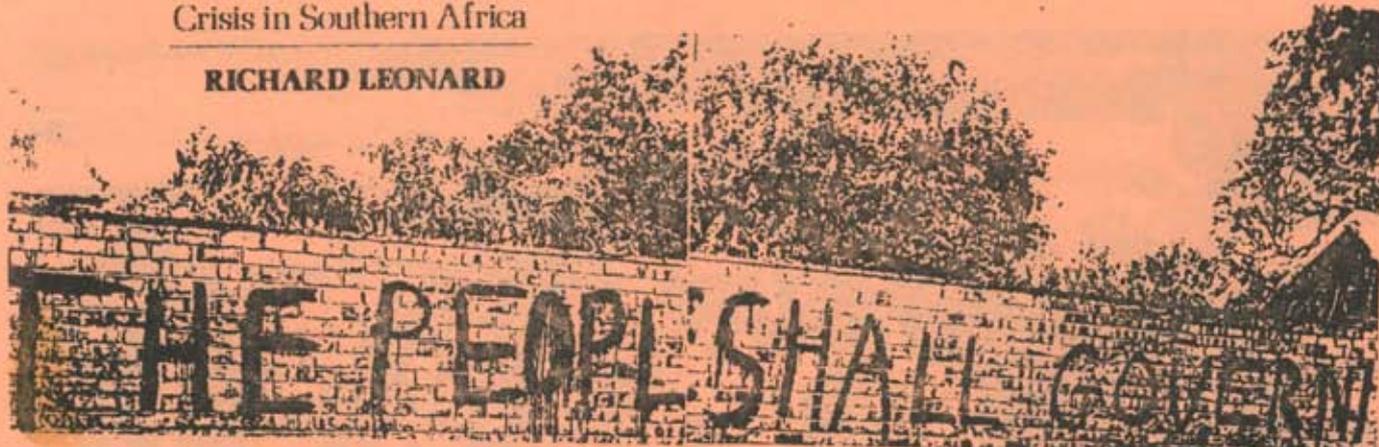
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White Power and the
Crisis in Southern Africa

RICHARD LEONARD



Between 1977 and May 1983 the African National Congress carried out more than 150 armed attacks against the apartheid regime and, as was most recently demonstrated during the elections this August, above ground protests against the regime have grown dramatically. As these simple points illustrate, the pace of resistance inside South Africa has escalated rapidly in the last decade. Furthermore, on Pretoria's western flank, in Namibia, South Africa's sixty-nine year occupation is meeting increasing resistance from the people of Namibia. Beset internally and externally, Pretoria's response has been to escalate its destabilization of neighboring states and drastically expand the militarization of South African society.

'South Africa has entered the decade of the 80's a country at war,' declares Richard Leonard at the beginning of *SOUTH AFRICA AT WAR*. After carefully tracing the militarization of South African society over the last ten years, from cadets in high schools to generals in the cabinet, Leonard skillfully documents the development of a 'total strategy' designed to maintain the white minority's dominance over the black majority. On paper this is a strategy 80 percent political and 20 percent military and, as Leonard points out, the government has indeed taken major steps to co-opt certain sectors of the black population. 'Nevertheless' says Leonard, 'whatever political strategies chosen by the white government to insure the "right of self determination of the White nation", they would be enforced with all the military power that can be mobilized.'

This one statement is a key point in Leonard's analysis of South African strategy. South African society in the 80's is undergoing important changes as the white minority government attempts to maintain its control over the black majority and assert itself as a regional power. By sketching out this background and skillfully documenting the mounting resistance to apartheid within the Republic, Leonard provides a basis for understanding contemporary developments in southern Africa.

Leonard also gives a detailed analysis of the structures of the South African military forces, the pattern of Western arms flows to the apartheid state, and Pretoria's attempts to win support in Western Capitals. *SOUTH AFRICA AT WAR* also includes a critique of the Reagan administration's policy toward southern Africa. He ends with a call for isolation of the apartheid regime and for a reorientation of US policy 'to cut ties with apartheid and to support the black struggle for freedom.' Anyone who wants to understand the situation in southern Africa today should start by reading *SOUTH AFRICA AT WAR*.

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August 1984

THIS IS A MARKED MAN

The Very Reverend Tshenuwani Simon Farisani is a dean in the Northern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa. Included in his district in South Africa's Transvaal province is Venda, a region set aside by the Pretoria apartheid regime as a 'republic'. Dean Farisani lives in Sibasa, 'capital' of Venda.

Dean Farisani returned to South Africa on 8 August after attending an assembly of the Lutheran World Federation in Budapest at which two white Lutheran churches - one in Namibia, one in South Africa - were suspended because they had not resisted apartheid vigorously enough or taken concrete steps to unite with black Lutherans.

The stocky, 36-year-old cleric has long been marked as an outspoken and dangerous opponent by South Africa's security police. They have detained him three times in the past seven years, twice under torture. In June of this year he came to the United States and testified before a Congressional committee, relating his torture, and speaking in Washington and other cities. He was explicit about the control Pretoria's security police have over the police in the Venda bantustan. The dean's statements created a firestorm in South Africa. The Venda police visited Ms Farisani daily just before her husband came home in early July.

Friends in the United States and other countries directed letters and phone calls to their governments and to South African embassies. Nothing happened to the dean in the brief period before setting out for Budapest.

Now Dean Farisani has returned to Pretoria-land, whose masters and their Venda puppets feel even greater hatred for this priest who has exposed so much of their squalid repression and cruelty. The danger for him and for his family will grow as time passes and public attention lags.

ACT TO PROTECT THEM AND OTHERS IN PRETORIA'S GRIP. WRITE REGULARLY -

Secretary of State George Shultz
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Ambassador Brand Fourie
South African Embassy
3051 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

SEND YOUR MESSAGES OF SUPPORT TO:

The Very Rev. Tshenuwani Simon Farisani
P O Box 314
Sibasa, Venda,
South Africa



DEAN TSHENUWANI SIMON FARISANI was first detained by South African security police in March 1977. He had been president of the Black People's Convention, a post he resigned in 1975 when he was ordained, but he was marked as an enemy by the Pretoria regime. He was taken to the South African city of Pietermaritzburg, hundreds of miles from his home in the northern Transvaal, and very badly tortured. Balthazar Johannes Vorster, the prime minister of the day, passed on a message to a Lutheran delegation pleading for the dean's life: 'Better for one man to die than the country be endangered.' Farisani was released in June.

The security police again seized Dean Farisani in October 1977, keeping him incommunicado until January 1978. Then ensued a series of attempts to trap him: agents offered him African National Congress publications, his car was repeatedly stopped at road blocks and searched as he traveled about his district, young men appeared at his door claiming to be liberation guerrillas seeking food and shelter. 'Later I saw them present at torture sessions conducted on me by the security police,' the cleric recalls.

In October 1981, when the dean was in Johannesburg, a police station in Venda was attacked by guerrillas. Several Lutheran pastors were arrested including a lay preacher who was beaten to death by the police. On 9 November, the security police attached to the newly formed Venda detained Dean Farisani. Early in January they performed their most severe torture on him.

He was made to squat in an imaginary chair, to lie on the floor while the police kicked him in his private parts. The police pulled out his hair in tufts, they threw him in the air and let him crash to the floor. They applied electric wires to his head, his body, his privates and shot the current through him until he fell forward onto the floor covered with water. He remembers calling out: 'Please take me, Lord!' His tormentors shouted: 'Hallelujah, praise the Lord!'

The dean suffered a series of heart attacks and was taken to hospital. A magistrate saw him but fled the room not wanting to hear of his torture. Finally a representative of the British Council of Churches got into the hospital and learned of his agony. Farisani wanted to bring criminal charges against the police but was forced to drop them. Lawyers told him after his release in June 1982 that they were convinced he would have been killed had he not.

Dean Farisani's job requires almost constant travel about his district. Before coming to the USA in June 1984, he experienced a number of curious mishaps to his automobile. A wheel suddenly came off; luckily he was moving slowly. The drive shaft was severed, again while moving at low speed. Mechanics at a garage could not explain this incident. Once on a road he had to swerve into a ditch to avoid a speeding police vehicle fitted upfront with heavy iron bars. The Venda police and their white supervisors from Pretoria - whose identities are known to the dean and recorded in writing in safe places - are surely competent to arrange an accident for their hated enemy.

Dean Farisani, Ms Regina Farisani - who is expecting a third baby in late September 1984, and their two little children live virtually defenseless but for the watch that friends in South Africa and around the world keep upon them.

*'THE TORTURE OF A SOUTH AFRICAN PASTOR'
an interview with Dean and Ms Farisani
25 minute sound film, 16mm, video
produced by Pastor John Evenson*

*available from: Lutheran World Ministries
360 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10010*

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28 August 1984

PRETORIA'S EXPLOSIVE SECRETS - COVERUP OF THE COVERUP

Three young people in South Africa go on trial in a Pretoria court on 3 September 1984 - accused of having obtained and passed on some of the apartheid regime's most closely held military secrets. The South African government is so concerned that it wants to hold this trial in camera. Documents listed on the high treason indictment spell out enough to give any military intelligence service conviction fits:

'Planning notes on military operations; National Intelligence Service source report; South African Defence Force military intelligence source report; photograph of Directorate of Special Tasks members and others taken at a special task base, April 1982; photograph of DST officer and others, September 1983; South African Defence Force DST standing working procedures manual; photocopy of identity documents of two persons involved in operations; printout of telex message sent by DST office; copy of extracted page from Security Police information query to DST; photocopies of passport photographs of persons involved in inter alia DST operations; military code book and intelligence on the command network concerned; copies of 29 intercepted radio messages dealt with by DST; visa application (copy) handled by DST; appendix to a source report: layout of foreign brigade; SADF military operation: progress report, June 1983; copy of mastercopies of transparencies for DST briefing of superiors; source report: Foreign Reconnaissance Organization.....'

Fleshing these out will reveal the active aggression of the South African Defence Force's Directorate of Special Operations or Tasks (DSO or DST) in attacking and undermining the neighboring states of Mozambique, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Angola. None of this is surprising but the details will show the world with proof positive the extent, persistence and continuity of Pretoria's aims despite accords and ceasefires and talk of peace.

A South African drafted soldier, Roland Mark Hunter, 25, worked as a clerk in the office of the SADF's Chief of Staff Intelligence, and he is accused of purloining the documents and passing them on to the African National Congress. (The SADF Chief of Staff Intelligence is Lt Gen Pieter van der Westhuizen, a frequent visitor to the United States.) Patricia Murray Hanekom, 27, a Zimbabwean citizen, and her husband, Derek Andre Hanekom, a 31-year-old South African, are charged with being members of, conspiring with and furthering the aims of the ANC. The Hanekoms are alleged to have been in contact with Marius and Jeanette Schoon, South Africans in exile. Jeanette Schoon and their six-year-old daughter, Katryn, were killed in a parcel bomb explosion in Lubango, Angola, late in June. Charges against the three include high treason and violations of the Publications Act and the Internal Security Act.

This will be more than a spy trial. A young woman and two young men have joined the innumerable others of all ages, races and political persuasions in struggle against Pretoria and its apartheid system in South Africa and its active aggression upon independent African nations nearby. Patricia Murray Hanekom, Derek Hanekom and Roland Hunter have acted out of conscience. They are patriots. They deserve our support.

Americans can involve their legislators, church leaders, lawyers, all citizens in pressing at least for a completely open trial.



SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY AGGRESSION TRIAL



THE GUARDIAN Tuesday July 31 1984

'Spy' says Pretoria backed insurgents

By a Correspondent

A young white South African who goes on trial for high treason in Pretoria this week charged with spying for the African National Congress was, in fact, passing information to the Mozambique Government about the activities of the South African-sponsored Mozambique National Resistance rebels.

Roland Mark Hunter, aged 25, will appear in the Pretoria Supreme Court with Derek Andre Hanekom, aged 31, and Patricia Elizabeth Hanekom, aged 27. All three have been in detention since December, 1983.

Mr Hunter is alleged to have stolen, copied, and removed a large number of military documents and passed these to a contact from the banned ANC.

But according to sources close to Mr Hunter, he worked in a section of South African military intelligence concerned with running the Mozambique National Resistance.

The trial, if held in open court, is expected to provide the first, documented evidence that South Africa has been involved in destabilising Mozambique. But it is likely that the section of the trial in which Mr Hunter gives evidence will be held in camera and there is concern that the true nature of his activities, which forms part of his defence, will not become known.

Mr Hunter joined the South African Defence Force for national service in January, 1983. Subsequently he asked to be transferred to non-combatant status and on receiving security clearance, became assistant to a colonel in South African military intelligence responsible for organising the MNR, the sources said.

His duties involved transporting people who had come

out of, or were to return to Mozambique for MNR purposes. He carried messages and bought supplies of food and equipment to be air-dropped into Mozambique. Mr Hunter also obtained documents relating to the aims of the MNR which included the words military intelligence responsible for organising the MNR, the sources said.

One task undertaken by Mr Hunter during this period was the transportation of a group of 14-year-old girls abducted from Mozambique to MNR camps in the Eastern Transvaal, for the rebels' "entertainment."

Much information obtained by Mr Hunter at this time was passed on by him to the Mozambican Government, the sources said. Mr Hunter apparently felt he was morally obliged to act as he did.

During his interrogation, security police told him that the information he had supplied had helped President Machel obtain the recently-signed security pact with South Africa.

The sources said Mr Hunter also gained information about South African involvement in Zimbabwe and with the Umita rebels in Angola.

South Africa has held up supplies of British weapons, including machineguns, to Lesotho and Britain has complained several times about the delays, officials in Pretoria said yesterday.

A spokesman for the South African Foreign Ministry said: "States have the right to control the movements of armaments across their territory." The British Embassy in Pretoria confirmed that it had complained.

Lesotho, surrounded by South Africa and dependent on it economically, has protested that Pretoria is trying to force it to sign a non-aggression treaty.

Ex-soldier faces trial in S. Africa

By Jonathan Steele

A South African national serviceman who obtained direct evidence of the Government's part in financing and training armed rebels to destabilise Mozambique and Zimbabwe is expected to go on trial in the Pretoria Supreme Court in the next few weeks.

The South African Government may insist that the case be held in camera because of its diplomatically explosive nature.

South Africa has always publicly denied having any connection with the Movement for National Resistance and the Zimbabwean dissidents who have used sabotage and assassination in the two countries. Until now, most of the evidence pointing at South Africa's role has been circumstantial, or come from captured guerrillas.

Although the weight of this evidence is overwhelming, the South African Government is known to be worried about the implications of its involvement emerging in an open South African court.

The case involves Mr Roland Hunter, aged 25, who worked in military intelligence until he was detained for questioning under the Internal Security Act on December 13, last year. Two civilians, Patricia Murray and Derek Hanekom, who were detained two days

later are expected to go on trial with him.

Lawyers for the accused have not been given the detailed charge sheet, but the South African Law and Order Minister, Mr Louis le Grange, told Parliament in February that charges of high treason were being considered.

Like many white South Africans, Mr Hunter is said by friends to have thought of refusing the draft with the South African army to avoid service in Namibia and Angola. This would have involved a prison sentence. Instead, he asked for non-combatant status and was enrolled in military intelligence as a driver.

One of his jobs was to escort the military intelligence department's paymaster around camps and farms in the northern Transvaal where MNR and Zimbabwean guerrillas were trained for cross-border operations.

Mr Hunter had no history of political involvement in his student days before national service, but friends say his conscience was aroused to the point where he decided he had to pass on what he had learnt about South Africa's subversion of its independent African neighbours. He would claim that he was acting as a legitimate "whistle-blower" and not as a traitor.



Maj. Scheepers het talle aandenkings van Amerika teruggebring, onder andere dié Amerikaanse lands vlag.

South African Police Major Coenraad Scheepers attended a Washington, D.C. conference of the Fingerprint Society in April 1983. In an interview in the SAP magazine SERVAMUS a year later the major - director of the fingerprint office in the city of Springs northeast of Johannesburg - relates how his 'friend and American colleague, Sam Durrett', invited him to come to the USA. Sam Durrett is an agent of the United States Secret Service.

The article entitled by the SERVAMUS reporter 'S.A.P. "Infiltrates" F.B.I. and Secret Service' says Scheepers and Durrett met at another Fingerprint Society conference in England two years before. Durrett and three other Secret Service agents met Scheepers at Washington's National Airport. 'From that moment on it was a great festival,' says the SAP major, adding that both FBI and Secret Service men did everything to make his stay as pleasant as possible. The 11-nation attenders at the three-day conference discussed new methods and technologies and the latest equipment and aids. Scheepers spoke to the assembly. Sam Durrett wrote him afterward: 'First I would like to thank you for your support and input and would like to emphasize that it is due to you that the conference was considered such a success.'

Scheepers was invited to stay longer and work with the Secret Service and FBI fingerprint people, study their methods and techniques and at the same time exchange knowledge. Scheepers avers the standard of training at the FBI academy is 'unbelievable' and that the Americans are ahead of the SAP in technical fields, with latest laser techniques and hundreds of computers. The FBI has 250 million fingerprints on file against the SAP's 8 million.

Scheepers' American friends took him sightseeing through the White House and over Civil War battlefields in Virginia. The sheriff of Fairfax presented the SAP major with a badge. The high point of Scheepers' US visit was meeting the director of the Secret Service - 'a confidant of Ronald Reagan himself and could therefore mean a lot to us' - who presented Scheepers with an inscribed photograph: 'To Major Coenraad Scheepers. With many thanks and best wishes in all your endeavours.'

John R. Simpson, Director,
United States Secret Service
Department of the Treasury
Washington, DC 20223

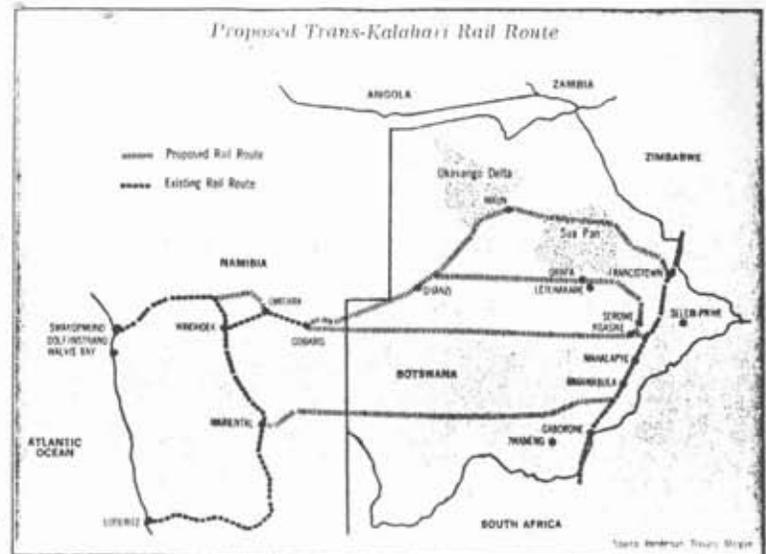


Die manne van die U.S. Secret Service het gesorg vir 'n aangename verblyf. Hier poseer maj. Scheepers (middel) saam met 'n paar van dié joviale kêrels.

WORKING ON THE RAILROAD...

Furthering Pretoria's Regional Power

For over 50 years there have been dreams and schemes of a rail line running from the Namibian port of Walvis Bay on the Atlantic across Namibia and Botswana and northward into the heart of Africa, to Zimbabwe, Zambia, Zaire, Malawi. A portion was completed: Walvis via Windhoek to Gobabis, partway to Botswana. In the meanwhile South Africa ran a line up from its Cape Province to Windhoek and on to the rich mineral diggings at Tsumeb. And, in pursuit of Cecil Rhodes' grand Cape to Cairo concept, a railroad was constructed out of South Africa along the eastern edge of Botswana and into Zimbabwe.



SUNDAY TIMES, Johannesburg

New life has come to the half-century idea - with the near completion of a feasibility study for a projected \$910 million, 1420 km railway line that would tap Botswana's 300 million ton Kgaswe coalfield and cart the product to the ocean. Other fields and mineral resources such as soda ash, nickel and copper in the land-locked country would be exploited. The central, most direct line of those outlined in the sketch above is most likely to be chosen. American, British, French, Japanese and South African multi-nationals are interested both in the mining and building the line which entails laying new track across Botswana and the rebuilding and straightening of the old right of way from Gobabis to Walvis. Financing is expected to come from corporations, the World Bank and the Botswana government.

The line is to terminate at a point known as Dolfynstrand just up from the port of Walvis Bay. No harbor will be constructed. After a three-and-a-half day freight train journey from the Botswana fields the coal will be carried to ocean going vessels on a 2km-long conveyor belt. Here's the catch: Dolfynstrand lies within the 434-square-mile enclave of Walvis Bay. Pretoria claims this patch of Namibia as its own, and has made it a constituency of its Cape Province. The enclave is heavily armed, with a South African army and air base and naval facilities. Walvis is Namibia's only deep water port. South Africa has a firm grip on the cork of the bottle and an 'independent' Namibia, no matter the government, is economically in hostage to Pretoria. And so to a lesser extent are those central African countries that would make use of the rail line.

There's more: the South African Transport Service, claiming losses in revenue, is in the process of abandoning several branch rail lines in occupied Namibia. The most important is that from Luderitz running due east to the main north-south line at Keetmanshoop. Luderitz is a fishing boat port but with a great deal of work its rocky harbor could be developed into a workable deep water Namibian harbor. The SATS is pressing forward not only to close down the rail line but to tear up both track and ties from Luderitz bay well inland to Aus, and to take the rails back to South Africa. Thus Pretoria will have another choke hold on Namibia's - and inland countries' - access to world markets.

In 1922 in the first years of South Africa's mandate over the Territory of Namibia, Pretoria tried to extend its grip over the country's railways and harbors. An act of Parliament transferred the railway 'in full dominium' to South Africa's Governor-General, now the State President. The League of Nations' Permanent Mandates Commission caught this ploy, and Pretoria's representative explained that it was just a working arrangement: if the mandate was revoked the law would terminate. The United Nations revoked South Africa's mandate in 1966 and itself took over administration of Namibia.

Pretoria's savaging of the Namibian peoples' vital rail system forms a bona fide case for presentation before the International Court of Justice.

CRY AMANDLA! June Goodwin. Holmes & Meier Publishers, Inc., 30 Irving Place,
New York, N.Y. 10003 (1-212-254-4100)
\$11.50 paperback. \$22.50 cloth.

How do women come to terms with South Africa's racist and patriarchal society? June Goodwin, former CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR correspondent in South Africa, interviewed women in all walks of life there to record their responses. She presents them in this book in a kind of contrapuntal arrangement.

The major theme - expressed in the book's title, AMANDLA (Power) - is set by Thenjie Mtintso, a journalist, a one-time Black Power advocate, now an African National Congress member in exile. Ms Goodwin chronicles her life, from poverty-stricken youth to political awakening and activism, thence to banning, detention, torture and exile, once again in destitution. The story comes out at intervals, some of it as it occurs during the author's three-year assignment in South Africa and part as the trust between the two women grows and Thenjie elaborates on her past experience and reactions.

The other voices in CRY AMANDLA! are those of conservative white Afrikaner women, of a variety of white 'liberals', and of a number of urban African women. The attitudes and premises of the whites make it clear why so many Africans, like Thenjie, have reluctantly accepted armed struggle as inevitable to bring change in southern Africa. The reactions of the Africans indicate that the struggle will continue inexorably until that change occurs.

Ms Goodwin has woven into her text short, marvelously evocative passages describing the women she meets and the settings of many of her interviews. Sadly, her gifted portrayals only point up the tragic fact that the women who spoke so freely with her do not know and never speak with each other across the black-white line.

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FROM THE FRONT LINE.....

is a bi-weekly newsletter produced by the Solidarity News Service collective in Botswana for those overseas in the media, for activists, trade unions, the student and academic community, the churches, for all interested in and concerned with the ongoing resistance to the apartheid regime in Pretoria.

FROM THE FRONT LINE covers events inside South Africa, and relates to Namibia and other countries adjacent to and near South Africa, from the perspective of popular resistance to all facets of Pretorian rule and aggression.

FROM THE FRONT LINE covers political trials; trade union activities; strikes; meetings; demonstrations; repression by the South African Police, the South African Defence Force and the entire bureaucracy of the apartheid state; actions of the liberation movements in South Africa.

FROM THE FRONT LINE

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Solidarity News Service also supplies fast news telex service by arrangement & features and short articles on events in South Africa.

LIFE IN NAMIBIA

On 25 July 1984, a group of South African soldiers, uniformed and armed, drove up in military vehicles to the Lutheran Hospital at Onandjokwe in northern Namibia. They said they came from 'number 53' at Ondangua. They demanded to search the entire facility, see all patients and obtain names of all people working at the hospital. A doctor and a matron accompanied some of the soldiers. Others stationed themselves at various points throughout the building.

An out-patient saw a soldier digging in the ground under a tree outside the maternity ward and burying an object. The soldiers then jumped into their vehicles and departed. Hospital authorities phoned the South African Police who came, dug up the object and told hospital staff that it was a dangerous device and could cause death. They left taking the object with them.

The following day an armed man wearing a South African uniform, accompanied by armed colleagues who remained outside in their vehicles, came to the administrative office. He said he came from Oshakati military base but would not give his name. He claimed his purpose was to gather information about the explosive device. He added that from reports he did not think it was dangerous, however he wanted to send it to 'experts' for examination and identification. Before leaving, this man said that the entire hospital should be searched for possible explosives and AK47 rifles allegedly buried on the premises by SWAPO.

The South African Defence Force military commander in Namibia, Major General George Meiring, reacted strongly. He stated 'a black member of the patrol picked up a detonator of Russian origin and threw it away...there is no reason for Security Forces to bury or hide detonators, rifles or weaponry. It is therefore suspected that it was buried either by hospital staff or SWAPO itself.'

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