

Project name: AL3283

Date of interview: 9 February 2009

Location of interview: Garsfontein, Pretoria

Language/s of interview: Afrikaans

Length of interview: 10 minutes 13 seconds

Name of Interviewer: De Wet Potgieter

Name of interviewee/s: Colonel Vic McPherson

Name of translator (if any): De Wet Potgieter

Name of transcriber:

Notes on access and use (if any):

Audio file name/s of interview: AL3283\_MCPHERSONVIC\_20090209\_2

Interviewer	We are again talking to Vic McPherson. I want to talk to him about the Lusaka bomb when the ANC offices were blown up.
Vic	<p>The bomb exploded on June 5, 1985. ANC offices, Lusaka, Chacha Road.</p> <p>What happened was that we had an Indian who owned a shoe factory in Swaziland. He had to, or rather he visited the ANC offices in Lusaka on a daily and weekly basis and then sat down talking to Joe Slovo in his office and also with other top people. He had light yellow leather, no light brown, case. He told me and other colleagues he could do the job for us. Actually we asked him when he arrives in Lusaka once a week- he flew from Swaziland. Every week you are there, are you prepared that we build a bomb into you leather case.</p> <p>Are you prepared, and it would be twenty minutes before the bomb would explode, are you prepared to leave the case by accident in Joe Slovo's office and we will pay you R20 000.</p> <p>These Asiatic people, money means everything for them. He agreed and we took his leather case to special forces headquarters at Speskop. There was a major with a master degree in electronics. Also an expert in explosives and other. I then handed the case to him and he said it would be an easy job. You know what, he took that case toe pieces and lined the</p>

different sections out on a table. He packed two loads of explosives into the case- one there where you open it up and the other at the bottom of the case.

He used his own pocket calculator as a detonator. Once you pressed any four digits into the calculator, it would trigger the timing device starting to run backwards and after twenty minutes the calculator explodes creating a chain reaction to ignite the explosives.

It was reported in the newspapers that a bomb exploded, but it was not in Joe Slovo's office.

My colleague then went to Swaziland. We had R15 000 for him. The bomb did go off. They had a kind of steel plated gates at the offices with three terrorists guarding the place.

Coming back to the bomb. He did go to Joe Slovo's office, but without his leather case. He was in Slovo's office, but without his case. He then realised he had to do something. That night at nine he sneaked back to Cha-cha Road.

The case was put against the entrance gate and the pin codes keyed in and after twenty minutes the bomb destroyed that steel plated front gate. It was a two storey building, but constructed with corrugated iron, the power of the explosion ripped the building apart. It was no big deal, but the three men guarding the premises were stretcher cases after the explosion. To hospital with them.

But he had not done what we requested of him otherwise he would have earned R20 000. We went to pay him and told him he did not kill Joe Slovo. You merely blew away the gates and the roof of the building.

You know, that Indian, the TRC asked me about him because his children in Swaziland requested the commission to find out what happened to their dad.

He had booked into a five star hotel for a meeting with businessmen. He disappeared that night. They wanted to know if we killed him. I said, no.

Maybe the ANC did it. Maybe they had found out that he was working for us.

He simply disappeared. There was no funeral. There was nothing. Moer toe.