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ANPA WORLD PRESS AWARD 1966

STEVE BIKO

WE can only express our sense of shock and outrage at the death in detention of Mr Steve Biko.

We have been deeply concerned for a long time at the way people keep on dying while in the hands of the Security Police.

And at the way these deaths seem to be on the increase. This is the 20th person to die in 18 months.

We have been particularly concerned at the number which have been surrounded by unsatisfactory circumstances. Such as the Imam Haron, to whose widow the State later made an ex gratia payment of R5 000.

And Mr Joseph Mdluli, of whose fatal injuries Mr Justice Howard said in a judgment two months ago: "The most probable explanation is that all or most of (the wounds) were inflicted by the Security Police."

All this has been disturbing enough. But it fades into insignificance compared with the death of Steve Biko.

Because this is the first time a major black leader has died in the hands of the Security Police. Perhaps the most important black leader in South Africa.

Steve Biko was the founder of Saso; the honorary life president of the Black People's Convention; the spiritual leader of the whole black consciousness movement.

His following was vast, particularly among the black youth.

He was also an international figure. For this was an unusually talented man whom many foreign dignitaries went out of their way to visit — and who was regarded by some as a man of potential greatness.

His death will have international repercussions.

And overnight it will create black South Africa's number one martyr.

We have no way of knowing what led to his death. But we do know that the official version given so far is unsatisfactory.

Steve Biko was detained 3½ weeks ago — a big, strong young man of 30 with no sign of illness.

Mr Kruger says that seven days before his death he began refusing his meals and "threatened" a hunger strike.

But people don't die in seven days from a hunger strike. It can take weeks and weeks. Bernie Wrangmore starved on Table Mountain for 67 days.

And if necessary they can be force-fed, as we know from Northern Ireland.

Apart from which the authorities must have known they had an important man on their hands; that the whole world would be suspicious if he died suddenly and mysteriously in detention.

So why didn't they protect themselves against this possibility? Why didn't they announce that he had gone on a hunger strike?

Above all why didn't they notify the family, and invite them to send a private doctor when his illness seemed to be getting worse?

But they did no such thing — until they called to tell his mother he was already dead.

Why, Mr Kruger? Why?

World outcry over Biko death

STAFF REPORTERS

THE DEATH of Mr Steve Biko, the 30-year-old black leader, caused an international uproar yesterday.

Mr Biko, widely regarded as the founder of the black consciousness movement in South Africa, died in detention on Monday.

International reaction included strong statements from the United Nations Amnesty International, the US Senate, the British Anti-Apartheid Movement and Mr Andrew Young.

In a statement yesterday, the Minister of Justice, Mr Jimmy Kruger, said Mr Biko died after refusing meals and water since September 5.

Mr Biko had been in detention since August 18 when he was arrested under the Terrorism Act near King William's Town. He became "unwell" and was transferred to Pretoria on Sunday, where he died on Monday.

Mr Kruger said last night that a State pathologist, a family pathologist and a third pathologist were conducting the post-mortem in Pretoria.

Mr Kruger said on SABC-TV last night he was concerned about the effect deaths of detainees had on the image of the police and the country.

Commenting on calls for judicial inquiries into the deaths, he said in all cases of unnatural deaths, there was an inquest which was a judicial inquiry. "What more judicial inquiry must one have," he asked.

When Mr Biko's mother was told of his death yesterday morning on the veranda of her small home in Ginzberg township in King William's Town, where Mr Biko had been living with her during his term of restriction, she wept quietly.

But on entering the house she collapsed and a doctor was called to treat her.

Mr Biko's wife, Ntsiki, who lives at a mission hospital 50 km from King William's Town was told by friends and broke the news to their two small sons, Nkosinathi, 7, and Samuela, 2. The name Nkosinathi means "God with us".

Within hours of the news of Mr Biko's death more than 400 people gathered in Johannesburg for a prayer service and shocked reaction poured in from political and church leaders throughout the country.

Several speakers praised Mr Biko as "the father of black consciousness", and a number of women sobbed throughout the service.

The service ended with the singing of the black national anthem, "Nkosi Sikelele Afrika" and the giving of the black power clenched fist salute to shouts of "Aman! A!" (power).

Students at the University of the North (Turfloop) held a requiem mass for Mr Biko.

Mr Biko, the founder and first president of SASO (South African Students Organisation) in 1968, was regarded as the activities connected with riots in Port Elizabeth "inter alia for the drafting and distribution of pamphlets which incited arson and violence."

He was held at the Walmer Police Station in Port Elizabeth.

During his detention a magistrate visited him on September 2 in accordance with the law.

From September 5 he refused meals and threatened a hunger-strike.

Key Africa specialist Senator Dick Clark, who met the black leader in



MR STEVE BIKO ... dead

D-day for Soweto pupils

Staff Reporters

TODAY is D-day for the 27 000 pupils registered at the 40 post-primary schools in Soweto to re-enrol — but a spot survey of 18 schools yesterday showed that only 470 have done so.

The State has taken over control of the 40 schools, and Government officials said yesterday that 3 000 pupils had re-enrolled.

Principals questioned by the Rand Daily Mail doubted that this figure was correct.

Yesterday Mr G J Rouseau, Secretary for Bantu Education, has said that pupils who have not re-enrolled by today will not be allowed to write the year-end examinations.

No pupils at all have re-enrolled at Naledi Junior Secondary School, Morris Isaacson High School or Lefontse Junior Secondary School. Their total previous enrolment was 2 300.

Meadowlands Senior Secondary School where there were scenes of stone-throwings has the highest number of re-enrolled pupils — 184.

At all post-primary schools visited by the "Mail" yesterday pupils were continuing their stay-away.

At both the senior schools in Kwa-Thema, Springs, pupils were also still staying away.

But at the Themba-Likazulu Higher Primary School more than a third of the pupils turned up.

A report-back meeting by the Committee of Six, which represents the 600 Soweto teachers who have decided to resign, is to be held tomorrow.

It was scheduled for yesterday, but was postponed because the legal adviser was not available, and because a committee member, Mr Nathan Molope, was admitted to hospital on Monday.

University of the North (Turfloop) students yesterday chanted for the resignation of the rector, Professor W Kgware, after seven members of the Students' Representative Council were detained and driven away by police after being summoned to the rector's office.



Spring is finally here and it's for real this time, so the forecast says. So it's time to shed dowdy winter gear and get into something really summery and cool. Johannesburg model Cammie wears one of the beautiful outfits that will be featured in Eve's summer fashion splash tomorrow. Picture: ALAN VAN ROOYEN

Nats vote on mixed club sport

By PATRICK LAURENCE Political Staff

A CALL for legislation to prevent racially-mixed sports clubs in South Africa was rejected by an overwhelming majority at the National Party in Pretoria last night.

About 400 delegates rejected a motion proposed by the MP for Maraisburg, Mr A C van Wyk, calling for a law to ban mixed clubs.

Instead delegates voted for an amendment proposed by the MP for Vereeniging, Mr F W de

Klerk. His amendment opposed legislation unless "a pattern develops which disturbs good order, protection of identity, self-determination and established rights."

After the vote the Minister of Sport, Dr Piet Koornhof, thanked delegates for "a special night in my life."

He had earlier pleaded for delegates to leave matters and stressed that his department was acting in terms of the sports policy approved at National Party congresses last year.

Dr Koornhof told delegates that since last Sep-

tember only 56 people had joined racially-mixed clubs, of whom 31 were cricketers. Some of these people had since rejoined their original clubs.

Mr Van Wyk had said the sports policy should be backed by legislation.

"I was just able to accept the policies of the last congress, but I am not prepared to accept any more," Mr Van Wyk said.

"Here tonight we must stand fully by congress decisions in 1976 and not give the Minister a blank cheque," Dr Koornhof said the

policies were strictly administered in terms of Nationalist decisions, controlled by the Department of Sport on all levels and there was no need for delegates to be concerned.

The question of social mixing after multinational games had given his department the least problems of all.

"If there had been one dance opportunity or integration opportunity, the English Press would have bust their seams to get it on the front page. There were not any," he said, reports Sapa.

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By GEOFFREY ALLEN

LONDON. — A secret plan to force South Africa to stop Rhodesia's oil supplies was leaked to the Rand Daily Mail yesterday.

The plan has been drawn up by the Commonwealth working group which is considering ways of enforcing the oil embargo against Rhodesia as a means of persuading Mr Ian Smith to accept majority rule.

Two schemes are given in the confidential report — either British subsidiary companies in South Africa must be forced to obey oil sanctions or an oil embargo must be placed on the Republic.

The working group meets on September 26 to finalise its decisions.

If the Southern Africa committee accepts the recommendations Britain would find it diplomatically awkward, if not impossible, to resist the wishes of the majority of the Commonwealth.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports from Pretoria that the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, has been assured by the British Government that Britain does not make authoritative statements on hypothetical situations such as a possible oil embargo against South Africa.

The British reply followed an urgent South African request for clarification of an earlier London report which quoted a Foreign Office spokesman as saying the question of oil

Secret oil embargo plan against SA

sanctions against South Africa was connected to a Rhodesian settlement.

The first scheme outlined in the Commonwealth report proposes an extension of legislation to encompass British subsidiaries in South Africa. The plan details four points: ● Subsidiary companies should be subject to the same provisions as British nationals who broke sanctions.

● Parent companies should force their subsidiaries to comply with sanctions. ● Parent companies should appoint to the board of their subsidiaries a director to police sanctions. ● A total oil embargo

should be placed on any company that broke sanctions.

The report says action along these lines "would have a very considerable impact on reducing the supply of petroleum to Rhodesia." The second scheme deals with an embargo on the supply of crude oil or oil products to South Africa in the absence of effective and verifiable guarantees.

South Africa would then be obliged either "to place in jeopardy the supply of oil to the Republic, or agree to modify its existing rules relating to the marketing of oil and oil products."

PM warns of big test

Political Staff

SOUTH Africans faced a future in which they would be tested more than any other nation in history, the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, said yesterday.

He told more than 1 200 delegates at the National Party's Transvaal congress in the Pretoria City Hall: "Internally and externally pressure will be applied against us, and that pressure will increase as sure as you are sitting here today."

Mr Vorster's warning came amid moves at the United Nations to call for an oil embargo against South Africa.

"We have no plan to surrender," Mr Vorster said to applause from the crowd. "The future depends on you and the National Party."

Mr Vorster slammed critics who interpreted "moving away from discrimination" as the dismantling of the policy of separate development. "Discrimination has two meanings, one justified and one unjustified," he said.

To deny a person benefits on the ground of race was unjustified but differentiation in a multiracial society was essential for equal opportunities, Mr Vorster said.

"If the policy of separate schools for different races is discrimination, then I say I will discriminate because this is the policy of the National Party and it will remain that way."

"If the policy of separate group areas is discrimination, then I am guilty... but it is not discrimination."

FOOTNOTE: The congress accepted the Government's new constitutional plan yesterday, but steps will be taken against one delegate, believed to be Mr Cas Greyling, MP for Carletonville, who refused to accept the majority decision. See Page 5

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