

POLICEMEN BUNGLE SPYING ATTEMPT ON INKATHA

Two members of the South African Security Police and an informer were cross-questioned by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi before angry delegates and observers attending the Inkatha conference.

Supporters were incensed when they heard from plain-clothes KwaZulu police that the men had openly denigrated Chief Buthelezi and the Inkatha movement.

The men had not realised that they were talking to KwaZulu police-women loyal to Inkatha. The police-women reported their conversation with the men in detail.

Brought before the conference one of the men at first tried to give a false name. Another then admitted that the two of them were Security Policemen from Pretoria. The third man was an informer who claimed he was a member of AZASO.

Another policeman had run away when he realised they had been uncovered.

Chief Buthelezi issued a statement on the incident revealing all the details including the names of those involved. He said:

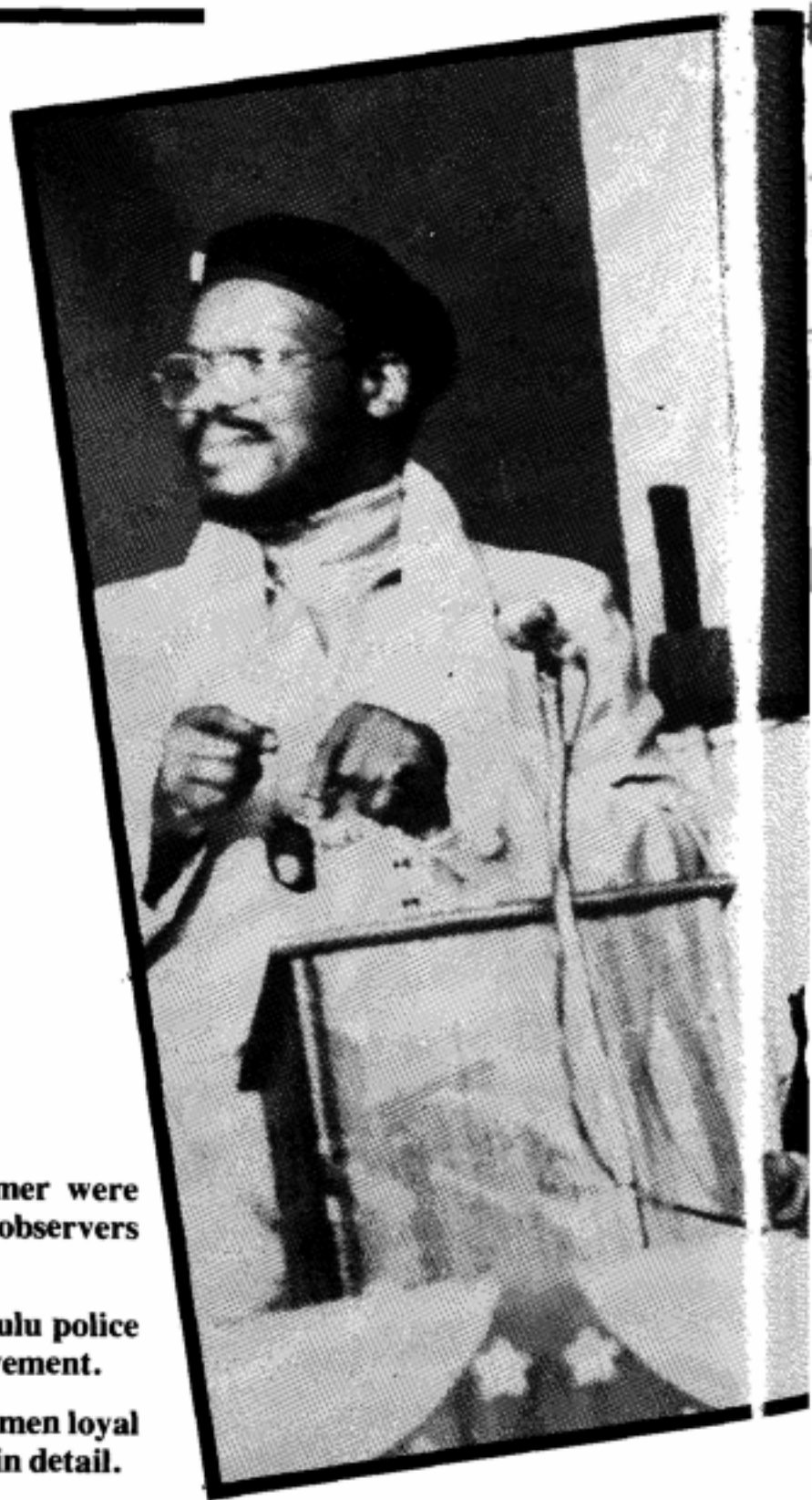
'The activities of two members of the Security Police and an informer were brought to my attention by Colonel S. M. Mathe, the Deputy-Commissioner of the KwaZulu Police.

'He reported that two female members of the KwaZulu Police Force overheard a conversation in which three Security Policemen and an informer were saying derogatory things about my address to conference, and about Inkatha. They joined this discussion group and reported the matter to

Colonel Mathe.

'Colonel Mathe, fearful of the consequences for the people concerned who were denigrating me and Inkatha at an Annual General conference, questioned the men and discovered that they were members of the Security Police.

In the interests of avoiding an unfortunate incident, Colonel Mathe decided to bring the people concerned to me. Before he could do so, one of the three



ran away but his identity was made known to me by the other two Security Policemen.

The three Security Policemen involved were:

- (1) Detective Constable T.P. Makgoge from the Pretoria Head Office. No. S171503P*
- (2) Detective Constable B.S. Mbanda No. 171887P who ran away and his particulars were supplied to Colonel Mathe from his two colleagues.*
- (3) Detective Constable David Tshikalange who also stated that he came from the Pretoria Security Branch.*

The Security Policemen were in the company of an informer claiming to be a member of AZASO named Mr. N.P.



Chief Buthelezi left, policemen centre, informer right.

M. Moema, of White City, Jabavu, P.O. KwaXuma.

They are travelling in a kombi whose registration number is DMV 293 T.

I questioned them concerning the insults which our female police told us they hurled at me and Inkatha. They denied making the alleged remarks.

Detective Constable T.P. Makgaga stated that they were at Ulundi to look for members of the External Mission of the African National Congress whom they described as 'enemies' of the people of South Africa.

I told him that we at this Conference do not regard members of the External Mission as our enemies. There are differences between us on the strategies that we follow, that is all. The whole Conference agreed with me with one voice.

I naturally resent this kind of intrusion at our Inkatha Conference. It was also strongly resented by delegates at this Conference. The activity of the Security Police in denigrating me and Inkatha at an Inkatha Annual General Conference gave rise to a great deal of tension.

There were people who adopted a threatening attitude towards them as they were being taken to the police car. I had to ask them to stay in the marquee until the atmosphere was less tense.

They were only taken out by Colonel Mathe after the atmosphere had become more calm.

I am aware that KwaZulu is part of South Africa and in terms of law and Government practice, I am aware of the fact that the Security Police is active in KwaZulu as elsewhere.

I took strong exception to the manner in which the Security Police send in these Security Police into my capital and territory without the courtesy of informing my Commissioner of Police.

I also resent the manner in which they send in Detective Constables to operate as agents provocateur.

They know that the KwaZulu Police Force does not have a Security Division and they thought they could do what they liked with impunity. It was only a sense of outrage on the part of those to whom they spoke which brought the whole matter to light.

Departments of the South African Police have been undermining my position for many years now, and it is interesting that the Security Police operate in the manner they are doing.

I take exception to them coming here to create trouble by insulting me and undermining Inkatha which operates openly and is not involved in any clandestine activities of any sort.

The ugliness of the incident is increased by the fact that the Security Policemen were in the company of an informer. This informer had told the female members of the KwaZulu Police that he had been present on the campus of the University of Zululand during the tragic events of October 29th last year.

One is therefore entitled to wonder to what extent he, as a member of AZASO, was also then acting as an agent provocateur, together with the Security Police, and the extent to which they participated in the build up of antagonism which led to the very unfortunate clash.

It is tragic for the whole of South Africa that the Security Police behave in a manner which justifies them being regarded as political police furthering the National Party's party political purposes. One is entitled to wonder whether apartheid's divide and rule policy includes generating Black/Black confrontations.

What gives rise to my greatest concern is the fact that this is not an isolated incident.

In 1976 I reported to the press that the South African Police Force were involved in the precipitation of tragic Black/Black clashes in Soweto.

The incident at the Tenth Annual Conference of Inkatha at Ulundi must be noted by South Africa, and we in Inkatha must be more aware of the low levels to which the South African Police stoop in their futile attempts to break me politically.'