

# IS THIS HOW "THE STRUGGLE" SHOULD BE WAGED?

**Inkatha's strength, its commitment to non-violent tactics and strategies and its rejection of Marxism, make it a prime target for those who have chosen to make the country "ungovernable". For violence to succeed, Inkatha must be made to fail.**

The following are brief reports highlighting some of the attacks made on Inkatha supporters (as well as other well-known and relevant incidents) early this year and during the previous year to give an indication of the level of violence mounted against Inkatha by supporters of so-called "progressive" organisations. This selection is typical of hundreds of similar attacks.

The political assassination of Inkatha supporters in 1987 got

underway on New Year's eve and continued during the first week of the year when two members were murdered, two others seriously injured and two more had their homes damaged in a series of brutal attacks.

Mr B M Dlamini, an Inkatha member and a councillor in KwaMakuta, died in King Edward VIII Hospital on January 4 after sustaining severe stomach burns following a petrol bomb attack on his home.

Mrs Sylvia Ntshangase, another Inkatha member, died instantly after her Umlazi home was petrol-bombed on January 5.

Her husband, Mr Hamilton Ntshangase, a school inspector based at Madadeni, was injured and admitted to King Edward VII Hospital with serious burns.



Mr Ephraim Buthelezi.

In the same week another Inkatha member, Mr Ephraim Buthelezi, was shot at in KwaMakuta and his house was petrol-bombed for the fifth time. The KwaMakuta homes of Mr Gideon Ngema and Mr Edwin Mbatha were also damaged.

Brigadier S M Mathe, deputy commissioner of the KwaZulu police, alleged in a statement to the Chief Minister that the attacks were carried out by members of the United Democratic Front. (The Sowetan, January 8, 1987)

● Youths stoned hundreds of



The funeral of Inkatha member Mr B M Dlamini who was murdered in January 1987. Mr Dlamini died following a petrol bomb attack on his home in KwaMakuta.

Inkatha members and forced them to abandon an Inkatha Youth Brigade meeting at the Duduza New Community Hall. The youths also looted a beerhall and shops, barricaded streets with burning tyres and crates, and spilled pots of meat that were to have been eaten by Inkatha members after the meeting. (The Natal Mercury, April 22, 1985.)

● The Mayor of Umlazi, Mr James E Ndlovu, and his family, were trapped in their home while a mob "bombarded it with a hail of stones". His new car was also badly damaged. (The Natal Mercury, June 18, 1985.)

● In July 1985 Themba and Zakhele Msani fought off a stone-throwing mob of more than 100 people who attacked

their Lamontville home screaming "Gatsha is a dog, you are the dogs of Gatsha." (A reference to the President of Inkatha whose middle name is Gatsha.) (The Natal Mercury, July 16, 1985.)

● Following three consecutive nights of violence, Inkatha supporters Mrs Tryzina Msomi, Mrs Phumephi Mngondo and Mr Mbisusiwe Msomi were

● In August 1985 riots broke out in areas around Durban following a United Democratic Front (UDF) demonstration protesting the murder of Durban lawyer Mrs Victoria Mxenge. More than 70 people died and millions of rands worth of property was destroyed. Mobs plundered areas surrounding Durban, setting fire to homes, government buildings and cars and "turning the area into a virtual war zone . . ."

During this rioting the historic Gandhi settlement founded by Mahatma Gandhi at Phoenix (and now identified with the UDF) was destroyed by Indian vigilantes. The Weekly Mail (August 16, 1985) reported: "According to photographers and journalists who witnessed the scene, another group of Indian vigilantes came charging up the valley and into the settlement from Phoenix across the valley. They were led by a middle-aged man waving a gun and firing shots into the air. They rushed around the settlement methodically breaking windows with bush-knives, stones and sticks."

*ANC and UDF propaganda now attempts to blame Inkatha members for the destruction of the settlement.*

Race Relations News, September 1985, reported the sequence of events leading up to — and during — the riots. A researcher stated: "Prominent among the attackers were people from the Bambahi area of Inanda who are largely Xhosa-speaking . . . Indian vigilantes bearing revolvers and shotguns formed in large numbers . . . the Phoenix settlement in Inanda burned down and looted after clashes between Indian vigilantes and shack dwellers from Bamhahi."

*The Race Relations report also noted: "Although a crisis committee involving members of the UDF, and NIC and the Diakonia church group was established and appealed for calm, it evidently did not have sufficient organisational depth in the affected areas to be able to restore peace."*

*The Weekly Mail (August 16, 1985) stated: "The United Democratic Front*

*faces the toughest challenge of its two-year history following the violence in Durban. Its chief political rival, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha organisation, has scored a major propaganda coup by appearing in the media as the "saviour" of the townships.*

*"When violence broke out in the townships last week, the UDF seemed unable to act . . . but while Inkatha was able to deal with the hooligans, the UDF did not — or could not."*

Indian leaders and residents asked Inkatha to mobilise its members to restore calm to the area. The vice-president of the SA Black Alliance, Mr Y S Chinsamy, said: "I asked Chief Buthelezi to send in the Inkatha members and they did go in and saved Indian lives and property in Inanda. Residents told me that had it not been for Inkatha they would have suffered even greater losses . . . had Inkatha not intervened and stopped the violence within hours, the unrest situation could have spread to other areas and this would have caused even more damage and loss of life." (The Daily News, August 8, 1985.)

The Natal Mercury reported: "Durban's riot-torn black townships slowly returned to normal yesterday as members of Inkatha stepped in, clearing the streets of trouble-makers and looters . . . The official death toll now stands at 55 and more than 1 000 people have been injured in the violence and still more have been left homeless . . . Thousands of Inkatha members moved into the townships at the weekend determined to bring the criminal element under control and protect homes of both black and Indian people.

*"The Secretary-General of Inkatha, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, said although Inkatha was a non-violent organisation it had the right to look after the safety of the people . . .*

*"We have yet to hear the United Democratic Front (UDF) and the Natal Indian Congress unambiguously condemn this spate of violence as the President of Inkatha has recently done," said Dr Dhlomo." (The Natal Mercury, August 12, 1986.)*



*The funeral of Inkatha member Mrs Sylvia Ntshangase who died when her Umlazi home was petrol-bombed in January 1987. Her husband was seriously injured.*

photographed in their gutted Lamontville home following a petrol bomb attack. (*The Daily News*, July 17, 1985.)

- In September a bomb exploded in the toilet of Umlazi's Executive Hotel and sprayed shards of glass into groups of black children. The hotel is owned by a senior member of Inkatha. (*The Natal Mercury*, September 30, 1985.)
- Six people died in clashes in Lamontville following a Shaka's Day celebration. Inkatha and non-Inkatha people were involved. (*The Star*, September 30, 1985.)
- The home of Mrs Gertie Ngubane, an Inkatha member and Ningizimu Community Councillor for Ward 1 in Lamontville was stoned and windows were smashed. "Mrs Ngubane was the third Inkatha member to be attacked this week." (*The Natal Mercury*, September 14, 1985.)
- Mr Francis Dhlamini, KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member and Inkatha Central Committee member, was

brutally gunned down as he fled his petrol-bombed home. Mr Dhlamini died instantly. His wounded son managed to escape. (*The Daily News*, October 29, 1985.)

- On October 19, 1985 Inkatha's office in Amsterdam, run by Dr Reina Steenwijk, was bombed and furniture and

equipment destroyed. An ANC group in Amsterdam claimed responsibility.

- Two youths were shot after the home of Umlazi councillor and Inkatha official, Mr Josiah Cele, had been stoned and set on fire by a group of youths. (*The Natal Mercury*, November 19, 1985.)



*The gutted home of Inkatha member Mr F M Bhengu — destroyed during a recent attack.*

- Two grenades were thrown at the home of the chairman of Ningizumu Community Councillor and life chairman of the Inkatha Women's Brigade, Mrs Ella Nxasana. (*The Daily News*, February 17, 1986.)

- The life's work of Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, Secretary of the Buthelezi Commission who is also involved in the Natal KwaZulu Indaba, was destroyed when his office at the Centre for Applied Social Sciences at the University of Natal in Durban was set on fire. (*The Daily News*, March 24, 1986.)

- The home of KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member and Inkatha Central Committee member, Mr Winnington Sabelo, was petrol bombed. (*The Natal Mercury*, April 28, 1986.)

- Arsonists struck the Sugar Milling Research Institute in Durban and painted "Sugar Supports Buthelezi" on the walls. (*Sowetan*, April 24, 1986.)

- Cars and a petrol station belonging to a former member of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly, Mr Gobizizwe Bhengu, were destroyed when youths went on a rampage. (*The Daily News*, April 28, 1986.)

- Two people were killed and more than 40 injured when petrol bombs were thrown at buses carrying Inkatha supporters from a rally in Soweto addressed by Chief M G Buthelezi. A time bomb was placed behind the stage of the stadium earlier in the week. (*The Star*, June 30, 1986.)

- The Mayor of Ezakheni, Mr D D Nkabinde, was attacked and his trucks, cars and house were petrol-bombed. (*Ilanga*, June 16, 1986.)

- The Ladysmith home of Mr F M Bhengu, a member of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly, was attacked and burnt on July 29, 1986. Numerous assaults on Inkatha members have been reported in the Newcastle and Ladysmith areas.

- The Newcastle home of Inkatha Youth Brigade member Mr V V Z Nkabinde was petrol-bombed in July, 1986.

- The Ladysmith home of



*The funeral of KwaZulu legislative assembly member, Mr Francis Dlamini, who was gunned down as he fled his petrol-bombed home at KwaMashu, near Durban.*



*The funeral of Mrs Evelyn Sabelo, wife of KwaZulu legislative assembly member and Inkatha Central Committee member, Mr Winnington Sabelo. Mrs Sabelo died when a hand grenade was hurled at their home and they were fired at with AK47 rifles.*

Inkatha Youth Brigade member, Mr Sibusiso Skakane, was set on fire by a mob on July 29, 1986.

- Mrs Evelyn Sabelo, wife of Mr Winnington Sabelo, was killed and her three children seriously injured when a hand grenade was hurled at their home and they were fired at with AK47 rifles in Umlazi. (*The Daily News*, August 23, 1986.)

- Siphokazi Kweyama, the five-year-old daughter of Inkatha member and Imbali councillor, Mr Austin Kweyama, was killed in a hand grenade attack on her parents Maritzburg home. (*City Press*, August 31, 1986.)

- The Ladysmith home of Inkatha member Mr Simon Hiatswayo was attacked by a mob and destroyed on September 19, 1986.