

# Six blacks executed in Pretoria Central Prison Tuesday

By The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa -- Three black African National Congress guerrillas, one convicted in a shopping center bombing that killed five whites, were hanged Tuesday at Pretoria Central Prison, officials said.

Pretoria Supreme Court Registrar Martin van der Westhuizen said the executions took place at 7 a.m. inside the sprawling brick prison.

Three other blacks who were convicted in separate, unrelated

slayings were also hanged alongside the avowed ANC members, he said.

Lawyers for the three guerrillas said the condemned men had not sought clemency from President P.W. Botha and were in good spirits and singing freedom songs on the eve of their execution.

Police and soldiers patrolled the prison and stood guard atop the walls, but no demonstrations or vigils took place outside, in contrast to past executions of ANC members.

Coretta Scott King, wife of

assassinated American civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., canceled a meeting scheduled with Botha in Cape Town Tuesday, saying she would prefer to meet with him at a later date.

On Monday, the Rev. Allen Boesak, head of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, said he and Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed black leader Nelson Mandela, had decided not to see Mrs. King if she saw Botha.

Mrs. King's spokesman, Ofield Dukes, declined to comment on whether opposition from anti-apartheid leaders led to the meeting's cancellation.

By law and custom, apartheid establishes a racially segregated society in which the 24-million-member black majority has no vote in national affairs. The 5-million-member white minority controls the economy and maintains separate districts, schools and health services.

Sibusiso Andrew Zondo, 19, one of the three ANC members

hanged today, was convicted in April of the Dec. 23 bombing at a shopping center in Amanzimtoti, a suburb of Durban, which was crowded with Christmas shoppers.

Two white women and three children were killed in the blast, and 48 people were wounded.

An alleged accomplice, identified only as "Mr. P," testified against Zondo at the trial and said the ANC had sent the two men to carry out the attack. The ANC neither accepted nor denied responsibility.

The trial judge said Zondo, who did not testify, had admitted to a magistrate that he planted the bomb but intended only to wound people, not kill anyone.

The other two executed ANC members, Siphon Bridget Pulu and Clarence Lucky Payi, were convicted of the May 1984 slaying of Ben Langa, a former student leader who had turned against the ANC, at his home near Pietermaritzburg in Natal

province. They were convicted and sentenced to death in February.

The last ANC member to be hanged was Benjamin Moloise, a self-described poet who was executed at the Pretoria prison in October for the slaying of a security policeman.

Botha turned down a clemency appeal and ignored worldwide condemnation of the execution.

In contrast to the hangings of other ANC members in past years, there was no foreign outcry against Tuesday's executions, and there were few calls for clemency.

On the eve of the executions, the United Democratic Front anti-apartheid coalition said that "going on with the hanging can only be seen as immoral and unjust. There is nothing in this act that promotes reconciliation."

The Sowetan, the nation's largest daily for black readers, said relatives and lawyers of the three men said none of the three

wanted last-ditch court actions to delay the executions.

Bheki Shezi, a Durban lawyer who represented Zondo, said Zondo's final message was that "the revolutionary loves his life but knows that the life is not the end itself," The Sowetan said.

The other three men hanged along with the ANC members were Ernest Papiyana, Joseph Junior Basa and Toto Swapi, van der Westhuizen said. He did not have details on the separate slayings for which they were sentenced.

South Africa executes about 100 people a year for a range of capital crimes. Most of those executed are black.

Under a nationwide state of emergency imposed June 12, the press is barred from printing the names of detainees and statements deemed subversive by authorities. Most public gatherings are banned, and police can detain people without charging them with a crime.

## Be it ever so humble

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nothing we can do to stop other people from doing the same thing."

Matthews made his comments last week during a neighborhood meeting at Grace Presbyterian Church on Carver School Road. About 20 residents rejected Brandon's plans to renovate the house and agreed to continue their legal action against Brandon.

More than 90 percent of the residents in Monticello Park have signed a petition, stating that Brandon violated a 1960 restrictive covenant of the neighborhood when he moved the house into the subdivision.

The covenant requires all homes in the neighborhood to have an area of at least 1,200 square feet and cost at least \$12,000.

Matthews says Brandon's house violates the covenant because it measures only 960 square feet and is worth no more than \$5,000.

"This house comes under the definition of a shack," Matthews said. "If he (Brandon) had honorable intentions, he would take that house out of the neighborhood."

Brandon says he plans to spend \$40,000 to \$50,000 to renovate the house. His renovations will include building an additional room to bring the house up to the 1,200-foot requirements.

"Certainly, the house doesn't look very good right now," Brandon said. "(But) every code restriction will be met. It will be nice enough that it will outshine some of the homes in the neighborhood."

Most of the homes in Monticello Park range in price from \$50,000 to \$175,000.

"The neighbors have a right to disagree with me if they want to," Brandon added. "I hope we can resolve this without digging up any nasty feelings."

His daughter, Gail Brandon, will live in the home when the renovations are completed, he said.

"I am backing my father 100 percent on this," said Ms. Brandon, a local businesswoman.

Despite Brandon's assurances, the neighborhood group is pursuing legal action against him.

Judge Melzer A. Morgan issued a temporary restraining order against Brandon on Sept. 2 to stop repairs and work on the house's foundation. The dispute

is expected to be heard Friday in Forsyth County Superior Court.

"I am not interested in making a federal case out of this," said Brandon, who has lived in the neighborhood for 16 years. "It will be resolved quietly."

Brandon says he never signed or agreed to the covenant. "I didn't pay any mind to it," he said.

Chester C. Davis, an attorney for the group, said Brandon gave his implied agreement to the covenant when he moved into the neighborhood. "It is not a question whether he signed it or agreed to it," Davis said. "His title had the covenant in it."

Brandon's attorney, Curtiss Todd, declined to comment on the case. "I don't want to comment because the matter is pending in court," he said.

Several residents charged that Brandon plans to sell the house for profit after its renovations are completed. "If he spends \$20,000 on this house, he says it will sell for \$60,000 to \$70,000," Matthews said.

Brandon denies the charge, saying that he has no plans to sell the house. "How in the hell will I make a profit by giving (this house) away?" he said.

Other residents said that Brandon did not tell them he was planning to move the house into their neighborhood. "I just looked out the window one morning, and I saw that house sitting over there," said Troy L. Davis, who lives at 3330 Cumberland Road. "He has broken our code, and that house has to go."

Matthews criticized Brandon for failing to attend two neighborhood meetings about the dispute. "If he didn't have contempt for this community, he would have presented these plans to us himself," he said.

Brandon said he did not know anything about the meetings. "I wasn't going to a meeting anyway to be castigated," he said.

Despite his criticism of Brandon, Matthews said the retired dentist has been a friend to the neighborhood. "No one could have been a better friend than Dr. Brandon," Matthews said. "But he is using his friendship to exploit the neighbors."

Brandon denied that he was exploiting the neighborhood. "I haven't made any enemies that I know of," he said.

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