

# Did British intelligence kill Hani?

*An EIR investigative team reports on the aftermath of the death of African National Congress leader Chris Hani.*

At 10:25 a.m. on the morning of April 10, Chris Hani, chairman of the South African Communist Party (SACP) and heir apparent to Nelson Mandela as leader of the African National Congress (ANC), was gunned down in the driveway of his home in a well-to-do Johannesburg suburb. Hani had been the long-time leader of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), and a legend among the angry youth of South Africa's townships.

The halo of martyrdom surrounding Hani's assassination instantly transformed the nation's politics. Suddenly, the ANC made, and the ruling National Party of President F. W. De Klerk acquiesced to, two demands: the establishment of a Transitional Executive Council (TEC) to rule the country, within the astoundingly short time of six weeks, and a firm date, probably in early 1994, for one-man, one-vote national elections. The ANC also demanded, as a member of the TEC, joint control over the nation's powerful security forces. Though these demands had formally been on the agenda of the negotiating process then under way toward majority rule, they were making very little progress until the assassination.

Such apparently noble goals—which amount to the final dismantling of the brutal apartheid system—are not what they seem. Though once representative of the aspirations for social justice and equality of the majority of South Africa's black citizens, the ANC's leadership has, since the early 1950s, increasingly been hijacked by the South African Communist Party, itself historically a tool of outside forces, in the West as well as the East, committed to the destruction of South Africa.

Within an hour after Hani fell in his driveway with at least two wounds to the head, the police captured a 40-year-old Polish immigrant, Janusz Walus, reportedly a fierce anti-communist active in right-wing circles. Within hours, the police arrested another man, a key Conservative Party leader and member of the State President's Council, Clive Derby-Lewis, as the alleged mastermind of the plot. Derby-Lewis had, according to police leaks in the media, not only supplied Walus with the gun, but had drawn up a longer list of targets for assassination as well. Almost immediately, the South

African and international press was filled with speculation that Derby-Lewis was the mastermind of an international plot which involved right-wing circles in at least Britain, France, and Germany. On May 1, Derby-Lewis's wife Gaye was formally indicted for the assassination.

Yet many questions remained. At least two eyewitnesses reported two cars involved in the assassination, one red and one white, which converged on Hani's house. But almost immediately, any mention of more than one person disappeared from all police statements, in favor of the lone assassin Walus, backed by Derby-Lewis's international network. The alleged assassin Walus also behaved in an extremely curious fashion: He was caught right in the middle of the town where Hani lived, at least half an hour after the assassination, still in possession of the alleged murder weapon—one the police say was taken from a notorious break-in at a South African air base in 1990—right on the seat beside him. He had driven his own bright red car, with license plates traceable to him, and despite the fact that he was Poland's Formula One race car champion in 1977, got no further than 10 kilometers from the scene of the crime by the time police arrested him. Walus's father told the *Sunday Tribune* April 18, "My son is not a murderer. This is just a plot to frame him, just like the Lee Harvey Oswald story. My son is not stupid. Why would he drive a red car to the scene of the murder? You can see a red car for miles. And why would he leave the gun in the car? Why would he leave that list lying around the house for anyone to find? This is a political provocation."

The police claimed that the gun Walus had used had a silencer, yet several people in Hani's neighborhood heard at least four, possibly five, shots. South African intelligence sources consulted by *EIR* in Johannesburg evaluated the assassination as "extremely professional," while ANC officials interviewed by the *Tribune* described the job as one of a "a marksman," who had shot Hani professionally right behind the ear.

Even more interesting, Hani, who had been the victim of several previous assassination attempts and whose concern for his own security was notorious, had unaccountably given his two bodyguards time off, the precise day the assassin(s)

struck. The bodyguards' absence smelled of complicity from inside the ANC, and in fact Hani's factional ally Winnie Mandela charged that the ANC had killed him.

The whole affair was so riddled with inconsistencies that even the left-wing newspaper the *New Nation* commented April 23, "To attribute the assassination to the lunatic right-wing fringe is a poor attempt at exonerating the more sophisticated forces from culpability." The police's nice-and-tidy verdict of Walus as a "lone assassin," backed by a loose bunch of right-wingers, is viewed by most informed people within South Africa with the same incredulity with which Americans regard the Warren Commission's verdict that Lee Harvey Oswald killed President John F. Kennedy.

A competent investigation of the crime begins with the question, *cui bono?*—who benefits? On the lower level, the ANC and its negotiating partner, the National Party, both of whom are determined to see the SACP-dominated ANC in power in the near term. But as *EIR* has demonstrated in a feature series, and in a new book now rocking South Africa, *Tiny Rowland: The Ugly Face of Neocolonialism in Africa*, the British establishment and its American junior partners have been the chief sponsors of the South African Communist Party-dominated majority of the ANC's leadership. Their intent is to put a regime in power that would, in fact, represent a black-minority regime, resting on a minority of the black population of South Africa; the ANC, dominated by the Xhosa tribe, has at most 500,000 card-carrying members, compared, for example, to the 2.8 million members of the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP). Such a minority regime would oversee the International Monetary Fund-ordered destruction of the South African economy. The question is: Are there any British intelligence links to the plot? The answer is yes.

According to South African intelligence sources, Janusz Walus was intimately associated with the South African Institute for Maritime Research (SAIMR), about which, said one intelligence veteran, "That's a very curious outfit. They have no naval guys in it, and they do no research." Furthermore, the SAIMR reportedly has been involved in various coup operations, including in the Seychelles Islands. In fact, according to a November 1990 article in the *Sunday Times* of London, the SAIMR was founded as a mercenary group of elite special forces people operating throughout Africa. An investigation by one South African intelligence agency determined that SAIMR was a front for Britain's MI-6.

Walus was also associated with, and according to press accounts, had even contributed money to, another British intelligence front, the Stallard Foundation, one with which Derby-Lewis was also reportedly associated. In Britain, one member of Parliament called for an investigation as to whether "British intelligence services" were involved in any way in the murder.

Walus's possible involvement with British intelligence becomes highlighted also with the sudden visit to South Afri-

ca, just days before the assassination, of one of the most important figures in British intelligence, former MI-6 Africa desk head Nicholas Elliott. Despite being in his seventies, Elliott made the arduous journey to Johannesburg from London for a mere three days of meetings. According to sources in London, he met with Julian Ogilvie-Thompson, head of the Anglo-American Corp., the ANC's chief financial sponsor inside the country. Elliott, whose father had been headmaster at the elite British boarding school Eton, was the lifelong friend of Soviet spy Kim Philby, and was suspected of having tipped off Philby in 1963 that he was being investigated by British counterintelligence, allowing him to escape to Moscow. Elliott is also a former board member of Lonrho of Tiny Rowland. Rowland's Lonrho purchased the ANC's Johannesburg headquarters for them, and is bankrolling a planned new ANC newspaper.

Nicholas Elliott is no stranger to "wetwork"—terror and assassinations. He was a controller of the London-based Sikh radical Jagjit Singh Chauhan, whose associates assassinated Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1984.

Immediately after Hani's murder, the ANC called for "outside investigators" to oversee the investigation. The British government then appointed the recently retired head of Scotland Yard's Anti-Terrorist Branch, George Churchill-Coleman. Formerly responsible for coordinating police response to all acts of terrorism in Britain, Churchill-Coleman is a high-level Freemason, who, according to one intelligence source who knew him, quashed an investigation into relations between the IRA and the ANC. According to South African police, Churchill-Coleman is merely "advising" them in the Hani murder probe.

### Who benefits?

The assassination, combined with the identification of Walus as the sole assassin, accomplished several British intelligence objectives simultaneously.

First and foremost, it has propelled the ANC toward power in a way unimaginable before the hit. In May 1992, the ANC left the negotiating table of the Congress for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa), as the negotiations for majority rule were called at the time, because it was not getting its way in the face of opposition from the Inkatha Freedom Party of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi; the Conservative Party; self-governing states such as Bophuthatswana and Ciskei; various smaller parties, and even sections of the National Party itself. The ANC's attempt to seize power through "mass action" died in a hail of bullets when Chris Hani and others of the "Stalinist" faction of the SACP/ANC organized an assault-march in Ciskei, which resulted in the deaths of nearly 30 marchers. The failure of this "mass action," forced the ANC back to the negotiating table. By April 1993, the ANC was making only slow progress in its goal of seizing power, until Hani was gunned down. Now, the ANC has proclaimed a campaign of mass action begin-

ning May 1, involving shutdowns of the economy, until its demands are met.

Second, political observers in the country note that the identification of the Derby-Lewises as the masterminds of Hani's murder provides a convenient pretext for the ANC and National Party to suppress opposition to their domination of the negotiating process, initially in the Conservative Party in which the Derby-Lewises were active, but soon in others as well. The nation's press has reported charges that lists of opposition figures, both black and white, have been drawn up of those who will be detained in the event of an ANC-NP "coalition government." IFP sources report that the ANC intelligence and security apparatus already coordinates on an intimate basis with its opposite number in the government. Said one person close to the IFP leadership, "Much of the fearsome repressive structure built up during apartheid still exists, which is gradually being merged with the MK [the ANC's armed wing] which ran the torture camps in Angola and elsewhere. This could be a police state even worse than anything in the past."

Third, the assassination eliminated Hani himself, who despite his moderate statements of the weeks preceding his death, was the leader of the "Stalinist faction" of the ANC, which believed in shooting its way to power, rather than negotiating. Hani and Winnie Mandela had announced they would form a new party, implicitly against the ANC, should the ANC come to power, and according to intelligence sources in Zimbabwe, had started creating a new armed force there. Aside from Hani and Mandela, this faction also includes Natal Midlands ANC chairman Harry Gwala, ANC Youth League leader Peter Mokaba, and others.

Their opponents in the so-called "Leninist" faction include Nelson Mandela, ANC "foreign minister" Thabo Mbeki, head of manpower development and training Mzwai Piliso, ANC General Secretary Cyril Ramaphosa, and until his recent death, ANC Chairman Oliver Tambo.

The Stalinist faction has been associated with such dinosaurs as the August 1991 coup plotters against then-Soviet boss Mikhail Gorbachov, as well as Fidel Castro, while the Leninists are more closely associated with Gorbachov's dialogue partners in the British and American establishments, and their powerful multinationals. According to intelligence sources, in the early 1980s ANC security forces obtained documentation that leading Leninists Thabo Mbeki, Hani's rival as heir apparent to Nelson Mandela, and Mzwai Piliso had been recruited as agents of MI-6, which may explain why they both reportedly travel on British passports. Ramaphosa is also notorious for his connections to the Anglo-American Corp. since his tenure as head of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), when he was a regular Anglo-American negotiating partner.

Fourth, the timing of the assassination, and the orchestration of Hani's funeral, did much to turn a notorious

communist Chris Hani into almost a Christian martyr, a factor of great consequence in a nation of millions of black Christians otherwise opposed to the communist-dominated ANC. Hani was killed on Easter Saturday. Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu told the 80,000 people gathered at Hani's funeral that he and Hani had once stood beside each other singing Christian hymns. "Mr. Hani was murdered between Good Friday and Easter Sunday at the holiest weekend in the Christian calendar," Tutu proclaimed. "God turned the death of Jesus Christ into a great victory of good over evil. The death of Mr. Hani will also inspire the people to a great victory. His death is not a defeat but a victory." Hani was accorded a Catholic funeral, and four white doves (symbolizing the Holy Spirit) were released over his grave.

### **The British 'strategy of tension'**

One of the most crucial effects of Hani's assassination was to inflame racial tensions in the country. ANC Youth leader Peter Mokaba's chant to a rally of ANC youth, "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer," was widely publicized in the nation's Anglo-American Corp.-controlled press, as were inflammatory statements by spokesmen for such white right-wing factions as the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) and the World Apartheid Movement (WAM). The last, an extreme right-wing group with which Walus was associated, has not only offered to pay Walus's and Derby-Lewis's court costs, but publicized its vision of "worldwide apartheid."

The violence is now escalating in South Africa, with the May 1 killing of five whites in King Williams Town, the attacks and murders of Afrikaner farmers in remote areas, and the almost-daily slaughter of both Inkatha and ANC members, as well as ordinary people in the townships.

This methodical blind terror has been attributed, by ANC leader Nelson Mandela as well as others, to some "third force," which is trying to incite hatred between Inkatha and the ANC, and now more generally between blacks and whites. According to a report in *The Star of Johannesburg* April 22, Walus himself was linked to "third force"-style violence as part of a film crew which would mysteriously show up in black townships just as residents were being shot by unknown gunmen.

Though the degree of such "third force" violence now striking South Africa would be impossible without complicity of at least sections of the National Party government's security forces, and although its short-term purpose is to force both white and black South Africans to accept an SACP/ANC-dominated government as the only way to stop the violence, the animosities being inflamed are becoming so intense that such a government would be merely the next step in the downward descent of the country into Yugoslavia-style bloody chaos and war. The "third force," like the assassination of Chris Hani, is clearly orchestrated from abroad.