
South Africa

Two convicted in Hani murder; questions remain

by David Hammer

On Oct. 14, leading Conservative Party politician Clive Derby-Lewis and Polish immigrant Janusz Walus were found guilty by a court in Johannesburg of murdering Chris Hani, secretary general of the South African Communist Party and former leader of the African National Congress's (ANC) armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe. Days later they were sentenced to death. Derby-Lewis's wife Gaye, who was also on trial and whom the prosecution maintained had prepared a "hit list" of others to be murdered along with Hani, was acquitted. Her husband, the court ruled, had provided the murder weapon to triggerman Walus.

The trial of Derby-Lewis and Walus was a curious affair in that the two did not take the stand in their own defense, while their attorney readily conceded their guilt. By all accounts, the case seems wrapped up.

Many anomalies

An *EIR* investigative team which arrived in Johannesburg shortly after the murder filed the following report at the time. The anomalies it records have never been addressed by police, and were not answered or for the most part even referred to, at the trial. "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 at the scene of the crime disappeared from all police accounts.

"And for an assassin, Walus 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 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 farther than 10 kilometers from the scene of the crime by the time police arrested him.

"The police claimed that Walus's gun had a silencer, yet several people in Hani's neighborhood heard four, possibly five, shots. . . ."

By all accounts the assassination was highly professional. Yet the police and media ascribed it to an amateurish "right-wing conspiracy." An element of that conspiracy, the ANC charged right after the trial, was the Johannesburg-based

Aida Parker Newsletter, whose coverage of Hani, the ANC said, "was an invitation to murder." That Aida Parker would be targeted is lawful: She has consistently pointed to those high-level sources in the West, including the World Council of Churches and Lonrho boss Tiny Rowland, who are financing and boosting the ANC to power in order to provoke a civil war.

Foreign intelligence agencies

A Johannesburg source with good contacts in the ANC commented on the ANC's charges of "right-wing" involvement: "They will say that publicly. But I tell you from private discussions, a number of key ANC leaders suspect the involvement of one or more foreign intelligence agencies. They are worried. They think the same thing could happen to them over the coming months. Hani was made a martyr, to propel the ANC to power, which is exactly what has happened in the wake of his assassination. But the object is not so much the ANC in power, but chaos, and some ANC leaders are waking up to that."

The hand of Britain's MI-6 was all over the Hani assassination. Both Derby-Lewis and Walus were connected to a reported British intelligence front, the Stallard Foundation. Walus was also associated with the South African Institute for Maritime Research (SAIMR), a mercenary group of elite special forces operating throughout Africa. It was investigated some years ago by South African intelligence and it, too, was determined to be British intelligence. It was these British intelligence ties which made Walus and Derby-Lewis the perfect patsies—whatever their degree of actual complicity—much as Lee Harvey Oswald's CIA ties were used to maneuver him, in the events surrounding the assassination of John F. Kennedy. A source who was rounded up at the same time as Walus told *EIR* that Walus complained bitterly in the jail that he had been "set up." And, according to another source, Walus told the security police who interrogated him shortly after his arrest that he worked for British intelligence, and therefore the charges were preposterous.

The SAIMR with which Walus was associated is believed by some to be involved in the "third force" slaughters, particularly in the black townships, which are now stoking civil war between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party. According to *The Star* of Johannesburg on April 22, 1993, Walus was linked to third force-style violence in the townships.

That Walus's name would surface in connection with the third force is lawful, since that activity is largely run by the British. "Third force" random assassinations and violence have become so pervasive, that earlier this year elements of South Africa's security establishment began a quiet, informal investigation into their origins. A source familiar with the investigation told *EIR* recently, "There is now hard evidence of British intelligence involvement in the violence. No question about it. Surprisingly, we have also caught the Swedish as well. All of this is extremely well hidden, difficult to penetrate."