

# Accused says Timol 'drank excessively'

Pretoria Bureau

**AHMED TIMOL, the Indian school teacher who died in police detention, "drank excessively and sometimes made a nuisance of himself" one of the accused at the Pretoria terrorism trial said today.**

The evidence was given by Mr Yousuf Hassan Essack, when being cross-examined after giving evidence in his defence.

Questioned by Mr J. E. Nothing, SC, for the State, Mr Essack described Mr Timol as an "OK guy". He said Mr Timol was quiet and gentle.

One of the points about Mr Timol that he did not like was that he "drank excessively and sometimes made a nuisance of himself." Mr Essack said.

Mr Essack (21), a clerk, Mr Mohamed Salim Essop (22), a medical student, Mr Indhrasen Moodley, a lecturer, and Mrs Amna Desai (31), a business-woman, face a main charge under the Terrorism Act and alternative charges under the Terrorism and Suppression of Communism Acts. All have pleaded not guilty before Mr Justice Snyman in the Old Synagogue, Pretoria.

Mr Essack denied the evidence given by an earlier State witness, Mr N. Pahad.

Mr Pahad had told the court that Mr Essack, who once lodged with him, said that he "worked with Inkutuleko" at Mr Pahad's flat and at a Roodepoort club.

Mr Pahad had also alleged that Mr Essack said he worked with Mr Ahmed Timol.

Cross-examined, Mr Essack said that he had known Mr Pahad since 1969. Mr Pahad was treasurer of the Dynamos Football Club, of which Mr Essack was a supporter.

Mr Essack described Mr Pahad as "quite a pleasant chap." He agreed that Mr Pahad was well balanced and said he was an efficient treasurer.

He also agreed with Mr Nothing that Mr Pahad "must have had a strong personality."

Mr Essack told the court that he could not explain Mr Pahad's evidence. He did not know how Mr Pahad could have been mistaken.

Earlier, while being examined by a senior defence advocate, Mr J. Browde, SC, Mr Essack said that he had posted letters for Mr Timol on more than one occasion.

On one occasion, while he (Mr Essack) was on the way to post his own letters, Mr Timol halted him and asked him to

post some for him as well.

Some of Mr Timol's letters did not have stamps, and Mr Essack said he bought stamps next day at work.

The other letters he posted at a post box on the corner of West Street and Commissioner Street, Johannesburg.

Cross-examined by Mr Nothing, Mr Essack said that he knew Mr Pahad was a clerk, but did not know which firm he worked for.

Mr Nothing: You had known him for such a long time. How is it that you don't know where he works?—It did not interest me.

## POLITICS

Cross-examined on his relationship with Mr Ahmed Timol, Mr Essack said that Mr Timol had not been a "particular friend." He would not know whether Mr Timol was interested in politics.

Mr Pahad's flat, where he (Mr Essack) had lodged for a time, had been a meeting place for young Indians and there Mr Timol had sometimes spoken politics.

Mr Essack said that Mr Timol was better educated than he and therefore Mr Timol's "criticisms of apartheid were more constructive."

He agreed with Mr Timol that apartheid "was not good."

Mr Essack said he did not think of changing South Africa's political system. He did not discuss what should be done to improve things.

Mr Nothing — Why not? — Well, I do not know what to do.

He said he was leading an "active and happy life" and did not bother himself with politics. He said he rather left it to "better minds."

He did not know whether Mr Timol was one of the "better minds."

Mr Nothing referred to earlier evidence given by two State witnesses.

They had testified that they had seen Mr Timol at work one Sunday evening at the Roodepoort Social Club. He had papers, and another Indian man whom they could not identify was helping Mr Timol.

(Proceedings)

## Mandela flies out to brief leaders, exiles

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By Kaizer Nyatumba

African National Congress deputy president Nelson Mandela left on a 12-day tour of Africa yesterday to brief exiled ANC members and African leaders on the ice-breaking talks his organisation held with the Government last week.

Accompanied by his wife Winnie, ANC general secretary Alfred Nzo, Umkhonto we Sizwe commander Joe Modise and two security guards, Mr Mandela's entourage left Lanseria Airport about 90 minutes after their scheduled time of departure because the Mandelas had left their passports at home.

This is Mr Mandela's second African tour since his release in February. The Mandelas had attended several meetings, some unscheduled, during the day, and in the rush forgot about their passports.

The first stop on Mr Mandela's five-nation tour is the Zambian capital of Lusaka, where the ANC has its headquarters.

From there he will go to Angola, Nigeria, Algeria and Egypt before returning home.

An ANC spokesman in Johannesburg said Mr Mandela would hold talks with heads of state in the countries he would visit, confer with ANC members in these countries, and inspect the organisation's projects.

Any further delay would have necessitated a fresh flying crew due to international regulations, an airport official said.

## ANC launches recruitment drive

Staff Reporter

The African National Congress has launched a major recruitment drive in the PWV area, which will include door-to-door canvassing for potential members, ANC spokesman Kgalema Motlanthe announced yesterday. Temporary recruitment centres will open on Monday.

At a press conference in Johannesburg, Mr Motlanthe said membership was open to all South African men and women above the age of 18, irrespective of race, colour or creed, who accepted the ANC's principles, policies and programme, and were prepared to abide by its constitution and rules.

Asked if the exercise would not create conflict among members of rival organisations, Mr Motlanthe said if the leadership's experience on Robben Island in living with and tolerating the different viewpoints of others could be used as a yardstick, he foresaw no problem. The ANC will register its colours, emblems and logos.