

# S. African leaders vindicated, whites say

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (UPI) — South Africa's white rulers Thursday said Prime Minister John Vorster's landslide "whites-only" election victory was the people's answer to critics of the nation's apartheid racial segregation policies.

Vorster's Afrikaner-dominated ruling National Party crushed all opposition, rolling up a record 134 seats in the 165-member parliament. Political analysts said last month's U.N. arms embargo against South Africa sent many voters to Vorster's party.

Vorster said there will be no change in the hardline security policy to contain black unrest. South Africa has been

racked by 18 months of violence in black townships and at least 600 blacks have been killed, many by police.

"Just as South Africa is situated at the moment, you cannot afford to play with the safety of the state," Vorster said. "The government will certainly protect individuals as never before."

But Vorster warned the "avalanche" in his favor "will increase pressure." But he said, "I think people abroad will take note of the determination with which South Africa will fight if attacked under any circumstances."

His statement was a veiled criticism of President Carter and U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young, who earlier called South

Africa's crackdown on black dissent "draconian."

Controversial Police and Justice Minister Jimmy Kruger won a massive election victory in his Pretoria constituency and said the vote vindicated his repression of dissent, which included jailing black leaders and closing opposition newspapers.

"This is an answer to the people outside South Africa who feel we are acting wrongly," Kruger said.

The National Party's 134 seats represented a gain of 18 more than its representation when Vorster called the election. The Liberal Progressive

Reform Party won 17 seats, the New Republic Party 10 and the South African Party three, a combined opposition total of 30 seats — a decline of about one-third.

About half of South Africa's 2.2 million white voters went to the polls Wednesday to endorse the 61-year-old Vorster's refusal to bow to what he called outside pressure to ease restrictions on the nation's 18 million blacks.

"I am deeply grateful," Vorster, in his 11th year as prime minister, said after the count showed a 15 percent swing to his party.

# Police killed Biko, family lawyer says

PRETORIA, South Africa (UPI) — A white lawyer charged Thursday that South African police were responsible for the death in jail of black leader Steve Biko and were hiding the truth behind a "conspiracy of silence."

Sydney Kentridge, the needle-tongued lawyer acting on behalf of Biko's family, told the inquest into Biko's death that the black leader "died a miserable and lonely death on his mat on a stone floor in a prison cell."

"We submit that one or more of the security police is responsible for the injuries that caused Steve Biko's death, and the probabilities are that the injuries were inflicted

deliberately, unlawfully and without good cause," Kentridge said in his four-hour summation.

"The security police have closed their ranks and entered into a conspiracy of silence," Kentridge said.

Kentridge said he did not allege that Biko was "willfully murdered... but we submit he was beaten and the person or people did not at the time care whether he was seriously injured or not."

"On the morning of Sept. 6, Steve (Biko) went into the interrogation room alive and well. At 7:30 a.m. on the next day he was a mental and physical wreck," Kentridge said.

"If that is not being smashed up I don't know what is."

# Carter to break planned trip into 2 parts

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Breaking his postponed world tour into two stages, President Carter will visit six nations in Europe and Asia from Dec. 29 to Jan. 6 and three in South America and Africa in the spring, the White House announced Thursday.

Officially disclosing Carter's revised travel plans, press secretary Jody Powell announced the president will leave four days after Christmas on a nine-day trip that will take him, in order, to Poland, Iran, India, Saudi Arabia, France and Belgium.

Those are six of the nine nations he intended to visit during the four-continent tour originally scheduled to begin Nov. 22.

Powell said the president would visit the other three — Brazil, Venezuela, and Nigeria — "around springtime 1978." He had no further information on that trip.

Carter postponed the ambitious November world tour when it became apparent Congress would fail to pass

his energy conservation legislation by the time he was to depart.

The energy bills have made little headway since then, but the president has advised congressional leaders he does not intend to postpone his departure again.

Aides said Carter also decided to divide the trip into two segments because the original itinerary — nine nations on four continents in 11 days — would have been too grueling.

Powell said the December-January tour will have Carter spending two nights in Poland, one in Iran, two in India, one in Saudi Arabia and two in Paris.

The day-by-day schedule in local time:

Thursday, Dec. 29 — Depart Andrews Air Force Base at 8 a.m., and arrive in Warsaw at 10 p.m. Remain overnight in Warsaw.

Friday, Dec. 30 — Visit the tomb of Poland's unknown soldier and the Nike and Ghetto monuments; lunch with

Edward Gierk, Poland's Communist party leader; and hold a news conference.

Saturday, Dec. 31 — Depart Warsaw at 9 a.m., arrive in Tehran at 4:45 p.m.; meet with the Shah and attend an official dinner. Remain overnight in Tehran.

Sunday, Jan. 1 — Depart Tehran at 9:30 a.m., arrive in New Delhi at 2:15 p.m., and pay a formal call on President Neelam Reddy. Remain overnight in New Delhi.

Monday, Jan. 2 — Talk with Prime Minister Morarji Desai; lay a wreath at the memorial to Mohandas Gandhi, leader of India's independence movement; and address members of parliament. Remain overnight in New Delhi.

Tuesday, Jan. 3 — Depart New Delhi at 2 p.m., arrive Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, about 4 p.m.; meet with King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd. Remain overnight in Riyadh.

# Bermudans' appeal for life is rejected

HAMILTON, Bermuda (UPI) — The Bermuda Supreme Court Thursday turned down an appeal to stay the scheduled Friday hanging of two convicted murderers, one of whom shot and killed the governor and police chief of Bermuda.

A prominent attorney immediately made yet another last-minute appeal.

Supreme Court Justice Hector Barclon rejected a motion to stay the death sentences, but Lois Browne Evans, opposition Progressive Labor Party leader and the attorney for one of the men, was granted a hearing late Thursday before a higher inter-island appeals court.

The hangings, if carried out, would

be the first in Bermuda in 34 years.

Erskine "Buck" Burrows, 33, was ordered hanged for the deaths of Gov. Richard Sharples and his aide de camp, Capt. Hugh Sayers, who were shot in March 1973. He also was convicted in the death of Police Chief George Duckett, shot in September 1972.

Larry Winfield Tacklyn, 33, was sentenced to hang for killing supermarket owners Victor Rego and Mark Doe, who were shot in 1974.

Burrows also was convicted in the Rego and Doe deaths. Winfield was tried but not convicted in the Sharples and Sayers deaths.

# Legion disease in Buffalo

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Buffalo General Hospital said Thursday it had treated a 59-year-old woman for what appeared to be Legionnaire's Disease earlier this fall and that she had recovered.

Richard F. Teetsel, hospital director of public relations, said the woman, whose name was not revealed, was hospitalized from Sept. 27 to Oct. 22. She was from the suburban town of Tonawanda.

Teetsel said her illness at first was diagnosed as pneumonia.

"If they have what is called an unusual pneumonia," he said, "then we check for other things and we include Legionnaire's Disease."

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