East London.

April 6—The railway line in the Swartkops area outside Port Elizabeth is bombed.

April 21—A blast causes extensive damage to the old Supreme Court in the center of Pietermaritzburg.

May 12—Explosives are found attached to a bridge on the Southern Freeway in Durban.

May 13—A car bomb explodes in central Pretoria near the headquarters of the South African Air Force and the National Intelligence Service, killing 19 and injuring more than 200 others.

May 26—A bomb explodes in central Bloemfontein.

May 28—A large arms cache is found in the eastern Cape.

June 28—Two bombs damage the offices of the Department of Internal Affairs in a building which also houses the local police in central Roodepoort, near Pretoria.

July 20—Guerrillas fire three 122 mm rockets at the SASOL oil-from-coal plant at Secunda.

Aug. 6—A bomb explodes at the Temple Israel Synagogue in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, a few hours before the State President arrived to attend a function there.

Aug. 15—Bombs blast an electric pylon at the Waltloo sub-station near Pretoria.

Aug. 26—Two powerful explosions destroy the Ciskei Consulate offices in the Carlton Centre in central Johannesburg.

Sept. 1—Two bombs blast the Municipal Bus Depot and a police installation in Durban.

Sept. 1—South African and Venda forces clash with a unit of Umkhonto we Sizwe in the Venda bantustan.

Sept 10.—Bombs explode at two Escom power sub-stations, one in Bryanston North, Johannesburg, and the other at Fairland in Randburg.

Sept. 11—The offices of the Ciskei Embassy in Pretoria are hit by a limpet mine.

Sept 13—A bomb explodes at the gates of the Wilson-Rowntree candy factory in Durban.

Oct. 6—A gun battle takes place between police and a guerrilla on a train near Aliwal North in the eastern Cape.

Oct. 10—A series of limpet mine explosions rock the Northern Transvaal town of Warmbaths, destroying six petrol storage tanks, two railway tankers and a truck.

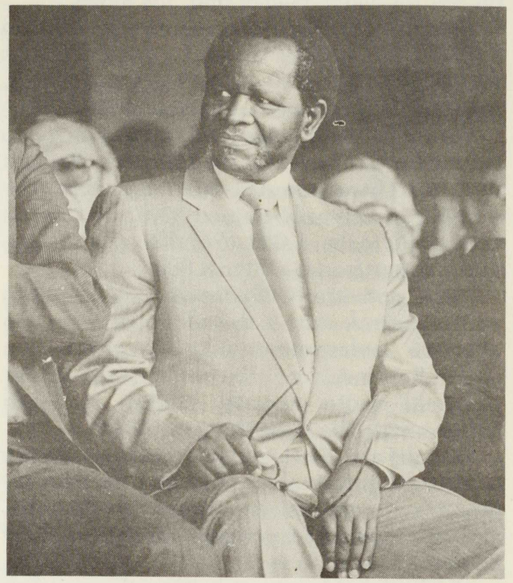
Oct. 14—Bombs blast two Escom power pylons at Ashdown and Prestburg near Pietermaritzburg.

Oct. 27—The police arrest Thembinkosi Ngcobo for allegedly trying to plant an explosive at a water fountain next to the Pietermaritzburg City Hall where Prime Minister P.W. Botha is speaking.

Oct. 31—A bomb explodes on the main Johannesburg-Durban railway line near Germiston in the Transvaal.

Oct. 31—An unexploded bomb is found on the Johannesburg-Springs railway line.

Nov. 2—The railway line between Bosmont and Newclare in western Johannesburg is damaged by a bomb.



ANC leader Oliver Tambo. / *AFRAPIX*

Nov. 12—A white soldier is killed in a clash with guerrillas near Alldays in northwestern Transvaal.

Nov. 22—Two power pylons are blasted at Duffs Road railway station in KwaMashu near Durban, causing power failures in northern parts of the city.

Nov. 29—A white South African policeman is killed in a clash with guerrillas in Mdantsane, Ciskei, after police attempted to gain entry into a house.

Dec. 7—Department of Cooperation and Development offices in Johannesburg are destroyed in bomb blasts.

Dec. 8—A blast derails a locomotive and two railway trucks at Hamilton station, outside Bloemfontein.

Dec. 10—A shootout takes place between suspected guerrillas and police in Eldorado Park, near Johannesburg.

Dec. 12—A limpet mine explodes at the offices of the Department of Community Development in Bree Street in central Johannesburg.

Dec. 15—Seven people, mostly security guards, are injured in an explosion that destroys the Department of Foreign Affairs offices in a central Johannesburg building.

Dec. 19—The offices of the Port Natal Administration Board in KwaMashu near Durban are badly damaged by two blasts.

MALAWI

CHIRWAS LIVE IN BANDA'S HANDS

[AN] Having failed in a lengthy court appeal, Malawi's former attorney general and minister of justice, Orton Chirwa, and his wife, Vera, now will hang unless President Kamuzu Banda forgives them.

Authorities have not yet fixed a date for the execution, and Banda reportedly has appointed a review committee to consider the case.

On Feb. 7 Malawi's national traditional court of appeals confirmed the death sentence that a lower court meted out to the couple last May for treason. The Chirwas, however, have been granted leave to petition Banda for clemency.

According to Blantyre radio, a majority of the five appeal judges upheld the sentences of the southern regional traditional court. No further details were given.

The Chirwas had submitted a total of 33 grounds in their appeal, including questions of jurisdiction. They said the southern region traditional court had no powers to try them because the alleged crimes were not committed there, and because the Chirwas were no longer residents of Malawi.

Orton Chirwa, 62, and Vera, 51, Malawi's first woman lawyer, claimed they were kidnapped together with their son, Fumbani, in Zambian territory, while visiting their daughter in the Zambian border town of Chipata, on Christmas eve 1981. Malawian authorities, however, maintained that the family was picked up near the town of Mchinji, inside Malawi, about 50 miles from Chipata.

The Chirwas, allegedly leaders of the Malawi Freedom Movement (MAFREMO), an anti-Banda group, had "crossed into Malawi in an illegal manner," to kill President Banda and other Malawi leaders as part of a conspiracy to overthrow the government, state prosecutors told the court. The Chirwas denied all charges.

The couple claimed they were held incommunicado throughout 1981 and part of 1982, until they appeared in court in July 1982. The trial ended May 6, 1983, with convictions and the death sentences.

Under the "traditional court" system in Malawi, the accused couple were not allowed any legal aid or counsel. They were barred from even discussing their defense among themselves.

In their appeal, the Chirwas said the lower court showed partiality toward the prosecution and prejudice against the accused couple.

By some accounts, questions about the competence of the five "judges" were at the heart of the Chirwas' appeal. The presiding judge in the case was Chief Bazombe of Mulanje, a man "whose independence is far short of that of a judge," according to one legal observer at the trial.

Chirwa said although the lower court was biased against him and his wife, it showed concern for their health, accepting their appeals for adjournment on health reasons.

"And this was quite different from the way their [the judges'] minds had been affected by the prosecution," said Chirwa, who was allowed because of poor health to address the court from his seat on a number of occasions—a concession in Malawi's British-style legal system.

The pan-African news agency PANA quoted Chirwa as saying, "The court was decidedly biased against us, that whatever the evidence, they were going to convict us."

The Chirwas' appeal was opened in the southern city of Blantyre Sept. 13 and lasted until Nov. 25, with some long adjournments.

While the latest verdict is likely to attract international attention to the treason case, concerned governments will also likely voice questions about the safety of the Chirwas' son, Fumbani, who was reportedly kidnapped with his parents, more than two years ago, and has not been heard from since.

The fate of the Chirwas currently rests in the hands of President Banda, who may now be more inclined to clemency than at any time in