

Violence breaks out after Mandela's release

CAPE TOWN, South Africa - Nelson Mandela walked through a prison gate to freedom Sunday, setting off joyous celebrations and violent clashes as blacks nationwide welcomed their leader back from 27 years in jail.

"Comrades and fellow South Africans, I greet you all in the name of peace, democracy and freedom for all," Mandela told tens of thousands of cheering supporters who thronged outside City Hall, many getting their first look at the African National Congress leader.

"I stand here before you not as a prophet, but as a humble servant of you the people."

Within an hour of the release, as Mandela's motorcade arrived at City Hall, violence broke out. First aid workers and journalists said one person was killed and more than 100 people injured when riot police fired shotguns after groups of black youths smashed shop windows in the city center.

Some youths retaliated by hurling bottles at the officers. Hundreds of terrified people waiting to hear Mandela ran for cover as police fired blasts of shotgun pellets.

Clashes between police and celebrating blacks were reported in at least two other areas, while in Johan-

nesburg thousands of young blacks received an escort from traffic police as they ran triumphantly through the city. Columns of cheering activists jogged through Durban and other cities.

"We have waited too long for our freedom," Mandela told the crowd. He said that until the proper climate was created for peaceful negotiations, the armed struggle was still a policy of the ANC.

"The factors that (caused the need for armed struggle) ... exist today," Mandela said. "We have no options but to continue."

"We express the hope that a climate conducive to a negotiated settlement would be created."

Mandela spoke of "my long and lonely years in prison."

"I am content that your pain and suffering was far greater than my own," he said, adding that he would make further statements after consulting his ANC comrades.

"There must be an end to white monopoly of political power and a fundamental restructuring of our political and economic systems to ensure that the inequalities of apartheid are addressed," he said.

The ANC leader called President F.W. de Klerk a man "of integrity," and called on the white community to

"join us in the safety of a new South Africa. The freedom movement is a political home for you, too."

Mandela, jailed since 1962 for helping plan the African National Congress' anti-government guerrilla campaign, was greeted by a thunder-

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Mandela African National Congress leader

ous cheer when he and his wife, Winnie, walked hand in hand through the gateway of Victor Verster prison in Paarl, 35 miles from Cape Town.

The Mandelas gave clenched fist salutes to the hundreds of supporters who had waited for hours outside,

many of them waving green, gold and black ANC flags.

Mandela, dressed in a dark suit and tie, appeared solemn and dignified as he and his wife walked to a white BMW sedan and climbed in. He broke into a broad smile as the car set off slowly toward Cape Town in a police-escorted motorcade.

Scores of policemen stood guard in the bright sunshine, and a small army of photographers and television crews from across the world frenetically took the first pictures of Mandela as a free man.

The state-run South African Broadcasting Corp. gave live television coverage to the release.

"This is the moment the world has been waiting for," said the television reporter at the scene. "The sun is shining on South Africa."

Mandela's speech was delayed an hour by the violence. As the clashes erupted, some anti-apartheid leaders told the crowd to disperse, but many remained to hear Mandela's voice for the first time in nearly three decades. Army units equipped with tear gas were deployed nearby, and police helicopters flew overhead.

"Your tireless and heroic sacrifices have made it possible for me to be here today," the 71-year-old Mandela told the adoring crowd. "I

therefore place the remaining years of my life in your hands."

Dr. Aslam Dasoo, tending the injured at a first aid station, said about 100 people had been hurt, and journalists counted 130 injuries. There was no immediate statement from police.

In Johannesburg, hundreds of young blacks, joined by a few whites, ran through downtown streets shouting, "Viva ANC!" after the release. Traffic police patrol cars cleared the way for them.

In Soweto, the sprawling black township outside Johannesburg where Mandela has his home, crowds of supporters danced and sang in celebration, many under umbrellas because of a steady rain.

There were unconfirmed reports that three celebrating blacks in the tribal homeland of Ciskei were shot dead by police. In Inanda, a black township outside Durban, a local journalist said she saw one black killed and five injured when police fired at a celebration.

The decision to free Mandela was announced Saturday by President F.W. de Klerk, who had met Mandela the previous night. He described the black leader as "committed to a peaceful solution."

Salvadoran air force attacks rebels

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador - Air force planes and helicopters strafed and bombed suspected leftist rebel positions near a northeastern village Sunday, killing at least six people and wounding 20, a witness said.

Fighting broke out around 6:30 a.m. in the village of Corral de Piedra, 53 miles northeast of the capital, said a female church worker who insisted on anonymity for fear of reprisals.

"The planes and helicopters did their work for about two hours," she said. "We were in chapel when we heard the shooting in the hills, and we heard about 10 bombs explode, shaking the chapel, and the dust then sifted in under the doors."

Telephone calls to the press office at military headquarters for comment were not immediately returned.

A resettlement camp for refugees in the decade-old civil war in Corral de Piedra, in Chaltenango province, appeared to be one of the targets, the witness said in a telephone interview.

"When people finally dared to go out, we went into a house and we saw five children and one adult dead. The roof of the house was blown up by a bomb. At the same spot I saw about 20 wounded people," the witness added.

The witness said she was able to get a car and evacuate five of the wounded.

A nurse at the Chaltenango Regional Hospital told The Asso-

ciated Press that the wounded were being evacuated there from Corral de Piedra where, she said, there had been fighting between guerrillas and government troops.

"There are more than 10 wounded here. We have a lot of work. Another three (wounded) were taken to San Salvador and it is known there are many dead there (in the village)," the nurse said. She, too, insisted on anonymity.

Senior military officers have been publicly saying in recent weeks the people at the Corral de Piedra camp were secretly collaborating with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, a coalition of five guerrilla organizations fighting for power.

Soviets seek economic launch with first profitable space flight

MOSCOW - Two cosmonauts took President Mikhail Gorbachev's drive for economic efficiency to new heights Sunday, blasting off on the Soviet Union's first space mission designed to turn a profit.

Riding a Soyuz TM-9 capsule, flight commander Anatoly Solovyov, 42, and engineer Alexander Balandin, 36, soared atop a column of orange-white flames into cloud-streaked skies over the Baikonur space complex in Soviet Kazakhstan at 9:16 a.m.

Their on-schedule launch was televised live, and for the first time, four active U.S. astronauts were invited to the former top-secret spaceport on the steppes of Central Asia to watch it. They were Dan Brandenstein, head of NASA's astronaut office and commander of the 11-day January

mission of the space shuttle Columbia, and Paul Weitz, Ron Grabe and Jerry Ross.

The Americans' presence was additional proof of how Gorbachev's leadership has led to more openness and a rollback of the obsessive secrecy that once cloaked Soviet space ventures.

Solovyov, who led a joint Soviet-Bulgarian mission in 1988, and space rookie Balandin were to link up with the Mir orbital platform on Tuesday. They will relieve two fellow Soviets, Alexander Viktorenko and Alexander Serebrov, who were launched Sept. 5 and are in their sixth month in orbit.

Under Gorbachev, pressures have increased on the country's once sacrosanct space program to prove its usefulness to the shortage-plagued economy. Some lawmakers have even demanded big funding cuts, saying the nation cannot afford costly space missions when it cannot guarantee citizens a reliable supply of meat and potatoes.

However, the six-month mission undertaken by Solovyov and Balandin has been noisily billed by state-run media as a moneymaker. The spacemen are to put to use the new Kristall module, described by the government daily Izvestia as the first mini-factory for the manufacture of technological and biotechnological materials in zero-gravity conditions.

Through use of Kristall, which is to be shot into orbit March 30 for linkup with Mir, up to \$41 million of profit are forecast, the official Tass news agency said. "For the first time in Soviet cosmonautics, incomes from the flight are expected to exceed by far spending on the spaceship's launch," it proclaimed.



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