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DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

ANC PRESS STATEMENT ON THE WEEKLY MAIL ARTICLE ON LIST OF NAMES

The ANC considers follow up to the Report of the Commission of Enquiry into Complaints by former ANC prisoners to be urgent and important. Pursuant of the Report, the ANC has begun the process of establishing an independent commission of enquiry as undertaken by President Nelson Mandela at the press conference on Monday, 19 October, 1992.

However, with regard to publishing the list of names submitted by the Commission, the ANC reiterates that it is a basic principle of justice that those who stand accused have the opportunity to be heard. It would be incorrect to simply release a list of names so inaccurate that it even includes names of people who could in no way be connected to any of the allegations made.

The story uses the Report of the Commission of Inquiry as a basis for repeating unsubstantiated allegations and accusations. This is a disservice to Weekly Mail readers, those whose names they list and the interests of justice.

It is regrettable that a newspaper such as the Weekly Mail, with its outstanding record of exposing abuse and corruption, should not have seen fit to pay attention to accuracy in the detail of the report headlined "The names the ANC tried to hide". The names listed, some of which are completely unknown to us, are clearly drawn from a magazine article published in 1990, (Searchlight SA, vol.2, No.1, July 1990) and therefore available for all to read.

While some of the names are also listed by the Commission, many others are included, among them the names of people not able to answer the allegations against them, such as Jackie Mabuza who died in Lusaka after being poisoned by South African agents.

Among other things, the report states that Morris Seabelo died "mysteriously" in Lesotho. The Weekly Mail lifted even this terminology from the magazine article, whereas even a superficial investigation or an inquiry to the ANC would have readily revealed what is a matter of public record, that Morris Seabelo was among those killed in the SADF raid on Maseru in December 1985. Other bald statements such as that the ANC had a detention centre at Chongela Farm, when this was a crop-producing farm open at all times to the public and international donors; or that the NEC of the ANC has decided to withhold the report into the death of Thami Zulu, cited as an appendix to the main report, are but a couple of examples of such inaccuracies. The only appendix to the report is the list of names, and the question of publication is among the recommendations made by the commission, all of which are being considered by the ANC, and upon which there has as yet been no decision.

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Sexwale keeps ANC post

By Brian Sokutu

Tokyo Sexwale (39) — the tough-talking critic of inefficiency within the ANC — was last night unanimously re-elected, unopposed, as PWV chairman at the organisation's annual regional conference.

Political department head Paul Mashatile unseated Babara Hogan for the position of secretary-general by 128 votes to 126.

Deputy chairman Advocate Mathole Molebetsi, deputy secretary-general Obed Bapela and treasurer Cassim Saloojee were all elected unopposed.

Voting for 20 other members continued into

the night and the full results are expected today.

The elections were supervised by the Independent Mediation Service of South Africa.

Asked about the tough statements he had made recently in the press criticising the ANC for inefficiency in its administration, Sexwale said: "I was reflecting the views of the PWV ANC leadership ... an honest appraisal of the year-end."

"We did not only focus on weaknesses but on strengths as well. Some people are good politicians but not good administrators."

Sexwale believes that honest criticism of the ANC would help to "sharpen" it.

He added: "In some organisations, people hide criticism. We're not satisfied with the present strength of the ANC, despite organising successful marches and stay-aways. We would like to make the ANC even more sharp, a formidable force, dangerous to the Government."

He said one of the challenges faced by his organisation was how to deal with the violence in view of forthcoming general elections.

To the ANC, the PWV region was "the core of South Africa" both politically and economically, said Sexwale.

He said his executive — "servants of the people" — would strive for an ANC election victory.

Star 26/10/92

ANC slams Pik's Angolan effort

THE African National Congress yesterday slated Foreign Minister Pik Botha's recent peace broking attempts in Angola as being without perspective.

"Hailed as a hero of the peace process, the question of South Africa's role in arming, training and assisting Unita in the war that has ravaged Angola is not even alluded to," the ANC said in a statement.

The ANC accused Mr Botha of trying to broker a deal that would give Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita real power in a multi-party government.

This power sharing deal would ignore the detail of the recent Angolan election results and give the "major players" an equal stake in government, the ANC said.

Mr Botha was laying a basis for the "gerrymandering" of Angola's election results. This created serious doubts about whether the National Party and its allies would ac-

cept the results of a free and fair election in South Africa, the ANC alleged.

• Generals from Angola's rival MPLA and Unita movements have agreed to demobilise thousands of troops who have not yet been integrated into a new unified army, Portuguese radio said yesterday.

Generals Alberto Neto from the MPLA and Ar-

tindo Chenda "Ben Ben" of Unita agreed during bilateral talks to disarm their soldiers and ensure they went to demobilisation points, TSF radio said.

Angola's new army was formally created on September 27 but Unita, the former rebel movement, withdrew all its troops when it disputed the outcome of the country's

general election.

The radio report said the two generals agreed that United Nations UN-AVEM observers would monitor the demobilisation.

Dr Savimbi cried fraud after losing the September 29-30 elections, plunging the country into uncertainty and awaking fears of a renewal of civil war.

Bipartisan commissions have been meeting in Luanda since Thursday to try and pave the way for a peace summit between Dr Savimbi and MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) leader Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Dr Savimbi has twice failed to show up for a planned meeting with Mr Dos Santos, but officials

say it might take place this week.

Government media said on Saturday that Unita troops were preparing to attack the provincial capital Cuito, in central Bx. province.

South African diplomats and the MPLA say Unita already controls all of the province except the capital. — Sapa-Reuter.

Citizen 26/10/92

Star 26/10/92

Govt set to ride out Crocker's claims

By Shaun Johnson
Political Editor

The Government is planning to "tough out" a bare-knuckle attack from former US Africa policy supremo Dr Chester Crocker, and sources say no resignations are likely to result from his startling allegations.

A Sunday newspaper yesterday quoted Crocker's forthcoming book on southern Africa, which depicts top SA Ministers and officials in the P W Botha government as debauched, power-hungry incompetents.

Under former President Ronald Reagan, Crocker was the key figure in the US's African initiatives for eight years, and is credited with playing a central role in brokering Namibian independence. His impressions of the South African negotiating team date from this period.

In his distinctly undiplomatic book, "High Noon in Southern Africa", Crocker calls the P W Botha government "bullies ... who behaved as if South Africa and everything in it were their personal possessions". He singles out for special criticism

former Defence Minister General Magnus Malan, former Namibian Administrator-General Dr Willie van Niekerk and former Military Intelligence chief General Piet van der Westhuizen. Foreign Minister Pik Botha escapes more lightly, but is also criticised.

Crocker was particularly shocked by the "antics" of the South Africans at a hotel on Ilha da Sol, where a meeting concerning Cuban and South African troop withdrawals took place in 1984. Crocker writes of divisions between Pretoria's delegates, which were exposed by "the non-stop alcohol intake".

Foreign Minister Botha has brushed aside Crocker's barbs, countering that the former assistant secretary of state for Africa was not trusted by his own superiors in Washington.

President de Klerk was unlikely to take any action against those named in the book, sources said. Government spokesman Dave Steward yesterday told The Star that De Klerk would not involve himself directly in the furor. Most of the alleged incidents took place before he came to office, and he had not been involved in the Angola-Namibia deliberations.

Steward said he did not believe that "any further reaction (from De Klerk) would be necessary or appropriate at this stage".

Other sources said the Government would "tough out" the allegations. "This thing will blow over," said one.

A source who attended the Ilha da Sol meeting expressed surprise at Crocker's vitriolic attack. "I can't recall anything spectacular or wild happening," he said. It was pointed out that Pik Botha's cryptic remark that "the Americans found it difficult to mix socially with local people" was a reference to the US delegates' tendency to keep aloof from the South Africans' after-hours gatherings.

Insiders said some "needle" could have developed between Crocker and the South African Foreign Minister in the course of the Angola negotiations, and said this could have caused Crocker to come out with his allegations. They stressed, however, that in spite of the current row, the former assistant secretary of state for Africa was "widely admired for his diplomatic skills and his tenacity in keeping the talks going".

Neither Malan nor Van Niekerk was available for comment.

Still hope PAC will drop armed struggle – Pik

By Kaiter Nyatsumba
Political Reporter

GABORONE — The South African Government and the Pan Africanist Congress have committed themselves to the resolution of South Africa's problems "through peaceful negotiations" but failed to reach an agreement on the PAC's armed struggle.

Speaking at the end of a two-day summit in Gaborone on Saturday, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and PAC second deputy president Dikgang Moseneke

described their discussions as "cordial and characterised by mutual understanding of each other's viewpoint".

"Substantial progress has been made in identifying common ground in respect of important elements of the negotiating process," Botha and Moseneke said in a joint statement.

Although the question of attacks on the police by alleged operatives of the PAC's military wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA), was on the agenda, no agreement was reached on this.

Botha and Moseneke said the issue had been discussed, and would continue to receive attention at future meetings.

Botha, whose delegation included General J le Roux of the SAP, said his Government would continue to hold talks with the PAC, despite the organisation's reluctance to suspend the armed struggle.

He said that just as the ANC's suspension of the armed struggle on August 6 1990 did not come after its first meeting with the Government, the possibility could not be ruled out

that at some stage the PAC could be persuaded to do the same.

Of the six items on the summit's agenda, the question of attacks on security forces by alleged APLA cadres was the most contentious. At one point, when the joint statement was being drafted, the PAC delegation left the room to discuss the phrasing.

It was agreed that:

- South Africa's political conflict should be resolved through peaceful negotiations.
- All parties should exert maxi-

mum effort to bring an end to violence in the country.

- South Africa needed a new, nonracial and democratic constitution — whose guiding principles would be decided upon by an inclusive and "more representative negotiating forum" — to be drawn up by a body elected on a common voters roll.

- The new negotiating forum should decide on transitional arrangements leading to the adoption of a new constitution.

- A constitutional vacuum should not be allowed to develop during the transitional period.

Star 26/10/92

33 die in political violence in Natal

DURBAN. — Political violence raged through some Natal townships at the weekend with at least 33 people killed in fighting that has reached unprecedented levels.

In the worst attack, 20 people were massacred on Saturday night by gunmen with AK-47 rifles at Mpesheni reserve, Folweni, south of Durban.

Police spokesman Major Coert Marais said yes-

terday that about 15 gunmen had arrived at the kraal of a Mr Sabelo at about 11 pm on Saturday. A traditional celebration was taking place at the homestead.

The gunmen opened fire, killing 20 people and injuring 27.

Most of those killed were men, while four women and two children were among the victims whose ages ranged between six and 59.

The injured were taken

to Umlazi's Prince Mshiyeni Hospital.

The massacre followed an attack on two houses the previous night, when six people were killed in Folweni's A Section.

The victims were all shot dead and were 15 and 16 years old.

Maj Marais had no further details but said police were investigating both incidents and were patrolling the area.

African National Congress spokesmen from the area were unavailable to

comment yesterday, while the Inkatha Freedom Party said it was still investigating but believed those killed were supporters of the IFP.

The Folweni area has been hard hit by fighting recently between supporters of Inkatha and the ANC.

Meanwhile, five other people were killed at the weekend when groups from Umlazi's Q section and Zamani shack settlement clashed. Details were still sketchy yesterday, although the area has also been the site of intense IFP/ANC fighting.

In another incident at the weekend, a policeman was killed by shots fired from a passing vehicle in Umlazi, according to the police unrest report. Three men were later arrested.

A man was also killed in a shootout in Weenen. Police came under fire from a minibus and after returning fire one man was killed, another arrested and an AK-47 rifle was seized.

In Ezakheni, Ladysmith, a man was seriously injured in an attack by a group armed with blunt objects. In another incident in the township extensive damage was caused when several houses were set alight.

Five people were wounded when shots were fired by unidentified groups of men in two separate incidents at Wembezi and Nkwazela, near Estcourt.

A spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order yesterday, said the government and the South African Police were "extremely concerned about the increased level of political violence".

"We urge that the political leaders involved find a political solution as rapidly as possible."

The spokesman said the police and the government would like to see a meeting between ANC leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, and Inkatha Freedom Party leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. — Sasa.

Copy on 26/10/92

The powerful National Olympic Sports Congress yesterday decided to withdraw all support for international rugby union tours at home and abroad.

"We're going to stop all rugby tours," NOSC president Minkeli George said at the body's annual congress in Johannesburg.

George accused the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) of being interested only in international tours and having no interest in developing rugby in underprivileged black town-

We're going to halt all rugby tours, warns NOSC

ships.

He said the NOSC, which is allied to the ANC, had also withdrawn its support for the 1995 Rugby World Cup to be staged in South Africa.

"We don't feel obliged to protect them (rugby) any longer," said George, adding that the rugby authorities were not considered representative of South Africa and still used symbols of apartheid.

SA rugby supremo Dr Danie Craven dismissed George's comments.

"I take no notice of what they (NOSC) say," said Craven, co-president of Sarfu.

He countered charges that Sarfu was not sufficiently involved in developing the game in the townships.

"Why must we do something about development when they do nothing themselves?"

"They must set an example and then we will do more. We are already doing more than enough."

In Paris, SA coach John Williams, clearly taken aback by the NOSC decision, said he would not comment until he had received a full report from Johannesburg.

"I was under the impression that the NOSC identified themselves with this tour," said a stunned Professor

Johan Claassen, the Sarfu representative on tour. "It comes as an unpleasant surprise to me to learn that they no longer support us."

When informed that the NOSC's latest decision had been influenced by Sarfu's apparent lack of interest in developing the game among blacks, Claassen was taken aback.

"I cannot believe it. Sarfu's development pro-

gramme is up and running, as our recent tour of the South Seas bears testimony," he said.

George said the NOSC favoured a selective sports boycott and stressed that the Indian cricketers who arrive in South Africa today for a two-month tour were welcome.

Springbok captain Naas Botha also could not believe

his ears. He refused to comment, but quipped: "When are we flying out of here?"

ANC sports spokesman Steve Tshwete could not be contacted for comment last night.

George also mentioned continued references to the South African side as the Springboks as an example of rugby authorities' use of the old symbols of apartheid.

He said he would address the United Nations Special Commission on Apartheid in New York this week on the

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Issue of the sports boycott.

The NOSC president also implicitly encouraged protests during the British leg of the South Africa tour.

"We will not stop the British Anti-Apartheid Movement from protesting against the tour," he said.

From Auckland it is reported that results of drug tests carried out on nine South African rugby players when New Zealand toured South Africa two months ago are missing. The results of the 13 All Blacks tested negative.

Barry Glasspool reports from Paris that Professor Fritz Elloff, a member of the Sarfu executive, said that as far as he knew all the SA players tested for drugs during the All Blacks' tour in August were negative.

In Paris to watch the second test, Elloff said that if the NZRU had not been told of the clean findings, it had been a "stilly oversight". — Sapa-Reuters-AFP, Staff Reporter.

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