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Basques march to
 protest at killing
 of councillor
 SAN SEBASTIAN - More than
 100 000 people took to the streets
 in Spain's Basque country on Saturday
 to protest at the killing of a
 town councillor by the Basque-
 separatist guerrilla group, ETA.
 Hours after 64-year-old Jose
 Luis Caso was laid to rest in a hill-
 top cemetery, crowds marched in a
 silent, solemn procession.
 The protest was led by Spanish
 and
 ministers
 government
 Basque regional politicians, walk-
 ing shoulder to shoulder and bear-
 ing a giant banner calling for
 "peace now and forever".
 "This is a hard struggle and it
 has tragic moments," Spanish In-
 terior Minister Jaime Mayor Ore-
 ja said. "With democratic solidar-
 ity, we will triumph."
 Silent vigils were held at the
 same time in other cities and
 towns in the Basque region.
 Caso, who represented the rul-
 ing Popular Party in the town of
 Renteria, was shot on Thursday
 night at a bar. He had refused
 bodyguards despite receiving re-
 peated death threats.
 Authorities believe the murder
 was for retaliation for the jailing last
 week of 23 leaders of ETA's polit-
 ical wing Herri Batasuna, who
 were convicted of collaborating
 with the guerrillas. - Renter.

A supporter of presidential candidate Kwon Young-gil at a rally in Seoul,
 South Korea, holds up a placard yesterday. Candidates have less than a
 week of campaigning left. Kwon, of the People's Victory 21 party, wants to
 renegotiate the IMF bailout package.

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Jeltsin's Mnogal 5

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Moscow. 200\224 200\231n Bleek pres. Boris Jeltsin
 (66) he. 200\230 met 200\231n skor stem aan
 "r'erslaggewers gese hy voel steeds
 200\234nogal siek" toe hy gister in die
 Barwikja-sanatorium wes van Moskou
 in die Moskouse munisipale verkiesing
 gestem het.

In â\200\231n kort nuusberig Op Russiese RTR-
televisie het Jeltsin bevestig dat hy â\200\231n
virus ender lede het. maar bygevoeg:
"Volgens (iie dokters is daar niks
merkwaardigs aan die virus nie.â\200\235

In die nuusberig is gewys hoe Jeitsin
en 5:: vrou. .Qaina, sy stembriefie van â\200\230n
verkiesingsamptenaar ontvang in
Barwikja, â\200\230n amptelike rusoord en
kliniek waar hy sedert Woensdag
opgeneem is: met wat die Kremlin
beskryf bet as â\200\231n akute respiratoriese
infeksie.

Net â\200\230n hat: :ljievol joemaiiste is

toegelaat om Jeltsin te sien.

Jeltsin het egter bespiegeling dat sy
siekte ernstiger is as wat die Kremlin
berig het, onderdruk.

Jeltsin het gesÃ© hy voel â\200\234nogal siekâ\200\235

en sy keel is seer. het Interfax berig,
maar hy het bygevoeg: â\200\234Julie kan kalm

A
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Pres. Boris Jeltsin

bly oor Rusland, gebeure is ender
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- (Sapa-AFP).

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Indegendent. Saga DPA (X1)- â\200\234#64 a4
UTster â\200\224- The Northern Ireland peace pro-
cess took two steps back with rioting in-
Londonderry at the weekend, and one
tentative pace forward with speculation
that Unionists might agree to meet Sinn
While the possibility of an encounter
UTster
between David
Unionist leader, and Sinn Fein president
Adams remains conjecture, the
Gerry
weekend rioting in Londonderry came as
a reminder that relations among national-
ists, Unionists and the Royal Ulster Con-
stabulary (RUC) are in many areas poor.
As so often, the outbreak of rioting
followed a controversial Loyalist march
(in Londonderry city on Saturday.

Trimble,

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Weeks of sensitive negotiations in-
Loyalists, nationalists, the police
ers failed to maintain order as
etrol bombs were
e police, by nation-

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thrown, mairily at L1:
alist rioters.
Police replied with 169 plastic bullets.
There were 13 arrests, while five police
ofï-\201cers were injured, none of them seri-
ously.
11-year-old boy

The worst injury wassuffered by an
11-year-old boy hit on {the head with a
stone, whose condition was described as
ill but stable.
Much damage was done by ï-\201res
etrol bombs. Police said yesâ\200\224
the violence was planned and

started by p
terday that

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Directed by a small, extreme group planning provocation, confrontation and violence". The authorities will be hoping the incident - the worst day of violence since the IRA restored its ceasefire in July - was localised.

Clean-up work got under way yesterday.

The area is quiet now but there is a lot of clearing up to be done," said a policeman in the mainly Catholic area. There is obviously a great deal of damage.

The rioting nationalists hijacked and set fire to buses and vans. The streets were quickly cleared of Christmas shoppers on what should have been one of the busiest days of the year.

erupted

at about

The violence

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11 pm with the worst unrest at Waterloo Place at the bottom of William Street, the RUC said. Cars were hijacked and burnt out and a department store was set on fire.

Riot police moved in between the burning vehicles to confront the gangs, Fire who continued to hurl missiles. crews were forced to stand back and look on because of fears for their own safety. Condemnation tempered

Meanwhile, in an interview on Irish television, Mr Trimble appeared to temper his normally forthright condemnation of Sinn Féin.

Asked about a meeting with Gerry Adams he replied: "So many things are possible.

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We have seen actually in the past people who have forsaken terrorism and

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. genuinely changed into democrats.

is perfectly (EOSSible that Gerry Adams
at path. I do not rule this
can follow
out.â\200\235

Since it has been more than half a cen-
Unionist and Republican
leaders met, such an encounter would be
a momentous one.

But the weekend also brought much
more negative comments from Unionist
sources, so that such a groundbreaking
meeting may remain unlikely in the short
term.

MI Adams has repeatedly suggested
such a meetingy renewing his calls after
his meeting with Tony Blair in Downing
Street last week.

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ÂçÂ§Jast weekâ\200\230s massive response by a work force estimated at 3,5 million to a national mass protest sponsored by the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) is a barometer of the increased awareness of labour issues among Zimbabweans.

Unlike in the past, when workers took a back seat while labour leaders fought issues on their behalf, this time they decided to take the bull by the horns and were pleasantly surprised, the Ziana national news agency reports. The protest eventually forced government, which had earlier cancelled the War Veteransâ\200\231 Levy, to bbase out duty on fuel and electricity charges.

Analysts say the protest is also a vic-

tory for democracy in a country where the 17-year-old post-independent government is used to making unilateral decisions, regardless of their negative effects on the country.

It is a defining moment and historic in that, for the first time in this country, a successful national protest has been undertaken by the workers," says ZCTU secretary-general Morgan Tsvangirai.

In the past, government managed to suppress any worker-initiated industrial action by sheer force.

But this time the workers surprised all 'in an unprecedented show of solidarity and purpose.

While the Harare protests were 'marred by clashes with the police, 50 000 workers reportedly turned out in Bulawayo, with over 20 000 each in Mutare, Gweru and Masvingo.

Police attempts to defuse the mass action, despite a court injunction restraining Police Commissioner Augustine Chihuri, only managed to spark running battles. Vehicles were torched and some shops looted by elements an-

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Protest a sign
of solidarity
and purpose

The recent demonstration

in Zimbabwe is seen as

a defining moment

gered by use of tear gas.

While employers may have co-operated by allowing workers time off, the overall militant mood that prevailed illustrates the frustration that has crept into Zimbabweans because of the country's economic woes.

Enough is enough. We are tired of living like slaves in our own country," chanted the protesters, conscious of the evidence of wealth displayed by the country's political leadership.

The government argues that the protest was irrelevant after it had withdrawn the War Veteransâ\200\231 Levy. Bilt the ZCTU says the protest was also against the manner in which government runs its affairs. â\200\234This government does not know how to negotiate. It is comman-dist,â\200\235 says Tsvangirai.

The ruling party is even being criticised from within. It should have read the nation's mood during its annual conference in Mutare where the War Veteransâ\200\231 Lew was rejected outright without any debate.

The Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce and ZCTU accuse government of ignoring Team Zimbabwe, a consultative forum of political and economic stakeholders which provides opportunities for airing national issues. â\200\224 Sapa

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â\200\234Demokra-
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Die ANC \Vil graag â\200\231n verhouding

Hy sai biy wees as die ANC die
adjunkpresidenskap van die lam
aanbied aan mm. Mangosuthu Bu-
theiezi, leier van die IVP, het pres.
Nelson Mandela gister gesÃ©.
Hy het ook sy steun vir die same-
smelting van die ANC en die IVP uit-
gespreek, asook vir groter samewer-
king met ander partye.
Hy het in â\200\230n televisie-onderhoud
gepraat aan die vooraand van sy uit-
trede as president van die ANC van-
deesweek op die ANC se nasionale
konferensie in Mafikeng.
Die IVP is die enigste opposisie-
party wat genooi is na diÃ© konferenâ\200\224
â\200\234Ons het mense met talent en on-
deiâ\200\230v'mding nodig in die regering,
hoewel (ms nie van die Bantoestan-
beleid gehou het nie." het Mandela
gesÃ© met verwysing na Buthelezi se
dae as hoofminister van KwaZulu.
"Hy bet baie endervinding opge-
doen. â\200\23011 Mens kan (iii in die kab'met
sien."
Hy het gesÃ© die ANC het egter nie
die land of die ANC se adjunkpresiaâ\200\224
denskap aan Butheiezi aangebied
Mandela se uitiat'mg kom teen die
agiergrond van â\200\230ri debat oor die
van die
moomiike samesmeiting
ANC en die WP wat in aibei partye
momentum kry, verai danksy die af-
name van geweid iussen hui onderâ\200\224
sieners in KwaZulu-Natal.
Dr. Sipo Mzimeia, IVP-m'mister
van korrektiewe dienste, is in die pe.

kel by sy party omdat hy twee weke
geiede reguit in die openbaar gesê
het die ANC en WP moet saamsmelt.
Die IVP se nasionale raad bespreek
die kwessie einde Januarie.
Mandela het oor â\200\230n moomlike sa-
mesmelting gesê dit moet nie daar
stop me.

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Mri-â\202-Hwâ\200\224â\200\230M" -â\200\234W.-'_._.-. __.__.â\200\224

met ander partye vorm waarin huiie
â\200\234met een stem" oor belangrike kwes-
sies kan piâ\200\230aat. Die samesmeiting
van die ANC en die IVP Ran die eer-
sie stap daarheen wees.
Die samesmeiting meet me ge-
grond wees Op swaiâ\200\230t eenheid me.
maar op eenheid in die heie land.
â\200\234Die feit dat ons gevra het Om 'n re-
gering van nasionale eenheid met
die NP. wat skuldig is aan suike
growwe skendings van menseregte,
wys hoe ernstig ons is." het Mandela
met die W P 531 me

lei
tot â\200\234nog â\200\231n Afrika-eenpartystaat"
beteken nie dat
nie. â\200\234Demokrasie
daar honderd politieke partye is
. As die ieiersk" p hem omring
nie .

mense wat
met sterk, onafhanklike
seifs die president kan kritiseer, dan
is dit â\200\231n goeie demokrasie."
In antwoord op die vraag waarom
mnr. Bantu Holomisa, wat die ANC-
leierskap gekritiseer het, dam uit die
ANC geskop is. het Mandela gesê el-
ke organisasie skop ongedissipli-
neerde iede uit. â\200\234Partye moet dissi-

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\235 WVMâ\200\224 - -wâ\200\235- 'W-.." ~- . .â\200\224 â\200\224.-
piine hê."

Hy het gesê die ANC se tugproses
is meer demokraties en regverdiger
as ander partye s'n.

Mandela het omken dat die ANC
en WP 59 beleid oor dinge soos die
leiers
ekonomie
drasties verskui.

Me. C beryl Carolus, waarnemen-
de sekretaris-generaal van die ANC.
het gister gesê die [VP is na die kon-
ferensie genooi danksy â\200\234die veran-
dering in die verhouding tussen die
WP en die ANC. Huiie is steeds ons
politieke opponente, maar sender
die bagasie van die veriede,â\200\235 het sy

gesÃ© met verwys'ing na die sterker
wordende vrede in KwaZulu-Natal.
Die moontlike samesmelting van
die twee partye is nie op die agenda
van die konferensie nie, maar dit
staan afgevaardigdes Viâ\200\230y Om dit on-
der mekaar te bespreek, het sy gesÃ©.
Butheiezi bet mnr. Lionel Mtshali,
minister van Rens. kultuur, wetens-
skap en tegnologie, as hoof van die
IVP-afvaardiging na die konferensie
gestuur.

Samesmelting

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POLITICS & ECONOMICS

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tician/diplomat/negotiator/leader (83% agree), competent/practical/doer/level headed/ decisive (83% agree), has charisma/charm/likeable (75% agree). good relationship with business/international business (73% agree). Only two points may be seen as perceived weaknesses: only 35% agreed that Mbeki â\200\234will take South Africa to prosperity during his tenure". This may reflect business concerns about current labour legislation. And crime limiting investment. Only 38% agreed that he â\200\234handles criticism well/constructively." Points on which agree/disagree views were evenly divided were â\200\234inspires confidence/trust" (50% agree), good relationship with masses/youth/broad basedâ\200\235 (50% agree), and â\200\234close to unions and alliance partners" (55% agree). In sum, business leaders are positive about Mbeki, and his emergence from Mandelaâ\200\231s shadow is happening.

Political opponents

Two responses were received - one from a party leader, the other from a provincial heavyweight. One rated Mbeki 8 (very, very good) and one 6 (good). Positive comments were: â\200\234considerable intellect/intelligent" (2), â\200\234doing excellent job (1). experienced/competent" (1), â\200\234understands what SA needs to succeed" (1).

Negative comments were "panders to Africanist/raeist lobby" (2). "not a, strong leader/insecure" (2), "makes mediocre appointments/threatens quality of cabinet" (2), "does not deliver to investors" (1). "does not deliver to disadvantaged masses" (1).

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Trade unions and parastatals
(6 leaders)
Six respondents (2 union leaders, 4 parastatals) averaged a "very good" rating of 7.50 for Mbeki. The two union leaders gave widely differing scores - one a perfect 10. the other a 5 - "average".
The parastatals all gave 75 or 85.
Positive comments from the parastatals

ANC leaders (3)

were more than double the negatives (13/5). while unionist A (10 rating) was nearly all positive. and B (5) mainly critical.
Their overall ratings were 6, 8 & 10 - averaging an excellent 8.
The main comments were: (P = from Positive comments far outweighed parastatals. U = from unions)
negative, 19 to 5. On agree/disagree
Positive: "Intelligent/great thinker" P4. "agreed/disagreed" questions, as with unions, parastatals U nil. "Eminently qualified/S years in and business, the only significant negative" P2. U1. "Confident/reassuring" tive views were that 2 of the 3 felt that U2, P nil.
Mbeki did not have a good relationship
In the agree/disagree questions, the with the masses/youth/the unions/the answers were predominantly positive. alliance.
The only significant negative was that
Comments were: "calm/not easily influenced" Mbeki is not seen to have a good relationship with the masses (5 of the 6 leading the country" (3), "statesman/ held this view).
presidential qualities" (2), "intelli-

In PMH's survey on Mbeki, 51 leaders were also asked to "agree/disagree" with 21 statements. The answers:

51 leaders' scenarios 1112010

Agree Dis-

Not

agree sure

1. CONFLICT - less

1.1 Less racial conflict?

33

1.2 Reducing violence/war in KZN?

33

1.3 No revolution by masses & minorities?

38

1.4 General stability?

29

2. CRIME - unsolved

2.1 Decreasing crime & upholding law, effective judicial system? 21

2.2 Maintaining solid legal framework & judicial system - police, courts & prisons are efficient?

24

3. GOVERNMENT - inefficient but adequate. Watch out for corruption and authoritarianism

: 3.1 Chaotic, corrupt government?

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t Minority groups working towards constructive unity?

3.2 Increasing authoritarianism?

3.3 Inefficient government?

3.4 Maintaining adequate government?

3.5 Efficient government after a relatively inefficient transitional period?

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4. POLITICS - stable. Shift to â\200\234Africanâ\200\235 democracy. Opposition alliance. Black

empowerment.

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32

i 4.2 Alliance of parties with majority support excluding radicalism? 35

4.3 Black empowerment & political stability?

38

. 4.4 Still rooted in democracy but unlike one that resembles Western democracy in all respects?

4.5 One-party state, paralysed opposition?

5. ECONOMICS GEAR continues, reasonably stable.

5.1 GEAR abandoned?

5.2 Reasonably stable macroeconomic scenario coupled with implementation and gear?

6. MARKET - deregulated, government incentives.

6.1 Current rigidities persisting that would inhibit optimal market functioning?

6.2 Largely deregulated competitive market with incentive-driven government interference?

7. GLOBALIZATION - we need it

7.1 Adaptation to demands of globalization?

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PMR December 1997

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Malaysia,

aay51a refused to

KUALA LUMPUR â\200\224â\200\224 Malaysia
stuck to i-\201nancial regulations
yesterday despite implicit US
threats to impose sanctions.
or
from an offer it made undgrfh:
i-\201nancial services agreement
concluded at the World Trade
Organisation (WTO) in Geneva
at the weekend: a maximum
51 ;'(. _ ownership of local i-\201nancial
institutions by foreign i-\201rms.
The US demands unlimited
foreign ownership.

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fects American Internagiorflgl
Assurance
wholly
owned Malaysian subsidiary of
US insurance company Ameri-
can International Group (AIG)
A spokesman for Malaysian
Deputy Prime Minister Anwar
Ibrahim said yesterday Ma-
lay31a would stand i-\201rm on its
offer, and that AIG would have
to divest 49% of its equity in
AIA. At this time our offer
stands at 51% on new and 'cur-
rent companies, â\200\235 said Anwar â\200\231s
press secretary, Adlin Zabri
When asked if this meant that
AIG would have to divest the

[Â£8132 odds over pact

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d(iilin i-\201'eplied, â\200\234Yes.â\200\235
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Charlene Barshefsky :giditldrei
Saturday the US would seek im-
provements in some countries â\200\231
offers under the deal. Countries
such as Malaysia that forced di-
vestiture of existing rights in
the insurance sector would be
carved out â\200\235 from US obliga-
tions under the pact. That
means the US would be able to
impose sanctions on Malaysia if
it forced the US insurance Borneo
pany to divest those holdings.

c

This practice of forced divestiture is unacceptable â\200\235 Barshetskysaid ofMalaysia. ,

When the WTO deal was concluded on Saturday negotiators said it would help investor confidence by bringing in financial services, fastest growing sector of the world economy, under WTO rules â\200\224â\200\224 meaning that states breaking their commitments can be taken to its dispute settlement system. When enacted in March 1999, it would provide the better Western multinationals with guaranteed, if phased, access to

as

inscribed in

most developing economies increasing capital flows andâ\200\231improving the quality of their industries through competition.

.Anwar, who is also in charge of the ministry, said the government remained committed to the principle of progressive liberalisation

the â\200\234-TOâ\200\231. Malaysiaâ\200\231s offer to the WTO had â\200\234substantial improvements on its 1995 offer".

(Anwar said: â\200\234These include a: bindingâ\200\231the majority ownership for the original foreign owners of locally incorporated insurance companies.â\200\235 Other offers included allowing a higher number of expatriate personnel in â\200\230several categories of in-â\200\224 financial services and committing

to issue new licences in the reinsurance subsectors," he said. Trade superpowers and developing countries co the landmark deal on 8211151112323 to clear away international barriers to the expansion of banking and securities industry into force by

The agreement

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scheduled to March 1999.

â\200\224-â\200\224Reuter.

Asian leaders meet to address Crisis

KUALA LUMPUR â\200\224 Asian lead-

ers gathered in Malaysia yesterday for a series of meetings to be followed by the first meeting of the Association of South East Asian Nations, China, Japan and South Korea - the largest gathering of Asian leaders without Western representation.

(Asean),

plus

The summit was being held amid concern that a financial crisis had deepened despite global rescue packages totalling more than \$100bn, delegates said.

The heads of state of 12 Asian nations were expected to issue a concern statement about the financial turmoil and their commitment to overcome the problems, delegates said.

expressing

They were also expected to examine a Malaysian proposal to buy each others' goods and shun more expensive products as well as to turn to China for advice on the financial crisis.

There definitely will be something important to say on the currency situation affecting major Asean countries: Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, said Malaysian Foreign Minister

Thailand,

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Abdullah Badawi.

:7,
Three of the countries attending the summit, Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea, have turned to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for emergency rescue packages totalling more than \$100bn.

In spite of the IMF coming and helping some of those countries, the situation has not improved, Singapore's Abdullah said.

Senior officials spent much of yesterday thrashing out the details of a statement on the financial crisis to be submitted to the

summit leaders for their approval. Philippine Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon said the statement would be based on the conclusions of meetings held recently in Manila, Vancouver and Kuala Lumpur where leaders supported the extension of aid to needy nations. The statement was also expected to include individual stateâ\200\224ments from participating countries â\200\234with the resolve to overcome the crisis as soon as possibleâ\200\235.

Abdullah said leaders would take advantage of the presence of Chinese President Jiang Zemin to

explore how â\200\234engagementâ\200\235 with Beijing could help southeast Asia pull itself out of the doldrums.

â\200\234We all agree that China is a very big economy. China is in our neighbourhood. I think that at this present summit, there will be some talk of engaging China perhaps some suggestion on how to improve our situation,â\200\235 he said. The Malaysian minister was asked if there was concern among that ï-\201nancial summit leaders woes could spread to China.

â\200\234If the problem reaches China, the problem will be very big. Itâ\200\231s not going to be those countries in the neighbourhood that will be affected, but even countries far away across the globe,â\200\235 he said.

The nine Asean members â\200\224 Brunei, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam -â\200\224 will celebrate the 30th anniversaryâ\200\224 of the group today.

The only Asean founding leader still in power, Indonesiaâ\200\231s 76-year-old President Suharto, will miss the gathering. Indonesian sources said he was suffering from a stomach ailment. â\200\224â\200\224 Renter.

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POLITICS & ECONOMICS

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Negatives seem _to arise from his TV appearances with 3 comments â\200\234incom-
petent speakerâ\200\235, â\200\234not clearâ\200\235, â\200\234difficult
to followâ\200\235. While his appearance is
praised, business leaders feel that the
media is being â\200\230politically correctâ\200\231
towards Mbeki rather than being truth:
ful - apprehensive of the perceived
consequences criticism might bring.
Quite a number also feel that Mbeki
does not get enough media coverage in
SA, being more recognised overseas at
this stage.

Comparing the ĩ-\201ndings - Nov â\200\23097 vs

June 200\23096

Leaders in

Nov

200\23197

Business

Rating - UP 6.40

Political opponents - UP 7.00

Parastatais

- UP 7.50

Unions

- NA 7.50

Local authorities &

-

parastatais

ANC leaders

Total

- NA

- UP 8.00

- UP 6.65

June

200\23196

5.80

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-

6.00

7.60

6.02

In sum...

Mbeki is seen as a very intelligent, competent leader/statesman/diplomat, who is already 200\234running the country200\235. His ratings as 200\234future President200\235 have improved significantly in the last 17 months, among all groups - business leaders, top politicians, and all. He is, to most, 200\234charming, charismatic, likeable200\235. To some, arrogant, aloof.

The tall Mandela shadow - moving away

gent/great thinker/considerable intellect200\235 (2), 200\234astute politician200\235 (2).

Mbeki200\231s media image

With the exception of the two political opponents, who saw the media as portraying Mbeki only negatively (no surprise), all others saw the image of Mbeki conveyed by the media as positive. Positive/negative comments were (duplication occurs): ANC 5/1, Opponents 0/4, Parastatals 4/2, Unions 2/1, Business 38/12. Total 49/20. 37/51 see Mbeki200\231s image through the ' media as 200\234statesman/leader/ confident/good/positive/ reasonable200\235.

I

. Thabo Mbeki is

Agree

ALL

,

51 %

Base

Attribute

1. educated/intelligent/knowledgeable/
experienced

48 94

2. a good politician/diplomat/negotiator/leader

44 86

3. competent/practical/level headed/decisive 42 82

4. good relationship with business/international
business

5. has charisma/charm/likeable

6. close to the unions & alliance partners

7. good relationship with masses/youth/broad
based

8. inspires confidence/trust

9. handles criticism well/constructively

10. will take South Africa to prosperity during
his tenure

23 45

28 55

22 43

38 75

39 77

28 55

21

41

ANC OPP PARA TUS BIZN

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Codes: OPP = Opposition party leaders. PARA = parastatais TUs s Trade Unions BIZN = Business

10

Negatives are perhaps more perceptual than real: â\200\234Insecure/not decisiveâ\200\235 is probably a big plus in a country with such massive divides, where a gradual easing of confrontations beats â\200\234tough/decisiveâ\200\235 (equals â\200\234divisive") hands , down.

Business (nearly all white) is concerned about his â\200\234Africanist/racistâ\200\235 inclinations.

The unions/ANC/parastatals are concerned that he is not Close enough to â\200\234the masses/youth/unionsâ\200\235. This he can i-\201x - a Bafanajersey?

The perception that he is appointing â\200\234yes-menâ\200\235 to the ANC key positions, to the Cabinet, could also be interpreted as not appointing obstructionists, ideologues, and especially head-on competitors. Ramaphosa, Sexwale, Phosa, Holomisa - sidelined.

If Mbeki is to run this country successfully with its huge disparities in wealth, in attitudes, and 345 years of racist history (whites vs blacks, essentially), with its political spectrum from rabid reds to cavalier capitalists, then he had better have a cabinet: an ANC, that folâ\200\224 lows consistent, carefully evolved visions and strategies. Plans that make South Africa work, not fight. That solve the major problems - crime, poverty, housing and illiteracy - constructively and fast. That exploit our wonderful opportunities - tourism, SADC, industry, agriculture. That attract big investments in infrastruc~ ture, industry and technology. Without burdening South Africa with more massive interest payments, with undue bloodâ\200\224sucking fees and royalties to foreign owners.

PMR is now convinced Mbeki will make an excellent President for South Africa. Once Mandela retires to Qunu (Maputo in winter?), Mbeki should take all the mass-impressing opportunities that he has (deliberately, we believe) avoided, and left to Madiba so far. And hereâ\200\231s praying his first major move will be to DECLARE WAR

ON CRIMâ\200\230INALS, to mobilize the whole population into ridding us of the vermin. Then GEAR will give us lift-off!
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Blair faces second party
rebellion over benefit cuts

LONDON British Prime Minister Tony Blair yesterday defended his plans for wide-ranging social welfare reforms, but sought to pacify rebellious backbenchers by denying any policy to force disabled people into work.

Restructuring Britain

welfare system is the big idea, and we mustn't be distracted from carrying out the reforms that are necessary to provide opportunity for people, Blair said in an interview. Blair's show of resolve over welfare reform followed a bruising week for his ruling Labour party, when a controversial plan to cut benefits for parents sparked the first major rebellion against the prime minister since the election landslide in May.

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The issue split the party, three junior ministers resigned and 47 Labour MPs voted against the cuts in parliament.

The prospect of another revolt surfaced on Friday after government admitted it was considering further cuts, this time to social se-

73% say it will affect

security benefits that could affect the sick and disabled.

However, with veteran left-wing Labour MP Ken Livingstone warning that backbenchers would not accept the new cuts, Blair was quick to deny suggestions the policy would force disabled people into the workplace.

No-one's taking away benefits

from those who need it, he said.

More than 5-million Britons get sickness and disability benefits, which cost government more than £16bn a year.

Dismissing reports of blanket cuts in disabled benefits, Blair said government's sole concern was to offer disabled people the

opportunity to i-\'201nd work.

But his assurances cut little ice with former minister for the disabled Lord Morris, who warned that government would i-\'201nd itself forced to â\200\234defend the indefensibleâ\200\235 if it were to meddle with benei-\'201ts for the disabled.

â\200\234Cutting benei-\'201ts will not im-
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prospects. It will put more of them out of work,â\200\235 Morris said.

â\200\234The best way of getting them into work is to make employment buildings and public transport more accessible to disabled people,â\200\235 he said.

The Sunday Times said yesterday Education Secretary David Blunkett, who is blind, and Health Secretary Frank Dobson were furious departments would get more money only if the amount a year sent on the disabled was slashed.

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Activists say the idea that the disabled should work is ridiculous because i-\'201ve out of six people receiving payments are over 65.

â\200\234We hope itâ\200\231s a ghastly mistake and that nothing like this does happen,â\200\235 Laura Jacobs, of the Royal National Institute of the Blind said.

â\200\234It could mean losses of anything between Â£13 and Â£84 a week to some of the most vulnerable people in society,â\200\235 she said. â\200\224â\200\224 Sapaâ\200\224AFP, Renter.

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Khatami speaks of 'great respect for ĩ-\202grâ\200\230eat p
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Iranian President Moham-
mad Khatami yesterday
hailed â\200\234the great American
peopleâ\200\235, in a speech outlining
his vision of an Iranian society
where human rights are re-
spected and laws obeyed.

In the warmest words to-
wards the United States by an
Iranian leader since the 1979
Islamic revolution, Khatami re-
peatedly stressed his â\200\234great reâ\200\224
spect for the great people of the
United Statesâ\200\235.

-â\200\234I would like to express my
respect to the nation and great
people of the United States. I
hope in the not-too-distant fu-
ture I will be able to address the
American people,â\200\235 Khatami
told a press conference.

Sources close to Khatami
said he would send a New Year
message to
the American
people.

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He said he had long sup-
ported â\200\234removing tension from
the worldâ\200\235 but shied away from
questions about official dia-

â\200\230 logue with Washington.

â\200\234Our political problems
with the US are too complex to
be easily resolved, but I hope
all politicians who enjoy the
weapon of logic will contribute
so that we can all live in peace
and quiet,â\200\235 he said.

Khatami, who won a sur-
prise Victory in May elections
on a platform promising greater
openness, complained that US
politicians were â\200\234out of step
with their times" and â\200\234seeking
monopolistic ruleâ\200\235.

1 But he acknowledged the de-
mocratic right of the US people

to choose their government.

The US and Iran have had no diplomatic relations since the crisis at the US embassy in Tehran in 1979-80, when US diplomats were detained by Islamic revolutionaries.

In contrast to Washington's attempts to isolate the Islamic republic, the European Union has maintained diplomatic ties. In the past year, Iran has moved to mend fences with many Arab enemies who feared Tehran's pledges to export its radical brand of Islam. Khamenei has speeded up the diplomatic drive, sealing a tentative reconciliation with countries including Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates at last week's Islamic summit in Tehran.

Yesterday he defended the status of women, who have been forced to cover themselves from head to toe in public since 1979: "We don't want male chauvinism nor female chauvinism. We want merit to rule. The perception that women are the second sex is very dangerous. Women are the first sex anti they can achieve very senior positions."

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ANC 331 oor toepassing praat

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David van Rooyen

Die regering se makro-ekonomiese strategie (Gear) is â\200\231n fundamentele beleidsrigting van die ANC en sal nie verander nie, het president Nelson Mandela gister in Johannesburg op â\200\231n internasionale nuuskonferensie gesÃ©.

Hy het by dieselfde geleentheid die regering ook opnuut weer tot â\200\231n vrye mark-ekonomie verbind.

Volgens horn is

dit egter wel moontlik dat daar verstellings aan die toepassing van die strategieâ\200\230oorweeg kan word -â\200\224 die ANC is bereid om met sy vennote in die ANC/Cosatu/SAKP-alliansie daaroor gesprek te voer.

Mandela het in reaksie op vrae oor Cosatu se kritiek op die Gear-program gesÃ© dat die drie vennote in die alliansie sommige gemeenskaplike doelwitte het, maar dat al drie instansies volkome onâ\202ianklike organisasies met hul eie beleidsrig-

tings is.

â\200\234Gear is â\200\231n fundamentele beleidsrigting van die ANC en ons is nie van plan om daarvan af te wyk nie.â\200\235

Die ANC is egâ\200\231ter bereid om met sy vermote in die alliansie oor die toeâ\200\224 passing van die beleidsmaatree's te gesels en verstellings aan is bring.

â\200\234Dit gebeur voortdurend dat wetgewing deur die parlement gevoer word en dat daar later probleme opduik wat veranderinge noodsaak, wanneer daar met die toepassing daarvan begin word.â\200\235

Mandela sÃ© ook daar bestaan nie so iets dat Gear die regering se heropbou- en ontwikkelingsprogram (Hop) vervang het nie.

â\200\234Die twee beleidsrigtings is nie

teenstrydig met mekaar nie, maar
vul mekaar eerder aan.â\200\235

Hy het ontken dat van die opposi-
siepartye se beleidsrigtings meer op
die vrye mark gerig is, as die van die
ANC.

â\200\234Die ANC is baie sterk tot â\200\231n vrye-
mark-ekonomie verbind en ek meen

die optrede van die ministers van
finansies, handel en nyvverheid en
arbeid is â\200\231n duidelike bewys daar-
van.â\200\235

â\200\234Dit was egter in sommige gevalle
vir die regering nodig om by die eko-
nomie betrokke te raak om die skade
van die verlede te herstel.â\200\235

Oor die gebrek aan vordering om
die regering se verkiesingbeloftes
na te kom, het Mandela gesê dat die
skuld las van R250 miljard wat die
huidige regering van die vorige re-
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skuld te betaal â\200\224 en dit is geld wat an-
dersins op projekte soos huise be-
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o Mandela sê dat die regering is goed
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â\200\234Ek weet m

oor die 1994-verkie.
om dit met geweld te
eer as julle oor wat on.
der die opzierylak aangaan. Daar is
â\200\234Bk gaan nie name noem nie,
dinge wat
in ag geneem moet word
maar ons het toe mense gebruik wat
waarvan aim
yande was om die situasie
,
Hy het egter bygevoeg Botha kan
nie voort Iaan om die '
Eh het twee keer met P.W. Botha
-
agsaam nape. As hy
â\200\234 et te veront
gepraat oor die WVK. Ek het met al
dit aanhou doen,
moet the reg sy gang gaan. â\200\234Ek het
sy hindere gepraat en ook met die
syfamilie dringend
pOhSle, die weermag en die NG om hom diÃ© verne
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Nick Bezuidenhoutâ\200\230

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Hy is persoonlik betrokke by die po-
gings om oudpres. P.W. Botha voor
die Waarheids-Versoeningskom-
missie (WVK) te kry omdat daar din-
ge onder die opperylak aangaan
waarvan almal nie weet nie, het
pres. Nelson Mandela gister gesÃ©.
Hy het dit yergelyk met die situa-
â\200\230 PW cannot

'ignore TRC,
sa sMan ela-
fii-\202â\200\224{I {â\200\2312-
Former state president P W
Botha would not be allowed to
defy the law by refusing to ap-
pear before the Truth and Rec-
onciliation Commission, Presi-
dent Nelson Mandela said
yesterday.

â\200\234I have done my bit, but P W
Botha is not above the law,â\200\235 he
said in an interview broadcast
live on television and radio.

Aâ\200\231Iandela was referring to
his, as yet unsuccessful, at-
tempts to coax Botha to appear
before the TRC.

Hejustiï-\201ed his intervention
based on previous negotiations
to avert possible bloodshed in
the run-up to the 1994 election.
South Africaâ\200\231s democratic tran-
sition had almost been derailed
by civil war, and it had been
necessary then to elicit the help
of former enemies to defuse the
situation and avert bloodshed.
The media and some ana-
lysts had had a superï-\201cial un-
derstanding of what had been
at stake, Mandela said.

He had spoken to Botha
twice, and held discussions
with the security forces and the â\200\230
Dutch Reformed Church â\200\234be-
cause I know a little more than
you doâ\200\235.

A

Mandela declined to elabo-
rate, saying only that there
were issues that â\200\234had to be con-
sidered" and that it was neces-
sary â\200\234to try and defuse the sit-
uationâ\200\235.

â\200\234But our determination to
do so canâ\200\231t go so far as to allow
people to defy the law.â\200\235

Waving his ï-\201nger in the air
Botha-style, Mandela said: â\200\234I
have done my bit but P W Botha
is not above the law. I will not
allow P W Botha to defy the
TRC.â\200\235

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Bothaâ\200\231s family had been ap- â\200\230

preached to try to intervene so
that the former president
would not be humiliated by be-
ing jailed or fined for failing to
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Warm praise
for Mbeki ;
and Zum Â«
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Johannesburg - President Mandela
'esterday heaped praise on the men
he wants to become the next presi-
dent and deputy leader of the ANC
â\200\224 Thabo Mbeki and Jacob Zuma -
and said they, more than he, were
the architects of national reconcili-
aĩ-\201on.

However, he declined to answer
questions about his former wife
Winnie Madikizela-Mandelaâ\200\231s pol-
itical ambitions.

Mr Mandela said he would soon
be addressing Mr Mbeki â\200\235as my
presidentâ\200\235.

â\200\234I do so without reservation. He
is a man of exceptional gifts, very re-
spectful, very warm, very senâ\200\230sitive
to the suffering of our people. He is
a diplomat, very much unlike me.â\200\235
described Mr
Zuma as an â\200\235outstanding leader,
generous, full of self-respect and
highly talentedâ\200\235.

Mr Mandela,

â\200\235You must see him in action,"

he said.

Mr Mandela said it was a misconception"â\200\231that Iâ\200\231m the only person who believes inâ\200\235 reconciliation. ANC leaders such as Mr Mbeki, Mr Zuma, Pallo Jordan and Cyril Ramaphosa were the architects of reconciliation and had piloted negotiations with other political parties.

Mr Mandela said that despite stepping down as ANC president, he would remain a party member and would still report for duty at the partyâ\200\231s national headquarters in Johannesburg every week.

â\200\235I will carry out any instruction

my new president will give me."

He declined to say whether the ANC had earmarked a special new post for him. Mr Mandela reiterated that his retirement as the countryâ\200\231s President in 1999 would not cause any disruptions as Mr Mbeki was already the de facto head of government. The ANC had highly talented leaders capable of spearheading the country into the new millenium. -â\200\224 Sapa

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Monday 15 December 1997

THE CITIZEN

for

TEHERAN. Iranian President Mohammad Khatami yesterday called a dialogue with the American people, sending a message that his moderate government may be ready to repair relations with the country that his predecessors reviled as "The Great Satan".

President

with
people

Khatami said: "I take this opportunity to pay my respects to the great American people, and hope to have a dialogue with the American people about the United States in the not too distant future." Khatami may be taking his biggest gamble in his efforts to steer Iran away from the influence of the hard-line clergy that have been in power since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

In making the

President Khatami did not say what form the dialogue should take, but said he wanted a historical talk with the people of the United States.

if

Asked

President Khatami made the comments in response to a reporter's question if he was in favor of mending ties with the United States. Khatami would extend to the US government. President Khatami said: "The US government is, after all, the US govern-

ment. It has been elected
by the American people.
and we respect that."

Sources close to Pres
Khatami said he would
deliver a similar forward-
looking speech addressed
to the American people for
Christmas.

popularly

Pres Khatami, Iran's
first
elected
president, has not used the
once-standard
sobriquet
for the United States, "The
Great Satan", since he
took office last August.

Islamic

The United States sev-
ered ties with Iran in 1979,
after
militants
loyal to the revolutionary
government that ousted
the
shah,
stormed the US Embassy
in Teheran and took 52
Americans hostage
for
444 days.

US-backed

A resumption of US-

Iran's ties is likely to have
the support of Iranians
who are tired of being
as a pariah state by not
being the United States but
also much of the West.

accused

Yesterday.

Pres
Khatami
politicians of having fallen
behind the times. saying
that the world had changed
but Washington's policies
had not.

in

Something that pains
me, and for which I pity
the American people. is
that their leaders have fall-
en behind the times. They
are not living

their
times,â\200\235 said Pres Khatami.
â\200\234In a rapidly changing
world that has become
multiâ\200\224polar
United
States still imagines that it
is the sole power, and that
it must impose its will on
the whole world at any
cost,â\200\235 Pres Khatami said.

the

â\200\234Over the past 50 years
this
is what the United
States has done to the
world, and especially to
us. That is why relations
between our nation and the
United States are bitter,"
Pres Khatami said.

Pres Khatami said Iraq

process

opposed the Middle East
peace
because
even Muslim Countries
that had entered into polit-
ical dialogue with Israel
had gained nothing.

"If we oppose the peace
is because we
process it
don't consider it a fair
peace. Even countries that
entered into talks (with
Israel) realise today that
this regime is racist. ter-
rorist and expansionist,â\200\235
Pres Khatami said. -â\200\224Sapa-
AP.

1000 slain
in Rwanda
massacre

KIGALI. -â\200\224 At least 1 000
people were killed in a
massacre of Tutsi
re-
fugees at Mudende camp
in north-west Rwanda, a
Rwandan human rights
organisation
on
Saturday.

said

It was the latest in a
series of widely varying
tolls for Thursdayâ\200\231s bloody
assault blamed on Hutu
extremists.

Earlier

Saturday

the
United Nations High Com-
missioner for Refugees
gave a ï-\201gure of over 300.
Local ofï-\201cials and wit-
nesses of the attack had
reported
271
deaths while one teacher
estimated that between
700 and 99 people were
massacred. -â\200\224 Sapa-AFP.
C/{T/ï-\202/1/Mf

least

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Comoros, rebels tal1ts
end Without agreement

ADDIS ABABA, Ethio-
pia. -â\200\224 Talks between the
government
Comoros
and
the
breakaway
Indian Ocean islands
ended yesterday without
agreement.

But the delegates, at the
end of the three day con-
ference brokered by the
Organisation of African
Unity, said they would
meet again as soon as pos-
sible to ï-\201nd a solution for
maintaining the unity of

the island-nation.

A month later the government sent in troops to Anjouan in an abortive attempt to stop the rebellion.

The defeat of the government troops emboldened the secessionists who voted to secede, but the move was rejected by all nations but Libya.

Moheli, the smallest of the three islands, joined the move for secession but

did not vote on it.

offered

At the talks in Addis Ababa, where the OAU is headquartered, the government broad autonomy in exchange for the unified island. But Anjouan representatives remained defiant, saying they could not go against the result of the October 26 overwhelmingly endorsed independence. - Sapa 200224AP.

referendum,

which-

Anjouan 'declared independence from the federal Comorian government on August 3 and asked to be reunited with France, the colonial power until 1975. But Paris rebuffed the request, the Comoros islands should stick together.

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*Page 17

Portugal Socialists hold

major cities in poll

LISBON. â\200\224 Portugalâ\200\230s
ruling Socialist Party
has held onto the coun-
try's two biggest cities.
Lisbon and Porto. in
municipal
elections
yesterday, according to
:m exit poll on plâ\200\230lelIE
CLS television.

The same poll also
said the Socialists of
Prime Minister Antonio
Guterres would retain
central
Coimbra
Portugal and Sintra and

in

Caxâ\200\230cuis near Lisbon.

Yesterdayâ\200\230s

polls
were widely seen as a
mid-tei'm test of popu-
larity, for the govern-
InenL ahthough voĩ-\202ng
earlier
day
appeared to have been
slow.

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poll.
released after polling
stations
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gested the main opposi-
tion Social Democrats

closed,

had held Gondomzuâ\200\230 in
the north and were batâ\200\224
tling with the Socialists
for Gain. near Porto.

firm

All earlier opinion

polls put the Socialists
as
favourites.
tipped to improve on
the 36.1 percent of the
vote
in
December 1993 to beat
the thenâ\200\224ruling Social
Democrats.
Sapaâ\200\224
AFP.

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

THE DEPUTY DIRECTORS GENERAL

MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS

ASIA & MIDDLE EAST

EUROPE & AMERICAS- f

OPERATIONAL SERVICES'

SA DESK

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PIETER SWANEPOEL

MARCO BONI

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15 DECEMBER 1997

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Please receive press clippings of current issues in the following order:

1. Ministry and Department.
2. SA Bilateral Relations.
3. Multilateral Issues.
4. Important Domestic Issues.
5. Economic Issues.
6. Regional Issues: Africa.
7. Other Regions.

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THE 'CITIZEN

First UN meeting
in Iraq since crisis

Russia, which are member
countries
the UN
Security Council.

of

all

sites

It is his first visit since
Baghdad imposed a ban on
US members of UNSCOM
on October 29.

The UNSCOM chair-
man; who arrived
on
Friday to a hostile recep-
tion in Baghdad newspa-
pers, is due to report back
to the Security Council on
Thursday .on the outcome
of his mission to secure
access to
for"
UNSCOM inspectors. '

What does the mad
dog Butler bring in his
luggage for his visit to
Baghdad? Babel newspa-
per, which is
run by
Saddam's eldest son Uday,
asked on Saturday. It said
Mr Butler's mission was
condemned to failure in

' advance. - .Sapa-AFP.

UN
BAGHDAD.
weapons experts
held
talks with Iraqi officials
yesterday for the first
time since a crisis over
arms inspections broke
out in October, as Iraq
urged the United Nations
to steer clear of US inter-
ference.

Deputy Prime Minister
Tareq Aziz and the chair-
man of the UN Special
Commission (UNSCOM)

in charge of Iraq's disarmament,
Richard Butler, meanwhile, brought forward their crucial talks on access to sensitive sites.

Mr

Mr Alan Dacey of the UN arms monitoring centre in Baghdad told AFP the meeting would open late yesterday rather than today 'as originally plan-

ned, allowing more time for their work.

Government representatives from Britain, France and Russia are due to take part in the Aziz-Butler encounter.

officials

Ahead of the meeting, Iraqi and UNSCOM arms experts led by Nikita Smidovich of Russia held "technical" talks. Foreign Ministry, said Mr Dacey. He declined to give details of the outcome.

the

at

General Amer al-Saadi, an advisor to President Saddam Hussein, headed the Iraqi side, the official news agency INA said.

The official Iraqi Press, which has branded Mr Butler a "mad dog", toned down its attacks yesterday and urged the UNSCOM

chief to distance himself from the United States to avoid a new crisis.

What we ask of Mr Butler and the members of the Special Commission is that they avoid falling into the US trap, said Al-Qadissiya. ,

The newspaper called for UNSCOM to set up a serious method of co-operation

ation with Iraq which will protect it from American interference and allegations against Iraqâ\200\235.

â\200\234The settlement of any

problem linked to Iraq can only come through co-operation the Iraqi leadership," it said.

with

Yesterday Mr Butler held a meeting with the Baghdad ambassadors or mission chiefs of China, Egypt, France, Poland and

Dei-\201ant FarrÃ@aï-\202lbghan

VisitsWest Bank

Q

Washington has announced its opposition to the visits to Iraq and Libya, and another stop in Cuba. Israel had threatened to refuse to allow him in or to arrange meetings with Israeli ofï-\201cials if he did not retract his past statements against Jews and Israel.

Mr Farrakhan has been trying to repair ties with American Jews, angered by his virulent statements. While in Iraq, he called on Washington to lift United Nations sanctions against Baghdad. â\200\224- Sapa-APP.

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retract

Muslim

RAMALLAH,
West Bank. - Controversial US Black leader, Louis Farrakhan, yesterday made a surprise visit to the West Bank despite, Israeli warnings it would boycott his visit if he did not

anti-Semitic
statements, witnesses said.
Mr Farrakhan entered
Bank
from
the
the Allenby
Jordan
Bridge, where he was met
by Palestinian civil Affairs
Minister Jamil Tarifi, who
then had lunch with the
minister in the town of
Ramallah.

West
at

Palestinian

security
sources said Mr Farrakhan
was expected to head next
to Gaza City
to meet
Palestinian leader, President
Yasser Arafat, al-
though
Arafat's
office had not confirmed
this.

Pres

It was not known if Mr

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~.-

Farrakhan
visit Jerusalem or Israel.

would

later

Israeli Foreign Ministry
spokesman,
Mr Aviv
Shiron confirmed that Mr
Farrakhan had arrived in
the land of Israeli requests
that he retract past anti-

; Semitic statements.

Israel has asked that he
retract his statements sup-
porting terrorism and anti-
Semitism. He has not done
so, and we are studying
the situation created by his
arrival in the region, Mr
Shiron said.

of

the

Islam.

Mr Farrakhan, the head
Chicago-based
of
Nation
had
expressed an interest in
visiting
Israel during a
three-monthâ\200\224long â\200\234world
friendship tour".

That tour took him to
Iraq last week and he will
head later to Libya, both
sworn enemies of Israel
and the United States.

.....Â»..n . u~_... .

Fifty one cadets rate Mbeki high y as
future President
even political Opponents!

PMR is very fortunate to have the trust of 51 leaders who were prepared to accept our absolute commitment to confidentiality. Another twenty or so would not respond to the survey - including senior ANC people. The common reason was clearly fear, however disguised: â\200\234who wants to stick his/her neck out?â\200\235
n â\200\230phone back interview, if fax not returned,
A telephone call, then fax, the
was the interviewing method. A semiâ\200\224structured questionnaire was used. Respondents included: 3 ANC leaders, 2 opposition leaders, top or senior executives in 4 parastatals, 2 trade unions and 40 large corporations. Rating scale used was: 10 = excellent
1 = very poor

How this survey was conducted

5 = average

But - some concerns.

In mid 1996, soon after Cyril Ramaphosa exited politics for business, PMR conducted a major investigation among business and government leaders on Thabo [Mbeki - apparent future ANC leader. Would he be a worthy President of South Africa? The conclusion then - Yes! Now?

With the ANC national congress in mid December, when the Presidency of the ANC (and other key positions in the ANC) will be on the agenda, and the rumoured retirement of President Nelson Mandela in 1998, the question becomes even more pressing. So PMR interviewed fifty one leaders. We also invited Professor Tom Lodge, head of Witsâ\200\231 department of politics, and renowned for his in-depth studies of the ANC, for his commentary - see article following this. This survey does not pretend to be a forecast of Mbekiâ\200\231s succession, nor of the final outcome of his presidency - which does seem highly probable. It represents the views of 51 leaders, from very different sectors.

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Business leaders views

On the fundamental question: â\200\234How would you rate Thabo Mbeki as our future President?â\200\235, rated by 40 business leaders, Mbeki scores 6.40 ie good to very good (scale: 1 = very

of

qualities

people support (5), very erudite/good communication skills (5), highly intelligent (4), integrity/honest/man of his word (4), charming/likeable (4),

already leading the country (4), well educated (4), will make decisions for economic growth in SA (4), doing an excellent job (3), has

pre-sident/statesman (3), could address aspirations of both blacks & whites (3), balanced in his views (3), goes for least government intervention (3).

Negative comments were voiced by about half. The commonest were: Inexperienced (7), not wide enough acceptance (5), indecisive (4), part of old school/not youth (3), doesn't allow opposition (3), employs "yes men" (3), lacks skills to address fears of white minority (3), too soft (3), lacks statesmanship (3).

Raised once only was - "inability or unwillingness to handle major problems" - security and unemployment. Is Mbeki letting other cabinet members carry these problems? Also, Mbeki has not (yet) taken a "buck stops here" stand on crime or unemployment.

On specific questions, (agree/disagree answers), Mbeki's strengths were: educated/intelligent/knowledgeable/experienced (93% agree), good poli-

Thabo Mbeki -

poor, 5 = average, 10 = excellent). Positive comments dominated (116 to 66 negative). This 6.40 rating is a clear improvement on the 5.80 score he received in PMR's mid-1996 survey of 36 business leaders. Now, only one rated Mbeki badly - a 2. All others were at least 55.

Nearly all had positive comments on Mbeki. The main positive comments by business leaders were: (duplication occurs) presentable/personable (8 leaders said so), internationally recognized (7), accomplished diplomat (7), has

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PlWR December 1997

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Reuters

charitable scrutiny of the domestic and foreign media, Mr Mandela has Johannesburg â\200\224 Most haloes get faced only muted criticism even of dented by everyday politics, but his controversial foreign policy, or Nelson Mandela, who takes his first his unconwntional personal life-step to retirement this week, has style. kept his as round as ever.

5

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For nearly four years, he and the South African Government have tried and largely failed to meet the soaring expectations of a black majority freed from centuries of racial oppression.

Crime, corruption, high unemâ\200\224 ployment and scant economic re-ward for the poorest have fuelled discontent and sunk approval ratings for his government.

But the char-

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, whose 198-1 Nobel Peace Prize came nine years before Mr Mandela shared the same honour With outgoing \xhifte ieadler F W de Kierk, has puhiiic'iy criticised him for openly iiving for half of every month with a \x'm'nán who is not his Wife. jVâ\200\231ir iâ\200\230x'ianciela walked to freedom in February 1990 homing the hand of his second wife, Vinnie. But the marriage cracked almost immediately and ended in last year

divorce

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ismatic Mr Man- . Â£1 100k. baCâ\200\230Q eriï-\201il dela, who will re-real pride at tie tire as ANC president on Saeritâ\200\230iees â\200\23151:: 11%: urday, 16 months before he retires as head of state, is as popular as he always been.

Victori es tiâ\200\234: 1% we

have scored. â\200\230tâ\200\224Vhat
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said in a live tele-
vision interview we have achieved
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Nelson Mandela

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yiachel,
whose
husband died a
decade ago in a
plane crash.

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stand in
the presence of
one of the giants
(sf our century,â\200\235
i? Secretary of
e Madeleine
4-1. 3 â\200\230ori ght
said
after a 20-minute
courtesy call on
Saturday.

He told

a
panel of journa-
lists his party had performed excep-
tionally in the face of the challenges
inherited from three centuries of
White domination.

â\200\235I am retiring very happy, be-
cause I think that we have made
progress towards delivering ser-
vices, nation-building and promot-
ing the spirit of reconciliation.

â\200\235I look back with real pride at
the sacrifices that have been made
and at the .
. .victories that we have
scored. What we have achieved is a
near miracle. I have little regret in
me,â\200\235 Mr Mandela said.

Though his party has endured
and sometimes railed at the un-

90"â\200\230

Mr

Man-
delaâ\200\231s warm ties
with Libya, Syria, Iran and Cuba
have irked \Nâ\200\231ashington, and the
abrupt way he dropped Taiwan in
favour of diplomatic ties With
China - just weeks after saying
such a step would be morally in-
deci'sible â\200\224 brought sharp censure.
Still in good health, Mr Man-
dela says he will concentrate his
work on his Childrenâ\200\231s Fund but
has also signalled his intention to
keep serving his party and country.
â\200\235I will, to the best of my ability,
continue to be of service to the
cause of transformation, and con-
tinue to do so even after stepping
down,â\200\235 he said

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lite

Africa3 after Eggpe ring from the Western spotlight at the end of the Cold War, seems to have made a comeback, Vernon Seymour explains why

US Secretary 0

State Madeleine Albright.

development of a new constituency in the US

.
which has a strong interest in Africa.
The Clinton government is responding to this new constituency which is actively lobbying and advocating a new policy agenda for Americaâ\200\231s role in Africa.

Among the major players of this new constituency is the rise of non-governmental organisations like Africare, American Friends, the African-American Institute and the National Democratic Institute, all of which have benefited from the transition to privatised development aid. It is not uncommon to find that 60 to 80 percent of some NGOâ\200\231s budgets come from USAid funds.

Seizing the opportunity

in some ways an
The new constituency is
attempt to seize the opportunity left by the demise of the American and African movements which during the 1970s and 1980s were able to frame, place and force African issues

onto the Congressional and executive agenda in Washington.

Policymakers and their new allies are now ready to assert control over American foreign policy in Africa.

Old concerns about American national security and the profits of multinational corporations now occupy space within human rights

groups. NGOs dedicated to charity and relief elected and work and, most importantly,

appointed black public officials. is now

this new constituency that

is

It

fuelling renewed interest in Africa.

In recent months. Africa started to acquire new political and cultural visibility in the US. There was the US government's sponsorship of Africa at the Denver Summit of Eight meetings in July. 3 White House Conference on Africa and the forthcoming trip to Africa by Clinton.

At grassroots level. an African nationalism continues to reverberate through youth culture. schools and such startling events as mass marches by African-Americans.

These are hardly signs of Africa slipping out of public view and off the policy map.

The new scenario is not what American scholars and policy analysts predicted in the wake of the post-Cold War "new world order". US leadership is crucial to the development of a mutually beneficial partnership with the nations of Africa. Its role in multilateral institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank can also be critical for alleviating the tremendous debt that burdens many African governments.

A programme of debt relief and debt forgiveness is urgently needed so that these nations can begin devoting more of their scarce resources towards sustainable development and democratisation.

If the US could persuade the governments of the industrialised nations to write off half of Poland's and Egypt's official debt, as it did in April and May 1991. surely it can do the same will for Africa? Hopefully. Albright's visit advance the cause of Africa.

The US is a nation that has always aspired to the realisation of the greatest dreams: life. liberty.

eny and justice for all. Maybe the American government is finally realising that African people aspire to those same values.

The realities of the current age are most profoundly expressed in the proverb "Ungamntu Ngabanye Abantu" - people are people through other people.

The quality of people's lives is inextricably linked with the actions of others. Maybe American foreign policy towards Africa is now ready to acknowledge this fact.

(The writer is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Southern African Studies, University of Western Cape.)

PECLATION about the impact and implications of United States foreign policy in Africa and other developing nations has generated much controversy and debate in

recent years.

American presidents and Washington foreign policy establishments have almost traditionally been the least interested in African policies.

It is therefore notable that US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to the continent, including a quick stopover in South Africa, is the second within a year by the head of America's foreign policy establishment.

Does Albright's Visit to Africa mark a strategic shift in policy towards the Third World continent? Has Africa been placed higher on the US government's foreign policy agenda?

When Bill Clinton became president in 1992, the US had an opportunity to define its role in the new global order by fashioning policies for the 21st century which were not distorted by the Cold War lenses of the past.

However, the challenge of creating a foreign policy in a confusing new world appears to have increased in Washington.

policy-makers

even

the

Africa, having lost the strategic value it had after World War II when mainly the US and the then United Socialist Soviet Republic embarked on the Cold War, has become either irrelevant or, at most, marginal to American interests.

Since the end of the Cold War the super

power's interest in Africa has faded.

Evidence of such a trend is to be found in the declining levels of aid to Africa. By 1996 the US Congress reduced development assistance to Africa by almost 25 percent.

The most devastating blow for many African governments came when the US Congress effectively withdrew all funding for the World Bank's low-interest loan programme to the poorest countries for the three-year period beginning in 1997.

The trajectory is clear: American foreign aid in general, and to Africa in particular, is continuing on a steady downward trend.

Paralleling these trends is the disparagement of Africa by Western journalists, American intellectuals and Washington policymakers.

Africa is widely depicted in the West as a place of hopeless anarchy, an arena for unrewarding international social work or the source of infectious diseases like Aids and Ebola.

More common still is the omission of Africa in discussions of the new world economic order. In fact, Africa is absent even when cultural matters rise to the fore.

How then does one interpret Albright's visit to the continent? One of the answers is the

Zim crooks lgi-\201i-\202kt
trade in SA: Min

BULAWAYO. - Zimbab-
wean Home Affairs minis-
ter, Mr Dumiso Daben-
gwa, on Saturday attrib-
uted the increase in crime
in Matabeleland's north
province
frustrated
youth, many of whom had
learnt their trade in South
Africa.

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At an end of year party
for police in Matabele-
land's north province, Mr
Dabengwa
the
increase in reported crime
could
to
growing economic hard-
ships and rising unem-

attributed

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especially
among the youth, Ziana
reported.

perpetrated

The crimes, such as the
bank robberies that rocked
Bulawayo mid-year, were
by
mostly
frustrated
who
crossed the border and
â\200\234leztmt the viceâ\200\235 in South
Africa where such crime
was common, he said. ,

youths

Provincial Commanaer,
Senior Assistant Commis-
sioner Alfred Musengi,
said the province had seen
an 11 percent increase in
reported crime between

January and November
this year, compared with
the same period last year.
He said reported cases
rose from 50 222 in 1996
to
between

January and November
this year.

55 813

Comm Musengi said
child abuse and rape were
also cause for concern in
the province where report-
ed cases had increased by
35
this
increase could in part be
attributed to a growing
public awareness of the
need to repon such abusâ\200\224
es.

percent.

But

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crimes
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He pledged to work
closely with Child welfare
the
organisations
of Health to
Ministry
against
reduce
women
children,
while ensuring that more
cases were reported and
perpetrators punished.

police â\200\234were sadly lacking

Both Comm Musengi
and Mr Dabengwa warned
motorists against drinking
and driving during the fes-
tive season. "Bulawayo
drivers, particularly com-
muter transport drivers,
are not careful and have
caused loss of a lot of
lives in the city including
one
officers.â\200\235
Comm Musengi said.

He and the minister
appealed to the public for
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Mobutuâ\200\231 S generals
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NP slams nuke
China
sale to
THE National Party yesterday condemned the reported

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sale of South African nuclear technology to China.
The sale of nuclear technology to a coomry tx hieh xx as
not a signatory to the Nuclear Nonâ\200\224Prohferatton Treat} Qâ\200\230

should he condemned in the strongest possible terms. {\P
Boy Geldenhuys. said in a
foreign affairs spokesman, Dr
statement.

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South Africa's laudable
of nuclear
proliferation

"The transaction nullifies
in combating the

efforts

weapons worldwide.

â\200\234The secrecy that shrouds the deal also puts a question
mark behind the government's commitment to trans-
parency."

A Sunday newspaper reported that 40 Chinese selen-
South Africa to dismantle

"s nuclear-tâ\200\230ttel production

tists were working illegally in

a crucial part of the country .

capacity and ship it back to China. -â\200\224 Sttpa.

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global i-201ght against
corporate corruption

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John Dluclu

THE SA chapter of Transparent International, the
Berlin200224based anticorruption cru 'ade, has called on
government to join the global fight against corporate
corruption.

Members of the Organisation for Economic CO-
operation and Development (OECD) and i-201ve non-
OECD countries were expected to sign a treaty that
would ban bribery of 200234foreign public offi-201cials200235 by
multinational corporations.

ers public agencies or public enterprises.

The executive officer of the SA chapter, Stiaan van
der Merwe, welcomed the signing of the treaty as a
200234great step forward200235 as it addressed the 200234supply side200235
ofcorruption. He urged Pretoria to accede to it. Talks
with SA political parties had be gun to get their sup-
port in the anticorruption battle, he said.

The treaty, known as the Convention on Combat-
ing Bribery of Foreign Public Offi-201cials in Interna-
tional Business Transactions, aims to penalise givers
of bribes by imposing stiff sanctions, including eon200224
i-201scation of bribes and its proceeds. Guilty parties,
normally multinationals, could also face civil200231 or ad200224
ministrative sanctions.

While most nations frown upon bribery of local
offi-201cials, bribery of foreign offi-201cials is normally not
illegal. A 200234foreign public offi-201cial200235 is dei-201ned broadly to
include any person 200234holding a legislative, adminis-
.3 trative or judicial offi-201ce of a foreign country200235 and cov-

Van der Merwe said an anticorruption law was
required in SA as there had already been 200234signals200235
that certain SA businesses were bribing their way in
southern Africa. Although SA had various anticor-
ruption measures.in place 200224200224 such as the auditor-
general200231s offi-201ce, the Public Protector200231s offi-201ce and
codes of ethics 200224200224 Van der Merwe emphasised the
need to have a more coherent strategy. The SA chap-
ter would support an anti200230corruption conference
aimed at developing a national integrity system.

An OECD spokesman said 34 nations, including
five non200224OECD, would sign the treaty on Wednesday.

The treaty would come into force about two months
after the date on which i-201ve of the countries which
have the 10 largest export shares had ratiï-201led it.

Transparency International publishes an annual
corruption perception index, ranking countries in
terms of how they are perceived by businessmen.

Van der Merwe said the body planned to publish a
200234bribery ropensity index200235 that would track the sup-
pliers of ribes. This would help clear the myth that
corruption only occurred in the public sector.

A link has been identiï-201led between corruption and
foreign direct investment. The higher the former the
lmuor the latter will be

Pres praises Clinton200231s

SA upliftment roleWMT

Saturday

PRESIDENT Mandela
said on
he
looked forward to a visit
next year by his United
States counterpart Bill
Clinton who, he said,
had done much to uplift
South Africa.

After

meeting

US
Secretary of State Made-
leine Albright in Pretoria,
Pres Mandela said Presi-
dent Clinton supported the
anti-apartheid
struggle

long before he became
president.

He has been equally
supportive of the transfor-
mation currently taking
place, Pres Mandela told
reporters. He has helped
us as a country, and I am
looking forward to
his
visit.

Ms Albright, according
respect to Pres Mandela,
said: I stand in the pres-
ence of one of the great

men of our century.

She earlier met Deputy
President Thabo Mbeki,
with whom she discussed
problems in African coun-
tries
such as Rwanda,
Angola, and the Demo-
cratic
of the
Congo.

Republic

They emerged from the
meeting joking that they
tried hard but could in-
no disagreements.

After

the

talks Mr

Mbeki told reporters the
US and
Africa

South

shared the same concerns
- which included violence
in Rwanda, and delays in
the
peace
process.

Angolan

Ms Albright expressed
concern that a number of
provisions in the Lusaka
Protocol had not yet been
carried out. "If anything
goes wrong in Angola, it
affects
all of us," Mr
Mbeki said.

matter

Another

dis-
cussed was that of ensur-
ing a culture of democra-
cy in the DRC and to
restore a proper adminis-
tration there, he said.

"(The

Ms Albright said the
DRC should be helped to
become an asset to the
region.
former)
Zaire has caused a major
problem," she said. "Its
tentacles have reached
into a number of con-
flicts
in Africa."

Ms Albright said she
and Mr Mbeki did not dis-
cuss the possibility of set-
ting up an African peace-
keeping force. They did,
however, touch on some
international issues such
as the Middle East peace
process. Mr Mbeki de-
scribed relations between
South Africa and the US
as very good. - Supa.

Kommer oor invloed van Asne 200 224 krisis Op SA

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David van Rooyen 200 2343232 200 234!
200 230 ' \

Al hoe mCCR Suid 200 224 Afrikaanse
ekonomie vrce (131 die finansiële
krisis in die Verre Ooste ernstige
gevolge vir Suid-Afrika 200 230 ika se
handelsbalans kan inhou, wat op
sy beurt weer druk op die
betalingsbalans en die res van die
ekonomie kan plaas.

Volgens huile is 200 23111 sterk daling in
die waarde van die rand dalk nodig
Om Suid-Afrika se
uitvoerverdienste - en noodwendig
ook ekonomiese groei - te beskerm.

SO 200 23111 daling in die waarde van

die rand kan egter die
moontlikheid van verdere dalings
in rentekoerse verder uitstel.

Hoewel die lande in die Ooste
wait die mCestc dour die ekono-
micse krisis in A816 bei 200 231 invloed
word, 1101 200 231 n klein (1001 van Suid-
Afrika se uitvoer verteenwoordig,
kan die gebeurc in di 200 12111110 Suid-
Afrika so uitvoer tog op verskeie
maniere onregstreeks beïnvloed.

Die 8011 is dat die pryse van

kommoditeite, wat steeds 50% van
Suid-Afrika se uitvoer verteen-
woordig, besig is 0111 sterk te daal
en nog verder kan terugsak.

Daar 200 230 by het die rand die jongste

ruk teen die meeste gldcenhede
verstewig, wat beteken dat die
pryse van Suid-Afrikaanse
produkte op die wêreldmarkte nie
meer so mededingend soos

voorheen sal wees nie.

Mnr. Mike Schussler, ekonoom

V1111 FBC Aksepbank, s 200 dat
k0m1110 ditektpryse (goud
uitgesluit) sedert Julie vanjaar
reeds met gemiddeld 10% gedaal
het. As die nciging voortduur kan
Suid 200 224 Afrika se tekort op die
lopcndc rckning met RZ miljard
tot R3 miljard toeneem.

Die grootste dalings in kommo-
diteitspryse het voorgekom in die
prys van koper (21%), nikkel (18%),
platinum (14%) en steenkool (14%).
Die goudprys, wat sowat 20% van

Suid-Afrika se invoer

verteenvoordig, help 00k nie veel
nie. Schussler mam dat Suid-
Afrika R1 miljard se
uitvoerverdienste verioor vir elke
\$10 waarmee die goudprys oor â\200\231n
tydperk van â\200\23111 jaar daul.

Suid-Afrika het vanjaar reeds

sowat R5 miljard se uitvoer-
verdienste verloor nadat die gc-
middelde goudprys van \$387 per
fyn 011s vcrledc jaar tot â\200\23111
gcraamdc gcmiddeld van \$330 vir
1997 gedaal hot. As die goudprys â\200\23111
jaar lank 0p sy huidige vlak van
\$280 bly, kan Suid-Afrika
aanstaande jaar nog R5 miljard se
uitvoerverdiensc verloor.

Schussler is 0011 nie optimisties
oor gmei in Suid-Afrika so uitvoer
van vervaardigde goedere nie.

Die waarde van die rand was aan

die einde van November 1%
sterker as aan die einde van

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November die vorige jaar, gemcct
teen die mandjie van geldeenhede.

Die rand hat onder mecr met

sowat 10% teen die Duitse mark en
ander Europese geldeenhede ver-
stewig ell met meer as 6% teen die
Japannese jen. Daarby is rand nou
sowat 32% sterker teen die Baht
van Thailand, 22,4% sterker teen

die ringgit van Malsisi' 011 16,6"..
sterker teen die won in Suid-Korea.
Dit bctcken (lat Suid-Afrikaansc

uitvoerproduktc se pryse 11011
heclwnt 111161 is vergeicke 111111 (lie
van heelwat van sy
handciscvnnctc.

Mnr. Luke Doig, (111011110111 van

die Krcdictwaarborgkorpomsic. 861

die invloed wz11. (lie krisis in Asi' 011 16,6"..
Suid-Ai-\201'ikzi se invoer kan h 011 16,6"..
selfs â\200\23111 groter hcdrciging vir die
112.111dclshz11:111s in as die verwugtc
invloed op (110 1111111 80 uitvoer.

â\200\234Die grootstc bcdrciging vir die
ekonomie is goedkoper pryse vir
ingcvncrdc 1:111:11ch van Oostersc
markte, wuaiâ\200\230 (lie pryse van
produktc wcens (110 11111110 so.
swakker geldeenhedc mot tot
sovccl as 110% kzm val.

â\200\234'lâ\200\230cn spytc :vm vcrdcrc (inlings

111 die waardc van (110 1111111, Sill die
Suid-Afrikuansc Reserwobzmk

(laik gedwing word 0111 â\200\23111 grater
aanvmag 11:1 ingovncrdc goddere
teen to werkum(11011111111013001â\200\23081101
te beskrm. Dit is 1118 â\200\231n gocie
voorbode vir verslappings in
rentekoersc nie,â\200\235 1101 11y gesÃ©.

Mnr. Nick Barnardt, ekommm
van iNG innings, i511} 1111111111 â\200\23111
voorsiander 11:1:11â\200\230v1111 (lie waardc
van die 1â\200\231:11111 tocgciaat 111001 wmd
(1111 tot vizikkc van R5,20 vir â\200\231n
dollar to verswak.

Hy SC (111 is 111111111sa11klik 0m
111(111101111030 gmei 11: 11cskc1â\200\230m.

Die aigemene persopsie oncler

beicggers is (1:11 â\200\23111 swak rand (iruk
op rentekoerse plaas, maar
Barnardt sÃ© dit hoof nie
noodwondig die geval 10. wees nie.

â\200\234As (lie Rcsmâ\200\230wubunk daurin

slaag (1m kredietvcrlening under
beheur 1.11 111111, s11] '11 swuk rand 11i0
s11 â\200\23111 grunt" invlucd op die
inĩ-\202usickoers 111â\200\230: nio."

TO

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THE MINISTER

THE DEPUTY MINISTER

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

THE DEPUTY DIRECTORS GENERAL

MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS

ASIA & MIDDLE EAST

EUROPE & AMERICAS- f

OPERATIONAL SERVICES'

SA DESK

*

PIETER SWANEPOEL

MARCO BONI

THEMBELA NGCULU

15 DECEMBER 1997

MEDIA CLIPPINGS:

15 DECEMBER 1997

THROUGH

FROM

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Please receive press clippings of current issues in the following order:

1. Ministry and Department.
2. SA Bilateral Relations.
3. Multilateral Issues.
4. Important Domestic Issues.
5. Economic Issues.
6. Regional Issues: Africa.
7. Other Regions.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is the sole nominee for ANC president and will probably replace President Nelson Mandela when he steps down at the conference.

There will be six commissions divided into 22 subcommissions to look at issues such as economic transformation, safety and security, preparing the ANC for the 1999 elections and international relations.

ANC acting secretary-general Cheryl Carolus said that delegates would consider ways to strengthen SA's involvement in initiatives which were intended to reform the UN security council.

Carolus said the focus put on the UN had become one-sided, with too much emphasis placed on bodies such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. While she did not underestimate the importance of such organisations, Carolus said that she feared their emphasis would marginalise the UN's developmental role.

She said the conference was taking place against the background of globalisation and

that there was a need to look at the effects of world economic policies on people's lives.

The conference would also seek to build strong ties between the ANC and parties in the developing world, especially Africa.

Carolus rejected Inkathla Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen's call for the ANC to use the conference to apologise for the killing of farmers, saying it was racist to blame the ANC for the killings.

She confirmed that an invitation had been sent to the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) to attend the conference, but ruled out a merger between the two parties.

Carolus said that it was possible that the conference would discuss close co-operation between the two parties, however the IFP would probably remain a political opponent of the ANC.

She said the invitation showed that relations between the IFP and the ANC had improved and that this had resulted in the decrease in the number of violent incidents in KwaZulu-Natal.

ANC's role in the 1999 elections

Jacob Dlamini

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THE African National Congress (ANC) conference begins in Maï-\201keng tomorrow with the agenda set to include discussions on SAâ\200\231s role in the democratisation of the Unitâ\200\224ed Nations (UN).

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About 4 000 delegates, observers from

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-- :-., various political parties and diplomats are ,Hâ\200\230, expected to attend the i-\201ve-day conference hfx-at the University ofthe Northwest.

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The conference, the outcome of which is likely to determine the shape of SA politics, has attracted huge interest, with more than 250 local and foreign accredited journalists. The highlight of the conference is expected to be the election of a new executive committee to lead the organisation. Only three of the top six positions have more than one nominee while proposed amendments to the ANCâ\200\231s constitution appear to have damâ\200\224aged Winnie Madikizela-Mandelaâ\200\231s chances of getting elected as the organisationâ\200\231s vicepresident.

Maofildal betrokke

by PW en WVK

NickBezuidenhout\200\230

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\200\235,3 0151/3

Hy is persoonlik betrokke by die pogings om oudpres. PW. Botha voor die Waarheid-en-Versoeningskommissie (WVK) te kry omdat daar dinge onder die oppeitvlak aangaan waarvan almal nie weet nie, het pres. Nelson Mandela gister gesê.

Hy het (lit yergelyk met die situa-

\200\230 PW cannot ignore TRC, sa 8 Man elalv2; i-\202y 7 I2

Former state president P W Botha would not be allowed to defy the law by refusing to appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday

\200\234I have done my bit, but P W Botha is not above the law,\200\235 he said in an interview broadcast live on television and radio.

Mandela was referring to his, as yet unsuccessful, attempts to coax Botha to appear before the TRC.

He justified his intervention based on previous negotiations to avert possible bloodshed in the run-up to the 1994 election. South Africa's democratic transition had almost been derailed by civil war, and it had been necessary then to elicit the help of former enemies to defuse the situation and avert bloodshed. The media and some analysts had had a superficial understanding of what had been at stake, Mandela said.

A

He had spoken to Botha twice, and held discussions with the security forces and the 3

Dutch Reformed Church â\200\234be- 3
cause I know a little more than 3
you doâ\200\235.

3
Mandela declined to elabo- 3
rate, saying only that there 3
were issues that â\200\234had to be con- 3
sidered" and that it was neces- .
sary â\200\234to try and defuse the sit-
3
nationâ\200\235.

â\200\234But our determination to
do so canâ\200\235it go so far as to allow
people to defy the law.â\200\235

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Waving his finger in the air
Botha-style, Mandela said: â\200\234I
have done my bit but P W Botha
is not above the law. I will not
allow P W Botha to defy the
TRC.â\200\235

3

Bothaâ\200\235ls family had been ap- â\200\230

proached to try to intervene so
that
the former president
would not be humiliated by he-
ingjailed or i-\201ned for failing to
annear hpfnrp. the. TR(â\200\230. - Sana

Kerk.

sie toe regses voor die 1994-yerkie.
Sing besluit het om dit met geweld te
stop.

â\200\234Bk gaan nie name noem nie.
maar ons het toe mense gebruik wat
ons aartsvyande was om di e situasie
te ontlont.

â\200\235Ek weet meer as julle oor wat on.
der the oppervlak aangaan. Daar is
dinge wat in ag geneem moet word
waarvan almal nie weet nie.â\200\235
.Hy het egter bygevoeg Botha kan
me voortgaan om die wet te veront-
â\200\234Ek het twee keer met P.W. Botha
agsaam nie. As hy dit aanhou doen,
gepraat oor die WVK. Ek het met at
moet die reg sy gang gaan. â\200\234Ek het
sy hindere gepraat en ook met die
syfamilie diâ\200\230ingend
gevra om te help
pOhSle, die weermag en die NG om hom diÃ© verne-
ermg te spaar.â\200\235

Warm praise

for Mbeki 1
and Zum

Ola {lean

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Johannesburg - President Mandela
'esterday heaped praise on the men
he wants to become the next presi-
dent and deputy leader of the ANC
â\200\224 Thabo Mbeki and Jacob Zuma -
and said they, more than he, were
the architects of national reconcili-
anon.

However, he declined to answer
questions about his former wife
Winnie Madikizela-Mandelaâ\200\231s polâ\200\224
itical ambitions.

Mr Mandela said he would soon
be addressing Mr Mbeki â\200\235as my
president".

â\200\234I do so without reservation. He
is a man of exceptional gifts, very re-
spectful, very warm, very senâ\200\230sitive
to the suffering of our people. He is
a diplomat, very much unlike me.â\200\235
described Mr
Zuma as an â\200\235outstanding leader,
generous, full of selfâ\200\224respect and
highly talentedâ\200\235.

Mr Mandela,

"You must see him in action,â\200\235

he said.

Mr Mandela said it was a mis-
conception"â\200\231that Iâ\200\231m the only perâ\200\224
son who believes inâ\200\235 reconciliation.
ANC leaders such as Mr Mbeki,
Mr Zuma, Pallo Jordan and Cyril
Ramaphosa were the architects of
reconciliation and had piloted nego-
tiations with other political parties.

Mr Mandela said that despite
stepping down as ANC president,
he would remain a party member
and would still report for duty at the
partyâ\200\231s national headquarters in
Johannesburg every week.

â\200\235I will carry out any instruction

my new president will give me."

He declined to say whether the
ANC had earmarked a special new
post for him. Mr Mandela reiterated
that his retirement as the countryâ\200\231s
President in 1999 would not cause
any disruptions as Mr Mbeki was
already the de facto head of governâ\200\224
ment. The ANC had highly talented

leaders capable of spearheading the
country into the new millenium. -â\200\224
Sapa

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ANC 331 oor toepassing praat

M 4m

David van Rooyen

Die regering se makro-ekonomiese strategie (Gear) is â\200\231n fundamentele beleidsrigting van die ANC en sal nie verander nie, het president Nelson Mandela gister in Johannesburg op â\200\231n internasionale nuuskonferensie gesÃ©.

Hy het by dieselfde geleentheid die regering ook opnuut weer tot â\200\231n vrye mark-ekonomie verbind.

Volgens horn is

dit egter wel moontlik dat daar verstellings aan die toepassing van die strategieâ\200\230oorweeg kan word -â\200\224 die ANC is bereid om met sy vennote in die ANC/Cosatu/SAKP-alliansie daaroor gesprek te voer.

Mandela het in reaksie op vrae oor Cosatu se kritiek op die Gear-program gesÃ© dat die drie vennote in die alliansie sommige gemeenskaplike doelwitte het, maar dat al drie instansies volkome onâ\202ianklike organisasies met hul eie beleidsrig-

tings is.

â\200\234Gear is â\200\231n fundamentele beleidsrigting van die ANC en ons is nie van plan om daarvan af te wyk nie.â\200\235

Die ANC is egâ\200\231ter bereid om met sy vermote in die alliansie oor die toeâ\200\224 passing van die beleidsmaatree's te gesels en verstellings aan is bring.

â\200\234Dit gebeur voortdurend dat wetgewing deur die parlement gevoer word en dat daar later probleme opduik wat veranderinge noodsaak, wanneer daar met die toepassing daarvan begin word.â\200\235

Mandela sÃ© ook daar bestaan nie so iets dat Gear die regering se heropbou- en ontwikkelingsprogram (Hop) vervang het nie.

â\200\234Die twee beleidsrigtings is nie

teenstrydig met mekaar nie, maar
vul mekaar eerder aan.â\200\235

Hy het ontken dat van die opposi-
siepartye se beleidsrigtings meer op
die vrye mark gerig is, as die van die
ANC.

â\200\234Die ANC is baie sterk tot â\200\231n vrye-
mark-ekonomie verbind en ek meen

die optrede van die ministers van
finansies, handel en nyvverheid en
arbeid is â\200\231n duidelike bewys daar-
van.â\200\235

â\200\234Dit was egter in sommige gevalle
vir die regering nodig om by die eko-
nomie betrokke te raak om die skade
van die verlede te herstel.â\200\235

Oor die gebrek aan vordering om
die regering se verkiesingbeloftes
na te kom, het Mandela gesê dat die
skuld las van R250 miljard wat die
huidige regering van die vorige re-
gering oorgeneem het, â\200\231n ernstige
beperking plaas op die owerhede se
vermoë om in mense se behoeftes te
voorsien.

â\200\234Die regering moet jaarliks sowat
R40 miljard bestee om rente op staat-
skuld te betaal â\200\224 en dit is geld wat an-
dersins op projekte soos huise be-
stee kon gewees het.â\200\235

o Mandela sê die regering is goed
op pad om die mikpunt wat in die be-
groting gestel is, om die tekort in die
huidige boekjaar tot net 4% te ver-
minder, te haal.

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1000 slain
in Rwanda
massacre

KIGALI. ~ At least 1 000
people were killed in a
massacre of Tutsi
re-
fugees at Mudende camp
in north-west Rwanda, a
Rwandan human rights
organisation
on
Saturday.

said

It was the latest in a
series of widely varying
tolls for Thursday's bloody
assault blamed on Hutu
extremists.

Earlier

Saturday

the
United Nations High Com-
missioner for Refugees
= gave a figure of over 300.
Local officials and wit-
nesses of the attack had
reported
271
deaths while one teacher
estimated that between
700 and 99 people were
massacred. Sapa-AFP.
C/{T/202/t/Mf

least

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Comoros, rebels talks
end Without agreement a

ADDIS ABABA, Ethio-
pia. - Talks between the
government
Comoros
and
the
breakaway
Indian Ocean islands
ended yesterday without
agreement.

But the delegates, at the
end of the three day con-
ference brokered by the
Organisation of African
Unity, said they would
meet again as soon as pos-

sible to find a solution for maintaining the unity of the island-nation.

A month later the government sent in troops to Anjouan in an abortive attempt to stop the rebellion.

The defeat of the government troops emboldened the secessionists who voted to secede, but the move was rejected by all nations but Libya.

Moheli, the smallest of the three islands, joined the movement for secession but

did not vote on it.

offered

At the talks in Addis Ababa, where the OAU is headquartered, the government broad autonomy in exchange for the united island. But Anjouan representatives remained defiant, saying they could not go against the result of the October 26 overwhelmingly endorsed independence. - Sapa 200\224AP.

referendum,

which-

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Anjouan declared independence from the federal Comorian government on August 3 and asked to be reunited with France, the colonial power until 1975. But Paris rebuffed the request, the Comoros islands should stick together.

saying

CAT II-\202wm}

*Page 17

Portugal Socialists hold

major cities in poll

LISBON. â\200\224 Portugalâ\200\230s
ruling Socialist Party
has held onto the coun-
try's two biggest cities.
Lisbon and Porto. in
municipal
elections
yesterday, according to
:m exit poll on ptâ\200\230ixyate
CLS television.

The same poll also
said the Socialists of
Prime Minister Antonio
Guterres would retain
Coimbra
central
Portugal and Sintra and

in

Ca<cuis near Lisbon.

Yesterdayâ\200\230s

polls
were widely seen as a
mid-term test of popu-
larity, for the govern-
InenL ahhoug vohng
earlier
day
appeared to have been
slow.

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CLS

The

poll.
released after polling
stations
sug-
gested the main opposi-
tion Social Democrats

closed,

had held Gondomzuâ\200\230 in
the north and were batâ\200\224
tling with the Socialists
for Gain. near Porto.

firm

All earlier opinion
polls put the Socialists
as
favourites.
tipped to improve on
the 36.1 percent of the
vote
in
December 1993 to beat

the thenâ\200\224ruling Social
Democrats.
Sapaâ\200\224
AFP.

they

got

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Monday 15 December 1997

THE CITIZEN

for

TEHERAN. Iranian President Mohammad Khatami yesterday called a dialogue with the American people, sending a message that his moderate government may be ready to repair relations with the country that his predecessors reviled as "The Great Satan".

President

with
people

Khatami said: "I take this opportunity to pay my respects to the great American people, and hope to have a dialogue with the American people about the United States in the not too distant future." Khatami may be taking his biggest gamble in his efforts to steer Iran away from the influence of the hard-line clergy that have been in power since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

In making the

President Khatami did not say what form the dialogue should take, but said he wanted a historical talk with the people of the United States.

if

Asked

President Khatami made the comments in response to a reporter's question if he was in favour of mending ties with the United States. Khatami would extend to the US government. President Khatami said: "The US government

is. after all. the US govern-
ment. It has been elected
by the American people.
and we respect that."

Sources close to Pres
Khatami said he would
deliver a similar forward-
looking speech addressed
to the American people for
Christmas.

popularly

Pres Khatami, Iran's
first
elected
president, has not used the
one-size-fits-all
sobriquet
for the United States, as the
Great Satan, since he
took office last August.

Islamic

The United States sev-
ered ties with Iran in 1979,
after
militants
loyal to the revolutionary
government that ousted
the
shah,
stormed the US Embassy
in Teheran and took 52
Americans hostage
for
444 days.

US-backed

Iran's ties is likely to hate
the support (if Iranians
who are tired of them) as
a pariah state by not
only the United States but
also much of the West.

accused

Yesterday.

Pres
L'S
Khatami
politicians of having fallen
behind the times. saying
that the world had changed
but Washington's policies
had not.

in

Something that pains
me, and for which I pity
the American people. is
that their leaders have fall-
en behind the times. They
are not living
their

times,â\200\235 said Pres Khatami.
â\200\234In a rapidly changing
world that has become
multi-polar
United
States still imagines that it
is the sole power, and that
it must impose its will on
the whole world at any
cost,â\200\235 Pres Khatami said.

the

â\200\234Over the past 50 years
this
is what the United
States has done to the
world, and especially to
us. That is why relations
between our nation and the
United States are bitter,"
Pres Khatami said.

A resumption of US-

Pres Khatami said Iraq

process

opposed the Middle East
peace
because
even Muslim Countries
that had entered into polit-
ical dialogue with Israel
had gained nothing.

"If we oppose the peace
is because we
process it
don't consider it a fair
peace. Even countries that
entered into talks (with
Israel) realise today that
this regime is racist. ter-
rorist and expansionist,â\200\235
Pres Khatami said. -â\200\224Sapa-
AP.

Zim crooks lgi-\201i-\202kt
trade in SA: Min

BULAWAYO. - Zimbab-
wean Home Affairs minis-
ter, Mr Dumiso Daben-
gwa, on Saturday attrib-
uted the increase in crime
in Matabeleland's north
province
frustrated
youth, many of whom had
learnt their trade in South
Africa.

to

At an end of year party
for police in Matabele-
land's north province, Mr
Dabengwa
the
increase in reported crime
could
to
growing economic hard-
ships and rising unem-

attributed

said

be

ployment,
especially
among the youth, Ziana
reported.

perpetrated

The crimes, such as the
bank robberies that rocked
Bulawayo mid-year, were
by
mostly
frustrated
who
crossed the border and
â\200\234leztmt the viceâ\200\235 in South
Africa where such crime
was common, he said. ,

youths

Provincial Commanaer,
Senior Assistant Commis-
sioner Alfred Musengi,
said the province had seen
an 11 percent increase in
reported crime between

January and November
this year, compared with
the same period last year.
He said reported cases
rose from 50 222 in 1996
to
between

January and November
this year.

55 813

Comm Musengi said
child abuse and rape were
also cause for concern in
the province where report-
ed cases had increased by
35
this
increase could in part be
attributed to a growing
public awareness of the
need to repon such abusâ\200\224
es.

percent.

But

and

crimes
and

He pledged to work
closely with Child welfare
the
organisations
of Health to
Ministry
against
reduce
women
children,
while ensuring that more
cases were reported and
perpetrators punished.

police â\200\234were sadly lacking

Both Comm Musengi
and Mr Dabengwa warned
motorists against drinking
and driving during the fes-
tive season. "Bulawayo
drivers, particularly com-
muter transport drivers,
are not careful and have
caused loss of a lot of
lives in the city including
one
officers.â\200\235
Comm Musengi said.

He and the minister
appealed to the public for
more
in
combating crime. as the
co-operation

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Foreign ministry of ĩ-\201

Mobutuâ\200\231 S generals
THREE fornÃ@er {Zairetzirgncieggrgls
Erfeaiilg in the Demoeratic Repub
Congo to plot the ox er
ident Laurent Kabtla,
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yesterday.

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throw of Pres-
SA Broadcast-
levision reporte
cials were late
unable to conĩ-\201rm the lep
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alrÂÿgg \$532510â\200\234 report said the threg:
who live in Johannesburg. bah :a
t rned from a town south of Kde ad Ã©
t
I'lhere they had allegedly attert .e.
â\200\234ecret meeting to plan a coup agains
Kabilaâ\200\230s government.

- ed at a Johannesburg

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NP slams nuke
China
sale to
THE National Party yesterday condemned the reported

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sale of South African nuclear technology to China.
The sale of nuclear technology to a coomry tx hieh xx as
not a signatory to the Nuclear Nonâ\200\224Prohferatton Treat} Qâ\200\230

should he condemned in the strongest possible terms. {\P
Boy Geldenhuys. said in a
foreign affairs spokesman, Dr
statement.

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South Africa's laudable
of nuclear
proliferation

"The transaction nullifies
in combating the

efforts

weapons worldwide.

â\200\234The secrecy that shrouds the deal also puts a question
mark behind the government's commitment to trans-
parency."

A Sunday newspaper reported that 40 Chinese selen-
South Africa to dismantle

"s nuclear-tâ\200\230ttel production

tists were working illegally in

a crucial part of the country .

capacity and ship it back to China. -â\200\224 Sttpa.

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US focu

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PECLâ\200\231LATION about the impact and implications of United States forâ\200\224 eign policy in Africa and other developing nations has generated much controversy and debate in

recent years.

American presidents and Washington foreign policy establishments have almost traditionally been the least interested in African policies.

It is therefore notable that US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to the continent. including a quick stopover in South Africa. is the second within a year by the head of Amet'icaâ\200\231s foreign policy establishment.

Does Albrightâ\200\230s Visit to Africa mark a strategic shift in policy towards the Third World conâ\200\224 tinent? Has Africa been placed higher on the US government's foreign policy agenda?

When Bill Clinton became president in 1992. the US had an opportunity to define its role in the new global order by fashioning policies for the let century which were not distorted by the Cold War lenses of the past.

However the Challenge of creating a foreign policy in a confusing new world appears to have i-\201ummoxed in Washington.

policy- makers

even

the

Africa, having lost the strategic value it had after World War II when mainly the US and the then United Socialist Soviet Republic embarked on the Cold War. has become either irrelevant or, at most. marginal to American interests.

Since the end of the Cold War the super

powerâ\200\231s interest in Africa has faded.

Evidence of such a trend is to be found in the declining levels of aid to Africa. By 1996 the US Congress reduced development assistance to Africa by almost 25 percent.

The most devastating blow for many African governments came when the US Congress effectively withdrew all funding for the World Bankâ\200\231s lowâ\200\224interest loan programme to the poorest countries for the three-year period beginning in 1997.

The trajectory is clear: American foreign aid in general and to Africa in particular is continuing on a steady downward trend.

Paralleling these trends is the disparagement of Africa by Western journalists. American intellectuals and Washington policymakers.

Africa is widely depicted in the West as a place of hopeless anarchy. an arena for unrewarding international social work or the source of infectious diseases like Aids and Ebola.

More common still is the omission of Africa in discussions of the new world economic order. In fact. Africa is absent even when cultural matters rise to the fore.

How then does one interpret Albright's visit to the continent? One of the answers is the

Africa's after mpirmg from the Western spotlight at the end of the Cold \War, seems to have made a comeback, Vernon Seymour explains why

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

development of a new constituency in the US which has a strong interest in Africa.
â\200\230

The Clinton government is re5ponding to this new constituency which is actively lobbying and advocating a new policy agenda for Americaâ\200\231s role in Africa.

Among the major players of this new constituency is the rise of non-governmental organisations like Africare, American Friends, the African-American Institute and the National Democratic Institute, all of which have beneï-\201ted from the transition to privatised development aid. It is not uncommon to ï-\201nd that 60 to 80 percent of some NGOâ\200\230s budgets come from USAid funds.

Seizing the opportunity

The new constituency is in some ways an attempt to seize the opportunity left by the demise of the American and African movements which during the 1970s and 1980s were able to frame. place and force African issues onto the Congressional and executive agenda in \\ashington.

Policymakers and their new allies are now ready to assert control over American foreign policy in Africa.

Old concerns about American national secuâ\200\224rity and the proï-\201ts of multinational corporations now occupy space within human rights

groups. NGOs dedicated to Charity and relief work and. most importantly. elected and appointed black public ofï-\201cials.

It

is

this new constituency that

is now

fuelling renewed interest in Africa.

in recent months. Africa started to acquire new political and cultural visibility in the US. There was the US government's sponsorship of Africa at the Denver Summit of Eight meeting in July. 3 White House Conference on Africa and the forthcoming trip to Africa by Clinton.

At grassroots level, an African nationalism continues to reverberate through youth culture, schools and such startling events as mass marches by African-Americans.

These are hardly signs of Africa slipping out

of public view and off the policy map.

The new scenario is not what American scholars and policy analysts predicted in the wake of the post-Cold War "new world order". US leadership is crucial to the development of a mutually beneficial partnership with the nations of Africa. Its role in multilateral institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank can also be critical for alleviating the tremendous debt that burdens many African governments.

A programme of debt relief and debt forgiveness is urgently needed so that these nations can begin devoting more of their scarce resources towards sustainable development and democratisation.

If the US could persuade the governments of the industrialised nations to write off half of Poland's and Egypt's official debt, as it did in April and May 1991, surely it can do the same for Africa? Hopefully, Albright's visit will advance the cause of Africa.

The US is a nation that has always aspired to the realisation of the greatest dreams: life, liberty and justice for all. Maybe the American government is finally realising that African people aspire to those same values.

The realities of the current age are most profoundly expressed in the proverb "Ungamnm Ngabanye Abantu" people are people through other people.

The quality of people's lives is inextricably linked with the actions of others. Maybe American foreign policy towards Africa is now ready to acknowledge this fact.

(The writer ('5 a Senior Research Fellow at /18 Centre for Southern African Studies, University of Western Cape.)

UN
â\200\224
BAGHDAD.
weapons. experts
held
talks with Iraqi ofï-\201cials
yesterday for the first
time since a crisis over
arms inspections broke
out in October, as Iraq
urged the United Nations
to steer clear of US inter-
ference.

Deputy Prime Minister
Tareq Aziz and the chair-
man of the UN Special
Commission (UNSCOM)
in charge of Iraqâ\200\231s disar-
mament,
Richard
Butler, meanwhile. brought
forward their crucial talks
on access to â\200\234sensitiveâ\200\235
sites.

Mr

Mr Alan Dacey of the
UN arms monitoring cen-
tre in Baghdad told AFP
the meeting would open.
late yesterday rather than
today 'as originally plan-

ned, allowing more time
for their work.

Government representa-
tives from Britain, France
and Russia are due to take
part in
the Aziz-Butler
encounter.

ofï-\201cials

Ahead of the meeting,
Iraqi
and
UNSCOM arms experts
led by Nikita Smidovich
of Russia held â\200\234technical"
talks
Foreign
Ministry, said Mr Dacey.
He declined to give details
of the outcome.

the

at

General Amer al-Saadi,
an advisor to President
Saddam Hussein, headed
the Iraqi side, the ofï-\201cial
news agency INA said.

The ofï-\201cial Iraqi Press,
which has branded Mr

Butler :1 â\200\234mad dogâ\200\235, toned
down its attacks yesterday
and urged the UNSCOM

â\200\234What we ask of Mr
Butler and the members of
the Special Commission is
that they avoid falling into
the US trap,â\200\235 said Al-
Qadissiya. ,

The newspaper called
for UNSCOM â\200\234to set up a
serious method of coâ\200\224oper-
ation with Iraq which will
protect it from American
interference and allega-
tions against Iraqâ\200\235.

â\200\234The settlement of any
problem linked to Iraq
can only come through co-
operation
the
Iraqi leadership," it said.

with

Yesterday Mr Butler
held a meeting with the
Baghdad ambassadors or
mission chiefs of China,
Egypt, France, Poland and

all

for"

sites

It is his first visit since
Baghdad imposed a ban on
US members of UNSCOM
on October 29.

The UNSCOM chair-
man; who arrived
on
Friday to a hostile recep-
tion in Baghdad newspa-
pers, is due to report back
to the Security Council on
Thursday on the outcome
of his mission to secure
access to
UNSCOMinspectors. '

â\200\234What does the mad
dog Butler bring in his
luggage for his visit to
Baghdad?â\200\235 Babel newspa-
per, which is
run by
Saddamâ\200\231s elderâ\200\230son Uday,
asked on Saturday. It said
Mr Butlerâ\200\231s mission â\200\234was
condemned to failure in

' advanceâ\200\235. -â\200\224 .Sapa-AFP.

Page 14

/ï-\202/2/Mf

THE 'CITIZEN

First UN meeting
in Iraq since crisis

chief to distance himself
from the United States to
avoid a new crisis.

Russia, which are member
countries
the UN
Security Council.

of

Deï-\201ant Farrlfam/ M an
Visits West Bank

Washington has announc-
ed its opposition to the
visits to Iraq and Libya,
and another stop in Cuba.
Israel had threatened to
refuse to allow him in or
to arrange meetings with
Israeli ofï-\201cials if he did
not retract his past state-
ments against Jews and
Israel.

Mr Farrakhan has been
trying to repair ties with
American Jews, angered
by his virulent statements.
While in Iraq, he called
on Washington to
lift
United Nations sanctions
against Baghdad. â\200\224- Sapa-
AFP.

retract

Muslim

RAMALLAH,
West
Bank. -â\200\224 Controversial US
Black
leader,
Louis Farrakhan, yester-
day made a surprise visit
to the West Bank despite,
Israeli warnings it would
boycott his visit if he did
not
anti-Semitic
statements, witnesses said.

Mr Farrakhan entered
Bank
from
the
the Allenby
Jordan
Bridge, where he was met
by Palestinian civil Affairs
Minister Jamil Tarii-\201, who
then had lunch with the
minister in the town of
Ramallah.

West
at

Palestinian

security
sources said Mr Farrakhan
was expected to head next
to Gaza City
to meet
Palestinian leader, Presiâ\200\224
dent Yasser Arafat, al-
though
Arafatâ\200\231s
ofi-\201ce had not conĩ-\201rmed
this.

Pres

It was not known if Mr

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Farrakhan
visit Jerusalem or Israel.

would

later

Israeli Foreign Ministry
spokesman,
Mr Aviv
Shiron confirmed that Mr
Farrakhan had arrived in
deĩ-\201ance of Israeli requests
that he retract past anti-

; Semitic statements.

â\200\234Israel has asked that he
retract his statements sup-
porting terrorism and anti-
Semitism. He has not done
so, and we are studying
the situation created by his
arrival in the region," Mr
Shiron said.

of

Islam.

Mr Farrakhan, the head
Chicago-based
of

the
Nation
had
expressed an interest in
visiting Israel during a
three-monthâ\200\224long â\200\234world
friendship tour".

That tour took him to
Iraq last week and he will
head later to Libya, both
sworn enemies of Israel
and the United States.

Zanu efî-\201eia

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Churches and Civics link Mugabeâ\200\231s gover ment to brutal bea

ting ef prominent trade unâ\200\230iOnist

SAPA

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eliee in Harare are seek-
ing eight vigilantes ()i' the
ruling Z:1rlu(iâ\200\231i") party
who they believe carried out last
weekâ\200\231s
assault on Morgan
'lâ\200\230svangirai, the labour leader he-
hind the massive ene~day anti-
gevernment strike that para-
lysed the country on 'lâ\200\230uesday.

intelligence sources, who
asked net to be named, said (10â\200\224
teetives had identiî-\201ed the eight
a Hackers as personnel attached
to the partyâ\200\231s national heatiâ\200\224
quarters in the capital.

They said that shortly after
the group î-\202ed from â\200\231iâ\200\230svangi-

raiâ\200\235s ofî-\201ce at. the the Zimbabwe
Congress of Trade Unions
(Ztlâ\200\231lâ\200\230U) hezuiquarters in Harare
On 'lâ\200\230hursilay morning, leaving
him unconscious in a peel of
blood, they were spotted celeâ\200\224
brating in a nearby bar.

The sources also claimed
that on Tuesday the Zimbabwe
~army'was en the brink of uni-
laterally deploying troops on
ilarareâ\200\231s streets when they be-
lieved police had failed to cen~
trot vielenee.

They said two Presidential
Guard majors, dressed in com-
hat. t'atigues. arrived at Harare
central peliee station and et-
t'ered to take over control.

The unit, whose barracks

are next to State House, Presi-
dent. Robert Mugabeâ\200\231s ofî-\201cial
residence, is composed largely
of men and officers of the noâ\200\224
terious Fifth Brigade, the force
held responsible for the mas-
sacre of thousands of civilians
durir]g an insurgency in the
west0m provmcces 0f Mata-

hcia\200\230mand in the mld\200\224BOS.

late on Tuesday afternoon,
the sources said, as fighting be-
tween riot police and gangs of
youths spread into the town-
ships, police officers feared the
army was about to step in,
without police approval.

Observers and civic organi-
sations' officials said the gov-
ernment reaction to the strike,

the biggest in the country's his-
tory, held disturbing implica-
tions for future demonstrations
of anti-government sentiment.
The attack on 'isvangirai
came within 48 hours of the
strike, when workers answered
the call by the ZC\200\231I\200\230U to strike
against a series of new taxes
imposed by the government,
which needs to raise money to
finance a controversial R1,2\200\224hii-
lion retirement\200\224hene's pack-
age for war veterans.

Immediately after the strike,
Home Affairs Minister Dumise
Dahengwa warned that police
would shoot demonstrators if
they stretch police patience
too far.

No official police comment
on the identity of 'isvangirai's
attackers was available, but
liee Commissioner Augustine
(Jhihuri said yesterday it was
\200\234extremely dangerous\200\235 to sug-
gest police involvement.

I challenge comrade 'isvan-
girai to prove that he or the hen-
eurahie minister (Dahengwa)
were behind the assault.

At a press conference on Fri-
day, 'isvangirai, who had to
have 15 stitches above his left
eye, said the attack was petiti-
on motivated.

The attack was condemned
by civic organisations and
church groups, which accused
the government of complicity

II21tmgun 1, Kenya -~ Supporters of
enyan eppesumn leader Mwai
think: are already addressing
him as president.

Former vice-president con-
iii L 9
Wednesday With the
vete just

two weeks away, opposition candidates have very little time to get their message through to the country's often isolated rural communities.

. Kihaki is one (if 1

11 eppesi

1.1011 politicians (hathmging Mei

ter the presidency Judging by

h is spending on media advertising in"

h. Kenya's former vicepresident and finance minister is

also the wealthiest.

Anxiously countering suggestions that President Daniel

arap Moi has all but won the

December 29 elections Kihaki's

Democratic Party is,

s

telling

that

Kenyans to come out

and vote

for change.

Kenya's

campaign on

Campaigning for

elections of 2010

of trouncing Moi at polls

,

Kihaki sets himself up as the

leading opposition candidate

calling another one

tender, Ch

Kenya's

rity Ngilu, a media candidate's

in town after town and village

after village, Kihaki ham-

mers away at the same theme -

the past 15 years of government;

by Kenya's African

Union

National Union

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(Kanu) have

brought. no

improvements in

the people's fortunes.

Referring to taxes collected

over the past 15 years, Kibaki

says that possibly 20% has been

spent on services ~ the ha

has been swindled's.

ance

But will Kihaki re:

lin bring

change? Net

according to a

supporter of Ngiiu. â\200\234Heâ\200\231s ve
FY
intelligent and capable
but
heâ\200\231s too much Kanu,â\200\235 she said.
Even K ihakiâ\200\231s party activists
admit to being a little uncom-
fortable with his former role in
the

anu elite. Reuters

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Six111 10 perceive SA

as corrupt

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Extentofcorruptlonperceivedin_ busmess sector

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Business Day Reporter

SIX in 10 South Africans believe the countryâ\200\231s politicians, provincial government, local government and police force are 11loderately to extensively corrupt, according to a survey conducted for Business Day.

The term â\200\234corruptâ\200\235 was deĩ-\201ned as referring to â\200\234people who misuse their position to obtain goods, cash or ser-

vices to which they are not entitledâ\200\235.

Half the respondents believed that shady practices in the four sectors had increased in the past four years of African National Congress (ANC) rule.- Three in 10 thought the business sector had become more corrupt since the elections. Only religious organisations and churches were thought to be relatively free of corruption.

These are the findings of a nationwide survey conducted by AC Nielsen ' Market Research Africa (MRA).

Although there is a strong public perception of corruption in SA, not many people have actually experienced it,â\200\235 said MRA director Brian Culâ\200\224ross. â\200\234Only 12% of respondents had experienced at least one act of corruption that affected â\200\224 or would have affected â\200\224â\200\224 them directly. Thirteen percent knew of actual or attempted corruption involving a colleague and 18% of an act that affected, or was meant to affect, someone they knew outside work.â\200\235

Choosing from a list of six sectors, the majority of respondents â\200\224 an area-

stratified sample of 2 497, representing â\200\224ing 92% of all urban adults â\200\224â\200\224- thought politicians the most corrupt, very closely followed by people employed in local and provincial government.

Only 8% of respondents thought politicians as a group were â\200\234cleanâ\200\235, compared to 44% for religious groups and churches. The comparable â\200\234cleanâ\200\235 figure was 19% for businessmen, 10% for the police and 9% for both local and provincial government.

Although most of those interviewed agreed that corruption was evident, blacks disagreed strongly with other groups as to its extent, being prone to describe it as minimal rather than moderate or great.
for

Politicians,

rated local government the least â\202awed, with 51% saying there was none or hardly any corruption in this sector.

In the Western Cape, 62% thought local governance corrupt, but moderate (34%) rather than large scale (28%). Again, blacks at 46%, were less convinced than other groups (whites 85%, Indians 79%, coloureds 63%) that corruption existed in local government.

The police force was rated extremely to moderately corrupt by 61% overall: 75% of Indians, 74â\200\230m of whites and

68% of coloureds, compared to 54% of black respondents. Asked if corruption in the police force was worse under ANC rule, 52% agreed, while 15% thought the situation unchanged.

The biggest disparities between respondents' perceptions concerned corruption in business. Only 29% of blacks, but 72% of whites, thought there was more than a moderate amount of underhand activity in the business sector. An overall 43% believed business people were moderately dishonest (22%) or extensively dishonest (21%). A total of 35% said corruption had increased since 1994 and 20% thought business people as corrupt now as they ever were.

m

Although corruption is believed to be pervasive in virtually every sector, people may be more conscious of it now as corruption becomes increasingly difficult to hide from many watchdog groups now in place, he said.

7% said there might be a little. Culross said it was possible that increased media coverage of corruption rather than increased corruption itself might have influenced perceptions.

Religious groups and churches were seen as totally corruption free by 44% of respondents. A further 16% thought there was hardly any corruption, while

instantly, we will 15% of blacks in contrast to 90% of whites, 84% of Indians and 76% of coloureds.

Seven in 10 whites and Indians, but only one in 10 coloureds, but slightly under half of blacks thought politicians had become more corrupt in the past four years (56% overall). A further 14% overall said politicians were just as corrupt now as before the 1994 elections.

Moderate to extensive corruption at provincial level was perceived by 88% of whites, 81% of Indians, 68% of coloureds, 49% of blacks.

Within the provinces, 68% of Gauteng respondents and 66% of those in the Western Cape thought government moderately to extensively corrupt. Substantially less was perceived in KwaZulu-Natal (47%) and (45%) in Northern Province/Mpumalanga

In Gauteng, 68% thought there was moderate to extensive corruption at local-government level.

In KwaZulw
Natal, however, respondents consid-

charitable scrutiny of the domestic

Reuters

Johannesburg â\200\224 Most haloes get
dented by everyday politics, but
Nelson Mandela, who takes his first
step to retirement this week, has
kept his as round as ever.

For nearly four years, he and the
South African Government have
tried and largely failed to meet the
soaring expectations of a black ma-
jority freed from centuries 11f 1211:1511
oppression.

Crime, corruption, high unem-
ployment and scant economic reâ\200\224
ward for the poorest have fuelled
discontent and sunk approval rat-
ings for his gov-
emment.

But the char- â\200\230

and foreign media, Mr Mandela has
faced 01111' muted criticism even Of
his controxersiai foreign p011C1, or
his unainnentional personal life-
style

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AIC11shop Desmond Tutu,
whose}984{011e1.1â\200\231eacelâ\200\231rize came
nine 1 1:9rs before Mr Mandela
shared the '51 me honour With out-
going white teatier F W de Klâ\200\230erk,
has public criticised him for open-
ly 1111111: for half Of every month
with a 1111111531 who is not his wife
Mr 1113110111121 11alked to freedom
in Februaâ\200\230 1y "19911 hoiding the hand
Vinnie. But the
thissseconc wife,
marriage cracked
almost immedi-
ately and ended
in
last
yeah

divorce

ismatic Mr Man-
dela, Who will re-
tire
as ANC
president on Sat-
urday, 16 months
before he retires
as head of state,
is as popular as
he has
always
been.

said in a live tele-

Vision interview
he would relish
retirement as an
to
opportunity
think,
read
and to be with
the children and'
grandchildren he
loves.

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Nelson Mandeta

Now

Mr
K-iandelaâ\200\231s com-
p11111011 is former
¬\0;: ambican first
Lady
Graca
3'11.c11e1,whose
husband died a
decade ago in a
plane crash.

"I

stand

in

the presence of
one of the giants
of our century,"
13
Secretary of
State Madeleine
Alibek said
after a 20-minute
courtesy call on
Saturday.

He told

a
panel of journa-
lists his party had performed excep-
tionally in the face of the challenges
inherited from three centuries of
White domination.

"I am retiring very happy, because I think that we have made progress towards delivering services, nation-building and promoting the spirit of reconciliation.

"I look back with real pride at the sacrifices that have been made and at the . . . victories that we have scored. What we have achieved is a near miracle. I have little regret in

"Mr Mandela said.

Though his party has endured
and sometimes railed at the un-

Mr

Man-
delas warm ties
with Libya, Syria, Iran and Cuba
have irked Washington, and the
abrupt move he dropped Taiwan in
favor of diplomatic
ties with
China - just weeks after saying
such a step would be morally in-
defensible. In 2002, brought sharp
criticism. In good health, Mr Man-
delas said he will concentrate his
effort on his 5 Fund but
has also signalled his intention to
keep serving his party and country.
"I will, to the best of my ability,
continue to be of service to the
cause of transformation, and con-
tinue to do so even after stepping
down."

over

Fifty one cadets rate Mbeki high y as
future Presiden
even political Opponents!

PMR is very fortunate to have the trust of 51 leaders who were prepared to
accept our absolute commitment to confidentiality. Another twenty or so
would not respond to the survey - including senior ANC people. The com-
mon reason was clearly fear, however disguised: â\200\234who wants to stick
his/her neck out?â\200\235

A telephone call, then fax, then â\200\230phone back interview, if fax not returned,
was the interviewing method. A semi-structured questionnaire was used.
Respondents included: 3 ANC leaders, 2 opposition leaders, top or senior
executives in 4 parastatals, 2 trade unions and 40 large corporations.
Rating scale used was: 10 = excellent
1 = very poor

How this survey was conducted

5 = average

But - some concerns.

In mid 1996, soon after Cyril
Ramaphosa exited politics for
business, PMR conducted a
major in t-testigation among
business and government
leaders on Thabo Mbeki -
apparentfuture ANC leader.
Would he be a worthy President
ofSouth Africa? The
conclusion then - Yes! Now?

With the ANC national congress in
mid December, when the Presidency of
the ANC (and other key positions in
the ANC) will be on the agenda, and
the rumoured retirement of President
Nelson Mandela in 1998, the question
becomes even more pressing.
So PMR interviewed fifty one leaders.
We also invited Professor Tom Lodge,
head of Witsâ\200\231 department of politics,
and renowned for his in-depth studies
of the ANC, for his commentary - see
article following this.
This survey does not pretend to be a'
forecast of Mbekiâ\200\231s succession, nor of
the final outcome of his presidency -
which does seem highly probable. It
represents the views of 51 leaders,
from very different sectors.

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Business leaders views

On the fundamental question: â\200\234How
would you rate Thabo Mbeki as our
future President?â\200\235, rated by 40 busiâ\200\224
ness leaders, Mbeki scores 6.40 ie
good to very good (scale: 1 = very

of

qualities

people support (5), very erudite/good communication skills (5), highly intelligent (4), integrity/honest/man of his word (4), charming/likeable (4), already leading the country (4), well educated (4), will make decisions for economic growth in SA (4), doing an excellent job (3), has pre-sident/statesman (3), could address aspirations of both blacks & whites (3), balanced in his views (3), goes for least government intervention (3). Negative comments were voiced by about half. The commonest were: Inexperienced (7), not wide enough acceptance (5), indecisive (4), part of old school/not youth (3), doesn't allow opposition (3), employs yes men (3), lacks skills to address fears of white minority (3), too soft (3), lacks statesmanship (3). Raised once only was - inability or unwillingness to handle major problems" - security and unemployment. Is Mbeki letting other cabinet members carry these problems? Also, Mbeki has not (yet) taken a buck stops here stand on crime or unemployment. On specific questions, (agree/disagree answers), Mbeki's strengths were: educated/intelligent/knowledgeable/experienced (93% agree), good poli-

Thabo Mbeki

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poor, 5 :: average, 10 = excellent). Positive comments dominated (116 to 66 negative). This 6.40 rating is a Clear improvement on the 5.80 score he received in PMR's mid-1996 survey of 36 business leaders. Now, only one rated Mbeki badly a 2. All others were at least 5. Nearly all had positive comments on Mbeki. The main positive comments by business leaders were: (duplication occurs) presentable/personable (8 leaders said so), internationally recognized (7), accomplished diplomat (7), has

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.aÃ©lJast week's massive response by a work force estimated at 3,5 million to a national mass protest sponsored by the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) is a barometer of the increased awareness of labour issues among Zimbabweans.

Unlike in the past, when workers took a back seat while labour leaders fought issues on their behalf, this time they decided to take the bull by the horns and were pleasantly surprised, the Ziana national news agency reports. The protest eventually forced government, which had earlier cancelled the War Veteransâ\200\231 Levy, to bbase out duty on fuel and electricity charges.

Analysts say the protest is also a victory for democracy in a country where the 17-year-old post-independent government is used to making unilateral decisions, regardless of their negative effects on the country.

It is a defining moment and historic in that, for the first time in this country, a successful national protest has been undertaken by the workers," says ZCTU secretary-general Morgan Tsvangirai.

In the past, government managed to suppress any worker-initiated industrial action by sheer force.

But this time the workers surprised all 'in an unprecedented show of solidarity and purpose.

While the Harare protests were 'marred by clashes with the police, 50 000 workers reportedly turned out in Bulawayo, with over 20 000 each in Mutare, Gweru and Masvingo.

Police attempts to defuse the mass action, despite a court injunction restraining Police Commissioner Augustine Chihuri, only managed to spark running battles. Vehicles were torched and some shops looted by elements an-

5W 67/}

Protest a sign of solidarity and purpose

The recent demonstration

in Zimbabwe is seen as

a defining moment

gered by use of tear gas.

While employers may have co-operated by allowing workers time off, the overall militant mood that prevailed illustrates the frustration that has crept into Zimbabweans because of the country's economic woes.

Enough is enough. We are tired of living like slaves in our own country," chanted the protesters, conscious of the evidence of wealth displayed by the country's political leadership.

The government argues that the protest was irrelevant after it had withdrawn the War Veterans Levy. But the ZCTU says the protest was also against the manner in which government runs its affairs. "This government does not know how to negotiate. It is commandist," says Tsvangirai.

The ruling party is even being criticised from within. It should have read the nation's mood during its annual conference in Mutare where the War Veteransâ\200\231 Lew was rejected outright without any debate.

The Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce and ZCTU accuse government of ignoring Team Zimbabwe, a consultative forum of political and economic stakeholders which provides opportunities for airing national issues. â\200\224 Sapa

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Independent. Saga DPA (X1).
Ulster ~ The Northern Ireland peace process took two steps back with rioting in Londonderry at the weekend, and one tentative pace forward with speculation that Unionists might agree to meet Sinn Féin.

While the possibility of an encounter
Uister
between David
Unionist leader, and Sinn Féin president
Gerry Adams remains conjecture, the
weekend rioting in Londonderry came as
a reminder that relations among nationalists, Unionists and the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) are in many areas poor.
ften, the outbreak of rioting

â\200\230
followed a controversial Loyalist march
(in Londonderry city on Saturday.

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Weeks of sensitive negotiations in-
Loyalists, nationalists, the police
volvin
ers failed to maintain order as
and o
etroi bombs were
more than ,1 000
thrown, mairily at the police, by nationalist rioters.
Police replied with 169 plastic bullets.
There were 13 arrests, while five police
offi-\201cers were injured, none of them seriously.
ijyear-old boy

The worst injury wassuffered by an
11-year-old boy hit on (the head with a
stone, whose condib'on was described as
ill but stable.
Much damage was done by i-\201res
started by petrol bombs. Police said yesâ\200\224
terday that the violence was planned and

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Directed by a small, extreme group planning provocation, confrontation and violence". The authorities will be hoping the incident - the worst day of violence since the IRA restored its ceasefire in July was localised.

Clean-up work got under way yesterday .

The area is quiet now but there is a lot of clearing up to be done," said a police spokesman in the mainly Catholic area. There is obviously a great deal of damage.

The rioting nationalists hijacked and set fire to buses and vans. The streets were quickly cleared of Christmas shoppers.

Police officers on what should have been one of the busiest days of the year.

The violence re-erupted

at about

11 pm with the worst unrest at Waterloo Place at the bottom of William Street, the RUC said. Cars were hijacked and burnt out and a department store was set on fire.

Riot police moved in between the burning vehicles to confront the gangs, while fire crews who continued to hurl missiles. Fire crews were forced to stand back and look on because of fears for their own safety. Condemnation tempered

Meanwhile, in an interview on Irish television, Mr Trimble appeared to temper his normally forthright condemnation of Sinn Féin.

Asked about a meeting with Gerry Adams he replied: "So many things are possible."

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since

We have seen actually in the past people who have forsaken terrorism and

it genuinely changed into democrats . is perfectly possible that Gerry Adams is on the right path. I do not rule this out.

Since it has been more than half a century since the last time the two Unionist and Republican leaders met, such an encounter would be

a momentous one.

But the weekend also brought much more negative comments from Unionist sources, so that such a groundbreaking meeting may remain unlikely in the short term.

Mr Adams has repeatedly suggested such a meetingy renewing his calls after his meeting with Tony Blair in Downing Street last week.

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HON G KONG -â\200\224â\200\224 Sonth Koreaâ\200\231s wbrs=
ening i-\20lnancial crisis, which necessi-
tated a record \$57bn International
Monetary Fund rescue package, has
made one thing clear â\200\224â\200\224 no money is
available to governments which fail to
satisfy IMF bailout conditions.

Since the start of the i-\20lnancial tur-
moil in Asia the IMF has shelled out
\$100bn, from its own coffers and those
of other countries, to i-\20lnance adjust-
ment programmes in Thailand, In-
donesia, and South Korea.

However, each time, governments,
under pressure from interest groups or
anxious about social consequences
have sought to defer the harsh action
prescribed by IMF negotiators, particâ\200\224
ularly in the i-\20lnancial sector.

The accord between the IMF and
Thailand was signed in mid-August
but it was only last week that the new
government in Bangkok announced
the closure of 56 of the 58 i-\20lnancial

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In Seoul, Guillaume Lejoindre, the head of Credit Agricole Indosuez, cannot believe what is happening.

I have just received a letter from Seoul Bank. They say they are now a public bank and the existing management remains in place, he said.

Instead of closing down banks, as demanded by the IMF, the government has decided to nationalise banks doomed by poor administration.

to

Far from winning back confidence, this kind of procrastination deters foreign investors who are now rushing for the exits.

Confidence, once lost, is hard to regain, IMF MD Michel Camdessus said earlier this month in Kuala Lumpur.

confidence

Restoring

a strong commitment to economic adjustment and reform demonstrated by the implementation of what are often painful measures. It also takes open

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ness and transparency and of course it takes time.

In South Korea, the revelations after the IMF accord was signed that short-term external debt was much higher than admitted, killed the country's credit with foreign money lenders.

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However, Camdessus says the media, public opinion and governments often confuse the purpose of an intervention by the IMF, which is not simply an organisation dedicated to digging unfortunate countries out of deep financial holes.

The English term bailout lifted from maritime terminology, is partic-

ularly inappropriate," he said. "If you bailed out the "Titanic", it wouldn't necessarily float again.

More than halout, I would describe the process as re-floating in a way which restores the vessel's buoyancy. IMF financial support must be repaid

in regular payments over a number of years according to the requirements of the particular programme.

In Asia, the internal political situation of the countries being helped by the IMF does not assist matters.

The Indonesian rupiah plunged again this week on renewed anxiety over the health of President Mohamed Suharto, 76, who has yet to designate a successor.

In Thailand, there is finally a new government, reputed to be more honest and competent than its predecessor, to implement the IMF programme.

In the Korean crisis President Kim Young Sam has played a key role. His successor will be elected on Thursday but will not take up his duties until February. Faced with financial panic, the electoral favourite, Kim Dae-jung, had to write this week to Camdessus to reaffirm he would see through the IMF programme if elected. Sapa/AFP.

POLITICS & ECONOMICS

tician/diplomat/negotiator/leader (83% agree), competent/practical/leader/level headed/decisive (83% agree), has charisma/charm/likeable (75% agree). good relationship with business/international business (73% agree). Only two points may be seen as perceived weaknesses: only 35% agreed that Mbeki "will take South Africa to prosperity during his tenure". This may reflect business concerns about current labour legislation. And crime limiting investment. Only 38% agreed that he "handles criticism well/construetively." Points on which agree/disagree views were evenly divided were "inspires confidence/trust" (50% agree), good relationship with masses/youth/broad based" (50% agree), and "close to unions and alliance partners" (55% agree). In sum, business leaders are positive about Mbeki, and his emergence from Mandela's shadow is happening.

Political opponents

Two responses were received - one from a party leader, the other from a provincial heavyweight. One rated Mbeki 8 (very, very good) and one 6 (good). Positive comments were: "considerable intellect/intelligent" (2), "doing excellent job" (1), "experienced/competent" (1), "understands what SA needs to succeed" (1). Negative comments were "panders to Africanist/raeist lobby" (2). "not a strong leader/insecure" (2). "makes mediocre appointments/threatens quality of cabinet" (2), "does not deliver to investors" (1). "does not deliver to disadvantaged masses" (1).

Trade unions and parastatals
(6 leaders)

Six respondents (2 union leaders, 4 parastatals) averaged a "very good" rating of 7.50 for Mbeki. The two union leaders gave widely differing scores - one a perfect 10. the other a 5 - "average". The parastatals all gave 75 or 85. Positive comments from the parastatals

were more than double the negatives (13/5). while unionist A (10 rating) was nearly all positive. and B (5) mainly critical. The main comments were: (P = from parastatals. U = from unions) Positive: "Intelligent/great thinker" P4.

U nil. â\200\234Eminently qualified/S years in
job" P2. U1. "Confident/reassuring"
U2, P nil.

In the agree/disagree questions, the
answers were predominantly positive.
The only signiï-\201cant negative was that
Mbeki is not seen to have a good rela-
tionship with the masses (5 of the 6
held this view).

AN C leaders (3)

Their overall ratings were 6, 8 & 10 -
averaging an excellent 8.
Positive comments far outweighed
negative, 19 to 5. On agree/disagree
questions, as with unions, parastatals
and business, the only significant nega-
tive views were that 2 of the 3 felt that
Mbeki did not have a good relationship
with the masses/youth/the unions/the
alliance.

Comments were: â\200\234calm/not easily i-\202us-
teredâ\200\235 (3), â\200\234doing excellent job/already
leading the country" (3), â\200\234statesman/
presidential qualities" (2), â\200\234intelli-

51 leadersâ\200\231 scenarios â\200\231til 2010

In PMHâ\200\231S survey on Mbeki, 51 leaders were also asked to â\200\234agree/disagreeâ
\200\235 with 21
statements. The answers:

Agree 013-

Not
agree sure

1. CONFLICT - less
 - 1.1 Less racial conflict?
 - 1.2 Reducing violence/war in KZN?
 - 1.3 No revolution by masses & minorities?
 - 1.4 General stability?
2. CRIME - unsolved
 - 2.1 Decreasing crime & upholding law, effective judicial system? 21
 - 2.2 Maintaining solid legal framework & judicial system - police,
courts & prisons are efi-\201cient?
3. GOVERNMENT - inefficient but adequate. Watch out for corruption and
authoritarianism

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: 3.1 Chaotic, corrupt government?

3.2 Increasing authoritarianism?

3.3 Inefficient government?

3.4 Maintaining adequate government?

3.5 Efficient government after a relatively inefficient

2

transitional period?

4. POLITICS - stable. Shift to African democracy. Opposition alliance.

Black

empowerment.

fl 1 Minority groups working towards constructive unity?

32

4.2 Alliance of parties with majority support excluding radicalism? 35

4.3 Black empowerment & political stability?

38

. 4.4 Still rooted in democracy but unlike one that resembles

18

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Western democracy in all respects?

4.5 One-party state, paralysed opposition?

5. ECONOMICS GEAR continues, reasonably stable.

5.1 GEAR abandoned?

5.2 Reasonably stable macroeconomic scenario coupled with
implementation and gear?

6. MARKET - deregulated, government incentives.

6.1 Current rigidities persisting that would
inhibit optimal market functioning?

6.2 Largely deregulated competitive market with incentive-driven
government intervention?

7. GLOBALIZATION - we need it

7.1 Adaptation to demands of globalization?

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Buthelezi â\200\231n hoÃ© pos

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Nick Bezuidenhout Kyitâ\200\231 I 1/4

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Hy sal bly wees as die ANC die
adjunkpresidenskap van die land
aanbied aan mnr. Mangosuthu Bu-
thelezi, leier van die IVP, het pres.
Nelson Mandela gister gesÃ©.

Hy het ook sy steun vir die same-
smelting van die ANC en die IVP uit-
gespreek, asook vir groter samewerâ\200\224
king met ander partye.

Hy bet in â\200\230n televisie-onderhoud
gepraat aan die vooraand van sy uit-
trede as president van die ANC van-
deesweek op die ANC se nasionale
konferensie in Mafikeng.

Die IVP is die enigste opposisieâ\200\224
party wat genooi is na diÃ© konferen-
sie.

â\200\234Ons het mense met talent en on-
dervinding nodig in die regering,

hoewel (ms nie van die Bantoestan-
beleid gehou het nie." let Mandela
gesÃ© met verwysing m Buthelezi se
dae as hoofminiSier van KwaZulu.

"Hy het baie Ondervinding' opge-
doen. â\200\23011 Mens kan dit in die kabinet
sien."

Hy het gesÃ© die ANC het egter nie
die land of die ANC se adjunkpresi-
dentskap aan Buthelezi aangebied
me.

Mandela se uitlating kom teen die
agâ\200\230tergmnd van â\200\230n debat oor die
moontlike samesmelting van die
ANC en die IVP wat in albei partye
momentum kry, veral danksy die af-
name van geweld tussen hul onder-
steuners in KwaZulu-Natal.

Dr. Sipo Mzimela, IVP~minister
van korrektiewe dienste, is in die pe.
kel by sy party omdat hy twee weke
gelede reguit in die openbaar gesÃ©
het die ANC en IVP moet saamsmelt.
Die IVP se nasionale raad bespreek
die kwessie einde Januarie.

Â\200\230Iandela het oor â\200\231n moontlike saÂ»
mesmelting gesÃ© dit moet nie daar
stop nie.

Die ANC wil graag â\200\231n verhouding

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â\200\234Demokra-
sie beteken
nie dat daar '
honderd

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met ander partye vorm waarin hulle
"met een stem" oor belangrike kwes-
sies kan praat. Die samesmelting
van die ANC en die IVP kan die eer-
ste stap daarheen wees.

Die samesmelting moet me ge-
grond wees op swaam eenheid me.
maar op eenheid in die hele land.
Die feit dat ons gevra het om '11 re-
gering van nasionale eenheid met
die NP. wat skuldig is aan sulke
groot skendings van menseregte,
wys hoe ernstig die is." het Mandela
gesê.

Samesmelting met die IVP 5211 me
tot nog 'n Afrika-eenpartystaat" lei
nie. Demokrasie beteken me dat
daar honderd politieke partye is
nie .
. As die leierskap horn omring
met sterk, onafhanklike mense wat
selfs die president kan kritiseer, dan
is dit 'n goeie demokrasie."

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In antwoord op die vraag waarom
mnr. Bantu Holomisa, wat die ANC-
leierskap gekritiseer het, dan uit die
ANC geskop is. het Mandela gesê el-
ke organisasie skop ongedissipli-
neerde lede uit. Partye moet dissi-
pline hê."

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Hy het gesê die ANC se tugproses
is meer demokraties en regverdiger
as ander partye s'n.

. Mandela het omken dat die ANC
en IVP se beleid oor dinge soos die
ekonomie en tradisionele
leiers
drasties verskil.

Me. Cheryl Carolus, waarnemen-
de sekretaris-generaal van die ANC.
het gister gesê die IVP is na die kon-
ferensie genooi danksy die veran-
dering in die verhouding tussen die
IVP en die ANC. Hulle is steeds ons
politieke opponente, maar sender
die bagasie van die verlede, het sy
gesê met vermyding na die sterker
wordende vrede in KwaZulu-Natal.
Die moontlike samesmelting van
die twee partye is nie op die agenda
van die konferensie nie, maar dit
staan afgevaardigdes om dit on-
der mekaar te bespreek, het sy gesê.
Buthelezi het mnr. Lionel Mtshali,
minister van kuns. kultuur, weten-
skap en tegnologie, as hoof van die
IVP afvaardiging na die konferensie
gestuur.

Chiluba â\200\230I'ejects Mandela
i P49239911, kî-\201gndays . return? '

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onation of Lesothos King Letsie Ill, had a
hand in the it.

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According to The Sunday Times of:
Zambia, Mr Chiluba allegedly rejected"
Mr Mandelas request on the grounds that ..
even as a President, he could not interfere
with an police investigations.

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a move would have serious â\200\230_
legal implications, the newspapers 80Vâ\200\234 ' .
emment source Said. -

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-â\200\235Mi" Mandela asked Mr Chiluba to'

guarantee~ Kaundaâ\200\231s safety when he re- -â\200\230
turns home to Zambia, but Mr Chiluba
cannot â\200\224 there are other arms of govern-
ment which are investigating the case.
The law does not allow the President to
in any investigations,â\200\235 ; the:
interfere
source was quoted as saying.

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Under the Zambian constitution and
law, Mr Chiluba can only pardon a per-'
son when a case goes on trial -â\200\224 he cannot
forestall investigations.

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' Lusaka - Zambian President Frederick
Chiluba has rejected a request from South
'6' Afn'can President Mandela to guarantee
former Zambian ' President Kenneth
3_ 'Kaunda's safe return, it was reported yes-

terda .

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The State-controlled Sunday Times
"of Zambia quoted â\200\235impeccable sources
â\200\230close to the governmentâ\200\234 as saying Mr ,
,. Mandela had asked Mr Chiluba during a
; recent telephone conversation to pardon
V Dr Kaunda for any offences he might
V. have committed.

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The newspaper also quoted a source
at the South African high commission in
Lusaka as as confirming Mr Mandelaâ\200\231s
request.

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Mr Mandelaâ\200\231s reported

quest was
made against aâ\200\235 backdrop of
e failed
October 28 coup plot attempt and ensu-
ing declaration of the state of emergency
in the country..

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Speculation has been mounting in
, and out of Zambia, particularly neigh-
} .bouring Southern African countries,
at
â\200\231h Dr Kaunda, who had left Zambia just be-
i, fore the failed coup plot to attend the cor-

Spies still languishing in jail

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Despite repeated pleas for
; clemency from their families
g and even Nelson Mandela, Zim-
: babwean President Robert Muâ\200\224
gaba has refused to release four
South African spies who have. -
L7 been behind bars in Zimbabwe
for nine years.

~~ Former ~military intelli~
f.gence agents Kevin Woods,
Philip Kunwayo, Mike Smith
[i and Barry Bawden made their
latest request for freedom in
an open letter to Mugabe at
5 the weekend in newspapers
f throughout South Africa. Their
vggpleas have not met with any

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â\200\230 SUCCSS.

The four have been in prison
_ since January 1988, after being
convicted of taking â\200\230part in
attacks against ANC houses in
Harare and araid inywhich a
Zimbabwean was killed.

Their renewed appeals fol~
lowed the release in October of
a i-\201fth military agent, Dennis
Behan, who gained his freedom
under a presidential general
amnesty which covered prison-
ers sentenced to life terms be--
fore'1981.

.â\200\230Bawdenâ\200\231sfâ\200\230 sister, Mandy
Burmeister, Said: â\200\234We havenâ\200\231t
heard anythmg, but weâ\200\231ve got-
to just keep on trying and hope
Mugabe willâ\200\231have a change of -
heart.â\200\235

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State House Press aide Richard Å©ikala â\200\230.
yeserday said circumstances surround-
ing the failed coup events were still sub- i
ject to investigations and without inter-
.fegence. - Sapa-DPA

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ha pleit vergeefs yir Kaunda

Lusaka. â\200\224 Pres..Frederiek Chiluba
van ZambiÅ© het â\200\231n versoek van
pres. Nelson Mandela verwerp om
oudpres. Kenneth Kaunda se vei-
ligheid na sy terugkeer te verse-
ker, is gister berig.

Die staatsbeheerde Sunday .Ti-
mes of Zambia het â\200\234onberispelike
- bronne na aan die regeringâ\200\235 aan-
gehaal wat gesÅ© het Mandela het
Chiluba in â\200\231n onlangse telefoonop-
roep versoek om grasie aan Kaun-

da te verleen vir enige misdrywe
wat hy dalk gepleeg het.

Mandela het die versoek glo gerig teen die agtergrond van die mislukte staatsgreppoging op 28 Oktober en die daaropvolgende afkondiging van 'n noodtoestand in die land.

Bespiegeling in en buite Zambië
het
sedertdien toegeneem dat
Kaunda, wat kort voor die staatsgreppoging weg is uit Zambie om

{

die kroning van koning Letsie III van Lesotho by te woon, betrokke was daarby.

Kragtens die Zambiese grondwet en wet kan die president net
grasie betoon aan iemand wat aan-
'n gekla word. Hy mag ook nie 'n
stokkie steek voor 'n ondersoek
me.

Indien hy hom dus daarin sou
inmeng, kan dit ernstige regsge-
volge hê. (Sapa-DPA).

Prepgiguepygglgmngfomard to ClintOIlâ\200\231s Visitto SA in 1998

President Mandela said he was look- .
ing forward to nextyearâ\200\231s Visit to
South Africa by US President Bill
Clinton. i

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.â\200\230He- said; following a meeting
â\200\230with US secretary of State Mad-
eleine Albright on Saturday, Mr
Clinton had supported the anti-
apartheid struggle long before â\200\231he

became President.

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He said Mr Clinton had been
equally suportive of the t
â\200\230form-
ation currently taking plane in the
country.

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His US counterpart had done
much to uplift and helpâ\200\230 South
Afn'ca, Mr Mandela said.

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Ms Albright on Samrdakĩ-\201f};

scribed Mr Mandela as one of the
giants of this century and said that
she 'was honoured to meetâ\200\230a man of
his wisdomâ\200\235.

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She also met Deputy President
Thabo Mbeki. Mr Mbeki said after
the talks that the USand South '
Africa shared concerns such as viol-
ence inâ\200\230 Rwanda and the delays in

- the Angolan peace process.

Mr Mbeki described relations
between South Africa and the US a
very good.
â\200\230

Mrs Albright, who is on a tour of -
several African countries, comment-
ed that the US viewed its relation-
ship with Africa as being of the most
importance. - Staff Reporter

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during a photo session on Saturday at his Pretoria' residence. Albright also had talks with Deputy

PIC: AFP

President Thabo Mbeki as part of her African tour. She arrived in Zimbabwe yesterday.

Basques march to
protest at killing
of councillor
SAN SEBASTIAN - More than
100 000 people took to the streets
in Spain's Basque country on Saturday to protest at the killing of a
town councillor by the Basque-
separatist guerrilla group, ETA.

Hours after 64-year-old Jose
Luis Caso was laid to rest in a hill-
to cemetery, crowds marched in a
silent, solemn procession.

ministers

The protest was led by Spanish
government
and
Basque regional politicians, walk-
ing shoulder to shoulder and bear-
ing a giant banner calling for
peace now and forever.

This is a hard struggle and it
has tragic moments, Spanish In-
terior Minister Jaime Mayor Ore-
ja said. With democratic solidar-
ity, we will triumph.

Silent vigils were held at the
same time in other cities and
towns in the Basque region.

Caso, who represented the rul-
ing Popular Party in the town of
Renteria, was shot on Thursday
night at a bar. He had refused
bodyguards despite receiving re-
peated death threats.

Authorities believe the murder
was for retaliation for the jailing last
week of 23 leaders of ETA's polit-
ical wing Herri Batasuna, who
were convicted of collaborating
with the guerrillas. - Renter.

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A supporter of presidential candidate Kwon Young-gil at a rally in Seoul,
South Korea, holds up a placard yesterday. Candidates have less than a
week of campaigning left. Kwon, of the People's Victory 21 party, wants to
renegotiate the IMF bailout package.

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Jeltsguiv33 Mnogaâ\200\230 â\200\234ck

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Moskcu. â\200\224 â\200\231n Bleek pres. Boris Jeitsin
(66) he.â\200\230 met â\200\23111 skor stem aan
\r'erslaggewers gesÃ© hy voel steeds
â\200\234nogal siek" toe hy gister in die
Barwikja-sanatorium wes van Moskou
in die Moskouse munisipale verkiesing
gestem hot.

In â\200\231n kort nuusberig op Russiese RTR-

televisie het Jeltsin bevestig dat by â\200\231n
virus onder lede het. maar bygevoeg:

"Volgens oie dokters is daar niks
merkwaardigs aan die virus nie.â\200\235

In die nuusberig is gewys hoe Jeltsin
en 5:: vrou. .xâ\200\231laina, sy stembriefie van â\200\230n
verkiesingsamptenaar ontvang in
Barwikja, â\200\230n amptelike rusoord en
kliniek waar: hy sedert Woensdag
opgeneem is; met wat die Kremlin
beskryfhet as â\200\231n akute respiratoriese
infeksie.

A

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Net 'n han ijievoljoemaliste is

toegelaat om Jelts'm te sien.

Jeltsin het egter bespiegeling dat sy
siekte emstiger is as â\200\234at die Kremlin
berig het, onderdruk.

Pres. Boris Jeltsin

Jeltsin het gesÃ© hy voel â\200\234nogal siekâ\200\235

en sy keel is seer. het Interfax berig,
maar hy het bygevoeg: â\200\234Julie kan kalm

bly oor Rusland, gebeure is onder
beheer en inligting vloei.â\200\235
~ (Sapa-AFP).

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By Ido Lekota
Political Reporter

Rhodesia-Zimbabwe Nelson Mandela
his
yesterday
confidence
Deputy
President Thabo Mbeki to
lead South Africa into prosperity as
his successor both as president of
the African National Congress and
of the country.

expressed

in

Speaking during a live interview
with a panel of journalists on SABC
TV, Mandela said that Mbeki was a
man of exceptional qualities who
would put the ANC at a level that it
has never reached before".

"Unlike int: he is a diplomat,"

Mandela said.

Mandela will step down as presi-
dent of the ANC at the party's annual
congress which starts
in Malibongwe

1.

tomorrow. Mbeki is the sole candi-
date for the position.

According to Mandela, even the
eventual handing over of the coun-
try's leadership to Mbeki would be
smooth because the deputy president
was already running the country.

Mandela also put his stamp of
approval on the current ANC nation-
al chairman Mr Jacob Zuma's candi-
dacy for the deputy presidency of the
ANC. Mandela said Zuma was an
"absolutely outstanding leader".

He said a merger between the
ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party
would be a very progressive devel-
opment whereby the people of South
Africa would speak in one voice".

"I would welcome a merger
between the ANC and the IFP as the
first step." said Mandela.

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lâ\200\231rcsidcut

rejected suggesâ\200\224

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tions that such a move would raise the fears that the agenda was to unite blacks against whites and that it also went against the grain of multi~party democracy.

â\200\234Democracy docs not just mean having 100 political parties. It is also about having independent people who can criticise even the president. That action," Mandela said. He said both the ANC and the llilâ\200\231 hclivcd in a market economy.

democracy

in

is

Mandela also gave. the â\200\234thtunbsâ\200\224 upâ\200\234 to his partyâ\200\230s []CIâ\200\230ftiiâ\200\230iiziiicc. He said the ANCâ\200\230 had made commend-ahlc progress in cnl'tanciug dcmocraâ\200\224 tic values in the country and in delivâ\200\224 ering to the basic needs olâ\200\230 the majorâ\200\224 ity in the country.

South Africa Mandela said. had a Bill of Rights which ensured that

every citizenâ\200\231s basic rights were pro-
tcctcd.

as

the

To ensure that the Bill olâ\200\230 Rights was a â\200\234living document", structures such Rights Commission. Constitutional Court as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission were established. he said.

Human

the

â\200\234We have delivered on democra-
cy." he said.

Since its inception the ANC-lcd Government had brought water to L7 million people: in the rural areas and 1 000 hoUscs a day wcrc electri-
licd.

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said.

'lâ\200\230hcsc,

Mandela

wore,
achievcd dcspitc thc constraintsol
servicing an apartheid dcht olâ\200\230 not
less than R240 billion a year. â\200\234hi all
fairness wc lâ\200\231cc1 wc haw: achieved
more than other people want to

believe," he said.

On reconciliation, Mandela said
he was â\200\234retiring a happy man that the
ANC had delivered on nation build~
ing and reconciliation".

He

said

Employment

(.iovcrcnmcnt's
Growth.
and
Redistribution Strategy ((icar) was
the ANC's lâ\200\230umlatucntal economic
policy.

Howcvcr. the ANCâ\200\230 was prepared
to discuss issues raised by its allies.
the South African Communist Party
and thc ("ongrcss olâ\200\230 South Al'rican
'Iâ\200\230radc Unions on the policy.

â\200\234I have no doubt that we will
eventually scc eye to cyc on the pollâ\200\224
cy.â\200\234 said Mandela.

llc warnvd that lâ\200\230oiâ\200\230uit-r state pus
idcnt Mr lâ\200\231\â\200\230yâ\200\231 Botha would lace the
hill wrath olâ\200\230ightâ\200\230 law if hc continued
to rcl'usc to aliÃ@â\200\230ar hcl'orc thc 'l'l{(_'.

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POLITICS & ECONOMICS

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Negatives seem to arise from his TV appearances with 3 comments â\200\234incompetent speakerâ\200\235, â\200\234not clearâ\200\235, â\200\234difficult to followâ\200\235. While his appearance is praised, business leaders feel that the media is being â\200\230politically correctâ\200\231 towards Mbeki rather than being truthful - apprehensive of the perceived consequences criticism might bring. Quite a number also feel that Mbeki does not get enough media coverage in SA, being more recognised overseas at this stage.

Comparing the findings - Nov â\200\23097 vs

June â\200\23096

Leaders in

Nov
â\200\23197
Business
Rating - UP 6.40
Political opponents - UP 7.00
- UP 7.50
Parastatais
- NA 7.50
Unions
Local authorities &
-
parastatais
ANC leaders
Total

- NA
- UP 8.00
- UP 6.65

June
â\200\23196
5.80
6.00
6.00
-
6.00

7.60
6.02

In sum...

Mbeki is seen as a very intelligent, competent leader/statesman/diplomat, who is already â\200\234running the countryâ\200\235. His ratings as â\200\234future Presidentâ\200\235 have improved significantly in the last 17 months, among all groups - business leaders, top politicians, and all. He is, to most, â\200\234charming, charismatic, likeableâ\200\235. To some, arrogant, aloof.

The tall Mandela shadow - moving away

gent/great thinker/considerable intel-
lectâ\200\235 (2), â\200\234astute politicianâ\200\235 (2).

Mbekiâ\200\231s media image

With the exception of the two political
opponents, who saw the media as por-
traying Mbeki only negatively (no sur-
prise!), all others saw the image of
Mbeki conveyed by the media as posi-
tive. Positive/negative comments were
(duplication occurs): ANC 5/1, Oppo-
nents 0/4, Parastatals 4/2, Unions 2/1,
Business 38/12. Total 49/20.
37/51 see Mbekiâ\200\231s image through the
media as â\200\234statesman/leader/ confi-
dent/good/positive/ reasonableâ\200\235.

. Thabo Mbeki is

Agree

,

Base

ALL

,

51 %

Attribute

1. educated/intelligent/knowledgeable/
48 94
experienced
2. a good politician/diplomat/negotiator/leader
44 86
3. competent/practical/level headed/decisive 42 82
4. good relationship with business/international
business
5. has Charisma/charm/likeable
6. close to the unions & alliance partners
7. good relationship with masses/youth/broad
based
8. inspires confidence/trust
9. handles criticism well/constructively
10. will take South Africa to prosperity during
his tenure

23 45

28 55

22 43

38 75

39 77

28 55

41

21

ANC OPP PARA TUs BIZN

40

2

2

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15

Codes: OPP = Opposition party leaders. PARA = parastatals TUs :9 Trade Unions BIZN = Business

Negatives are perhaps more perceptual than real: â\200\234Insecure/not decisiveâ\200\235 is probably a big plus in a country with such massive divides, where a gradual easing of confrontations beats â\200\234tough/decisiveâ\200\235 (equals â\200\234divisive") hands

, down.

Business (nearly all white) is concerned about his â\200\234Africanist/racistâ\200\235 inclinations.

The unions/ANC/parastatals are concerned that he is not Close enough to â\200\234the masses/youth/unionsâ\200\235. This he can i-\201x - a Bafana jersey?

The perception that he is appointing â\200\234yesâ\200\224menâ\200\235 to the ANC key positions, to the Cabinet, could also be interpreted as not appointing obstructionists, ideologues, and especially head-on competitors. Ramaphosa, Sexwale, Phosa, Holomisa - sidelined.

If Mbeki is to run this country successfully with its huge disparities in wealth, in attitudes, and 345 years of racist history (whites vs blacks, essentially), with its political spectrum from rabid reds to cavalier capitalists, then he had better have a cabinet: an ANC, that folâ\200\224 lows consistent, carefully evolved visions and strategies. Plans that make South Africa work, not fight. That solve the major problems - crime, poverty, housing and illiteracy - constructively and fast. That exploit our wonderful opportunities - tourism, SADC, industry, agriculture. That attract big investments in infrastructure, industry and technology. Without burdening South Africa with more massive interest payments, with undue bloodâ\200\224sucking fees and royalties to foreign owners.

PMR is now convinced Mbeki will make an excellent President for South Africa. Once Mandela retires to Qunu (Maputo in winter?), Mbeki should take all the mass-impressing opportunities that he has (deliberately, we believe) avoided, and left to Madiba so far. And hereâ\200\235s praying his first major move will be to DECLARE WAR

ON CRIMâ\200\230INALS, to mobilize the whole population into ridding us of the vermin. Then GEAR will give us lift-off!

PMR

Blair faces second party
rebellion over benefit cuts

LONDON - British Prime Minister Tony Blair yesterday defended his plans for wide-ranging social welfare reforms, but sought to pacify rebellious backbenchers by denying any policy to force disabled people into work.

Restructuring Britain

Welfare system is the big idea, and we mustn't be deflected from carrying out the reforms that are necessary to provide opportunity for people, Blair said in an interview. Blair's show of resolve over welfare reform followed a bruising week for his ruling Labour party, when a controversial plan to cut benefit payments sparked the first major rebellion against the prime minister since the election landslide in May.

single

for

The issue split the party, three junior ministers resigned and 47 Labour MPs voted against the cuts in parliament.

The prospect of another revolt surfaced on Friday after government admitted it was considering further cuts, this time to social se-

M: 157

curity benefit cuts that could affect the sick and disabled.

However, with veteran left-wing Labour MP Ken Livingstone warning that backbenchers would not accept the new cuts, Blair was quick to deny suggestions the policy would force disabled people into the workplace.

No-one's taking away benefit

from those who need it, he said.

More than 5-million Britons get sickness and disability benefit, which cost government more than £16bn a year.

Dismissing reports of blanket cuts in disabled benefit, Blair said government's sole concern was to offer disabled people the

opportunity to i-\'201nd work.

But his assurances cut little ice with former minister for the disabled Lord Morris, who warned that government would i-\'201nd itself forced to â\200\234defend the indefensibleâ\200\235 if it were to meddle with benei-\'201ts for the disabled.

â\200\234Cutting benei-\'201ts will not im-
job

(disabled

peOpleâ\200\231s)

prove

prospects. It will put more of them out of work,â\200\235 Morris said.

â\200\234The best way of getting them into work is to make employment buildings and public transport more accessible to disabled people,â\200\235 he said.

The Sunday Times said yesterday Education Secretary David Blunkett, who is blind, and Health Secretary Frank Dobson were furious departments would get more money only if the amount a year sent on the disabled was slashed.

their

that

Activists say the idea that the disabled should work is ridiculous because i-\'201ve out of six people receiving payments are over 65.

â\200\234We hope itâ\200\231s a ghastly mistake and that nothing like this does happen,â\200\235 Laura Jacobs, of the Royal National Institute of the Blind said.

â\200\234It could mean losses of anything between Â£13 and Â£84 a week to some of the most vulnerable people in society,â\200\235 she said. -
Sapaâ\200\224AFP, Renter.

Khatami speaks of 'great respect for i-\'202great APPTehran

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eopleâ\200\231

Iranian President Mohamad Khatami yesterday hailed the great American people, in a speech outlining his vision of an Iranian society where human rights are respected and laws obeyed.

In the warmest words towards the United States by an Iranian leader since the 1979 Islamic revolution, Khatami repeatedly stressed his great respect for the great people of the United States.

- I would like to express my respect to the nation and great people of the United States. I hope in the not-too-distant future I will be able to address the American people, Khatami told a press conference.

He said he had long supported removing tension from the world but shied away from questions about official dia-

logue with Washington.

Our political problems with the US are too complex to be easily resolved, but I hope all politicians who enjoy the weapon of logic will contribute so that we can all live in peace and quiet, he said.

Khatami, who won a surprise Victory in May elections on a platform promising greater openness, complained that US politicians were "out of step with their times" and "seeking monopolistic rule".

1 But he acknowledged the democratic right of the US people to choose their government.

In contrast to Washington's attempts to isolate the Islamic republic, the European Union has maintained diplomatic ties. In the past year, Iran has moved to mend fences with many Arab enemies who feared Tehran's pledges to export its radical brand of Islam. Khatami has speeded up the diplomatic drive, sealing a tentative reconciliation with countries including Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates at last week's Islamic summit in Tehran.

Sources close to Khatami said he would send a New Year

message to
the American
people.

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The US and Iran have had
no diplomatic relations since
the crisis at the US embassy in
Tehran in 1979-80, when US
diplomats were detained by
Islamic revolutionaries.

Yesterday he defended the
status of women, who have
been forced to cover themselves
from head to toe in public since
1979: â\200\234We donâ\200\231t want male
chauvinism nor female chau-
vinism. We want merit to rule
The perception that women
are the second sex is very dan-
gerous. Women are the f-irst sex
and they can achieve very
senior positionsâ\200\235.

Egypt offers discounts in
*9 bid to lure back tourists

CAIRO ~â\200\224 Egypt has decided to offer a month of discounted prices early next year in the hope of luring back holiday-makers frightened off by the massacre of 58 tourists in Luxor last month.

The exact date of the â\200\234tourism monthâ\200\235 is to be decided soon, but it will most likely be the end of

.
January or early February.

Egyptian Supplies Minister Ahmed Goweih said the month would feature discounts on â\200\234in-temal and domestic i-\202ights, hotels and products tourists favourâ\200\235. The idea is already practised by Dubai, which offers discounts of up to 50%.~

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Farrakhan in Israel on peace drive

16hÂ» its

Ramallah, West Bank ~~ Controversial US black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan made a surprise visit to the West Bank yesterday, saying he was headed to Israel on a mission of peace.

Farrakhan made the unannounced visit despite Israeli threats before his arrival to refuse him a visa or :my meetings with Israeli officials if he did' not retract past anti~ Semitic statements;

Despite the controversy over the visit, his i-\201rst to the Holy Land, the Nation of Islam leader was exuberant as he arrived in the West Bank self-rule town of Ramallah after crossing through an Israeli border

post from Jordan.

He then crossed through isâ\200\224 mel him!) the West Bank to the Gaza Strip to meet. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in the evening, Arafatâ\200\231s office said.

â\200\234My mission is peace and I would hope to (meeiimg that process, because if this area breaks into war it could engulf' the entire world,â\200\235 said l":irr:ikhzm, after having lunch in Ru-mallzih with Palestinian Civil Affairs Minister Jamil 'lâ\200\230zirili.

â\200\234During this Christmas seaâ\200\224 son, it is my hope that this troubled area of the world, which needs peace :is much :is any, will find peace and goodwill. Butgoodwilleaneonlyhegoodit'

it is God's will, done by people
who believe in God}? he said.

I would like to thank the Israeli
authorities for granting
me permission to enter Jerusalem.
I am very honoured and happy
to be in this sacred place."

Jerusalem's residents allowed Var
Klums to cross the Allenby
Bridge, where tourist visas are
granted to American citizens.

His

visit comes amid a
thirteen-month
52-month
"friendship tour" that
has led to controversy due to
stops in Iraq, Libya and Cuba.
The tour has been trying
to repair ties with American
Jews, angered by his virulent
statements.

Ali's

Israeli

binet stalls on West Bank land handover

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Jerusalem -- Israel's cabinet failed yester-
day to take a decision on the scope of a
long-delayed handover of West Bank
land to Palestinians and planned to tackle
the thorny issue again tomorrow.

But cabinet ministers stressed that
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu
would not be ready to discuss the withdrawal
in terms of percentage points
when he met US Secretary of State Madeleine
Albright in Paris on Thursday.

I don't think the Prime Minister will
have enough time ahead of his meeting to
present Secretary of State Albright with
the scope of the withdrawal, Transport
Minister Moshe Katzav told Israel Radio

after yesterday's six-hour meeting.

Officials said the meeting was de-
voted mainly to the government's vision
of the future borders of the West Bank,
rather than the terms of an interim pull-
back.

But Foreign Minister David Levy said Mr Netanyahu would not meet Mrs Albright. He said the process is empty-handed.

Options

He will arrive (at the meeting)

with options that will be discussed with the Secretary of State, which will be able to advance the process, Mr Levy told Israel Radio.

A cabinet

statement quoted Mr Netanyahu as saying that telling ministers Israel

would not make hasty decisions under pressure of one kind or another.

Outside the Prime Minister's office in 1

Jerusalem, a few hundred Jewish settlers - normally supporters of Mr Netanyahu - protested against any further handover of land to Palestinians.

Israel's Haaretz newspaper quoted.

Mr Netanyahu last week as saying Mrs Albright expected Israel to hand over at least 12% of the West Bank while he had offered 6% to 8%. Palestinians have demanded up to a 30% pullback.

The United States is pushing both

sides to compromise.

The United States, the President, the Secretary of State remain very committed

to moving this process ahead as quickly as possible, US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk told reporters on Saturday.

Mr Indyk, a former US ambassador to Israel, was in the Middle East to lay the groundwork for Mrs Albright's meetings with Mr Netanyahu and in London with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Indyk withdrew!

Mrs Albright, trying to break a nine-month-old deadlock in peacemaking, demands that Israel offer a credible troop withdrawal and a "timeout" on Jewish settlement building, while Palestinians improve security with Israel. - Reuters

Mugabe speaks out against
brutal attack on union leader

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Morgan

HARARE â\200\224â\200\224 Zimbabwean President
Robert Mugabe said on Saturday that
he deplored last weekâ\200\231s brutal attack
on Zimbabweâ\200\231s labour movement lead-
er by unknown assailants.
Tsvangirai,

secretaryâ\200\224
general of the 300 000vstrong Zimba -
we Congress of Trade Unions, was at-
tacked in his ofï-\201ce after he organised a
mass protest on Tuesday against a gov-
ernment proposal to levy new taxes to
ï-\201nance pensions and gratuities for the
countryâ\200\231s former freedom ï-\201ghters.

â\200\234We do not settle our scores in that
manner,â\200\235 said Mugabe, whose cabinet
minister is one of the people labour
leaders claimislinked to the attack.

Labour leaders say the attack,
which left Tsvangirai with a severe cut
on the forehead, was politically motiâ\200\224
vated. They have accused Home Afâ\200\224
fairs
Minister Dumiso Dabengwa,
police commissioner Augustine Chiâ\200\224
huri and the leader of a war veterans
association, Chenjerai Hunzvi, ofbeing
linked to the assault.

The accusations are based on verbal
attacks on the trade union prior to and
after the protests.

Mugabe said he supported the idea
through

expressing

grievances

of
peaceful demonstrations.

The Zimbabwean Public Service As-

sociation said the assault would not de-
ter workers from protesting against
unfavourable political decisions. There
was no doubt Tsvangiraiâ\200\231s assailants
wanted to eliminate the leaders of the
recent protest, it said.

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe's first finance minister at independence and former ruling Zanu-PF treasurer, Enos Nkala, has claimed that the government could easily raise the Z 4bn it needed to pay war veterans from within its Z\$70,6bn 1997/98 budget, Ziana news agency reported yesterday.

Commenting on the war veterans compensation saga at the weekend, Nkala said there was a lot of money being misallocated in all ministries, mostly because no proper financial supervision existed in government.

Misapplication of funds has been

the system ever since independence. I was the lone voice against it and that is why I quit the finance portfolio in 1982, Nkala claimed.

Nkala said the defence ministry alone could contribute Z\$2bn because half of its budget was unnecessary. He said there was excessive abuse of funds in the ministry which over the years received the lion's share of the national budget, and this year got Z\$5,420bn. Sapa.

Pessimism grows over currency

Martin Rushmere

HARARE - The Zimbabwe dollar slid heavily against all currencies on Friday, closing at about four to the rand and close to 20 against the US dollar.

The Reserve Bank intervened during the day when the rate rose to 21 against the US currency and almost 15 to the rand. It was more of a case of the Reserve Bank showing us they were there and thinking about us, rather than any major intervention, Nkala said the head foreign dealer of a commercial bank. It was no more than a few hundred thousand US dollars and was really a case of spitting in the wind, but it did bring the rate down.

Commercial banks have been told

will probably tighten up the market by requiring importers and exporters wanting forward cover to get Reserve Bank permission first. Until now the merchants have decided on a rate with commercial banks and then obtained automatic permission.

Deep-seated pessimism is evident. A senior executive at an international commercial bank said: The country is effectively broke. There is no disguis-

ing it now. The government has spent
itself silly on luxuries for itself and the
foreign exchange just is not there.

What we can now look forward to in
future are periods of currency crisis
when the exchange rate plummets and
there are severe shortages of foreign
currency. followed by RDD11K whim Hm

Zambia attracts record
foreign investor interest

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LUSAKA - Plagued by a chronic lack
of investment for more than a decade,
Zambia last month reached the high point
of pledges of \$975 million to the
investment Centre
since the commission was
pro-
posed, mounted its prom-

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investment Centre executive direc-
tor Bwalya Ngandu attributes the rise
in interest to the rise in
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fought the October COUP attempt
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From November 30 this year,
investment pledges
had been made. But in
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and 46%, Ngâ\200\231andu said. But. he said the
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Malaysia,

KUALA LUMPUR â\200\224â\200\224 Malaysia
stuck to i-\20lnancial regulations
yesterday despite implicit US
threats to impose sanctions.

Malay51a refused to budce
from an offer it made under the
i-\20lnanclal
services agreement
concludedat the World Trade
Organisation (WTO) in Geneva
atrthe weekend: a maximum
51 ;'(. _ ownership oflocal i-\20lnancial
institutions by foreign i-\20lrms.

The US demands unlimited

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Assurance
wholly
owned Malaysian subsidiary of
[)8 insurance company Ameri-
can International Group (AIG)

(AIA),

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A spokesman for Malaysian
Deputy Prime Minister Anwar
Ibrahlm said yesterday Mao
lay31a would stand i-\20lrm on its
offer} and that AIG would have
to divest 49% of its equity in
AIA.
At this time our offer
stands at 51% on new and'cur-
gegt companies,â\200\235 said Anwarâ\200\231s
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When asked if this meant Ethlalt
AIG would have to divest the

r 58 secretary, Adlin Z

g8 todts over pact

US Trade

49% stake, Adlin replied, â\200\234Yes.â\200\235
Representative
Charlene Barshefskv said on
Saturday the US would seek im-
provements in some countriesâ\200\231
offers under the deal. Countries
such as Malaysia that forced di-
vestiture of existing ricrhts in
the insurance sector wguld be
carved outâ\200\235 from US oblivaâ\200\224
tions under the pact. That
means the US would be able to
impose sanctions on Malaysia if
it forced the US insurance comÃ»
pany to divest those holdinos.

C

This practice of forced divestiture is unacceptable â\200\235 Barshfksysaid of Malaysia. â\200\231

When the WTO deal was concluded on Saturday negotiators said it would help investor confidence by bringing financial services, fastest growing sector of the world economy, under WTO rules ~ meaning that states breaking their commitments can be taken to its dispute settlement system.

When enacted

in March 1999, it would provide the bio Western multinationals with guaranteed, if phased, access to

most developing economies increasing capital flows andâ\200\231improving the quality of their industries through competition.

.Anwar, who is also finance minister, said the government remained committed to the principle of progressive liberalisation the
\\TOâ\200\231. Malaysiaâ\200\231s offer to the
\KTO had â\200\234substantial improvements on its 1995 offer".

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Anwar said: â\200\234These include (a; binding 51% majority ownership for the original foreign owners of locally incorporated insurance companies.â\200\235 Other offers included allowing a higher number of expatriate personnel in â\200\234several categories of financial services and committin
to issue new licences in the :33 insurance subsectors,â\200\235 he said.

Trade superpowers and developing countries concluded the landmark deal on Saturday to clear away international barriers to the expansion of banking, insurance and securities industries. The agreement is scheduled to go into force by March 1999. ~Reuter.
V

Asian leaders mee

plus

(Asean),

KUALA LUMPUR Asian leaders gathered in Malaysia yesterday for a series of meetings to be followed by the first meeting of the Association of South East Asian Nations, China, Japan and South Korea - the largest gathering of Asian leaders without Western representation. The summit was being held amid concern that a financial crisis had deepened despite global rescue packages totalling more than \$100bn, delegates said. The heads of state of 12 Asian nations were expected to issue a statement about the financial turmoil and their commitment to overcome the problems, delegates said. They were also expected to examine a Malaysian proposal to buy each others' goods and shun more expensive products as well as to turn to China for advice on the financial crisis. There definitely will be something important to say on the currency situation affecting major Asean countries: Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, said Malaysian Foreign Minister

expressing

Thailand,

to address Crisis

Abdullah Badawi.

Bl) (in, Three of the countries attending the summit, Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea, turned to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for emergency rescue packages totalling more than \$100bn. In spite of the IMF coming and some of those countries, helping the situation has not improved, said Abdullah. Senior officials spent much of yesterday thrashing out the details of a statement on the financial

cial crisis to be submitted to the summit leaders for their approval. Philippine Foreign Secretary Siazon said the state Domingo ment would be based on the con-held recently clusions of meetings in Manila, Vancouver and Kuala leaders supported Lumpur where the extension of aid to needy nations. The statement was also expected to include individual stateâ\200\224ments from participating coun-tries â\200\234with the resolve to overcome the crisis as soon as possibleâ\200\235. Abdullah said leaders would of the presence of take advantage Chinese President J iang Zemin to that

explore how â\200\234engagementâ\200\235 with Beijing could help southeast Asia pull itself out of the doldrums. â\200\234We all agree that China is a very big economy. China is in our neighbourhood. I think that at this present summit, there will be some talk of engaging China perhaps some suggestion on how to improve our situation,â\200\235 he said. The Malaysian minister was asked if there was concern among i-\201nancial summit leaders woes could spread to China. â\200\234If the problem reaches China, the problem will be very big. Itâ\200\231s not going to be those countries in the neighbourhood that will be af-far fected, but even countries away across the globe,â\200\235 he said. The nine Asean members ~â\200\224 Brunei, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singa-pore, Thailand and Vietnam -â\200\224â\200\224 will celebrate the 30th anniverâ\200\224sary of the group today. The only Asean founding lead-er still in power, Indonesiaâ\200\231s 76-year-old President Suharto, will miss the gathering. Indonesian sources said he was suffering from a stomach ailment. -â\200\224 Renter.

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Foto:LEON BOTHA

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lifers in
Clitmbi

Harare - 'The Zimbabwean Government
has rejected renewed appeals for clem-
ency by four South Africans serving life
ï-\201111 terms for spying for the former apart-
eid regime, a newspaper here reported
yesterday.

The four â\200\224- Kevin Woods, Phillip
Conjwayo, Mike Smith and Barry Baw-
den â\200\224 were convicted of involvement in
spying and sabotaging African National
Congress targets in Zimbabwe during the
19805.

They renewed their appeals for

mercy following the release in October of
another saboteur, Dennis Beahan, who
gained his freedom under a presidential
general amnesty last year which covered
?&?ners sentenced ,to life terms before

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The Sunday Mail quoted a letter be-
ing circulated by the four from the Chiku-
rubi Maximum Prison complex where
they have been held since 1988, in which -
they apologise for their acts of sabotage
and seek a pardon. â\200\230

Sincere apouggx

â\200\235We are the only former South Afri-

can agents remâ\200\230aihing in custody. We .
wish to take this opportunity to reiterate,-
as per our numerous petitions for clem-
ency to President (Robert) Mugabe, his
government and the peOple of Zim-
babwe, our sincere apology for the de-
that . we
stabilisation,

caused? the letter reads in part. â\200\230.

insecurity

j The four expressed gratitude to Mr
the release of Mr
Miï-\201abe for allowin
at they â\200\235sincerely
Be

A hope and pray that the same benevolâ\200\224
ence, understanding and statemanship
will soon be applied to us remainingâ\200\235.

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According to a spokesman for the
j Zimbabwean ministry of justice, one of
v the four is due for freedom in two yearsâ\200\231
l time;

Bulawayo â\200\224- Zimbabwean Home
Affairs Minister Dumiso Da-
bengwa has attributed the in-
crease in crime in northern
frustrated
Matabeleland to
Bawden, who was sentenced to a 40-
youths, many of whom had
year jail term, will be released in two
learnt their. 1 trade in Southâ\200\234
years after successfully appealing for the
,
Africa.
reduction of his term to 25 years, making
At an endâ\200\224of-year party forâ\200\230
him qualify for a quarter remission of his
police in northern Matabele-
. land on Saturday, Dabengwa
sentence under MI Mugabe S 1996 demâ\200\230, i
ency order.
i. said the increase in reported
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crime could be attributed to
31â\200\230
growing economic hardships
ll
and rising unemployment, es-
pecially among the youth,
Ziana news agency reported.

Bawdenâ\200\231s sister, Mandy Burmeister, 1
and the South African Government was â\200\230
yesterday unaware of the letter.

â\200\230 Resonse

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However, she said the families of the ' i,
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. four men had been waiting for a response '3
from Mr Mugabe â\200\235for yearsâ\200\235.
x â\200\235We havenâ\200\235t heard anythingIbut
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t keegâ\200\230on tryinia/nd hoï-\201eâ\200\230 s
weâ\200\231ve got to '
ange of eart,â\200\235 s e
that he will

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said.
Ms Burmeister said she thought the
letter had been an attempt by the men to
â\200\235get some sort of encouragementâ\200\235.
> Foreign Affaiis spokesman Marco

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Boni said while talks between South
Africa and Zimbabwe had been going on'
for years, the decision to release the men
rested solely with Mr Mugabe.
â\200\235We have to respect the sovereignty

of the Zimbabwean Government,â\200\235 he 5
said. - Sapa-AFP

SA. seen as school for Z'5
mlwv â\200\234(pl
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babwean criminals â\200\230

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mostly perpetrated by frus-
trated youths who' crossed the
border and â\200\234learnt the viceâ\200\235 in
South Africa, where such crime

"

was common, he said.
The provincial commander,
Senior Assistant Commissioner .
Alfred Musengi, said the pro-r-
vince had seen an 11% increase
in reported crime between Jan-
uary and November this year,
compared with the same period
last year.

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He said reported cases rose
from 50 222 in 1996 to 55 813 in
that period. Child abuse and
rape cases had increased by
35%. But this increase could in
part be attributed to a growing
public awareness of the need .

0 report such abuses;

Musengi pledged to work

closely with child welfare organisations and the ministry of health to reduce crimes against women and children, while ensuring that more cases were reported and perpetrators punished.

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He also warned motorists:
Vâ\200\234Bulawayo drivers, particularly commuter transport drivers, are not careful and have caused - loss of a lot of lives in the city, including one of our officers.â\200\235
He and Dabengwa appealed to the public for more co-operation in combating crime because the police â\200\234were sadly lacking in facilitiesâ\200\235. ~.â\200\224 Sapa

The crimes, such asâ\200\230 the bank robberies carried out in Bulawayo in mid-year, were