

POLICE PASSING OUT PARADE

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Mr Master of Ceremonies; members of the KwaZulu Cabinet present; Amakhosi; members of the Royal family and members of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly; Lieutenant-General R.P. During, Commissioner of Police; the Deputy Commissioner of Police Major-General S.M. Mathe, other officers and other members of the KwaZulu Police present; ladies and gentlemen.

It is for me a great source of pride to be able once again to salute the new members of the KwaZulu Police Force at this Passing Out Parade. As Minister of Police, it is with a great sense of satisfaction that today I and all of you gathered here, are witnessing the passing-out parade of Platoons 65-78. For the 503 students who are graduating today, I would like to commend you on your great achievement. Well done. You have done yourself and your loved ones proud. Against many obstacles you have withstood the rigours of training and discipline and are now ready to assume the responsibility of policemen. This is no mean feat. The challenge of training to be a policeman is a difficult one indeed. Not only are our recruits required to be supremely fit, but they are also required to have a level of intelligence which make them assets to the police force. But after having now satisfied the strict requirements of training you certainly have proved yourselves and can look forward to a new career with pride and anticipation.

There is however one thing I would like to say to our new recruits. Do not for one minute be fooled that the job of a policeman is an easy one. Much is expected of you from many quarters. In addition to your officers demanding discipline, obedience and honour from you, and your colleagues demanding camaraderie and togetherness, it is to the community that you owe ultimate allegiance. So although it is to your commanding officers and your work colleagues that you are responsible, you must remember that you have also been trained to serve the community.

The well-being of the community is therefore your responsibility. It is a responsibility which must be tackled with sympathy, care and honesty. It is often an onerous task which will demand much patience and understanding. But remember if you gain the respect of the community then the rewards are great. For one thing you can be expected to be shielded by the community from criticism. For another, you can expect the community to give you the information that you need to apprehend elusive criminals.

I say these things today in the light of the poor reputation that some security forces have earned in the past. Unfortunately, in the past all too often the law enforcement agencies of South Africa have been accused of neglecting the needs of the community and even of being the enemy of the community. Under apartheid this was certainly the case. The South African police were there to uphold an unjust and evil system. The KwaZulu Police were also required by law to implement apartheid laws which criminalised law-abiding people. Amongst the most despised law of all which demanded enforcement was the pass system.

The ANC's strategy is not a recent one either. Throughout the eighties, the ANC has attempted to undermine the authority of the KwaZulu government and its Police Force. In addition to their efforts to turn the people against the government and its Police Force, Umkhonto weSizwe has embarked upon a strategy of eliminating Town Councillors and assassinating IFP leaders. It has been no surprise to us that since their unbanning in February 1990 we have witnessed unprecedented levels of violence directed at the KwaZulu government, its police force, the IFP leadership and its supporters. To date, more than 360 IFP leaders have been assassinated. Thousands more of IFP supporters have been shot, stabbed and burnt to death by Umkhonto weSizwe cadres intent upon wiping out all opposition to their plans to seize power. Several KwaZulu policemen have been assassinated and others have survived attacks.

Today, while the ANC regurgitate platitudes about peace and democracy on an almost daily basis, it remains my view that the ANC is still the same revolutionary organisation that waged its Peoples war against the KwaZulu Government, the IFP, the National Party government and all others who were seen to get in its way in its quest for power. Although there is much talk about Peace Corps and a National Defence Force, this fails to convince me that the ANC have given up on their heinous plans. In fact, recent intelligence reports have indicated that Umkhonto weSizwe aim to retain their cadres underground even once the new integrated South African Defence Force is up and running. They will continue to be used in the elections, and after the elections, to finally crush the KwaZulu government and the IFP.

More damning evidence of the Stalinist strategies of the ANC and their Communist allies was provided by a reputable Sunday newspaper which reported on an ANC/SACP 5-year plan to infiltrate the police, public service, intelligence and security forces, as well as the media and rival political groups, including the IFP. The substance of their plan - which was confirmed by the ANC as authentic - would be to put their own people on at least two of the sub-councils of the Transitional Executive Council and seize control of the State security agencies after the elections. A new body will be set up to effect this strategy which will be headed by South African Communist member Joe Nhlanhla, and would be structured along the lines of the Russian KGB.

But why would the ANC attempt to do this when, if polls are correct, they would sweep to victory in any case. This post election strategy is based on the assumption that the ANC will not secure the two-thirds majority needed if it were to rewrite the constitution it sees fit. It is intended to counter any threats against the ANC's power-base by mass-based political organisations such as the IFP and the KwaZulu government.

As a mass-based organisation, with support across the whole spectrum of South African society, the IFP will always remain a distinct threat to the ANC's ambitions of ruling this country on its own. The ANC has therefore provided for the infiltration of IFP hostels and to counter any attempts by the media to promote the IFP's image by recruiting journalists to denigrate us and to promote the image of the ANC.

They have succeeded even to infiltrate MK members, as well as ANC members, into these very platoons that are at this Passing Out Parade today. We even have some of their members in our Civil Service. We have known for quite some time about the infiltration into these very platoons of ANC members as well as MK members. We have not done anything about it because, contrary to the vicious propaganda against us concerning our Civil Service,

Yet it should be remembered that we in the KwaZulu government refused to act as the enforcers of apartheid. In particular, we refused to be held responsible for the checking of passes. As a result of us turning a blind eye to this law, those of our citizens who were forced out of the rural areas by drought and poverty migrated to those KwaZulu areas bordering the cities, knowing full well that they could stay there without being harassed by the KwaZulu Police.

I am proud to add that the KwaZulu government's steadfast defence of the rights of its citizens earned it and its police force the respect and trust of the community. Far more than any other police force, the KwaZulu Police was the people's police force. Yet the ANC and its front-organisation, the United Democratic Front, despised this fact and therefore attempted to destroy the close relationship between the KwaZulu police and the community with their lies and propaganda. Time and again false accusations of police brutality were levelled against the KwaZulu police by ANC-aligned violence monitors. These lies were then taken up by the ANC-supporting newspapers and repeated ad nauseam. As the saying goes, "if you repeat something often enough it soon comes to be seen as the truth." If this saying was ever appropriate it was in regard to the vicious propaganda war waged by the ANC/SACP alliance against the KwaZulu Government and its police force.

Lies and propaganda can only serve up to a point though. As President Abraham Lincoln once said: "You can fool some of the people some of the time but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." I hold great confidence in the ability of the citizens of KwaZulu to see for themselves who is their real enemy. I am confident that in their heart of hearts they know that it is the KwaZulu Police Force who are their true protectors.

But now that some of the so-called impartial violence monitors have been exposed for the ANC lackeys that they are, it is still no time for KwaZulu policemen to relax their guard. This applies especially to our new recruits. To our new recruits I therefore say to you: Wherever you go and whatever you do, your actions will be judged by those who are intent upon discrediting you. I therefore appeal to you to be on your best behaviour at all times of the day and night. Acting on your best behaviour must therefore not end when you finish your duty. It must not end when you walk out of the charge office. You must remember that when you are off duty you are still a policeman, even though you might not be in uniform. As a policeman you must therefore act in a way that befits a policeman.

You should at all times remember that any bad behaviour will be seized upon by our enemies. At all times you must respect the wishes of the community. You must listen to their wishes. When it comes to minor transgressions, you must be firm but act with restraint. In the case of dealing with hardened criminals you must always use minimum force but make sure that you are always on your guard.

It is however not the hardened criminals who are the biggest threat to law and order in KwaZulu, but it is the politically-inspired killings of our policemen. Behind this strategy is the ANC who have, in the past, vowed to make South Africa ungovernable. Although theirs was a nation-wide strategy, nowhere has the ANC's revolutionary strategy been more concentrated than in KwaZulu. It is precisely because the KwaZulu Government, the IFP and the Zulu Nation are perceived by some to be a thorn in the side of the ANC/SACP alliance and its quest to seize power in South Africa that we have been targeted for attack. In fact, no other party has borne the brunt of their revolutionary strategy more than has the KwaZulu Government and the IFP.

we have not discriminated against members of other political organisations when it comes to recruitment of members into the Police Force and into our Civil Service. I am aware of more than 30 members of uMkhonto weSizwe and the ANC in the platoons that are passing out today. So much for the propaganda of our enemies that we insist on members of our Civil Service being members of the IFP. This is a rotten lie that is trotted out all over the world to vilify me, the KwaZulu Government and the IFP.

The idea that the ANC is involved in the seizure of power is of course anathema to the press, white liberals and overseas observers. Most choose to see this plan as propaganda aimed at discrediting the ANC or at best, something which was hatched by those in lower ranks of the party. The possibility that this plan was hatched by junior leaders in the ANC/SACP alliance were dashed by the report which stated that the plan was endorsed by Mr Mandela himself at the ANC's Broederstroom workshop in August of last year. With Mr Mandela being a recipient of the Nobel Peace prize I feel that an obligation rests on the international community to put pressure on the ANC to finally abandon their revolutionary strategies for seizing power. If there is any doubt that the ANC has not already embarked upon its heinous strategy of seizing power one just has to visit the rural areas of KwaZulu to see how men, women and children are being slaughtered in the ANC's drive for political supremacy.

We have for example the tragedy that took place at Thuneni Reserve when KwaZulu citizens went up to Pretoria to give moral support to His Majesty the King. The following is an excerpt from the KwaZulu Police Report given to me yesterday, on what happened:

- 7.1. Between 1994-01-16 and 1994-01-17 at Thuneni Reserve twenty-two homesteads belonging to tribesmen were gutted. Some houses were attacked and as a result their windows and doors were broken. The cause of the conflict is based on political differences amongst members of the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party. Many families have taken refuge at Ntambamamu Police Station. The KwaZulu Police are patrolling the area."

I hear that more than 50 dwellings were destroyed and that all the belongings of the owners were also completely destroyed. There now appears to be a serious complication when in an event such as the King's meeting with President de Klerk this kind of incident occurs. This was not an IFP event but a national event, involving the Head of the Zulu Nation, His Majesty the King. And yet some members of the ANC assumed that it was an IFP event and members of the ANC in the area decided to destroy the homes belonging to other members of the community who were demonstrating their loyalty to the King as the Head of the Zulu Nation. This adds a serious dimension to the conflict that has caused such unacceptable levels of violence between members of political organisations and also between one Zulu and another Zulu.

The strategy to destroy the IFP is not only being carried out on the ground but also in the political arena. Through the media, and now the Transitional Executive Council, the ANC has made a concerted effort to marginalise the IFP, the KwaZulu Government and the Zulu Nation in the future governance of this country. In accordance with this strategy the ANC and its allies have done all in their power to silence the voice of KwaZulu and the Zulu Nation by fighting for the exclusion of KwaZulu and His Majesty the King from national negotiations.

However, it was through the IFP refusal to allow this to happen that the KwaZulu Government received the recognition it deserved at multi-party talks. It was for this reason that I refused to go to CODESA, when the ANC blocked the representation of the King and the KwaZulu Government from CODESA.

Throughout the months of negotiations at the World Trade Centre, the ANC and its allies attempted to sideline the IFP and the KwaZulu Government. When we wished to table our constitutional demands for federalism, we were over-ruled by the ruling of 'sufficient consensus'. When we rejected the setting of an election date before a decision was made on the form of state again we were over-ruled through the gimmick of 'sufficient consensus'. When the ANC and its newfound allies insisted that South Africa's constitution be written by a constituent assembly in a two-phase process, we felt that we had no choice but to walk out of negotiations. In no way could we be party to agreements which would destroy any chance we had for a federal system of government. In no way could we take part in the Transitional Executive Council which was set up to silence all opposition to the ANC.

Despite our opposition to the TEC, the South African Government proceeded to pass the Transitional Executive Council Bill in Parliament without any discussion of the idea with us at any stage. This Council, which was meant to level the playing fields in preparation for the elections, has been vested with powers to do the exact opposite. This is clearly evident from the fact that the TEC has been given the express power to dismantle the self-governing territories of KwaZulu and to restore the South African citizenship of residents of Ciskei and Bophuthatswana. It was clear that this was the culmination of a long and concerted campaign to destroy KwaZulu and the Zulu Nation and the complete decimation of the Zulu Kingdom.

The TEC has also been given the authority over the KwaZulu budget. With the ability to meddle in KwaZulu's affairs, the ANC has already served notice that it will directly intervene in the KwaZulu Public Service Commission and rewrite the conditions of employment which state that KwaZulu civil servants should owe allegiance to the KwaZulu government. And, to add insult to injury, the ANC has declared that it intends to do away with many features of our Amakhosi institutions. They have made it known that they will repeal the laws and regulations which give the Amakhosi authority to determine who can hold public meetings in their area and those which safeguard the dignity of the Amakhosi. This strikes at the very roots of the whole institution of Ubukhosi, which is the very foundation and framework on which the Zulu Monarchy as an institution is based.

With the ANC and its allies controlling the TEC, it came as no surprise to us that the first substantial decision that the TEC took was to call for the deployment of the South African Police in KwaZulu to replace the KwaZulu police in controlling violence in the areas under its jurisdiction. To back up their call for the KwaZulu Police to be replaced by the SAP, the TEC referred to a Goldstone Commission report which stated that it believed that certain members of the KwaZulu Police had engaged in hit squad activities aimed at eliminating ANC supporters.

We in the KwaZulu Government were deeply hurt by the Goldstone Commission's report. We had expected that the Commission would remain impartial and be above the regurgitation of the accusations of the ANC and its lackeys. In fact, we find it distressing that someone with the stature of Justice Goldstone could be used for such cheap propaganda purposes. As regards the allegations of KwaZulu hit squads, my position as Minister of Police has always been the same. As I have mentioned to you already, for years now there has been a

systematic campaign to vilify the KwaZulu Police Force. There is no truth whatsoever in the allegations that the KwaZulu Police are intent on eliminating the ANC or are the enemies of the people. We find it irritating to say the least that the Goldstone Commission has given credibility to these reports by repeating them.

As Minister of Police I was only too well aware of the importance of having an honest Police Force to defend the communities of KwaZulu. With this in mind I had already asked our Commissioner of Police to investigate hit squad activities by members of the KwaZulu Police before the Goldstone Commission came up with their findings. I therefore find it dishonest in the extreme for the TEC to use the Goldstone Commission's report as an excuse to meddle in the affairs of the KwaZulu Government, and to go for the KwaZulu Police in order to placate the ANC/SACP alliance who have for more than a decade targeted the KwaZulu Police.

In calling for the deployment of the SAP in KwaZulu the TEC were well aware that they were interfering in our internal affairs and compromising the sovereignty of KwaZulu. But let it be known right now that the KwaZulu government does not recognise the authority of the TEC to meddle in our affairs. We have rejected the TEC from the outset. We played no part in the formation of this body and as such we do not recognise this body as a legitimate interim government structure. The TEC can therefore make as many rulings on KwaZulu as it likes but it will not be able to implement those rulings, except by force. We in KwaZulu are not intimidated and will resist the ANC's efforts to destroy our authority as long as we have that authority as legally constituted as it now is.

It is on this defiant note that I would like to challenge the TEC. Any attempt to station SAP or SADF troops without the permission of the KwaZulu Commissioner of police will be viewed as an invasion of our territory. As such we, as the KwaZulu Government, cannot safeguard the lives of those who will be seen by the people of the region as invaders. I have however already heard of an incident where a combi-load of SAP Policemen were deployed at the Residence of Prince Mcwayizeni from Newcastle without the KwaZulu Police or government being informed about it.

I would again like to warn our young recruits to really help us to uphold the honour of the KwaZulu Police. It is most disturbing that we already have two incidents where some young KwaZulu policemen have been accused of involvement in robbing the KwaZulu Government's teams that pay out old-age pensions. This is one thing which is unfair because with the kind of enemies that we have, a handful of rotten policemen who are involved in these sort of incidents, besmirch the honour and reputation of the KwaZulu Police as a Force. It is disgraceful that those who are instruments of the maintenance of law and order should be the very people who undermine the maintenance of law and order with dastardly acts of this kind.

46% of employable people in our country are not employed. Therefore each policeman or Civil Servant who has a job should consider himself or herself to be extremely lucky. The levels of unemployment are not going to get less, even after we have a new government in South Africa. I am quite flummoxed that while there are so many of our people without jobs, that people with jobs in our Police Force and in our Civil Service should be so greedy as to want to rob the poorest of the poor in our communities by stealing pension money. They thereby take bread away from so many hungry mouths as so many people depend on this pension money for a living.

I appeal to the KwaZulu Police and to our Civil Servants, the majority of whom do not do these disgraceful things, to close ranks and flush out these elements from their midst. This they owe to themselves in order to maintain the good name of the KwaZulu Police Force and the KwaZulu Civil Service. Many guilds and professional groups have codes of ethics which enable members to black-list forever members of a fraternity who by disgraceful unethical conduct degrade other innocent members of that particular fraternity. Lawyer's societies for example have such a code of conduct.

On the other side there is the suggestion that the South African Police are more acceptable in maintaining law and order than the KwaZulu Police. Let me first of all state that there are very cordial relations between the South African Police and the KwaZulu Police. The South African Police have helped us in many ways including policing some areas of KwaZulu as well as manning some of our Police Stations in KwaZulu. We have legislation which makes it possible for the KwaZulu Police and the South African Police to operate in each other's areas of jurisdiction. This is all by arrangement.

However, there are new developments which are being ignored which we will not ignore. Many South African Police members have joined POPCRU - a Police and Prisons Union - which is in cahoots with the ANC/SACP alliance. We cannot count the number of marches that some members of the South African Police have had with members of uMkhonto weSizwe. No one at this gathering has not seen these marches on our television screens. Mr Rockman, the leader of POPCRU, has been mentioned in ANC election lists. It is now members of a Force which have this problem, who are supposed to be deployed in KwaZulu by the ANC/SACP dominated TEC, to protect ANC members. With this background this is absolutely preposterous! This is a recipe for war. And the South African Government must really not be fooled by this insensitive and explosive behaviour of the TEC. >

On the other hand, the ANC/SACP alliance have started a campaign against the South African Police Internal Stability Units. IFP members say that the presence of Internal Stability Units, especially in areas like the East Rand, are the only reason why they have not been completely annihilated. The ANC/SACP alliance have made representations to the State President that they want these Internal Stability Units out of the East Rand, despite our pleas that they must not be removed from the East Rand. It looks as if the Government is now buckling under the pressure of the ANC/SACP alliance and are about to do just that. This, as you will agree with me, is a very confusing situation for us as to which Police Force is trustworthy and which Police Force is not trustworthy.

The King's discussion with the State President on January 17, appears to have gone very well as you can see from the Joint Communique which was published in the media. Yesterday the negotiations between the South African Government and the ANC with members of the Freedom Alliance resumed. After hearing on television the remarks by the Minister of Constitutional Development, Mr Meyer, on the issue of the two ballot system as against the single ballot system, I am not at all optimistic that anything concrete is going to come out of these negotiations. Mr Meyer was virtually telling us that the Interim Constitution will not be amended, or if at all not substantially to accommodate the concerns of His Majesty the King and also members of the Freedom Alliance. I am afraid I must state that while I was pleased with the way these talks went, I am very pessimistic about the outcome of these negotiations. We may as well brace ourselves for a long and hard road ahead of us. We have suffered a lot of blood and tears during all these years of oppression, and it may well be that we will not be out of that dark dungeon of suffering even after the elections.

I would now like to turn to the more lighter part of my address - that of commending those of our new recruits who have excelled during their training phase. I would like to commend the following students who have all distinguished themselves in the various fields during training:

1. Overall best student No. 3538 Constable N Hlabe, Umlazi
2. Best academic student No. 3776 Constable TR Nxele, Lindelani reserve in Stanger. Academic average was 92%.
3. Best drill student No 3746. Constable TK Sibiya, Mabelane reserve Mahlathini
4. Best pistol shottist No 3947. Constable MJJ Masondo, Mondlo
5. Best rifle shottist No 3694. Constable IM Vilakazi, Nkonjeni reserve Mahlathini, who obtained 82 out of 100 points in practical shooting.
6. Best soccer platoon team No 3722. Constable ZP Ncube, Madadeni
7. Overall best platoon Platoon 66 (Platoon Leader) No. 3503 Constable B. Ndlovu, KwaMashu. This platoon obtained academic and musketry averages of 76% and 84.2% respectively. This platoon has also been exemplary in maintaining discipline

I would also like to make special mention of the following committed individuals who have given up their precious time to lecture to students on various specialised subjects.

1. Sister NG Koti and her team from Nkonjeni Hospital, and their lectures in the 'Prevention of Aids';
2. Lieutenant SSS Kunene, Warrant Officer MR Chirwa and other members of staff who were instrumental in establishing a Students Christian Movement. The aim of this movement is to teach police students about Christianity and to encourage them to accept Jesus Christ as their saviour. Another aim is, of course, to teach them how to survive in the chaotic, dishonest and generally immoral societies they sometimes find themselves in.
3. Pastor Donda of the Assemblies of God and other servants of God who found the time to visit this institution and delivered sermons.
4. Our thanks go most of all to the Commanding Officer of this College, Colonel Dlamini and his staff, whom are congratulated for the success that they have achieved in maintaining such a high standard in training the men on parade in such a short period of time. The training of so many students would not have been a success if the instructors had not been dedicated to their task. The extent to which they were committed to the task which lay before them was clear from the fact that they even volunteered to give tuition to students on Saturdays.

5. The College Staff had an opportunity of assisting 113 civil servants from other KwaZulu Government Departments in the use and handling of official firearms on the request of departments.
6. It is also worth mentioning that the College Soccer Team participated in a Community organised soccer competition at Hlabisa and won a beast and a floating trophy.

I would like to conclude by again thanking all those dedicated individuals who have shaped the KwaZulu Police Force into the respected power for good that it is seen to be today. Your unselfish efforts are appreciated in this difficult time that the KwaZulu government finds itself in. To our new recruits, I would once again commend you for the perseverance and dedication that you showed to the task before you. You have overcome the demanding task of training and can now look forward to a successful profession in the KwaZulu Police Force. Along with being policemen come duties and obligations. As the law enforcers of KwaZulu you must serve the community with distinction and courage. As the defenders of KwaZulu you must be prepared to defend your homeland with your lives, for there can be no honour in seeing KwaZulu fall into the hands of those who do not have the Zulu's interests at heart. May God bless you.

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