

THEIR FAIR

THE DISCLOSURE by the Development Bank that the four independent TBVC homelands (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) have run up

total long-term debts of R5 000

_million largely through financial mismanagement will no doubt bring a fresh chorus of condemnation of the homelands. As part of that choir of critics since the homelands policy was

first proposed in the 1950s, we

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have always held that it was an act of economic folly and injustice perpetrated in a vain attempt to achieve the unattainable political goal of a redominantly white state coexisting with a number of independent black states. We still do.

But we also tend to believe that the time for repeated indulgence in the satisfaction of saying We told you so is past.

The TBVC states exist. Their independence may not be recognised beyond the Limpopo but it cannot be taken away from them. Our hope is that it may one day be subsumed by agreement in a federation that would also include white S A and the self-governing homelands.

Meanwhile they exist as a political football to be kicked around between the Left, which

can neither forgive nor forget their dubious origins and supposedly unrepresentative governments, and the Right, which resents them as instruments for transferring wealth from white taxpayers to undeserving blacks.

That is contemptible. But hardly less so are those who begrudge the TBVC states their

ue because they had a spurious independence foisted on them.

A good case can be made out to show that the 6 000 000 people

in TBVC countries would have had a consistently larger share of the central Budget (they got R1874 million last year) if they had not taken independence.

Wasteful, inexperienced and sometimes corrupt, they may be; and that must be remedied. But not one has failed to show constant positive growth since independence â\200\224 and thatâ\200\231s rare in Africa. Their modest loan debt is quite manageable with the help of the Development Bank.

It is surely illogical to expect of the TBVC states what a disillusioned world no longer expects of the rest of black Africa, which has piled up largely unrepayable debts in excess of \$200 000 million, and is still going backwards.

White opposition to the Afri-
kaner

Nationalist govern-
ment flared up for the last
time in 1951. Veterans of the
Second World War came to-
gether in great numbers to
defend the coloured vote.

The movement came to be
called the Torch Commando,
and was led by one of the most
distinguished pilots of the war,
Group Captain Sailor Malan,
Tremendous meetings were held
in Johannesburg, Cape Town,
Pretoria, Pietermaritzburg and
Durban.

Within a few months the member-
ship of the commando had climbed
to 100000 and a few months after
that it reached 200000. I joined it
myself, though I was no military
figure. There was a feeling of hope
in the air. Â

... The Torch Commando, after
its brave displays of strength and its
tremendous rallies in big, largely
English-speaking cities, began to
fade away. Why did this movement,
so full of hope, come to nothing?
There was one big reason: the Afri-
kaans universities and high schools
were no longer turning out United
Party members, they were turning
out Nationalists.

There was another reason for the
collapse of the Torch Commando. It
also had the worm in the bud. It
had come into being to protest
against any interference with the
Cape coloured vote. But the number

of its coloured members was negli-
gible.
Fatal weakness

In the Free State, Transvaal, and
Natal, it had no coloured members
at all, on the specious grounds that
in those three provinces they had no
vote to lose. /

This must be regarded as the
fatal weakness in all white opposi-
tion movements at that time. They
could offer no real opposition to the

â\200\230Alan Patonâ\200\231s

on life,

colour bar, or to the policies of apartheid and racial separation, because they were themselves infected. .

The Torch Commando virtually

â\200\230destroyed itself on Alamein Day,

1953, when it excluded coloured ex-servicemen from the celebrations.

Early in 1953, the various liberal groups that had sprung up in the main centres of population came together to form the South African Liberal Association . . . But on April 16, the National Party; scored its tremendous victory. .

Therefore on May 9, the Liberal Association formed itself into the Liberal Party of South Africa, with Margaret = Ballinger president,

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s

These recollections of recent South African history are among Alan Patonâ\200\231s last written words. They are from â\200\234Journey . - Continuedâ\200\235, the second volume of his autobiography, published today by David Philip. These edited extracts are taken from the new issue of Leadership magazine, which secured the first South African ~ rights shortly before the authorâ\200\231s fatal illness.

LÃ©o Marquard and myself as vice-presidents, and Oscar Wolheim and president respectively.

Our emergence as a political party was not universally well received. The strongest attacks came from JGN Strauss, leader of the United Party, and Yusuf Dadoo, the leader of the Transvaal Indian Con-

gress, who declared that we were |

â\200\234half-bakedâ\200\235.

The strong Congress movement, composed of the South African Indian Congress, the African National Congress, the South African Coloured Peoplesâ\200\231 Organisation, and the white Congress of Democrats, | â\200\234accused us of weakening the only Lf

Leslie Rubin as chairman and vice- | Fischer.

~ visited the small country ,
' the Transvaal and the Orange Free
- State to organise black workers and

true opposition in the country.

... Why had we not joined the Congress of Democrats, the COD? The answer was very

though the COD was not a commu-

Â° nist organisation â\200\224 legally it was

now impossible to have any such organisation â\200\224 it was the heir to the banned Communist Party of South Africa. : 7

Not all of its members were believing communists, but many had been members of the banned Communist Party. i

Between communists and liberals â\200\224 even if they co-operated on certain well-defined projects â\200\224 there is a fundamental incompatibility.

I was in the course of the next few years to speak on the same platform with members of the COD. Almost invariably we kept our distances. '

However, I became very close to one of them, the Big Chief of them

(all. He was an Afrikaner, and his

name was Abraham Louis (Bram)

At the time of his birth in 1908 his

. grandfather Abraham Fischer was:

the Prime Minister of the Orange
River Colony, and his father later

' became Judge-President of the Or-

ange Free State.

Bram was a brilliant student, and

went to Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar in

from 1931 to 1934. Sometime after
his return he took what was for an

- Afrikaner a most extraordinary

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step; he joined

the Communist

rica.

It is impossible to exaggerate the |
courage required for an |

to take such a step.
extraordinary was the

fac

simple. Al-

Just thoughts

, Afrikaner |

|

death and liberalism -

to recruit them for the Communist

Early : in 1921, in 1921, in 1921
Outrageous actions

His actions outraged the Afri-
kaner farmers of the platteland, and
the fact that his father and grandfa-
ther had been Afrikaner heroes

made his actions still more outrageous.

geous.

After the Communist Party had

been outlawed by Parliament, the

Congress of Democrats was established, and Bram, though not its titular head, was its most influential and respected member.

When I write

to him, I mean that we had a deep affection for each other.

When I praised him in my own circles, one of my liberal friends said to me: "Don't bluff yourself.

When Bram comes to power, you'll be the first on to have your throat cut."

I didn't believe that, but I was

- ready to believe that if Bram came to power, an emissary would be sent

to me with a one-way ticket, and with a message, "Get out of here as fast as possible."

What would Bram have done if he had come to power? ... What would

he have done to those who opposed

him?

- the answer to

or hindered him?" would he have I must confess that I do not know

the answer to this question. It is

hard for me to imagine Bram ordering the deaths of thousands of people.

In any case, I don't think he would have done that. It's a totally hypothetical question; it's totally hypothetical. I don't know the answer.

I don't know

that. I don't know

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I MUST protest in the stronges
sible terms at the unwarranted com-
â\200\230ments in your editorial â\200\234Killing com-
petitionâ\200\235 (Business Day,, April 14).
~_The SA Black Taxi Association
| (Sabta) has never and will never con-

done violence. We can point to many,
many occasions when Sabta officers
â\200\230have acted as peacemakers in local
disputes where outbreaks of violence
have been threatened. We go on re-
cord once again as saying we do not
.condone the acts of those who resort-
â\200\230ed to violence on April 12, and we
convey our sincere condolences to
â\200\230the fan ;;yaï¬\202ï¬\201dfï¬\201ends of t:.h;e im;lo-
â\200\230cent person who was gically
- We have repeatedly informed gov-
ernment that the root cause of this
type of violence is the pressure on
rank space. If there are 50 rank
spaces and the authorities issue 150
mits, the pressure must and will
increase. At some stage, in combina-
tion with other factors, this frustra-

. Sabta is not against new entrants.

tion could result in violent reaction.

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Our statements and actions show

â\200\234this clearly, but in the interests of
operators, the commuter and â\200\224

more importantly â\200\224 the community
in general, there must be adequate
facilities. ;

"~ We are not against deregulation,
but in the interest of the public we
submit that deregulation applied to

the taxi industry should be evolution- =

main nature, to allow facilities to be established to cope with the growth

~ in the industry and to avoid the type

of frustration and pressure which gave way to violence on April 12. I treat with the contempt it deserves your question: "Is it too much to expect the leaders of Sabta will try to educate their members to an understanding of the difference between lawful competition and murder?" A from the assumption that Sabta members are involved in acts of violence, this statement gives offence to those of us who are struggling so hard to improve matters in

the taxi industry.

urgently.

AG\:

Rusipvess

Sabta never co

'We have practical plans for the

~ vast task of educating and training

drivers and owners of taxis. We are hopeful it will be seen in improvements in road behaviour and in a greater understanding of business and the nature of competition.

" . G NTLATLENG
Vice-president, Sabta

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%&ar Sir, ' .

The coverage given by your paper on April 28 to the Press conference held by the Development Bank of Southern Africa in Cape Town the previous day on the financial situation of the TBVC countries is appreciated. However, on an important point

we apparently did not get across our

It is not the Bank's view that the L (1 L1 L1

point of view clearly to your correspondent. }

financial difficulties experienced by

- the TBVC countries and the consequent

increase in violence

- the build-up of government debt,

arose largely from mismanagement by their governments, as stated in your report. In fact, in the background documentation for the press conference, the Bank's view is very clearly stated, namely that for the largest part their expenditure has been directed to essential public services and that their inability fully to finance those expenditures related back to the underdeveloped state of

~ their economies, their consequently
- narrow revenue bases, and the ad hoc basis on which budgetary assist-

ance from SA was determined. -

Thank you for this opportunity to v
correct this misunderstanding.

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Chief Executive

â\200\231 Dovoioptomt Bank of Southern

Africa

Dear Sir,

â\200\2301 READ your editorial â\200\234Obscene

SIMON BRAND -

%ntsâ\200\235- (Business Day, April 20).
ile I agree that the front page of
Rapport was far from a â\200\234pretty
siggt,â\200\235 I would like to point out that
acts of terrorism of the nature of the
latest Pretoria bomb blast, which
could have caused the loss of innocent
lives, must be prevented at all costs.
I feel very strongly that Rapport .
- should be applauded for publishing
this horrific picture. Perhaps poten-
tial bombers will find the prospect of

- meeting the same fate a suitable de-

terrent. I hope so. :

S W WILLIAMS

â\200\230Pretoria

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bl Aedofid

Dear Sir, Gtk Â¥ :

ONE HAS to feel some sympathy for
the business community. On one
hand the trade unions scream at
them for keeping wages low. On the
other the State President screams at
them for keeping wages high. No
wonder they are emigrating. j

~ MICHAEL ALAN

Johannesburg |

IF JUDGES and lawyers did not distance themselves from the existing legal system in SA, they could not hope to save the Roman Dutch legal tradition in a post-apartheid society, Professor John Dugard, Professor of Law at Wits University, said on Tuesday.

He was speaking at a seminar on law in a post-apartheid society attended by about 100 people at Wits.

Dugard criticised the organised legal profession, such as the Johannes-

-burg Bar Council, for failing to speak out on such issues as the case of the Sharpeville Six (currently under a stay of execution) or even the sending of what he termed an SADF expedition into Botswana. The legal profession must not be surprised if it is seen as part of the re-structure of apartheid, he

He quoted the 1971 statement by

late Professor Barend van Niekerk, Professor of Law at Natal Uni-

versity, which had resulted in Van Niekerk's conviction for contempt of

court. Van Niekerk criticised the failure of the legal profession to respond to the introduction of the Terrorism Act. Unfortunately, things

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haven't changed much since 1971, he said Dugard. :

He criticised the tendency of lawyers to refuse to play a part in pre-

scriptive thinking, and called for them to make a contribution by put-

tioning models.

- It is appalling the organised profession is ducking this (last) General Council of SA conference ignored it

ly, he said.

Dugard sketched two possible scenarios for a post-apartheid society,

and their effects on the legal system

although stressing such a society

was not just around the corner and

- a state of siege could be expected for

another 20 years or so.

ting forward alternative constitu

â\200\230The first, involving a relatively
settlement,
would mean a transition to a Zim-

peaceful negotiate

babwe-type situation. This was, he
believed, â\200\234the best we can hope forâ\200\235.
- If this happened, he expected com-

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wyers in

ROGER SMITH

MR1 b R &
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- The other scenario, of a violent
transfer of power after a long war of
attrition, could see the scrapping of
â\200\230Roman Dutch law and, as the courts
and lawyers had been seen to give

legitimacy to apartheid, they too

lwo ,n 9!Â»â\200\234-â\200\2311 3 ' A
Il{leldi¬\202 e Roman Dutch law

would be replaced by something like

a Code Azania, and it was only to be

. to be retained, *

- P ik
he dock â\204¢

hoped it might be as good as the Code
Napoleon introduced after the
French Revolution of 1789. i

He said there could be Nurem-

- ... berg-type trials, and he feared that the
Stmmeee e el g R 0 IS R
â\200\230mon Roman Dutch law would be re-

leaders but -other people. fâ\200\230thope
- they do not apply the doctrine of
common purpose as far as the Appel-
latethDivision has in some cases, such
_ as the

virtues of the leâ\200\230faal profession were
wyers must come
to terms with the crisis facing usâ\200\235.

The conservative attitude of lawyers was also criticised at the seminar by Professor Johan van der Westhuizen, director of Pretoria University's Centre for Human Rights, who said the Bar Council conference session on human rights had been 'very flat'.

In order to establish the legitimacy of the legal system we need more reform, he said. We must try

arpeville Six

He concluded by saying that if he

to build a new society, and must look for new symbols of legitimacy, unity and justice. ' IR R

Johannesburg attorney Kathy Satchwell condemned the SA legal system as based on discrimination and exploitation. Our statutes can never claim to have been approved

by the entire community affected by

them they are not of, by and for

" she said.

post-apartheid society the change must be that

our laws must have the approval and

consent of those subjected to them, and must be enforced by them.

She referred to her experience of cases involving people implicated in people's courts, which she regarded

ed not as a model for the future, but -

as a crisis reaction to a crisis situation.

George Bizos SC agreed with Dugard that the organised legal profession had often behaved as Van Niekerk had said, but he said it had not remained aloof. ; '

He referred to the work done by labour lawyers and lawyers in legal resources centres and legal clinics, which he said would help to shape the laws and institutions of the future.

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Parents are abandoning dreams of better life for

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their Chlldli¬\201msays__cï¬\202uns4ellQr, | ThestarFridoy Aprl 2919

By Jo-Anne Collinge -
lf an emotionally disturbed 10-year-old
was taken to a psychologist the healer
would try to find out whether the
childâ\200\231s family background or
environment caused his problems.

In the same way, when hundreds of
children are locked in a countryâ\200\231s prison
cells â\200\234it is an indication that our society is
desperately sick â\200\224 it doesnâ\200\231t say anything
about the childrenâ\200\235.

â\200\230CHILDRENâ\200\231S COMMISSION

- This analogy was put this week at the
day-long Childrenâ\200\231s Commission held in
Johannesburg under the auspices of the
Free the Children Alliance. :
It came from a Soweto minister, the
Reverend Paul Verryn, who has more than
| R decadeâ\200\231s experience in counselling former

detainees. -

etainees

â\200\230Some former d
~ only nin

Dr David Webster, an anthropologist at
Wits University, spelled out the dimensions
of child detention. 3

In the year June 1986 to June 1987 about
10 000 young people aged 18 years or
younger were detained, he said. This group
constituted some 40 percent of all :
detainees.

In the next nine months the proportion of

young detainees dropped. They now made
up about 24 percent of all detainees â\200\224
about 300 in all.

- Dr Webster rejected the idea that
emergency detainees â\200\224 be they children or-
adults â\200\224 were criminals, pointing out that
official figures claimed that 1 024
emergency detainees had been charged.
This represented only 7,76 percent of
those detained for the corresponding

period, Dr Webster said.

Mr Verryn said that he had counselled former detainees as young as nine years old.

e years oldâ\200\231

or more of the following disturbances:

@ Hyper-vigilance and insomnia; often stemming from a fear of redetention, because typically detentions take place in the early hours of the morning. 3

LOSS OF MEMORY

. @Lack of concentration. At school â\200\234they _cannot put together the words coming from the mouth of the teacher and what is going on in their mindsâ\200\235. Memory loss is often also experienced. e

@ Flashbacks, in which cues such as a knock on the door â\200\234re-create the entire experience of the police cell or that initial moment of detentionâ\200\235. :

@ Disruption of social life. Many detainees do not welcome company; they feel isolated among people. They describe themselves as quick tempered and their parents complain they are cheeky. 5

Often they are nervous of physical contact because they are likely to have been

â\200\234When a country turns on its children it steps over a line from which it disinherits its future,â\200\235 Mr Verryn said. â\200\234It destroys the resources of our future and it is designed

specifically to do that.â\200\235 themselves as futureless people,â\200\235 said Mr Verryn. They see themselves as pupils without schools to attend; sons and daughters who are strangers to their families; human beings who are invaded by â\200\230intense suspicion. :
" Ms Margaret Oâ\200\231Neil, lecturer in social â\200\234work at the University of South Africa and a detainee counsellor, said there was often a puzzling absence of observable anger in her clients.
. It was as if they feared to acknowledge their anger because, if it spilled out, the " consequences would be too dire to deal with.

But the anger was there, Ms Oâ\200\231Neil said, and combined with it was the dreadful loss . that was being experienced daily by 2 parents in black communities â\200\224 loss through death and detention of children; loss through exile; loss of their own status in relation to their children. -

And the perception that â\200\234the better life that they dreamed of their children having will not be realisedâ\200\235.

South African society did not offer channels to cope with loss and to burn up

reasonably intact,â\200\235 he said.

anger constructively, Ms Oâ\200\231Neill said.
_ She pointed to studies in Northern
Ireland where children had grown up ina {.
- similar authoritarian atmosphere, with
their political aspirations suppressed. *

MILITARISTIC AUTOMATONS

These studies showed that, in the absence
of rehabilitative work, there was every
likelihood of the young growing up as
â\200\234militaristic automatons incapable of
participating in their own destiniesâ\200\235.

It was a'theme touched on earlier by
attorney Mr Peter Harris who showed how

a set of repressive laws and regulations had

wiped out almost every normal means of
political expression.
Freedom of speech had been severely
-curtailed under the emergency, making it
an offence to plot or plan such peaceful
tactics of resistance as consumer boycotts;
to reflect on conditions of detention; to say ,
how the security forces were being
Â» deployed in residential areas.
For 12 years it had been impossible to
~ assemble freely â\200\224 ever since the ban on all
outdoor gatherings had been imposed. .

Â«Sometimes â\200\224 very seldom â\200\224 children
miraculously emerge from this experience

More usually they emerged showing one

â\200\234subjected to profoundly negative intimate
physical contactâ\200\235 in detention. e
@ Anxiety and depression, which may last
two or three years. â\200\234They describe

e

Schools and universities had in many
societies served as places for the free
expression of opinion.

But in South Africa â\200\234recent legislation
has left virtually no stone unturned in
regulating not only what pupils are taught
but also their subsidiary activities at
schoolâ\200\235.

It was illegal, Mr Harris said, to raise
any opposition to the form and manner of

~ education. :

These regulations were indicative of the
kind of lengths to which the authorities
would go to control the youth, he said.

The latest blow against political

" expression had been the banning in

February of 17 organisations â\200\224 including a number of youth congresses.

Mr Harris concluded that the State of

.Emergency might have achieved a

superficial stability, but it had compounded political problems.

The Nationalist Government was rearing
â\200\234generation upon generation of young people who have experienced nothing but repression and who realise that they have nothing to loseâ\200\235. :

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Contested ANC documents submitted in Bethal

BETHAL Secret African National Congress documents, photographed by a South African Intelligence operative at the organisation's Lusaka offices, were handed in as exhibits in the Bethal terror trial yesterday despite an objection by the defence.

Mr Justice Daniels, sitting

g

Ebrahim Ismael Ebrahim and type-written him.

The three accused Mr Acton Mandla Maseko, Mr Simon Dladla

and Mr Ebrahim face

charges of high treason under the Terrorism Act. -Mr Justice Daniels ruled that he would re-

view the matter of the

photographs after all the

evidence in the trial had been heard. -

The documents, con-

sisting of both hand-

overruled objections lodged by Mr H.K. Naidu

on behalf of accused Mr

reports from ANC regional centres in various Frontline states to ANC headquarters in Lusaka, recounted the problems experienced by the organisation as a result of shortages of weapons (referred to as hardware), funds and the infiltration of informers.

One document - dated
November, 1986, from
Umbrella Dubay â\200\224 an
ANC codename â\200\224 was

. signed by â\200\234Mzwandileâ\200\235,

earlier identified by a
witness as Mr Ebrahim.
The letter complained
that there â\200\234was a need
for tremendous improve-
ment of the machineryâ\200\235.

It complained that
â\200\234cadresâ\200\235 failed to turn
up for appointments and
that it was â\200\234difficultâ\200\235 to
make progress under
such circumstances.

The author also com-
plained that the security
situation â\200\234continues to
be precariousâ\200\235 and that
the enemy (presumably
South Africa) continued
to move around the area
quite freely.

He wrote that secure
accommodation had be-
come a problem and that
the support network en-
joyed previously had
thinned out.

The letter also dis-
pelled the beliefin some
circles that the ANC had
access . to unlimited
funds.

Of the eight so-called
Lusaka - = documents
handed in to court, five
bore the signature â\200\234Mz-
wandileâ\200\235.

The defence contested
the testimony and said
they would later produce
expert witnesses and
evidence to counter the
stateâ\200\231s allegations.

An expert witness,
Captain J.D. Quinton of
the police forensic lab-
oratory in Pretoria, testi-
fied that the handwriting
in some of the Lusaka
documents corres-
ponded with that of a
specimen document he
been handed earlier.

Another police wit-

ness testified that the specimen document had been compiled by Mr Ebrahim.

The signature â\200\234Mz-wandileâ\200\235 appeared on five of the Lusaka documents, but Captain Quinton said there had been certain differences that prevented him from reaching a firm conclusion. ;

The case continues today. â\200\224 Sapa.

(" THE CITIZEN)

. The IP

parties, like new brooms, iSe to

sweep everything clean. But in practice, they donâ\200\231t do anything of the kind.

Dr Denis Worrallâ\200\231s Independent Party is no different. :

Its statement of intent has the key words: Non-racial, democratic, free market. â\200\234These are the foundations for lasting peace, security

~ and prosperity,â\200\235 it says.

â\200\234Think of the winning nations of the world: USA, Japan, West Germany, Great Britain. Countries whose citizens enjoy great personal freedom and high standards of living. What makes them winners?â\200\235 :

The answer, so ridiculous that we wonder how Dr Worrall can even put it forward, is: â\200\234Race, ethnicity and tribalism play no part in these nations.â\200\235

Ridiculous because race, ethnicity and tribalism are problems of Africa â\200\224 the US had a problem over its Blacks, and though it has granted them civil rights, it has still not been able to uplift the majority of them.

No, the success of these countries is due to factors other than those mentioned by the IP.

The statement of intent says that if â\200\234people belong to â\200\230groupsâ\200\231 (in the winning nations),

. they do so by personal choice. Not by government decree. The same principle must apply in the new South Africa. We must be South Africans first, English-speakers, Afrikaners, Zulus, Xhosas, Sothos, Moslems, Hindus second.

â\200\234Your rights in society must not be determined by the colour of your skin, the language you speak, the religion you choose. Or by the ethnic or tribal group you belong to.â\200\235 |

Fair enough, but there is nothing new in pleading for 2 non-racial democracy. The Progressive Federal Party has been doing so for years.

The IP says that â\200\234winning nations are democratic nations. Everyone has a say in govern-

ment. There are many political parties to choose from. Individuals have rights which are greater than the rights of the State. And

+ the highest courts in the land protect these | rights

by

There is nothing wrong with the high-sounding democratic principles of the IP but they are no different to those of the PFP.

Winning nations have free market economies, says the IP. It's another quite unexceptional viewpoint but there are no parties against the free market system.

The only organisations opposed to it are the African National Congress and the UDF, which support the socialism of the Freedom Charter.

Finally, the statement of intent talks of a new It says: Does a non-racial democracy imply

one man, one vote? Yes it does. But how people are able to exercise their vote will depend on the rules of the game the constitution.

So which set of rules which constitution is best for the new South Africa? Canton? Federal? One man, one vote in a unitary state?

There is only one that will work. The one that is made in South Africa. A constitution that is negotiated and created by all South Africans. And which is based on three solid foundations: Non-racialism. Democracy. A free market economy.

The Independent Party does not say which constitution it favours. Or how the constitution is to be negotiated and created by all South Africans.

Indeed, it is high in principle and low on specifics.

No doubt Dr Worrall will appeal to some Left-wing voters who clutch at the belief that the PFP has failed, the National Democratic Movement is not really taking off, and so the knight from London, the man who has the ear of Margaret Thatcher, must have something new to contribute to the total battle game of South Africa. However, in

* Africa

since the battle is between the reformist NP

& the battle reaches its crescendo; () -/

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THE CITIZEN

C want to halt

By Tony Stirling

THE coming municipal election campaign was one of the most in the country's history. It was more important than any general election, said Denis Malan, Minister of Defence yesterday.

Jen Malan was speaking at a function at the Hampton Park Club where he announced the National Party's campaign for the October municipal elections. The Conservative Party, he said, undoubtedly continues with its mis-

progress, says

Malan

the elections. They want to halt pro-

. If that occurs, the

country will slide down a

path which will lead to a new era of control in South Africa in which the

importance of the municipal elections lay in the fact that it would lead to a new era of control in South Africa in which the

was transferred from the third tier of government.

It would be the first time a national election could be called a representative in that it involved all the different race groups of South Africa.

The foundations for this election had been laid

in the 1983 referendum when the principle of power-sharing on matters of a general nature was accepted an overwhelming majority of the White electorate.

already functioning in South Africa as evidenced in the successful tri-cameral Parliament.

There were critics who pointed at certain confrontations that had occurred in the functioning of this system.

Gen Malan queried,

-however, what the posit-

ion would have been if this system of government had not been installed and the result would have been that

| many would have joined the revolutionary cause.

-geared and readyâ\200\235 for the election and would make as big a success of it the 1987 general election. GenMalanwon the seat for the NP in that

The NP would fight the election on a party political basis because its policy had been tested against the demands of the times

mentâ\200\231s policy of the devolution of power to the third tier of government.

The NP candidates would be ting in the election in of party policy and the established rights of their voters.

He said the NP in Modderfontein had a formidable â\200\230infrastructure which would be used in support of its candidates.

He said it was being

that members
of the CP in the constitu-
ency might stand as candi-
dates for ratepayers asso-
ciations. â\200\234Come out into
theopcn said Gen Mal-

The NP candidates
named by Gen Malan for
Modderfontein were Dr
MS â\200\234Theunsâ\200\235 Appel-
gryn, ward 10; Mr HW J

â\200\234Hennieâ\200\235 Smit, ward 11;
Mr MG â\200\234Thysâ\200\235Kotze,
ward 12; Mr D F â\200\234Danieâ\200\235
, ward 13;

Mr JJ â\200\234Pineâ\200\235 Pienaar,
wud 14; MrRJ â\200\234Rudi*
Delpon 15; Mr
A W â\200\234Arfrieâ\200\235 Korf ward
16; Mr J G â\200\234Firesâ\200\235 van
Vuuren, ward 17; Mr G P
â\200\234Gemc van Tonder,
ward 18; Mr R Robble
van der Walt ward
MrMCâ\200\234Tlnn
ward 20.

Botha,

ANC

FROM PAGE 1

shells, five AK47s, 15 AK magazines, 450 rounds of AK ammunition, four big limpet mines and 15 handgrenades.

â\200\234He left on the evening of 19/6/1986 and landed safely on the 24/6/1986. They carried out the two

| Operations â\200\224 Wimpy and President Hotel. They indicated that they carried out two other operations with limpet mines. But we are still awaiting further details.â\200\235

The report says the unit also ambushed police patrols in the Vosloorus area on July 6, 1986. Their vehicle was later in-

and two mem-
T

â\200\234Clarement communicated and said we should send him more materials, particularly explosives, and he has run out of money because of the number of people he has to train.â\200\235

Several of the other documents were signed â\200\234Mzwandileâ\200\235. Earlier evidence was that this was the alleged alias of one of the accused, Mr Ebrahim.

In one of these documents, allegedly signed by Mzwandile, he says: â\200\234We have a serious prob-

lem this end relating to hardware.Pmentlyour

empty and we have along list of customers on our waiting list.â\200\235 According to evidence hardware refers to weapons and land-mines.

The document was addressed to the RPM (Regional Political Mi committee) Harbour, the code name for Mozambi-

Muzikayifani
Ngubane from Greytown,
Natal, who skipped the
country to join the
â\200\234movementâ\200\235, are given.

â\200\234Note at this stage he is
a suspected informer. We
have however, asked for
more details about him,â\200\235
says the document.

Anit att

It also
â\200\234Septemberâ\200\231

The document also
talks about the EMC (the
code name for the Trans-
vaal military machine of
the ANC which operates
from having
suffered great losses.

â\200\234In about July one of
its implementation com-
mittee (imp) members,
Comrade was ar-

the names used by accus-
ed Mr Maseku.

â\200\234Scotch went inside on
the 19/6/1986 and got ar-
rested on 21/6/1986,â\200\235 says
the report.

It said the car Scotch

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)UT ATTACKS.

By Erik Larsen

RN LS
photographed
by informer

â\200\224 claim

SECRET documents, photographed by an SAP spy in the ANC'â\200\231s Lusaka
offices, reveal details of limpet mine attacks in Johannesburg and two am-

bushes on police patrols.

The documents were
admitted as evidence in
the Bethal treason trial

y.

An ANC unit called
â\200\234Claremont Unitâ\200\235 car-
ried out limpet mine at-
tacks on a Wimpy restau-
rant and the President
Hotel in Johannesburg on
June 24, 1986 in which 19
people were injured.
sponsible for two am-
trolls in the Vosloorus

area of Boksburg.

This is according to the
documents which were
handed in as evidence in
the Bethal treason trial
yesterday.

The presiding judge,
Mr Justice J A Daniels,
ruled yesterday that the
documents could be ad-
mitted as court evidence
at the trial of Mr Acton
Mandla Maseku, Mr Sim-
on J Dladla and Mr Ebra-
him Ismail Ebrahim, who
face numerous charges in-
cluding high treason and
terrorism.

Earlier evidence by
Warrant Officer Nic
Deetlefs of the South

the ANC.

Mr H K Naidu, for Mr

Ebrahim, objected to the admissibility of the documents on the grounds that they were not original documents and that no evidence had been led to

The document detailing the limpet mine attacks on the Wimpy and President Hotel was signed by B Material, an alias used by a top ANC member in Swaziland, Paul Dikalidi, who was recently killed.

It says that an eight-man unit, called â\200\234Clarement Unitâ\200\235 was â\200\234sent inâ\200\235 with an RPG, RPG

TO PAGE 2

THE past week has
been one of hard-
thinking for me. I had,
like many citizens of
this â\200\231burg, been jolted
by the State Presidentâ\200\231s
â\200\234bold new initiativesâ\200\235,
which, I was told,
provided impetus to the
Governmentâ\200\231s reform
programme.

So much happened
during the week of the
Presidentâ\200\231s announce-

utter despair.

feel

the _controversy ii¬\201out
Zola Budd. Poor soul.

She faced the axe for
having gone to watch
an athletics meeting.
In Washington,
legislators were hard at
work honing new
sanctions measures
against this country.
The United States was
gearing itself for a
strike situation in the
Gulf. Back home, sev-
eral trials were in pro-

ment that I began to
cess, in which people

were facing charges of

The whole reform thi
Is just simply

facing charges of
treason or other
political charges.

Some friends who
had just come back
from overseas told

almost like scum simply
by virtue of being South
Africans. For them to
be invited to a dinner,
needed clearance from

. the rest of the guests,

and if only one
objected, that sealed
their fate. And they

were not even vaguely
connected to politics.
Then they come
back, and read the great
news item. P W Botha
would announce some
dramatic things. About
time, they tell me, and

so we wait for it.

I tried desperately to
find something good in
what Mr Botha said. T
really did. I actually
found the thought of
not finding anything

constructive almost -

repellent, that's how
hard I tried.

Cobwebs

The long and short of
it is that all this talk
simply confirmed my
long-held view that the

Government is still
trapped in its own
. verbal cobwebs. Even

in these critical times,
they continue balder-

- dashing, dizzy in their

own intellectual alti-
tude.

SoNNET TN

The whole reform
programme was simply
a restatement of baas-
skap. Anything else was
a no-deal. And yet, mi--
raculously, the Govern-
ment is still hoping that
there will be takers for
i, its bait.

;i-\201he National Coun-
cil was still-born. So
now the Government.
believes that the con-
cept is fine, only the
name is a problem. The
Great Indaba is born,
and the Government
believes that people will
jump at it simply be-
cause there is some
Zulu in the name. Re-
member- the Depart-

ment of Native Affairs, .

which became the De-

b

241

aasskap?

partment of Bantu Af-
fairs, which became
the Department of Plu-
ral Affairs, which be-
came the Department
of whatever it is now?

Even those names
changed because the
concept was right, but
the name was wrong.
Yet, those places are
still just as unaccept-
able as they were thirty
years ago.

Talks

One only needs to

listen to Government spokesmen trying to explain how the whole machinery is supposed to -work. Of course, blacks. will be able to vote at regional level.

Ing

Devolution of power. No, the whole matter is all about talks about talks. No, there will be no super cabinet, but blacks could serve in

. some cabinet situation.

No, blacks will not be represented, or they could be, or they may be, or they may not, no, will not.

No, but the Government does not wish to be prescriptive. No, the Government will not allow one group to dominate another. Yes, these regional bodies may have ethnic flavour in some areas, but not in others.

I mean, you have not heard of a Zulu in

QwaQwa, have you? Or a Xhosa in Lebowa. Those are regional realities which have to be faced. Of course, Natal will mostly be-

Zulu, as the Eastern,
Cape will be - Xhosar
But Johannesburg. for

ANGC"

ONE OF the two young
men convicted of killing
two policemen by a
Messina Circuit Court

for the African National
Congress and black South
Africans. .

Another one, found
guilty of six murder
counts, left the country
with idealism of youth

form his country.
Mrs Fatima Meer,
Associate Professor in

Sociology, Natal Univer-
sity, said these words
yesterday before Mr
Justice J P O de Villiers.

Mthetheleli Zephania
Mncube (28), of Diep-
kloof,- Soweto, and
Msondeleli
Nondula (25), of East
London, face possible

number of murder
counts.

â\200\234The ANC is at war
with South Africa,â\200\235
Professor Meer - said,
â\200\230and the majority of

lack, Indian and
coloured South Africans
believe so.â\200\235 :

Prof Meer, presenting
a lengthy sociological
report in ~mitigation of
sentence, said of
Mncube: â\200\234He sacnï¬\201e@d
his life for the ANC and
South Africaâ\200\231s blacks.â\200\235

â\200\230The post 1976 social
climate in the black
townships was far from
conducive to schooling.

â\200\230The school population

had proved itself as a
ready made anti-govern-

Judge, sacrificed his life -

and returned . to trans- -

the Department of

-ultimately police harass-

Euclide

death penalties on aâ\200\231

-men as he grew up with

ment weapon and there -

MR MNCUBE

Â¥ Mthethqlell's father.

. FATIMA Meer .

were forces at work ready

to exploit these weapons.

In Soweto in particular,

there were constant calls

for school boycott,â\200\235 Prof

Meer said.

Prof Meer said it was

ment that expelled the

two youths from the

country.

She dcscribbed â\200\234the

Silverton Siege of 1977 in

which three young

ANC guerillas were shot

dead by the police. This

affected Mncube so

much because he knew

two of the three young

them in Diepkloof, Prof

Meer said.

Another traumatic
event which ultimately
contributed to Mncube's
departure was the
hanging on April 6, 1977,
of Solomon Mahlangu,
another ANC guerilla.

Professor Meer said
Mncube was also
distressed when his 16-
year-old girlfriend left
the country with her
father, well-known poet
Molefe Phetoe, to live in
exile.

(Proceeding)

By Claire Roberison,
Pretoria Bureau

The State President's denial of
the vote to kwaNdebele
women could not be called
unreasonable, counsel for
the respondents in a pioneer

sex discrimination case said

in the Pretoria Supreme Court
yesterday.

The applicants, Paulina Machi-
ka and four others, are seeking an
order to have declared void legis-
lation denying women the fran-

chise and the 1984 election of the.

16 kwaNdebele Legislative As-
sembly members.

Mr William de villiers SC, ap-

peared for the State President,

and for kwaNdebele

members of the Leg

islative Assembly, said the dis-

crimination in the case of the

franchise was not an unfair dif-

ferentiation between men and

women.

Women have the vote in other
South African homelands.

Universal franchise in kwaNde-
bele was blocked by the Legisla-

tion of universal franchise

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speech by then Chief Minister
Simon Skosane in which he ex-
pressed his uneasiness at having

his wife, for whom he paid a dowry, pointing her finger at him (in the Assembly) and saying that he was not telling the truth.

«The Ndebeles will not tolerate that, so they will never do it,» Mr Skosane said. '

PRESIDENT SIGNED

Enabling legislation was signed by State President Mr Botha shortly afterwards, denying the yote and a place in the Assembly to kwaNdebele women.

A packed Pretoria Supreme Court heard Mr de Villiers explain that this was not unfair because it was in accordance with the traditions of the Ndebele peo-

ple. ;
Mr de Villiers argued that denying women a say in public life dated back to Aristotle.

He referred to verses from

Genesis in the Bible «Eve tempting Adam with an apple» to establish the Christian basis for women being regarded as second-class citizens which they

sketched the st()rmy~ suffragette period in Britain. :

Votes for women in Western so-

ciety had had to follow a lengthy constitutional process and denied even today in some Isl

was
am-

ic countries «and now they want the Ndebele to change in the blink of an eye,» he said.

He responded to the applicantsâ\200\231

argument that the Legislative Assembly itself was a new style of government for the traditional kwaNdebele people by describing the Assembly as «new institution seen through the eyes of their - traditions and practicesâ\200\235.

The applicants had earlier de-

tailed the case of a widow who, as the sole preadwinner in the family, did not have the vote while her young son did.

say it is wrong â\200\224
viewpoint, we canno
wrong,â\200\235 Mr de villiers said.

Two of the respondents, includ-

ing speaker in the Legislative As-
sembly Mr Solly Mahlangu, are
not opposing the womenâ\200\231s bid for
the vote.

tive Assembly in 1984 after a are even now described asâ\200\235 and The hearing continues.

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B o T oh

b e

The Star Friday April 29 108

8.

T
Buthlezi
to speak
on E Rand

By Abel Mabelane
The ~Chief Minister of
kwaZulu, Chief Mangos-
utho - Buthlezi, will be
guest speaker at the
| 77th anniversary of the
- "Germiston Chnâ\200\231:b'Ã@_ii, of
- | Commerce ang Industry
: | next month; i

it will have on comy
and businessâ\200\235, W B

. Ms Saunders g,
2 Bnthelezi'k '

~ She said the achieve.
:_:â\200\231uenq : ge â\200\230the Chamber

nringâ\200\230 â\202¬ past T Pars
was to liaise wtth?gÃ@rj-

| district to all people, - -
T 5 We alsÃ@ liaise with the :
Katilehong Chambyâ\200\231 of

Commerce apg share
ideas with hom. 2 L5

S â\200\234Great Indabaâ\200\235, in

black leadersâ\200\235 would be

invit-

art, had o chance of Succeeding,

T chairm . of Sowe â\200\231s

Motiana, sa i,

i

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truggleâ\200\235 would go on.

imittee of | . vj

2 m j,â\200\234,â\200\230s1"

otlana said it should be feft to workers to

decide whether they su

Wwere the people whose jg

~ Northern Transvaal

MESSINA â\200\224 The fact

that the two men con-

victed in the Messina

terrorism trial believed

they were legitimate

soldiers, under orders

from their ANC superi-

ors to undertake mili-

tary missions in South

Africa, diminished their

moral guilt, if not their

legal guilt, the circuit

court heard yesterday.

Professorâ\200\235 John Du-

-gard of the Wits law

faculty was testifying in

mitigation of sentence

â\200\234in the trial of Mthethe-

leli Mncube 27) of

Soweto, and Mzondeleli

Nondula (24) of Mdant-

sane. Â»

He pointed out that,

in terms of an interna-

tional protocol confer-

ence in 1977, the inter-

national community did

' not â\200\230regard members of

liberation - movements

fighting for self-deter-

mination or indepen-

dence as aggressors.

It was now part of
customary international

law to regard struggles
against colonial or rac-
ist regimes as interna-
tional conflicts, and the

sanctions as they
were at risk.

) SSTAR

Dugard testifies 1

two convicted men be-
lieved they were fight-
ing such a war, Profes-
sor Dugard explained.

Mncube and Nondula
were found guilty on
Monday of murder, at-
tempted murder, ter-
rorism and the illegal
possession of arms and
ammunition.

The case arose from
landmine blasts in the
Messina area, the shoot-
ing of two policemen,
and activities which the
court found had endan-
gered the security of
the State. :

nA

NC fria,
ANC. frial
Anothqer witness,
Tom Lodge, a lecturer
in political studies â\200\230at
Wits, said he had made
a thorough study of the
ANC, and it was not
ANC policy to attack ci-

- vilian targets. [

The man found guj ty
of the explosion at an
Amanzimtoti shopping
centre had admitted he
violated the ANC code,
said Dr Lodge.

In the light of overall
statistics, the ANC did
not appear to be a very
violent body. -But, he
added, armed insurgen-

; |

/1 cy was

strateg

S, in fact,
armed insurgency, |
Lodge replied that i
was, particularly as the,
ANC regarded all bor:
der areas gas battle
zones, because the civil-,
ian population there .
was fully integrated. |
into the SADF. 3 il

The State prosecutor,
Mr Frans Roets, said heâ\200\235
had no questions .to putâ\200\231
to these two witnesses,

The court adjourned']
to May 3 to hear furtherâ\200\235
evidence in mitigation, â\200\231'

|
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Apartheid in

THE

SA â\200\230alrea

29)04/vy

- MASERU â\200\224

By Gerald Lâ\200\231Ange,
â\200\234The Starâ\200\231s Africa News Service

In promoting â\200\234perestroi-
kaâ\200\235 the Soviet Union will not compro-
mise on matters of principle such as
support for the â\200\234liberation move-
mentsâ\200\235 or the MPLA government in
Angola, says the acting Soviet ambas-
sador to Lesotho, Dr Boris Asoyan. -

He made it clear in an address to
students at the University of Lesotho
yesterday that the Soviet Union still
supports the African National Congress
and its use of violence insofar as this
might be considered necessary.

And it will continue to support sanc-
tions against South Africa to help bring
about the abolition of apartheid.

Atmosphere of trust
- Answering questions at the end of his

â\200\230goals of perestroika (restructuring)
was to create an atmosphere of trust
and confidence among nations which
would be the basis for a safer world.

He said there was â\200\234no question of
our compromising on Angoela or any of
the liberation movementsâ\200\235.

|
:

~_ While the Soviet Union was not tak-
~ing part in negotiations between the
Angolan government and the United
States it respected Angolaâ\200\231s right to
conduct such negotiations, Dr Asoyan
said. : Âç

On the question of whether there was

a parallel between the Soviet with-
drawal from Afghanistan and its

stance in Angola, Dr Asoyan repeated

Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Eduard Shevardnadze's recent response to the same question "that the only similarity was that the name of both countries began with the letter 'S'.

Dr Asoyan said in response to another question that there was no connection between Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano's visit to Moscow and his representative's meeting

stituted by the

reached such a stage,

address, Dr Asoyan said one of the

STAR,

dy

become rotten's

in Cape Town this week with the State President Mr PW Botha. 5

. In his address to the university students, Dr Asoyan said the reforms in Botha Government in South Africa "penetrated only the upper and very thin layer of apartheid, which had already by itself become rotten". get Confrontation in South Africa had he said, that nothing but a fundamental reform of government and social structure would stop an accelerated movement to

: "more horrible violence",

Dr Asoyan asked how long the Afri-

'kaner, whose sufferings at the begin-

ning of this century had drawn the sympathy of many countries, would continue to turn a blind eye to the crimes of apartheid. ; He said that from the speeches of white leaders in South Africa "one can judge there is very little trust from their side". On the contrary, there is more hostility and unwillingness to now and to understand. ;

Suppress the majority v

"They had only one idea "to suppress and to impose their will, their decisions, on the majority. !

"They talk of the necessity of changes but think how to evade changes." i :

A clear lack of confidence ran

through all the arguments about the
necessity of change. 1if

Dr Asoyan said the Soviet Union did
not want to see chaos in South Afri-
ca. : %4

â\200\234We are for constructive decisions.
We want to see the end of confronta-
tion in the southern African region and
the only way to achieve this is to stop
South African aggression against the
Frontline states.â\200\235 :

South Africa, he said, was still grow-
ing â\200\224 â\200\234sometimes violently and wild-
lyâ\200\235 â\200\224 at a time when some other
states were declining. ;

CAPE TOWN â\200\224 Mr Ashley Forbes and
'his 14 co-accused in a Cape Town ter-
rorism trial were yesterday sentenced
to six months imprisonment for con-
tempt of court after defying the judge
and chanting slogans from the dock.
The incident occurred as the court
" resumed after the lunchtime adjourn-
ment when the accused continuously
chanted â\200\234advance, retreat, consoli-
. dateâ\200\235 for a few minutes after the judge
| had taken his seat.

When it became clear that the ac-
cused intended to continue chanting,
they were ordered down to the cells by
. Mr Justice DM Williamson.

He said he was satisfied that all of
| them had participated and had been
' â\200\234manifestly in contempt of courtâ\200\235. He

tl ,exil called them to the dock indivi-

d y. 7 piit gt 00 74315 h
Adressing Mr Ashley Forbes, Mr

Justice Williamson said: â\200\234I consider -

e : b ey

your

% AT ; i

â\200\230that the public gallery

ce Wil ler
behaviour grossly contemptous.â\200\235

- a8 |

Asked if he had anythi :
Forbes looked ahead and did not ans-
wer. He was found guilty of contempt:
of court and sentenced to six months:
imprisonment. i Tl

All the accused were then called and>
either refused to say anything or said:
they had nothing to say and were then
sentenced to sixmonths. Â¥

Earlier Mr Justice Williamson said:
â\200\234After I adjourned yesterday there was
again a disturbance. My information is
that it emanated from the accused and
responded. Thâ\202~
other day I explairied that that kind o l

' disturbance could not be tolerated as jt,
~ disturbed the other courts.

~ â\200\234It is something I feel very passion-â\200\231

ate about. I feel the only thing I can
do in the circumstances is to exclude

members of the public, certainly fo
today and tomorrow.â\200\235 1
The accused are: Forbes, Peter
Jac Louis Pedro,,

Jacobs, Nicklo

â\200\234 Johannes Fortuin,,

~Jeremy _ Alan Veary,:
Walter Rhooode, Wayne

Ingemar Malgas, Collin.
Cairncross, Ashraf Kar-

â\200\230 riem, Colin Clave Marti

~ Petersen, Leon Scott and

Â»Ygsuiiâ\200\231naj-Pandyi â\200\224 Sapa

THE . 7165 /3%

Zimbabwe to encourage rural development

The Starâ\200\231s Africa
News Service

HARARE â\200\224 People liv-
ing in remote Zimbabwe
- areas are to be given the
-, chance to air their prob-
| lems nationally and hope-
fully prompt a swift gov-
ernment response.

The state-run Zim-
babwe Broadcasting Cor-
poration (ZBC) has
launched three pilot rural
radio clubs near the capi-

al, Harare, in a bidâ\200\230 to
bilise rural people to

take leading roles in de-
velopment projects in
their communities. |

â\200\234It is our aim to make
people listen to educa-
tional radio broadcasts to
mobilise them for de-
velopment,â\200\235 said Mr Vic-
tor Mhizha-Murira, ZBCâ\200\231s
director of programmes,
at the launching of a
radio club at Mubayira

rural centre in Beatrice,
a small farming town
60 km from Harare.

â\200\234The advantage of
using radio for mobilisa-
tion is that you quickly
get feedback which will
enable you to know how
best to produce your edu-
cational programmes,â\200\235
he said.

Since independence in
1980, the socialist govern-
ment of President Robert
Mugabe has set as one of

its top priorities the de- |
velopment of rural areas,
where about 80 percent of
the countryâ\200\231s estimated
nine million people lives.

It has placed particu-
lar emphasis on co-oper-
atives in its rural de- |
velopment policy and
created a ministry of co-
operatives, whose main
focus is the rural areas
where it helps form and
manage small-scale co-
operatives.

ANC detention

THE =TAR

|camp in Angola,
says

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US repor

WASHINGTON â\200\224 The African National Congress maintains a detention camp in northern Angola and might hold other detainees elsewhere in that country ang in Zambia, according to a new State Department report.

v , ,I)t says conditions at these facilities are likely to be harsh, with the degree of severity determined by availability of amenities, local laws and in some cases, personal animosities. â\200\230
The report was prepared in terms of a law passed by Congress ordering a study of forced detention by . the ANC and by the South African Government.. .

SOUTH AFRICAN AGENTS :

The report does not estimate how many detainees the ANC has held at any one time. â\200\234The majority are suspected of being South African agents or infiltra-
lOrS, . ' : ; :

â\200\234ANC cadres who become politically dissatisfied or who refuse military training might also be detained, according to defectors. , i

â\200\234Some, although probably not a large number, are believed to be detained for non-political (for example, disciplinary) reasons.â\200\235 Ot

Reports that the ANC has a large detention camp in Zambia could not be confirmed. â\200\230

Turning to South Africa, the report devotes four pages of detail on detentions and treatment behind bars, quoting extensively from statistics kept by the Detainees Parentsâ\200\231 Support Committee (DPSC), one of the groups targeted in a Government clampdown. On treatment of detainees, the report says detain-ees are often held incommunicado, â\200\234a situation that provides considerable potential for police abuse of detaineesâ\200\235. . ;

BETHAL â\200\224 Secret ANC documents, photographed by a South African Intel-
ligence operative at the organisationâ\200\231s Lusaka of-
fices, were handed in as exhibits in the Bethal ter-
rorism trial yesterday despite an objection by

v the defence.

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Mr Justice J Daniels

overruled objections
lodged by Mr HK Naidu
on behalf of Mr Ebrahim
Ismael Ebrahim.

the case against the

three accused, Acton
Mandla Maseko, Mr
Simon Dladla and Mr
Ebrahim, on charges
under the Terrorism Act

and of high treason, Mr

Justice Daniels ruled that
he would review the mat-
ter after all the evidence

in the trial had been
heard.

The documents, con-
sisting of both handwrit-
ten and typewritten re-
ports from ANC regional
centres in various Front-
line states to ANC head-
quarters in Lusaka, re-
counted the many prob-
lems experienced by the
ANC as a result of short-
ages of weapons, funds
and the infiltration of in-
formers.

One document dated

- November 1986 from

Umbrella Dubay, an ANC
codename, was signed by
Mzwandile, earlier iden-
tified by a witness as Mr
Ebrahim. It said there
was need for improve-
ment of the machinery.

cadres failed to turn up

for appointments and
that it was very diffi-
cult to make any
progress.

He said the South Afri-
can Police had arrested a
comrade identified as

Comrade Scotch in
Soweto. His arrest was
followed by the kidnap-
ing of an ANC operative
identified as September
who commanded an ANC
unit.

This disaster was fol-
lowed by the death of

four cadres in an armed
clash. :

Of the eight so-called

a documents hand-

â\200\230ed in to court, five bear

the signature of Mzwan-
dile. -

_ He complained that _The hearing continues,

How t

RONDERA is a little town which straddles the main road from the Zimbabwian capital of Harare to the Mozambique border.

Outside the emergency ward of the local hospital a single poster warns of the deadly problem which afflicts this, and countless other African hospitals: There is no cure for AIDS. Choose your partner carefully.

When Dr David Collings worked at Marondera General Hospital three years ago, the subject of AIDS was barely on the medical agenda in Zimbabwe. Yet without realising it he was regularly operating on patients who carried the virus.

He also worked in Bulawayo, and it is impossible to trace exactly where he contracted AIDS. One African doctor irritably pointed out that he had been trained in Edinburgh, 'the AIDS capital of Britain, I believe.'

Marondera is a useful case study of how a small town in an African country with above-average medical care is coping with the most infamous disease of our time.

David Collings's death has inevitably focussed the minds of doctors rather sharply on the fact that their own blood can become contaminated by a patient's (the risk of a patient being infected by a doctor is much less). 'If you're doing a Caesarean section there's a lot of blood rushing around the place,' said Dr George Turner, a Marondera practitioner.

'I must have pricked myself dozens of times. If you're playing around with sharp instruments you're bound to get cut. Even if you had the facilities, it's not an operation where you could screen the patient first. It's usually an emergency job, and you just get on with it

Dr Kevin Martin, Medical Superintendent at the hospital, was equally emphatic: 'We do about a hundred operations a week here, so basically we're taking a chance every single time. Because of limited facilities, we would never be able to screen everyone. Every single doctor in Africa is at risk. Nothing can be done about it.'

Such fatalism is only realistic. Surgical gloves offer no protection against an accidental nick with a scalpel, and anyway they are often in short supply. Marondera has two main

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By Peter Taylor, Harare

operating theatres (where gloves are always worn), but in the small theatre boils and abscesses are sometimes lanced without gloves. I came across a clothes-horse full of gld surgical gloves, washed and hanging out to ry.

When Dr Collings was at Marondera, doctors were aware that AIDS might strike, but they were primarily on the lookout for patients with the traditional symptoms of â\200\230wasting.â\200\231 The virus later manifested itself in unexpected ways â\200\224 in tuberculosis, shingles, and a sudden increase in infant mortality. Of the 12 patients who have died from AIDS at Marondera Gen-eral, four have been children.

babwe is almost certainly much lower

than in countries such as Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania, but the sparse statistics are inconclusive and confusing. -
. Dr Godfrey Sikipa, principle medical director in Zimbabweâ\200\231s Ministry of Health, recently estimated that 250 000 people in the country (about 2% of the population) were HIV positive, but some doctors believe the real figure to be between 3 and 4%.

Last October Zimbabwe notified the World Health Organisation that there had been 380 confirmed cases of AIDS, but revised the figure downwards to 199 just over a month ago.

The politics of these statistics are very sensitive. In order to generate concern, cash, and perhaps a dash of colonial guilt, the AIDS lobby in the West seems bent on inflating the figures.

African governments, angry at Western theories that the disease originated in their continent, and mindful of the effects on tourism, seek to damp them down. For revealing any

: TIE INCIDENCE of the HIV virus in Zim-

figures at all, Dr Sikipa was firmly rapped on the knuckles.

â\200\234There is a genuine increase in the number of people being infected,â\200\231 said Dr Martin, â\200\230and I find that rate of increase alarming.â\200\231

The virus has been partly contained by Zimbabweâ\200\231s excellent blood transfusion service,

which, unlike many others in the region, has proper screening of donors. In the last two

M'ém%ll HorviriR

years there has also been much greater care taken to use needles and syringes only once, although in Dr Colling's time re-use after sterilisation or boiling was common.

The virus in Africa is spread mostly by heterosexual contact and affects men and women in equal numbers and in Zimbabwe it appears to be associated with an increase in certain forms of venereal disease. 3

Before 1980, chancroid, a disease which results in external ulcers on the penis (and therefore bleeding during intercourse) was relatively uncommon. It is now widespread.

Attempts to persuade men to use condoms, moreover, have not been very successful. US Aid donated 9 million of them at the beginning of the year 1984 popularly known as Ronnie's

-Rubbers 1984 and they are freely available. But the usual response is: "You cannot taste a sweet with the wrapper on." 5 i

Tracing contacts is practically impossible. "When I tell men they have the HIV virus I ask them how many sexual contacts outside marriage they have had," said Dr Martin, "they just look me in the eye, and say hundreds." v

Even in a town like Marondera, there is a thriving prostitution trade. About half of prostitutes probably have the HIV virus, and among their most regular clients 1984 men who have left rural homes to seek work in the towns, members of the army 1984 the infection rate is way above average. :

.The suggestion that doctors working in high-risk areas should be tested before practising in the West raises hackles. ;

"That would be penalising us for being-at the forefront of the fight against disease and infection among Africa's poor, said Dr Lesley Chironga, president of the Zimbabwe Dental Association. (Dentists have also taken to wearing protective surgical gloves when possible).

_ There are about 50 British doctors working in Zimbabwe at present, so the question of appropriate screening is not likely to go away. _AIDS itself is a disease which breeds irrational fear (barbers in Harare will no longer close-shave their customers) and the politics of AIDS is in danger of obscuring the medical realities. Last year's vigorous AIDS information campaign here has now largely fizzled out, and it is thought that the government no longer wants to draw attention to the problem.

EAST LONDON: Mutual co-oper
 was pledged at Ntaba kaNdoda yester-
 day by Ciskei's President Lennox Sebe
 and South Africa's Minister of Foreign
 Affairs, Mr Pik Botha.
 Ntaba kaNdoda is the national shrine
 of the Ciskeian people and was the
 scene yesterday of a ceremony to
 admit Mr Botha as an honorary adviser
 to the nation. :
 The honour ' with all its trappings
 ' was conferred by President Sebe
 and his senior chiefs.)
 President Sebe said South Africa and
 Ciskei had the same ambitions and as-
 pirations even the same problems:
 Why then, I ask you, should we contin-
 ue setggately tos e forward when \hat{A} Foodens i
 toge the way could be made much \hat{A} - gt pih
 easier forusall? = P R i AR \hat{A}
 We have adjustments to make to . Ry
 onewat::other :sâ\jwell as compromises Pik Botha in his new robesâ
 \200\231 of office -
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 i Africa formed a chain that was as
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 ideas in a different manner.â\235 : mb: BT; respme ot through
 He said Ciskeians had had many â\234Violence and force cannot provide a
 dealings with Mr Botha over the years = lasting solution to our problems,â\235 he
 and had sensed his sincerity. said. â\234Only through peace at the con-
 Mr Botha replied that the various ference table will we find solutions.â\235

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 Foreign Service
 MUNICH: Cuba has Jlost
 000 men in the 12-year-
 old civil war in Angola
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But he also said a Cybar
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The West German
:ews. agency report on
Aguirreâ\200\231s remarks giq
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rushed into law

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN: The already controversial single education bill, which will make white education uniform, in all four provinces has been published in Cape Town.

And it appears the Education Affairs

Bill (House of Assembly), which was ded by secrecy in its drafting

stages, could be rushed through Parlia-

ment â\200\224 minimising public debate.

The Bill has already been placed as the second item on the order paper of the House of Assembly, and it need
| not be sent to a standing committee of
- Parliament. -

. The Progressive Federal Party, which has repeatedly raised the .issue in the way parents have been kept in the dark about the legislation since they obtained a draft copy of the bill Seven months ago, objected again today to the way the legislation had been handled. /

The Bill was also the subject of a bitter debate in the House of Assembly yesterday with National Party and

ogressive Federal Party spokesmen clashing on the issue during the debate of the budget vote of white Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Piet Clase.

PFP education spokesman Mr Roger Burrows wa ay that all four

Burrows said in the dÃ@bate on the bill that the PFP would be focusing on

the powers given to directors of education, which centralised decision-making i ia; on the increased restriction of the political activities of teachers and the powers of school to refuse to admit a child to a school within its area. :

â\200\234We are totally dissatisfied with the handling of the bill up to now. In referring the bill to the provincial education councils, representatives from schools were expressly forbidden to consult with parents or, in case of teachers associations, with their membership.

â\200\234It now appears it will be rushed through Parliament with a minimum of debate.

â\200\234The PFP believes the bill requires considerable public debate, and will request that it be referred to a select committee of Parliament, which can call for evidence and submissions

â\200\234The white public of South Africa will be bitterly unhappy if the bill is rammed through Parliament.â\200\235

In yesterdayâ\200\231s debate Dr Johan Steenkamp MP (NP Umhlatuzana) attempted to defend the secrecy, saying the draft was meant to be kept confidential â\200\234in order to maintain a climate in which the provincial education councils could make an uncompromised inputâ\200\235, : ;

In a speech in which he made repeated personal attacks on members of the PFP, he criticised the PFP for reveal-

ing its contents.
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T Yo1 JUST CAN'T GET GOOD HELP ANYMORE! "â\204ç

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From â\202-chicago Tribune wires

FRANKFURT, West Germanyâ\200\224
Rebel white South Africans on Fri-
day met leaders of the African Na-
tional Congress to try to persuade
the black guerrillas to lay down
their arms and join in a ballot-box

fight against apartheid.
ing Pretoriaâ\200\231s threats to con-

meeting with the outlawed group,
the South Africans and four guerril-
laleadelsheldaseeonddayoftalks
in a Frankfurt hotel.

Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, former

head of the Progressive Federal
Party and a foe of eid, met
with four members of the guerrilla
groupâ\200\231s national executive commit-
tee, including information and pub-
licity head Mbeki.
: The same four met Thursday with

an eight-member delegation from South Africa's anti-apartheid National Democratic Movement led by legislator Wynand Malan.

The congress is the major group fighting the white-minority

to confiscate the passports of whites

government in South Africa. Outlawed in South Africa, it is based in Zambia.

After Thursday's meeting, the two sides said they disagreed sharply about the use of violence to force reform in their homeland. Van Zyl Slabbert told reporters he was not going to forgive any Swazilanders

to hide

to pursue an armistice but he criticized the congress to negotiate with the outlawed group. South

Africa refuses to lift its ban on the group unless it renounces violence.

"We disagree about violence, about the [Apartheid] Congress] of boycotting elections," said Pakendorf, another white delegate. "They say they won't participate. We want them to participate."

A joint statement following the F talks said delegates from both sides on what kind of post-apartheid South Africa they wanted, but differed on how to achieve change. 2

Van Zyl Slabbert said, "You have

the 1976-77

Africa white, black rebels talk

to create a situation where key black participants can address problems with whites ... such as what kind of government will there be in the future of South Africa."

Van Zyl Slabbert is director of planning and policy for the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa, an anti-apartheid think tank he helped found. He is widely viewed as his country's most char-

ismatic white antiapartheid leader.

Friday night, a powerful explosion rocked central Johannesburg. Police cordoned off a four-block area, and black smoke billowed into the air.

A police officer at the scene said the driver of a municipal garbage truck was injured when the explosion in or near his vehicle. The truck was still burning a half-hour after the blast. Witnesses said the blast appeared to have been caused by a bomb in a trash bin.

On Thursday, the 40th anniversary of white rule by the National Party, twin blasts injured four people in Pretoria.

Racial basis of wards excludes thousands
THE NAGAC \NUTNER |

Some blacks can't vote in October
29 /0%!

JOHANNESBURG â\200\224 Thousands of
black people living legally in central
Johannesburg will not be eligible to
vote in Octoberâ\200\231s country-wide municip-
al elections.

The chairman of the Johannesburg
City Council management committee,
Mr Francois Oberholzer, confirmed
that only white people could vote for
city council candidates.

Indians living legally in the desig-
nated group areas of Fordsburg and

Mayfair would not be eligible to vote in
any municipal election, Lenasiaâ\200\231s Indi-
cator newspaper reported yesterday.

They join Chinese South Africans,
who have no vote in any political insti-
tution.

Opposition groups said the disqual-
ification of blacks living in the city
centre â\200\234exposed the untruthfulness of
government claimsâ\200\235 that all South Afri-
cans could vote in the elections.

Mr Oberholzer said an â\200\230â\200\234anomalyâ\200\235
had arisen as a result of the initial ille-
gal influx of blacks into the city.

In addition to Indians living legally
in their group areas, thousands of
blacks live in central Johannesburg â\200\224
some illegally but many legally as do-

mestic workers.

Johannesburg Indians are allowed to
vote only for the Lenasia management
committee, and coloureds for the col-
oured management committee.

Black people are allowed to vote in
their designated townships.

Only Indian people resident in Lena-
sia, 30 kilometres from the city centre,
are eligible to vote for the Lenasia
management committee.

The demarcation of wards disqual-
ifies coloured people from voting out-
side coloured areas.

The PFP leader in the Johannesburg

City Council, Mr Tony Leon, said the exclusion of Indians living legally in a central group area exposed the hypocrisy and untruthfulness in government claims that everyone would be voting in municipal elections on the same day.

He repeated the PFP's call for the inclusion of all race groups in a single chamber from local authority to parliamentary level.

The Transvaal Indian Congress said the exclusion of blacks had given the lie to government claims of reform. Sapa.

auard called
a 'kaffâ\200\230gâ\200\231m t

THE Nniâ\200\2301
court nears

19â\200\23109/83 Witness Reporter ;
A SECURITY guard told a city magis-
trate yesterday that he was embar-
rassed when the wife of a Scottsville
cafe owner called him a â\200\234kaffirâ\200\235 in the
presence of several people in a busy
shopping centre.

Mrs Wilma Meyer (31), the wife of
Fitzroys Cafe owner Mr Gerhard
Meyer, pleaded not guilty to a charge of
crimen injuria. â\200\230

In evidence before 'magistrate Mr A.
Brink, security guard Mr Jabulani Mk-
hize said he was on duty at Nedbank
Plaza on the evening of December 11
lastyear when a drunk man entered the
cafe.

Mr Mkhize said a man who worked in
the cafe â\200\224 who was later identified as
Mr Gert van der Linde â\200\224 pushed the
drunk man into a juice machine which
fell to the floor.

He said he went to the drunk manâ\200\231s
assistance. Mrs Meyer appeared and.
shook her finger at him saying: â\200\234Hey
kaffir, do your job.â\200\235

â\200\234I didnâ\200\231t like it; I was embarrassed
and there were many people standing
around and other whites laughed at
me,â\200\235 Mt Mkhize said.

A witness, Mr Lingam Pillay â\200\224 who is
studying for a doctorate in chemical
engineering â\200\224 told the court he was at
the cafe when a man behind the
counter pushed a dishevelled man into
the machine.

Mr Pillay said another man emerged
from within the shop and started beat-
ing the dishevelled man who had fallen
tothe ground.

The security guard, Mr Mkhize, then
appeared and picked the man up from
the floor and took him to the doorway,
he said. 3

Mrs Meyer approached Mr Mkhize
and in the presence of a crowd shouted:
â\200\234Hey you kaffir, take this kaffir and get
out of my shop.â\200\235

He said Mr Mkhize was visibly sur-

prised and hurt and there was a stunned silence for a while.

Mr Pillay said he too was surprised that Mr Mkhize should be insulted while he was acting as any security guard would have acted.

In her defence, Mrs Meyer denied she had called Mr Mkhize a â\200\234kaffirâ\200\235. She said that when Mr Mkhize had picked up the drunk man she had addressed him saying: â\200\234Take this kaffir before I moer (hit) him and you.â\200\235

She took it for granted that one called a black man, and not a white person, a â\200\234kaffirâ\200\235.

â\200\234If it had been a white I would have called him a bastard.â\200\235

She said Mr Mkhize should not have been hurt at her comment because she had not addressed it to him personally. However, she admitted that any black person would have been hurt if the word â\200\234kaffirâ\200\235 were used in his pre-
. sence.

J

Mrs Meyer said that when she made the remark Mr Mkhize looked shocked, and leered at

' her as if to say: â\200\234I'm going to get you for thisâ\200\235,

She said she thought he had laid a charge against her because he was black and she was - white and if he had been | white he â\200\234wouldn't have laid a chargeâ\200\235.

Mrs Meyer said she | had a good relationship â\200\230 with her black customers | In general, but alleged

that Mr Mkhize had .deliberately intimidated her.

Judgment

passed today.

â\200\224â\200\224â\200\224

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will be

TIHE

Ormande Pollok
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN-It is highly unlikely that President Botha will appoint a Prime Minister this year or that blacks will be included in the electoral college at this stage.

It also appears that the Government is not banking on a delayed election as it was hoping for and will probably run its full term plus the six months allowed for by the constitution.

A senior Government source indicated yesterday that it did not expect a compromise by the Labour Party on its demand that the Group Areas Act should be scrapped entirely before it would agree to legislation delaying the white elections.

President Botha said in Parliament last week he was considering appointing a Prime Minister who would be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Government and relieve him of some of his responsibilities, leaving him free to concentrate on policy issues and ceremonial affairs.

He also wanted to give blacks the opportunity to participate in the election of the State President.

However, the source said yesterday that further investigations would be needed to

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of black
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role

see whether the appoint-

ments could be made without

having to amend the constitution.

There have been indications for some time now that the Government has abandoned the prospect of reaching a compromise with the Labour Party and that it is now preparing for a redelimitation of seats, in the hope of neutralising the growth of the Right wing, before going to the country. :

There have also been counter-suggestions that the Government could still sur-

prise everybody by calling a

general election of all three chambers of Parliament to coincide with the national municipal elections on October 2 : 4

however, this is generally being discounted.

ULUNDI The KwaZulu MP for Umlazi, Mr Winnington - Sabelo, has called on private enterprise to improve em-

| the people of Umlazi in order

-to alleviate the township's critical unemployment problem. :

Mr Sabelo said that at present there were some 77000 unemployed people

living in the township.

In an attempt to improve

ployment opportunities for

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s jn Rg azi

the situation, he and the May-
RES Mfeka, were

liaising with as many com-
panies as possible to try and
obtain jobs for unemployed
matriculants and those with a
Std 8 pass.

In this regard, COIN Securi-
ty would be recruiting about
150 people at the-Umlazi mag-
istrate's offices at 8am on
Tuesday.

Mr Sabelo also appealed to
the Durban Chamber of In-
dustries to urge its members
to focus their attention on
Umlazi.

Reagan

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WASHINGTON The US trade rep- -

representative said yesterday that President Ronald Reagan would veto a massive Trade Bill and called on Congress to revive the measure quickly 'without a controversial revision. 'We need a Trade Bill early,' Clayton E. Yeutter told the NBC television network. 'I have a lot of good things that I have in mind, so if a couple of necessary corrections are made and the Bill comes back, I'm really quite confident the President would sign it,' he said. Yeutter said the Bill

would get Reagan's signature. - pg c._gnco_

. nature if it were not for a provision, strongly backed by Democrats' j

and labour unions, requiring companies to give workers 60 days notice of intended

plant closure. The House approved the Bill 63-36 on Wednesday. That left Democrats at least three votes short of the two-thirds major-

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Us. 224

to Veto

page 27 pages

Bill

ity needed to enact the measure over Reagan's objections. Democrats had fought for 14 Republican

_Votes to assure them of a total of 66.

. But only 11 Republicans voted in favour: vote reduced by a House Senate

,ate conference: committee after . the day, 230

years of congressional debate over US trade deficits. e

Meanwhile, in Brussels the European Community (EC) threatened yesterday to take action against the US under international law

â\200\234 tional trading rules if the US Trade Bill ' - comes-into force.

The - EC ' commissioner - for external trade, Willy de Clercq said that the com-. :
â\200\234will reactâ\200\235 using the rights that it has in the world trade att, â\200\234each Â« time its interests are harmed by the unilat- - eral measures taken by the American au- ' thoritiesâ\200\235. :

However, the ECâ\200\231s threat of action depends on whether Pmdent Reagan vetoes the Trade Bill.

De Clercq- said the EC would â\200\234follow. carefully legislative:develo| menlsâ\200\235 in the

pa-AP and AP :

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e â\200\224â\200\224

depressing as lying ill in bed trying

to divert your mind from your own troubles with an horrific tone on the bubonic plague which ravaged Europe in the 14th Century, and being badgered by long distance telephone calls from Fleet Street foreign editors demanding that you arise and gird yourself to intrude into the private grief of AIDS victims . and their relatives.

It happened to me.

The indecent frenzy into which the British press worked itself over the death of a brilliant young Zimbabwean surgeon, Dr David Collings, 31, was

matched, as ever, by the tardy and inadequate reporting of his tragedy in the Zimbabwean news media.

The disaster to the career of our fore-

. most professional boxer, Langton â\200\230Schoolboyâ\200\231 Tinago, went entirely unmentioned in Harare (a pre-fight blood test caused the cancellation of Tinagoâ\200\231s welterweight title bout against Lennie Closter in Britain).

My sources tell me the authorities

have stopped the filming of a documentary on AIDS here, due for screening in Europe.

- These incidents were further demonstrations of â\200\230Hartnackâ\200\231s First Law of Information Dynamicsâ\200\231: a Third World country may export debate about its life-and-death problems, but cannot suppress it.

(The Second Law is that the further the debate takes place from its subject, the more hysterical, ill-informed and

tendentious it becomes).

Dr Collings was described, somewhat curiously, by the Zimbabwean Minister of Information, Dr Witness Mangwende, as an expatriate but was in fact born in Bulawayo and educated at Falcon College, Somabhula,

He died suddenly in Exeter last month having gone to Britain to qualify as a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons.

It is almost certain he contracted the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) from a chance scratch with a surgical instrument while working in the routinely hectic conditions of a Zimbabwean hospital.

His former colleagues told me he may never have noticed the tiny smear of blood under his surgical gloves.

Implications

In considering the important public implications of this tragedy one must, at the outset, give the Zimbabwean health system its' due. By Third World, and especially African standards, it works wonders.

In conjunction with the massively-expanded education system, which is producing a more enlightened class of mother, it has for example succeeded in halving the infant mortality rate since 1980. B

Zimbabwe last year launched the most advanced AIDS awareness campaign on the continent. o

The Secretary for Health, Dr Daniel

THERE CAN be few experiences so

Makuto, understandably told an AIDS seminar in Harare on April 11 that the country does not want to be panicked into diverting its scarce health re-

Doctors forbidden to reveal stat

Appalling

NNTRL

y about AIDS
as deadly

Zimbabwean

virus spreads

4 29 /oy 8%

Michael Hartnack,
Harare

sources to the importation of cheap and nasty AIDS kits churned out by manufacturers in the developed world with an eye to profit.

Any AIDS campaign, he protested, must dovetail with the existing Health for All by the Year 2000 drive.

Controversial

Dr Makuto became more controversial when he appeared to allude to the incident in January when one of his doctors was reprimanded for saying there were probably more than 250 000 HIV carriers already in Zimbabwe, with the prospect of over a million deaths in the next 10 years.

Dr Makuto demanded that doctors reveal no AIDS statistics. Many patients were being stigmatised as HIV positive, he said, on the basis of perfunctory tests indicating no more than suspected infection. .

Against Dr Makuto's view must be put that of private doctors who say an AIDS corridor has been established down the main Zaire-Lusaka Harare road, where long-distance lorry drivers have spread the virus at squalid brothels charging less than R1 a night.

According to unconfirmed reports, four to seven suspected AIDS cases come to light each day in the towns of Karoi and Chinhoyi (formerly Sinoia) on this road.

A prominent farmer told me he feared Zimbabwe may have to abandon production of labour-intensive crops, such as tobacco, in the 1990s, because of the decimation of its rural workforce. He is not a qualified epidemiologist, so his fear is suspect.

Blitzkrieg

FAMILY planning adviser to the

farming industry, Dr Peter Fraser-

McKenzie, last year compared the imminent AIDS onslaught on Zimbabwe to Hitler's 1940 Blitzkrieg against Europe: 'Munich is over. We are out of any kind of phoney war. The killing is about to begin,' he warned.

Yet in spite of such melodramatic comments and the official AIDS awareness campaign, few ordinary Zimbabweans have any sense of urgency about the menace.

President Mugabe's secondary schools may be driving back ignorance and superstition among young people, but their elders, particularly rural people, remain convinced that individuals and families only suffer misfortune when exposed to supernaturally malign influences.

Like mediaeval Europeans, in other words, they think charms and preparation ceremonies can protect in the midst of the worst epidemic.

Another far less pardonable form of the it can't happen to me syndrome

seems to be abroad among wealthy Zimbabweans, similar to the British

middle-class idea that outer-suburban heterosexuals will be able to stand back,

unscathed, while homosexuals, prostitutes and intra-venous drug users drown in a cesspool of their own making, to use the words of the Manchester Chief Constable, Mr John Anderton.

In a Zimbabwean context, this delusion betrays a dangerous lack of foresight on at least two scores.

Firstly, if several million people die of AIDS here, sudden financial ruin may force many comfortable people to share the conditions of people to whose plight they are currently indifferent.

The economic consequences of depopulation are unknown; there could be a disastrous deflation, due to a fall off in demand for goods and services.

Equally, there could be runaway inflation as survivors try to grab what is in the shops before Zimbabwe's gross national product, and its foreign currency earnings, take a nose-dive.

We just don't know. The phenomenon has not occurred since the Middle Ages when economies were radically different. '30

Secondly, the deaths of hundreds of thousands of sewage workers, rat catchers, night watchman, and so forth, must

~ leave a gaping hole in society.

The rich and the cloistered might escape AIDS only to fall victim to cholera (endemic along our Mozambican border), to typhoid, diphtheria, dysentery, infective meningitis or bubonic plague itself, which subsists in meandering pockets among the gerbil rodents inhabiting our Kalahari sand series soils.

All these diseases are currently held in check fairly easily, but only because we maintain a basic degree of social co-operation.

Heresies

One of the heresies Africa has exposed in the last 20 years is the conceit that civilisation stems from the contributions of a few self-styled geniuses.

On the contrary, it rests on the integrity and goodwill of thousands of humble people, painstakingly performing their everyday tasks.

Reading histories of the Black Death one is reminded of a third possibility which should shatter the complacency of any Zimbabwean who feels he or she could remain aloof from a general social tragedy; the recurrent epidemics after 1348 were accompanied by violent social unrest.

These were eventually directed against the rich generally (as supposed profligates who had aroused divine anger) but the first victims were members of ethnic minorities, specifically the Jews.

A few psychotic fundamentalists led mobs of destitute wretches, mad for loot, while popes, princes and mayors vainly appealed for calm.

We are not short of fundamentalist cranks in Zimbabwe, of either the Marxist or traditional animist kind.

If the current apathy about AIDS turns to hysterical mass fear of death, there may not be enough bullets or tear gas or abled-bodied policeman in Southern Africa to control an explosion of suicide-

" dal violence against the privileged few.

We must, in other words, find the courage to face this horror together.

