

Most White
talks

By Poen de Villiers 10 ' 87

ANC

ABOUT two-thirds of White voters in South Africa are in favour of negotiations with the African National Congress and the release of Nelson Mandela, according to the results of an opinion poll published in Rapport yesterday.

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The poll was conducted by Market and Opinion Surveys (Pty) Ltd among about 2 000 White voters nationwide.

Regarding negotiations with the ANC, people voted:

White voters want

â\200\230Mandela

CeTe AqRY nizeN

: survey

@ 45,7 percent in favour, on condition that the ANC renounce violence:

Â® 17 percent in favour without any conditions;

@ 33 percent against; and

@ 4,3 percent uncertain.

Most of the people in favour of Mandela being released said he had to reject violence before being freed. In this regard the voting was:

@ 47,8 percent in favour of his release, on condition that he renounce violence;

Â® 22,5 percent in favour, unconditionally;

Â® 26,1 percent against his release under any circumstances; and

@ 3.6 percent uncertain.

An overwhelming majority of people felt the former State President, Mr P W Botha, had acted correctly when he met Mandela at Tuynhuys earlier this year.

The division of the votes in this regard was:

Â® 63,1 percent said he

_ had acted correctly;

Â® 24,2 percent said he | had acted incorrectly; and

@ 12.7 were uncertain.

Life
gets

back to
normal

Witness Reporter
PUBLIC transport has
been fully restored in
the Shongweni Valley,
schools are due to be re-
opened next year, and

- homes destroyed-duringâ\200\224

almost a year of political

~violence, are being re-â\200\224 E

. built.

The rebuilding of the
devastated valley and
reintegration of once
deadly political rivals
into the community, fol-
lows a truce declared by
local grassroots leaders
of the United Demo-
cratic Front and Inkatha
in late August.

Since then taxis have

been returning families
to the area to resume an
orderly life, previously
made impossible by the
unabated and violent
war between bands of
UDF-supporting youth
and Inkatha members.

In attacks on homes,
lives of women and
children were not
spared. The schools re-
mained desolate all
year, businesses closed
and between 50% and

Witness Reporter

THE South African Police used the recent peace progress in Shongweni Valley to salvage their tarnished image and portray themselves as peacemakers, the local UDF and Inkatha leaders said yesterday.

Inkatha local chairman Mr Victor Sibisi and Mr Thulani Zulu, UDF youth leader, objected strongly to stories that the police had brought the arch-rivals together, and said it

community.

80% of the people fled the area. : However, since the August 27 peace meeting, heralded by many as historic, no incident of political violence has occurred in Shongweni alley.

Former opponents, Inkatha chairman Mr Victor Sibisi (Inkatha chairman), and UDF youth

leader Mr Thulani Zulu,

The former military commanders of opposing an Inkatha chairman, shared drinks

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have worked together to bring about the transformation since declaring

the truce.

Both have successfully enjoined their supporters to lay down their weapons..

At a community meeting yesterday, also attended by representatives of KwaZulu, Transport which had halted its service in the

UDF and Inkatha factions in Shongweni, Mr Thulani Zulu (left) and Mr Victor Sibisi, yesterday after another successful community meeting called to discuss the rebuilding of the

area in June, both Mr Sibisi and Mr Zulu pledged to continue working together.

Residents were told of plans to repair the schools,â\200\235 build football grounds, a community hall and clinic, to restore a water pipeline and have it extended to areas asyet unserviced.

Negotiations to bring teachers 'back to the

was a community effort sparked by an awakening to the futility of fighting. Mr Zulu and Mr Sibisi said Captain Ray Harrauld, the commander of the local riot unit at the time, had deserved the tribute paid to him. â\200\234But he only facilitated the peace process.â\200\235 Their view was

iMpumalanga: battle rages:

Witness Reporter

MORE people died in Mpumalanga, Hammarsdale, at the weekend and yesterday streets were barricaded ! by burning tyres as battles between gun-toting groups of men and youth raged on for longer than two hours.

â\200\234While the fighting was going on, I was just standing there talking to people in the streets about the situation. People are really desperate and they said we must please, please help them and that life is notâ\200\231 worth living there anymore,â\200\235 said Democratic Party MP for Greytown, Mr Pierre Cronje, who visited the

area yesterday. He said he did not know how many people were injured in the violence, but said it started at

about 4 pm and continued

after dark.

â\200\234There was a very small police presence... not enough to cope with the situation,â\200\235 he said.

Political violence has ravaged Mpumalanga for more than four years, and an estimated 2 000 people have been killed in the area.

In their daily unrest bulletins at the weekend, police cited two deaths.

Mr Cronje said a delegation of Democratic Party

representatives in Muehan Aw Mo

" MPs would be meeting with a high-level police con-

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â\200\230shared by local shop
owner, Mr John Mkhize, who initiated the
peace talks between Mr Sibisi and Mr Zulu.

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Picture by CLINT ZASMAN

schools next year were
also underway, residents
were told.

â\200\234We are hoping to get
all these things done.
And things are looking'
good. But we will -need
help, not only from
people in the commu-
nity, but also outside. We
will need funds to build
all these things,â\200\235 Mr
Lucky Zwane, the chair-
man of the meeting said.

Police â\200\230used Shongweni peace to salvage imageâ\200\231

Another community leader, Mr Lucky

Zwane â\200\230said: â\200\234The peace came from our
hearts, and not a third party.â\200\235

The co-ordinator of police riot units in
Natal, Brigadier Gerrit Viljoen, last night
disputed that police had not played a vital
role. â\200\234In all our work we are trying to bring
the groups together. In Shongweni we
policed the area. We went in during night
time and day to help the people.â\200\235

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oliceman held on attempted murder charge |

Daily News Reporters

A KWAZULU policeman has been detained and charged with attempted murder at Mpumalanga as the death toll in the latest

violence there rose to 14 at the weekend.

Police said six more people have been killed there since Friday night, two houses set on fire and three cars petrol-bombed. ,

Brigadier Jac Buchner, Commissioner of the Kwa-Zulu Police, said a policeman has been detained and charges of attempted murder were being investigated against him.

Brigadier Buchner said the policeman is alleged to have fired shots at a house. In the incident a young girl lost a finger.

Last night fighting broke out between rival groups in unit 3 and 4 and residents reported heavy gunfire..

Mr Peter Gastrow MP, who is monitoring the situation, said he received a number of frantic telephone calls from 6.30 pm onwards. LA

Houses were petrol-bombed and stoned in both units, as the factions fought running battles in the street. e 0

One resident said that it was virtually an open war- . fare and last night's outbreak was the worst of the

weekend exchanges. -

The Killings continued as two major moves are to be made tomorrow to restore peace in the town-

ship. One involves five Democratic Party MPs who are due to meet senior police officers in Durban.

in which thousands of residents are expected to take part, to the local police station where a petition will be handed in demanding that kitsonstables and riot police be removed immediately.]

But last night there was widespread tension and renewed calls for the

South African Defence
Force to send inâ\200\231 troops
to restore peace.

One man was beaten
up by a mob on Friday
night before being burnt
and a second man on Sat-
urday night was dragged
out of his car, beaten up
and set alight.

The other is a march,

On Saturday night
worried residents hud-
dled in their homes fear-
ing attacks and frenzied
messages for help were
smuggled out. .
Mpumalangaâ\200\231s mayor,
Mr Rodgers Sishi, be-
lieves that the troops
will do a better job in
keeping apart rival fac-
tions, believed to be In-
katha and United Demo-
cratic Front supporters.

â\200\234The soldiers have a
better record in keeping '
peace,â\200\235 said Mr Sishi.

Meanwhile Mr Willies |
Mchunu, spokesman for |
the marchers, said that
the residents wanted
peace and the march
which is being organised
by Cosatu and UDF sup-

orters is aimed at high-
ighting the violence in
the township.

Residents are due to
meet at Mpumalanga
Stadium from where
they will start their |
march to the police sta-
tion.

Businessmen in the
area fear that many of
their work force will not
report for duty.

The Deputy Minister |
of Justice and Natal Na-

tional Party deputy
chairman, Mr Danie
Schutte, said today that
he would be meeting rep-
resentatives from Ulundi
at their request later
today to discuss the vio-
lence.

The Nata. Witness, Friday October 9, 1987

Buthlelezi: I have
little to say to P.W.

CHIEF Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday that he had met State President P.W. Botha for talks only three times in nine years and that they had had little to say to each other. This was because they did not want to talk about the same things, he told the National Convention of Jaycees at Umhlanga Rocks,

He warned that anyone who believed that blacks would settle for anything less than political and legal equality was making a grave error. "Sapa. . " BUTHELEZI

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is beginning to recover its spirit and to gather its strength. The evidence,

like spring, is popping out all

over.

For one thing, the "debt problem" is evaporating like the morning mist. As Hank Cohen, the Bush administration's cardboard cut-out of Chester Crocker, told the Senate foreign relations committee last week, the "overdue" debt to American banks has been reduced to about \$700m.

That's a sum we could, in a pinch, repay overnight. Perhaps we should do so, just to make the point that we've survived the past, dreadful five years.

The South African bankers, the captains of industry, and the academic economists will, of course, clutch their brows and wail that it's a mad way to run a Third World country. They have an economic argument, but not a political one. Predators always attack perceived weakness, never strength.

Personally, I have been unable to understand the feebleness of our government's response to what was, after all, an act of economic warfare. When Chase Manhattan's Bob Butcher issued his famous directive to Simon Steward to pull out of this country in August 1985, we were already at the bottom of a recession, the political turmoil was at its worst, and the less committed capitalists were running for Australia and Britain.

That was the moment my Afrikaans-inculcated Calvinist streak tells me to offer the country blood, sweat, tears and toil, and to use the debt problem as an instrument to discipline a self-indulgent, profligate, easy-living, generally lazy, nation. The debt problem was, in political terms, the perfect excuse to keep monetary reins tight, to encourage exports, to discourage imports, and to begin to curb inflation.

Instead, our limp-wristed government "prodded, one suspects, by a kindly Reserve Bank" quickly lost its nerve, began pumping money into circulation through the inefficient

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mechanisms of the public service
(not to speak of corrupt receptacles
in the Bantustans), and stimulated
renewed consumption. Off we went
to the races, complaining all the
while about capital shortages.

Not all was lost. One can whimper
only for so long; then self-disgust
takes over. This countryâ\200\231s real
leaders, who are not necessarily poli-
ticians, seem to have reached the
stage of feeling anything is better
than continued passivity. They are
back on their feet, throwing punches.

It shows in the rapid rise of ex-
ports, achieved in the teeth of sanc- -
tions, in tidy balance sheets, in new
mining ventures, in the gathering
and deployment of very large sums
of capital.

The Urban Foundationâ\200\231s extraor-

dinary scheme to build 40 000 low-cost houses â\200\224 it pyramids R3bn for housing on an initial contribution from three foreign countries of a paltry but symbolic R8m, and everybody makes a profit along the way â\200\224 reminds me that the Dutch empire was built on innovative methods of using limited supplies of capital.

Certainly it would be nice if, like

. Australia, we could stuff ourselves-

with foreign credit â\200\224 â\200\234I'll eat and eat until I'm 'sick!â\200\235 â\200\224 but even the

Aussies have to repay their debts (and I doubt they can, right now). Anyway, if capital does not fall from heaven like manna, one does the best one can.

In the seventies, thanks to an eye-opening course at the Hudson Institute in upstate New York, I formed the opinion that South Africa, if only its government would apply correct policies, was capable of emulating the growth rates that Japan had pioneered: let us say, modestly, 7-10% a year.

â\200\234ad we done so then, every South African would now be twice as rich as he is. But we, burdened with a government of uninformed men immune to advice, did not do so; the Koreans did. So did Singapore, Taiwan, and many other places. India didnâ\200\231t do badly. Brazil, with typical flair, proved that even volatile Latin countries can grow at 10% a year for quite long periods.

Our chance has been lost. The

world has turned colder, and we

shall be hampered for 30 years â\200\224 the memory span of a generation â\200\224 by isolation and sanctions, as Spain was

hampered by Western hostility to Franco. But thatâ\200\231s no reason to lie down and die.

In some ways, indeed, the internal climate has turned favourable as the external climate has become harsh. The debt shock has concentrated the minds of the National Party leaders on the fundamentals of power. They are learning that powerful bureaucracies and big armies, far from being a source of power, are a debilitating drain on it.

Some of them have actually read

Paul Kennedy's book (or the last chapter of it), 'The Rise and Fall of Great Powers', which argues that empires fall when their military commitments exceed their industrial capacity. They are beginning to understand the need to put economic growth first.

So far, the army has had to sacrifice only a war in Angola, but other

Nat favourites are beginning to feel the cold: the Post Office engineers can't buy all the fancy equipment they like; the municipalities, whose palatial quarters in every dorp emphasise misallocation of resources, are under restraints; Iscor and the other former havens of sheltered employment are being flogged off;

currency markets; even the Bureau

of Information admits it must prove itself, but

un to
B .
recover the Spirit

duce something of value, or go out of existence. : ;
The government is approaching the very nub of its problem, which is the same as Mikhail Gorbachev's problem: in the modern, competitive world, economic growth cannot be sustained except in a free society.

" One by one, the obstacles to wealth-

creation are being set aside: pass laws, job reservations, restricted shopping hours, unnecessary capital requirements, foolish municipal controls, mad building standards, and all the foolish restrictions based on the unscientific mumbo-jumbo of race.

Besides, in the past five years we have all black and white peered into the abyss, and recoiled. When the Urban Foundation announced its new housing project, it did so with the (qualified) blessings of Aggrey Klaaste, nation-building editor of

— The Sowetan, and Nthato Motlana

(remember the Committee of Ten), with Ellen Kuzwayo in the audience.

Suffering and fear have herded most South Africans into the same general direction. The word

â\200\234changeâ\200\235 has become an incantation,
often a chant to ward off the devils
that lurk in the shadows of every
South African mind, but also a real-
ity. Indeed, â\200\234howling changeâ\200\235 has, as
Nadine Gordimer observed percep-
tively long ago, become the domi-
nant South African reality.

Where this change will end nobody
can foresee. But the National Partyâ\200\231s
retreat from its destructive
(national-) socialist heritage gives
reason to hope, for the first time,
that economic growth may eliminate
so many legitimate grievances sown
by class and racial oppression that
we shall keep the socialist Pol Pots,
the Maos and Stalins, and even the

Slovos, at bay.

Economic growth is an awesome
force; it can transform a society in a

* generation, as it has done in Japan.

As our beaten government retreats,
it opens the way for the capitalists, if
they dare, to unleash that force.

"silence won
liberate S A,
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s; a leader) (

Mercy reporter

"All pragmatism tells me
that South Africa will never
be liberated by the armed
struggle ...". Africa has begun
to see that the war against the
South African Government
cannot be won, a

These were the words of
KwaZulu Chief Minister Dr
Mangosuthu Buthelezi to Mr
Luis Geraldes, deputy secre-
tary-general of Portugal's rul-
ing Social Democratic Party
and members of his Parlia-
ment, at the weekend.

It had become clear to him,
the Inkatha leader said, that
he made the right choice in
not developing violent oppo-
sition to apartheid, as the
ANC had done.

"At any point in my political
career I could easily have
taken up a leadership posi-
tion within the ANC, either in
exile or in its underground
operations in South Africa,"
said Dr Buthelezi. 1

"All pragmatism, however,
told me this could not be
done and I watched the South
African Government grow
stronger and stronger each
year it was attacked by revo-
lutionary forces, he added.

"The ANC and other revolu-
tionaries are nowhere near
being annihilated and the
S A Government is nowhere
near being defeated militarily

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