

Violent deeds in townships reflect poverty

THE NATAL MERCURY
10-2-89

By Patrick Leeman
African Affairs Correspondent

NINETY percent of township violence in KwaZulu/Natal was perpetrated by black youths between the ages of 15 and 24 and the incidence of violence had increased both in

the formally-established townships as well as the informal squatter-type settlements in the past 10 years.

These are among the conclusions reached by Mr Gavin Woods, director of the Inkatha Institute, in a position paper on research findings into black township violence in KwaZulu/Natal.

Mr Woods says the township youth are the product of an increasingly uncomfortable and unstable environment.

Appalling

There has been no discernible growth in the region's job market and the population growth rate of 4.2% a year 'offers an infallible equation of poverty', he points out.

Mr Woods says the general levels of poverty are 'appalling', with many families bordering on destitution.

A 1987 survey conducted by the institute of a representative cross-section of township communities indicated an average monthly income of R17 a head.

'It is a universal phenomenon that severe poverty radicalises and in so doing breeds anger and aggression,' he writes.

He says there has been a dramatic increase in the levels of violence in as many as 12 separate areas in the region over the past few years.

'It is relatively easy to mobilise the anger of the youth and to direct it,' he says.

He says it is known that, when the presence of the United Democratic Front became visible in the townships from about 1984, an understandable animosity developed between their supporters and those of Inkatha.

'The brutal methods employed are in themselves an indication of an extreme irrationality, implying psychological conditions, rather than a simple clash of political ideologies,' he concludes.

Cosatu link to ANC denied in terrorism trial

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Pietermaritzburg Bureau

A COSATU official denied in the Regional Court here yesterday that Cosatu could be regarded as the trade union wing of the African National Congress.

Mr Alec Erwin was testifying at the trial of a senior official of Cosatu and the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU), Alfred Ndlovu, 38, who is facing charges of terrorism and attempted murder.

Mr Ndlovu pleaded not guilty to the charges at the start of the trial last year.

The attempted murder charges relate to an AK-47 rifle attack on youths at an Inkatha Youth meeting at Emzaweni School near Pietermaritzburg on August 6, 1987, in which 15 youths were injured, as well as the attempted murder of a 41-year-old man, Mr Philip Thabete.

It is alleged that Mr Ndlovu instructed others to kill Mr Thabete because he broke away from the TGWU to form the rival United Workers Union of South Africa (which is affiliated to Inkatha).

The State alleges Mr Ndlovu was an active supporter of the ANC and assist-

ed a trained terrorist, known as Mjitha, on a mission in this country.

Mr Erwin, who was called to testify by the defence, told the Court yesterday Cosatu saw itself as an independent organisation while recognising the ANC as the leading opposition force in South Africa.

When questioned about allegations that Cosatu appeared to consult closely with the ANC, Mr Erwin said the union had not hidden the fact that delegations had met ANC members.

Peaceful

He said, however, a 'wide range of views' were exchanged at such meetings and there was often a divergence of opinion on many issues.

Under cross-examination by State prosecutor, Mr Peter Blomkamp, Mr Erwin said the union was aware that the majority of its members were supporters of the ANC and would be reluctant to criticise the ANC, however, this did not mean to infer that the majority of members supported the ANC's use of violence.

Mr Erwin said while Cosatu had no stated policy towards the ANC's use of violence its own policy was clear.

'Cosatu has stated it will not use violence. We call for a peaceful political settlement of South Africa's problems.'

Mr Erwin said Cosatu and he personally did not view the ANC as a terrorist organisation but saw it as a liberation movement.

In his view a terrorist was a person who used indiscriminate violence for no clear political purpose.

Earlier Mr Erwin told the Court that it was not Cosatu's policy to encourage conflict with Inkatha and the union did not support the use of violence against Inkatha, although they were opposed to many of Inkatha's policies.

He said Cosatu had been at the forefront of various peace initiatives designed to put a stop to the escalating violent unrest particularly in the Pietermaritzburg area.

Mr Erwin said Cosatu supported 'comprehensive and mandatory' sanctions being applied against South Africa in the belief that this would force the South African Government to the negotiating table.

The hearing will continue on Monday.

Mr C Hunt appears for the defence.

KwaZulu Minister hits out at Indian ethnicity

UMZINTO. KwaZulu Education Minister Dr Oscar Dhlomo last night rebuked the Indian community for tardiness about allowing African children into its schools.

It was ironical, he said, that there were now more African pupils in White schools than in Indian schools. And he alleged that Indians had what he called the "most thoroughly ethnic" political parties in South Africa — more so that even the National Party.

Presenting awards at the Umzinto Secondary School Dr Dhlomo, who is Secretary-General of the Inkatha Liberation Movement, said he admired the courage of Indian politi-

cal heroes in the struggle for human rights.

"It is, however, ironical that to date there are more African pupils in White schools in South

Africa than there are in Indian schools.

"This is an anomaly that needs to be addressed seriously by leaders in the Indian community. Sapa.

Citizen

10/2/89

Vlok confronts hunger-strikers

JH AFRICA'S Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, yesterday vigorously defended his government's policy of detaining troublesome political opponents indefinitely and without charge, saying that "according to normal" it was "not always possible to let them guilty".

Mr Vlok was responding to reporters' questions here as details emerged of a wave of hunger strikes sweeping the country's prisons by political detainees fighting what they call the injustice of their plight. More than 40 of the country's estimated 40 detainees were reported to be on hunger strike yesterday. The first of the hunger strikes began 17 days ago with a group of detainees at the Johannesburg prison of Diepkloof. In a letter to Vlok the 20 — one of whom was freed on Friday — said they would continue to refuse food whatever the consequences "unless they were released".

Fifty more detainees at Diepkloof joined the hunger strike 10 days ago and by yesterday the number had reached 118, said Max leman of the Human Rights Commission. One hundred and 20 detainees at a prison in Port Elizabeth, two at Witbank prison Transvaal Province and one at a police station in Johannesburg are also refusing their food. Mr Vlok admitted the hunger strikes were spreading, but said the government would not, as he put it, "go to blackmail".

Some of the hunger-strikers have been held without trial since 1986, when the government introduced a nationwide state of emergency which gave the security forces wide powers of arrest. "We are all the time releasing people and arresting them again," Mr Vlok said. "I don't have enough evidence to take them to court but I have enough evidence of information — available that they have been busy and their activities were detrimental to the security of the public or the maintenance of law and order."

From John Carlin
in Cape Town

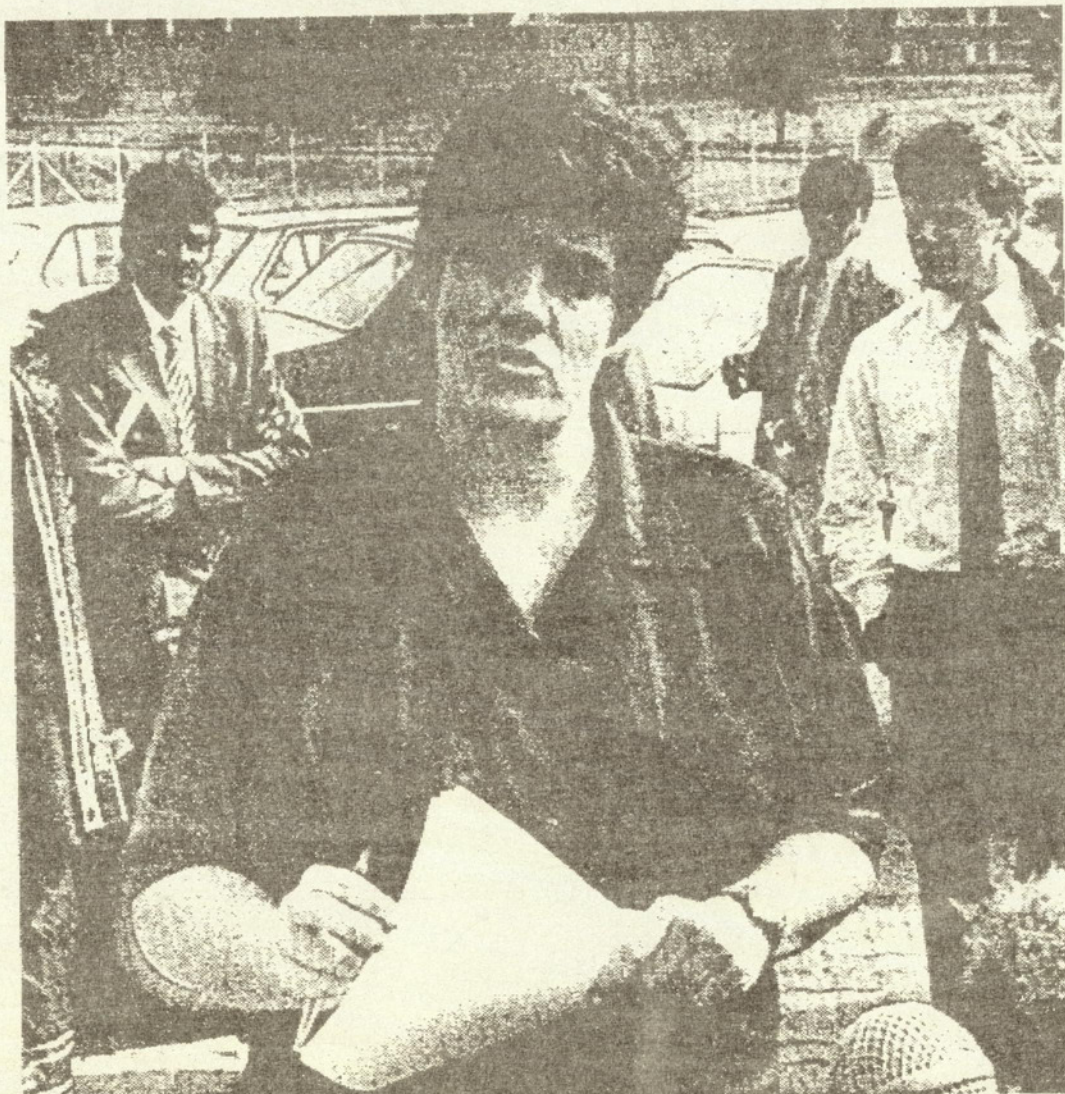
nance of law and order."

Mr Vlok denied that the prisoners had any grounds for complaints of mistreatment and said their fast was being organised "from outside". He also defended what appears to be the indefinite status of the state of emergency regulations. If they were lifted tomorrow, he said, "from the day after tomorrow ... the security problems, unrest and violence will once again start in the country".

Touching on a subject less distressing to the government, Mr Vlok also announced yesterday that he had ordered a thorough police investigation into criminal allegations against a group of youths who have served for some time as bodyguards for Winnie Mandela, the wife of the jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

At a meeting in the Johannesburg township of Soweto last month, community leaders accused the group — known locally as the Mandela United football team — of bullying and brutality, including the abduction and beating of three young boys six weeks ago. One of the three, 14-year-old Stompie Mokheisi, has not been heard of since and is widely believed to be dead. According to a statement by the police released by Mr Vlok's office yesterday, the three boys were taken by car to Mrs Mandela's house, from where Stompie, who was particularly badly hurt, was taken away to an unknown destination by members of "Mandela United".

ANC leaders are known to be appalled at the behaviour of Mrs Mandela's henchmen and worried at the bad publicity that may result as further details of the Stompie case emerge. Mr Vlok, aware that he was sitting on political dynamite, said he was proceeding cautiously with the case so that no one could accuse the government of vindictiveness.



Protestors gather at Johannesburg prison after Mr Vlok's refusal to inspect conditions there.

*The Independent 10 Feb 1989
London.*

Dhlomo questions Indian 'solidarity'

By Patrick Leeman
African Affairs
Correspondent

KWAZULU'S Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, last night said it was ironical that there were now more African pupils in white schools than in Indian schools.

He also alleged that Indians had what he called the 'most thoroughly ethnic' political parties in South Africa — more so than even the National Party.

Presenting awards at the Umzinto Secondary School, Dr Dhlomo, who is secretary-general of Inkatha, said he admired the courage of Indian political heroes in the struggle for human rights. He was also grateful to those who used their influence to help the disadvantaged.

However, the anomaly that there were more African pupils in white schools than there were in Indian schools needed to be addressed by leaders in the Indian community, he said.

Dr Dhlomo said it made a mockery of all claims that they identified with the plight of the oppressed majority.

He found it curious that there was no Indian-led political party which had so far seen the need to admit Africans as members.

He was not raising these points in a carping spirit but in 'love and concern for the future of our country'.

He believed that his Indian fellow-countrymen would find a more fulfilling and rewarding future in South Africa and Africa as a whole 'through solidarity with and not alienation from the oppressed African majority'.

Natal Mercury

10/2/89

Mandela Soccer Club kidnapping probe

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Mercury Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—The police had no evidence that the youth, allegedly kidnapped by members of the Mandela Soccer Club, was dead, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adri-aan Vlok, said yesterday.

Nor had any link been established between the suspects in the murder of Dr Abu-Baker Asvat and the dispute over the Mandela Soccer Club.

Mr Vlok said in a statement, issued at a briefing of the for-

for a considerable time that they could not control him.

'Even though there was speculation in the Press that Stompie was probably dead, the South African Police have no facts to substantiate this.'

On January 26 this year, a black juvenile laid a charge at the Orlando Police Station alleging that he lived at Mr Verryn's home and that 'the minister had committed immoral acts with him'.

A black woman also made a statement that after the youth had reported this conduct,

eight media yesterday, that charges of kidnapping were being investigated by the police against the Mandela Soccer Club and the disappearance of the allegedly kidnapped youth, Stompie Mokhele, was also being investigated.

According to the police's information, members of the Mandela United Soccer Club, who resided at the home of Mrs Winnie Mandela, called at the home of the Rev Paul Verryn, minister of the Methodist Church in Orlando West,

she had taken him to Dr Asvat's for a medical examination.

The next day, Dr Asvat was shot dead in his consulting rooms by a black man and the police were searching for two suspects, Shelela Alphas Myavus, 23, and Zakhele Hlekisana Mbatha, 25.

The Press had blown up the alleged kidnapping and alleged a split between Winnie and Nelson Mandela. Even Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the ANC head office had expressed concern about the

on December 28 last year and removed three black youths who were cared for and stayed at his home.

A fourth juvenile managed to escape, but one of the other three allegedly resisted and was seriously assaulted.

Mr Vlok said: 'The three were taken by vehicle to the house of Mrs Mandela, from where the injured one was taken away by members of the soccer team.'

'Until now, he cannot be traced. He was identified in the media, which gave much

soccer club's alleged thuggery and the detrimental effect it held for the Mandela name, Mr Vlok said.

However, at no stage had a link been established between this issue and the two suspects.

Charges of kidnapping were being investigated by the police after it was alleged that two black juveniles were removed by force by members of the Mandela Soccer Club in 1988 but they had not yet been traced.

'As Stompie Mokhele has no

publicity to the incident, as Stompie Mokhele of Thumahole township, Parys.'

From pictures published in the Press, the police identified him as James Stompie Seipei, 14, from Thumahole, who in 1986, as an 11-year-old established himself as a leading figure in the Thumahole Youth Congress, a UDF affiliate, and in the 'Under Four-teens', a group of juvenile activists in the area.

His father was dead and his mother and grandfather, in whose care he was, had found

relatives to show interest in his disappearance, the South African Police, of its own accord, started an investigation into his disappearance,' Mr Vlok said.

He also said the police were wary of appearing vindictive against Mrs Mandela but various charges and countercharges had surfaced in Soweto.

However, it was very difficult to find witnesses who were prepared to testify against Mrs Mandela.

U S State Department's grim report

Violations of human rights in Africa

THE NATAL MERCURY
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Washington Correspondent

THE US State Department has painted a generally grim picture of human rights violations in Africa and particularly in South Africa where, it says, human rights have suffered a further setback with a tightening of curbs on opposition to apartheid.

The department added, however, that there were positive developments in South Africa, including the release of political prisoners and the commutation of the death sentences for the Sharpeville Six, blacks convicted of murder for being present when a crowd killed a township official.

Nonetheless, the report said, 'the human rights situation in South Africa continued to deteriorate in 1988 as the government took additional measures to repress opposition to apartheid, including nonviolent political activity. Apartheid laws discriminate against blacks in housing, employment and education and serve to perpetuate a gross income disparity between whites and blacks.'

The report said parties advocating stricter enforcement of apartheid had been increasing pressure on the government. It noted the government's effective banning of the United Democratic Front and 16 other anti-apartheid organizations and its prohibition of the Congress of South African Trade Unions' engagement in political activities.

'The state of emergency was extended in June for the third consecutive year, with even tougher restrictions on anti-apartheid groups and the media,' it said. Because of the restrictions it has been more difficult to assess the human-rights situation, but 'best estimates' indicated the government had detained 'hundreds' of non-white opposition leaders and organisers.

There had been 'a disturbing increase' in attacks on civilian targets in the battle between South African security forces and the African National Congress. 'The ANC, with a major change in its military wing at the beginning of 1988, was suspected of involvement in numerous bomb explosions aimed at civilian targets, in part to disrupt the municipal elections held in October,' it said.

Reporting on the rest of Africa it said that in Sudan, where a estimated 100 000 to 250 000 people died from hunger last year, serious civil liberty problems stemmed mainly from the country's civil war. There were credible reports of substantial human rights abuses by government forces, including the arming of militias which killed tribal opposition forces in the south, and as many as two million southerners were displaced by the strife.

Both government and SPLA forces have been accused of torturing civilians. 'There are signs that the government is considering placing limits on Press freedom,' and an initial draft of a law to regulate the Press has been rejected as too lenient, according to the report.

In Burundi last year, an estimated 5 000 people were killed in clashes between the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes that erupted last August. After the violence, in which troops of the Tutsi-dominated army engaged in massive reprisal killings of unarmed civilians, President Pierre Buyoya pledged to give the Hutu more power in government. Here are excerpts from the report about a few other African countries:

ANGOLA

'All major policy decisions are made by a small elite in the MPLA (the Marxist-Leninist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, which also controls all means of mass communication. Open political dissension is not tolerated. Now in its 13th year, the regional conflict involving Angola, Namibia, South Africa, and the internal conflict between the government and the main opposition force, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), again dominated events in 1988.

'The war resulted in numerous allegations that government, Unita, Cuban and South African forces killed civilians and that MPLA and Unita executed political prisoners. The international Press focused on the large number of civilian casualties due to the extensive use of landmines. Upwards of 20,000 persons may

have lost limbs as a result of landmines.

BOTSWANA

'Botswana's human-rights record generally is very good. Pressure from South Africa continued to increase tensions between the two countries. An South African Defence Forces raid in March resulted in the deaths of three Botswana citizens and one South African refugee. An aborted South African operation in June resulted in the arrest of two South African soldiers and several South Africans living in Botswana, all of whom were charged with treason. These were the first arrests under the 1986 National Security Act.

CHAD

'The government continued to hold both a number of persons in detention without charge as well as an estimated 2,000 Libyan prisoners of war. There were summary executions by government forces in 1986. Those who express views critical of the government or hold views different from it may be subject to indefinite detention without trial.

DJIBOUTI

'Significant restrictions on freedoms of speech, Press, association and the rights to a fair trial and to change the government through democratic means. Women have full civil rights, but are in practice treated as second-class citizens.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

'Continued reports of arbitrary arrests, citizen harassment by poorly paid police and military personnel, discrimination against minority groups and migrant workers and the use of forced labour.

Deplorable

'ETHIOPIA'S human-rights record remained deplorable. The constitution, which provides a legal basis for respect for human rights, was hardly adopted before the government declared a national state of emergency in Eritrea nad Tigre and voided constitutional protection there. Following rebel military successes in early 1988, the government expelled expatriate relief workers from Eritrea and Tigre and denied relief distributions to more than a million Ethiopians thought to be at risk of starvation. Both the government and insurgent groups exchanged charges of atrocities committed against civilians.

GHANA

'Significant human-rights problems, with restrictions on basic rights such as freedom of speech, Press, assembly and legal due process. Arbitrary arrest and detention were continuing problems, with instances of incarceration without formal charges during investigations sometimes lasting more than a year.

LESOTHO

'Human rights continued to be tightly circumscribed under the military government. The government imposed a state of emergency due to a dramatic increase in often violent criminal activity, giving the police broad powers of arrest, search and seizure. The government sometimes used excessive force in interrogating suspects. There were several unexplained killings with political implications of persons in police custody.

LIBERIA

'The trend toward improved human-rights observance was set back by several adverse developments. The government countered a bolder Press in April by detaining several journalists and by suspending two independent newspapers and one party newsletter for articles critical of the government. The government's response to two new coup attempts was relatively restrained but several of the alleged conspirators died under unexplained circumstances while in government custody. The government also hit at the right of association by banning all student organizations and continuing restrictions on worker rights to unionize.

MOZAMBIQUE

'Freedoms of speech, press and assembly continued to be tightly circumscribed. Thousands have been killed, with some estimates as high as 100 000 killed by Renamo alone. Ci-

vilians reported many abuses by Renamo and by Mozambican forces. The government ordered the return of expropriated church property and granted full amnesty to almost 3 000 Renamo guerrillas, gave pardons to hundreds of people detained under security laws and tightened military discipline.

NAMIBIA

'Most reports of human-rights violations by government authorities or Swapo involved actions taken in the 'operational area' in northern Namibia, where over half the territory's population lives. The guerrilla war continued and produced a number of casualties. Arbitrary government detention without access to counsel or visits by family members continued, as did restrictions on the freedom of assembly. An extremist white group appeared on the scene and admitted responsibility for destroying the plant of the outspoken newspaper, The Namibian.

NIGERIA

'The government enforced limits on Press freedom; it proscribed organizations and detained persons it considered threatening, including journalists and trade unionists and constrained political expression and association. Nevertheless, the government initiated steps toward the re-establishment of a democratic system but restrictions on freedoms of religion, speech, association and the right of citizens to change their government continued.

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SEYCHELLES

'Human rights continue to be significantly restricted. The Public Security Act, which allows for indefinite detention in security cases, serves to intimidate real and potential opposition. The government also uses exile as a means of suppressing dissent.

SOMALI

'Civil and political rights, including freedom of expression and association, remained tightly controlled, and the government continued to use detention as a primary tool for limiting them.

SWAZILAND

'While human rights are generally respected in Swaziland, there are significant restrictions of free speech and political rights. A July royal pardon of prisoners convicted of treason cleared Swazi prisons of all political prisoners.

TANZANIA

'The government still severely restricts rights of freedom of movement, speech, religion and association, and it also tightly circumscribes all political activity outside the one party.

ZAIRE

'Human rights continued to be substantially circumscribed. The government 'took harsh actions, including the use of arrests and internal exile, to quash activities' of opposition groups. 'Many human rights abuses stem from endemic corruption,' such as arbitrary arrests and extortion from businessmen. The government shut down some prisons, but torture continued to be common in jails and dozens were arrested for distributing political literature the government found objectionable.

ZAMBIA

The human rights situation in 1988 was sharply affected by deteriorating economic conditions which led to imposition of emergency law. This allowed the government to search without warrants and seize goods from suspected black-market traders. Reports of torture by army and police were investigated by courts.

ZIMBABWE

A 1987 agreement to unify the opposition Zimbabwe African People's Union with the governing party of President Robert Mugabe has contributed significantly to a 1988 'trend towards decreased human-rights abuses by government security troops.' Since the formation of a new cabinet in January, political tensions in western Zimbabwe have 'relaxed remarkably.' But the government extended its emergency law decrees which allow lengthy detentions without trial, and there were credible reports that some Mozambican refugees were either refused entry or repatriated by force.

CANADIAN CANT

JUST HOW SERIOUS Canada's Foreign Minister is in bringing stability to southern Africa is made perfectly plain by the fact that he did not even bother to mention to the other seven Commonwealth foreign ministers with whom he is discussing a stepped-up sanctions campaign Mr Pik Botha's letter to him outlining a plan to bring peace to Mozambique.

Instead, Mr Joe Clark sneers to the Pressmen who ask him about it that it may be something for them on 'a slow news day'!

Perhaps it's hardly surprising considering he — and they — are so mesmerised with their sterile sanctions stance and their 'destabilisation' debate.

In case they have forgotten — or, indeed, did not know — we would remind them just why Mozambique is destabilised; Angola too for that matter.

When the Portuguese quit both those sorry states there were no elections to decide democratically who would run them in their new-found uhuru. In Mozambique Frelimo seized power, hence Renamo and civil war; in Angola the MPLA grabbed the reins, hence Unita with the same result.

That is plain straightforward history and neither Mr Clark nor anyone else can deny it.

Whatever ... Mr Botha's move, first broached in a meeting with Mr George Shultz, has now drawn a favourable response from the US State Department.

If the Americans and the Rus-

sians were able to prod us, Angola and Cuba into peace in South West Africa and Angola, there would appear to be no reason why they shouldn't use their good offices to achieve an end to the war in Mozambique.

As Mr Botha pointed out, if it could be achieved in the west, then why couldn't it the east?

But that simple logic is too much for the sanctioneers to stomach; for them the prize is not peace but economic war.

How much more sensible it would be if they were to accept the hand South Africa offers and share in the benefits the region's — indeed, Africa's — economic powerhouse could give them.

To take but one example, peace in Mozambique would switch on Cahora Bassa again to link with the Eskom power grid which already extends almost to Zaire's borders.

Link all the lands and southern Africa could become a real economic force in the world. There is no reason for Africa to remain a mess.

All the politicians have to do is to make up their minds — ideology or prosperity.

Unfortunately, with politicians like Mr Clark, who doesn't have to live around here, we know what the answer will be.

If he can spare the time he might like to explain it to the starving Mozambicans, instead of crying his crocodile tears about their plight in what is officially the world's poorest country.

To what purpose?

THE PRIVILEGE of Parliament, properly and responsibly used, is an essential channel for the disclosure of matters of vital public interest that could not be revealed with impunity in other ways. And when an MP exercises that privilege, as Mr Dave Dalling of the PFP did on Tuesday, newspapers are bound to report what he says.

Nevertheless, we question the wisdom of using Parliament to retail, apparently on hear-say, derogatory remarks that a Nationalist MP, Mr Sam Bloomberg, is alleged to have made at a banquet at which King Goodwill Zwelethini was the guest of honour.

If the slurs were made — which Mr Bloomberg vehemently denies — that is deplorable and inexcusable. But even if they were, is it really a startling revelation of vital public interest that silly and contemptible jibes that are characteristic of racial bigotry the world over are still clandestinely current in the party that spawned apartheid? We don't think so.

Mr Dalling may have hoped for some political mileage. But at whose expense? And to what purpose? Cultivating racial harmony is difficult enough without this sort of gratuitous exacerbation.

Cosatu seminars: 'facts twisted'

Witness Reporter

TRADE unionist Mr Alec Erwin said a state prosecutor's allegation that Cosatu members who attended seminars similar to those held in Harare, were sent there for potential military training by the ANC, was "a twisted construction".

Mr Erwin was giving evidence for defence in the case of Mr Alfred Ndlovu who is charged in the city's regional court on one count of terrorism and two counts of attempted murder.

It made no sense to send Cosatu members to these seminars if this was the case. However, he did agree that the possibility of this happening could occur anywhere or at any time, Mr Erwin told the court.

The prosecution alleged that trade union members who travelled abroad to attend these seminars came into contact with ANC, SACTU and SACP members who could identify them as potential recruits.

Appearing before magistrate Mr G.J. Barnard, Mr Erwin also argued that study tours to countries such as Cuba, USSR and East Germany were to allow Cosatu leaders to gain first-hand experience as to how trade unions operated in socialist countries.

Co-author of An Appetite for Power, Mr Gerry Mare who testified earlier for the defence on the role of Inkatha in Pietermaritzburg, said that Inkatha was out of its jurisdiction when it launched attacks on townships such as Edendale and Chesterville which were not part of the "KwaZulu homeland government".

The trial continues on Monday.

NATAL INITNESS

10 FEBR. 1989

NATAL WITNESS - 10 FEBR. 1989

New wave of killings in Mpumalanga

A WAVE of killings has swept through Mpumalanga township near Hammarisdale with the KwaZulu Police reporting 10 cases since they took over policing the area nine days ago.

Police said yesterday they were puzzled by another new type of crime in which victims were shot in the leg with a shotgun. Three such cases have been reported in five days with one person shot yesterday.

They said Mr Welcome Zulu (30) was knifed to death on Sunday and the body of an unidentified man was found in a house in Mpumalanga on Tuesday.

Mr Bernard Motsilili (40) was

stabbed before he was set alight last week and a schoolteacher, Mrs Gladys Mlotshwa (30), was shot dead at the shop she owned. In the same incident, Mr Bhekabantu David Ndwane (26) was shot and then stabbed to death.

Mr Mdedeleni Mshengu (41) was apparently dragged out of a moving taxi before he was stoned to death.

Four other people were stabbed to death in Mpumalanga last week. They were Mr Mandla Kweyama (27), Mr Alfred Qili Ngcobo (36), Mrs Dominica Mthembu (60) and Mr Baniyena Msomi (36). — Sapa.

Mpolweni murder trial NATAL WITNESS Police wanted 10 FEBR. 1989 me to blame Zuma — witness

Witness Reporter

A STATE witness in a murder trial said in the Supreme Court yesterday that police wanted him to incriminate one of the accused and show that he played a prominent role in the murder of a Mpolweni youth.

Mr Phumalani Zwane said that after one of the accused, Mr Nkosinathi Zuma, was arrested, a police officer, whom he knew only as Nichols, said he wanted Mr Zuma "to go to the gallows".

Mr Zuma is standing trial together with Vukani Ngcobo, a 17-year-old youth; Solomon Luthuli and a 16-year-old youth, all of Mpolweni Mission near New Hanover, for the murder of Mr Ferrington Shange.

Giving evidence under cross-examination, Mr Zwane said police regarded Mr Zuma as an active member of the Mpolweni Youth Organisation and believed him to be "a trouble causer".

He told the court that once Mr Zuma was arrested the police were eager "to palm the blame on him".

When questioned by the presiding judge, Mr Justice Combrink, as to the basis of his statements, Mr Zwane was unable to answer and said he only overheard the conversation of the police officers while he was making his statement.

Mr Shange was killed when he was struck with a bush knife at the Mpolweni Mission grounds on October 28, 1987, following a youth meeting at the mission hall.

Earlier in his evidence Mr Zwane said Mr Shange was not co-operative with other pupils regarding "school strikes" and the purpose of the meeting was "to correct his faults".

The hearing continues today.

Inkatha woman (61) hurt as bus is stoned

Witness Reporter

A WOMAN Inkatha member aged 61 was hit on the head by a rock, and two other people injured when buses taking commuters home were stoned near the Caluza Road turn-off in Edendale on Wednesday.

KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member and Inkatha spokesman, Mr David Ntombela, said that Mrs Catrina Sithole of Ncedemhlope, near Mafakitini in Vulindlela, was on her way home from work when the bus she was travelling in was stoned.

He said Mrs Sithole was admitted to hospital.

The general manager of KwaZulu Transport, Mr Chris Kuun, confirmed the stoning and said the bus had been attacked from both sides and that two people had been injured.

Police said another bus had also been stoned on Wednesday night, and one more person injured.

Mr Ntombela said buses travelling through Edendale were being stoned "only because they are carrying Inkatha members".

Meanwhile police reported yesterday that seven men were arrested after a group stoned a school in Ntuzuma, near kwaMashu.

The return of Basutoland Congress Party (BCP) leader Mr Ntsu Mokhehle to Maseru after 15 years of self-exile could herald a major change in the political fortunes of Lesotho.

Many observers — particularly members of the diplomatic corps — are agog at the arrival of the charismatic leader, who took to the gun under the guise of the Lesotho Liberation Army in the early 1980s in order to show his hatred of the 1965-1986 regime of the late Prime Minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan.

Chief Jonathan seized power in 1970 — and effectively prevented Mr Mokhehle from forming a new government.

He was eventually overthrown in a military coup in January 1986, with a new government formed by Major-General Metsing Lekhanya.

The chief claimed that violence at the polls that summer in 1970 had driven him to declare the elections null and void: what actually happened was that the Basotho nation had already voted Mr Mokhehle into office, and Chief Jonathan, leader of the country since independence in 1966, did not want to let go the reins.

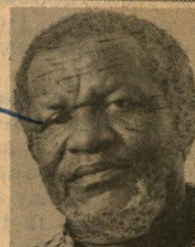
It was a night and a day of high drama that Lesotho was to rue for more than two decades.

A short-lived government of reconciliation was established, King Moshoeshoe II was banished (later to be allowed back, but under severe political restraints), the BCP was to all intents and purposes split, and political activity by the BCP was severely stamped upon and hampered.

South Africa was cast aside, and international socialism was embraced.

Return of party's leader could alter Lesotho politics

THE STAR
10/2/89



BCP leader Mr Ntsu Mokhehle.

BY NORMAN CHANDLER,
The Star's Africa News Service.

With the seizing of power came a major split in the Basotho nation — not a one-to-one split but a multi-split which resulted in the emergence of many political factions.

But it gave the opportunity to the Marematlou Freedom Party (MFP) to rise to a position of strength.

This party has always been the traditionalists' home — and is the party favoured for many years by the royal house, which has over the years secured the friendship of the BCP as well.

The arrival of Mr Mokhehle on Tuesday has given added impetus to the MFP, already being looked upon as the party which will have the power to decide who will govern Lesotho in the years ahead ... provided the military government is prepared to allow civilian elections.

The attitude of rank-and-file Basotho is that a civilian government is now overdue.

The surprise in political and diplomatic circles is that Mr Mokhehle has been allowed to return at all.

It is said that it will have a major effect on the planned municipal elections on March 23.

Mozambican peace initiative a tough task

THE STAR 10/2/89



President Joaquim Chissano ...
'We will not talk to murderers.'

What was accomplished last year in the negotiations brokered by the United States was agreement on the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola and on the implementation of the independence process in Namibia.

There has been no reconciliation between the MPLA government and the Unita rebels in Angola which could be used as an example for a reconciliation in Mozambique between the Frelimo government and the MNR rebels.

Unlike the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), Unita has long-standing and respectable credentials as a liberation movement as well as clear policies and a strong leadership.

The Mozambican rebel group, on the other hand, has shady origins, a little-known leader and vague policies and objectives. It has in addition been accused of widespread and ferocious atrocities.

Pressure

It is therefore unclear what role Mr Botha envisages for the United States in Mozambique.

The Frelimo government will, however, come under increasing pressure this year to reach a settlement with the MNR, but indications are that for the moment no negotiations are in sight.

There has been no comment from the Mozambican authorities on Mr Botha's statement, but it is unlikely that the Frelimo authorities will at this stage agree to any direct negotiations with the MNR.

"We will not talk to murderers," President Joaquim Chissano of Mo-

BY JOAO SANTA RITA,
The Star's Africa News Service

Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha's proposal for the US to mediate in the conflict in Mozambique as it did in the Angola-Namibia dispute is puzzling in at least one major respect — there is no clear parallel between the situation in Mozambique and that in Angola.

zambique said late last year.

Last month, he told foreign diplomats in Maputo that his government expected South Africa to accept its historic responsibility by helping dismantle the MNR rebel operation, but reiterated his stance that there could be no negotiations with the MNR.

There are, however, signs that the Mozambican government is having to adopt a more flexible attitude towards a negotiated settlement of the war.

The authorities have confirmed that they supported the formation of a contact group made up of representatives from the Mozambican churches who are talking to the MNR about ways to end the war.

However, the Minister of Justice, Mr Ali Dauto, said the church group's objective was only to explain to the MNR the terms of the amnesty which President Chissano extended for another year in December.

It was nevertheless the first time that the Mozambican government had admitted the possibility of indirect contacts with the MNR.

Pressure for the Mozambican government to come to some sort of accommodation is also coming from Mozambique's allies.

In November, Tanzania withdrew its army contingent from Mozambique, saying the soldiers had accomplished their mission.

However, some diplomats said Tanzania could no longer afford the costs of keeping thousands of men in Mozambique and other reports said the Tanzanian government had been infuriated by President Chissano's decision to meet President Botha and to reactivate the Nkomati Accord.

In November, the Soviet ambassador to Mozambique, Mr Nikolay Dybenko, caused shock waves in the Maputo diplomatic community when he said that the Soviet government was not going to increase its military aid to Maputo.

Troops

At the same time, Zimbabwe, which has thousands of troops in Mozambique, is coming under increasing pressure as the MNR extends its areas of operations to the Zimbabwean border regions.

The Zimbabwe government says, however, it has no intention of leaving Mozambique. But sources in Harare said last month that pressures on the Mozambican government to seek a peace agreement were likely to increase this year.

The situation in certain areas of Mozambique was, in fact, deteriorating.

The Frelimo leadership appears to be united and President Chissano is firmly in control.

There have been no changes in the Frelimo Party hierarchy since President Chissano succeeded President Samora Machel more than two years ago and although a party congress later this year is expected to introduce formal changes in the party's ideological and economic policies, no leadership changes are expected.

Forsyth story is a THE STAR propaganda ploy

10 FEBR. 1989

I am disturbed by the nature of the coverage you gave to the story about security police spy Olivia Forsyth.

First, you handled it like it was an exposé, whereas, in fact more than 18 months ago, when Forsyth was still being held by the ANC, Nusas announced that they had concrete information that she had been working for the security police.

Second, you published the story without response from groups such as Nusas, Jodac and ECC, and with minimal response from the ANC.

Her story is hardly plausible in many respects, and raises more questions than answers. For example:

- She states that one of her tasks was to spread "disinformation". Why should we believe she is doing anything different now?

- She implies that organisations like Nusas and ECC were part of an "ANC-SACP alliance", and her job was to investigate this. What is remarkable is that in her seven years as a spy not a single Nusas or ECC member has been charged with membership of the ANC or SACP. More to the point, hundreds have been detained without trial and released after months or years without being charged.

- She claims the information she gave the ANC (which she refuses to reveal) was all part of a preconceived plan, and much of it was disinformation. If so, why is she letting them know this now?

- She claims she told the ANC about Joy Harden, and that this was prearranged to increase her credibility. This just doesn't make sense. Why would one spy expose another?

- Was it also part of the security police strategy for the two black agents caught by the ANC as a result of Forsyth's information, to be sacrificed in this way?

- She says that once she was in Luanda she could have escaped at any time, and that she was in contact with her handler. This doesn't explain why she was writing desperate letters to her mother asking them to contact her handler and to "intervene" on her behalf.

My impression is that her story is a carefully orchestrated propaganda ploy and should not be believed.

Yeoville

Mark Radiss

● The Star published a report on a press conference held on January 6 at which Nusas, Jodac, the Black Sash and former members of the ECC (now a restricted organisation) responded to the Forsyth story. The "minimal response" from the ANC is its only one so far. — Editor.



"Stompie" Mokhetse Seipei . . .
missing and believed to be
dead.

Mandela probe officer appointed

By Adele Baleta

The second-in-command of the country's CID has been assigned to investigate allegations of abduction, violence and misconduct levelled at Mrs Winnie Mandela and her football team.

Major-General Jaap Joubert was named yesterday by Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok as the man who would also head the search for youth activist "Stompie" Mokhetse Seipei (14) who disappeared from Mrs Mandela's house in January this year and is believed dead.

Rumours that Stompie's body had been discovered in a Soweto stream yesterday could not be confirmed by the police this morning.

Mrs Mandela's lawyer, Mr Krish Naidoo, said a meeting between the Crisis Committee — made up of community leaders and formed last year to investigate the activities of the team — and Mrs Mandela was held last night.

At a meeting last month, Soweto community leaders accused the team of abducting four youths including Stompie from a Methodist Church house in Orlando West.

Mrs Mandela has, however, claimed the youths were taken from the house to protect them from being sexually abused by a Methodist minister, an allegation denied by church authorities.

The football team, of about 30 members, is said to act as Mrs Mandela's bodyguard, although she has denied this.

The African National Congress in Lusaka and jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela have instructed her to disband the team.

Former team coach Mr Jerry Richardson has said Stompie disappeared from the house with another youth called Kenny about a week after their arrival at Mrs Mandela's home.

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