

AP2002-1-5-29

THE NATAL WITNESS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002

More Harksen allegations of sleaze

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confirm he was called by Morkel. Studer confirmed to Morkel that Harksen was financially very strong "and that if you have me as a friend you will have a lot of advantage out of me if money would be an advantage".

On another occasion after "a few glasses of wine" in another cigar lounge in the city with Morkel and his official speech writer, Kerry Capstickdale, Harksen learnt that Capstickdale was owed R30 000 for work he had done.

"I remember as if it was yesterday that Mr Morkel ... told this Kerry: 'Man, don't forget the R10 000 for me'."

Harksen said he assumed that whatever Capstickdale got, Morkel, who is now mayor of Cape Town, was supposed to get a cut.

He said Markovitz told him he "ensured" that the German Arabella hotel group got a sought-after and ecologically sensitive site for a hotel and spa at Hermanus, and the hotel concession at a new convention centre.

Markovitz said he knew a Mr Schergruber, owner of the Arabella group and a very powerful businessman.

Harksen told Desai that while he has no direct evidence, he heard that Schergruber "looked after" Markovitz.

"Markovitz told me he had ensured for Mr Schergruber the position of the Arabella hotel in the convention centre. He also told me ... that he got a few million rand from the Schergruber family or some company to ensure that both hotels were built."

Last week Morkel and Markovitz released an affidavit signed by Harksen on April 22 in which the German swore he had never given money to Morkel or the DA.

Harksen said the document was brought to him by Paul Katzeff, an attorney who was acting for him and Morkel.

He signed it "under protest", in the belief that he was going to be extradited to Germany, and that it would "help a few friends" in South Africa if he signed.

The affidavit was not the truth, he said.

Harksen said Katzeff earlier, at Morkel's request, asked him to sign another affidavit saying he donated money to the ANC and denying donations to the DA.

"I refused to sign that affidavit," said Harksen.

Harksen is fighting extradition to Germany to face tax and fraud charges.

Although the commission will continue with other witnesses, the rest of Harksen's testimony has been postponed to June 18. — Sapa.

THE NATAL WITNESS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002

Dirty money

THE Harksen scandal should be a powerful reminder to the Democratic Alliance, and especially to its leader, Tony Leon, that the party has always (and loudly) advocated clean governance and prided itself on having hands that were cleaner than anyone else's. This means that as accusations of corruption fly about, Leon should be true to his expressed principles and "come clean", even if it seems to put him and his party in a poor light. If money from Harksen was accepted, and if Leon knew about it, this should be openly acknowledged. If the money changed hands without full understanding of the implications, this should be acknowledged, too. If, on the other hand, the accusations are false, they should be unequivocally denied, with evidence. The way to earn respect, from DA supporters and political opponents alike, is to be honest about it and, if censure or punishment follow, to "take it on the chin".

Instead, the DA and its leader seem to be tying themselves in knots to avoid straightforward answers to the Desai commission of inquiry. Leon has suggested that NNP leader and former DA deputy leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk would have been the first to know about any donation from Harksen. He has also attempted to deflect attention from the DA by saying that no questions have been asked about possible donations to the NNP and ANC. Inherent in this is the suggestion that Judge Siraj Desai is biased in favour of the ruling party: in other words, Leon apparently does not assume, as he certainly should unless there is concrete evidence to the contrary, that a judge by definition is an impartial individual of complete integrity.

All, to say the least, ill-considered and unwise on the part of Tony Leon. For at once it has opened the door to cries of racism from ANC chief whip Nkosi-nathi Nhleko, accusing the DA of contempt for Desai "because he is black", and of contempt for the law Desai upholds. Following this, the Justice Ministry has called on Leon to apologise to Desai and to Parliament. And, tasting blood, other parties, including the NNP and UDM, have been enjoying an anti-DA feast.

If the DA is to have any hope of regaining the squeaky-clean image it has boasted of for so long, Leon and the rest of the leadership need to resolve to tell the truth, warts and all, and take the consequences.

THE NATAL WITNESS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002

Harksen implicates Morkel in more sleaze

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape leader of the Democratic Alliance Gerald Morkel was dragged further into the mud yesterday when Jurgen Harksen resumed testimony before the Desai Commission.

Harksen told the commission that he at one point paid Morkel's rent for six months and funded more than one DA meeting — including, apparently, the provincial founding congress at which Morkel was elected to his post.

He also testified that former Western Cape finance MEC Leon Markovitz told him he received millions of rands in kickbacks from a German hotel chain.

Harksen last week told Judge Siraj Desai that he gave more than a million rand to the DA — a claim which the party has heatedly denied.

After that testimony, on the judge's orders he was placed in protective custody.

Flanked by two armed and flak-jacketed police bodyguards, the alleged fraudster said yesterday that when Morkel was ousted from the provincial premiership and his official residence Leeuwenhof in December last year, a house he was building for himself was still incomplete.

He said Morkel wrote a letter to ask if he was prepared to pay six months' rent for a house in Higgovalle in the city bowl, until the other home was finished.

The letter has since been seized by a police investigator, Piet Viljoen.

Harksen said he handed over R45 000 in cash to Morkel, and a friend who he had introduced to Morkel paid the balance.

Asked by Desai whether he offered the money as a donation, Harksen replied: "No, he expected it as a donation".

Harksen also testified that he gave about R55 000 to Morkel on two occasions for buses and catering at DA functions at which it was important for Morkel to win support.

Although Harksen was vague on the details, it appears one of them was the provincial founding congress in Stellenbosch in November last year, where Morkel was chosen leader.

On another occasion, in a "very funky cigar lounge", Morkel asked whether he was able to come up urgently with a million rand to support the DA.

"I said that's a lot of money, Gerald; I will have to consider my position. I will see what I can do."

Morkel wanted to check whether Harksen had these resources, so Harksen put him in contact with a trustee of his accounts in Switzerland, Walter Studer.

Harksen says Studer, who he says was a Swiss MP, and president of the law society in Lucerne, is willing to appear before the commission to

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THE NATAL WITNESS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002

Leon questions new fuel bill

DURBAN — DA leader Tony Leon yesterday criticised the proposed Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Bill, saying it undermines the government's commitment to an open economy in a globalised environment.

Such an environment is based on the rule of law, but by contradicting the principles of Nepad, the bill also weakens its commitment to Africa, he said.

The bill is aimed at promoting state ownership of mineral rights.

Leon said his party supports Nepad's aims of promoting development in Africa.

"As the mining industry is central to South Africa's economy, we [think] Nepad's theory could be put into practice."

Leon said that the new bill, "superficially represents" an improvement.

"But look a little closer and the effect of the provisions is likely to be the opposite of their intent."

— Sapa.

Trust accounts in courts neglected

CAPE TOWN — Trust accounts in South Africa's courts are in an "atrocious" state, with those in the Umlazi Magistrate's Court, for instance, last having been reconciled in 1960, MPs were told yesterday.

Briefing Parliament's Justice portfolio committee during its budget hearings, chief departmental financial officer Alan McKenzie, who was seconded to the Justice Department by Business Against Crime, also said that only 5 000 of 50 000 maintenance cases in the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court have been paid.

He said he has obtained some quotes for outsourcing the management of trust accounts, and the best one is R13 million.

Committee chairman Johnny de Lange said he is prepared to "take this money even from somewhere else" in the department's budget.

• Money is held in trust accounts for the payment of money to individuals after court orders. — Sapa.

Holomisa will listen to Mandela

JOHANNESBURG — United Democratic Movement leader Bantu Holomisa said yesterday his party will consider joining President Thabo Mbeki's government, but rejoining the ANC is another matter.

Holomisa, reacting to Nelson Mandela's statement that he will try to persuade him to join the government, said that Mandela has already asked him about rejoining the ANC.

"Madiba told me that I am his son and he will force me back to the ANC because he is my father," Holomisa said.

"The matter of joining the ANC is difficult. When it comes to joining the government, that is a matter for the UDM to consider."

Holomisa said the UDM has decided to accord Mandela respect and to listen to what he says.

"Only after we have spoken can we see how to take matters forward," Holomisa said.

There is concern in the ANC that they could lose the Eastern Cape as it continues to slide into chaos.

— Sapa.

Fears of capital vote violence

DEREK ALBERTS
and ZWELIHLE MEMELA

SECURITY will be beefed up at the Ulundi parliamentary complex on Friday when a crucial vote on the legislative capital of KZN is taken.

This comes amid concerns raised by provincial parliamentarians of a possible disruption of the proceedings by protesters.

According to weekend reports, IFP protesters, who support Ulundi over Pietermaritzburg, in line with their party's position, have vowed to disrupt the proceedings if Pietermaritzburg is declared the legislative capital. The IFP has denied the reports.

Deputy Provincial Commissioner Hamilton Ngidi said the SAPS has commenced with an intensive operational plan to ensure the safety and security of the parliamentarians and members of the public who will be in Ulundi on Friday.

The plan will see the deployment of additional police officers in the legislative complex. Static roadblocks will be set up and no person will be permitted to enter the legislature with firearms.

Vehicle patrols will be stepped up in the vicinity of the complex and on all roads leading into and out of Ulundi.

Ngidi assured the public that the SAPS will do everything possible to ensure safety, further appealing to all concerned to adhere to safety measures that will be in place.

Meanwhile, Msunduzi's acting municipal manager Lubasi Mbunwae said the municipality fully supports the resolution of a parliamentary *ad hoc* committee which recommended Pietermaritzburg over Ulundi.

"We fully support and are upbeat about this resolution as it will put this thorny and unfortunate issue to rest," Mbunwae said.

Council speaker Colin Gardner concurred, adding that the final acquiring of capital status will give the city the boost that it and the province need.

Before the democratic transformation of SA, the city had capital status but due to the fragile peace in KwaZulu-Natal, a compromise was reached after 1994 which saw the legislature alternating between Pietermaritzburg and Ulundi at an estimated cost of R50 million a year.

Business sentiment is that PMB must be capital

Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Commerce and Industries president Andrew Layman said business sentiment is that the city is the appropriate capital. "The sentiment is not based on a sense of jingoism, but on the financial implications of establishing a capital."

He said the necessary infrastructure is mostly in place, which translates into significant cost implications.

"Given the hugely extravagant costs associated with having two capitals, it makes sense to settle on a single capital and then choose the appropriate city," he said.

Layman also cited Pietermaritzburg's geographic location, saying the city is equally accessible to all regions in the province. However, the single biggest benefit will be a boost of confidence in the city, he said.

Dullah Omar leads the way with a public HIV test

CAPE TOWN — Transport Minister Dullah Omar tested HIV-negative when he undertook a public HIV test at the Cape Town station yesterday.

"Even if I had tested positive I would have wanted the results to be made public," Omar told journalists shortly after the test at the Blue Train Lounge.

He said he wants to set an example to others in the transport sector to find out their HIV status.

— Sapa.

THE NATAL WITNESS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002

After Bruntville homes are left unfinished...

MEC warns shoddy house developers

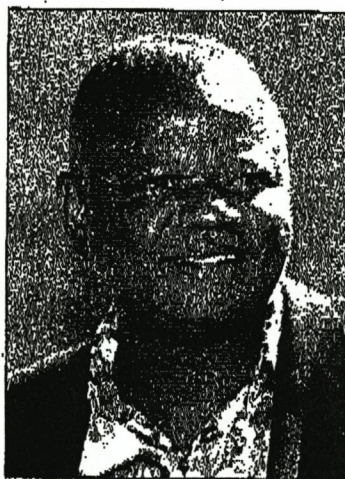
ZWELIHLE MEMELA
Provincial Politics

HOUSING MEC Dumisani Makhaye yesterday issued a stern warning to developers who squander public resources by building shoddy houses.

Makhaye was speaking at the unveiling of a provincial plan for the rehabilitation of vandalised houses in Bruntville, where the developer absconded after having been paid R22 million by the former Local Government and Housing department.

Peter Pitcher, who was the head of Unicorn Development Trust in 1997, was expected to build 1 423 houses in Town View, but he absconded, apparently to Australia, after only 1 232 houses had been shoddily built and some not completed at all.

About 180 of the houses currently stand empty, some van-



Housing MEC Dumisani Makhaye ... vows to 'deal with' renegade developers.

dalised through theft because the beneficiaries have not claimed them.

Makhaye said the closure of Mooi River Textiles and the retrenchment of its workers have compounded the situation as people did not take ownership of the houses.

The Housing Department will conduct an audit to determine the extent of the damage and the Mooi River municipality will provide a list of all beneficiaries who have not claimed their houses with a view to allocating houses to new beneficiaries.

Makhaye urged the community not to house criminals who damage houses and said the municipality will provide security while the houses are being constructed.

Pitcher is believed to be in Australia and his company is under new ownership.

Makhaye said the department will deal with this developer and any others who can think they can breach their contracts and run away with money.

IT'S ALL PART OF A CUNNING
PLOT TO DESTROY THE D.A., I
TELL YOU...



Andy
2002

SOWETAN Wednesday May 29 2002

Mbeki needs Holomisa — Mandela

FORMER president Nelson Mandela confirmed yesterday that he will try to persuade United Democratic Movement leader Bantu Holomisa to join President Thabo Mbeki's government.

Answering questions after being given the Duma Nokwe human rights award at his offices in Johannesburg, Mandela said: "Holomisa is doing very good things for his people and he is a very good leader.

"I think it is important for President Mbeki to surround himself with people like Holomisa and it is in this spirit that I will hold a meeting with him on Thursday."

Mandela said the ANC's national chairman, Defence Minister Mosiuoa Lekota, and the late safety and security minister Steve Tshwete had also approached Holomisa to try persuade him to rejoin the ANC.

Holomisa was expelled from the ANC in 1997 after he questioned former Transkei leader and then public enterprises minister Stella Sigcau — now Public Works Minister — at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

He subsequently formed the UDM with Mr Roelf Meyer, a former National Party cabinet minister, in September 1997. Meyer has since left the UDM.

City Press reported on Sunday that Mandela would meet Holomisa after growing concerns that the ANC could lose the Eastern Cape, as the province continued to slide into chaos.

But Holomisa told *City Press*: "I do not think I will reconsider my position in the UDM and allow it to be disbanded." — *Sapa*

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Premier blames middle and senior managers for gross incompetence and dereliction of duty

All is not well in Eastern Cape – Stofile

Xolani Xundu
Political Correspondent

BISHO — Frustration with the public service is driving Eastern Cape premier Makhankesi Stofile to breaking point as his charges fail in their tasks of managing.

"They do not perform and you cannot fire them. It is not easy to fire people in the civil service," he says.

The central bargaining agreement with the unions says staff must be empowered, re-evaluated (which the province is doing), and then the employer must find other positions where they would be best suited if all else fails.

The Public Finance Management Act gives provinces a tool to use against lazy employees and those with an "I do not care attitude".

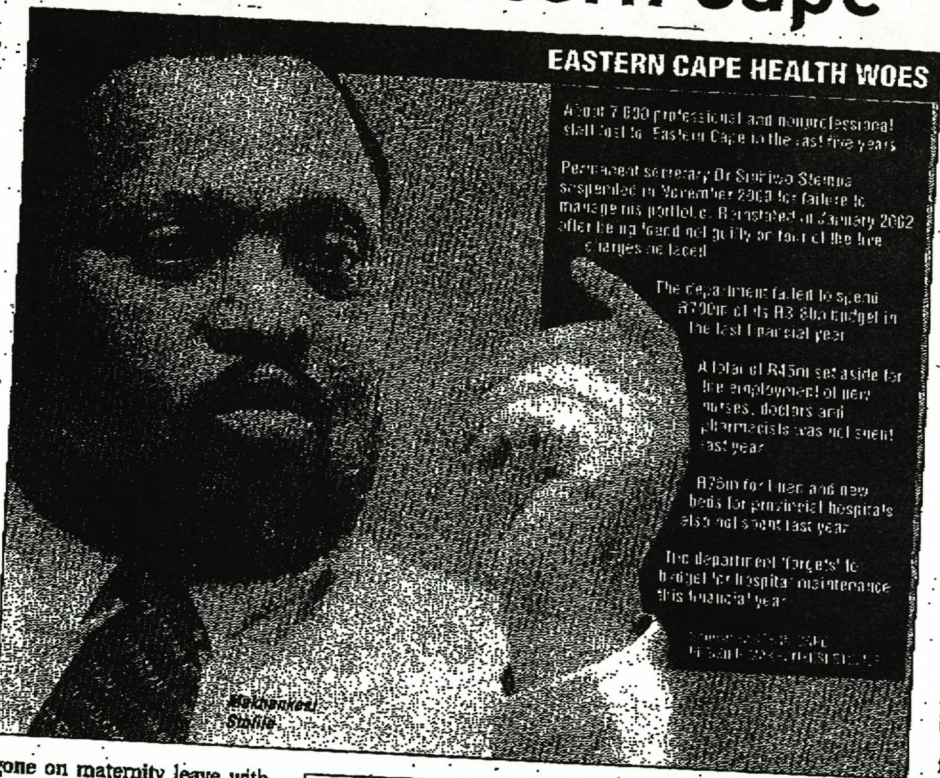
To illustrate his point, Stofile says the permanent secretary in the health department, Dr Sphiwo Stempa, was suspended in November 2000 and hauled before a disciplinary committee because he failed to manage his portfolio.

He got off the hook because the committee found him guilty of only one of the five charges of mismanagement he faced.

"It is as if he had been arrested for possession of dagga. You know if you are arrested for possession of two bags and during the trial the police can produce only one, the case is dismissed," says Stofile.

Taking the education department as another example, here school books were distributed as late as last month in the Maituti area, Stofile said it is not that there was no money for books.

An employee in the district office had taken book orders in the local schools, locked in her office and then



EASTERN CAPE HEALTH WOES

About 7 600 professional and nonprofessional staff lost to Eastern Cape in the last five years

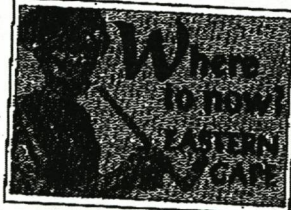
Permanent secretary Dr Sphiwo Stempa suspended in November 2000 for failure to manage his portfolio. Reinstated in January 2002 after he was found not guilty of any of the five charges he faced

The department failed to spend R700m of its R3 800 budget in the last financial year

A total of R45m set aside for the employment of new nurses, doctors and pharmacists was not spent last year

R25m for linen and new beds for provincial hospitals also not spent last year

The department 'forgets' to budget for hospital maintenance this financial year



went on maternity leave without forwarding them to the provincial capital Bisho.

"Now she is facing a disciplinary hearing. These are not difficult things to do, it's just people who don't care," he says.

The problem in the province and the health department in particular, he charges, is not the shortage of funds but rather the inability of managers to manage their portfolios.

"You cannot say there is a shortage of funds when year in year out there is a surplus. That is a contradiction. The real issue here is the poverty of our management in that department," says Stofile.

As a result, the health department's budget was reduced by 2% this financial year

and redirected to the welfare department. "It was not slashed as some commentators would want us to believe," he says.

Stofile says that, in terms of the legal principle of equitable share, government must look at its constitutional obligations.

The Eastern Cape's obligations have compelled it to appropriate more money to welfare because more children must receive grants, and people

must now receive their pensions from the date of application not the date of approval.

These "pressure points" have compelled the province to review its budget and give more money to the welfare department so it can fulfil its constitutional obligations.

"So there is no merit in holding that budget in a department that is not spending it," the premier says.

In terms of national treasury guidelines, the health budget should constitute 19% of the social needs budget. That constitutes R4,1bn for the Eastern Cape. This financial year's budget was R3,9bn.

However, the health department will get its 2%, or R134m, back during the adjustment

budget in September.

"Which is too early still because our experience with that department is that it does not spend its money. In the last financial year they did not spend almost R700m of their allocation," says Stofile.

The health department's capacity to spend is very limited and it will not help to continue to pump money into its coffers.

A total of R45m set aside for the employment of new nurses, doctors and pharmacists was not spent last year, as was R75m for linen and new beds for provincial hospitals.

Turning to the SA National Tuberculosis Association (Santata) debacle which saw hospitals not being given their subsidies and threatening closure, Stofile says a contractual issue caused the delay.

The two parties had by that time not signed a contract "and unfortunately here in government one does not pay service providers without one".

However, when he was informed about the situation he instructed the acting health MEC Max Mamase to speed up the process.

Asked about the differences between Santa and the provincial government, he says he does not know the details.

The problem of mismanagement in the province is not confined to the health department, but is more visible there because it affects people directly.

"It is only a liar who can say everything is okay in the Eastern Cape. We will only be hypocrites to deny the problems we are faced with as a result of apartheid policies.

"Be that as it may, no one can accuse us of not taking a step forward in remedying these problems. I challenge anyone who can make a contribution to come forward," says Stofile.

BUSINESS DAY, Wednesday, May 29 2002

Beeld, Woensdag 29 Mei 2002

X Voorbeeld X

Die besluit van mnr. Dullah Omar, minister van vervoer, om hom vir MIV/vigs te laat toets en die uitslag openbaar te maak, onderstreep die veranderende benadering die laaste tyd van die regering oor die MIV/vigs-krisis in Suid-Afrika.

Tot onlangs was die persepsie dat pres. Thabo Mbeki en sy kabinet in 'n staat van ontkenning is oor die gevaar wat die hoë koers van MIV-infeksie vir Suid-Afrika inhou.

Die ommeswaai het begin toe die kabinet onlangs sy afwysende houding oor die gebruik van antiretrovirale middels vir mense met MIV en vir die beperking van die oordrag van die virus van ma na kind laat vaar het.

Twee jaar gelede, toe die PAC-LP me. Patricia de Lille ander politieke leiers uitgedaag het om hulle vir MIV/vigs te laat toets, het die ANC dit as 'n publisiteitsfoefie afge-
maak.

Omar se moedige besluit is 'n voorbeeld vir Mbeki, die res van sy kabinet en die leiers van ander politieke partye.

As hulle sy voorbeeld volg, kan die bewustheid oor MIV/vigs in Suid-Afrika dramaties verhoog word. Dit sal 'n groot stap vorentoe wees.

Beeld, Woensdag 29 Mei 2002

Politieke geld

Onder die smerige Harksen-skenkingsdebakel smeul 'n brandpunt wat dringend aandag moet kry om die integriteit van die grondwetlike demokrasie in Suid-Afrika te beskerm teen uitbuiting en manipulasie vir eie gewin deur individue, organisasies of selfs ander lande.

Die moddergooiery oor bewerings dat die DA geld ontvang het van die voortvluggende Duitse multi-miljoenêr mnr. Jürgen Harksen beklemtoon net weer eens die behoefte om private skenkings aan politieke partye in Suid-Afrika te reguleer.

Harksen, wat veg teen pogings om hom aan Duitsland waar hy gesoek word om tereg te staan op klagtes van 'n reeks ernstige misdrywe uit te lewer, het voor die Desai-kommissie getuig dat hy probeer het om invloed te koop (klaarblyklik om sy geding met die regering in sy guns te beklank) deur skenkings aan die DA en die Wes-Kaapse politikus mnr. Gerald Morkel te maak. Morkel was Wes-Kaapse premier ten tyde van die beweerde skenkings.

Suid-Afrikaners kan met reg vra waarom iemand wat voor die gereg vlug geld aan invloedryke Suid-Afrikaanse politieke partye en leiers sal wil skenk. Die vrae behoort egter nie net beperk te wees tot Harksen en die DA nie. Uit die politieke storm wat Harksen ontketen het, blyk dit onder meer ook dat die regerende ANC glo die afgelope jare reuse-bedrae ontvang het uit oorde wat meer as 'n wenkbrou behoort te lig. Ons herhaal ons vorige standpunt oor dié kwessie, naamlik dat daar 'n dringende behoefte in Suid-Afrika is om skenkings aan politieke partye, van watter aard ook al, te onderwerp aan deursigtige en verkieslik onafhanklike regulering.

Politieke partye behoort soos wat dit die geval is met individuele verkose nasionale en provinsiale politici, statuer verplig te word om skenkings – die aard, omvang en oorsprong daarvan – op 'n gereelde grondslag vir die publiek se insae te openbaar. Die tyd is ryp vir die vestiging van meganismes om politieke skenkings te reguleer.

'n Goeie vertrekpunt sal wees om 'n regterlike kommissie aan te stel om die kwessie behoorlik te bekyk en met werkbare voorstelle te kom – nie in belang van die politici nie, maar van die land.

'Morkel' het my gemelk'

Harksen moes glo leier én party onderhou

Philda Essop

Kaapstad. – Mnr. Gerald Morkel, burgemeester van Kaapstad, het mnr. Jürgen Harksen, vermeende swendelaar wat in Duitsland gesoek word, glo gemelk vir geldelike bystand, het die Desakommissie gister gehoor.

Harksen het getuig dat hy Morkel se huurgeld vir 'n huis in Higgovale in Kaapstad in Desember verlede jaar betaal het.

Hy het glo ook sowat R55 000 vir vervoer en verversings by DA-vergaderings betaal.

Volgens Harksen het mnr. Leon Markovitz, voormalige Wes-Kaapse LUR vir finansies, aan hom gesê hy het "miljoene" van die Arabella-hotelgroep van Duitsland ontvang.

Hy het gesê Morkel het hom verlede jaar genader om sy huurgeld vir ses maande vir 'n huis in Higgovale te betaal nadat hy uit Leeuwenhof moes trek. "Sy huis in Tokai was nog nie voltooi nie en hy het geen heencome gehad nadat hy skielik uit Leeuwenhof moes trek nie. Hy het gevra of ek sal omgee om sy huurgeld van R8 500 vir ses maande te betaal.

"Ek het sowat R45 000 in die Seeff-trustrekening inbetaal. Dit is later gekanselleer en ek het die geld konstant betaal. 'n Vriend van my het die res betaal."

Harksen het getuig dat Morkel hom twee keer genader het om geld vir DA-geleenthede.

"Hy het my verlede jaar gebel omdat hy R35 000 vir 'n groot DA-konferensie nodig gehad het."

Tussen R15 000 en R20 000 vir vervoer en verversings is ook aan Morkel oorhandig vir 'n partyvergadering by die stadsaal.

Volgens Harksen het hy Morkel later by 'n byderwetse kroeg in Seepunt ontmoet waar Morkel hom vir R1 miljoen gevra het.

"Ek het aan hom gesê ek sal kyk wat ek kan doen. Morkel het by die selfde geleentheid gevra of ek R100 000 kon bydra vir die bou van sy huis. Ek het hom nooit geantwoord nie.

"Morkel wou ook weet of ek tussen R1 miljoen en R4 miljoen per jaar aan die DA kon skenk.

"Hy het gevra of daar iemand is wat kon bevestig dat ek die geld gehad het.

"Mnr. Walter Studer, 'n LP in Luzern en een van my trustees, het uit Switserland aan Morkel bevestig my geldsake is gesond en dat jy baie voordele het as jy my vriend is."

Hy het getuig dat hy 'n ope brief in 'n Kaapse dagblad wou plaas omdat hy ontsteld was oor 'n berig oor hom.

Morkel het hom by 'n restaurant voorgestel aan mnr. Kerry Capstick-Dale, wat sy toesprake gaskryf het.

"Ná 'n paar drankies het ek agtergekom dat die DA hom R30 000 vir toesprake skuld. Ek onthou asof dit gister was dat Morkel aan Kerry gesê het hy moenie vergeet om aan hom R10 000 'kommissie' te gee nie," het Harksen gesê.

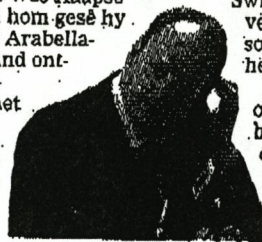
Capstick-Dale het gister in reaksie gesê dié getuients is belaglik.

'n Beëdigde verklaring wat hy op 22 April by die Goodwood-gevangenis onderteken het, is onder protes onderteken, het Harksen gesê.

"Morkel wou hê dat ek 'n beëdigde verklaring onderteken dat ek geld aan die ANC geskenk het. Ek het geweier om dit te onderteken."

Harksen se kruisondervraging is tot 18 Junie uitgestel.

■ Nog 'n berig, foto op bl. 2.



Harksen

Beeld, Woensdag 29 Mei 2002

Stryd om Winnie se skuld aan bank begin

Fantie van der Westhulzen

Die eerste skote in 'n bitter regstryd tussen FirstRand Bank (FRB) en mev. Nomzamo Winniefred (Winnie) Mandela, oftewel me. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, oor haar krediet- en petrolkaart-skuld van R103 620,88 plus rente, het gister in die hooggeregshof in Johannesburg geklap.

Die kredietkaarte is in Julie 1994 aan haar uitgereik. Luidens die hofstukke het sy sedert Januarie verlede jaar nie die maandelikse terugbetalings gedoen nie.

Sy het nie FRB se aansoek om 'n summierse vonnis teen haar aanvaar nie en het ook gister die bank se eksekusie teen haar pleit teengestaan. Madikizela-Mandela het verder beweer dat sy 'n teeneis van R1 miljoen teen die bank ingestel het.

Daar is reeds op haar luukse Mercedes-Benz S320, asook die herehuis in Soweto waar sy en oudpres. Nelson Mandela voor hul egskedding gewoon het, beslag gelê.

Sy moet aanstaande week voor 'n parlementêre etiek-komitee getuig oor skenkings van meer as R55 000 per maand om haar lewenstyl te kan handhaaf.

Sy het glo nie dié skenkings verklaar nie.

Luidens hofstukke wat voor regter E.L. Goldstein dien, skuld Madikizela-Mandela, 'n dienende lid van die parlement, sedert Januarie 2000 die geld plus rente aan die bank weens wanbetaling.

Vyf rekenings wat sy by FRB gehad het, is intussen deur die bank gevries hangende die uitslag van die saak.

Sy is op borgtog van R5 000 vrygelaat weens beweerde bedrog waarby meer as R930 000 betrokke is asook 'n diefstalklag van R10 000. Sy sal in Julie in die hof in Pretoria op dié aanklagte verskyn.

Mandela was nie gister by die hof nie.

Adv. Lötter Wepener, SC, vir FRB, het aansoek gedoen dat Madikizela-Mandela se pleit ekspieërbaar is en dat sy geen verweer teen haar skuldoorsaak aan die bank kan opper nie.

Sy is volgens Wepener dus nie op uitstel geregtig nie omdat sy verder aanvoer dat haar "hewige sosiale en werksprogram dit nie toelaat dat sy haar volle aandag aan die saak kan skenk nie".

Hy het verder aangevoer haar beweerde teeneis teen die bank hou nie steek nie en dat sy om uitstel vra om tyd te wen.

Die aansoek word vandag voortgesit.

Beeld, Woensdag 29 Mei 2002

Bykomende veiligheid vir debat oor KZN se setel vir wetgewer

Dries Liebenberg

Durban. - Die polisie en weermag tref streng bykomende veiligheidsmaatreëls vir 'n sitting van die Kwa-Zulu-Natalse wetgewer einde van-deesweek in Ulundi wanneer die lot van dié dorp as wetgewersetel gedebatteer gaan word.

Gerugte van planne vir groot betogings by die wetgewergebou en die lughawe waar politici per vliegtuig sal aankom, asook uitsprake die afgelope weke dat bloed sal vloei, het gelei tot 'n versoek vir bykomende veiligheidsmaatreëls.

Swepe van drie partye wat Pietermaritzburg as enigste setel vir die wetgewer steun, het vroeër die speaker, mnr. Bonga Mdeletshe, genader weens kommer oor LPW's se veiligheid.

Komm. Hamilton Ngidi, adjunkhoof van die polisie in die provinsie, het gister gesê 'n intensiewe operasionele plan word opgestel wat padversperrings langs toegangsroetes en voertuigpatrollies in die omgewing van die wetgewergebou insluit.

"LPW's kom na my toe en spreek vrese oor hulle veiligheid uit - ek moet as hoofswep op die ou end vir hulle kan sê stappe word gedoen," het mev. Ina Cronjé van die ANC gister gesê.

Mnr. Tino Volker, NNP-hoofswep en voorsitter van die komitee wat Pietermaritzburg as setel aanbeveel, het daarop gewys dat mense tydens die opening van die wetgewer uit die openbare gallery gedreig het dat sekere politici "met spiese in die rug gesteeke sal word".

Ondanks bilaterale gesprekke wat verlede week tussen die ANC en IVP begin is om probleme in die koalisie uit die weg te ruim, was die aanduiding gister dat die proses om 'n enkele wetgewersetel te kies, voortgaan.

"Die ANC-mandaat is steeds dat hy die komitee se aanbeveling steun - niks het nog gebeur om dit te verander nie," het Cronjé gesê.

Mnr. Blessed Gwala, IVP-LPW, het gesê die gerugte oor groot betogings wat deur ondersteuners van sy party beplan word, is niks meer as kwaadstokery nie om Ulundi onveilig te laat lyk.

Hy het outken dat die IVP betogings reël, maar gesê hy verwag dat groot getalle mense Vrydag se sitting sal wil bywoon.

Beeld, Woensdag 29 Mei 2002

Leerlinge gooi polisie met klippe ná skote

Liela Magnus

Skoolkinders van die Zithobeni-plakkerskamp buite Bronkhorstspuit, sowat 50 km oos van Pretoria, het kort ná dat hulle glo deur onstoke inwoners van die plakkerskamp met sambokke uit hul klaskamers geboender is, meegedoen aan 'n woede-uitbarsting teen die plaaslike owerheid.

Die polisie het ingegryp en die oproerige skare met rubberkoeëls uitmekaar gelaag.

Die inwoners is boos vir die Kungwini-munisipaliteit omdat daar nie aan hul eise voldoen word nie. Hulle eis onder meer die afdanking van die burgemeester en drie raadslede, beter instandhouding van die rioolstelsel, 'n eenvoudige voorafbetaalde elektrisiteitstelsel, gratis basiese water en elektrisiteit en dat gesinne met lae inkomste gesubsidieer word.

Sewe mense is gisteroggend na die geweld in die Bronkhorstspuit se private hospitaal behandel.

Die menste is beseer toe sowat 500 leerlinge van die Dan Rutumela hoërskool in Zithobeni, en lede van die gemeenskap gedrae het om die Zithobeni-polisiekantoor te beset.

Die oproeriges het aan die betings begin ruk en die polisie met klippe gegooi. Leerlinge het uitmekaar gespat toe daar op hulle geskiet is en die roeëhede met klippe beantwoord.

Die drama het eergisteraand begin toe 'n vergadering van die Zithobeni-gemeenskapsorganisasie in die gemeenskapsaal handuit geruk het. Oproerige inwoners het twee raadslede se huise met petrolbomme bestook en nog 'n raadslid se huis het onder klippe daargeloo.

Busi Msiza (42), lid van raads lid Christopher Rankune, was by die bure toe die betogers by hul huis opdaag.

"Ek het hulle hoor sing. My oom het vroeër gebel en gesê ons moet na die bure gaan omdat hulle ons huise gaan afbrand. Ek was baie bang." 'n Petrolbom het haar tas en

skoolboeke aan die brand gestee. Gisteroggend vroeg het inwoners 'n vullisverwyderingsvragmotor van die munisipaliteit aan die brand gestee. Daarna het hulle na die polisiekantoor opgeruk.

"Almal het die reg om te betoog,

maar niemand het die reg om iemand te bescadig nie. Ek is bekommerd oor die mense se optrede," het mnr. Alfred Oumenga Nkabinde, burgemeester van Kungwini, plaaslike munisipaliteit vir die distrik Matsiengwe gesê.

Volgens hom het die raad op 10 Mei die gemeenskapsorganisasie se klage beantwoord. 'n Komitee is aangestel bestaande uit vyf lede van die raad en vyf lede van die gemeenskap.

Hy het gesê die komitee werk aan die probleme maar dit kan nie oornag verander nie omdat daar gemeenskappe in die gebied is wat meer behoeftig is.

Begrotingbeperkings is ook genoem as rede vir die stadige voorleing.

Munisipale dienste is opgeskort en die munisipaliteit se kantore is gesluit omdat daar vir werkers se lewens gevrees word. Nkabinde wou nie sê wanneer dienste hervat sal word nie.

■ lmagnus@beeld.com

● Minister ontstoke omdat vakbonde regulasies nie wil aanvaar

'Groot Krokodil Fraser-Moleketi'

Sonja Carstens

Die regering sal Saterdag regulasies afkondig wat staatsdepartemente in staat sal stel om voort te gaan met transformasie en die herskikking van die staatsdiens.

Staatsdiensvakbonde waarsku dat dié regulasies regstappe en 'n staking van staatsamptenare tot gevolg kan hê en dat dit toekomstige ver-

houdings skend.

Dit kom nadat me. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, minister van staatsdiens en administrasie, gister staatsdiensvakbonde wat wêreld om die voorgestelde ooreenkoms te onderteken, as "lafaards" en "die ou getooi as die nuwe" uitgekryt het.

Luidens 'n verklaring van die Health and other Services Personnel Trade Union of South Africa (Hospersa) het Fraser-Moleketi se "beledigende woedeaanval" hulle herin-

ner aan die "dae van die Groot Krokodil".

"Is dit nie dalk die nuwe getooi in ou klere nie? Dit is duidelik dat die regering sy sin wil hê. Dit is geen demokrasie nie en dit is net so kras soos in die apartheids-era," lui Hospersa se verklaring.

Fraser-Moleketi het verlede week in die parlement aangekondig dat die regering sy laaste aanbod eensy-

dig toepas nadat onderhandelings 'n dooie punt bereik het.

Net vyf van die 12 vakbonde het dit onderteken.

Sy het vakbondleiers gepra om

"Dit is geen demokrasie nie en dit is net so kras soos in die apartheids-era."

met haar te vergader, maar het met haar gevolg by die vergadering uitgestap toe vakbonde volhard het in hul besluit om nie te teken nie. Hulle is gekant teen die klousules wat vir afdan-

kings en 'n afgeskaalde skeidingspakket voorsiening maak.

Me. Tembela Kulu, woordvoerder van Fraser-Moleketi, het ontken dat sy dié vakbonde beledig het. Kulu

meen dit is jammer dat die vakbonde 'n uitdaging om hul steun aan transformasie te wys, as 'n belediging beskou.

Mnr. Anton Louwrens, hoofbestuurder van die Vereniging van Staatsamptenare (VSA), het gesê daar was nie gronde vir Fraser-Moleketi se uitbarsting nie. Dit is jammer dat sy dié houding verkies.

Volgens mnr. Thulas Nxesi, sekretaris van die Suid-Afrikaanse Demokratiese Onderwysersunie (Sadou),

sal dié vakbond 'n dispuut teen die regering verklaar en arbeidsaksies oorweeg.

Hy wou nie oor die besonderhede van dié aksie uitwy nie.

Sadou, die grootste vakbond in die staatsdiens, is die enigste Cosatu-vakbond wat nie die voorgestelde ooreenkoms onderteken het nie.

Dié vakbond het ook nie gister se vergadering met Fraser-Moleketi bygewoon nie.

■ scarstens@beeld.com

THE MERCURY

Wednesday, May 29, 2002

EMOTIONS RUN HIGH AS POLICE POUR IN

Ulundi braces for capital vote

XOLISA VAPI & BHEKO MADLALA
POLITICAL STAFF

POLICE are working on a massive security plan to avert a potentially explosive situation in Ulundi where politicians will finally vote on Friday on whether Pietermaritzburg or Ulundi should be the seat of the KwaZulu-Natal legislature.

The tightening of security comes amid threats of war and bloodshed if the IFP's choice of Ulundi fails to get the nod.

With emotions fast reaching a crescendo in the run-up to the vote, the stage is set for a robust parliamentary debate or even a potential scuffle between IFP diehards and the police.

Parliamentary speaker Bonga Mdlotshe met the provincial police management yesterday to thrash out a final security plan around the legislative assembly, and in Ulundi which is poised to become a police town when security members are dispatched there.

As part of the elaborate security plan, police will set up several roadblocks and the vicinity of the legislature will be cordoned off. Police will also patrol roads leading to Ulundi.

"We have commenced with an intensive operational plan to ensure the safety and security of all members of parliament and the community," deputy provincial police commissioner Hamilton Ngidi said.

The heightened security arrangements have been triggered by emotive political talk, with ANC and IFP leaders carelessly throwing mud at one another, raising fears that Friday's vote could lead to an ugly skirmish.

A 15-a-side ANC-IFP meeting could not resolve the capital impasse which has added to the strained relations in the provincial government between the two parties.

An IFP leader was recently reported as saying

Zulus would rather "go to war" than watch Ulundi losing its current status. Premier Lionel Mtshali once told the legislature that making Pietermaritzburg the seat of the capital would be tantamount to the "second burning of Ulundi".

The IFP is believed to be organising a protest march leading to the legislative compound on voting day.

ANC MP Bhekile Cele said a suggestion by the IFP's Mr Albert Mncwango that IFP members had a right to demonstrate could worsen an already volatile situation. IFP national spokesman Musa Zondi would not comment on the stepped-up security yesterday.

Blow

The IFP's chances of having Ulundi as the seat of the legislature were dealt a crushing blow when a parliamentary-appointed multiparty ad-hoc committee unanimously recommended Pietermaritzburg for the seat of the legislature.

The IFP had boycotted the committee's proceedings, saying it was still "consulting with our people". IFP Chief Whip Hulumeni Gumede questioned how an 80-member legislature could take such a decision affecting about 8 million people who inhabited KwaZulu-Natal.

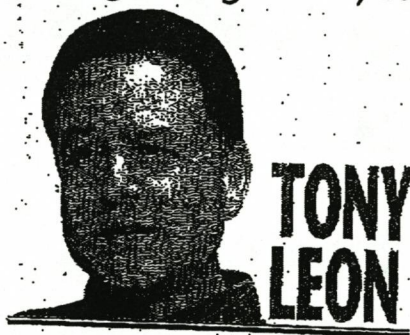
Gumede said the constitution stipulated that there should be public consultation and participation before such a decision could be arrived at, the same procedure that was followed in the legislature's law-making process.

The ANC's Mtholephi Mthimkhulu said there was "definitely no change" to its position that Pietermaritzburg should be the seat of the legislature. Democratic Alliance Chief Whip Belinda Scott could not agree more.

It is said an estimated R50 million of taxpayers' money would be saved if a vote for Pietermaritzburg were to succeed.

We will not be bullied into silence

The Desai Commission is part of an ANC campaign to smash the Democratic Alliance because it is seen as a growing threat, says DA leader Tony Leon



South Africa is because the opposition is becoming a threat. The ANC has the same research and experience on the ground that we have.

It knows that its own support base is increasingly and deeply dissatisfied with performance in government. It knows too that the DA's support among black South Africans is on the increase.

AND so it is not enough to brand us racist. A more effective campaign is required, and includes:

1. Making a deal with the NNP in an attempt to deal the DA a body blow.
2. Changing the law to make that deal possible and to gain power in the Western Cape and Cape Town.
3. Using the power of the state to undermine and damage the DA - the Desai Commission being the best example.

4. Using agencies of the state, including the police in parts of Cape Town, to harass black DA members.

But let me assure you, the ANC/NNP campaign to destroy opposition in South Africa will not stop here. It will go on. It will intensify. It needs to be resisted.

Let me be very clear about how the DA will respond to the assault on democracy: we will not be intimidated, manipulated or harassed into silence or submission. We will not stand back or retreat into the minority cul-de-sac allotted us by the ANC. We will not respond with gentle, pleading words.

No. We will fight with the most potent weapon at our disposal: the truth. We will continue to tell the truth to the people of South Africa, and continue to win their support.

We will convince growing numbers of ANC supporters that real democracy and true freedom lies with the DA. And the ANC will learn the lesson that they of all people should already know: that at the end of the day, real power always lies with the people.

So let no one be in any doubt: the DA will fight and fight and fight again for democracy in our beloved country, to the very end.

□ This is an edited version of a speech by Tony Leon MP, Leader of the Democratic Alliance, at the Royal show in Pietermaritzburg on Sunday.

THE machinery of state is being used, and abused, in order to damage the DA as much as possible on the eve of the promulgation of floor-crossing legislation, so that the ANC/NNP can maximise their chances of taking control of Cape Town, the last remaining major centre of opposition power in South Africa.

In April this year, allegations surfaced that Mr Jurgen Harksen had made donations to the Democratic Alliance in the Western Cape and to Mr Gerald Morkel in his personal capacity.

Naturally, the DA took these allegations very seriously. I have made it absolutely clear that we will take immediate and appropriate action against any member who is found to have been involved in corrupt or illegal practices. That remains my absolute, plain assurance to the people of South Africa. That I knew about alleged donation is a lie, plain simple.

Since these allegations surfaced, terms of reference of the Desai Commission, originally established by Premier Peter Marais to investigate allegations of bugging in the provincial government office building, were expanded so the NNP and ANC could use it to damage the DA with Mr Harksen's allegations.

Thus the chairman of the commission on Tuesday last week says donations to the DA are on his terms of reference and

on Thursday prompts Mr Harksen to name me, which leads to predictable newspaper headlines.

This is scandalous, dangerous and unacceptable in a constitutional democracy such as ours. It is a serious abuse of power for any government member to use the machinery of state to settle political scores. Mr Marais, with Mr Ebrahim Rasool's help, has set up a commission of inquiry in order to embarrass his old rival, Mr Morkel. A commission of inquiry which is utterly unnecessary, already being investigated by the Scorpions and the trustees of Mr Harksen's estate.

And it is unwise for a judge to make himself available for such an exercise. My party and I have a long, consistent track record of respect and regard for the judiciary. But when someone steps down from the Bench and becomes the chairman of a commission designed as a score-settling exer-

cise, he takes the dangerous step of entering into the realm of politics.

Judge Desai is a former ANC branch chairman, an old friend and partner of minister Dullah Omar and a close friend of Mr Rasool. Now there is nothing wrong with these relationships in and of themselves, but they become highly problematic in the partisan and deeply charged political environment that ensues when a government member uses his

powers to establish a commission for personal or political reasons.

The machinery of state is being used, and abused, in order to damage the DA and is nothing less than an assault on democracy: there is a serious, considered, determined attempt to destroy real opposition in South Africa. And the leadership driving this comes from the top of the ANC.

The reason why the ANC feels it needs to destroy opposition in

THE MERCURY
Wednesday, May 29, 2002

Scorpions 'to investigate politicians'

TONY WEAVER
Cape Town

THE Scorpions are investigating criminal charges against several "senior and prominent politicians" as a result of information gathered in the investigation about German fugitive Jürgen Harksen.

A spokesman for the elite police unit, Sipho Ngwema, told The Mercury yesterday: "This is a criminal investigation, and it is ongoing and sensitive. Senior and prominent politicians are being probed, but I don't want to say at this stage which (political) institution is involved."

Asked whether he was referring to the Democratic Alliance, he replied: "No comment," but added "we are taking this extremely seriously."

He said that "we want to finish this as soon as possible".

The Mercury understands the Scorpions are acting on information gathered from, among other sources, senior Absa official Erik Marais, who has been

allegedly implicated in the movement of DM99 000 in an alleged cash donation to the DA through bank funds.

Ngwema's comments came at the end of another day of high drama at the Desai Commission of Inquiry, at which Harksen made dramatic claims of new funding he helped arrange, or gave, to mayor Gerald Morkel, former provincial finance minister Leon Markovitz, and the DA.

His claims were later the subject of a string of vehement denials from virtually every person or party he named, although Morkel said late yesterday he would not be making any comment.

And despite Morkel's claims to the Cape Times when the newspaper first revealed news of his relationship with Harksen on April 11, that he had met Harksen "perhaps three times", it emerged yes-

terday they were "lovely friends".

This was the wording of a guest book entry made by Morkel at Maximilian's restaurant on February 9 this year.

In other developments yesterday:

□ Harksen said Morkel had solicited R100 000 from him for the building of a garage.

□ Harksen claimed he paid at least R55 000 to help fund catering and transport for two DA functions in support of Morkel.

□ Harksen said he funded Morkel's rent on a house in Hlggoale to the tune of R45 000, money that Morkel "expected as a donation" — an allegation first reported in the Cape Times on April 11.

□ Harksen said he paid Markovitz R500 000 in Deutschmarks as part payment of R750 000 for the Sports Cafe at the Waterfront. The money had been paid in cash for "tax reasons".

□ The handover of the cash took place in prominent attorney Abe Swersky's office in Swersky's presence, an allegation Swersky has



JÜRGEN HARKSEN
'Funded DA'

denied.

□ Markovitz was paid "a few million rands" by the Schörghuber group, 51%-owners of the Arabella Country Estate at Kleinmond. This was to ensure smooth passage of the development of the environmentally sen-

sitive land, and to ensure preferential treatment of the Arabella's application for the hotel site at

the Cape Town Convention Centre.

□ Finance MEC Ebrahim Rasool has sought an urgent meeting with the board of Arabella, and is considering a forensic audit into the granting of the Convention Centre hotel site to Arabella.

□ Morkel allegedly received R10 000 of every R30 000 paid to image consultant and speech writer, Mr Kerry Capstickdale, an allegation Capstickdale has dismissed as being nonsense.

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OPPOSITION: PAGE 9