

INJURED: Bagwell lies on the tarmac in the wreck of his Ford, aw

-

ational Speedway on Friday 310 the rescue crew

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Bitter war of

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words rattles IFP

. Relations between the Inkatha Free-
dom Party and the African National
"+ Congress took a nosedive this week
- after a surprise attack by IFP leader
...:Mangosuthu Buthelezi and a damn.-
~* ing analysis of the IFPâ\200\231s role in the
Government by the South African
Communist Party.

The latest signs of tension
between the IFP and the ANC
appeared amid growing uncertainty
over the IFPâ\200\231s ability to retain politi-
cal control of KwaZulu Natal in the
election.

Fears are mounting that the poor
relations between the IFP and the
ANC will result in more violence in
the province.

Mr Buthelezi rocked the boat
this week when he claimed sus-
pended Foreign Affairs official
Robert McBride had supplied arms
to ANC members to assassinate IFP
leaders.

Mr Buthelezi made the allega-
tions, which have been denied by the
ANC and Mr McBride, ahead of Mr
McBrideâ\200\231s trial on charges of gun-
running in Mozambique.

Mr Buthelezi told the media he
had submitted a dossier on Mr
McBride to Deputy President Thabo
Mbeki.

He said ANC deputy president
Jacob Zuma and Celani Mthethwa of

the IFP, who is KwaZulu Natal's safe-

ty and security minister, were to
investigate the matter.

Senior ANC leaders said this
week that Mr Buthelezi's statement
had taken them by surprise.

Mr Zuma and Mr Mthethwa still
had to finalise the terms of reference
of the investigation and report back,
they said.

But Mr Buthelezi appeared to

are many in the ANC who now feel
that Mr Buthelezi is using the investiga-

tion in particular and the issue of vio-
lence in KwaZulu Natal in general to
score cheap election points," said an
ANC leader,

Neither Mr Zuma nor Mr Mtheth-
wa has been drawn into the verbal
exchange between their two organi-
sations. However, the IFP's Musa
Zondi said the party stood by Mr

Buthelezi's statement.

In its official response, the ANC's
Provincial leadership said it wel-
come the investigation into Mr
McBride's role in the violence in

U Natal but said it wanted the
same to be done with others, - -/ :

In particular the ANC would also
expect an investigation into the 1996
report that implicated IFP leaders
Chief Nyanga Ngubane, David
Ntombela, Phillip Powell and the
late Sifiso Nkabinde in the military
training of people in the Natal mid-
lands and the distribution of

- weapons in the region," said the party
said.

Adding fuel to the fire later in the
week, the SA Communist Party
issued a discussion document in
which it accused the IFP of under-
mining the gains made toward peace
and democracy. ;

Blade Nzimande, the SACP's gen-
eral secretary, said elements within
the IFP were bent on reversing the

relationship between the

â\200\234We are under no illusions. We
kl}ovy â\202¬xactly who we are dealing
with in the IFP,â\200\235 said Mr Nzimande.

: Bgt he added that the SACP had
dismissed any possibility of a merger
between the ANC and the IFP and
argued that it was â\200\234not the IFP, but
the tripartite alliance (the ANC, the
SACP and Cosatu) which is in the
best position to lead.â\200\235 :

have pre-empted that process. â\200\234The_re)

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Hardest hit by these two factors has been the Western Cape, where coloureds and whites, many of whom still have the old ID, make up almost 80 percent of the population.

In Cape Town, for instance, the Human Sciences Research Council reported in August last year that 42 percent of people did not have bar-coded IDs.

The Cape High Court will soon deliver judgment in a case brought by the NP contesting

AL vUpie, Clkiicl UL Uk

more: -â\200\234Everyone expected that -

the NP and the ANC would fight it out in the coloured areas. But instead of that we found the NP in disarray and they didnâ\200\231t manage to mobilise people in mass hysteria.â\200\235

Dugmore claims the NP has not lost only political representatives to other parties over the last few months but organisers and party workers too.

Turnout in the NP's traditional support bases in the suburbs

wse s only province even before the battleâ\200\231s begun, things don't look all good for the ANC.

Most importantly, its attempts to target the youth have failed, with only about 29 percent of 18- to 20-year-olds in the country having registered.

This poor turnout is bound to affect the ANC most since its constituency has always been young and the youth have historically been its most energetic organisers and campaigners.

vpuon polis have shown that ANC support has been falling fast from 58 percent in 1994 to an all-time low of 42 percent shown in a November Markinor poll, raising possibilities of a coalition government.

But registration trends make this less certain. Of all the provinces, Gauteng achieved the highest turnout, about 60

percent. Because of the negative opinion polls prior to the first round of registration, ANC organisers went from door to

TWO events in the past two weeks raise some serious questions about the nature and extent of our infant democracy. One is the lacklustre response on the part of large sections of the public to the call to register to vote in the upcoming elections, and the other is the removal of Dr Ben Ngubane as the premier of KwaZulu-Natal.

Just five years ago, South Africa was bubbling with enthusiasm as millions stood in gching heat for days to cast their votes. It is probably this exciting experience which led the Independent Electoral Commission to announce last year that 25 million voters would be registered over a three-day period in November. However, after several extensions, barely 50 percent of the eligible voters have bothered. What has happened to the carnivallike enthusiasm of five years ago?

In part, a simple answer has to do with the IEC. Common sense dictates that before registration can take place an extensive, intensive programme of voter education must be conducted. Voters must have the relevant information to make registration simple.

As it turned out, the lack of voter education led to chaos.

he IEC and other officials

wh want us to believe that S5 Africa is enveloped in a cloud of apathy. This is hardly so. It is important for us to keep in mind that the majority of those who show no interest in -registering are city-dwellers and the youth â\200\224 two groups that are generally better informed and involved. When voters ask, â\200\234Why should I register â\200\224 what is there to vote for?â\200\235 they are actually saying, â\200\234We do not feel part of the system.â\200\235

This comes as a surprise in a country where consultation has been turned into a religion. But

then, there is consultation and
there is consultation.

At this juncture, it has to be
asked whether our system of
proportional representation, as

second opinion
SIPO MZIMELA

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Democracy doesn't
come knocking as
often as it should

opposed to direct representa-
tion, is suitable or wise for a
country devoid of democratic
roots. Letâ\200\231s faceit, in our system
there is no umbilical cord link-
ing elected representatives to
voters. We do not elect individ-
uals who, in turn, are account-
able to the electorate. We elect
parties which then decide who
should represent us.

Much of what is tolerated by
parliamentarians â\200\234in the inter-
est of the partyâ\200\235 would not be
tolerated by constituencies. It is
unlikely that party bosses
would exercise as much power
as they do under the present
system. Would a combination of
proportional and direct repre-
sentation not be better suited to
our needs?

There is a widespread view
that under the present system
voters are showered with
extravagant promises at elec-
tion time, only to be forgotten
immediately after. It must be
added that- millions of South
Africans apparently have no
faith in any party. Over the past
four and a half years they have
been virtually without a voice in
matters vital to them.

There are those who'll argue
that we have a range of demo-
cratic institutions which should
serve to curb the excesses of
party political bosses. But these

are all government institutions,
and that makes them suspect in
the eyes of many.

A case in point is the IEC,
which is supposed to be inde-
pendent, yet there are com-
plaints that the Department of

Home Affairs is interfering.
What is clearly lacking in South Africa are vibrant non-governmental agencies whose sole purpose is to further and protect the interests of voters.

What has further disillusioned many voters and made them feel voiceless is the mistaken notion that in a democracy contentious and controversial issues can be settled by one-time pronouncements, rulings or regulations. A case in point is the death penalty.

It's true that the Constitutional Court ruled that the death penalty was unconstitutional. But another set of judges could have easily come to the opposite conclusion. In a democracy, the door is always open for new ideas, new insights and new decisions. That is why a democratic constitution is subject to amendments.

There is no doubt that there does exist in the country a body

, of opinion which favours the

reintroduction of the death penalty. If, after elections, voters are made to feel voiceless,

the few in power will be accused of subjecting the country to political dogmatism â a first step on the road to revolution.

Africa is wallowing in darkness. Debt, poverty and senseless wars â all caused by power-hungry politicians â are responsible not only for untold suffering on the part of the silenced majority, but for reducing what should be a prosperous part of the world into a wasteland. The tragedy is that all the African countries in ruin began with democratic constitutions. Slowly, predictably, in every instance, the voice of the governed was muzzled. Will South Africa learn?

The removal of Dr Ngubane as KwaZulu-Natal premier has sent shock waves throughout the country. The explanation that he was replaced because of poor matric results is insulting to the intelligence of ordinary citizens and evidence of utter disdain for the needs and feel-

ings of voters. They ask: "Why should we vote if we have no say in who represents us?"

There is a general consensus that he is intelligent, hardworking and a man of integrity who had the welfare of all the province's people at heart. Why, then, was he removed? In the words of one writer, "the people of KwaZulu-Natal have lost a premier they want and have been given a premier they do not want." Clearly this is a case of dictatorship. Such can never happen in a democracy where people have the final say in who governs them. How is this action different from that of despots to the north of us?

True democracy cannot come knocking on people's doors every five years and then vanish into thin air after the elections. It begins the day after elections, when all citizens must shape their country's future. They must feel that they are heard and taken seriously. No democracy can thrive on the backs of a silenced majority.

Â© Mzimela is an IFP MP

The 43-year-old man of Nkomo's 10 school .
kalo tribal trust near White River on the loose and finally reported
has not been asked to plead to rape the case to police herself. day for the Attorney General
and has been denied bail since his In her statement to police, the side whether to p
to the 2010 A Afri. to the 2010
at last month when the 16-year- girl said when she arrived home can Eye News Service
which jumpf

Old politicians
don't die
they become
casino giants

By CHRIS HLONGWA

FORMER Inkatha secretary-gen-
eral Dr Oscar Dhlomo's Afrisun
KZN and former ANC secretary-
general Cyril Ramaphosa's Dur-
ban-Add Venturers are the front
runners for lucrative casino li-
cences in Durban.

The much-delayed announce-
ment of the winners of the hotly
contested casino licences, finally
announced last week, ended

A
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x
months of speculation, legal
g wrangles and the political intrigue

which claimed the head of the Kwa-
Zulu/Natal Premier Dr Ben
Ngubane.

It is widely believed that the de-
lay in announcing the finalists was
caused by political pressure be-
cause the board had made recom-
mendations which went against the
IFP's wishes.

The issue also caused a split with-
in the IFP and allegedly led to the
firing of Dr Ngubane for failing to
enforce the demands of the party.

The bid by millionaire and
Inkatha bankroller, John Aspinall,
failed.

Durban-Add Venturers Ltd, trad-

ing as Thekwini Adventure World,
will run its casino project from the
Village Green site.

Afrisun KZN (Pty), trading as Si-
baya â\200\230Resort and Entertainment
World, will operate from Umdloti.

When up and running, the multi-
pected to earn more than R700 mil-
lion a year for their owners in
gambling revenue.

TEC gearin

) :
By ZOLILE NQAYI

â\200\234THE Irdependent Electoral Commis-
sion (IEC) is constantly preparing itself
to give South Africa fair and free elec-

- tions, Professor Mandla Mchunu, head

] - of the TEC, told journalists and diplo-
P - mats during a briefing in Cape Town.
In the event of a court ruling against
the sole use of bar-coded IDs for voting
the commission will still be able to pro-
ceed without hitches, said Norman du
Plessis, the IECâ\200\231s deputy chief execu-
tive officer in charge of planning.
It is not the document that is a prob-
lem, but the integrity that goes with it,â\200\235
Du Plessis said. Mchunu said that the
difficulties and challenges faced by the
commission during the â\200\230registration
process will serve as good preparation

billion rand complexes are ex- Â»

MEET THE NEW GAMBLER ON THE BLOCK . . .

Former IFP secretary-general, Oscar Dhlomoâ\200\231s Afrisun new compay has the pote
is vying for a casino licence in KwaZulu-Natal.

for the elections to be held later in the
year.

1 can tell you now that over 14 mil-
lion of the about 25 million eligible vot-
ers have already registered for the elec-
tions. We expect that after the next reg-
istration drive we will have registered

70 per cent of the -gligible voters,â\200\235

Mchunu said. :

The IEC expects to finalise the votersâ\200\231 roll by the end of April. The last day for registration is the 7th of March.

International trends indicate that 75 per cent is an acceptable average figure. Mchunu said even in a country like Australia, where a failure to register is an offence, on average there is an 85 per cent participation.

â\200\234The IEC is out to achieve a 100 per-cent registration of voters, but the reality is that not all people are in tune with

g up for the election

Housing
finance

compan
launch

By BENSON NTLEMO

THE launch of the Mpuma Housing Finance Company week was hailed by the provincial government and organised as a step in the right direction in terms of addressing the needs of the poorest of the poor.

Speaking at the launch ceremony at Nelspruit Civic Centre, Premier Mathews Phosa said the occasion marked the fruition of some promises the ANC made when it came into power in 1994.

â\200\234We are committed to bring our new-found democracy in the homes of our people,â\200\235 Phosa said about the new company, which is expected to make home loans available to rural people who would normally not be financed by commercial institutions.

The national president of the trade union Nehawu, Vusi Makhanya welcomed the launch and said the governmentâ\200\231s housing policy is fine.

However, the focus of

policy should change from
houses for ownership to
rental houses.

â\200\234The mistake with the
policy is that it focuses on
people and not individuals
therefore it is a slow delive

change this,â\200\235 he said

what is happening and therefore
are not going to vote.

- Â«â\200\234Despite the technology we have
our disposal, the level of registration
depends mainly on the willingness
of the people.â\200\235

On the question of the date for
elections;acting Chairperson of
Brigalia Bam said that they were
ing that this would be before June
cause of the shorter days.

â\200\234We will be comfortable with
either at the end of May or early
June,â\200\235 she said. Mchunu also
advised that over R50 million has been
allocated to parties represented in
Parliament. This means that new parties
which have no proven support
have to depend on their own resources
on top of paying a certain fee to
to participate in the elections.

Democratic rariy leadei reter
Leon made this allegation on
â\200\234â\200\234Thursday, when he told the Gaut-
eng legislature he had informa-
tion that a gambling operator had
paid Rlmillion to a Gauteng
MEC for a casino licence.
Leon further said he had pro-
* vided the Heath special investi-
gation unit with information
â\200\230which indicated that Tsogo Sun,
the winner of 'the Tsogo Four-
â\200\234ways casino licence, allegedly
- 'paid off a senior MEC in the Gaut-

. .eng executive committee to se- .

â\200\230.cure the licence.
A visibly upset Mabuza yester- :

__day told City Press that if Leon .

- was so sure of his â\200\234so-calledâ\200\235 in-
- formation, â\200\234why is he not: taking
the information to the 'Attorney-
- Generalâ\200\235 and that he should stop
hiding behind the sanctuary of
â\200\234Parliament. :
Mabuza said this was not the
first time Leon had raised the al-
legations, having first indicated
in April last year that he had in-
formation about alleged bribery
of officials for casino licences.
â\200\234We challenged him to come
out in the open with these allega-
tions. But, through his lawyers,
he withdrew the charges, saying:

~committee . to
- whether Leon had made â\200\234unsub-

AIUWDS ile WOIL U be cliallenged,
Mabuza said.

Mabuza said Leonâ\200\231s remarks
were also surprising and â\200\234it is
hard to know if this is deliberate
to coincide with the upcoming
electionsâ\200\235.

More surprising, says Ma-

"buza, is the statement Leon is

said to have made in a radio in-
terview, where he said heâ\200\231s not

. prepared to go to the Attorney-

General with his allegations.
The ANC has also denied the
allegation, accusing Leon of

-abusing parliamentary prlvxlege
. in the legislature. .

The ANC introduced a motion
on Thursday for the privileges
investigate

stantiated allegationsâ\200\235 about

. Moleketi.

Although Leon did not name
the MEC, Firoz Cachalia, .
leader of the house, said every-
one in the house knew the alle-
gation was directed at Moleketi.
~ Sapa reports that in his reac- -
tion late on Friday, Leon said he
would not be deterred by the
motion to investigate whether
he had made unsubstantiated al-
legations about Moleketi.

Cash for buddles"

O From Page 1
Trust: Arts and Culture Council
Trustâ\200\235.

â\200\234According to them the Trust is
an independent body and the De-
partment/Directorate of Arts and
Culture has norole in the Trust.,
implication we have nothmg to
with the Trust.â\200\235

The investigator elsewhere in-
forms the MEC that in one meeting
in which he tried to get an explana-
tion, the meeting lasted until 2 am.
O No action has been taken to re-
cover the taxpayersâ\200\231 money since
the report in December 1997.

The secret documents were
shown to the new Education MEC
this week by Dr Jarvis.

Dr Jarvis, reacting to a query
from City Press, said ex-MEC Zulu
gave him the report (dated Decem-
ber 1997), for the first time only lastâ\200\231
week, on Friday (February 5).

Coincidentally it was the week
following the week of his expulsion
as Education MEC.

Dr Jarvis said the report had
been given to the legal advisor of
the department â\200\234for her to take ap-
propriate actionâ\200\235.

City Press understands the allocation of R3 million by the ex-MEC will be raised in the next parliamentary public accounts committee meeting, on Friday this week.

An allocation is made by the accounting officer (in this case the superintendent-general) not by the MEC. It appears the accounting officer was not involved, said a member of the public accounts committee member.

He believes it was a political allocation.

It is also understood that organisations that were supposed to get monies from the Arts Council/Trust have been complaining that they were not getting any monies. Meanwhile, Education Department spokesman Mandla Msibi said an investigation was underway in connection with a bursary scam involving more than a million rand.

Some people are to be arrested soon, he said.

It is understood scores of teachers in full employment have benefited from comprehensive bursaries to study at several universities in the province. The Education Department is one of the overspenders in the Kwa-Zulu-Natal government and has failed to properly deliver textbooks to schools.

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Cop threat

By MKULULI BOLO

A POLICE detective investigating case of murder against a Bisho government official and two others has been threatened with death for following the case.

Sergeant Charles September said he received an anonymous call on his cellphone on Tuesday night.

The caller allegedly said: 'We're going to kill you'.

September said he had never received threatening calls in his eight year career as a detective in murder and robbery unit.

The murder case he was investigating involved Thembelani Stammer (31), who was employed as public relations officer of the Eastern Cape government's Agriculture and Land Affairs, and two co-accused, teachers Vuyo Jowell (30) and his mechanic brother Siyabonga Jowell (32) who live in Zwelitsha.

They appeared in court at Zwelitsha Magistrate last week and were released on bail of R1 000 each until their next appearance due March 15.

The three were accused of murdering

Zwelethemba engineer and student, Mlali Magodla (25) of the suburb of Wesbank in King William's Town on January 28.

Reacting to the death threats, September's superior, who wanted to remain anonymous said September

May has

'H From Page 1

farm and we told him we could not because we had nowhere to go. This is our home. My father was also born here," said Alben He said Pienaar's refusal to have his father buried on the farm was revenge because he failed to evict the 21 families & no longer work for him. Pienaar refused to talk to C. Press and referred us to his lawyer, Phillip du Toit, who his client had offered an alternative place for Serole's burial. An angry Ramphele said the new law was inadequate in the protection of farm workers. He said a lot had to be done to transform the courts because, the Land Claims Court decided to refuse a man who has lived

Mbete-Kgositsile: in tears after
attack on Soviet policies

BY MATHATHA TSEDU

Lagos - Baleka Mbete-Kgositsile,
South Africa's deputy speaker in
parliament, just could not counte-
nance the former Soviet Union being
called a failed experiment in social
engineering. So she broke down and
wept on Friday.

Former journalist (turned politi-
cal and strategic analyst) Gary van

Staden, who together with Mbete-

Kgositsile is part of a group of 23

South Africans attending a civil
society conference in Nigeria, had
committed the cardinal sin.

Former exile Dr Bernard
Magubane led the counterattack,
saying that the USSR had con-
tributed immensely to the liberation
struggle and that he found it utterly
unacceptable that someone like Van
Staden could attack that country.
Van Staden later stood up to de-
fend his position. All he was saying
was that the economics had not

worked and that the So
had thus failed. But h
bargained for the ange
ments generated. Whe
Kgositsile was asked to
paper on gender, she apGI
said she just could not |
the temptation to respor
tack on the Soviet Union

That country made ;
fices for us. When I we
Moscow in 1998 after 20 y|
dressed the parliamenta

McBride the

in plot

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Suspended foreign affairs offi-
cial' says he is taking the heat for an
alleged scheme by warlords to sabotage post-election ANC-IFP alliance

BY MAUREEN ISAACSON, SAM SOLE,

PAUL KIRK AND THAMI NGIDI

On the eve of the conclusion later
this month of Robert McBride's

sensational trial on charges of gun-
running in Mozambique, McBride

has said he is the 'fall guy' in a
broader plan by Inkatha Freedom
Party warlords to scupper an ANC-
IFP coalition after the elections.
'I am not the main target, I am
the fall guy,' said McBride. 'The
main target is to scupper the greater

co-operation between the ANC and -

the IFP. I am simply the contro-
versial one.'

The close relationship between
Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and
IFP president Mangosuthu Buthe-
lezi has bolstered speculation in
ANC circles that Mbeki is planning
to make Buthelezi deputy president
in an ANC-IFP ruling coalition.

But the controversial plan, which
could delay the choice of an ANC
crown prince for several years, is

drawing increasing fire from the

ANC's communist and trade union
alliance partners, and from IFP

warlords - such as David Ntombela
and Phillip Powell who still regard
the ANC as the enemy in a bitter
power struggle in KwaZulu-Natal.
Buthelezi surprised many ANC
leaders this week when he lashed

out at McBride, claiming that

McBride had supplied arms to ANC
members for the assassination of
IFP leaders and that a VIP security
firm, Excalibur, was involved in gun-
running.

In an interview with The Sunday
Independent yesterday, McBride
denied claims that he fomented
violence between the IFP and the
ANC in KwaZulu-Natal. =

He conceded links with the VIP
security company Excalibur but
denied that he bought guns for them
in Mozambique.

However, he said that the sole
proprietor of Excalibur, André van
der Byl, was his friend and that he

would call on him this week for protection because it is gonna get hot.

An environment has been created where it is convenient to kill someone. A lot of people will be happy if I get bumped off.

He said he used the services of Excalibur during the truth commission hearings in 1997.]

Do people not want the ANC to have protection? he asked.

. He had been accused of every ill.

that had beset the country, he said,

adding that he remained unbowed. What made the accusations so

unfounded, he said, was that he

favoured a stronger link between the ANC and the IFP. '

He said he agreed with SACP general secretary Blade Nzimande's dismissal of the possibility of a merger between the two parties and that it was not the IFP but the tripartite alliance that was in the best position to lead.

McBride said there were members of the former security branch who hated him when he was an operative in the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, and who were still working against him.

He said he could not name those involved in the smear campaign against him for legal reasons.

Continued on Page 2

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The Drummers of B
and Dance - is an amr.
Other artists perform

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me crimeâ\200\235; launch-
programme togeth-
'3, religious groups
.mental organisa-
ping political edu-
â\200\234les which â\200\234encom-
nt responses to
sâ\200\235.

lead a national con-
â\200\230irch leaders to be
.arg from February
ting, which will in-

clude representatives of all major
church groups in South Africa as
well as business leaders, will ad-
dress various issues, including
crime, corruption and poverty.

At the historic Rustenburg con-
ference of 1990, known as the â\200\234Con-
ference of Confessionsâ\200\235, South
African churches admitted to
shortcomings under the apartheid
regime. At the same conference the
Dutch Reformed Church confessed
that apartheid was a sin. - Staff
Reporter

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ind five Republican
gainst the obstruc-
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viour.

| attempt to censure

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e returns from its
break on February
vice

Afgan earthquake
devastates villages

Kabul - The death toll from an
earthquake which struck eastern
Afghanistan two days ago continued
to climb yesterday as rescue efforts
got under way in isolated districts
outside the capital Kabul.

The 67 dead included 10 children
who froze to death because they
were too afraid to return to their
homes. At least 210 people were in-
jured and the number left homeless
had risen to more than 1 000.

In Ander, near the epicentre
about 70km west of Kabul, the
provincial governor said 300 people
from two villages were homeless. A
Taliban source said Chak was be-
lieved to be the worst hit with 1000
houses levelled.

So far relief efforts have failed to
reach the area. - Sapa-AFP

' DDRESS
â\200\234auer Street

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(Between 7.30 and 9.30 this morning)

Labourer refuse i

An 80-year-old Lieliespan farm labourer, who was refu

bury his son on the farm he had worked on for about 30 years, on Saturday buried his son in a grave dug a metre away from the farm's fence. Simon Se-
role, 28, was buried in a quiet ceremony attended by about 500 people, the family's lawyer, Tshepiso Ramphele, said yesterday.

McBride the 'fall guy' in plot

Continued from Page 1

McBride said the recent smear campaign against him and Van der Byl had been initiated by the defec-
tion to the ANC of an IFP member, Dumisani Kuzwayo.

McBride said Kuzwayo had brought with him people from across the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands and it was then that the ANC had sent Excalibur to protect him.

He said that he and Van der Byl had led an investigation into the fraudulent licensing of firearms in a gun shop in Pietermaritzburg.

In an interview with The Sunday Independent Van der Byl confirmed his business links with Robert McBride.

However, he claimed that he and McBride were victims of a smear campaign as a result of exposing a police scam in which 21000 AK47 assault rifles had been legally licensed. 3

â\200\234Yes, I have links to Robert

McBride - but heâ\200\231s not a director of Excalibur,â\200\235 Van der Byl said.

â\200\234Heâ\200\231s a business partner of mine in a firm called African Wisdom Investments.â\200\235

African Wisdom Investments was registered in 1997, at a time when McBride was working full-time at the department of foreign affairs.

Van der Byl had previously denied any link with McBride - who was suspended from his foreign affairs post after being arrested in Mozambique last year for alleged gun-running - other than providing him with security.

McBride and Van der Byl were also part of a consortium that in 1997 made a bid to buy a South African arms company, Techno Arms.

Techno Arms is a subsidiary of Cementation Engineering, which makes the MAG7 semi-automatic shotgun. It has clients in a number of African countries.

SA in peoplesâ\200\231 dialogue with Nigeria .

BY MATHATHA TSEDU

Lagos - A two-day conference bringing together South Africans and Nigerians and aimed at giving meaning to the concept of an African renaissance ended in Lagos yesterday.

The event was organised by the South Africa-based Foundation for Global Dialogue and a steering committee in Nigeria. It was attended by 23 South African academics, journalists and experts in foreign relations, as well as by representatives of the government.

Two overriding â\200\234conclusionsâ\200\235 emerged from the gathering. First, it was agreed that the removal of the military from Nigerian politics - a process of transition that has reached an irreversible point - would not in itself bring about democracy, but at best civilian rule.

Secondly, it was noted that cau-

tion needed to be exercised in the transition to democracy because the

politicians contesting for positions

mocratisation of the country, but rather in fulfilment of self-enriching motives.

The theme of the dialogue, 'Civil society and Africa's democratic recovery', was a product of inter-governmental meetings between

. Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and

Nigeria's military ruler, General Abdusalam Abubakar.

The conference was opened on Friday by George Nene, the South African high commissioner to Nigeria and ambassador-designate to the United Nations in Geneva. It is aimed mainly at creating contacts between the peoples of the two countries and contacts which would be independent of their governments. This would also help South Africans to understand the continent, an issue that Mbeki has often spoken of when lamenting South Africans' ignorance about the African continent.. .

The Lagos gathering was the first of two legs. A group of about 30 Nigerians expected in South

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1.5-million
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} %% %% R3,20 (Including Vat) February 14, 1999 More than 1.5 million readers on Sunday %
shf

or buddies
Citr o8 1 i
Sacked minister nanfed s

in massive cash scandal

TOP KwaZulu-Natal provincial which are still being investigated. Towards the
leader has been implicated in a scan- end of March the minister authorised that a sum
dal involving the granting of R3-mil- of R3 000 000 be allocated to the KwaZulu-Natal
lion of taxpayersâ\200\231 money to a cul- Artsand Culture Council.â\200\235

If you think our
famous Lucky Card
Game is BIG, just wait

L] .
tural organisation - while it was un- According to the audit documents, irregular- until yO
u see our
der investigation for improperly enriching its ities that were being probed before the R3
mil- b : d
own members! lion allocation included a â\200\234huge salary revision
The sacked education MEC, Dr Vincent Zulu, after only six months; apparent excessive and ra
â\200\234 new game

has been named by the Department of Education unnecessary use of consultants for routine ac
-
in serious allegations of mismanagement of counting functions; abnormal claims by staff of
R11 million. the Councilâ\200\235. :

Documents in the possession of City Press indi- Among those who allegedly made abnormal
cate that Zulu made the R3 million available to claims, according to the report, was Prof M
usa
the cultural orgar.isation while it was being prob- Xulu, the former president of the coun
il.
ed for irregularities involving R8 million - which He is now the deputy director-general of
the
it had received since 1995. 3 arts and culture department

He was last week replaced in Pretoria.
in his portfolio by Eileen O His secretary, Zanele, has
kaNKosi-Shandu in the wake confirmed Prof Xulu receiv-
of a sensational cabinet re- ed faxed queries from this
shuffle by Inkatha president, newspaper on Friday but
Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi. said Prof Xulu had said he

It is not yet known whether â\200\234doesnâ\200\231t comment on things
the fund scandal had any- from KwaZulu-Natalâ\200\235.
thing to do with Dr Zulu's re- Under the heading
moval. â\200\234Claims by staff and council-

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and better than the
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closely for news about
the game thatâ\200\231s going
to change your lives!

k. The reason given by /trust membersâ\200\235 in the re-
: Inkatha for his dismissal was port, cheque No-173, dated ..
i â\200\234his failureâ\200\235 in h\l; education %/6[/])%/â\200\230.1)6 was issfued â\200
\230o R
portfolio, after the province ulu for R52 580 for travel Â¢
produced the worst matric to meetings during 1994/95; lNSlDE! NeW"|Â°0k
results in years. R16 780 worth of consultation fees and, for prep- .
O Nethertheless, Zulu is now being tipped to be- aration of documents, R44 500. 1 Learning
PreSS!
come an ambassador. The report says: â\200\234It is not indicated why
He has yet to respond to faxed queries from R52 580 was paid instead of R61 280; the claim
City Press sent to him on Friday. does not bear any dates of travel covering

In confidential documents Jeaked fo City Press 16 072km claimed for and the purpose of the
_ described as â\200\234highly sensitiveâ\200\235 by two officials meeting is not indicated
in all cases. DRIVE OFF. .. Pumla
in the education department - it emerges that â\200\234It is not clear what documents were

prepared Gadu of E Cape, won a
Zulu authorised that the KwaZulu-Natal Arts and what consultation was done.â\200\235 ca
r in our Lucky Card
Culture Council be given the R3 million - despite Prof Xulu also allegedly received a loan
of Game, congratulating
the fact that it was being probed for irregularities R2250. her is assisant news
relating to R8 million that it had received since The non-governmental organisation, noted
editor, D Luthayi. W Pic:
1995. the confidential report, had failed to raise any THULANI gI;l'HOLE'

The council was an vmbrella body that was monies independently of the government alloca-
~2supposed to channel func.. to other organisations = tions. P s

N : â\200\234to promote cultureâ\200\235. In another instance of the long-running saga,
wâ\200\230 it O " . In a meme to Zulu, Dr Mike Jarvis, the superin- - the investigator, in
a memo to MEC Zulu, says

tendent-general, and PT Kunene, the director of ~when he was probing the alleged irregulari
ties
budget and financial control, it is stated: â\200\234Kwa- two members of the council â\200
\234pointed out that
Zulu-Natal Arts and Culture Council did not re- . the R3 million which was given to the Art
s and
ceive any funding for organisations for the finan- Culture Council is now in the KwaZulu-N
atal
cial year 1997-1998 because of irregularities O Turn to Page 27

20 killed in head-on
collision â\200\224 Page 2%

MY SWEET -VALENT INE. .. Songbird Brenda Fassie is on cloud nine as she receives a rose fro
m ?19? lov r of
three years, Ludo Maki. Valentine 's Day is celebrated today in some parts of the world, an
d festivities marking -
the occasion have been a(ranged in many, parts of South Africa. . MPic: THULANI.MSITHQI?E

_FEBRUARY 14, 1999 *okkk

Sadtu unhappy
with process of
redeployment

By ZAKHELE SHIBA

THE SOUTH African Democratic Teachers Union
(Sadtu) is opposed to the process the Provincial Task
Team (PTT) is currently following of rationalisation
and redeployment of teachers.

Sadtu boycotted a press conference in Durban this
week when the PTT tried to explain that teachers were
going to be redeployed to other schools.

Sadtu president Willy Madisha told City Press that
his organisation Supports teacher redeployment as a
; 'resolution they had taken and â\200\234we want if to happen

astâ\200\235,

NEW flag and a coat-of- h Âç e
e i s [hird KZN premier wants new
: agendah of Lionel Mt- J g
shali, the third premier l d
of KwaZulu-Natal in five years. tâ\200\224 â\200\224
e b s PFOVINCLal flag and coat-o arms
leader dismissed speculation he !
may put the controversial issue of
KwaZulu-Natal's possible secession DURING his Swearing-in at Ulundj last week
back on the agenda. : g %
â\200\234 e saia oS are mischievous Lionel Mtshali - the third premier in five years
â\200\234It is common knowledge that we

â\200\234Instead, some provincial and education officials together with some principals are targeting teachers they donâ\200\231t like and putting them on the redeployment list.

provincial broadcaster, among others.â\200\235

He said the Parliament â\200\234should accept that one- to two-day sessions should be replaced by longer

â\200\234We have received the same complaints from different provinces where the officials want to remove some

e 3 & ; : sessions on a more continuous teachers unfairly,â\200\235 said Madisha. FIGHTING FOR JoB SECURITY ... Willie Madisha, (the IFP) are a strong advocate of In KwaZulu-Natal â\200\224 announced changes in the basicâ\200\235. .

He said they wanted to have job security for redeployed teachers. Saditu president, wants to see changes fast in the areas of provincial autonomy. We regard our e e e i Â£, 05 =T i This wollllld reduce the disproportionate task as provincial government Â» . R tionately high cost of running the equities. rather than a provincial administration of the pr OVIHClal government, parliament.

He said they have proved the education department According to Madisha, the process will mean that tion.

wrong â\200\234when about 40 (gg teachers were to be redeployed in their provinces and if â\200\234We hope that we shall soon reach . including granting greater powers to the Office entrenched last year and we threatened a strike and told more needed to be moved to other provinces, that will consensus to adopt a provincial flag ER RIS e e o T LA) them about job securitiesâ\200\235. happen. i

! and coat-of-arms along with legislation : â\200\231 Sadtu is also a signatory of the plan for rationalisation He said some will go for retraining to teach adult education defining the language policy to â\200\230 Of the PremierCHRIS_HLON_G WAR epor ts â\200\230 ion and redeployment of teachers, together with SA education, while some teachers will focus on primary be followed by our government,â\200\235

â\200\234Let us roll up our sleeves and commit ourselves to hard work. This legislature should rise to the

challenge of efficiency.

â\200\234We challenge parliamentarians

and the public sector to embrace

Onderwysersunie (SAOU) and National Professional education. said Mtshali. , : . the culture of hard work. The civil

Teachers of SA (Naptosa). â\200\234The process of redeployment has proved the educa- On the sensitive issue of the status and technology minister is believed service must develop a culture of

The three organisations signed the agreement with tion department wrong because in the Eastern Capewe of the Zulu king, Mtshali said: to have stepped into Ngubaneâ\200\231s discipline and service which recog-

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu last November. have shown them that we need 800 more teachers in â\200\234We hope we shall finally reach shoes precisely because of this. nises and rewards personal dedica-

But Madisha said the teachers are not fully informed many regions. consensus on the legislation necess- He announced changes in the tion and achievement.

about the whole process. â\200\234Weare also trying backwards and forwards to make ary to protect and recognise the running of the provincial govern- â\200\234We commit ourselves to clean

He said he is engaged in a national campaign to ex- sure that teachers get employment,â\200\235 said Madisha. status of our monarchy.â\200\235 ment, including giving greater administration and to the eradica-

plain the issues to Sattu members and â\200\234some of our na- Meanwhile, CHRIS HLONGWA reports that the He also strongly reiterated IFp powers to the Office of the Premier. tion of corrupt and indolent prac-

tional leaders are also explaining the process at the res- newly appointed KwaZulu-Natal Education MEC; Eil- policy on traditional leadership. â\200\234The Premierâ\200\231s Office should be " tices.â\200\235

pective provincesâ\200\235. een kaNkosi-Shandu, . has warned that teachers who â\200\234We should not-only ensure that the centre of co-ordination of al] Mtshali, who sees himself as a

Madisha said their leaders urged last yearâ\200\231sjobsum- did not spend eight hours a day at school will be disci- traditional leadership is on board, government functions,â\200\235 he said. down-to-earth family man and a

mit to create funds for the unemployed. plined. but we should go further. He may push for new laws togive man of the people for whom Kwa-

He said the education department needs to under- Speaking at Ulundi where she addressed her first Traditional leadership is an im- the provincial government more Zulu-Natal is more important than

stand more about teacher appraisals than the system of media conference, kaNkosi-Shandu said to produce portant element in the governance powers on safety and security anything else, was born on Novem-

inspection, better matric results teachers have to work hard. of this province. . . issues. ber 7, 1935.

â\200\234Teachers need to be developed and not punished. Teachers should work eight hours a day and be pres- â\200\234We advocate (traditional leader- Said Mtshali: â\200\234We challenge this He is married and hag four child-

We need to check their weaknesses and assist themto ent at school every day. shipâ\200\231s) expansion and retention,â\200\235 provincial parliament to develop ren ang three grandchildren.

develop education in the country, â\200\234At present absenteeism is the order of the day.â\200\235 said Mtshali. an aggressive legislative pro- A former education and culture

We also need disciplined teachers to transform the Her no-nonsense back-to-basics approach includes During his Swearing-in at Ulundj

gramme. Some aspects of this legis- minister in the erstwhile KwaZulu-

society and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki also spoke the principle that teachers should not hold meetings last week, Mtshali, who replaces the

lative programme could include the government, he holds an MEd de-

about that issue as well. If we have three, four or five during teaching hours. want education to be conducted - redeployed Dr Ben Ngubane, did establishment of 3 provincial police free from the University of the Or-

undisciplined teachers, they have to be identified, ed in a business-like manner. not dispel his image as an [FP harq. NEW LEADER ... KwaZulu-Natal monitoring board, 2 statutory Free State.

said Madisha, She warned that action will be taken against teacher and Dy Mangosuthu Premier Lionel Mtshali, whom many framework for successful initiation His hobbies include gardening,

He said few families will be affected by the process of teachers who do not meet the conditions of their employment - Buthelezi is a yes man. consider an IFP hardliner and Dr tries to combat crime, consumer watching soccer and listening to

redployment. ment, J The former arts, culture, science Mangosuthu Buthelezi's a yes man. protection, the establishment of 3 choral music. :

u a& = = T T 5 Â» 7 Tensions b h]Q R

to 16,9 percent (two people), 15,2 percent (three), 14,9 percent (four) and 13,2 percent (five),

a phenomenon known as diffusion of responsibility may account for the downward slope. The host in a group may hold back a bit on the tip, expecting others to pick up the slack. 2

Even if tips were a purely economic message sent from diner to waiter; the widespread practice of pooling tips jams the signal., :

In what is known as a "pooled house," a tip does not usually go directly into the waiter's pocket. Instead, all cash and credit-card tips are added up at the end of the evening and distributed to waiters, runners and kitchen staff according to a points system.

A point is the total tip pool divided by the total hours worked by the pool participants. Each worker receives an amount equal to the hours he or she has worked multiplied by the point amount, or the fraction of a point assigned to a particular job category. Some pools include the bartender, head wine waiter, maitre d'hotel and others. If they don't, waiters normally tip them, :

The mildly Socialistic pool system penalises the

tices of 3 stingy table, or uneven seating batterns, which can make one waiter's station more valuable than another's, Managers do track how much their waiters are being tipped. An eager-beaver server can expect to get : better hours, better tables and perhaps a Promotion to assistant head wine waiter Or more rarely, captain or maitre d'.

I like the pool system better, said Bclindie Behne, who has been a waitress at the Gotham Bar and Grill in New York for five years, I realise that the old maverick

u can rely on a steady in-

come. At a restaurant like this, L. want willing help surrounding me,, It takes the pressure off.

e

es for a generous tip
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PHOTOGRAPHS NEO NTsoma

++ Of course, diners could always er-« a Qt a i- local u'neasc may be the waiter's carq c'ustomers tip'xno re a la }isllly a a adopt the WSiov_Elry sctieme outlined of - friend, however: In one wellknown than cash Customers, but experi- by g certain C a \202spi in America 50 In 1984 experiment, researchers found :

ments have shown that cash cys. -

years ago.. Crespi despised tipping, ole . thata waitress who touched her Cus- tomers who are presented with a bill which he saw as a way for manage- Cs tomers, whether male or female, on On a tray embossed with credit-card ment to avoid paying a fair wage.

" the hand or shoulder when asking if logos will leave a larger tip than He proposed the formation of a it- - the meal was all right, raised her

cash customers who receive a plain tray.

The waiter does not always win. It is well documented that tip size decreases with the size of the party, which is why many restaurants im-

Pose a mandatory service charge for groups of six or more,

According to an American group that does research on consumer marketing, single diners leave an average tip of 19,7 percent. That drops

national anti-tipping league, whose members would leave, instead of a tip, a printed card explaining that it was up to the waiter to confront his boss and demand a living wage.

The American people, the card explained, would be right behind him in this demand for social Justice. Strangely enough, the idea never took off. Add a smiley face, however, and it just might work. â\200\224â\200\230New York Times

1 B tips from 11 to 14 percent, 'S .- Sophisticated diners may cringe, IS but waiter introductions also put cash on the table. So does crouching when taking an order instead of, 1 standing; or, if the server is a woman, putting a smiley face on the * bill. For male waiters, the Smiley

face actually cuts tips. :

Some responses are simply aimed. It is well known that credit.

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Researchers have theorised that "

| ing arts council of the Transvaal being open about their existence,â\200\235 . Pd

of a forensic the department. Their report was heavily was referred back Deloitte and Touche late last month for reopening,

whose initial close contacts with artists, the result of a collaborative process of policy-making, have withered. The thrust of the departmentâ\200\231s many
p

community
ble to many

L *' "r-â\200\224-."vmm o 3

Vel

not be able to
work miracles-"â\200\231

by Robert Greig i) â\200\230

Dr Ben Ngubane, the former pre-
mier of KwaZulu-Natal who
Swapped posts with Dr Lionel Mt.
shali last week, has returnpeq to'his
former Post-as minister of arts,â\200\231cul-
ture, science ang technology,

Ngubane was axed as premier-
this month amid accusatiog of mis-
handling casino applications,

Arts Commentators, administra-
tors and artistg were delighted at the
switch. â\200\234At least Ngubane jg ap-
proachable,â\200\235 sajg one. !

However, Mike van Graan, a con-
sultant who has worked with both s
men, cautjoned ãgainst exaggerated
expectations, â\200\234There is not much
Ngubane can do before the election,
and after jt there is stil] 2 possibility
that the department will lose its
status as a Separate ministry anq be
parked in the auspices of another
Ministry, possibly education,â\200\235 he

. â\200\230 !
said. â\200\234How much can Ngubzne- " B
. - â\200\235 o
| achieve in five months?â\200\235 | g
| Van Graan addeq that the move e
left the impressjon among artists ;

that in the eyes of the government
the significance of the arts anq cul-
ture ministry was as â\200\234relevant ag a
Bame of musiea] chairsâ\200\235,

Roger Jardine, the director-
general of the department, resigned
in November after a well-publicised
- row with Mtshali about a R1 million

allocation to Battle of Blood River
commemorations.

His resignation was followed by
that of other staff, including Carol
Steinberg, the chief director: Subse-
quently, Deputy-President Thabo
Mbeki persuaded Jardine to stay on
until after the election.

Members of the ministry and the
department, Speaking on condition
of anonymity, were pleased by
Ngubane's return as well as by
Mtshali's departure,

Meredith Wixley, a prominent
critic of the department, was more
qualified in her reaction. Ngubane
was part of the process, together
with former Deputy President

W de Klerk, of retaining the secret
funds held by the former perform-

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[Pact), now the State theatre, and not

e

The funds have been the Subject
audit commissioned by

criticised for omissions and
to auditors

Ngubane returns to the ministry

achievements in the
last few years, notably establishing
Robben Island museum and rural
centres, has been invisible-
urban artists,

pen

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Sunday Times,

February 14 1999

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utrage at Ngubaneâ\200\231s

ST (2R

S aX|ng

Now former KWaZqu-NataI premier is ousted as party chairman â\200\224 and IFP MP blasts But
helezi

RANJENI MUNUSAMY
and S'THEMBISO MSOMI

HE .IFPâ\200\231s national council
yesterday axed former
KwaZulu-Natal Premier
Ben Ngubane from the party

â\200\230 chairmanship at a special meet-

ing in Ulundi.

Ngubane was sacked from the
premiership last week in a move
condemned as â\200\234dictatorialâ\200\235 by
IFP MP Sipo Mzimela in an article
published in this edition of the
Sunday Times.

Ngubane was replaced by the
new rising star in the party,

" Lionel Mtshali, who replaced him

as provincial premier last week.
Ngubane now holds Mtshali's
former position of national arts

.and culture minister. He is to be-

come Mtshaliâ\200\231s deputy in the .

IFP.
In a scathing attack on IFP

leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthe-

lezi, Mzimela said: â\200\234Clearly this is
a case of dictatorship. Such a
thing can never happen in a

democracy where people have the final say in who governs them. How is this action different from that of despots to the north of South Africa?

Mzimela said the explanation that Ngubane had been removed

" because of poor matric results in the province is insulting to the .

intelligence of the ordinary citizens of this country ... it is evidence of utter disdain for the needs and feelings of voters.

Mzimela and Buthelezi are said to ignore each other in public, not even exchanging polite greetings, while relations between Buthelezi and Ngubane are also said to be icy. -

At a parliamentary briefing this week, Buthelezi, with Ngubane at his side, told journalists he had been axed because of his poor performance.

The meeting of the national council was called to finalise the IFP election lists. It is expected that Mtshali will head the party's provincial list and will automati-

cally become the candidate for.

premier after the elections, while Buthelezi will head the national list, possibly with an eye on a

RISING STAR: The newly appointed premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Lionel Mtshali, Mkwana. Mtshali has replaced Ben Ngubane, who will become his deputy in the IFP

senior post in the government. Meanwhile, relations between the ANC and IFP members of the KwaZulu-Natal legislature soured this week, sparking fears that the peace pact between the two organisations is under threat ahead of the election. Legislators from both sides burst into Zulu war songs as they walked out of the Ulundi parliament on Wednesday. Tensions emanating from the debate re-

" sulted in the entire ANC contin-

gent hastily leaving the IFP's Ulundi heartland as the party's security team . expressed concerns about their safety.

The Sunday Times has learnt that ANC President Thabo Mbeki and Buthelezi have been briefed about the bruising debate and have held talks on the matter.

Conflict erupted anew during a special debate on violence in Richmond, with Safety and Secu-

rity MEC Nyanga Ngubane lashing out at the ANC for interfering

in police investigations into political violence in the town". He said the ANC's behaviour called -

into question whether there is any seriousness in these peace talks or not.

Emotions reached a peak when the IFP's Philip Powell interjected in a speech by ANC Safety and Security spokesman Bheki Cele and accused him of

plotting to kill him. Cele was - questioning the relationship be-

tween Powell, his IFP colleague - David Ntombela and slain UDM -

secretary-general Sifiso Nkabin-

de, when Powell shouted: "Are -

you going to kill us too?"

When asked to recant, Powell refused, saying he had been told by police that Cele was at a meeting where a plot to kill him [Powell] was hatched.

Cele retorted by claiming that

centre, with the IFP's Safety and Security MEC, Nyanga Ngubane, and the PAC's Joe

Picture: MICHAEL WALKER

a military intelligence report had named Powell, Ntombela, Ngubane and Nkabinde as key figures in political violence and gun-running in the province.

ANC provincial chairman Sibusiso Ndebele said he was alarmed that senior IFP leaders who were directly involved in peace talks were now questioning their seriousness. -

Mandelaâ\200\231s tightrope
diplomacy pays off

RAY HARTLEY

SOUTH Africaâ\200\231s doggedly independent diplomatic stance, which has seen it walking a tightrope between the leading nations of the world and pariah states, paid off this week with two major breakthroughs in seemingly intractable conflicts in Libya and Indonesia.

It was announced yesterday that Libya had moved a step closer to agreeing on the details of a -

trial for the suspects in the 1988

Lockerbie bombing. However, the country has yet to sign the

-agreement, which will put the

suspects in a Dutch court before Scottish judges. [

Earlier in the week, East Timorese, leader Xanana Gusmao was released from jail by the Indonesian government, following sustained diplomatic pressure from South Africa.

Indonesia recently conceded that it would consider independence for East Timor if the majority of the residents of the territory agreed to this.

Both these initiatives have been driven by President Nelson Mandela, who has used his personal influence to cajole the countries into accepting the need for compromise in the interests of stability.

Presidential aide Jakes Gerwel, who visited Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi in Tripoli this week, said yesterday that a â\200\234common understanding was reached on all outstanding issuesâ\200\235. He added that he would not go so far as to say that the matter had been resolved.

â\200\234We advanced from where we were the last time. We got a nod from the Libyans on outstanding matters,â\200\235 he said.

The breakthrough represented a major diplomatic coup for South Africa, which is one of only a handful of countries which has the confidence of both Libya and its arch-enemy, the US.

The matter had been handed over to the United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, who would have to tie up a final agreement, he said.

ANC plays it safe
with election list -

CAROL PATON

THE ANC last night ended its crucial national executive committee meeting to decide on its election candidates, steering clear of controversy and making few major changes to the provinces. Many of the provincial premiers, whose futures have been the subject of much speculation, remain on the provincial candidates lists, ANC sources said. Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa and Gauteng Premier Mathole Motshekga the subjects of claims of corruption and incompetence are both believed to have retained their positions on the provincial lists. So have North West Premier Popo Molefe and Northern Province Premier Ngoako Ramatlhodi

" both of whom have faced strong

opposition in their provinces: However, the Mpumalanga list is subject to the outcome of an internal inquiry by the ANC into the province and particularly allegations about Phosa which accuse him of corruption, gun-running and spying for the apart-

... heid government.

The exception is Free State Premier Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri, who is believed to be heading for a seat in the National Assembly.

But the fact that the premiers will be on provincial lists does not mean they will be appointed again. Premiers, in provinces where the ANC wins, will be chosen by the ANC president after

the election. Some MPs could
change places with members of
provincial legislatures.

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MCBRIDE SAGA FUELS ANC-IFP TENSIONS, WHILE SECURITY COMPANY BOSSVOWS THAT HE IS IN THE CLEAR

â\200\230McBride is
my buddy
in businessâ\200\231

The tale of Robert McBride, the IFP and 2
controversial Durban security company is
getting even more curious. Paul Kirk and

Sam Sole report

NDRE van der Byl, the

owner of Excalibur Sec-

urity Services and the

an at the centre of a

row over allegations of supplying

illegal weapons to ANC cadres in

the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, has

confirmed his business links with
Robert McBride.

But Van der Byl claims he and
McBride are victims of a smear
plot because he exposed a police
scam in which, he claimed, as
many as 21000 AK assault rifles
had been legally licensed.

â\200\234Yes, I have links with Robert
McBride - but he is not a director
of Excalibur. He is a business part-
ner of mine in a firm called
African Wisdom Investments,â\200\235
said Van der Byl.

African Wisdom Investments cc
was registered in 1997, at a time
when McBride was a full-time
employee with the Department of
Foreign Affairs. Van der Byl had
previously denied any link with
McBride, other than providing
him with security services.

McBride and Van der Byl were
also part of a consortium which,
in 1997, made a bid to buy a local
arms company, Techno Arms, a
subsidiary of Cementation

Engineering, which makes the
MAG-7 semi-automatic shotgun.
Techno Arms has clients in a num-
ber of African countries.

According to documents in the possession of the Tribune, the consortium included Turin Trading, led by Durban businessman Sam Prakash and a British businessman with South African interests, John Batstone. Prominent businessman Vivian Reddy was also approached to become part of the deal, but told the Tribune yesterday that he had declined.

Investigated

According to Prakash, funding for the deal could not be secured and it fell through. McBride told the Tribune he had merely lent his name to the deal.

Van der Byl, who is being investigated by the police for providing automatic weapons to so-called ANC security guards, has vehemently denied any involvement in fomenting violence in KwaZulu-Natal and challenged his accusers - " including IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi - to a public debate. Said Van der Byl: "I am tired of one little leak at a time

WAR OF WORDS: Buthelezi's accusation of McBride (left) is straining IF/ANC relations

coming out about me. I would like a public debate where we can put everything on the table at once, and clear the air once and for all. Yes, I have some high-profile business partners - so what? And before a leak about my other business partners comes out, I would like to let everyone know that other partners of mine have been accused of involvement in the shooting outside the high court.

"I am telling you this so nobody can leak out more half truths about me. I have nothing to hide, but am being accused of all sorts of nonsense. No way am I involved in gun-running or murder."

Two partners of Vander Bylina company called Lionshare Promotions are Jabulani Duma-kude and Mandlakhaphala Geaba. Both are charged with involvement in last May's bloody shooting outside the Durban High Court in which three people, including a

policeman, were killed.

Van der Byl told the Tribune he and McBride were waiting for McBride's retirement from the

civil service before embarking on a number of business ventures - including one to export fish from Mozambique.

Said Van der Byl: "Robert was not in jail for the entire time he was in Mozambique - a lot of the time was spent establishing business contacts

Motive

Many of the leaks surrounding McBride and Van der Byl appear to originate from right-wing sources. Van der Byl has suggested that revenge may be the motive.

He told the Tribune how he met McBride while investigating crooked police officers who were selling firearm licences. "I was a member of an organisation called the Independent Commission for Gun Control".

"This was not a statutory body, but a group of concerned Newlands citizens who were alarmed by taxi violence and the proliferation of illegal guns in the area.

"Through our informers we dis-

covered criminally-inclined policemen were selling gun licences to all sorts of people. We also established that 21000 AK assault rifles had been fraudulently licensed as normal hunting rifles."

Van der Byl said this information was taken to a number of policemen who did nothing with it. "Then another firearm trainer I know told me he knew the right guy who would look into the matter and took me to Robert McBride."

Van der Byl said that in less than a month McBride had a total of seven policemen, who were responsible for the scam, arrested. A high-powered meeting was then held between Van der Byl, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, Robert McBride and Peter Gastrow.

As a result of this meeting, an independent probe, headed by veteran Black Sash campaigner Sheena Duncan, was launched into the Central Firearms Register. Said Van der Byl: "As a

result of this inquiry, huge discrepancies were found - but nobody has ever mentioned Robert's involvement in the findings."

Said Duncan: "As a result of my inquiry, massive irregularities were found - 449000 firearm licences were found where the gun had been licensed as 'make unknown'."

Contrary

"Some of these are possibly legitimately-owned guns from the last century where the maker is unknown. However, some of these weapons may be assault rifles."

Duncan, however, told the Tribune that, contrary to claims made at the time, McBride was not working for her at the time of his arrest in Mozambique.

Said Duncan: "When McBride was arrested he and his lawyers claimed to have been working on my behalf. This is not correct. I have not spoken to McBride since he was released from death row. I have never had any direct dealings with him."

Assassination claim "cheap points scoring"

THAMI NGIDI

'ome Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi's allegations that suspended ANC foreign affairs official Robert McBride had plotted to assassinate IFP leaders in KwaZulu-Natal may have put an unnecessary strain on relations between the two parties.

Buthelezi's statement has also made violence an election issue after he claimed McBride had supplied arms to ANC members for the assassination of IFP leaders.

Buthelezi made the allegations, which have since vehemently been denied by the ANC and McBride, ahead of the conclusion of McBride's trial for alleged gun running in Mozambique.

Buthelezi said he had submitted a dossier to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki more than three weeks ago. The two leaders had given the task of investigating the matter to ANC deputy president Jacob Zuma and IFP leader Celani Mthethwa, who is also Safety and Security MEC in KwaZulu-Natal.-

Surprise ;

Senior leaders of the ANC said this week Buthelezi's statement had taken them by surprise.

There are many in the ANC who now feel that Buthelezi is using the investigation in particular and the issue of violence in KwaZulu-Natal in general to score cheap election points, said an ANC leader:-

IFP spokesman Musa Zondi said his party stood by their president's statement.

In its response the provincial leadership said it welcomed the investigation into McBride's role in the violence in KwaZulu-Natal but said it expected the same to be done with other cases.

In particular the ANC would also expect an investigation into the 1996 Military Intelligence Report which implicated IFP leaders Chief Nyanga Ngubane, David Ntombela, Phillip Powell and the late United Democratic Movement secretary general, Sifiso Nkabinde, in the military training of people in the Natal midlands and the distribution of weapons in the region.

Also, the ANC will expect an investigation into the court statement by Colonel Eugene de Kock in which he claimed to have ferried truckloads of weapons to Phillip Powell, the party said.

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