

ANC attacks local affairs legislation

Becky News 11/6/91

MARTIN CHALLENGOR
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN: A Bill to allow local government bodies and civic organisations to enter into agreements on how to run urban areas was being pushed through Parliament with unseemly haste, the African National Congress said yesterday.

The Interim Measures for Local Government Bill comes before Parliament this week.

The Bill allows for white local authorities to get together with black, Indian and coloured local authorities, including those that fall under the self-governing states and civic organisations and come up with agreed plans to run the urban areas.

The negotiation forums would be able to take binding decisions on the placing of officers or employees, the rendering of services, the establishment of a single local administration, a joint local authority, and the dissolution of some or all of the participating local governments' structures.

Provincial administrators would be able to appoint mediators to get the process off the ground. Provincial administrators would have the power to reject the proposals that were agreed upon at local level, and provision was made for Parliament to ultimately overrule the

agreements if it wanted to.

Calling for the Bill to be scrapped, the ANC said in a statement yesterday that it "condemns the unseemly haste with which the Government is proceeding with the Bill".

"This approach to the urgent crisis facing local government confirms our worst fears that the Government is not interested in the interim re-organisation of local government."

The Bill was a clear attempt to anticipate and pre-empt the creation of a new system of local government arising from the national negotiating process.

"No consultation with non-Parliamentary political organisations had taken place over the Bill's provision."

The Bill contained no acceptable guiding principles on which new local government structures could be based.

"This piecemeal approach, combined with the fact that the Bill fails to abolish racial local authorities, is wholly unacceptable. Although it may enable democratic structures to be established in one town, racial structures can remain in another. This is carrying 'local option' too far."

Black local authorities had collapsed financially, the ANC said, but the Bill did not address the question of finances.

16/1/11

Izinkinga Ezivimbela Ukubonisana *Izindaba no. 6. 9/* Okunempumelelo Kubantu Bakuleli

I ANC kufanele iyekele ukuziphatha njengenhlangano efana nempi futhi igxile ezindabeni ezivuna iqembu lezombangazwe. Ngalendlela lenhlangano kufanele iguquke isuke lapho yayikhishwa khona inyumbazane ibeke phansi izikhali.

Lena indlela umongameli wezwe umnumzane de Klerk achaza ngayo umbono kaHuklumeni ngendlela i ANC engasiza ngayo ekususeni izingqinamba ezivimbela ukubonisana kwangempela.

Emhlanganweni owawukhethekile owalandela ukuqedwa komthetho i-Population Registration Act, u-Mongameli de Klerk wakuphikisa ukuthi uHulumeni wayehlala ngasese ukuba ukucwasana ngebala kuhlale kukhona njalo. Esikhundleni saloko u-Hulumeni wayengenawo amalungelo agcwele okuqeda konke ukucwasana ngebala kuyoyonke imithetho.

Wathi sekusele izinyathelo ezimbalwa kuphela ezixube nokuba i ANC izibeke endaweni efanelekile yokuba nayo ibonisane ngokwakhayo.

Mayelana ne ANC naku okulandelayo okudingekayo.

* Ukubambisana okwanele mayelana nezizinda zezikhali kanye nokuyeka umzabalazo wempi.

* Ukuyeka ukumasha nezicelo eziningi invamisa yazo eziphindaphindwayo.

* Ukuthola amandla abanzi anikeza abaholi bayo ukuba babonisane.

* Ukuhlukana nezimemezelo ezilukhuni ezibanga izingqinamba ezithize.

* Ukuthuthukisa ukubekezela ephikisana nayo nezinhlango eziphikisana ne ANC.

* Ukunciphisa izicelo ezibangela ukuphumelela nokungaphumeleli; kafushane, i ANC kufanele iqale ukucabanga, ikhulume, isebenze njengenhlangano ekholelwa ngempela ekubonisaneni futhi ezimisele ngako.

Ngokufushane uMongameli de Klerk wayechaza ngentuthuko ababenayo kusukela ngoSeptember 6, 1989, ephathelene nalokukuzibandakanya.

Waphawula ukuthi ukubonisana kusaqhubeka kabanzi ne ANC, amaqembu afana ne namanye akumazwe azibusayo.

16/1/11

Daily news 11/06/91

Mandela incapable of controlling the ANC, or is he just not interested

SIR — Like most South Africans I was appalled to read of how ANC supporters marched on the House of Parliament to "bury racism in South Africa."

How Albert Sisulu (executive member of the ANC), his wife Albertina and Joe Slovo, general secretary of the communist party, looked on as a cardboard coffin draped in an imitation of the South African flag, bearing the words "bury the racist republic" with photographs of Dr Verwoerd, B.J. Vorster, P.W. Botha and F.W. de Klerk was set alight.

Three days later, I have seen nothing from Mr Mandela condemning this dastardly attack on Mr de Klerk — and this is after Mr de Klerk has done so much to bring about peace and justice for all.

I can understand the ANC burning photographs of Dr Verwoerd, Mr Vorster and Mr Botha, but that they

should treat Mr de Klerk in this disgraceful manner is beyond belief.

As one who really believed that Mandela was a man of peace and that on his release from prison, things would change, I can only say how bitterly disappointed I am in him.

I am reluctantly forced to believe that either he is totally incapable of controlling the ANC and its alliance, or else he is just not interested in finding a peaceful solution to the problems of South Africa.

Thank God for Mr de Klerk. This man is so patient and strives so hard for an equitable solution to our problems.

I believe that Dr Zach de Beer of the DP has the right idea when he says that all the parties who have the same ideas about peace and justice should unite and leave the CP and the ANC to be the opposition.

VALERIE WENDT, Red Hill

Justice for ANC camps victims

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Save the ANC
Wednesday 11/6/91

SIR - Many people expected members of the previous ANC National Executive to be exculpated from charges of crimes against humanity perpetrated against the 1976 group in Angola and Tanzania and to release the people they are unjustly holding in their prisons in Uganda and Tanzania before being elected into leadership positions.

Winnie Mandela should also have waited until the results of her appeal against the kidnapping case are known.

Last year in Kenya, Bishop Desmond Tutu promised ANC dissidents and survivors that a commission of inquiry into the deaths and tortures perpetrated against innocent people would be mooted but he has since shied away from his religious obligations. This is abdication of responsibility.

The causes of their deaths must be established and justice rendered to their families, those who are incarcerated must be released because Chris Hani has acknowledged that most

of them are innocent. Justice delayed is justice denied.

It has been estimated that the ANC killed about 10 000 cadres before, during and after the 1984 mutiny. Zaba Maladza Nkondo and Ronald Msomi Hoyi are some of those killed because of their involvement in the mutiny.

As some exiles return home to be reunited with their families, more than ten thousand families would not be reunited with their sons and daughters.

Fundile Siyongwana was one of the victims of public execution in Angola. Sello Pute of Dube is said to have committed suicide in one East European country. The corpses of those who are said to have committed suicide should be exhumed for forensic tests to confirm such allegations.

Amnesty International, United Nations High Commission for Refugees

and the International Red Cross pretend as if they do not know about such incidents. These organisations are there for the protection of white lives only.

We still remember the swiftness with which the International Red Cross objected to the Iraqi government after three captured white boys were paraded on Iraqi television during the Gulf War but the same organisation is undaunted by ten thousand deaths.

If those ten thousand lives were white lives this ANC issue would not be whitewashed nor would the ANC be canonized in the Western media. Those who are interested in conducting a commission of inquiry into this ANC madness, I am ready to provide more sources of my information. The story about the 1984 mutiny is carried in Africa Confidential of 2 December, 1988.

SAM DITSHEGO
Canada

16/1/11

ANC slams interim local govt measures

MERCURY

11/06/91

JOHANNESBURG—The African National Congress has condemned what it terms the 'unseemly haste' with which the Government was proceeding with the Interim Measures for Local Government Bill.

It said in a statement yesterday that 'this approach to the urgent crisis facing local government confirms our worst fears that the Government is not interested in the interim reorganisation of local government'.

The ANC said the Bill provided for the establishment of local negotiating forums by local government bodies, with a view to amalgamating these bodies in one way or another. The Government stated in the memorandum on the Bill that it did not wish to anticipate the national process of negotiation in any way.

'However, the Bill is clearly an attempt to anticipate the creation of a new system of local government arising from the national negotiating process. No consultation with non-Parliamentary political organisations has taken place over the Bill's provisions.'

The ANC added that although it may enable democratic structures to be established in one town, racial structures could remain in another. This was carrying 'local options' too far.

Another critical issue affecting local government at present was the question of finance. This was reflected in the financial collapse of Black Local Authorities.

'By not addressing this issue, the Bill fails to concern itself with a matter that is of

central importance to the future of local government and makes a hollow mockery of the Government's acceptance of the principle of "one city, one tax base".

'The Bill assumes that the Provincial Administrator will be a neutral party in local negotiations, whereas he is deeply involved in the current crisis. It gives enormous powers to the Administrator to approve or reject local agreements, but neglects to ensure that he includes all key actors in a city or town in a local negotiation.

'Once again, this Bill has illustrated that the Government wishes to act pre-emptively by taking basic decisions affecting the content of a future constitution before such a constitution is nationally negotiated.' — (Sapa)

16/1/11

MERURY 11/06/91
Twenty officers sacked

MASERU—Twenty Lesotho army officers were sacked yesterday, three days after the arrest of other officers implicated in an attempted coup.

The Military Council said in a statement the action had been taken to 'enhance efficiency' in the Defence Force.

Several officers were arrested on Friday after they attempted to stage a coup in what was seen as a bid to restore former ruler Maj-Gen Metsing Lekhanya to power.

MERURY 11/06/91
Mandela rumour 'untrue'

JOHANNESBURG—There was no foundation to the rumour there was a rift in the marriage of ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and his wife, Winnie, said the organisation's Internal Leadership Core chairman, Mr Walter Sisulu.

'They are presently on holiday together in France,' said Mr Sisulu, adding: 'The African National Congress notes with increasing concern the extensive Press speculation on "factions" and "leadership battles" in the run-up to the National Conference in July.'

Aussies and ANC agree on sanctions

MERCURY

11/66/91

JOHANNESBURG—The Australian Government and the ANC agree on the phased reductions of sanctions against South Africa, with cultural and sporting ties set to be resumed after the current session of Parliament.

This emerged yesterday at a media conference given by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and senior leaders of the ANC, including Mr Alfred Nzo, Mr Joe Slovo and Mr Chris Hani.

Senator Evans said, following his discussions with the ANC, there was no 'difference

of views on issues discussed'.

He said the Australian Government would relax 'people-to-people' sanctions first. He mentioned air links, sporting and cultural contacts, as well as the provision of visas.

Mr Stanley Mabizela, the ANC's deputy head of international affairs, said the ANC and the Australian Government agreed 'on the need to restructure sanctions, but they must await the outcome of the current session of Parliament'.

It also emerged from the talks between Senator Evans

and the ANC that the Australian Government would be giving the ANC an assistance package. However, Senator Evans would not give any details of the package, saying they would be made known later.

Mr Nzo said there had been an exchange of views and that Senator Evans' visit to South Africa was 'useful as he has gained personal experiences'.

On his talks with the South African Government, Senator Evans said he had conveyed to them the international concern over the violence in the

townships.

He added that Australian sanctions against South Africa would be dropped if the obstacles to constitutional negotiations were overcome. He mentioned the issues of political prisoners, exiles, apartheid legislation and the violence.

Later yesterday, the senator was due to meet a PAC delegation, but the PAC called off the meeting because of the arrest of a PAC member in Australia and the absence of financial assistance to the PAC. — (Sapa)

16/1/11

Pretoria 'ran trial of plot against ANC'

Patrick Laurence
in Johannesburg

A COVERT South African campaign to thwart Swapo in the Namibian independence election of 1989 served as a model for the prevailing — and secret — campaign to weaken the African National Congress in South Africa, according to a disillusioned South African military agent.

Nico Basson, who says he was secretly paid 64,000 rand a month by the South African Defence Force to run Operation Agree in Namibia, yesterday gave details of the campaign to discredit Swapo and build up its rival, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA).

The campaign, which included the establishment of the Namibian Media Agency and the placing of military agents in key positions in Namibian newspapers, was aimed at restricting Swapo's share of the vote to one third of the electorate.

It did not fulfil that aim. Swapo won a majority of the votes in the November 1989 independence election but failed to win the two-thirds majority needed to impose its own constitution on Namibia.

Mr Basson yesterday identified three aspects of Operation Agree which he believed were successful: exploitation of the scandal over the torture by Swapo of its own members; whipping up of anti-Swapo sentiment over the incursion into Namibia of Swapo guerrillas from Angola in April 1989; and building up the credibility of the DTA.

All these factors played a role in restricting the pro-Swapo vote.

But the campaign was also a dress rehearsal for South Africa.

On February 2 1990, less than three months after the Namibian election, Mr De Klerk unbaned the ANC, its South African Communist Party ally, and the rival Pan-Africanist Congress. Inviting the unfettered organisations to join him at the negotiating table, he went on to release Nelson Mandela less than 10 days later.

Parallels between the Namibian campaign and the De Klerk

government's strategy in South Africa include building up an alternative to Swapo/ANC. In Namibia it was primarily the DTA. In South Africa it is building up Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party (which together with Mr De Klerk's ruling National Party will be an important component in the projected Christian Democratic Alliance).

The use of force to cower opponents into submission is another common element. According to Mr Basson, who was a major in the SADF until he became disillusioned with its role, South African military intelligence assumes that "intimidation is the only thing that works in Africa."

Thus, Mr Basson contended, the use of the South African counter-insurgency unit, Koevoet, to terrify opponents in Namibia finds its counterpart in South Africa in the deployment of Inkatha vigilantes against the ANC.

The Military Psychological Institute (MPI) and a specialised SADF communications sections known as Comops figured prominently in the Namibian campaign and play an important role in South Africa, Mr Basson said.

"They are busy discrediting the ANC," Mr Basson said of Comops. He named one of its senior officers, Colonel Tony Vermaak, as a man who worked for years on another project, to discredit Winnie Mandela.

In April Mr Basson wrote to President De Klerk detailing some of the accusations he voiced yesterday and expressing concern about them.

A reply from President De Klerk's office invited him to either submit a full but confidential memorandum to Mr De Klerk or to submit allegations to the proposed Commission on Violence and Intimidation as soon as it is established.

● The ANC yesterday denied press reports that Nelson Mandela's marriage is in trouble. "We wish to state that there is no foundation to the rumour that there is a rift in the marriage of Nelson and Winnie Mandela, who are presently on holiday together in France," said Walter Sisulu, a veteran ANC activist and close family friend.

The
Guardian
11/6/91
London

Former officer alleges campaign of dirty tricks to orchestrate township violence and fix elections

SA military 'giving arms to Inkatha'

From John Carlin
in Johannesburg

THE South African Defence Force (SADF) has deliberately fanned the township violence of recent months, including funding and supplying weapons to Mangosuthu Buthezi's Inkatha Freedom Party, as part of a comprehensive "dirty tricks" strategy to ensure F.W. de Klerk's National Party remains in power after the end of apartheid, a retired SADF major alleged yesterday.

Nico Basson, who said he worked for military intelligence in Namibia in 1989, added that the SADF was also working on plans to attempt, through intimidation, to engineer the elections in neighbouring Angola next year in favour of the Unita leader, South Africa's old ally, Jonas Savimbi. He said he himself had been a key player in an elaborate SADF-orchestrated scheme designed to prevent victory in the 1989 elections in Namibia going to Swapo, the eventual winners.

Mr Basson said the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs had worked, and was working, hand-in-glove with the SADF in the deployment of the various stages of the plans, which were given the codename Operation Agree when first devised at the end of 1988 by the Minister of Defence, Magnus Malan, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, P.W. Botha. In April, Mr Basson wrote to President de Klerk with a broad outline of the allegations.

The SADF said yesterday that Mr Basson was "handying about unsubstantiated allegations for reasons of his own". The statement added: "The Defence Force knows nothing about these plans, which are ridiculous."

Inkatha denied the allegations of involvement with the SADF. "I'm flabbergasted ... I know nothing about this," said a spokeswoman, Suzanne Vos.

In a two-and-a-half hour interview yesterday morning with four

reporters, Mr Basson provided a wealth of detail — including names of senior military officers, names of alleged SADF front-companies in and out of South Africa, and names of individuals allegedly running those companies — to substantiate his claims about the Defence Force role in Namibia.

Namibia, he said, was intended as a "dress rehearsal" for the much more ambitious operation currently afoot in South Africa itself. He had continued to obtain information on that operation from numerous sources working within the Defence Force with whom he is in regular contact. They share his disgust and disillusionment with the SADF's activities but fear to speak out, he said.

He also described Namibia as "a trial run" for the South African electoral game-plan, in which the same structures of the SADF and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were being employed.

"The SADF is buying AK-47 rifles on a large scale, notably from Mozambique, and supplying these weapons to Inkatha," Mr Basson said. The violence in the townships around Johannesburg, in which Inkatha supporters have been centrally involved and in which some 1,500 people have died in the past nine months, had been deliberately orchestrated by the SADF. "They could stop it immediately if they wished," Mr Basson said.

The strategy behind the violence, he said, was to create ethnic divisions; to discredit the ANC, whose military wing has long been associated with the AK-47, and force it into political mistakes; and to build Inkatha through intimidation so as to form a strong alliance with the National Party in the first

post-apartheid elections. To that end, the SADF had not only provided weapons to Inkatha, but also assistance in setting up township cells.

Pointing to the estimated 8 per cent of the government's defence budget which, it is known, is employed for secret projects, he said it was on precisely such ventures that the money was being spent. Mr de Klerk has in recent months refused to answer parliamentary questions on where the secret money is going.

Mr Basson, an SADF officer between 1982 and 1986, said that he saw Operation Agree unfold in Namibia, where he was summoned by the SADF in January 1989 in his capacity as a volunteer member of the Citizen Force, the army reserve.

He was ordered to set up an ostensibly legitimate operation called African Communications Project with SADF funding — he personally received 64,000 rand (£13,700) a month — whose aim was to manipulate information in favour of the pro-South African, "democratic" parties opposing Swapo, which had fought a war of liberation against South Africa for 23 years. The then head of the SADF, General Jannie Geldenhuys, and the present head, General Kat Liebenberg, were the moving spirits behind the operations.

Mr Basson, who said that he had survived three attempts on his life, told Mr de Klerk in his letter that he had been motivated in his actions by a "road to Damascus" experience in 1989, when he underwent a radical shift in his political commitment. He added yesterday that he was appalled at the use of state resources for party political ends.

The SADF has initiated legal action against Mr Basson in terms of his alleged contravention of the Protection of Information Act.

The

Independent

11/6/91

London