

FACTS AND REPORTS

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S1: SA Report (SA), 94 08 26

'Gravy train' allegations shake the ANC

WITHIN 24 HOURS of the Cape Town Anglican Diocese calling on politicians and business executives to cut their salaries because they "set a bad example to the country", President Mandela proposed that the salaries of members of parliament should be revised to reverse the perception that the government was being less than frugal in its handling of public finances.

The statement was issued through the office of Archbishop Desmond Tutu and stated that the Diocese's diocesan council was "deeply disturbed" that the objectives of the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) stood to be sabotaged "by the alienation of the poor and the disadvantaged in society from a wealthy elite in government and the private sector".

The statement called on the government to place the needs of people above that of profit.

Tutu said by voting themselves high salaries, members of SA's new government had missed a golden opportunity to stop the gravy train. "Someone has observed that they stopped the gravy train only long enough to get on. They cannot with any integrity and credibility ask the unions to moderate their claims for higher pay."

He had been deeply disappointed by the government's acceptance of the Melamet Committee's salary recommendations and indicated that the church would continue to take a critical view of government.

The church must never allow itself to be co-opted and must never become "this or that party at prayer, however laudable its policies". The church would be useless to its people and to the government if it abdicated its responsibility, he declared.

Mandela said the Melamet's Committee's salary recommendations were meant to address a temporary transitional situation and Public Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya was preparing guidelines for a permanent arrangement which would be publicly debated.

S3: Guardian (Br), 94 09 06

Lesotho pact 'binding'

A spokesman for three African states seeking to end Lesotho's political crisis said yesterday that King Letsie had reached an "absolute agreement" to restore the sacked prime minister, Ntsu Mokhehle, and his

government. Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa, which encircles the kingdom of 1.6 million people, had given the king until yesterday to resolve the crisis or face sanctions. — Reuter.

Comment

Mandela's rapid response is an indication of how sensitive the "gravy train" issue has become.

Before the election he committed the ANC to a frugal style of government and declared that "the gravy train will come to an end". When he was told that his salary would be R784,356 (\$220,000) a year he told Melamet it was too high but was somewhat mollified when Melamet pointed out that for the first time the president would be paying tax and that would substantially reduce his salary.

Mandela himself lives simply. He has committed a third of his salary to the President's Fund to provide educational bursaries, to assist children in jail, and to help street children and the marginalised youth.

Mandela as cautioned that if people were not paid sufficiently they could be tempted into corruption.

MPs have complained that their salaries do not cover their expenses, especially as they now have to maintain two homes, one at their place of residence and one in Cape Town for parliamentary sessions.

Deputy presidents are paid R681,600 (\$192,000), cabinet ministers R470,000 (\$132,000) and MPs R161,000 (\$45,000).

Recently a row broke out over the hiring of advisers by cabinet ministers. Initially the complaints came from civil servants who said the advisers were receiving salaries much greater than their own.

The pay of the advisers has now been standardised. The 25 special advisers appointed since May 11 receive salaries ranging from R19,200 (\$5,400) to R28,800 (\$8,090) a month, though some were paid on lower rates. Consultants were paid hourly rates ranging from R180 (\$50) to R313 (\$88).

New ANC Cape leader expected

Mondli waka Makhanya and Chris Louw

ALLAN BOESAK is set to relinquish his position as ANC leader in the Western Cape, and will probably be replaced by a cabinet member.

A little-known township activist is expected to be elected deputy leader of the province.

Boesak is likely to stand back and not make himself available as leader. Colleagues in the ANC are trying to organise him a diplomatic posting as a sweetener. It seems likely he will

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S2: Radio Report, 94 08 31 (abr)

local elections to be held no later than October 1995

This has been decided by the minister for provincial affairs and constitutional development, Mr Roelf Meyer, and the MECs [member of executive council] for local government of the nine provinces. They agreed at a meeting in Cape Town that a framework should be established to provide for the elections. The recommendation is to be submitted to the cabinet for approval. The group decided that each province should take its own decisions on mayoral elections.

SABC Radio South Africa, Johannesburg, in English

S4: Weekly Mail/Guardian (SA),

94 09 02 (fragm)

accept such an offer.

Boesak is widely held responsible for the ANC's dismal performance in the elections, and there are complaints that he has been unable to bridge the gap between Africans and coloureds in the province.

The Western Cape regional leadership is expected to be influential because of the location of parliament in Cape Town, and it is expected to develop a clear identity acting independently from the parliamentary caucus.

There is still a debate on whether MPs should be elected in regional leadership positions at all.

S5: Weekly Mail/Guardian (SA), 94 09 02 (abr)

S6: Namibian (Nam), 94 08 18

Long seige of an Angolan mining town

AT THE height of its prosperity under Portuguese occupation, Saurimo, the capital of Angola's Lunda Sul province, was nicknamed "The Princess of the East".

Today the city is a dirty, rundown settlement crawling with tens of thousands of rural people who have fled the war. Only wheeler-dealers of every nationality are making out here. This place can claim to be capital of Africa's wild west, where the rush is for diamonds, not gold.

Like several other Angolan towns, Saurimo has been under siege from Jonas Savimbi's Unita forces for months. It is a siege conducted at long range, with the attackers deployed more than 50km away. This helps the Angolan government to maintain control of the airport through which troops and supplies arrive.

Saurimo bears grievous scars of the fighting taking place all around it, which has driven peasants to crowd into the city. The population which in normal times was 35 000 has exploded. The first arrivals found shelter with relatives. The next wave of newcomers moved into the homes of residents who preferred to flee to Luanda.

The last wave of refugees has no choice but to put up precarious red clay-and-straw shelters covered with corrugated iron sheets. As many as ten crowd in spaces often no larger than a prison cell.

There could be 100 000 or 150 000 refugees. Nobody knows for sure, certainly not the authorities, whose most senior representatives cope with the problems by turning their attention to business.

Thousands of others were jammed into anything in the city that could serve as a shelter, including buildings begun under an "international aid" programme but never completed. Here people sleep on bare cement floors reeking of kitchen slop and urine as they wait for UN food to be distributed.

Yet, life in Saurimo could also be less distasteful, as shown by the presence of bars and nightclubs along the city's main street. In a place where nothing had been built for years, a supermarket has sprung up in record time and has just opened for business.

All kinds of goods are on sale, though nobody seems to know how they got here. Brazilian coffee, South

African beer and canned food and electrical kitchenware from Chile are available at sky-high prices. The children, bellies swollen with hunger, who press their noses against the store's windows have probably never seen such luxury before.

Uniformed security guards impassively turn away people they consider undesirable and let in only senior members of the administration, army officers, South African mercenaries fighting on the government side and the burgeoning diamond dealers.

War or no war, business is business. Until a few years ago it was the Luanda government that controlled the production and marketing of precious stones, cutting all foreigners out of this highly profitable business.

But since Unita captured most of the country's diamond-mining areas, Luanda has been having difficulty controlling the remaining areas still in its hands. Businessmen have flocked in from all over Africa and are freely exploiting the central government's weakness as they make money buying and selling the precious stones laboriously mined by the *garimpeiros*.

12 million mines still scattered in Angola

LISBON: Land mines have mutilated around 100 000 people in Angola, where 12 million mines remain scattered around the country, many of them in agricultural regions, Unicef official Vincent O'Reilly said in Luanda last week.

O'Reilly, of the UN Children's Fund, warned that many of the mines were buried in places where civilians were accustomed to gather or pass, the Angolan news agency Angop, monitored here, reported.

Separately, O'Reilly commented that Angola currently has the second highest infant mortality rate in the world, with 229 children out of every 1 000 dying before reaching the age of five. - Sapa-AFP

S7: Namibian (Nam), 94 08 17

Angolan govt holds on to Kuito

LUANDA: Angolan government troops have regained full control of Kuito, the main town of Bie province, after ousting Unita forces from areas still held by them, sources in the Angolan capital said yesterday.

After two weeks of heavy fighting the Angolan army also retook the town of Kukema, 20 kilometers outside Kuito, from Unita, and seized heavy weapons and a tank.

The report was not immediately confirmed by Unita.

Informed sources meanwhile said people were

fleeing near the town of Caxito, northeast of here, after Unita forces took up fighting positions not far from the village of Quicabo.

However military experts ruled out any offensive on Caxito, 60 kilometers from the capital, because of a superior number of government forces, backed by armored divisions, long-range artillery and special commandos.

Unita's Radio Vorgan, monitored in Luanda, accused government forces yesterday of "slaughtering" civilians in the Waku Kungo region in the western Cuanza Sul province. - Sapa-AFP

S10: Radio Report, 94 09 03 (fragm)

UNITA radio reports "large-scale" offensive by MPLA troops in Cunene Province

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 1200 gmt 3 Sep 94

S11: Radio Report, 94 09 07 (fragm)

UNITA radio reports air raids on Artur de Paiva and Caluquembe, Huila Province

(a) Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 1200 gmt 7 Sep 94

S12: Radio Report, 94 09 05 (fragm)

UNITA radio says government troops massacred 700 in Cabinda on 20th August

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 1200 gmt 5 Sep 94

S8: Guardian (Br), 94 09 01

Angolan battle

The Angolan government and the rebel Unita movement are engaged in a fierce battle in the northern oil-producing area of Cabinda. — Reuter.

S13: Le Monde (Fr), 94 09 01

ANGOLA: soixante-dix personnes enlevées. — Les médias angolais ont indiqué, mardi 30 août, que soixante-dix personnes ont été enlevées vendredi par des rebelles de l'Union nationale pour l'indépendance totale de l'Angola (UNITA), près de la ville portuaire de Porto-Amboim, à 250 kilomètres au sud de Luanda. Selon le *Jornal de Angola* (proche du gouvernement), la route reliant Luanda à Porto-Amboim est bloquée par des rebelles qui multiplient les attaques. — (AFP)

S9: Radio Report, 94 09 06 (abr)

UNITA says government raids on Huambo have undermined confidence in peace talks

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 0600 gmt 6 Sep 94

Text of report by UNITA radio

The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Workers' Party [MPLA-PT] air force bombing raid on the city of Huambo on 31st August has affected the confidence of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] concerning the Lusaka peace talks. That is because the MPLA-PT raid occurred at a time when considerable progress was being made at the talks in the Zambian capital. A total of 61 people were killed and more than 100 wounded as a result of that raid.

S14: Fin. Times (Br), 94 09 02 (abr)

Control of Angola beyond Savimbi's grasp

More than nine months of peace talks in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, have since aimed at ending Africa's longest-running war, which started soon after Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975. For more than six months, UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye has been saying the two sides are close to a deal.

Yet some observers in Luanda dismiss the talks as nothing more than a show aimed at heading off tightened UN sanctions and at obscuring events on the battlefield.

Both sides may have reason not to sign an accord now. Government generals, advancing on the ground, could win back more land, while Unita's demands to control the governorship of Huambo, their capital, have not been met.

The government's capture last month of key diamond areas around the north-eastern town of Cafunfo dealt a powerful blow to the rebels, who use diamonds to buy weapons. Last year some \$250m (£166m) worth of diamonds came out of Angola, mostly from the Cafunfo area.

The loss will not cut off all of Mr Savimbi's funds. The diamond fields are huge and lawless; they swarm with small-time but well-armed diggers, many of whom will remain loyal to the Unita cause.

But the defeats around Cafunfo, the loss of the northern provincial capital of N'galatando in early May, and other government victories underline the rebels' weakness. The government thrusts into the north have been led

by freshly trained Angolan counter-insurgency commandos, with help from South African and other mercenaries.

The besieged government garrison in the central highlands town of Cuito, in the heart of traditional Unita territory, surrounded, starved and pounded by heavy artillery for a year and a half, last month blasted rebel forces from positions in the town centre and scattered them into the hills.

The government produces more than 500,000 barrels a day of oil, last year worth some \$2.75bn, more than 60 per cent of which has gone directly into the defence budget. Arms shipments from Spain, Israel, Brazil and the former Soviet Union are being unloaded openly at Luanda's airport while military units press gang teenagers onto army trucks in the streets of the capital.

Unita's representative to the UN, Mr Gardo Muekalia, last week said he expected a government offensive on Soyo, Angola's second-most productive oil town which produced some 35,000 b/d before Unita captured it last year.

Yet Huambo still remains the key diplomatic and military prize. Unita refers to Huambo as its "Jerusalem" and sees control of the city as the key to any peace agreement. But the government says its refusal to accept a Unita governor in Huambo is "not negotiable".

Mr Savimbi appears unwilling, or unable, to concede what is demanded of him. To be denied governorship of

Huambo, after nearly 20 years of civil war, may be impossible for him to sell to his generals and to his people.

He also knows the battle to control all Angola, by military or by electoral means, is beyond his grasp. He may thus think his best hope is to carve out a kingdom of his own centred on Huambo, its borders frozen in place by UN peacekeepers called in, should a peace agreement be signed.

But the Luanda government and the outside world, afraid of a *de facto* partition of Angola, want to avoid such Unita control at Huambo. UN sanctions already ban supplies of fuel and arms to the rebels and they also threaten to close down Unita bank accounts and offices abroad if the rebel group does not give up demands to install its own governor in Huambo.

Mr Savimbi has said new sanctions will scotch the talks and the UN has repeatedly backed down from applying them. The clear knowledge on both sides that the war is unwinnable may prove enough incentive to find peace. The government knows Mr Savimbi cannot be fully defeated. Even on a shoestring budget his rebels can continue to make the countryside ungovernable.

But diplomats in Luanda also believe an agreement in Lusaka could be one of the smaller hurdles on the road to a lasting peace in Angola.

S15: Guardian (Br), 94 08 31

Angolan ambush

About 70 people, including a Portuguese priest and two people linked to a US aid agency, are missing after an Angolan ambush. — Reuter.

S16: Le Monde (Fr), 94 08 31

ANGOLA : L'UNITA menace l'ONU de se retirer des négociations en cours. — L'Union nationale pour l'indépendance totale de l'Angola (UNITA) a menacé, lundi 29 août, de rompre les négociations en cours avec le gouvernement angolais si le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU adoptait de nouvelles sanctions à son encontre. Lukamba Gato, secrétaire général adjoint du mouvement, a déclaré à Abidjan que, si l'ONU appliquait les sanctions, elle prendrait « la responsabilité de l'escalade militaire ». Les forces de l'UNITA ont repris ce week-end le pilonnage de Menongue (Sud-Est) et Kuito (Centre), selon des sources militaires. — (AFP)

S17: Radio Report, 94 09 07 (abr)

Government and UNITA talks on Unavem-3 mandate continuing

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese
1200 gmt 7 Sep 94

Text of report (AL/2094 A/4 [10])

Here in Lusaka, Zambia, the representatives from the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] are continuing discussions on specific principles of the new UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-3 mandate. Despite these discussions, the desired results have not yet been achieved. The parties have, however, come close on the issue under debate.

S20: Radio Report, 94 09 06 (abr)

Cabinet secretary says "no point in raising false expectations" on peace talks

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese
1900 gmt 6 Sep 94

Text of report

There was a meeting of the inner cabinet today to assess the evolution of the Angolan peace talks. Cabinet Secretary Carlos Feijo briefed news reporters at the end of the meeting:

[Feijo - recording] As you know, I should not make public statements about what is going on Lusaka. It is, however, fair to say that contrary to what is often reported in the media, there are still a number of outstanding issues that could take a while to be resolved. There is no point in raising false expectations about the talks.

S18: Radio Report, 94 09 02 (abr)

UNITA said to have made concessions over Huambo governor issue

SABC Radio South Africa, Johannesburg, in English
0500 gmt 2 Sep 94

Angola's UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement has agreed to allow the Angolan government to name the governor of the UNITA stronghold province of Huambo in a move which observers believe could end the deadlock in the Lusaka talks which are aimed at ending the 20-year-old civil war in Angola.

S19: Radio Report, 94 09 05 (abr)

UN special envoy arrives in Luanda to assess political, military, humanitarian situation

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese
1200 gmt 5 Sep 94

James Jonah, the special envoy of UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus Ghali, arrived in Luanda this morning for a two-week visit to assess the situation in Angola.

[Cardoso] The delegation will hold meetings [words indistinct] UN agencies' representatives, ambassadors from donor countries. On 8th September the delegation will leave for Lusaka where it will hold talks with the UN special representative, the delegations from the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], and the representatives of the observer countries. We shall return to Luanda on 11th September. From 12th September, we will visit our military observer teams in Benguela, Namibe and Lubango [words indistinct] meetings with the Angolan authorities, including the president of the republic.

S21: Radio Report, 94 08 30 (abr)

Government, UNITA agree to 7,000-strong UN peacekeeping force: South African report

*SABC TV, Johannesburg, in English 0500 gmt
30 Aug 94*

The Angolan government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] have agreed to accept a 7,000-man United Nations peacekeeping force. Details of the agreement were given at the summit meeting of the Southern African Development Community [SADC] in Gaborone. A SADC official said peace talks between the Angolan government and UNITA in Lusaka had made a significant breakthrough in reaching agreement on principles of national reconciliation. The summit urged the international community to intensify pressure on UNITA to commit itself to a speedy and complete peaceful resolution of the crisis in Angola.

S24: Radio Report, 94 08 30 (abr)

UNITA official says decision on Savimbi-Mandela meeting to be given "next weekend"

*Radio Mozambique, Maputo, in Portuguese 1030 gmt
30 Aug 94*

Jardo Muecalia, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] representative in Washington, has said that an answer concerning the issue of a meeting between South African President Nelson Mandela and UNITA President Jonas Savimbi will only be given next weekend. Muecalia has been acting as liaison officer between the UNITA headquarters at Huambo and the South African embassy in Washington.

S25: Radio Report, 94 09 07 (abr)

Six opposition parties meet in M'banza Congo, plan demonstration

*Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in
Portuguese 0600 gmt 7 Sep 94*

Text of report by UNITA radio

Six genuine opposition parties met in M'banza Congo, capital of Zaire Province, on 5th September to assess the current political and military situation in Angola. The six parties are the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA; the Angolan National Democratic Convention, CNDA; the Democratic Renewal Party, PRD; the Angola National Liberation Front, FNLA; the Angolan Democratic Party, PDA; and the Angolan Social Democratic Party, PSDA. They condemned the recent speech made by Eduardo dos Santos at the Council of the Republic meeting [see AL/2092 A/7 [16]], describing it as a declaration of war and proof that the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] government lacks good faith to settle the Angolan dispute by peaceful means. They condemned the renewed air raids against civilians throughout the country, notably on the city of Huambo. They also condemned the stance taken by US President Bill Clinton regarding the application of sanctions on one of Angola's warring factions.

In view of the recent MPLA air force raids on civilian targets, the participants decided to demonstrate in the city of M'banza Congo over the next few days.

S22: Radio Report, 94 08 30 (fragm)

SADC summit in Gaborone calls for tighter sanctions against UNITA

*Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese
0600 gmt 30 Aug 94*

S23: Radio Report, 94 08 25 (abr)

Catholic Church denies any official approach by UNITA

*Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese
1200 gmt 25 Aug 94*

The Catholic Church has adopted a cautious approach. Father Apolonio, spokesman for the Angola-Sao Tome Episcopal Conference, said that it was much too early for the church to convey a definitive stance on the matter. He also noted that the Catholic Church did not regard UNITA's proposal as official. In other words, UNITA had not approached the Catholic Church officially yet. In view of that, Father Apolonio said there was no reason to make any comments other than to relay the following message to UNITA: Anyone wishing to work with the Catholic Church has to be very serious. Anyone attempting to use the church for his own gain would have no success whatever.

To all intents and purposes, the Catholic Church was waiting for an official approach from UNITA. Failing that, nothing doing.

UNITA sources said they had contacted what they called the San Egideo Congregation, but Father Apolonio said that congregation had no power to make a decision. The leadership of the Catholic Church in Angola must be contacted first.

S26: Radio Report, 94 09 01 (abr)

Passengers from Zambian aircraft missing in UNITA-held area return home

(a) ZNBC radio, Lusaka, in English 1800 gmt 1 Sep 94

The four passengers of the Cessna plane that went missing last Friday [26th August] yesterday returned home from Angola, where they had been held by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels.

S27: Radio Report, 94 08 31 (abr)

MPLA official: opposition decisions at national conference will not be binding

*Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese
0600 gmt 31 Aug 94*

Text of report

The ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, MPLA, party has rejected the holding of a national conference on reconciliation and it has advised that any issue concerning the country should be discussed at the National Assembly. MPLA Information Secretary Joao Lourenco had the following to say about it:

[Lourenco - recording] I would like to reaffirm that the opposition parties can meet whenever they please and they can call such meetings whatever they deem fit. If they think the next meeting of the opposition should be called a national conference, they are free to do so. We are not going to stand in their way.

However, we would like to make it quite clear that any decisions eventually arising from that so-called national conference will not be regarded as binding by the government and even less so by the ruling party.