

FACTS AND REPORTS

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F1: Independent (Br), 94 03 14

Fiasco in 'Bop' clears way for SA elections

THE COLLAPSE of the Freedom Alliance, the unholy marriage of the black and white right, has shattered the greatest obstacle to peace in South Africa and, while more violence can be expected, has cleared the way for all races to vote in the country's first democratic elections next month.

A short, sharp military showdown exposed the bluster behind the far right's threats of civil war and delivered, in less than 24 hours, the outcome the government and the African National Congress (ANC) had sought during months of painstaking negotiations.

On 12 October last year the Afrikaner Volksfront coalition, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party and the government of Bophuthatswana, formalised a union held together by a seemingly strong bond: their common fear of democracy.

Their combined support amounted, at best, to 10 per cent of the population but they had the firepower, they snarled, to stop the April elections. Unable to gauge the exact nature of the threat, the ANC and the government bent over backwards to accommodate their demands while simultaneously, in discussion after discussion, trying to divide them.

White extremists and Inkatha are in disarray, writes John Carlin in Johannesburg

What South Africa's two main political parties now know, to their immense relief, is that when it comes to the crunch the South African Defence Force can be expected to defend the new order against — another happy discovery — the paper tigers of the far right.

It all started going wrong for the apartheid die-hards when, in response to a request from what remained of the Bophuthatswana government, General Constand Viljoen dispatched his motley Boer army to Mmabatho, the homeland capital. It was a decision so politically misguided, with such suicidally catastrophic consequences, that by Friday night the Volksfront had split in two and Lucas Mangope, the embattled leader of Bophuthatswana, was staring political oblivion in the face.

General Viljoen, explaining his decision on Saturday to break away from the Volks-

front and register for the elections in the name of the Freedom Front, blamed the "Bop" fiasco on Eugene Terre-Blanche's rabble, the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB). Had they not joined the fray with the rest of the Boer "commandos", he said, there would never have been such murder, mayhem and, in the end, the worst humiliation since the Boer war.

This was disingenuous. It was he who gave the order for the *volk* to embark on their midnight ride in the full knowledge that the AWB was as integral a part of the Volksfront as his other, purportedly more disciplined, troops. The general, who Nelson Mandela describes as a gentleman, has always felt uncomfortable in the presence of Mr Terre-Blanche. But, despite the promptings of, among others, his appalled wife, he stuck by them.

To imagine that when he issued the call to war the AWB would fail to respond, their *raison d'être* having always rested on the fantasy that one day they would rise up in arms to claim their "volkstaat", indicates how far removed from reality General Viljoen is. Responsibility for the killings in Mmabatho is not something he can shrug off.

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F2: Independent (Br), 94 03 15 (abr)

Viljoen pull-out leaves Buthelezi isolated

KARL MAIER
in Johannesburg

SOUTH AFRICA'S right-wing disintegrated further yesterday with the resignation of General Constand Viljoen, a key leader of the Freedom Alliance, leaving his former ally, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, increasingly isolated in his opposition to next month's general elections.

Chief Buthelezi, Chief Minister of the KwaZulu homeland, joined the remnants of the Freedom Alliance leadership yesterday in decrying the dissolution of Bophuthatswana as "un-Christian, double-crossing betrayal" by the South African government.

On Sunday he warned that "what they did to Bophuthatswana they want to do to KwaZulu".

By failing to present a list of candidates for the election by the 11 March deadline, Chief Buthelezi appeared to pull his Inkatha Freedom Party out of the polls, arguing that the new constitution did not give enough powers to provincial governments. An Inkatha central committee executive member, Ben Ngubane, disputed that view yesterday, saying: "As far as we are concerned,

last Friday's deadline is immaterial as to whether or not we decide to participate in the elections."

President F W de Klerk has the authority to amend the electoral act to allow Inkatha's registration for the election, but an Independent Electoral Commission spokesman said Inkatha's name had been deleted from the ballot papers. General Viljoen suggested he might seek an electoral and negotiating pact with Inkatha, per cent of his KwaZulu government's £1.1bn annual budget that Inkatha could contest the monthly installments, and banner.

President de Klerk, on the

campaign trail yesterday, seemed in no mood to accommodate Inkatha, however, warning that Chief Buthelezi's decision not to participate in the election "creates a dangerous situation". Chief Buthelezi, he said, bore "a very heavy responsibility to ensure that his non participation will not act as a flashpoint for further violence in that area".

Finances are Chief Buthelezi's Achilles heel. At least 89 per cent of his KwaZulu government's £1.1bn annual budget has come from the South African government, mostly in monthly installments, and there have been reports that

KwaZulu civil servants fear his election boycott could cost them their jobs.

Chief Buthelezi has been left with factions of the far-right Conservative Party and Eugene Terre-Blanche's extremist Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) at his side.

Mr Mangope, who was overthrown last week after a strike by civil servants set off looting and clashes between heavily armed AWB members and the Bophuthatswana Defence Force, yesterday maintained a hollow claim to the presidency. "I am legally and constitutionally still the president of Bophuthatswana," he said at Kimberley.

F4: Radio Report, 94 02 27 (abr)

Peace talks continue in Lusaka: decentralization and UNITA's radio discussed

Radio Renascenca, Lisbon, in Portuguese 2100 gmt 27 Feb 94

One of the points of disagreement which is being discussed at the meeting relates to UNITA's radio station, Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel, also known as Vorgan. According to Angolan legislation, political parties can own publications but cannot own radio stations. In the meantime, UNITA considers Vorgan an exception because it already existed before the legislation was approved.

Another point of disagreement relates to the country's administrative decentralization, which the government says is already being put into practice. In the meantime, UNITA wants provincial government to have its own power, at several levels, as well as its own budgetary capacities.

F7: Radio Reports, 28/2 t/m 5/3 (abr)

Luanda radio reports "some progress" at Lusaka peace talks

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1900 gmt 28 Feb 94

UNITA says government lacks seriousness in its approach to reconciliation issue

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 0600 gmt 1 Mar 94

Government and UNITA reportedly close to agreement on national reconciliation

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1900 gmt 2 Mar 94

Luanda radio says peace talks "not moving forward"

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1900 gmt 4 Mar 94

UNITA's Jorge Valentim says Lusaka talks going "very well indeed"

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 0600 gmt 5 Mar 94

F9: Radio Report, 94 03 09 (abr)

Lusaka talks focus on property, administration; UNITA radio reports progress

(a) *Televisao Popular de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1930 gmt 9 Mar 94*

This is the fourth week of discussions on national reconciliation and the impasse now being registered is the lack of property [word indistinct] for the return of property.

At a news conference given only to the foreign press today, UNITA's Jorge Valentim stressed the importance of the proposal and spoke of the need to introduce amendments. Jorge Valentim surprised everyone when he said that his delegation was tired because of the speedy pace of the peace talks and it would thus propose the slowing down of the talks.

F5: Radio Reports, 24/2 t/m 9/3 (abr)

Army said to control 30% of rural and 90% of urban areas; fighting in Cabinda

SABC Channel Africa radio, Johannesburg, in English 1100 gmt 24 Feb 94

Luanda radio reports "violent attack" by UNITA on MPLA forces in Cuanza Sul

Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1900 gmt 28 Feb 94

UNITA detains ship carrying 100 people in Soyo area

Radio Renascenca, Lisbon, in Portuguese 1700 gmt 5 Mr 94

UNITA radio reports government troop movement in Lunda Norte Province

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 1900 gmt 9 Mar 94

F6: Radio Report, 94 03 05 (abr)

Luanda television: famine, UNITA mines killed 250 people in Kunje in one week

Televisao Popular de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1930 gmt 5 Mar 94

Kunje administrator Jose Canaia told the local press that last week more than 250 people had died of hunger and from exploding mines, planted in the commune by UNITA. Jose Canaia also said UNITA had kidnapped 120 people who had been travelling to Kuito or on their way to their farms to search for food. He said about 100 people had died in only five days after detonating 90 mines. Hospital sources say the Kunje medical centre does not have any medicine.

F8: SA Report (SA), 94 03 04 (abr)

Savimbi 'truce' call gives lift to peace talks

WHILE NEGOTIATIONS between representatives of the two warring armies in Angola continue in Lusaka, Zambia, under United Nations mediation, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has announced that he is ready to call a global truce to fighting in the country's 18-year-old civil war.

Savimbi said he could see no hope of victory for either side in the continued

bloodshed. But both sides reported renewed fighting in Angola's central highlands.

He no longer opposed the result of the September 1993 elections which gave victory to the MPLA and which caused him to resume the civil war, he said.

But on presidential ballots, during the first round of which neither Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos nor Savimbi won an outright victory, he added: "We recognise Dos Santos as interim president, pending the second round."

F10: Citizen (SA), 94 03 05 (abr)

Relief aid arrives for Angolan city

LUANDA. — International relief flights to the besieged northern Angolan city of Malange resumed yesterday after being suspended following rebel shelling on Wednesday and Thursday, state radio said.

ICRC director for Angola, Mr Christophe Harnisch, confirmed the report of a relief flight.

Ms Dineen Tupa, director of the international

aid organisation World Vision, said a World Food Programme (WFP) plane carrying World Vision goods had taken off for Malange, but turned back without landing. She did not know why.

The government-held town has been under siege by Jonas Savimbi's UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rebels since the beginning of last year.

A UN report published here on Wednesday said that at least 30 000 children faced starving to death in Malanje if emergency food aid did not reach them swiftly.

In mid-February, a UN plane was hit by bullets as it stood on the runway at Malanje. The Angolan Government subsequently suspended flights to areas held by UNITA for several days.

F11: SouthScan (Br), 94 02 25

Press muzzled by government and rebel, says report

The MPLA government in Angola is muzzling the press and electronic media and keeping the fledgling private press on a tight rein, according to a new report by an independent watchdog, the Media Institute of Southern Africa (Misa). And the Windhoek-based Misa accuses the rebel movement Unita of subjecting the media and media workers to "similar, if not harsher controls" in areas it controls.

A task force of three media workers from Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Namibia collaborated with an independent media workers' association, the *Sindicato dos Jornalistas Angolanos* (SJA) to produce the report which finds that apart from the manipulation of the media, conditions for media workers are extremely dangerous.

At least 10 media workers have been killed in the course of their work since the resumption of war in October '92, while a further seven have disappeared without trace.

Among those assassinated - apparently by Unita militants - were David Bernardino and Fernando Marcelino of the Huambo-based publication *Jango*, a newspaper which, while produced by erstwhile MPLA intellectuals, had on many occasions subjected the Luanda government and party to tough criticism.

According to the report, both sides use "blatant, as well as more subtle control" to ensure their version of events is the only one published. Focussing on the Luanda government, the report notes that the cabinet appoints the chief

executives of the state's radio and television services, national newspaper and news agency thereby ensuring political loyalty.

It says low pay and lack of alternative job openings ensure that journalists toe the line. Since the resumption of hostilities, among other pressures, a number of journalists belonging to the mostly Unita-supporting Ovimbundu ethnic group but working for state media houses have been subject to discrimination and prejudice. Although private media houses exist, all fall under the control of the Ministry of Social Communication. The ministry controls the country's only newspaper printing press and allocation of newsprint. Access to loans is controlled by state-run banks.

The writers hint that several of the private radio stations and publications which sprang up in the brief peace before the elections were funded by the MPLA, keen to ensure continuing media outlets should the party lose the election. While the report describes the media council - supposed to act as a watchdog - as a toothless poodle thanks to its lack of funding and resources, it says media workers themselves have taken initiatives which could provide the basis for a "genuinely independent and pluralistic media."

They point in particular to the SJA as campaigning on issues of media freedom, a stance which has drawn increasing hostility from the government.

Among its recommendations, the report suggests external pressure should be exerted on the MPLA government and Unita to permit journalists to report objectively.

F12: Radio Report, 94 02 26 (abr)

UNITA radio: World Bank urges MPLA to act immediately to halt "economic chaos"

Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese 1200 gmt 26 Feb 94

The World Bank told the National Bank of Angola that it must pursue urgently an austere monetary policy that should function as an anchor in the whole stabilization programme. To that end, it would be necessary to adjust interest rates to real and positive levels that are in line with the expected inflation rate. Similarly, a very cautious approach should be adopted concerning credit expansion. The World Bank also noted that, given that economic stability was a prerequisite for economic reform, the Luanda regime must reduce its budget deficit, restructure and privatize public enterprises and alter its foreign exchange policy.

F13: Radio Report, 94 02 27 (abr)

President dos Santos comments on his visit to France,

(b) Radio France Internationale, Paris, in French 1230 gmt 27 Feb 94

After the visit had been postponed, and in spite of the opposition of French supporters of UNITA, the Angolan president was met officially in Paris by his counterpart, President Francois Mitterrand, and also by Prime Minister Edouard Balladur and the French ministers of cooperation and the interior. This was a form of diplomatic recognition for Eduardo dos Santos, but France failed to commit itself at any level. Paris has made the resumption of its cooperation conditional on a peace agreement; it has referred to the IMF the rescheduling of the one thousand million francs owed to it by Angola; and has upheld its embargo on arms sales. Monique Mas began by asking President dos Santos if he had not been disappointed by his visit:

[Dos Santos, in French - recording] No, we are not disappointed. The most important thing for us is that France has a firm position on the current problems in Angola. We heard from the French authorities that there was a legitimate, elected government in Angola. It is with this government that France will maintain relations of friendship and cooperation within a relatively privileged framework.

F15: Radio Report, 94 03 09 (abr)

Parliament approves economic programme and issues resolution on economic action

Televisao Popular de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 1930 gmt 9 Mar 94

The National Assembly believes that the programme which was presented here is made up of a coherent set of macroeconomic measures whose rigorous and disciplined implementation should result in a significant short-term reduction in the inflation rate experienced in 1993 and a slowing down in the pace and level of national impoverishment, which has caused the citizens to face a serious increase in the cost of living. Nonetheless, only the continued implementation of that programme and the correct integration into the macroeconomic programme of the Public Investment Plan, as well as of sectorial programmes, can lead to medium-term growth in production levels, which in turn should allow the economy to stabilize, help improve consumption levels and ensure greater wellbeing for the people.

F14: Marchés Trop.(Fr), 94 02 25(abr)

La campagne AfricAmiga du Portugal en faveur du Mozambique et de l'Angola

Le secrétaire général des Nations unies, M. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, a appelé à un "appui massif de tous" à la campagne d'entraide "AfricAmiga" lancée par le gouvernement portugais en faveur de ses anciennes colonies d'Angola et du Mozambique. La campagne AfricAmiga "est plus que jamais nécessaire pour que l'Onu puisse poursuivre son action humanitaire (en Angola et au Mozambique)" puisque, "malgré le fort engagement de la communauté internationale, les besoins sont énormes et l'urgence est absolue", a déclaré M. Boutros-Ghali dans une intervention en français diffusée pendant le week-end du 21 février par la télévision portugaise. Au cours de ce même week-end, le Premier ministre portugais Anibal Cavaco Silva avait appelé de son côté à la solidarité nationale en faveur des "populations martyrs de l'Angola et du Mozambique".

F16: Namibian (Nam), 94 02 22 (abr)

LUANDA: Angola's government has been devoting most of its efforts in recent months on reequipping the army and police to counter military pressure from Unita, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said yesterday.

Admitting that Unita had a well-equipped army, Dos Santos told his cabinet that the country was facing "an undeclared state of emergency."

He urged the government team at peace talks under way in neighbouring Zambia since November to hold out for a lasting ceasefire which could be verified by the

United Nations.

Dos Santos, speaking a day after the central bank ordered a 50 per cent devaluation of the currency, said the government had failed to transform its emergency economic programme into a proper development programme.

He blamed government ministers for "lack of firmness" in trying to achieve targets.

F17: Fin.Times (Br), 94 03 02 (abr)

Angola cuts exchange rate

Angola devalued its official exchange rate by nearly 30 per cent yesterday, the third devaluation in the past two weeks. Reuter reports from Luanda.

The National Bank of Angola said the official rate of the kwanza was now 24,970 to the dollar, compared to 17,838 in force since February 21 and 12,740 from February 14 when it was cut from 6,500.

The devaluation was part of adjusting the official exchange rate to "a point of macro-economic equilibrium", the bank said.

F18: Afr. South & East (Zim), 94/02

Clear the weapons, save the lives

While the Angolan peace talks lurch through round after round, a radical German humanitarian organisation is hard at work rolling back the deadly debris of decades of war. As a form of radical preventive health care, the organisation destroys weaponry to avoid having to treat its effects in deaths and injuries.

Cap Anamur — essentially, German Emergency Doctors — arrived in Cunene Province a year ago to find it crippled by conflict, with thousands of landmines and tons of leftover high explosive ammunition posing a daily threat to the weary civilian population.

Working under the banner of "Radical Pacifism, Radical Neutrality, Radical Humanitarianism," they set to work clearing away the danger. Using converted high-tech East German military gear including white-painted tanks and trucks originally designed to withstand the Siberian winter, Cap Anamur and their Angolan sappers have cleared 7 500 mine. From unguarded and precarious dumps, they have removed 50 000 high explosive missiles and shells, 200 000 smaller shells and over 48 tons of assorted explosives.

All the munitions are destroyed in massive controlled blasts. "We are using the weapons of war to fight war... a nice concept, don't you think? We love destroying arms," says project manager Hendrik Ehlers.

By supporting recovery of the infrastructure and making the province safer for vulnerable local people, Cap Anamur enforce their commitment to disarmament. Fields abandoned for 15 years are again being cultivated as mines are removed and confidence that they will not be blown up returns to the farmers.

Roads in Cunene are generally so bad that the few functioning vehicles avoid them and health care collapsed long ago, leaving some areas with no child vaccination. Water remains a commodity some must walk 40km to draw from a dirty river. In towns and villages, once-splendid colonial buildings are now piles of rubble, while the roofless shells of post offices,

schools and hospitals rot away.

In Namacunde, just short of the Namibian border, American food aid is one of the few items on sale at the local market, where the Angolan Kwanza trades at 7 000 to one against the US dollar. Care International and the UN World Food Programme truck tonnes of food aid into needy areas of the province, where war and drought have depleted grain stocks. Military hardware and burnt-out tanks are interspersed with civilian vehicles destroyed by land mines along the sides of the rutted roads, while huge areas of wasteland bear testimony to exploded ammunition dumps.

Although there is relative peace in Cunene, travellers on some roads are still hijacked by bandits using landmines as a somewhat indiscriminate weapon in their armed robberies.

But the enthusiasm of the Cap Anamur "desminagem" has made a real difference. The organisation also runs the only functioning workshop for 200km and use their former surplus military vehicles for bridge-building and the transportation of medical supplies in a region desperately short of transport.

"All they know here is famine, war, shitty weather and malaria," says Edith Fischnaller, a Cap Anamur nurse who rehabilitated an old hospital in Oncocua in the remote southwest which now serves 100 000 people over a 300km radius. She arrived a year ago to find the hospital a shell destroyed in 1981 by South African forces, while untreated diseases devastated the largely nomadic population.

The Government has since sent three nurses and eight assistants, but few medicines reach Oncocua in addition to those from German public donations. When Fischnaller arrived, hundreds were dying of a measles epidemic. None have died so far this year. She has learned basic surgical techniques, performing amputations where necessary and with the help of a new doctor from Germany she recently delivered a child by emergency caesarian section, proudly showing off a healthy mother and baby who would otherwise have died.

F23: Radio Report, 94 03 07 (abr)

UNITA accuses Zaireans and Portuguese of fighting alongside government troops

(a) RDP Antena - 1 radio, Lisbon, in Portuguese 1400 gmt 7 Mar 94

UNITA has repeated the accusation that there are Portuguese soldiers fighting for the Angolan government forces. The accusation comes this time from UNITA in northern Angola. General Abilio [Kamalata] Numa said that Portuguese marines and Zairean soldiers were participating in clashes taking place in northern Angola, namely in the provinces of Uige and Zaire.

F24: Radio Report, 94 03 01 (abr)

President dos Santos met FLEC-FAC leader in France

Radio France Internationale, Paris, in French 1830 gmt 1 Mar 94

F19: Le Monde (Fr), 94 03 02

Le quart de la population a besoin d'une aide d'urgence

Au moins 3,3 millions d'Angolais — le quart de la population — ont besoin d'une aide alimentaire d'urgence pour survivre, ont annoncé les Nations unies, lundi 28 février, à Genève, en demandant à la communauté internationale 179 millions de dollars pour financer cette assistance au cours des six prochains mois. L'ONU a également fait savoir à Luanda son intention de former une unité qui sera chargée de désamorcer les mines, tâche qui devrait durer plus de dix ans. Selon une source officielle, au

moins 15 millions de mines se trouvent cachées en Angola et plus de 70 000 personnes, blessées par ces engins, ont déjà dû être amputées. Un représentant de l'ONU a affirmé que vingt-cinq mille personnes ont été tuées au cours de l'année 1993 à Cuito, dans le centre du pays. Le premier ministre, Marcolino Carlos Moco, a lancé lundi un appel à l'aide internationale, en affirmant que la guerre civile «n'allait pas se terminer» de si tôt. — (AFP)

F20: Radio Report, 94 02 25 (abr)

Former FLEC officials reportedly arrested by Zairean authorities

AFP news agency, Paris, in French 1056 gmt 25 Feb 94

Colonel Jorge Victor Gomes, former FLEC-FAC chief of general staff, was arrested in Kinshasa, headquarters of the FLEC-FAC, where he took refuge after escaping from a zone controlled by the movement in Cabinda, according to the same source. The colonel had announced his resignation following a disagreement with Mr N'Zita.

The second official, Jose Martins de Olivier Yumbi di Tshibuka, who was Mr N'Zita's former special adviser, has been detained for planning to create his own movement, the Democratic-FLEC [FLEC-Democratique].

According to the same source, Mr N'Zita personally asked the Zairean authorities to arrest the two men

F21: Radio Report, 94 03 07 (abr)

Ambassador in Rabat sees mediating role for Morocco

RDP Antena - 1 radio, Lisbon, in Portuguese 1700 gmt 7 Mar 94

[Almeida - recording] It is the intention and the wish of the Moroccan authorities to meet the Angolan president to discuss the possibilities of Morocco making a contribution to peace in Angola. The Moroccan authorities are very keen on cooperation with Angola — they believe the country has a great potential, that the old relationship of the 1960s can be rekindled in the 1990s and that therefore all the conditions should be created, should be met so that Angola and Morocco can establish a very strong and longlasting cooperation.

F22: Radio Report, 94 03 10 (abr)

Russian cargo aircraft grounded in Namibia on charges of supplying UNITA

SAPA news agency, Johannesburg, in English 0859 gmt 10 Mar 94

Windhoek, 10th March: A Russian cargo aircraft has been grounded at Rundu in northern Namibia following Namibian and Angolan claims that the medical supplies on board are bound for UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels in Angola.

F25: Guardian (Br), 94 03 09

Britain to aid Angola
Britain announced yesterday that it is to give £5 million of food aid to Angola. — Reuter.