

# FACTS AND REPORTS

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01: Natal Witness (SA), 90 07 19

## Bus bloodbath as 26 die after attack

### Vigilantes club survivors in brutal pre-dawn strike

A CHORUS of demands has been raised for a top-level inquiry into yesterday's IRA-style bus shooting outside Durban which left at least 26 people dead and more than 60 injured.

In the worst single incident so far during the three-year-old Natal civil war, the bus and other vehicles were the targets of shooting and stoning by armed vigilantes from the informal settlement of Mshayazafe ("hit them till they die") on the Inanda road.

In the pre-dawn attack, the driver of the bus was hit and lost control of the vehicle. According to residents of the area, some of those who managed to get out of the wreck were clubbed, stoned and shot by the vigilantes. Residents also said the vigilantes had hit the wrong vehicle.

According to Democratic Party regional director Roy Ainslie, people in Inanda's Amaoti area, an ANC stronghold, were tipped off yesterday morning that an ambush had been planned, and transport from the area was held back for security reasons.

As a result it was a bus filled with commuters from Ndwedwe that was hit when it reached the ambush at roughly the time the Amaoti bus would normally pass that spot.

Natal's ANC regional secretary Patrick "Terror" Lekota, has described the shooting of the bus driver as a politically motivated act and he blamed what he termed "misdirected vigilantes" for the shooting.

He said tensions in the area had been fermenting for some time and the police had maintained timely vigilance until their departure early on Wednesday morning.

The role of the police in the tragedy is of particular concern to the ANC, the Democratic Party, Idasa and Natal church leaders who have demanded an inquiry into the incident.

They are concerned about why a police Hippo, parked on the boundary between Mshayazafe and the neighbouring Inanda B Section, was removed on Tuesday afternoon after a meeting between police and representatives of Mshayazafe, where the majority of residents are known to favour Inkatha rather than the ANC.

The Hippo was originally parked on the border at the request of Section B residents. They wanted protection from Mshayazafe as they moved back to Section B and repaired their homes from which they fled after fighting between the two areas.

According to Ainslie, half an hour after the Hippo moved out — apparently at the request of Mshayazafe leaders — about 200 armed vigilantes from Mshayazafe attacked B Section.

Fighting lasted until late on Tuesday night, and residents claim that despite appeals to police for assistance, they did not stop the attack.

The DP and others said they wanted to know why the police moved the Hippo after the meeting with the Mshayazafe representative, and why no effective action was taken to halt the attack which was launched so soon after the Hippo was moved. They said until they had a satisfactory answer to their questions, they would continue to believe the police were somehow involved in allowing the attack to take place.

Police in Durban last night contested claims of SAP collusion.

Lieutenant Bala Naidoo said the police vehicle was moved "only 1.5 or 2 km away, to a better vantage point where they could see over A Section and B Section".

He denied there had been fighting in the area the night before the crash. He also said there was no truth in the allegations that people escaping the wreckage were further attacked.

Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi said last night that the appalling loss of life and injury sustained in today's bus horror in Natal was "too shocking for words".

02: Fin Times (Br), 90 07 31

## SA talks to resume

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and South African President F.W. de Klerk agreed yesterday to resume talks on August 6, Reuter reports from Cape Town.

03: Independent (Br), 90 07 19

## Emergency ends

Harare (Reuters) — Zimbabwe will next week lift a state of emergency in force since 1965. It was introduced by Ian Smith who proclaimed unilateral independence from Britain in 1965 and has been renewed by President Mugabe's government every six months since independence in 1980.

### RECTIFICATION

We have to apologize for the publication of the article 'Chemical warfare in Angola' by Mr. David Aronson in Facts and Reports, Volume 19, No. XY, dated 11 December, 1989, omitting the author's name. We used Mr. Aronson's manuscript instead of translating the article as published by NRC-Handelsblad without asking his permission to do so. The omission was just wrong and the publication of the manuscript the way we did is simply not done. Our sincere apologies to the writer.

04: Guardian (Br), 90 07 23

## ANC says guerrilla round-up will not endanger peace talks

David Beresford in Johannesburg

THE African National Congress yesterday confirmed weekend reports that South African police had rounded up large numbers of its guerrillas recently, but insisted that the development was not a threat to the peace process.

Walter Sisulu, the internal leader of the ANC, said that there had been "significant arrests over the past few weeks," including two senior members of the organisation. But he said that the arrests, while "unwelcome" and a breach of faith by the authorities, would not affect continuing talks with the government.

Sunday newspapers here reported yesterday that "scores" of ANC insurgents had been held and numerous arms caches seized in connection with alleged plans for an insurrection. Johannesburg's Sunday Star claimed that those arrested were members of a "specialist super-secret unit" and that all were members, or supporters, of the South African Communist Party.

The reports follow exchanges between the State President, F.W. De Klerk, and the ANC

over a warning issued last week by the organisation's chief of staff, Chris Hani, that his organisation might have to take over the country by force if the government did not cede power.

Addressing several thousand students at a university in the Transkei last Wednesday, Mr Hani boasted of the ANC's military strength, saying: "The struggle still goes on. We are still deploying our cadres inside South Africa and that's no secret."

Mr De Klerk replied on Thursday by denouncing Mr Hani's remark as a breach of "the words and the spirit of the Groote Schuur minute" — the agreement reached between the ANC and the government at their meeting in May that they would seek a peaceful solution.

Meanwhile rightwing extremists are again thought to have been responsible for a bomb explosion in the early hours of yesterday morning which partly destroyed the offices of the ruling National Party in Bloemfontein.

Nobody was hurt in the blast, which police said was caused by about 11lb of explosives. It was the latest in a series of attacks on the homes and offices of National Party politicians.

05: Guardian (Br), 90 07 10

## Zambia detains coup suspects

Ben Taylor in Lusaka

AN army officer and three businessmen have been detained apparently in connection with the failed coup attempt of June 30, business associates said yesterday.

Businessman Chris Mwana-lushi was arrested on Sunday. His brother, a Sandhurst-trained army officer, Lieutenant Colonel Mwanalushi, is also being held.

Two bankers, Rashid Khan and Zubairi Rana were detained on Friday.

06: Guardian (Br), 90 07 18

## Zambia lifts opposition ban

Zambian authorities yesterday announced rules for a referendum on the future of Zambia's one-party system and lifted a ban on opposition campaigning.

Judge Mathew Ngulube, head of the government-appointed referendum commission, said campaigning will be allowed from next Monday as long as the language was "sober and temperate" and did not defame individuals. — Reuter.

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065: Fin. Times (Br), 90 07 20

## Fear of famine could hasten an Angolan ceasefire

A humanitarian move could herald the demise of yet another Cold War domino, writes Lionel Barber

THE US is to resume direct high-level contacts with the Soviet-armed leftist government in Angola early next week in an effort to ease passage of Red Cross shipments to more than half a million Angolans left starving by the civil war.

The State Department describes the diplomatic mission as humanitarian, but it comes just before a fresh round of peace talks gets under way in Lisbon between the Angolan government and US-backed Unita rebels headed by Mr Jonas Savimbi, amid tentative hopes of a ceasefire in the 15-year-old conflict.

The exact timing and location of the delicately-poised talks remains a tightly held secret. Portuguese mediators are anxious not to mishandle a rare diplomatic opportunity created by their common language and colonial ties to Angola.

With the exception of Nicaragua, the US and the Soviet Union are still struggling to extricate themselves from military commitments to Third World clients stemming from their previous rivalry. Until this week's US policy switch it was true of Cambodia; and it is certainly true in Afghanistan and in Angola where the flow of arms has only led to a military stalemate and where the population is on the brink of famine.

Last year the picture was more promising. The December 1988 US-sponsored Angola-Namibia accords (providing for Namibian independence in return for the withdrawal of 50,000 Cuban troops from Angola) were running according to plan. And the Bush administration was promoting President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire as the man most likely to produce "African solutions to African problems" in Angola.

In the event, President Mobutu's mediation efforts collapsed under the weight of their own contradictions. Zaire was (and still is) the CIA's conduit for arms to Unita. In addition few of the protagonists trusted the Zaire leader.

The resulting breakdown in talks led to the Mavinga offensive, a Soviet-armed drive by the Angolan government into the heart of Unita territory. The cost to Luanda is estimated by one informed Washington observer at between \$400m and \$500m. And it provoked counter-supplies of weapons from the US. "We had gotten Savimbi to talk, and we implored the Soviets to get the MPLA back to the negotiating table," said one US official, "but they took no notice."

Just why Moscow failed to apply pressure to the Dos Santos government in Luanda is unclear, even to the administration.

But a military stalemate ensued. The US, with Soviet support, then floated the idea of joint sponsorship of peace talks. Somewhat to everyone's surprise, the US proposal drove the antagonists into the arms of Portugal, whose own withdrawal from southern Africa 15

years ago led to Angolan independence.

The scheduled talks in Lisbon form the third round of discussions between the MPLA and Unita. The second round broke up abruptly after the Unita delegation cited "communication difficulties" with Mr Savimbi's base-camp in the Angolan bush.

Subsequent nudges and winks suggest progress indeed occurred. The MPLA delegation, reversing course, disclosed it was prepared to put an agreement on a ceasefire ahead of a broader understanding on the principles of a final political settlement. Caught by surprise, Unita retired for consultations and, significantly, has now upgraded its delegation for the upcoming round.

Informed observers in Washington say the starting point will be a Portuguese synthesis of each sides' views on a ceasefire and monitoring arrangements, as well as on a national reconciliation process leading to free and fair elections. Unita has dropped its demand for a role in a transitional government, and is said to be ready to play the role of an opposition party. But some guarantees of "peaceful existence" are required, not easy given the mutual suspicion on both sides.

Only recently, the MPLA rejected the US-backed plan to create "corridors of peace" to allow safe passage of Red Cross disaster relief. Luanda argued that the operation could serve as a covert resupply effort to Unita; but the US diplomatic mission led by Mr Jeffrey Davidow next week suggests the stalemate could be broken. No-one wants to be blamed for a famine.

By far the most important sticking point concerns the MPLA's refusal to extend explicit recognition to Unita. Other disagreements focus on how best to enforce a ceasefire.

As self-styled "facilitators," rather than "mediators," Portuguese Foreign Ministry officials in Lisbon are gently prodding both sides to intensify their dialogue; and they are receiving discreet help from another former colonial power, the British government, which has just dispatched a new ambassador, Mr Brian Flynn, to Luanda. His basic message is that a military solution to the conflict is out of the question and negotiations must continue.

This tallies with Washington's position, though US officials place more emphasis on continuing military supplies so that Mr Savimbi's hand is not weakened at the bargaining table. In this respect, the timing of the Congressional vote on a new Unita aid package is important. The earliest likely date will be in September, which has led to reports that the US wants steady - but not spectacular - progress in the Lisbon talks for fear of undercutting the assistance package.

A senior US official described this view as far too Machiavellian. But what is clear is that if progress is

made, both the US and Soviet Union will be anxious to re-enter the diplomatic arena to supervise their Angolan clients: The urge to claim credit for dousing a regional hot-spot and proclaiming a new era of superpower co-operation will be too great a temptation to resist.

066: Independent (Br), 90 07 23

## Angola prospects

Abidjan (AFP) - Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, said the end of Angola's civil war was near. "If the government in Luanda agrees to recognise us as the opposition, we are prepared to move towards a ceasefire," he said.

067: Chronicle (Zim), 90 06 30

## Bandits freed

LUANDA - The Angolan government recently released 425 UNITA bandits, the Angolan news agency reported on Thursday. - Ziana Xinhua.

068: Afr. du Sud en Dir. (Fr), 90 07 10

Les sociétés sud-africaines s'intéressent de plus près à l'Angola, maintenant que des pourparlers de paix ont lieu entre le MPLA et l'Unita. Déjà le PDG de la De Beers s'est assuré la co-exploitation des diamants et l'Angola est d'accord pour entrer dans la Centrale mondiale de ventes qu'elle dirige, le CSO. "L'Angola a désespérément besoin de produits de base comme les vêtements et la nourriture, et, contrairement aux autres pays africains, il a les moyens de payer", explique le représentant d'Anglo Vaal Industries.

069: Southscan (Br), 90 07 13

## 'Church hit by rebels'

Unita destroyed the main Catholic church in Huambo province's Mungo district on June 28, according to Angolan government reports this week.

The statement also urged Protestants to follow the example of the Catholic bishops' "courageous pastoral letter" in which they recommended the introduction of a multi-party system to speed up the Angolan peace process.

Observers have noted that before the recent central committee meeting, at which agreement was reached on a multi-party plan, the official attitude towards the pastoral letter was not so warm.

070: Radio Report

## UNITA reportedly disrupts Cuanza Sul food supplies

(Text) Cuanza Sul Province residents have been facing serious food problems due to UNITA's increased blockade of civilian columns carrying essential commodities. Yesterday's edition of 'Jornal De Angola' reports that the rebels have inflicted unprecedented blows against supply columns in Gabela, Uaco Cungo and Conda districts. An official source in Porto Amboim said UNITA is also bent on stepping up its murder and abduction campaign, as well as its mining of roads. (Radio Nacional de Angola, Luanda, in Portuguese 0600 gmt 16 Jul 90)

071: Guardian (Br), 90 07 14

## Angolan minister accuses US of hindering peace process

Andrew Meldrum and agencies in Harare

THE US is frustrating the Angolan negotiation process by supplying Unita rebels with weapons and American agents, Angola's Foreign Minister said yesterday.

The substantial American aid has tipped Angola's military balance recently in favour of the rebels, say diplomatic sources.

A meeting between the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita is being planned in Portugal.

Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro Van Dunem was particularly bitter about the American agents assisting Unita.

"They are not just tactical advisers, they operate sophisticated equipment," he said in Harare, on his way home from an Organisation of African Unity conference in Ethiopia.

"We have no doubt that specialised American military advisers are working with Unita as well as other mercenaries," he added.

Mr Van Dunem said Americans were helping the rebels to use US equipment, including ground-to-air missiles. He did not provide evidence to back

his claim that the US advisers were involved in fighting, but said: "When we capture them, we will present them to the press."

US officials in Harare immediately dismissed the charges. "We are on record saying we support Unita," said a US embassy spokesman. "But as far as fighting is concerned, this is absolute nonsense."

The US admits supplying arms and equipment to the pro-Western rebels.

Mr Van Dunem said he was confident that a ceasefire to end 15 years of civil war would be signed with Unita rebels at peace talks in Portugal.

"We don't think the few differences that still exist will prevent the signing of a ceasefire," he said. "All indications are that the conditions for a ceasefire are there."

Unita said on Monday it would be prepared to sign a ceasefire with the Marxist government at their next negotiations, set for later this month in Portugal.

A truce agreed last June by Unita and the government fell through.

● Angola has launched a crusade against corruption as part of a plan to stimulate its economy.