

PUBLIC SECTOR - GOVT. - POLICE

1996

AUG. — DEC.

Community cops slam colleagues

(251)

Sowetan 1/8/96

By Mokgadi Pela

KATHORUS community constables have accused permanent members of the police force of deliberately preventing their integration

The former self-defence unit and self-protection unit members say any effective role they could play in the South African Police Services is frustrated by the negative attitude of permanent members of the force

They claim stress has led to an increasing number of suicides among them. According to Senior Superintendent Phillip Mokoena of the Katlehong police station, 11 former members of self-defence and self-protection units who have now been integrated into the police force, have committed suicide due to post-traumatic stress disorder

SAPS regulars' negative attitude prevents integration into force

They also denied that they were involved in acts of criminality in the township, as alleged by Mokoena

In an interview with *Sowetan* at the Thokoza police station this week, a delegation of the Kathorus community constables coordinating committee said "many members of the permanent police force view us as a threat to their job security"

No-go areas

"This is because we have been able to crack down on crime like never before. We have also been able to move into former no-go areas which they have been afraid of entering," chairman Mr Frans Mothapo said

He cited many factors that contributed to the high incidence of stress, such as

- Failure by authorities to provide them with counselling following years of internecine warfare,
- Being trained for four weeks instead of six months normally provided for trainee constables,
- Being given a cold reception by permanent members of the police force,
- Earning as little as R724 a month,
- Having poor working conditions such as lack of medical aid, and
- Being used as cannon fodder in dangerous situations

De Kock guilty of six murders but was following orders, says

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Eugene de Kock's lawyers admitted yesterday that the former Vlakplaas commander was guilty of six murders and conspiring to kill two more people, but stressed that some of the killings took place on the orders of security police headquarters.

Written heads of argument handed to the Transvaal Supreme Court yesterday by defence advocate Flip Hattingh admitted the State had proved De Kock was guilty of murdering five

suspected bank robbers at Nelspruit in 1992, of conspiracy to murder former colleague Brian Ngqulunga in 1990, of killing police informer Goodwill Sikhakhane in Natal in 1991 and of abducting and conspiring to murder Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maponya in 1985. Hattingh admitted De Kock had given instructions for the manufacture of a Walkman cassette bomb mailed to renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee in 1990.

However, De Kock was not guilty of the murder of ANC lawyer Bheki Mlangeni, killed in 1991 by the bomb

On the five Nelspruit murders, Hattingh said the court should accept that the Vlakplaas C10 unit had believed it was killing a gang of robbers — all ANC members — and that De Kock had not been involved in planning this.

He said Ngqulunga, a C10 member involved in the 1981 murder of Durban lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, had been killed on the orders of De Kock's commanders who had feared that Ngqulunga would disclose embarrassing details about the SA Police.

"The evidence proves beyond doubt that De Kock had been very unhappy about this order to eliminate one of his own men," Hattingh submitted.

Sikhakhane had been killed at the request of the Natal security police and this had taken place with the approval of head office.

Hattingh asked Judge Willem van der Merwe to find that Maponya had been kidnapped, assaulted and killed with the full knowledge of head office and probably even on an order from higher authority.

Hattingh does not deal in his written argument with the large number of fraud charges against De Kock.

He argued that the court should not penalise his client for not testifying in his own defence in the trial. It was De Kock's legal and constitutional right to remain silent and the onus was on the State to prove its case. He said the testimony of many state witnesses should be handled with care as revenge, financial gain and indemnity from prosecution had played a role. Hattingh continues with his argument today.

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BD 218 196

defence

Police union warns of possible strike action

PRETORIA — The SA Police Union yesterday warned of possible labour action, saying anger was mounting among members over the new salary grading system which came into effect on Wednesday.

"The major factor contributing to this is the fact that Commissioner (George) Fivaz released a statement earlier this year claiming police officials will receive an increment of 40%," the union said in Pretoria

BD 2/8/96
"The commissioner released this statement after being warned by Sapu not to quote a specific percentage .. as the new salary grading system is based on personal profiles and the increments will, therefore, differ from person to person"

In April Fivaz announced pay increases of 38% to 40% for most constables and 20% to 25% for most sergeants

"The fact is that, taking into account that the

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members' previous danger allowance of R400 a month is included in the increment, nobody will receive a real increase of 40%," the union said

Members were disgruntled about overtime remuneration and delays caused by bungling in the payment of danger, night duty and standby allowances.

"They are still forced to work up to 100 hours overtime a month without remuneration" — Sapa.

Staff shortages hamper crime-fighting

Angella Johnson and Stuart Hess

CRIME fighting in South Africa is being hampered by a 22 479-person staff shortage in the South African Police Service, according to a study carried out by the SAPS.

Research conducted by the police human resources division found that the ideal national headcount for the SAPS to function effectively should be 161 756.

But there is little chance of meeting that optimum figure: a government financial freeze in recruitment means that no new entrants will be enlisted into the SAPS this year. In some provinces there have not been any new recruits since 1994.

"The situation is reaching a critical point. We desperately need new blood, but at the moment we make do as best as possible," said Johan Deyzel, provincial police commissioner for the Northern Cape.

He would like to see more "bobbies on the beat", but resources are stretched enough. As it is, he relies on his officers to work overtime to meet the shortfall.

"It's not good for morale and it is not the best way to use our limited resources, but there is no alternative when we are unable to recruit."

The area has 85 stations staffed by some 3 670 police officers. "Ideally I need another 800 to deal with the large number of violent knife-related crimes in the area," said Deyzel.

His was one of several provinces to insist that personnel shortfall was straining the SAPS's crime-fighting capabilities and hampering attempts to halt the country's crime scourge. KwaZulu-Natal communications

officer Bala Naidoo described how visiting police officials from the UK usually expressed amazement that there is only one police officer per 445 people.

"We have about 20 000 and we need 26 000. It means our response times are not as quick as they should be, that patrols have to cover huge areas and that in some cases people are not getting the service they should," said Naidoo.

In North West province, the ratio is one officer to every 630 people. "We are 70% understaffed,"

complained director of management Marius Dippenaar.

He argues that there are fewer policemen now than before the 1994 elections. Hardest hit are Jonbert police station (39% understaffed) and Klerksdorp police station (45% understaffed).

Gauteng, which shoulders the burden of most of the crimes committed nationwide, estimates that it has one officer per 249 civilians — and that does not include illegal immigrants. According to representative Azwindi Nengovhela: "We have not replaced any of the

officers lost since the election through death or retirement."

So far this year alone nearly 700 officers have left the SAPS. Nengovhela says that only by relying on the army and private security firms to supplement personnel can the police maintain high visibility and carry out certain duties.

"In normal circumstances we should be able to stand on our own, but for some operations we find ourselves increasingly relying on backup from the army. That is not the way for a democratic police service to operate."

How bad is it, really? The SAPS's figures

- EASTERN CAPE**
 - 205 police stations in the province
 - 13% of the national police force serving 16% of the population
 - 18 500 policemen, including those from Transkei and Oskel
 - Total manpower shortage in the province estimated at 2 589
- FREE STATE**
 - 109 police stations; 36 satellite points
 - 287 civilians per policeman
 - Individual stations have shortages since police budget to Free State was cut
- GAUTENG**
 - 24 906 police personnel in Witwatersrand region before 1994 elections
 - Today there are 31 804 in the Witwatersrand and Pretoria
- KWAZULU-NATAL**
 - Each police officer has to serve 445 people
 - 20 223 police officers, need 26 000
 - 179 police stations
- NORTHERN CAPE**
 - Financial shortages, need funds
- MPUMALANGA**
 - 6 596 police personnel in the province, needs 9 720 officers
 - 32% understaffed
 - 95 police stations. All of them are understaffed
 - 499 civilians to every policeman
 - Budget for the area has been cut by R40-million compared to last year
 - Too few vehicles, but they "have learnt to manage"
- NORTHERN CAPE**
 - Working within a restricted budget. Situation could become critical despite a slight decrease in crime
 - No recruits since April 94
 - 85 police stations in province
 - 44% understaffed
 - 3667 police officers, with 237 civilians per officer
- NORTHERN PROVINCE**
 - 9337 policemen for 90 police stations
- NORTH WEST**
 - 23% understaffed
 - Ratio of police officers to civilians is 1.578
 - No recruits since 1994
- NORTH WEST**
 - 9 337 policemen, about 630 civilians to one policeman
 - 90 police stations in the province and they are 70% understaffed
 - 3 700 vacancies
- WESTERN CAPE**
 - 12 104 policemen serving over 1000 civilians each
 - 153 police stations serving a population of nearly 5-million
 - Figures indicate that after reorganisation of resources in October 1996, the force will be 17% understaffed
- SOUTH AFRICA NARCOTICS BUREAU**
 - Currently have 30 members in Johannesburg, at John Vorster Square. Needs at least double

Another blow to the ITU

M+G 2-8/8/96 (251)

Ann Eveleth

THE Investigation Task Unit (ITU) probing hit-squads in KwaZulu-Natal is to lose another key member state prosecutor Carl Koenig will leave his post next week

Koenig will follow supercop Frank Dutton to take up a post with the United Nations war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands

His departure will be a blow to the ITU as well as the legal team prosecuting former defence minister Magnus Malan and 16 others

Koenig played a pivotal role in bringing the case to trial and assists attorney general Tim McNally and prosecutor Bennie Schonfeldt in court.

He was expected to be called on to lead evidence, as his role in the investigation had equipped him with intimate knowledge of the case. But

relations between him and McNally soured last year after McNally suspended him on the day the trial's first suspects were to appear in court

Koenig was already seconded to the ITU, which answers to Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, at the time, and McNally argued that "recent events have brought into sharper focus for me the fact that [Koenig is] no longer accountable [to him]"

McNally said Koenig had been attached to the Goldstone Commission before his secondment to the ITU and had not been prosecuting for some time. He lifted Koenig's suspension after a confrontation with the ITU, agreeing that Koenig could report to him and Mufamadi.

Whites win at IFP conference,
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Yes, I did it, says Eugene de Kock

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Concessions by former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock have serious implications for former Security Force officers and Cabinet ministers, reports **Stefaans Brümmer**

AFTER 18 months in the dock, former Vlakplaas hit-squad commander Eugene de Kock has conceded his involvement in some of the 121 charges against him. The charges include murder, attempted murder, fraud and illegal arms possession.

De Kock was involved in a large number of "dirty tricks" operations during the 1980s and early 1990s. His concessions this week have raised the spectre of him telling all when he testifies in mitigation — and implicating top officers of the former Security Force and even former Cabinet ministers. The prosecution closed its argu-

ment in the Pretoria Supreme Court on Wednesday, asking for conviction on a charge that De Kock was accessory to the murder of Sweet Sambu, who was brutally killed by security policemen near Komatipoort in 1991. Prosecutor Torie Pretorius said the body had been blown up several times on De Kock's orders. The state dealt with the other charges earlier, arguing that it had proved the majority of counts beyond reasonable doubt.

The turn in events came late on Wednesday, when De Kock's junior counsel, Danny du Preez, asked Judge Willem van der Merwe for a

postponement to consult with his client over "possible concessions". Judge van der Merwe remarked that the weight of evidence against De Kock may have brought about a measure of reality. On Thursday, his counsel conceded De Kock's guilt on the three murder charges against him.

Final argument by De Kock's senior counsel is expected to take a week or more, which means judgment may be delivered towards the end of the month. A guilty sentence on at least some of the charges is now a foregone conclusion.

Plea in mitigation will follow argument. De Kock has already shown he will co-operate with his accusers, the office of Transvaal Attorney General Jan D'Oliveira, on other investigations. There is little to hold him back from implicating top Security Force

officers and members of the government when he testifies in his own mitigation. It is likely that his plea will centre on the "political" dimension of his crimes, and the argument that he was merely following orders.

It is understood preparations are being made for De Kock's trial to be followed by the "trial of the generals". D'Oliveira has been promising for almost a year. The Transvaal attorney general last year told Parliament's Justice Committee he was ready to prosecute the "first real 'third force' trial", but was being held up by a lack of resources.

Former police general "Krapplies" Engelbrecht may be among the first of De Kock's superiors who will be in the dock. De Kock's evidence may be a handy tool in the hands of the prosecution if and when this happens.



De Kock: Co-operating with accusers

R700 000 IN FORGED NOTES SEIZED

300 police held on corruption charges

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CF 2/8/96

A SUPERINTENDENT who regularly raided telephone booths and a constable who tried to deposit R700 000 in fake notes are among more than 300 police arrested for corruption this year. Crime Writer **JACKIE CAMERON** reports.

MORE than 300 police members have been arrested this year in an intensive national crackdown on corruption

This was revealed yesterday by the South African Police Service to show that it is "determined" to root out corruption in the service

More arrests were made in Gauteng than in any other region, said Senior Superintendent Eric Pelser of National Standards and Management Services

The national undercover anti-corruption unit — which specialises in intricate longer-term investigations — arrested more than 86 police members nationwide in connection with fraud, theft and corruption

Provincial anti-corruption units, which were established this year, arrested at least 214 people

The Western Cape's anti-corruption unit arrested 26 police members. Local police have not been able to provide details on these cases

A Cape Town murder and robbery unit detective is being investigated in connection with robbery

Pelser said an Eastern Cape superintendent was arrested this week after allegedly stealing coins from telephone booths in regular raids with a friend

A Potchefstroom detective and a former policeman were arrested in a Pretoria bank on Monday when they allegedly tried to deposit R700 000 in counterfeit notes

All the counterfeit notes were seized

Indemnity hopes could have influenced evidence against De Kock, says counsel

Counsel for former Vlakplaas security police base commander Colonel Eugene de Kock cautioned the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that promises of indemnity might have influenced former colleagues who testified against him.

Advocate Flip Hattingh said witnesses at the Goldstone Commission, such as Willie Nortje and Brood van Heerden, believed they would not have to testify in open court. And they believed Mr Justice Richard Goldstone was able to offer them indemnity.

Under these circumstances, witnesses might have been freer with information they gave the commission, and might even have added things they believed the commission wanted to

hear. When they testified in De Kock's trial, they might have felt compelled to correlate their stories with what they had told the commission.

Hattingh said Nortje was apparently under great pressure and feared being jailed when he decided to tell all to the commission. The impression Nortje created in court was that he felt guilty for turning against his former commander and tried to justify his actions.

He said Nortje harboured a grudge against De Kock. This was why he had tried to implicate De Kock to a larger extent in an incident in which five would-be bank robbers were killed.

De Kock's trial for 121 charges continues on Monday - Sapa

(251) STON 3/8/96

'Senior cops cover up for juniors!'

CP 4/8/96 (251)
By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

HIGH RANKING Gauteng policemen cover up for juniors who beat up and torture innocent people according to a Rand Afrikaans University (RAU) student.

Mrothlan Nhlavisi claims that he and fellow student were assaulted by about twelve plain cloth policemen near a friend's home in Wealdene and later tortured at the Newlands Police Station on January 26 this year.

Nhlavisi says he supplied senior police with relevant information but the investigations dragged on for five months.

However police officials in Pretoria denied that senior police cover up for their junior.

When City Press spoke to a captain Van Eck, he referred us to a captain Voges who denied the cover up allegations.

When asked why - if there was no cover up - senior police take five months to investigate cases

against other policemen. Voges said he had no right to speak to the Press.

Nhlavisi claims he was tortured and assaulted at the General Johannes Coetzee Police Station on January 26 but he only told to come for an identity parade on May 21 four months after the assault.

Nhlavisi said this was after he had approached station commander a captain Mkhabela who then phoned Commissioner Musgrove.

He said he had made many phone calls to Musgrove but had received no response from him.

He also alleges that he had supplied Musgrove with the registration numbers of his assailants' vehicle but still nothing was done to bring them to book.

The student said he also had problems with a Colonel Hail, who allegedly brushed aside his complaint at the Newlands Police Station.

Unravelling a death web

By CHIARA CARTER
and SEKOLA SELLO

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ep 4/8/96
**Dramatic new light on
Cradock Four's deaths**

DRAMATIC NEW details have come to light about one of the country's most notorious political mysteries – the murder of the Cradock Four outside Port Elizabeth more than eleven years ago.

Matthew Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkonto and Sicelo Mhlauhi were found brutally murdered at Blue Water Bay after disappearing on their way to Cradock on June 27 1985.

□ This week, a well-placed source with former links to the security police revealed new information about the murders – the first to be made public since a second inquest hearing in 1993.

The source said this was “a massive operation” carried out by various state security organs from the Transvaal, Port Elizabeth, Cradock and Cape Town

“Given the importance of this operation, very senior people were involved: monitors, those who would carry out the actual killings and sweepers who would remove any evidence that could link the police”

The source told City Press that the attorney-general of the Transvaal, Dr Jan D'Oliveira, had information that:

□ The plot to kill Goniwe, a United Democratic Front rural organiser, involved the notorious Vlakplaas po-

lice unit and police units based in Cradock, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town,

□ Two other state security organs, Military Intelligence and National Intelligence, including the Civil Cooperation Bureau, were allegedly also involved;

□ A policeman feared in Cape activist circles during the 1980s allegedly did the reconnaissance and preparation for the killings; and

□ Initially an all-black police group based at Vlakplaas was ordered to assassinate Goniwe. However, the unit was withdrawn to Vlakplaas without carrying out the murders

□ City Press has also learnt that investigators into the murders believe that two men – Colonel Roelf Venter who worked at Vlakplaas at the time, and Maxexe Tungata, a policeman who worked in the Eastern Cape – can help them solve the Cradock Four mystery.

D'Oliveira declined to comment on the source's claims

D'Oliveira said he would not reveal details about his office's investigation into the murders before the matter was ready to go to court.

He hoped other investigations underway would lead to arrests in

connection with the murders

The murders are one of the human rights violations cases being investigated by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The commissioners met with D'Oliveira last month

□ The first TRC hearing in East London earlier this year saw the widows of the Cradock Four appeal to their husbands' killers to come forward and reveal the truth

The last new lead in the quest to find the men's killers came in 1992 when the then leader of the Transkei, General Bantu Holomisa, released a message sent on June 7 1985 from the Eastern Cape military command. It said Goniwe should be “permanently removed from society”.

The man who had sent the message, Colonel Lourens du Plessis, gave evidence for the state at a second inquest hearing

The inquest court heard that Goniwe was monitored round the clock by security police.

Anton Mostert SC alleged the motive for the 1989 Motherwell carbomb was to prevent information about the Cradock Four murders coming out.

By MARLENE BURGER

WHEN the trial of former
Vlakplaas commander

Colonel Eugene de Kock began 18 months ago, defence and prosecution were separated by a deep chasm.

But as the grisly events related to his tenure as commanding officer of the home of police hit squads have unfolded in the Transvaal Supreme Court, the lines of division have slowly converged. This is not least as the result of testimony by more than 20 accomplices to the heinous crimes

De Kock legal teams narrow chasm

with which he is charged. This week, astonishing concessions by leading defence counsel Filip Hattingh, SC, showed just how close the opposing sides have moved towards consensus on his guilt.

Though maintaining his not guilty plea on the 121 charges, including eight of murder, brought against him after the 1994 Goldstone Commission's Third Force inquiry, De Kock in-

structed his advocates to weave their final argument around admissions that he was culpable in the deaths of nine people, albeit "on orders" from the top echelons of the old SA Police.

Hattingh conceded on Thursday that his client, who has described himself as the SAP's most effective assassin unmasked to date, had told his legal representatives "Yes, I am guilty, but I have the right to be

regarded as innocent, and it is the duty of the state to prove otherwise."

Hattingh told Mr. Justice Willem van der Merwe. "My client does not expect me to flog a dead horse, and accepts the concessions we feel forced to make. At the same time, the fact that he has chosen not to testify in his own defence should not be held against him."

Ironically, the court will have the chance to hear De

Kock's version of events, but only if it pronounces him guilty. In May, his lawyers struck a deal with Transvaal Attorney General, Dr Jan D'Oliveira, and he has spent the past three months making statements to the special Third Force investigating team which will be used against his former masters.

His debut as a state witness was against five former colleagues charged

with the December 1989 car bomb deaths of three black security policemen and an informer in the Eastern Cape. Testifying in Port Elizabeth, he said he expected to be given a lengthy prison sentence, but would "spill the beans" about secret security police operations and cover-ups when he took the stand in mitigation of sentence.

Since both D'Oliveira's office and De Kock's

lawyers insist there is no deal on a reduced sentence or early parole in return for his testimony, he is believed to be relying on the truth commission to ensure he will not spend the rest of his natural life behind bars.

His application for amnesty was filed in April, and he clearly hopes his decision to cooperate with D'Oliveira will sway the commission when he offers political motives for the

crimes of which he expects to be convicted.

If it grants him amnesty, it could dramatically reduce his sentence, if he is found guilty as charged.

Thirty of his accomplices have already been promised indemnity from prosecution by D'Oliveira in return for their testimony against him. When he finally steps into the witness box, he is expected not only to confirm their evidence, but to expose the full extent of security police involvement in numerous unsolved murders and abductions.

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ST 4/8/96

Police will have to answer tough queries

JOSEPH ARANES and JOHAN SCHONEN
Staff Reporters

ARG 6/8/96 (251)
NATIONAL police commissioner George Fivaz is flying to Cape Town tomorrow to demand an explanation from police why they stood by and allowed militant Muslims to execute gang leader Rashaad Staggie

Two of his deputy commissioners, John Manuel and Mike Bester, will accompany him on the fact-finding mission, which will visit the scene of Sunday night's slaying in Salt River

It is understood Commissioner Fivaz will demand to know

- Why police allowed the situation to escalate without stepping in to prevent the convoy of hundreds of cars carrying armed members of the militant Muslim group People Against Gangsterism And Drugs (Pagad) from attacking a house in Salt River

- Why police did nothing to prevent the mob from executing Staggie - he was shot repeatedly and set alight with a petrol bomb

Western Cape police spokesman John Sterrenberg said police would have been unable to prevent the killing even if there had been 100 000 of them at the scene

National Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has accused Western Cape provincial police minister Gerald Morkel of abdicating his responsibilities by not being able to tackle the problem of gangsterism

Mr Mufamadi said a provincial police plan had prioritised gangsterism as a serious problem in the region, and it was unacceptable for any group of individuals to take the law into their own hands

He said he had a preliminary report from provincial commissioner of police Leon Wessels about the killing

"I am extremely concerned that the police have not been able to give me a satisfactory explanation why this incident could not have been avoided

"The action by members of Pagad must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. At the same time gangsterism in all its forms must not be tolerated by the police," Mr Mufamadi said

- Western Cape police were investigating the run-up to the slaying of Rashaad Staggie and the performance of police in whose presence he was killed

Police confirmed that they knew about the planned after-dark parade to the Salt River house on Sunday and had patrols monitoring the convoy of cars transporting armed and masked anti-drug activists

But investigators monitoring the activities of Pagad said they had not expected the protest to result in a bloody gun battle and murder

According to Superintendent Sterrenberg, all aspects were being properly investigated

He today confirmed that police were aware of the demonstration well before the time and had a contingency plan but were not expecting a bloody gun battle

"We were promised on the scene by the leader of the Muslim group that there would not be trouble, but his words were not cold when gunfire started" said Superintendent Sterrenberg

"By then our hands were tied. There were hundreds of onlookers around, it was too late, even if we were 14 000 strong, it was too late - many more could have died

"If we had tried to stop the march earlier we would also have had a serious problem," he said

Tembisa guards 'aggressive'

ARG 6/8/96 (259)
The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG - Security guards were aggressive and had refused to allow commuters with valid tickets on to the platform, a commission of inquiry investigating last week's stampede at the Tembisa railway station heard

Patrick Manele, who was one of five witnesses who testified before a four-man panel at the Kempton Park Civic Centre yesterday, said a security guard told him "You dogs are troublesome," and "You dogs are very stubborn, you so-called clever people from the location"

Mr Manele said there were around 1 300 people at the station and although only about six of them did not have tickets, the security guards

and ticket examiners treated all the commuters with suspicion.

He said when he asked security guards why they were so aggressive, he was told he "should not try any funny tricks to go to the other side or you will get injured badly"

"Then they switched on their shocking sticks and I saw sparks of fire coming out

"I was terrified," said Mr Manele. The inquiry was prompted after 16 commuters were killed and about 65 injured in a stampede last Wednesday after security guards began using shock sticks to prevent commuters without tickets from boarding the 5 55am train

Ticket examiners had opened only two of the four gates to check tickets and allow commuters through

De Kock's counsel concedes five murders

AFW 6/8/96

(251)

Former security police commander Colonel Eugene de Kock's legal counsel yesterday conceded in the Pretoria Supreme Court that his client was guilty on five charges of murder and one of conspiracy to commit murder

However, senior counsel Flip Hattingh asked the court to find that political motives and orders from police hierarchy were central to the crimes

Hattingh presented argument before Mr Justice Willie van der Merwe and two assessors on some of the 121 charges, including murder, attempted murder, fraud and illegal arms possession against De Kock

He conceded evidence proved

beyond a reasonable doubt that De Kock was guilty of murdering four would-be bank robbers in an ambush near Nelspruit in Mpumalanga in March 1992. Hattingh also conceded that De Kock had ordered the murder of a fifth alleged robber - Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's driver Tiso Leballo

"We accept that the court will find that the ambush was planned, that Col De Kock knew about it, that he was part of the operation and that he fired shots at the scene," Hattingh said

He asked the court to find that De Kock had not been involved to any great extent with the planning of the Nelspruit operation,

and that he had, as with many other operations, merely taken note of the planning done by his men

Hattingh said there was overwhelming evidence that the five men had planned a robbery, and that De Kock and his C10 unit believed them to be not only robbers, but also members of the African National Congress

The defence also admitted De Kock was guilty of conspiring to murder his colleague, Brian Ngqulunga, in 1990 to prevent him from revealing police involvement in the murder of ANC activist Griffiths Mxenge

The trial continues today - Sapa

Claims of corruption against

top police

Sowetan 6/8/96

By Mokgadi Pela

COMMUNITY constables have levelled accusations of corruption at the Kwa-Thema police station hierarchy and investigations unit.

The claims were made at a meeting attended by about 50 community constables at the police station on Sunday. They appealed to the ministry of safety and security in Gauteng and the police and prisons civil rights union to help "restore the image of the police as trustworthy in Kwa-Thema".

A speaker from the floor remarked, "how can we achieve that, when we ourselves see incidents of corruption here?"

Among the alleged cases cited were one of a policeman who was stopped at a roadblock near Dunottar. He was driving a stolen car containing dagga and he was allowed to go free.

Another complaint was that of a notorious thug who was not arrested despite his mother's reporting to the police that her son kept illegal arms in her house.

Discouraged

"Instead, we community constables were discouraged by our seniors from acting on the spot. It has become apparent that some of these criminals have it easy because of their connections with those in the police hierarchy," said another community constable.

According to the community constables, files and charge sheets of suspects have gone missing and this hindered investigations.

In his reaction, Superintendent Frans Jacobs said "Both these allegations are untrue. As regards the first allegation, I know that Captain F Jonk was in charge of that roadblock and he wouldn't have allowed the culprit to go free while driving a stolen car. As far as the second count is concerned, I call upon those with information about this thug to come forward and we will act."

Community constables should remember that we have an open door policy and we encourage them to use this facility. He added that there was no way senior officers could allow corruption within the police force.

Deadly game of pass-the-parcel argued in court

(251) Star 7/8/96

Former security police commander Colonel Eugene de Kock could not be found guilty of attempting to murder former police hit-squad leader Dirk Coetzee or of murdering ANC attorney Bheki Mlangeni, his legal counsel argued in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday.

Senior counsel Flip Hattingh conceded De Kock was guilty of murdering Goodwill Sikhakhane in Greytown in 1991 to prevent him from revealing police involvement in the disappearance of two African National Congress members who were part of the ANC's Operation Vula.

Hattingh also conceded the State had proved De Kock's guilt on charges relating to the 1985 abduction, assault and conspiracy to murder Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maponya.

Hattingh said the court should find the Sikhakhane and Maponya incidents had taken place with the knowledge and consent of his security police seniors, and possibly on the orders

of the higher police hierarchy. Hattingh said although De Kock had not been present when Sikhakhane was killed, he had ordered the murder.

"Vula was probably one of the most sensational revelations of the time. It must have been embarrassing for the ANC to have a plan of war revealed at a time of peace negotiations.

"If it came to light that the SAP was responsible for the disappearance of two rather prominent ANC members, it would have been a terrible embarrassment for the police and the government.

"The probabilities are overwhelming that if Goodwill (Sikhakhane) seemed inclined to reveal the facts, a decision was made that something had to be done about him," Hattingh said.

He said evidence suggested Maponya was also killed on instructions emanating from the security police head office.

Maponya was questioned at the Vlakplaas security police base at the request of the Krugersdorp

security police about his brother, Umkhonto we Sizwe member Oderile Maponya, who was sought in connection with the murder of a policeman.

Hattingh said evidence showed Maponya was assaulted, and when he refused to reveal any information, De Kock approached head office and "received clearance from higher up that the man should disappear".

Maponya was taken to the Swaziland border where he was killed. His body was never found.

Hattingh conceded all the evidence pointed to the fact that a parcel bomb had been manufactured and sent to Coetzee in Lusaka in 1990 on De Kock's orders.

Coetzee apparently suspected the parcel and refused to accept it. It was sent back to Mlangeni in Soweto because his name was given as the sender on the parcel. The lawyer was killed by an explosion in 1991 when he placed a set of booby-trapped earphones on his head and switched on the tape recorder in the parcel.

Hattingh argued that a South African court did not have the jurisdiction to try De Kock on the attempted murder of Coetzee because the action that had been started in South Africa, had continued in Lusaka.

He said the court should reject the evidence of a close former friend of De Kock, Willie Nortje, that the parcel bomb had been De Kock's idea.

"The orders probably came from head office to trace Coetzee by listening in on his wife's telephone and monitoring her movements. It was not a Vlakplaas operation. It was clearly a head office operation where C10 (the Vlakplaas police unit) had to do the dirty work as in so many other cases," Hattingh said.

De Kock could not be found guilty of either the murder or culpable homicide of Mlangeni because the State had not proved that he could have foreseen Mlangeni's death.

The trial continues today - Sapa

Fivaz says pay complaints due to 'misleading comparisons'

(251) STAN 7/8/96

Police Commissioner George Fivaz has rejected suggestions by police force members that he misled them in April when he announced their salary increases

Fivaz's statement yesterday was prompted by complaints recently that some policemen's salaries had increased only marginally

Fivaz said the dissatisfaction among policemen about the improved salaries had been created by misconceptions based on "inappropriate and misleading comparisons by individuals between gross and nett incomes" and "individual compar-

isons of take-home pay by members whose personal financial commitments and deductions differed"

Inadequate personal financial and budget planning, especially by junior members, was also to blame, he said

Fivaz said the SAPS would make personal financial management advice available to those members who requested it

This follows policemen's complaints that instead of the promised increases of up to 45% for certain ranks, some members came out with only R100 extra a month after their revised pay slips

SA not under-policed, crime conference told

Shaw 7/8/96

(251)

Researcher says that we should take heed of trends overseas

By **DEREK RODNEY**
Crime Reporter

The South African Police Service is not understaffed, and policy makers should heed trends abroad and focus crime prevention at city level while provincial and national bodies concentrate on countering organised and white collar crime.

Mark Shaw, a senior researcher at the Institute for Defence Policy (IDP), said on Monday that the National Crime Prevention Strategy did not make adequate provision for city or major metro participation in the strategy.

Delivering a paper at a conference entitled "War and Peace in Southern Africa: Crime, Drugs, Armies and Trade", Shaw also criticised city councils for being too reliant on national initiative:

"What is needed is a plan for safer South African cities which seeks to develop linkages be-

tween cities (as in Europe) to share experiences and ideas."

He drew attention to the "Broken Window" initiative instituted by former New York city commissioner William Bratton, which since its implementation several years ago has resulted in a marked decline of most crime in the the world's former crime capital.

Shaw was speaking at the conference organised by the South African Institute of International Studies, the World Peace Foundation and the IDP, and held at the University of the Witwatersrand.

He added that city crime prevention initiatives would be the logical outcome of locally developed forms of "partnership" policing, such as the Business Against Crime initiative.

Shaw targeted organised crime and white collar crime as crimes requiring tailored solutions and investigative strategies.

"Comparative evidence from other states in transition suggests that unless organised crime operations are countered quickly after their formation they have the potential to harden, penetrate the state and form parallel and competing forms of power," he said.

Shaw said that South Africa was not under-policed, and that although police concentrated strongly on the front end of the criminal justice system, very little work has been done by the new order relating to detecting crime.

A major overhaul of the detective branch was required.

Shaw said the number of police personnel (140 000 in total) compared favourably with international figures when measured per head of population - 328 people per police officer compared with an international average of about 1 014.

The conference ended yesterday.

Uphill task for organised crime police

ARG 8/8/96 (251)

Crime Staff

ORGANISED crime investigation units (OCIUs) - severely restricted in manpower and resources - are only investigating 32 of the country's 481 identified syndicates

At present, the organised crime division consists of 28 OCIU offices nationally, offering scant resistance against the activities of an estimated 136 drug syndicates, 112 vehicle related syndicates, 85 commercial/fraud rackets and 71 diamond and gold related syndicates

Gauteng alone has 45 identified drug, 51 vehicle-related and 65 commercial crime syndicates operating on a national and in some cases international level

The OCIUs, consisting of specialised investigators from the South African Narcotics Bureau (Sanab), vehicle theft, diamond and gold, commercial crime branches and pockets of other specialist units have been thrown together to face the total onslaught posed by organised national and international crime syndicates

National Organised Crime Units head Neels Venter told a confer-

ence at the University of Witwatersrand yesterday that the only solution to the country's escalating drug problem was a multi-dimensional approach demanding multi-professional assistance

"There must be a close relationship between parties involved in the prevention, rehabilitation, control of, research into and law enforcement concerned with this problem," he said

He expressed deep concern about the massive influx of hard-core drugs such as heroin and cocaine which had already started to take root in the country's user market

"Since South Africa emerged from international isolation, it has increasingly become a transit point and now a consumer market for many types of "rich man's" drugs"

Sanab detectives last year arrested 7 995 people for dealing in and/or possession of illegal substances, while seizing 886 959 tablets and more than 237 tons of illegal substances

"There has been a significant shift from drugs like LSD and Nexus in 1994 to drugs like cocaine and heroin last year," Mr Venter said

Natal advocate to head independent complaints body

Stephané Bothma

8/8/96

(251)

PRETORIA — KwaZulu-Natal advocate Neville Melville had been appointed to head the independent complaints directorate which would investigate allegations of misconduct and offences by police officers, safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia announced yesterday.

Melville's appointment was approved by Cabinet following his nomination by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi.

Cachalia said the directorate had two broad responsibilities — that of receiving and investigating alleged misconduct by any member of the SAPS and to monitor progress of any police investigation, as well as evaluating its efficiency.

"Allegations of misconduct may be referred by the directorate to the police commissioner concerned, but if a complaint involving a death in police custody is received, there is a legal obligation on the directorate to investigate such an allegation," he said.

The directorate will also have the power to request information from the police and the attorneys-general to evaluate and monitor investigations.

Since January 1994, Melville had served as police reporting officer in KwaZulu-Natal, and played an important role in exposing hit squads and in encouraging members of the public to co-operate in investigations in the province, Cachalia said. Melville will take up his post soon.

"The creation of the directorate in no way detracts from the police service's own continuing responsibility for investigating and monitoring its own members' performance and conduct.

"National commissioner George Fivaz has emphasised his absolute determination to wipe out corruption and improper conduct within the service."

Cachalia said the appointment of Melville as executive director was an important step towards a more accountable and transparent police service.

"It will fulfil a vital need in ensuring the public that complaints against members of the service are properly investigated and will contribute to more effective policing and ultimately, to improved levels of safety and security in the country," he said.

De Kock's part in assault on askari

By Josias Charle

THE Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday heard how a group of drunken policemen took part in assaulting an askari who had lost his firearm at Colonel Eugene de Kock's Vlakplaas base

During closing arguments, defence counsel Mr Flip Hattingh, SC, said the policemen had been drinking for most of the day during an operation in Middelburg. On their return they continued to drink at the Vlakplaas bar.

The askari who was assaulted and later died was Mr Bruce Nthehelang. He had told De Kock that he had lost his pistol during the operation. This angered De Kock, who assaulted him with a snooker cue. Other policemen

(251) *Sowetan 8/8/96*
joined in the assault. Nthehelang was accused of selling the firearm.

During the assault he was "tubed" with a piece of rubber band and then strangled with a length of rope, according to several state witnesses. After the assault his body was wrapped in a blanket and he was never seen again.

Hattingh submitted yesterday that it was De Kock who had started the assault but that his role was not clear thereafter. He also stressed that one state witness had testified that De Kock was "in the background" during the assault.

Hattingh told Mr Justice Willem

van der Merwe and two assessors that evidence was often conflicting because of the "confused state" of events during the evening of July 1989.

He said some of the men had "fled" the scene, not so much out of fear of what would happen to Nthehelang but because they were afraid of De Kock.

This led to the judge remarking that it was half drunk and dead drunk men who took part in the assault. "The men who fled knew trouble when it was coming. These were hardened men but the type that I would never invite to go with me to church."

Shobashobane massacre suspects back on the beat

MTG 8-15/8/96

Ann Eveleth

THREE policemen facing murder charges in connection with the Christmas 1995 Shobashobane massacre of 19 African National Congress supporters are back at work in neighbouring Nkulu ward, police confirmed this week.

Sergeants Bekeni Mngadi, Muzuvukile Ngeleka and Joseph Zulu were suspended from their posts at the Izingolweni police station in May after their arrest by the special investigation team set up to probe the massacre. They are expected to appear in court again on September 30, together with 33 fellow accused.

KwaZulu-Natal Police Commissioner Chris Serfontein has, however, lifted their suspensions "due to the fact that the evidence against the members rested on questionable identification based on rather flimsy evidence", according to a written reply by Deputy National Police Commissioner Morgan Chetty

Chetty was responding to a query on the matter by Natal violence monitor Mary de Haas, who slammed the move as "utterly reprehensible" and "callous in the extreme"

De Haas alleged that the three sergeants had "boasted" about their victory in being allowed to return to the station. "I cannot believe this situation is allowed to continue, especially given the ongoing violence in the area. People continue to be killed in Nkulu ward, not far from the police station." She called for the officers to be removed from the area.

Chetty said: "The provincial commissioner had no alternative, after consideration of all the facts present, but to reinstate the members. Due to the lack of sufficient and concrete evidence against any of the members concerned, this office is not in a position to transfer any of the members."

Superintendent Dougie Hannaway, who heads the South Coast National Investigation Task Unit which succeeded the special investigation team, said while he personally favoured the suspension of police members charged with murder, Serfontein had reinstated the three offi-

cers after they "made representations against their suspension".

While Hannaway agreed it was "possible" the three suspects could use their office to interfere with witnesses, "so far no witnesses have complained of interference".

Hannaway added that the accused had been granted bail — along with their fellow accused, including Inkatha Freedom Party South Coast leader James Zulu — with the belief that they would not pose a danger to witnesses. Any attempt to do so would endanger their bail, he said.

In a related matter, Hannaway said reports that James Zulu had violated his bail conditions by attending political meetings in the run-up to KwaZulu-Natal's recent local government elections were "not necessarily true". While Zulu's bail conditions prevented him from attending such meetings, he could — and in several instances had — obtained authorisation from the unit to do so.

"There were quite a few meetings he was given authorisation to attend. He had letters from Minister [Mangosuthu] Buthelezi and from local government," said Hannaway. Zulu was elected to the Port Shepstone City Council during the polls.

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Intelligence chief denies knowing about massacre

(251)
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ARG 9/8/96

Captain congratulated for 'job well done'

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN - A former director of military intelligence said at the Malan murder trial in the Supreme Court that he knew nothing of the Kwa-Makhutha attack, and denied that he congratulated a witness involved in it.

Kor van Tonder, a former general and an accused in the trial stemming from the massacre of 13 people at Kwa-Makhutha south of Durban in 1987, told the court that the massacre was an incident any right thinking individual would condemn.

General van Tonder also told the court that although then Chief Minister of the former KwaZulu homeland Mangosutho Buthelezzi wanted the

support of the SADF in countering activities of the African National Congress, he did not wish to be associated publicly with the defence force.

In 1986 the defence force trained about 206 Inkatha supporters in the Caprivi Strip in the former South West Africa. The code name for this exercise was Operation Marion.

It is alleged that Caprivi recruits carried out the Kwa-Makhutha massacre with the aid of SADF personnel and the sanction of then Minister of Defence Magnus Malan, who is also an accused along with other high ranking former security officers.

General van Tonder said he could not recall if he had read of the KwaMakhutha attack in

the Press as KwaZulu and Natal were frequently in the news at the time for massacres in which women and children were killed. He said he doubted he would have taken note of any specific massacre.

Johan Opperman, a captain and a previous State witness, said in earlier testimony that General van Tonder had congratulated him after the attack for a "job well done".

The KwaMakhutha attack was allegedly aimed at killing United Democratic Front activist Victor Ntuli.

Mr Justice Hugo is presiding in the trial which has reached a state of anti-climax after the evidence of General Malan, who was cross-examined by Natal attorney general Tim McNally.

New police union aims for (251) 'justice now, security forever'

ARG 9/8/96

The Argus Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH - A new police union, the National Police and Public Civil Rights Union (Napperu), has been established

Spokesman Sicelo Ntengento said the union consisted largely of disgruntled members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popercu)

The other union is the South African Police Union

Napperu was introduced for the first time at a press conference last weekend

Its motto is "Safety first, justice now and security forever"

Mr Ntengento said National Police Commissioner George Fivaz had admitted that the South African Police Service was understaffed

He said the new police union had a membership of between 15 000 and 22 000 who came from Popercu's 42 000 members

In a statement, Napperu national secretary Tandikhaya Duba said the new union had been reluctantly compelled to leave Popercu

He said the decision was taken on June 21 this year after broader consultation with the general membership of the SAPS, traffic inspectorate and municipal police

De Kock 'guilty of 28 counts of fraud'

Star 9/8/96 (251)

Counsel for former security police commander Colonel Eugene de Kock admitted yesterday that 28 of the fraud charges against him had been proved by the State

Junior advocate Denny du Preez told the Pretoria Supreme Court it should, however, be kept in mind that De Kock's C10 unit at the Vlakplaas police base had to a large extent been used to do the "dirty work" of other police units and had also been used as a "money bag" by other units

In one instance, money generated through false claims was even used to pay for a police general's overseas trip

It was admitted that De Kock was guilty on a fraud charge relating to a claim instituted on behalf of an informer who provided information which led to a police ambush outside Nelspruit in 1992. Five would-be robbers were killed in the ambush.

Du Preez conceded that false information had been supplied in the application instituted on behalf of the informer. But he said the man would in any case have been entitled to some payment, even if the true facts were revealed, because he was truly a police informer

De Kock, he said, had not benefited from the false claim

The defence conceded De Kock's guilt on 27 further fraud charges. These related to false claims instituted for weapons, rhino horn and counterfeit money which were handed to police. De Kock's brother, his secretary and former Vlakplaas member Snor Vermeulen benefited from the claims, Du Preez said.

It was argued that De Kock had in many of these instances not benefited financially, and in other cases had shared the proceeds with other members of his unit

Du Preez submitted that De Kock could not be found guilty of insurance fraud relating to a charge in which he was accused of defrauding the police and an insurance company. The charge suggests De Kock pocketed an insurance payout after insuring an official vehicle which was stolen.

He said his client had had an insurable interest in the vehicle because he could in some instances be held liable for damages to, or loss of, the vehicle

The vehicle had been registered in a false name used by De Kock and he had used it for clandestine purposes

Insuring the vehicle was part of his "cover" as a secret agent and his failure to reveal the true facts to the insurance company had not been done to deceive, but to protect his fictitious identity.

The trial continues on Monday - Sapa

VLAKPLAAS CHIEF 'SHARED PROCEEDS'

De Kock trial told 28 fraud charges proved

PRETORIA: The Supreme Court should keep in mind that Colone Eugene de Kock's unit at the Vlakplaas police base was also used to do the dirty work of other police units, counsel for De Kock argued here yesterday.

COUNSEL for former security police commander Colonel Eugene de Kock admitted yesterday that 28 of the fraud charges against him had been proved by the state.

De Kock's junior advocate, Mr Denny du Preez, said the Supreme Court here should, however, keep in mind that De Kock's C10 unit at the Vlakplaas police base was to a large extent used to do the "dirty work" of other police units and was also used as a "money bag" by other units.

In one instance, money generated through false claims was even used to pay for a police general's overseas trip.

Du Preez said the court should also take into account that it had apparently been quite easy to generate funds through false claims.

It was admitted that De Kock was guilty of a fraud charge relating to a claim instituted on behalf of an informer who provided information which led to a police ambush outside Nelspruit in 1992. Five would-be robbers were killed in the ambush.

Du Preez conceded that false information had been supplied in the application instituted on behalf of the informer. But, he said, the man would in any case have been entitled to some payment, even if the true facts were revealed, because he was truly a police informer.

He said indications were that the five men had planned a robbery, even if the police informer had encouraged them to do so.

De Kock, he said, had not benefited from the false claim.

The defence conceded De Kock's guilt on 27 other fraud charges. These related to false claims instituted for weapons, rhino horn and counterfeit money which were handed to police.

De Kock's brother, his secretary and former Vlakplaas member Mr Snor Vermeulen benefited from the claims, Du Preez said.

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(251) 09/18/96
Kock could not be found guilty of insurance fraud relating to a charge in which he was accused of defrauding the police and an insurance company.

The charge suggests De Kock pocketed an insurance pay-out after insuring an official vehicle which was stolen.

He said his client had an insurable interest in the vehicle because he could in some instances be held liable for damages to, or loss of the vehicle.

The vehicle had been registered in a false name used by De Kock, and he had used it for clandestine purposes, though he mostly made use of members of his unit as drivers.

Du Preez said De Kock had been under an obligation to protect his fictitious identity and had to prevent the car from being traced back to the police.

Insuring the vehicle was part of his "cover" as a secret agent and his failure to reveal the true facts to the insurance company had not been done to deceive, but to protect his fictitious identity.

He said the state could not prove that the vehicle had never been stolen, and the claim was therefore legitimate.

The trial continues on Monday — Sapa

Prowl the empty streets

(251)

■ Former New York police commissioner William Bratton, currently visiting South Africa, believes this country's police members need to show themselves far more on our city streets

ROSS HERBERT
Independent Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG - Three years ago New York city was like Johannesburg and other South African cities are today consumed with crime stories that raced through dinner parties, newspapers and kitchen table conversations

Violent protests had flared over attempts by Korean green grocers to stop petty thefts at their tiny shops. Gunfire haunted the night. Drug needles and discarded vials for crack cocaine crunched under foot in city housing projects.

Today New York has undergone a remarkable transformation from crime capital of America to one of its safest major cities.

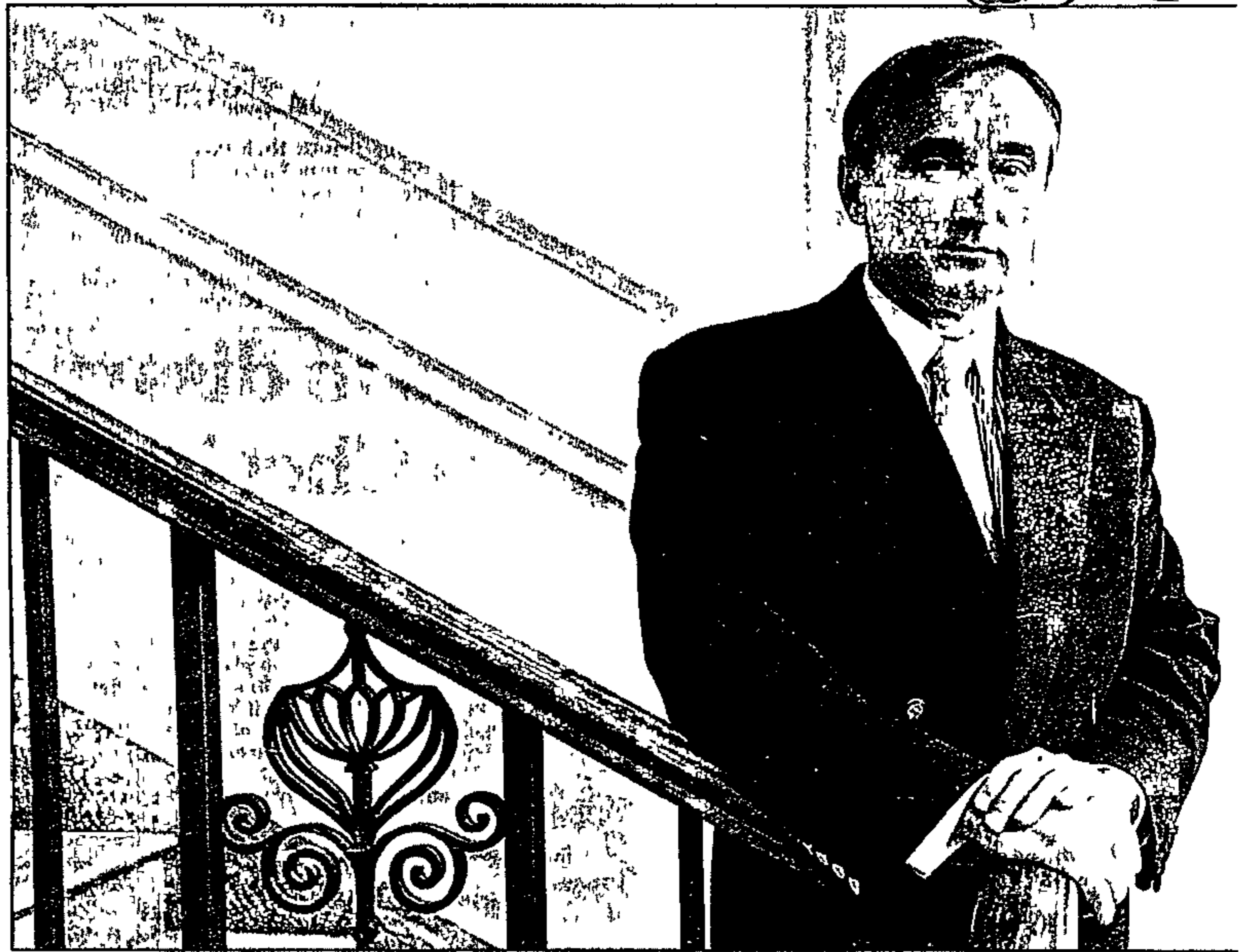
From 1994 to 1996 crime fell by 27 percent. Homicides dropped 39 percent and robbery by 30 percent. Since 1990, murder is down by 50 percent.

The man who gets more of the credit for the change than any one else is former police commissioner William Bratton - arguably the most influential policeman in the United States.

Mr Bratton spoke this week at a conference on crime and violence, hosted by the South African Institute of International Affairs in Johannesburg.

One of Mr Bratton's first guidelines is that South African police need to show themselves far more on city streets.

This conviction stems from what was a fairly radical idea in the US before Mr Bratton took over as New York police commissioner in January 1994 instead of down playing public



□ WILLIAM BRATTON: Helped transform New York from crime capital to safe tourist destination

fears of crime, police need to directly counteract public fear - by showing their presence and promoting a sense of public order.

In Mr Bratton's view, fear had set off a vicious cycle of citizens going to live in safer suburbs and taking with them their taxes - and over the long term thousands of jobs - which provoked more desperation among the jobless.

One of Mr Bratton's first and most controversial acts was to focus on what he calls "quality

of life" issues people engaged in public drinking, aggressive begging, or homeless people sleeping on trains and in doorways were persistently moved on their way by the police, a large proportion of whom were redeployed from patrol cars to foot patrols.

Mr Bratton also targeted what were known as "squeegee men", who would wash the windcreens of cars stuck in traffic. Drivers couldn't refuse and were often intimidated into paying for the unwanted wash.

A common joke at the time was that the torch in the hand of the Statue of Liberty should be replaced with a squeegee, to better reflect New York.

"In the early 90s you could not get into the city without going through a phalanx of these guys.

"By allowing that kind of disorder we were contributing to the fear," he said.

When policemen began stopping people for public disorder, drinking and fare-jumping on city trains, they began rou-

tinely checking ID numbers using portable radios.

This practice apprehended many wanted criminals, people carrying illegal weapons.

Before then, police and public had come to believe crime stemmed from underlying economic causes that no one could really affect.

This thinking stifled creative fighting and led police to shrug off public complaints.

However, Mr Bratton argues the police could change public behaviour, by preventing sr

Police need to allay fear, says top cop

ROSS HERBERT

JOHANNESBURG - South African police should be far more visible on city streets, said William Bratton, arguably America's most famous and influential cop - who this week completed a five day visit to South Africa.

Bratton, former police commissioner for New York City, radically changed the way police are deployed and managed in New York and is credited with cutting crime by a third and murder by 39 percent in two years.

Bratton argued that combating the public's fear of crime directly is a crucial job of police, and if police

and politicians downplay fear they risk a vicious circle in which fear of crime kills business investment - leading to fewer jobs, more public disorder and greater fear of crime.

"Whether it is fair or not doesn't matter. The perception is that South Africa is the murder capital of the world. I would stay away from statistically downplaying it. You have to deal with the problem of perception," said Bratton, who applied a similar strategy in New York.

Before he was appointed, "New York City had lost about 400 000 jobs in three years.

"Now a lot of money is

pouring back into New York. One of the reasons it is now the place to be is the change in the crime situation."

He cautioned that unless action was taken, based on the American experience it would be only a matter of time before South African gangs coalesced into larger, mafia-style operations.

"You are going to have to expand your business involvement in crime prevention.

"One thing I don't see in South Africa is reports about individual acts of police bravery in the Press. That is very important to public trust and police morale," he said.

"I am not pretending this is

a duplicate of New York. I'm not a know it all," he said.

Bratton toured Soweto on Thursday and described it as "one of the most incredibly difficult policing environments I have ever seen - with so few proper addresses, street names and telephones.

"I have not seen anything like it comparable in America."

"In Soweto I think there is the more pressing issue of developing a dialogue between the police and the community. They have already begun that process. I was impressed with the willingness to embrace change by the leaders I met."

y streets — on foot

(251) ARG 10/8/96



from eight city zones were brought together into computer-statistical meetings, at which they were grilled about any sudden increases in crime — and asked what action they were taking

Commanders shared information on which tactics were working Mr Bratton demanded continuous follow-up and rapid response

He also demanded large decreases in crime as mercilessly as business executives demand higher profits

At the same time, authority was pushed down to the lowest level

If commanders could not perform, they were replaced 50 of 76 precinct commanders lost their jobs in Mr Bratton's 27 months in office

"In the first year we demanded a 10 percent reduction in crime and everybody's eyes rolled," Mr Bratton said

Despite doubts, commanders exceeded the target by two percent — only to face new targets for deeper reductions

As Mr Bratton took the police reigns in New York, many critics predicted disaster, as mostly white policemen confronted the mostly black and hispanic population Blacks had long complained of police racism and excessive force, but blacks were also the victims of the vast majority of crimes

In Johannesburg, Mr Bratton was short on specifics about how to handle racial tensions, but advised that police commanders have to be very diligent about police corruption and enforcement of the rules for using physical force

Some critics argue that crime has fallen across America and part of the credit should go to Mr Bratton's predecessor, who began the drive toward community policing and supervised the expansion of New York's police force from 31 000 to 38 000 But police procedures have changed so thoroughly, it is hard to avoid concluding that Mr Bratton was the prime mover in New York

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This practice apprehended many wanted criminals and people carrying illegal weapons
Before then, police and the public had come to believe crime stemmed from underlying economic causes that no one could really affect
This thinking stifled crime-fighting creativity and led police to shrug off public complaints
However, Mr Bratton argued the police could change public behaviour, by preventing small

crimes that could, unchallenged, lead to bigger ones
Most policemen spent their days in patrol vehicles and rarely spoke to ordinary citizens By pushing policemen out of cars onto foot patrol and showing tangible success on issues that mattered to ordinary people, trust in the police improved
Mr Bratton also applied disciplined business management to the police
"My competition was the criminals

"They were out working seven-days a week, 24-hours a day
"We were working only five days, from nine to five," said Mr Bratton
Information and automation were critical crime statistics had previously taken three months to compile Mr Bratton pushed administrative and computer staff until they were able to produce daily reports, plotting precisely where crimes were committed
Twice a week, top policemen

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Policeman to tackle Mufamadi on arrest

By CRAIG DOONAN

A POLICEMAN on trial for murder with former defence chief Magnus Malan plans to sue Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, for at least R3-million for unlawful arrest and detention.

Senior Superintendent Louis Botha, one of 17 accused in the Durban Supreme Court trial, is scheduled to take the witness stand this week.

The litigation manager in the national police commissioner's office, Johan Knoetze, confirmed that Mufamadi had received notice of Botha's intentions, saying his lawyers were claiming R1-million.

But a family friend, who did not want to be named, said this figure would rise to more than R3-million once formal summons was issued after the trial.

The lawyer acting for Botha's civil claim, Bill Metelerkamp, said an ex-



JUSTICE . . . Louis Botha, right, with lawyer Kobus Boosens outside court, claims his arrest and detention were unlawful. Picture: RICHARD SHOREY

ST 11/8/96 (251)

act amount had yet to be determined.

"At this stage we've given notice in terms of the Police Act. The rest depends on what happens in this particular matter (the trial)," he said.

Botha, a former security policeman, did not want to comment, saying it might prejudice the trial.

He is the only serving policeman among the accused, who have all pleaded not guilty to involvement in the attack on the Kwamakhutha home of a United Democratic Front activist in January 1987.

He is alleged to have ensured that the targets were not police informers and that there would be no police interference in the operation, allegedly committed by Inkatha supporters trained by the South African Defence Force.

The charge sheet claims he also agreed to act as a "sweeper" responsible for clearing the scene of evidence afterwards.

Botha was transferred to Port Elizabeth in 1992, where he is now based.

The family friend said his civil claim against Mufamadi could go ahead

only if he was acquitted. It was likely to be boosted by claims for pain and suffering endured by both him and his wife, Gaby, and the damage his arrest and the trial had done to his career.

Police sources said he had been in line for the post of area commissioner in Umtata before the trial.

DETEC

All confidential & complicate worldwide by professional de and de-bugging industrial fraud, theft, personnel che

De Kock argues for 66 (251) charges to be withdrawn

PRETORIA — Counsel for former Vlakplaas security police commander Eugene de Kock yesterday argued in the Pretoria Supreme Court that the State had failed to prove 66 of the 96 fraud charges against him.

The defence previously admitted De Kock's guilt on six of the eight murder charges against him, two charges of conspiracy to commit murder, charges of defeating the ends of justice, kidnapping, assault and 28 charges of fraud.

However, it was argued yesterday that 68 of the 96 fraud charges, as well as two of the murder charges and one attempted murder charge had not been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

Sixty-six of the contested fraud charges relate to payments made by the police to informants and two to insurance cases. The defence has already contested the insurance fraud charges.

De Kock's junior advocate, Denny du Preez, said the State could not prove that De Kock had registered himself as a "police informer" under a fictitious name to supplement his income.

Du Preez said it was clear from evidence by State witnesses that the Vlakplaas unit had used several highly placed IFP members as informants.

They were registered under false names to protect their identity. For further protection, the informants never signed for money received.

Some witnesses said the IFP informants received payment only for a few months, after which their "informer fees" went into the pockets of Vlakplaas members, including De Kock. Du Preez said none of the witnesses could say exactly when this practice started.

Judge Willie van der Merwe said the overall impression gained from witnesses who testified about the fraud charges was that claims were handled as an "unexhaustible source of funds."

Du Preez replied that the attitude was clearly one where people felt they had to take the money while it was available, and that secret funds were easily manipulated.

He argued that the State could also not prove a fraud charge relating to the supply of private security services to Absa Bank by De Kock's close corporation in which he allegedly used policemen. Du Preez asked the court to find that two State witnesses, Willie Nortje and Brood van Heerden, had committed in order to incriminate their former commander. — Sapa.

White students are blamed for explosion

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — As police explosives experts sifted through the debris of a blast at the entrance gate of the railway station serving the Pretoria Technikon campus yesterday, the Azanian Student Convention blamed white students for the blast.

Nobody was injured and only "slight delays" in the rail services were caused by the 6.10am explosion which damaged a turnstile gate and small ticket office at the Technikon and station west of the city.

Technikon classes start at 7am and the station was virtually deserted when the blast occurred. The ticket office was also unmanned as there is a rail ticket office on campus.

Azanian Student Convention spokesman Kgomo Modiselle said the organisation suspected white students had planted an explosive device "out of retaliation" for protest action on the Pretoria Technikon campus last week when about 1 000 black students staged a march. They demanded the resignation of Technikon rector Dennis van Rensburg and the council, saying the institution's transformation process was too slow.

Police spokesman Capt Dave Harrington said: "At this stage we have no witnesses, but leaders of various student groups will be questioned to establish a possible link with last week's campus unrest." He said forensic experts were trying to establish the origin of the explosion, but indications were strong that it had been a bomb.

GANG UNIT HAS 78% SUCCESS RATE

Cops probe 25 cases of corruption in force

THE WESTERN CAPE legislature heard yesterday that police generally felt they would "rather join corruption than be victimised for being honest". CHRIS BATEMAN reports.

POLICE are investigating 25 cases of corruption within the force. Fourteen police members have already been charged in seven cases, and another seven have been referred to the attorney-general.

Police Services MEC Mr Gerald Morkel revealed yesterday during a snap debate in the provincial legislature that the police anti-corruption unit had probed 67 cases this year, of which 42 had been found to be without foundation.

His shadow minister, Mr Vincent Diba (ANC), said the situation had become so bad that police generally felt they would "rather join corruption than be victimised for their honesty". Morkel challenged Diba to pro-

duce evidence of the 435 "mostly drug-related" cases Diba alleged had been either withdrawn or had disappeared from the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court since December 1995.

The national peace accord unit probed incidents involving breaches of the peace between the SAPS and the community caused by the police.

It had probed 86 local complaints, of which 10 cases involving 11 local police had gone to court, Morkel said.

Charges against police included indecent assault, serious assault, attempted murder, theft, dealing in dagga and defeating the ends of justice.

Two provincial internal invest-

igation units working in the western metropole had probed 620 cases, of which 392 were complete.

This had resulted in 59 police being charged with, among other crimes, murder, attempted murder, assault, culpable homicide, negligent loss of a firearm, pointing a firearm, crimes injuria, indecent assault, theft, drunken driving and housebreaking.

Morkel said he wanted to expose the lie that police had "closed ranks".

The gang investigation unit (formed in February last year), had probed 364 gang-related cases with a success rate of 78,84% in the past six to seven months.

Morkel said that if police had intervened in the torching/shooting of gang leader Rashaad Staggie on August 4, there would have been "a bloodbath second to none" resulting in a "jihad against the police".



WE MEAN BUSINESS: Provincial police Commissioner Leon Wessels (centre), Deputy Commissioner Dirk Craford (left) and Deputy Commissioner Adam Blaauw met the Western Cape Traders' Association yesterday. The WCTA was represented by vice-chairman Mr Abdul Roomaney (left), chairman Mr Sharief Hassan, publicity secretary Mr Dawood Khan, general secretary Mr Yusuf Pahad and assistant secretary Mr Lyvaqat Parker. PICTURE: THEMBAIKOSI DWAYISA

2 099 out on bail after crime sweep

Police commissioner George Fivaz says the hunt will go on for the balance of the country's worst 10 000

BY LARA SMITH

Of the 7 099 most wanted criminals arrested earlier this year during the first month of the police's Sword and Shield anti-crime plan, 2 099 have been released on bail

Five thousand of the arrested suspects are still in custody, police commissioner George Fivaz said yesterday

It was not known how many of those in custody had since been convicted, and how many were awaiting trial, said his spokesman, Joseph Ngobeni. It was difficult to tell, as cases were often postponed to a later date

Fivaz announced in June that police would arrest 10 000 of the country's most wanted criminals within the first 30 days of the SAPS's Sword and Shield plan

In this period police managed to arrest 7 099 of the targeted criminals over and above the arrests made in the normal course of their duties

"If not for the special effort made by Sword and Shield these suspects would not have been arrested," Fivaz said

Star 14/8/96 (251)
In Gauteng 1 649 suspects were arrested between June 13 and July 13, and 340 of them have been released on bail

Breaking the Gauteng figure down, Fivaz said 23 of the 217 suspects arrested on the East Rand were granted bail, 67 of the 371 arrested on the West Rand got bail and 19 of the 90 arrested in Johannesburg were released on bail.

In Pretoria 272 suspects were arrested, of which 167 got bail, 90 appeared in court in Soweto and 18 were granted bail, five of the 33 suspects arrested on the North Rand were granted bail and 41 of the 157 suspects arrested in the Vaal Triangle got bail

In the Western Cape, where the most suspects were arrested (1 703), 646 were released on bail

Although the 30-day deadline expired on July 13, Fivaz said the Sword and Shield teams were continuing their "unrelenting hunt for the rest of the 10 000, as well as additional serious crime suspects"

Since mid-July Sword and Shield teams have arrested a further 5 000 suspects for serious crimes

Mufamadi trebles size of anti-corruption task force

BD 15/8/96 (251)

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape's police anti-corruption unit would be trebled in size following claims that policemen were colluding with gangsters in the area, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said yesterday.

Seven gangsters had been arrested in the past five days compared to four members of People against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad), he said.

The gangsters had been arrested on charges of kidnapping, attempted murder, armed robbery, unlawful possession of firearms and possession of cocaine. A Pagad member faced charges of public violence, sedition and unlawful possession of firearms.

Mufamadi said the seven-strong anti-corruption unit would be increased to 22. The unit had investigated 88 complaints, resulting in 14 policemen being charged with corruption. A further nine completed cases were with the attorney-general and five were still

under investigation. The move is designed to counter community claims that police are doing nothing about gangsterism on the Cape Flats and in many cases colluding with gangsters.

Mufamadi said measures to combat gangsterism were not prompted by the fierce community support for Pagad and the execution of gang leader Rashaad Staggie earlier this month.

Gangsterism was identified as a "priority" crime last year, when two special anti-corruption units had been established.

This had resulted in the solution of 287 of 364 gang violence cases. During the same period the SA Narcotics Bureau had made 1 029 arrests.

While there was no evidence yet to support allegations that some Pagad members were using the force of public sentiment to further their own drug-dealing activities, police would investigate the claims. Allegations that a religious faction wanted to undermine the state were also being investigated.

Mufamadi's new plans for W Cape

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

MINISTER OF POLICE Mr Sidney Mufamadi has announced sweeping new plans to restore law and order in the Western Cape

Most plans involve a clampdown on gangster activity and a clean-up of corrupt elements within the police service

In a remarkably frank assessment of the crisis in the Western Cape and the role of the police, Mufamadi announced the strengthening of recently created anti-gang units, the bringing in of the army and the development of closer ties with communities and community organisations

What he will not tolerate is the police meeting with gangs to resolve the crisis. It has been reported that a senior delegation of police has agreed to secretly meet the gangsters on the Cape Flats

Should the police interrogate gangsters instead of meeting them, he was asked?

"I don't belong to a government that will meet with gangs," he said. "They may have met with govern-

Sowetan 15/8/96
Special unit set up to investigate corruption within the police *(251)*

ments of the past but that has come to an end. They (the gangsters) must go to another country if they want to meet a government"

The minister announced that two gang units had been put in place, the Visible Gang Unit and the Gang Investigation Unit, consisting collectively of 79 members.

A special unit has been set up to gather intelligence on gangs and all units have so far achieved successes

Corruption

He said it was obvious that the criminal policing system of the previous dispensation was not geared to deal with the problem of crime

"Evidence reveals collusion between gangs and the police to perpetuate the apartheid system" This was "politically sanctioned" in the past, he said

He has set up a seven-member unit to investigate corruption within the police in the Western Cape and 88 complaints have so far been

investigated with 21 dockets being opened against the police.

At present there is also a case under investigation involving a senior police superintendent, he revealed.

He said that statistics of police under investigation throughout the country "are staggering"

The police have also been accused of making huge drug busts and then those same drugs make a re-appearance in the communities. Mufamadi said that he had asked for a full report on what happens to drugs after they have been seized. The police had to be accountable for them, he said

It was pointed out to Mufamadi that senior ANC MP Gregory Rockman addressed a Pagad meeting at the Gatesville Mosque on Tuesday night, pledging support for the organisation

"If I attend a Pagad meeting, I would express support for their aims," he said but he would question some of their methods

Kriel launches bid to set up metro police

JOSEPH ARANES
Municipal Staff

(251)

ARG 16/8/96

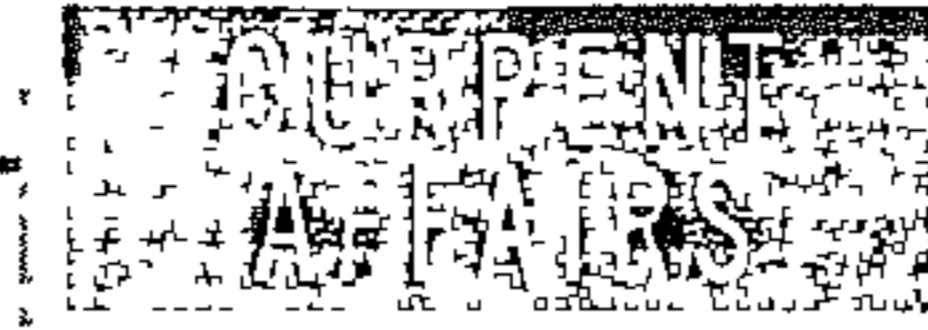
WESTERN Cape Premier Hennis Kriel has announced new preliminary measures to establish a metropolitan police force to help combat growing crime in the Cape metro area.

He first made his call for a metro police force during a snap debate in the provincial legislature earlier this week, after the outbreak of violence between gangsters and vigilantes.

He said a new metro force would fill a vacuum created by Pretoria's failure to devolve police powers to the provinces.

In a statement after meeting the mayors, deputy mayors and chairmen of the executive committees of five National Party-controlled municipalities (South, North, East, Tygerberg and Helderberg) and the Cape Metropolitan Council, Mr Kriel said the provincial government would do the groundwork for further discussions around the implementation of a metro police force.

The meeting also confirmed its support and commitment towards Cape Town's 2004 Olympic Bid, but felt that a greater say was needed in the bid committee to ensure a wider dispersal of proposed Olympic facilities.



POLICE CORRUPTION & VEHICLE HIJACKING

COPS ON COLLUSION COURSE

(251) FM 16/8/96

Evidence of extensive police collusion in vehicle hijacking and theft syndicates has emerged in Johannesburg and Durban. Police officers are accused of issuing clearance certificates for stolen vehicles, thus legitimising them and enabling car thieves to re-register and sell the vehicles on the open market.

The awful beauty of the system is that it enables stolen vehicles to simply disappear and be "reborn" with genuine registration documents.

So effective is the clearance scam that a police sergeant in charge of vehicle tracking at a Durban vehicle theft unit has been running a secondhand car business at a Durban Hyperama — with his superior's permission.

Since 1994, policemen from anticorruption and vehicle theft units have been given documentary evidence of suspicious cases of re-registration in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng. Yet they have done little or nothing about them. Clearance and re-registration procedures have remained unchanged. And the legal loopholes that allow individual policemen to control the records of stolen or hijacked vehicles continue.

This week, the national police anticorruption unit in Pretoria said that the matter "is the subject of a continuing and coordinated investigation, at present focused on KwaZulu-Natal." It was to be discussed at a Durban meeting between senior police investigators on Tuesday.

This week, the *FM* supplied senior police officials with details of vehicle clearance scams, the names of individual police officers allegedly involved and those of alleged car thieves and hijackers. They were asked to comment.

National Commissioner George Fivaz's spokesman, Director Joseph Ngobeni,

advised the *FM* to direct inquiries to the provincial commissioners "as these matters fall under their jurisdiction." Gauteng Commissioner Sharma Maharaj, however, passed the matter to his communications officer, who passed it back to the national Commissioner's office, saying "This is a national issue."

KwaZulu-Natal police spokesman Director Bala Naidoo said the allegations were considered serious and would be "thoroughly investigated." He could not respond to specific allegations.

The *FM*'s inquiry is based on extensive evidence gathered over the past 30 months by Johannesburg resident Victor Dwyer and his Durban-based son, Clive — themselves victims of a police clearance scam which cost them the R25 000.



they paid for a bakkie they later found out had been stolen.

Documents compiled by the Dwyers from vehicle records in Johannesburg and Durban indicate that police-hijacker collusion has existed for at least five years. Since 1994, they have presented evidence to senior police officers — to no avail.

Evidence of similar fraud emerged at the Johannesburg vehicle licensing department after a woman saw her car, with a new registration plate, parked on a street several months after it was stolen. Inquiries showed that the car had been transferred to a new owner — though the transfer document showing her as the previous owner carried a false ID number and fraudulent signature.

Victor Dwyer, who inquired on the woman's behalf, claims a licensing department official told him this practice was rife at that office. ■

ANTI-HUACK SYSTEM

PIN-NING THE HIJACKERS

Victor Dwyer has been tracking car thieves and crooked cops since 1994 when they bought a bakkie which turned out to have been stolen and cleared with a fishy police certificate.

Now Dwyer has devised a system that would not require new legislation but would remove the value from stolen cars and thus their marketability.

The system is based on Pin-cards. Car owners would be encouraged to register their cars at participating ATMs where owners' and vehicle details would be stored in a central computer. Car-card registration would last for a limited period, after which no new cards would be issued for vehicles already in service. From then on, only new cars would receive Pin-cards.

The Pin system would run parallel with police clearance and registration systems. But it would be independent of the police and licensing authorities.

Assuming the Pin system was itself not corrupted, it would serve as a guarantee to purchasers that the cars they were buying were not stolen, by confirming that the seller was indeed the rightful owner.

If a car were stolen, the owner could simply cancel the Pin-card. A stolen car would thus not have a valid Pin-card. Any purchaser would know that the car was stolen and be warned off.

Only crooks might be willing to buy stolen cars but, as banks would be unwilling to finance cars without Pin-cards, it would take cash to buy "hot" property. Car thieves would find it hard to resell their ill-gotten goods.

Dwyer has seen two manufacturers and a bank about adopting the system. They have yet to commit themselves. ■

THE PAGAD CONNECTION

FM 16/8/96 (S)

A confidential police report leaked to the media claims "The threat of Islamic extremist fundamentalism is now on SA's threshold" This follows the recent mob murder of a notorious Cape Flats gangster by members of the moral crusading vigilante group, People Against Gangsterism & Drugs (Pagad)

In fact the first signs of radical Islamic sympathy among sections of SA's small Muslim community arrived at about the time in the late Seventies when the Ayatollah Khomeini, from exile in Paris, was mobilising popular resistance to the Shah of Iran. And the spread of Muslim fundamentalism, which its protagonists view as nothing less than the alternative to Western capitalism, especially since the demise of socialism, has been in evidence here too.

Pagad was initially described as a broad-based community group. However, its "chief commander" Ali "Phantom" Parker reportedly warned after violence erupted between his group and the gangsters last weekend, that Pagad could if it wished get assistance from fundamentalist militias Hamas and Hezbollah, who would arrive "by the planeload."

Pagad's leader, said to be a 24-year-old Muslim intellectual and activist known as the "Amir," is a former protege of Qibla leader Achmat Cassim.

Its style, rhetoric and threats to launch a Jihad (holy war) against government "for not practising law and order," suggest that, while there may be widespread sympathy for Pagad's vigorous anticrime drive, it is a Muslim fundamentalist organisation, committed to opposing the liberal democratic State.

The claim in the police document that SA Muslims have received military training in countries like Libya and Iran and are organised in "secret cells," seems to confirm that interpretation. Some believe this claim is being played up by US and Israeli intelligence to pressurise SA to cut its links with Libya and Iran.

Just how significant is the radical Muslim tendency in SA?

The Muslim community comprises 1,3% of the population and is based mostly in Gauteng, Kwazulu-Natal and the Western Cape. Their role in socio-economic and political affairs is disproportionately large. For 40 years the Cape's premier political organisation, the African People's Organisation, was led by Abdullah Abduraman, a committed Muslim. More than 10% of MPs and Cabinet Ministers are Muslim. None of this has led to concern about Muslim influence in SA, except by sections of the Jewish community and conservative Christians concerned at the radical ethos of Islamic activists.

Though religion has at times influenced their commitment, it has seldom played a significant role in their political positions. Most did not vote for either of the Muslim parties which contested the 1994 general/provincial elections.

SA Muslims are among the most religiously observant in the world, in a more traditional than "fundamentalist" sense. While many would not want to live for Islam, says one observer, most would be prepared to die for it.

There are a host of Islamic organisations in SA. The more "progressive," like the Call of Islam and the Muslim Youth

Movement, active in the struggle against apartheid in the Eighties, seem to have withered with key activists now in government, lack of funding and the inability to develop a theology of reconstruction after liberation. In the media, government and nongovernmental organisations these progressive elements are committed to gender equality, freedom of speech and association and the separation of religion and State.

At a popular level, however, the influence of this brand of Islam is rapidly receding. Remnants are found among a group of progressive Muslim scholars around Cape Town, in the monthly *Al Qalam*, and at the Claremont Mosque, which made history last year by being the first anywhere to have a woman preacher on a Friday (sabbath).

Some progressive Muslims would argue that there is a general rise of conservative religio-ideological forces seeking to protect the new SA from "the scourge of democracy and liberalism." Hence the rise of fundamentalism. An example of this trend is a conference held in Pretoria earlier this year. Attended by 2 000 people, its theme was the Building of an International Islamic Civilisation.

Another example is the newly founded Islamic Unity Convention (IUC), which appears to be a union of 250 groups but is actually the revamped, more acceptable version of Qibla — a group which combines a PAC view of SA with an Iranian inspired and supported fundamentalism. The leader of both the IUC and Qibla is Achmat Cassim (unavailable for comment).

The IUC is behind the formation of the Cape Town community radio station 786 (said to be holy numbers in the Quran), which has been an important means of promoting their message and mobilising Muslims to their cause. Examples are the march on the US embassy by thousands of Muslims against the imprisonment of the Egyptian cleric, Shaikh Omar Abd al-Rahman, and another against the Israeli Embassy.

It is argued that with Qibla's militance blunted by its engagement with less ideological allies in the IUC, and its radio compelled to conform to IBA guidelines, some of its more militant elements have moved sideways without formally breaking away. These elements are said to form the core of Pagad.

Paramilitary training with a radical Islamist tenor has taken place in recent years in the Cape in the use of small weaponry, scouting, basic fitness and much ideological consolidation. The training is done by those who have acquired skills, often abroad during the liberation struggle.

Muslims in the Cape are said to be more activist inclined, partly because of their history as political prisoners and partly due to their (working) class origins, compared to the business classes in Gauteng or Kwazulu-Natal. Though they have no undue influence on government policy, Ministers such as Dullah Omar (Justice) and Ebrahim Rasool (MEC) go to great lengths to cultivate good ties with the community.

The ANC had agreed to accommodate Muslim Personal Law in the Constitution — a board to this end had been set up — but the inability of conservatives and progressives to agree on the role of Muslim women led to its dissolution. ■

Kriel moves to create new force

CHRIS BATEMAN
POLITICAL WRITER

(251)

CT 16/8/96

THE creation of a metropolitan police force in the Peninsula moved one step closer to reality yesterday when top-level NP members from five of the six new municipalities and the Metropolitan Council threw their weight behind the initiative.

Premier Mr Hennis Kriel and his Local Government MEC, Mr Peter Marais, yesterday met (NP) mayors, deputy mayors and exco chairpersons from all but the Cape Town municipality.

Afterwards Kriel said the vigilante killing of Hard Livings gang leader Rashaad Staggie and the conflict with gangsters over the past two weeks had convinced everyone present that a metropolitan police force was vital.

In a snap debate in the provincial legislature last week, Kriel said

a metropolitan police force would fill the "vacuum" created by Pretoria's failure to devolve police powers.

Yesterday the councillors agreed on close liaison, that the province would do the groundwork to establish such a police force and that further talks be held on municipalities helping to fund such a force.

Other agreements included beefing up funding for Wesgro, passing strong anti-littering by-laws, "restoring order" in pavement trading and a commitment to the Masakhane campaign.

All had felt that they deserved a greater say in the Olympic Bid Company, Kriel said.

Urbanisation and illegal squatting worried many councillors and the provincial government would shortly be making proposals in conjunction with local government, he added.

BOLD NEW PLAN TO BEAT CRIME

■ In the latest move to crack down on crime in the Peninsula, squads of highly-trained paratroopers have been deployed to help Western Cape police, as plans to form a metropolitan police force gain momentum.

GLYNNIS UNDERHILL
Chief Reporter

PARATROOPERS have been deployed in the battle to restore law and order in the Western Cape and put an end to violent clashes between the community group People Against Gangsterism and Crime (Pagad) and Cape gangsters.

But Western Cape Police Minister Gerald Morkel said deploying extra police and troops on the Peninsula to "stabilise" the situation was not enough.

A top level meeting to discuss the formation of a Western Cape metropolitan police force has been scheduled as a matter of urgency, he said.

"We will make it happen. It has my full support. It is pointless to go for the 2004 Olympic bid or to encourage people to come and see us and invest in the Western Cape, when we just can't offer them stability," he told.

'Unity not war' - page 3

SATURDAY Argus yesterday. In addition to the SA National Defence Force parachute battalion being deployed in problem areas, a metropolitan force was needed to permanently ensure the safety of the province's citizens, he said.

Mr Morkel said he believed the proposal would gain the backing of all major role players.

Premier Hennis Kriel also vowed last night that the Western Cape government would restore law and order.

Mr Kriel will meet Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon and other African National Congress councillors from the Cape Town municipality on Monday, to garner support for the formation of a metropolitan police force. The creation of such a force has already drawn the backing of top-level National Party members from five of the six new municipalities and the Metropolitan Council.

Mr Kriel said the process was still in its "early days".

"A lot of discussion, planning and negotiation still has to take place, but we are serious about making the province safe and secure for its citizens," he said.

Funding is expected to come from municipalities and the private sector.

Mr Kriel said he believed the vigilante-style killing of Hard Livings gang leader Rashaad Staggie had convinced people a metropolitan police force was vital to maintain law and order. It would fill the "vacuum" created by Pretoria's failure to devolve police powers, he said.

"The African National Congress central government is not able to offer security to the people of the Western Cape, especially in the Metropole."

"The National Party-controlled provincial government has to take the move now to restore order in the province," Mr Kriel said.

Mr Morkel said he had been saying it was vital to have a metropolitan police force from the time he first took up office.

"We don't want to infringe on the rights of the municipalities, but we have got to work together against crime," he said.

adding that the ANC had sent out a statement criticising the

NP for being unable to control the situation in the Western Cape.

This was considered "a bit rich", as it was the central government which had to offer security, said Mr Morkel.

"We realise the problems and we need more police permanently. At the moment we are understaffed in the Western Cape by 17 percent. When people are away on holiday or they take off sick, we will be 20-21 percent understaffed."

The central government had stated its priority to fight crime and violence. "But this is no use to us if we don't have the tools to do it," he said.

Mr Morkel said he envisaged a metropolitan police force would fall directly under the auspices of the provincial minister of police.

"A lot of things have to be put in place, like legislation to make it legal. But we will talk with all the role players."

Mr Morkel said he believed the Western Cape could lead the way with such a police force.

"Spring is coming. We must enjoy the beaches, walk along the streets and know that we are safe from hooliganism and gangsterism," he said.

■ Turn to page 2



Paratroopers join battle to beat crime

■ From page 1

Mr Morkel said the level of fear had been highlighted after Minister of Justice Dullah Omar was forced to move with his family from his Rylands home because of fears for his safety.

Mr Omar is hosting a workshop today in Bellville on improving the role of the courts in fighting crime. Various role players, including senior government ministers, top justice and police officials and representatives of the community will take part.

An advertisement has been placed in SATURDAY Argus by community organisations and individuals pledging "solidarity and support to the minister and his family".

"We condemn the threats on the life of Minister of Justice Dullah

Omar and his family. Minister Omar is a people's person. He has given his life to the poor and the down-trodden. He has contributed selflessly towards achieving a just social order.

"In his role as Minister of Justice, he has taken many steps to transform the Justice system."

"We call on the community to support our minister and other role players in fighting crime. Minister Omar has been and will always be a part of our community."

"We want you back," the advertisement stressed.

The advertisement was signed by, among other individuals and organisations, Moosa Kaprey of the Athlone Anti-Crime Forum, Sheikh Sa'Dulla Khan of the Gatesville Mosque and K Kayaram of the Cape Hindu Cultural Society.

ARG 17/8/96

(251)

found guilty of culpable homicide. Du Randt and Tromp will

lucky charm

birth on Sunday after the big match and the All Blacks. I had to have a RDAY Argus as she was wheel to her room.

d although she had a favourite baby, she discuss it ecstatic Si on his cell ban, said the baby's

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Paratroopers deployed in Cape policing drive

CAPE TOWN — Paratroopers have been deployed in the battle to restore law and order in the Western Cape and put an end to clashes between the community group People against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) and gangsters.

Western Cape Safety and Security MEC Gerald Morkel on Saturday said the deployment of extra police and troops on the Peninsula was not enough.

A top-level meeting to discuss the formation of a Western Cape metropolitan police force has been scheduled as a matter of urgency, he said.

"It is pointless to go for the 2004 Olympic bid or to encourage people to come and see us and invest in the Western Cape when we just can't offer them stability," Morkel said. (251) BD 19/8/96

In addition to the SANDF parachute battalion being deployed on the Cape Flats, he said a metropolitan force was needed to permanently ensure the safety of the province's citizens.

Premier Hrnus Kriel said that the Western Cape government would restore law and order. He will meet Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon and other ANC councillors today to garner support for the formation of a metropolitan police force.

The creation of such a force has already drawn the backing of top-level NP members from five of the six new municipalities and the metropolitan council.

In an address to a workshop on crime in Bellville in the Western Cape on Saturday, Justice Minister Dullah Omar said although he did not want to divert or stop communities from mobilising against crime, there had to be a closer relationship between communities and the authorities in the fight against crime.

He said it was not a lack of resources or poor salaries that made some police officers corrupt. Serious attention had to be given to the problem of police dockets disappearing, and whether police or the courts were responsible — Sapa.

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Police meet over white collar crime

BD 19/8/96

HARARE — African police officials start a two-day economic conference in Zimbabwe today to discuss how to combat rising white collar crime on the continent.

Delegates from 23 English-speaking African states will take part in the meeting as a follow-up to a conference held on the subject in Tanzania last year.

"The fact that we are finding it necessary to exchange notes this regularly and to keep track from a common platform means we clearly realise that we have a big problem unfolding before us," said a Zimbabwe police official.

"Many African countries are reporting a steady increase in white collar crime and it is crucial that we discuss what forms it is taking and how we can curb it," he added.

Statistics were not immediately available.

White collar crime and drug trafficking, he said, were growing in parallel, with some common characteristics, and required common cross-border efforts to fight them effectively.

"One of the expanding fronts is the area of money laundering, laundering drug money, and this invariably overlaps with white collar crime."

African politicians and business

leaders say the fight against white collar crime is essential for the continent to attract vital foreign investment

Assistant police commissioner Steady Tonde said white collar crime was difficult to detect and the conference would discuss ways of tracking it.

The conference will also be addressed by officials from the international police organisation Interpol and from Zimbabwe's banking sector which has been the victim of regular white collar crimes over the past few years.

Interpol

Interpol opened a southern African regional office in Zimbabwe last month — its second on the continent after the one in Ivory Coast — to help co-ordinate police work in 12 countries with emphasis on white collar crime and drug trafficking. It says it is considering opening another office in Kenya to cover East Africa.

Zimbabwean police say their country is slowly being turned from a largely drug-free state into a market where an increasing number of people are consuming hard drugs such as cocaine and heroin, and that it acts as a transit point for drugs being smuggled to neighbouring SA. — Reuter

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De Kock costs R4,7-m

By Josias Charle

SOUTH AFRICAN tax payers have so far forked out R4,76 million for the defence of former Vlakpláas commander Colonel Eugene de Kock who faces 12 charges of murder and fraud

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz's spokesman, Director Joseph Ngobeni, confirmed the amount to *Sowetan* at the weekend

The trial started on February 20 last year and this week Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe postponed proceedings to allow him time to wrap up judgment which he will deliver on August 26. This is expected to take up to two weeks. Thereafter, if De Kock is found

Sowetan 19/8/96 (251)
guilty, both counsel will start with their arguments before sentencing. In the light of this, more court days - and more money - could be spent

Prime evil

De Kock (47), nicknamed "prime evil" by his colleagues during their days at Vlakpláas, struck a deal with the police when he retired three years ago in terms of which he would forego some of his pension benefits in return for financial support to cover any fees should he face future legal action emanating from his work as a policeman

During argument this week De Kock's legal counsel, Mr Filip

Hattingh, SC, conceded to seven of the murders and about 28 of the 96 fraud charges

Mr Hattingh emphasised that his client had either acted under orders from police head office or had political motives, such as the supply of a large cache of arms to Inkatha

More than 80 witnesses - about 30 of whom were accessories - testified for the state, some of them facing weeks of detailed cross-examination. In July last year several of De Kock's former colleagues, who up to then were facing murder and fraud charges, decided to become state witnesses and testified against their former commander

committed to a seminar on critical areas covered in the White Paper on Telecommunications - utilizing the second of the STPRC Working Papers as a basis and have had a very positive response to this proposal

GROUP TO HAVE 'TEETH TO ACT'

Independent body to probe police corruption

of 19/8/96
(251)

ROGER FRIEDMAN

ALLEGED police corruption and collusion between criminals and criminal justice roleplayers — one of the core frustrations raised by People Against Gangsterism and Drugs — will at last be investigated by an independent body

Western Cape community organisations have been calling for the establishment of a judicial inquiry into alleged complicity between police and gangsters for several years

On Saturday night in Bellville, at the conclusion of an all-day workshop focusing on courts and the community, Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar revealed the government's plans in this regard

Omar said the government had to eradicate corruption, "wherever it may be", but it was felt that judicial commissions established under the Commission's Act were too slow, toothless and limited in their terms of reference

"We want to set up a mechanism not only to investigate, but to act. We need mechanisms with teeth, that can act decisively

"So, after evaluating the situation and consulting experts we came to the conclusion we need to proceed by way of special legislation setting up special tribunals with similar powers to the courts"

Omar hopes the new legislation will pass unhindered through Parliament this session

The tribunals, empowered to make orders, would be assisted by special investigation units "They will be much more effective than any commission could be"

Several tribunals were envisaged "to deal with malpractice in the public service", but Omar did not wish to provide details of their specific areas of concern — other than the one into alleged police corruption

Omar earlier urged delegates from various government departments, non-governmental and

community-based organisations to create a monitoring structure to keep watch on the courts

The structure should include people with knowledge of the (court) system who could keep communities informed on developments and trends, he said

Earlier on Saturday, national police Commissioner George Fivaz committed the police service to rooting out corruption in all its manifestations. In his capacity as executive commander of the national police service, Fivaz said he would support a commission or a tribunal, promising to "open every single door" in his department to assist

He added that advocate Mr Neville Melville was appointed last week as director of the Independent Complaints Mechanism, a new structure charged with investigating complainants against the police. Melville would report directly to Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi



TOUGH STANCE: Cape Times Editor Mr. Moegsien Williams with Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar and national police chief Commissioner George Fivaz at Saturday's anti-crime workshop

PICTURE: THEMINKOSI DWAYISA

Boys in blue 'doing their best'

THE escalating crime rate, especially in the Western Cape, and communities' perceptions that the police are in collusion with gangsters, have sparked a crisis which demands urgent and tough responses. JOSEPH ARANES spoke to Director Leonard Knipe, head of the police's serious violent crimes unit, to find out what actions the police are planning.

251) *ARL 20/8/96*

WE live in a society that is ravaged by crime and drugs, and people in many communities feel that too little is being done to contain and eradicate the scourge.

Members of the organisation People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad) appealed to the government and its agencies to take strong action against gangsters and drug lords. Getting little response, they embarked on a militant campaign which resulted in the recent brutal public slaying of known drug lord and gangster Rashaad Stagge.

While their actions have been condemned in many quarters, they continued with their campaign and on Sunday poured petrol on an Athlone drug pedlar, who managed to escape before being torched.

But no matter how noble the cause, South Africa is a democratic country and no individual or organisation has the right to take the law into their own hands. Irrespective of the frustrations people might have, the police, other security forces and the justice system are tasked with upholding the law and bringing all offenders to book.

Leonard Knipe, head of the police's serious violent crimes unit, said they were aware of people's frustrations and lack of confidence in the police services, and that while some of the complaints might be justified, they were committed to cleaning Cape Town's streets of crime.

He said recent statistics for serious violent crimes showed a definite downward trend and, while it was still not acceptable, it showed that the police were doing something right. But more was needed to restore the public's confidence in "our boys in blue".

darnedest to bring drug merchants and gangsters to court, and every day we have bigger and bigger raids - but people's memories are very selective.

"We will never solve the ills of society until the community adopts a morality of decency. An eye for an eye is not a philosophy that can be followed, it's archaic. Pagad should put its resources and money to use by creating jobs and building recreational facilities.

"When people, especially the youth, are born into hopelessness, then the drug lords and the gangsters become their only saviour. It is time that the decent people of the country, who are the overwhelming majority, look to the social causes and do something to help end the cycle of poverty and hopelessness that the gangsters so easily exploit."

Director Knipe said every person had a responsibility and the police could not fight crime on their own. But the police would be making more resources available to fight the number one problem in the Peninsula.

He said it was time the police force stopped bickering among themselves and other departments in the criminal justice system and put their shoulder to the wheel. "We can never deny that the most important police input in the war against crime and drugs must be made at station commander level."

It was a proven fact, said Director Knipe, that where station commanders had an interest in the people they served, they tackled the problems from a more favourable position. A lot of work could be done if the station commanders adopted a proactive stance on the issues.

The police recently announced that all the country's station com-

would undergo a retraining course in station management and community policing to better equip them in their fight against crime.

But while these changes were taking place in the police force, there was a general perception in many communities, especially those ravaged by gangs and drugs, that the police were not doing enough and were in collusion with gangsters and drug lords.

Director Knipe said many people were ignorant of how the law worked and expected quick-fix solutions. The police could only get a conviction on credible evidence and not on rumours. And the evidence was subjected to thorough testing in an open court of law.

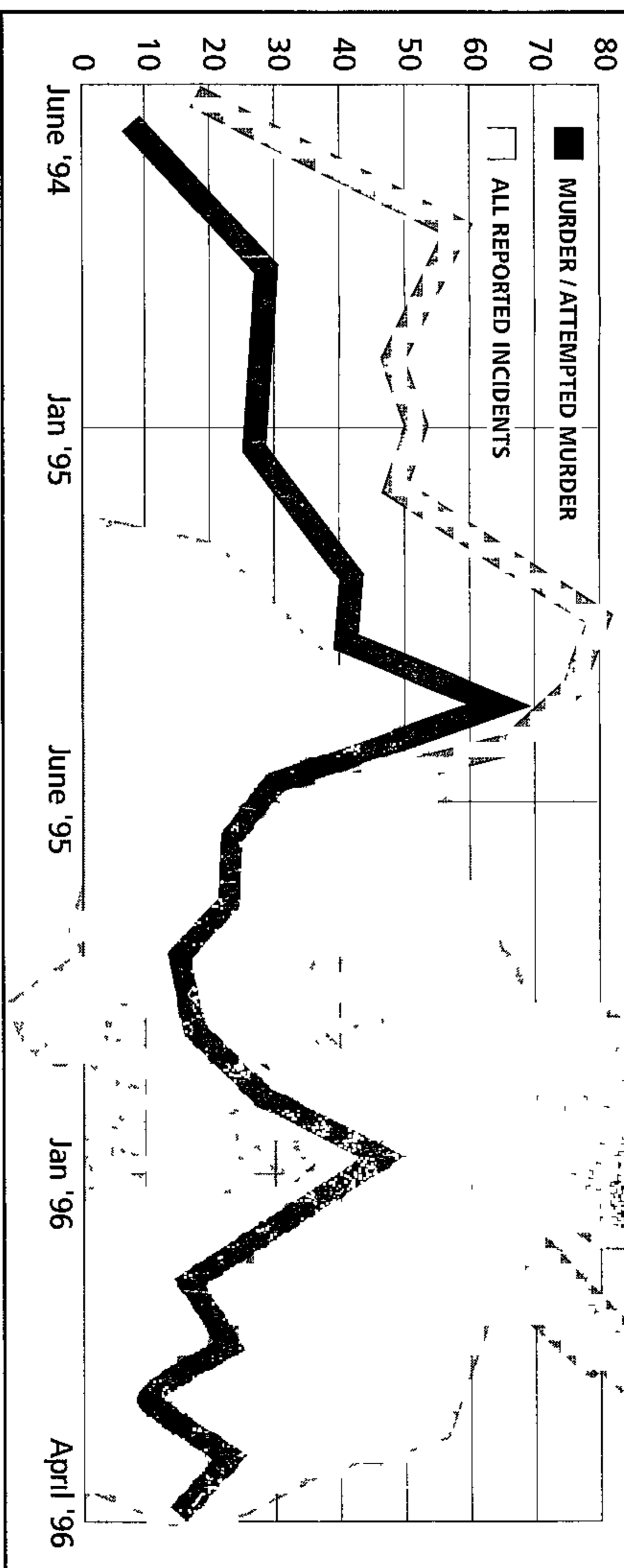
"This is the only way a civilised society can exist. I do appreciate the feelings of people calling for the blood of gangsters, but the law must take its course. The law makes human beings different from savages. We have to uphold the law and anyone that commits an offence, whether they are policemen, legal representatives or politicians, are all subject to the same laws and punishment."

He said the police had taken the allegations of corruption very seriously and had been informed that moves were afoot to appoint a commission of inquiry. The persistent allegations, whether true or false, were demoralising members, especially those at the coal face in the fight against crime.

These hard-working and, more often than not, honest cops wanted to get to the bottom of the allegations as soon as possible.

Director Knipe said a lot of the perceptions stemmed from, for example, police arresting gangsters and, hours later, the hoodlums being back on the streets.

GANG RELATED CRIME June 1994 - April 1996



FIGURES: These figures for gang-related crime are based on police statistics

did not have enough time to prepare proper cases to oppose bail. A lot of the time drug lords and gangsters were arrested on the spot for various violations.

But in cases where their arrests were preceded by proper investigations, he said the police vigorously fought the bail applications.

He said changes to the bail laws had also been introduced to give the police more time to prepare their cases in opposing bail.

These changes and amendments to the Guns and Ammunitions Act, along with additional proposed legislation, would all help to strengthen the police's hand in

Director Knipe said that while the police did not have enough resources and always needed more of the three Ms - money, men and machines - they were doing their best under very difficult conditions.

People were going through the criminal justice system, the police were sending hoodlums to jail and, although still a bit flawed, there was a witness protection programme in place. A lot of hard work was going into all of these aspects to make the system work.

More policemen had been assigned to the highly-visible

often tackling the problems in the trenches. The ethos of good detective work was being brought back and an experienced detective would head the unit.

Intelligence gathering and information received were also being more professionally analysed and used and converted into hard evidence.

The organised crime unit was making a concerted effort to act urgently against drug barons.

He said these things took time and for a case to move through the system took about a year before a trial could be held, at either the regional or Supreme courts.

the manner in which the police dealt with complainants and more sympathy was being shown towards the victims of violence.

"We have to guard against becoming cynical and, above all, have to protect the country's constitution with vigour."

But Director Knipe warned that the police were only addressing the symptoms of crime, which were short-term, and said communities must address the cause.

"If they don't create a decent environment we will never get rid of the gangsters and drug lords. We must work together so we can all enjoy our places in the

Traffic officers strike for pay

JOHANNESBURG
municipal traffic, transport and electricity staff yesterday joined a traffic officers' strike in protest against the city council's final wage increase offer.

Wage negotiations between the city council and several municipal trade unions continued yesterday despite the dispute and strikers would be back at work today, the council's human resources executive Mr Sonnyboy Matsoso said.

While most of the unions saw "room for the matter to be settled", the Independent Municipal Association of Trade Unions had opted for arbitration, he said.

The matter would be raised at a routine industrial council meeting on Thursday.

Matsoso said services had not been affected and some employees were back at work yesterday.

Traffic department spokesman Mr Fraser Ramokgopa said about 2 000 workers were involved in the scheduled action. The decision to down tools was taken at a wage negotiations feedback meeting yesterday morning, he said.

The protest is the second in as many weeks by traffic officers. Last week, about 100 traffic officers in central Johannesburg to protest against the withdrawal of food and danger allowances, and vehicle subsidies.

Ramokgopa said the council's salary increase offers of R275 for employees in the R1 500 to R2 000 a month salary bracket, R250 for those in the R2 000 to R4 000 a month salary bracket, and a once-off R4 000 bonus for those earning above R4 000, was unacceptable to traffic staff.

There were only six people staffing the radio room, Ramokgopa said. "We are not fighting the traffic department, it has nothing to do with the director. We are fighting the Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council," he said. — Sapa

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Popcru leaders in Fivaz protest

(251)
Stephane Bothma

BD 22/8/96
PRETORIA — Five Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) executive committee members were arrested on trespassing charges yesterday after refusing to heed an ultimatum to leave SAPS commissioner George Fivaz's Pretoria office.

Fivaz said the five were arrested after they ignored an ultimatum from deputy commissioner John Manuel to leave of their own accord. He said that it was impossible for him to meet Popcru yesterday as he was in Cape Town working on government's anti-crime initiatives.

The Popcru delegation arrived without an appointment, he said.

Neville Melville, the advocate recently appointed head of the independent complaints directorate of the safety and security secretariat, also participated in the unsuccessful negotiations to get the unnamed members to leave.

The Popcru leaders had arrived at police headquarters early yesterday, demanding a meeting with Fivaz to discuss alleged discrimination against union members and the reinstatement of 304 assistant constables dismissed after protest action last year, and claiming its members were being harassed and were not allowed time off to attend union meetings.

Natal cabinet covers up for MP gunmen

(251)
Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The KwaZulu-Natal cabinet covered up for MPs Sifiso Nkabinde and David Ntombela yesterday, denying that the two had brandished firearms outside the provincial legislature earlier this week.

But police spokesman Supt Henry Budhram immediately disputed this, and confirmed media reports that Nkabinde and Ntombela had drawn firearms on each other during an altercation on Monday.

Budhram said charges had been registered against Ntombela and Nkabinde in terms of the Arms and Ammunition Act, and police were also determining whether they were competent to continue possessing firearms.

Nkabinde is ANC KwaZulu-Natal deputy secretary and Ntombela the IFP midlands chairman.

Premier Frank Mdlalose said after a special cabinet session also attended by Nkabinde and Ntombela, that "at no time did the two gentlemen point guns at each other" Mdlalose said Nkabinde and Ntombela had handed over guns to the police and the media misinterpreted this to mean that they

had drawn guns on each other.

The cabinet was also satisfied that there was no animosity between the two, Mdlalose said.

ANC provincial chairman Jacob Zuma said Nkabinde and Ntombela were "loyal followers" of their respective parties, who were involved in peace initiatives.

There had been an altercation between ANC and IFP supporters in central Maritzburg, and Ntombela and Nkabinde had "helped to stop more bloodshed", Zuma said.

However, police spokesman Supt Henry Budhram said Ntombela and Nkabinde "drew firearms and pointed them at each other". A senior police officer had disarmed both of them, he said.

In an interview with Business Day, Nkabinde denied he had been in possession of a firearm. Yesterday, he said the "whole incident had been blown out of proportion", but admitted that at a "certain point we had to hand over our firearms".

DP MP Wessel Nel said the cabinet had produced a "bucket of whitewash". Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said the gun-toting smacked "of a form of recklessness and lawlessness" which SA could not afford.

Popcru 5 held after sit-in

Staff 22/8/96
Five members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union were arrested at police headquarters in Pretoria yesterday after a sit-in.

The group were set on discussing with Commissioner George Fiyaz issues ranging from reinstating 304 constables dismissed after staging an illegal strike in Pretoria last year, to their dissatisfaction with the implementation of affirmative action in the SAPS - Staff Reporter

(251)

Anti-corruption unit has high success rate



(251)

CT 22/8/96

THE South African Police Service has responded to the calls of our crime-line readers.

Mr Gordon Williams of Mitchell Plain commented: 'We must get rid of corrupt cops.'

The Western Cape SA Police Anti-Corruption Unit, established in December last year, and has a high success rate. Corrupt police officers will not be tolerated within the service. Provincial Commissioner Leon Wessel has vowed to root out all corrupt officers. To date, this unit has charged 24 police officers and 17 cases are still being investigated.

Williams commented further: 'We must also patrol our borders and our ports properly so there will be no drugs.'

Between January and June 30 this year, members of the police's Narcotics Bureau (SAs) dismantled 1 026 people on charges of dealing in a variety of drugs and seized the following drugs during the operation: 17 401 Edgocin 240 Es, 1 000 dray tablets, 5 100 cc am, 102g Opium, 152 units of Esb, 2 476 Esb, 135 amphetamine tablets, 11g hashish and 5 g heroin.

Mr Alfred Johnson of Surfers Estate commented: 'Police searched gangster. Why didn't they confiscate their

firearm and run ballistics test? If police have reason to believe that a specific firearm was used in a crime, this firearm will be confiscated and enter ballistics test.'

Mr Christopher Jones of Bishop Lavis mentioned three criminal cases which he made at the local police station.

Regarding the armed robbery which occurred in November 1995, he could not give the investigating officer a description of the three perpetrators.

Regarding the housebreaking which occurred during 1994, no charges were laid by him. When he reported the broken windows of his home to

the police, he made it clear he was only reporting the incident to obtain a case number, as he had to supply this number to the Regional Service Council, who owned the house.

The community must work with the police to combat crime, be the eyes and ears for the police, report in suspicious person activities and participate in their Community Police Forum and Neighbourhood Watch. If you wish to remain anonymous, phone Crime Stop toll free at 0 800 11 12 13.

Rewards of up to P250 000 are paid for information leading to the arrest of criminals.



De Kock a 'chameleon' of changing moods

By Norman Chandler
Pretoria Bureau

Next week judgment will be handed down in a trial which has proved to be a two-year litany of killings and assassinations

It is a trial worthy of the very best crime or espionage novel, reminiscent of Rasputin, Idi Amin and all the other horrors society can dredge up.

It is called the De Kock Trial, which for two years has provided an incredible litany of death and mayhem which formed part of the South Africa of yesterday, a time when apartheid-sanctioned killers roamed the sub-continent and other parts of the world in search of "the enemy"

The horror was first revealed by a former police sergeant awaiting execution, then by the Hamm Commission and, finally, by the Goldstone Commission which received evidence of strange goings-on at the Vlakplaas base of a South African Police counter-insurgency unit - the infamous C10 unit - near Pretoria.

The allegations made against members of this unit led to the arrest and, finally, the Supreme Court trial of its commander, Lieu-

tenant-Colonel Eugene de Kock (48)

The unit's main work, according to his affidavits submitted to the Pretoria Supreme Court, was to identify what the apartheid-era identified as "terrorists" entering the country and to deal with "senesive political issues" - a euphemism for ethnic cleansing, directed at black opponents of the former government and on a scale never before witnessed in South Africa.

This sad chapter in our lives, it has been alleged in court, included the blowing up of the body of a dead suspect in a two-day orgy of violence and drinking following the ambushing of a taxi and the slaughtering of its four occupants, death threats to witnesses, torture of the most horrendous kind, booby-trapped appliances, bombings, vendettas against fellow policemen, kidnapping, random killings and assassinations, vicious

assaults, misappropriation of State funds, horrific violence on trains, massacres of innocent people, and the tape recording of "everyone's conversations"

Said one witness "If I had to write down all the names of people who disappeared, my book would be as thick as the Bible"

A chilling aspect of the evidence led over the months was the reference to the fact that certain "police generals" had allegedly been aware of what was taking

place at Vlakplaas, but whether this can be proved is another story

Next week, judgment in the De Kock trial will be handed down by Mr Justice van der Merwe in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

De Kock, who has described himself (in another trial) as probably the country's most effective assassin, decided not to testify in his own defence after taking advice from his lawyers, who are being paid by the State. So far, this amounts to more than R4,7-million, as a result of an agreement he reached with the police on his retirement in the event of prosecution arising from 27 years service as a policeman.

De Kock - a man who carried eight passports and had seven different names - returned from the police in 1993, receiving a golden handshake of more than R1-million.

When he was arrested by members of the Transvaal Attorney-General's special task force charged with investigating Vlakplaas, he had cashed in nine life policies valued at R400 000, as well as having British, Swiss, and Portuguese bank accounts containing millions of rands, a credit card in a false name, and a passport in a false name.

He had also tried to influence journalists to write defamatory stories about police officers investigating his case.

During the trial he applied to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for amnesty but so far nothing has come of it. He also attempted on several occasions to obtain bail but it was refused for fear he might abscond.

He was like a chameleon when it came to names - he travelled the world as, variously, Eugene Alexander de Kock, Eugene de la Rey, Lourens Vosloo de Wet, Eugene Dietz, Garrit Magnusson, Tohus Parker, and Joao Antonio Francisco Alves Madava.

The charge sheet drawn up against him listed 121 criminal charges including 10 alleged murder counts, two charges of attempted murder, 94 counts of fraud, and others regarding illegal possession of firearms, abduction, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and being illegally in possession of explosives such as mortars, and other weapons.

De Kock pleaded not guilty to all charges but through his lawyers at the close of his defence several days ago, he admitted to six murders, two alleged murder charges, kidnapping, assault and 28 fraud charges.

Included in the murder charges are that he was involved in the deaths of two former colleagues, and that one of the alleged attempted murders was on the person of former police captain and National Intelligence Agency employee, Dirk Coetzee, who himself is now facing murder charges, this time in the Durban Supreme Court. De Kock has denied the Coetzee allegation.

Even before he appeared before Judge van der Merwe, he had become a sort of super prisoner when it was revealed that while in custody he had visited the Verwoerd Rugby Club and, in his cell at the Adriaan Vlok police station in Centurion, had a cellular telephone, colour television with

M-Net, a video machine, and was able to treat visitors to drinks such as rum and brandy.

And even before he came to trial, witnesses had been killed, allegedly on De Kock's orders according to testimony delivered before the Goldstone and Hamm commissions.

He himself had been threatened and, fearing for the safety of his family, he sold his Erasmusloof, Pretoria, home.

His family - his divorced wife, Audrey, and two sons - now live in Ireland.

Goldstone had long prepared a report on Vlakplaas activities, how people were trained, involvement in the manufacture of home-made guns, and the supply of weapons.

That report alleged that De Kock and other Vlakplaas policemen had trained people involved in hostile violence, had taken part in the killings of train passengers, and supplied the Inkatha Freedom

Party (IFP) with guns.

The State, which closed its case on April 23, called nearly 200 witnesses, including the Chief of Staff of the South African National Defence Force, Lieutenant-General Siphuwe Nyarada (who was second in command of the ANC's Operation Vula, an attempt to establish underground internal political and military leadership structures while still in negotiations with the previous government), Coetzee and a number of policemen who worked at Vlakplaas.

De Kock has been described in evidence as having a volatile personality - one minute "loving and cheerful" and the next "beating a person up."

He was also the man, the court heard, who gave his colleagues booby-trapped grenades for delivery to members of Cossas.

This is the man who, starting from Monday, will hear his fate in a South Africa struggling to come to terms with itself and to eradicate for ever the memory of hit squads made up of the Boys from Vlakplaas.

(251) Star 23/8/96

Intelligence chief set to take on a new role

(251)

MTG 23-29/8/96

Gaye Davis

MO SHAIK, chief of the National Intelligence Co-ordinating Committee (Nicoc), is to quit his position at month-end for a new post in either the Department of Foreign Affairs or the Department of Trade and Industry. Smart money is on the latter.

An announcement is expected shortly, but it is understood Shaik's new job will see him based in Europe, working with South African trade representatives and devising ways for the country to achieve greater penetration of the market.

He is likely to be replaced as Nicoc co-ordinator by African National Congress MP Linda Mti, who currently chairs the National

Assembly's Portfolio Committee on Safety and Security and who has played a key role in Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence.

Nicoc advises the government on intelligence policy, co-ordinates the activities of the country's intelligence agencies and advises the government on threats and potential threats to the country and its people

The intelligence committee is currently chaired by ANC MP Lindiwe Sisulu-Guma, recently appointed deputy minister of home affairs. Speculation as to a possible successor saw the spotlight fall on ANC MP Jennifer Schreiner, but she is believed to have declined the position.

Mandela rejects Popcru's 'Fivaz must go' call

By SHIRLEY WOODGATE
AND LARA SMITH

Popcru's demands for the resignation of the SAPS National Commissioner have been rejected by both President Mandela and Commissioner George Fivaz himself

Fivaz said in terms of his appointment as national commissioner, only the country's president could call for him to step down

His spokesman, Leah Shibambo, said Fivaz had not received a written statement from Popcru calling for his resignation, but had only heard about it in the press

Mandela's spokesman, Parks Mankahlana, labelled the call "untenable" and the president would not

even consider it

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union has threatened to embark on a go-slow at police stations countrywide and to occupy the offices of all provincial and area police commissioners, including Fivaz's premises

Popcru general secretary Rappheng Mataka said they would continue with this course of action until police management met their demands

These include the re-enlistment of 304 constables dismissed after staging an illegal strike in Pretoria last year over the implementation of affirmative action in the SAPS

Popcru would suspend any further negotiations with police management about these issues from

September 1 because "negotiating with Fivaz is a futile exercise", Mataka said

The union has also called for the resignation of Fivaz, saying he was the real stumbling block to effective policing in South Africa

"If we want to control crime in this country, we have to motivate the police," Mataka said "As long as Fivaz is at the helm of the police in this country, this will not happen"

Mataka has accused police management, and Fivaz in particular, of incompetence and of dragging their feet in the transformation and restructuring of the new police service

Popcru said the union called for deputy national commissioner John Manuel to be the new police chief

(251) Star 26/8/96

Traffic officers express outrage at city pay gap

Star 26/8/96 (251)

Offer of only R275 a month increase described as 'a joke', while top council officials get packages of up to R30 000

By TROYE LUND

Greater Johannesburg traffic officers who went on a brief strike last week are outraged that top council officials earn packages worth around R30 000 a month while they have been offered maximum increases of only R275 a month.

Salary packages ranging between R27 000 and R30 000 for the nine strategic executives of Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council's (TMC), who form the second level of management, were approved by councillors in May.

The packages - R12 000 more than packages for Gauteng's provincial legislature members - came under fire last week when council employees went on strike and refused to accept the council's final wage offer.

Basic remuneration for the TMC's strategic executives is between R17 528 and R21 544 a month. Over and above the basic rate of pay, the executives get allowances worth about 50% of their basic rate.

Human resources executive Sonnyboy Matsoso said additions included a car allowance, a housing subsidy, and the council contribution to pension and medical aid funds, bringing packages to between R27 000 and R30 000.

The 66 executive officers who fall under the strategic executives

earn basic salaries of between R11 845 and R17 000 a month. After allowances their monthly packages are between R21 000 and R27 000.

Each of the four municipal substructures also employs about six strategic executives and they are in the process of finalising between 40 and 50 executive officer positions each.

Matsoso said executive salaries were based on recommendations by consultants.

He said current executive

Some take home less than R1 000 after tax

salaries were 20% lower than those in the private sector. The council would not make any further comment on the issue.

A TMC personnel officer, who asked not to be named, said executive salaries were "unfair and disgusting". She added that the TMC had also employed seven special advisers over and above the executives who were being paid executive packages.

Her files show that emergency and uniformed staff, including bus drivers, earn basic salaries of between R2 300 and R3 800 a month. Degreed social workers

earn between R5 415 and R6 124.

After working at the council for 12 years, the personnel officer who spoke to The Star earns just more than R5 200 a month.

Employees earning less than R3 000 a month have been offered a R275-a-month increase, while those earning over R3 000 are being offered R250. Employees earning more than R4 000 a month have been offered no increase, just a one-off payment of R4 000 with their annual bonus.

The South African Municipal Workers' Union wants a R300 across-the-board increase. The Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union is asking for a 10% increase across the board.

Negotiations have deadlocked and unions will meet this week to decide what action to take.

A traffic officer who has been working for the department for eight years and earns R3 700 a month said "The increases offered to us are a joke. Some breadwinners, who have life-threatening jobs, come out with less than R1 000 after tax."

Alexandra East Bank Residents' Association spokesman Pule Palatse said ratepayers should have a say in what officials earn. "Officials should not be poor, but this is like a get-rich-quick scheme."

Eastern MSS councillor Liz Clogg warned "This is going to bankrupt the city."



FLASHBACK: Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock, centre, accompanied by members of his defence team Flip Hattingh, left, and Schalk Hugo, points out parts of the notorious police base during an on-site inspection during the trial in August last year

Convicted De Kock faces 116 more verdicts

PRETORIA - Eugene de Kock, convicted of five murders yesterday, faces another day of reckoning today when the Pretoria Supreme Court decides on 116 charges still pending against him

The most senior servant of white rule to be convicted by a court, De Kock (48), formerly in charge of the notorious Vlakplaas security police unit, was found guilty yesterday of planning and carrying out the ambush and murder of five alleged bank robbers near Nelspruit

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe began his judgment by outlining the state evidence against De Kock before ruling "There is no doubt. A guilty finding must follow"

Judge Van der Merwe said he would hand down his verdict on three more murder charges and on numerous other lesser counts of fraud, theft and attempted murder today

De Kock, dubbed "Prime Evil" by his colleagues, was a colonel who commanded the ruthless hit squad based at Vlakplaas, near Pretoria

More than 12 000 pages of evidence and 3 000 exhibits compiled over nearly two years support accusations against De Kock, including massacres and random killings, attacks on township hostels and trains, car bombings, torture, beatings and vendettas against fellow police officers

One of his former Vlakplaas colleagues, Christiaan Geldenhuis, told the court that four of the five men involved in yesterday's verdict had been killed when about 200 rounds of ammunition were emptied into their minibus before it was set on fire

When De Kock learned that the fifth man, Winnie Mandela's driver, Tiso Leballo, had escaped, he ordered his colleagues to "budda him" - Vlakplaas slang for blowing up corpses

According to the charge sheet, Mr Leballo was taken to a mine dump, where his body was blown up several times with dynamite

Chappies Klopper, another of the 92 witnesses - 30 of whom were De Kock's colleagues - testified last year that the "budda" method meant blowing up the body "until there was nothing left to blow up"

De Kock started his career as a killing machine 27 years ago as an ordinary policeman. He left South Africa in the 1960s to combat the guerrilla struggle against white rule in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe

Back home, he formed a security police unit that tried to thwart the South West African People's Organisation (Swapo) in its fight for Namibian independence from South Africa

In 1980 he joined the Vlakplaas unit. By the time he was arrested early in 1994 he had eight passports and had deposited millions of rand in offshore banks

The National Party government contributed to De Kock's wealth when it bade him farewell in April 1993 with a golden handshake of R1,2 million

The government also agreed to a watertight contract with De Kock for the taxpayer to pay all his legal costs, which so far total more than R4m

De Kock has applied to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for amnesty

No date has been set for his sentencing or amnesty hearing

(251)

ARG 27/8/96

De Kock convicted of five murders — Verdict on other charges today

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was yesterday convicted of five murders and will know the Transvaal Supreme Court's verdict today on the remaining 116 criminal charges against him.

De Kock showed no emotion or surprise when Judge Willem van der Merwe convicted him of killing four men in an ambush outside Nelspruit on March 26 1992 and also of ordering the killing of a fifth man, Winnie Mandela's driv-

er, Tiso Leballo, on the same day.

De Kock, who commanded the elite Vlakplaas C10 anti-terrorist unit, was the first to be tried for so-called third force crimes committed under the aegis of apartheid.

The court found that the Nelspruit victims had been ambushed after showing interest in participating in a "robbery" planned by Vlakplaas in-former and private investigator Ben van Zyl. De Kock had supplied a minibus for the would-be robbers and also supplied rifles which were planted

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in the vehicle after their deaths. The vehicle had been set alight.

Leballo had not been in the minibus, but instead waited for the four men several kilometres away. De Kock, however, ordered that Leballo be apprehended and killed. He was later taken to a deserted mine where his body was destroyed with explosives.

The court found De Kock was also involved in preparing false reports and statements after the five killings.

Van der Merwe said De Kock's legal team had "wisely" conceded during

closing argument that the State had proved De Kock's guilt on the five murder charges, which were also the first five counts in the indictment.

Judgment in the trial started yesterday morning amid tightened security, with sniffer dogs checking the courtroom for explosives.

Commenting on the evidence in general and more specifically on the fraud charges against De Kock, Van der Merwe said it was clear that the police's secret fund had been used as an inexhaustible source of personal fund-

ing for Vlakplaas C10 unit members. Other police units also used the fund — aimed at remunerating informers — for finance.

Discussing the testimony of key State witness Chappies Klopper — the first to reveal the alleged unlawful actions of C10 to the Goldstone commission in 1994 — the judge said it was possible that Klopper had divulged the information for financial gain. Evidence in the trial indicated that

Continued on Page 2

De Kock

Continued from Page 1

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shortly after completing his testimony before the Goldstone commission, in which he implicated a host of senior ranking policemen in a range of crimes, Klopper had received two cash payments amounting to R10 000 and R90 000, respectively.

"Klopper is a very arrogant person who loves himself very much," the judge found, saying his evidence would be treated with extreme caution. He said the testimony of many State

witnesses would be treated carefully, not only because they were accomplices, but also because some of them held grudges against De Kock. Several witnesses were also still SAPS members and hoped to keep their positions by testifying against De Kock.

However, a few State witnesses had made a positive impression on the court and had testified honestly.

It was clear that many former C10 members were still loyal to De Kock and had found it difficult to testify against their former commander, the judge said.

Van der Merwe indicated that he would complete his judgment today.

Police go-slow if Fivaz stays on

Bonile Ngqiyaza

(25)

THE Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) has threatened a nationwide go-slow from Monday unless SAPS commissioner George Fivaz resigns his position.

This followed a national executive meeting at the weekend convened to formulate a response to the arrest last week of five Popcru executive committee members on trespassing charges after an attempt to occupy Fivaz's office.

The members were arrested after they ignored an ultimatum by deputy commissioner John Manuel to leave of their own accord.

Spokesman Oupa Mmotsa said yesterday a meeting at the weekend had found Fivaz's crime combating efforts "inept". He had also shown "complete insensitivity" in handling personnel, especially black SAPS members. *BD 27/8/96*

In conjunction with next week's go-slow Popcru would occupy Fivaz's offices and the offices of all nine provincial and area commissioners. He said the campaign was aimed at "removing all white, racist station commanders".

Mmotsa said Fivaz had failed to transform the SAPS into a representative body and to consult interested parties on matters of national security like the Sword and Shield campaign, which the union considered a failure.

A spokesman for Fivaz, Leah Shibambo, said only the president could ask him to resign. "If Popcru want him to resign, they must follow the right channels."



Police commissioner George Fivaz, top right, flanked by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia, launched Project Lifeline at Moroka police station in Soweto yesterday. Judy Wade, left, a partner of consultants McKinsey Inc which initiated the project, and Business Against Crime head Wendy Lucas-Bull, bottom centre, attended the launch. Pictures ROBERT BOTHA

Project Lifeline aims to lift police performance

BD 27/8/96 (251)

Ingrid Salgado

A PROJECT to improve day-to-day performance in 100 of the country's most needy police stations was launched by national commissioner George Fivaz yesterday with the aim of helping stations improve the use of existing resources.

Project Lifeline, which targets stations in the nine provinces, had already achieved significant operational improvements at nine police stations which took part in a recent pilot project, Fivaz said at Moroka police station in Soweto. It was a "groundbreaking initiative" that would have a visible effect on police services in the immediate future.

Stations which will participate in the project during the next year-and-a-half were chosen on the basis of highest crime rates, skills gaps, infrastructure needs and dissatisfied communities. The bulk are from KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and Eastern Cape.

The project, initiated by international management consultants McKinsey, would target stations at grass roots level. Facilitators would work closely with station commissioners, personnel and local communities to develop "aggressive plans" to improve performance.

McKinsey partner Judy Wade said the long-term transformation of the SAPS and amalgamation of 11 police forces had focused on top-down change with less attention being given to bottom-up problem-solving which was "critical to institutionalising change in the front-line".

The project was not about "quick fixes" but would create an ongoing process which could be extended to the entire station network.

Key findings of the pilot project showed there was inefficient allocation of station members because of high absenteeism and too many officers working in administration. There were also low levels of skills development.

Moroka police reap the benefits of their Lifeline

(251) Star 27/8/96

Soweto's largest police station is being renovated, thanks to Business Against Crime

By Mike Masipa

Although Business Against Crime's Project Lifeline is still in its infancy, its benefits are already being reaped at the Moroka police station in Soweto

The first stages of the renovations planned for the station – the biggest in Soweto – are in full swing, less than 11 weeks since the ideas of Project Lifeline were introduced

The station has compiled a Lifeline Charter which lays down the objectives regarding the fight against crime and the areas that the police stationed there need to focus on

Station Commissioner Patrick Ndopu said they intended to make the station and its police user-friendly, but were impeded by lack of manpower and inadequate facilities

He said the new signposting in the police station was one way of realising the "user-friendly dream" but was well short of producing the envisaged efficiency

He showed The Star an electronic notice board which he said the police bought with funds raised from tea parties

The board flashes information ranging from telephone numbers of local community policing forum chairpersons to the announcement of the presence of a suggestion box on the desk in the charge office

Ndopu said they also intended to divide the charge office into small cubicles to allow for privacy when people laid charges

Another area of concern for Ndopu is the shortage of vehicles. He said at best the station had to make do with 12 patrol vehicles

"The fleet is seldom at full force since some vehicles are taken to garages for repairs," he said

Senior Superintendent Henny

Coleman said they planned to prioritise the retraining of drivers to reduce the number of cars going in for repairs

Coleman said they had also shifted some vehicles that were previously for exclusive use by management to the active policing section of the station

Coleman said the shortage of staff was also being addressed

"Already 20% of our administrative personnel have been moved over to active policing," he said

He said the plan was to gradually turn the administrative section of the station over to civilian hands

Besides its 387-strong staff, the Moroka police station also supervises the activities of an umbrella community policing forum

The Moroka Community Policing Forum, formed two years ago, in turn has 10 sub-community policing forums strewn around the 12 townships and two hostels in its jurisdiction

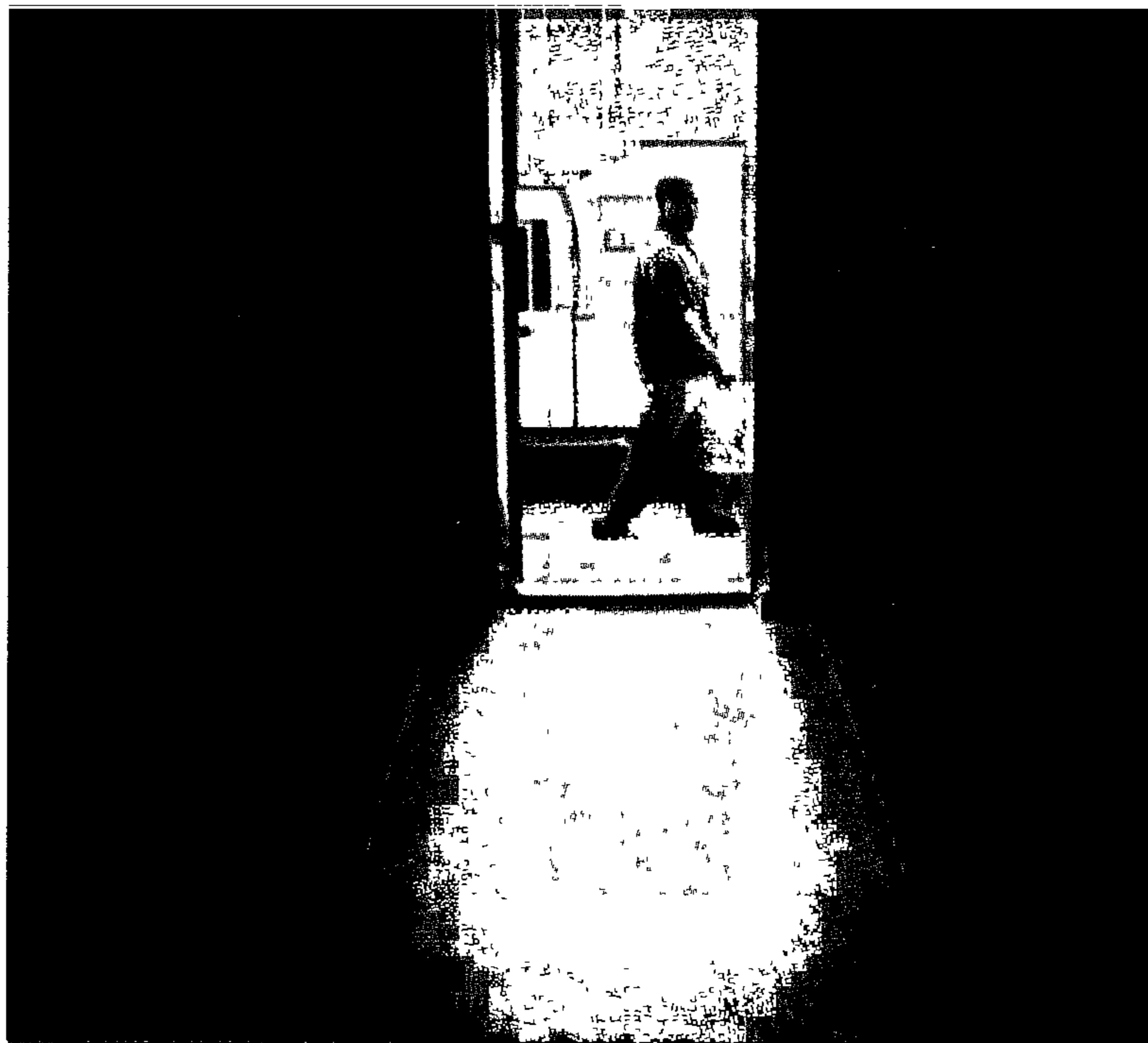
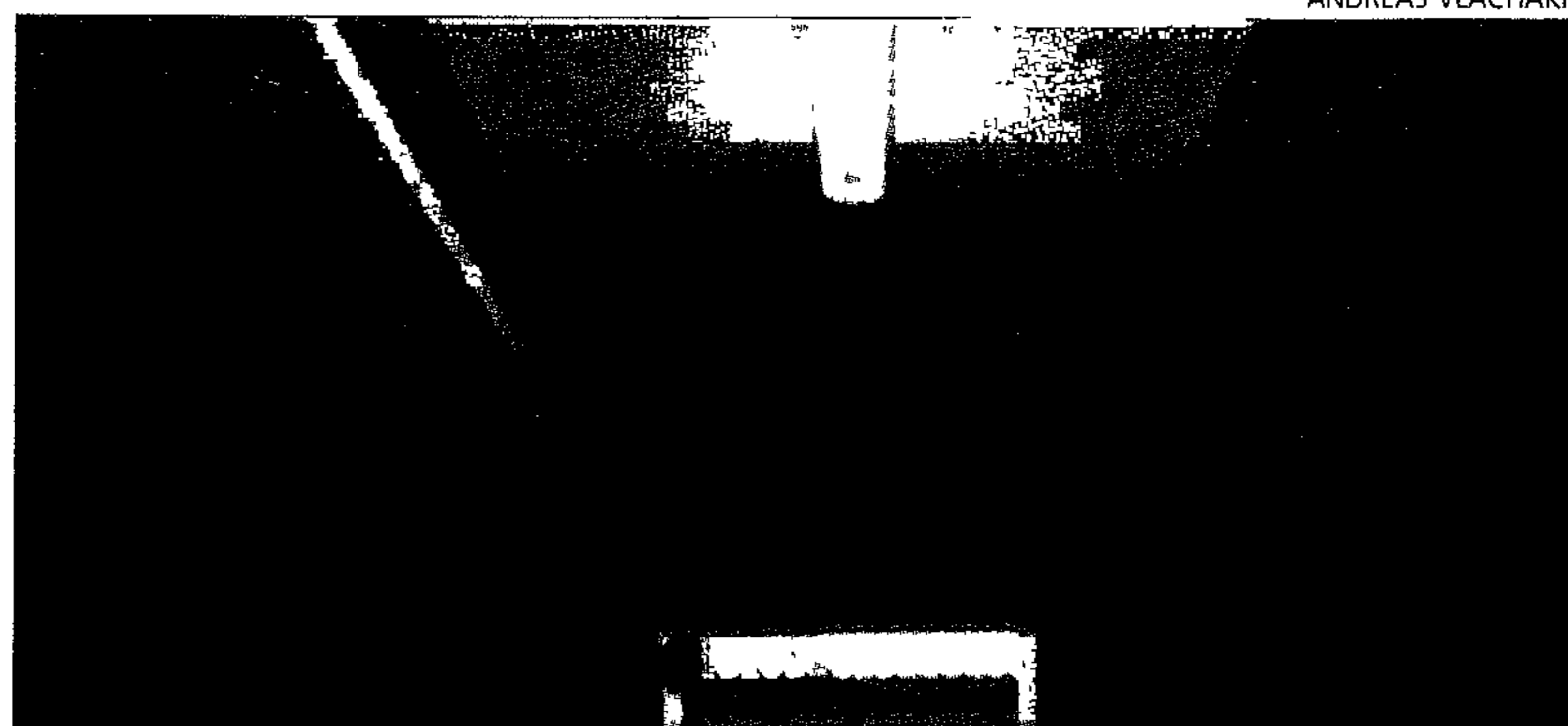
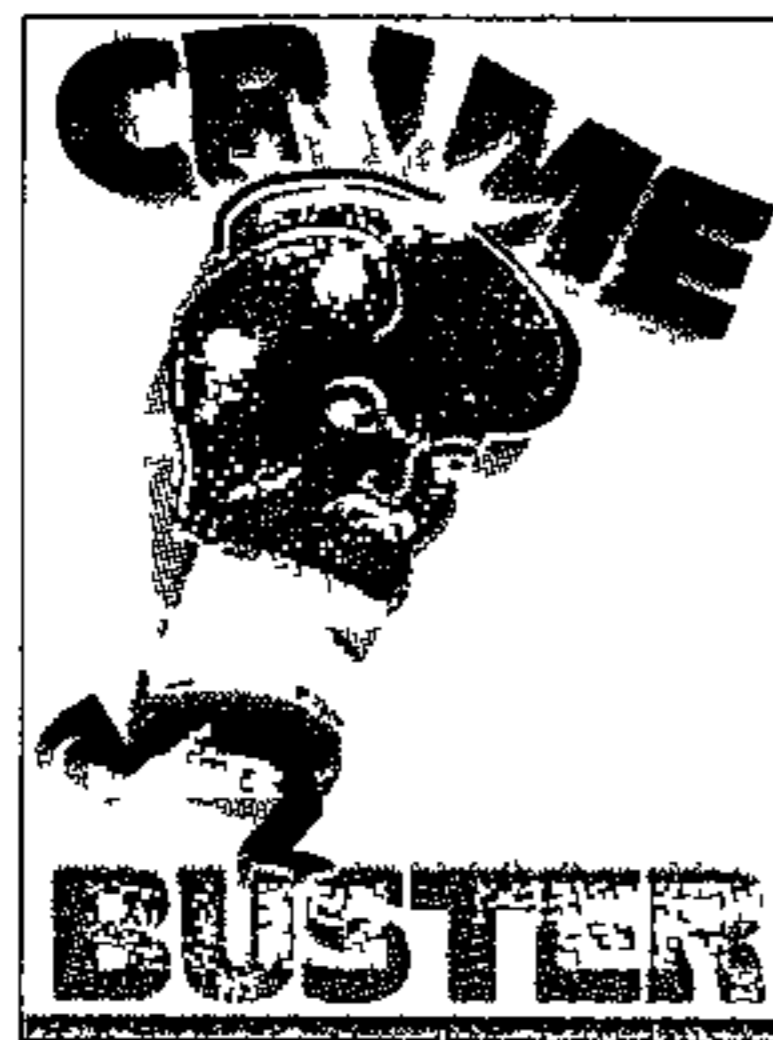
Coleman said the community policing forums had been well received by the public,

attracting well over 150 representatives at monthly meetings of the umbrella body

He said there was a need, however, for the present community forums to be made more representative "We appeal to the private sector to bring more of their expertise in management into these forums to ensure a better co-ordinated fight against crime"

Ndopu said the main problem plaguing the area, home to approximately 1,2-million people, was violent crime such as rape and armed robbery

"Though many people seem to have realised the importance of helping the police, most still need to be educated that the fight against crime will only be won through co-opera-



Moving ahead Moroka's police hope to be better equipped to serve their community

tion," said Ndopu

Short-term targets set out in the charter include reducing absenteeism of personnel, currently at about 9%, to about 5% in the next three months, increasing the proportion of running vehicles to 80% and reducing administrative personnel by 30%, freeing them to be better utilised in proactive policing

How can you help Moroka?

The Star is donating five cents from every copy of the newspaper sold this week towards Project Lifeline and will donate all the proceeds to Business Against Crime, which will allocate the funds to our four adopted police stations

You, too, can make a contribution to the campaign by helping Moroka

to obtain a new telephone system, partitions for planned charge office cubicles, office furniture, and other equipment for a new office block.

If you can assist or contribute by donating any of these essential items to the police station contact Harry Gouvelis at Business Against Crime on (011) 482-5100 or (fax) 482-5055

FORMER-VLAKPLAAS COMMANDER FACES 121 CHARGES

De Kock found guilty of five murders

ET 27/8/96 (251)

PRETORIA: Judgment will be delivered today on the balance of the 121 charges against former Vlakplaas commander Colonel Eugene de Kock, who was yesterday found guilty on five charges of murder.

FORMER Vlakplaas security police commander, Colonel Eugene de Kock, was yesterday found guilty on five murder charges relating to an incident outside Nelspruit, in which five alleged bank robbers were ambushed and killed.

Judgment will be delivered today on the rest of the 121 charges against De Kock, including a further three of murder and two of conspiracy to commit murder, plus fraud charges and charges relating to the illegal possession of a large arsenal of weapons and explosives.

Mr Justice Willie van der Merwe yesterday said it was clear De Kock had taken part in planning the Nelspruit operation from the start.

He said the defence correctly conceded the state had proved the

five murder charges, as there could not be any doubt about De Kock's involvement in the murders.

Though a large number of witnesses testified about the incident and not a single one probably gave a totally accurate version of the events, Judge Van der Merwe said it had nevertheless been proved that De Kock had taken part in the events outside Nelspruit, in the early hours of March 26, 1992.

From the evidence, it appeared that contact was made with a Mr Tisetso Leballa and four of his friends, who, with the encouragement of police informer Ben van Zyl, became interested in committing a robbery.

Leballa and his friends — Mr Khona Gabela, Mr Lawrence Nyalande, Mr Glenack Masilo Marna

and Mr Oscar Ntshoata — were at first led into an ambush which failed at Corn Security in Nelspruit.

De Kock was then drawn into the planning of the fatal Nelspruit ambush, having to obtain a minibus that could be used by the "robbers", as well as AK-47 rifles.

Circumstantial evidence pointed to De Kock's involvement in the removal of a minibus from a friend's hotel in Springs, said Judge Van der Merwe.

He said although there was no direct evidence about how the two AK-47s were obtained, it was clear they must have come from the arsenal at Vlakplaas, which was "jealously guarded" by De Kock.

He said most of the planning for the Nelspruit ambush had clearly been done at the scene, where De Kock was in charge. From that planning it became clear there would be no attempt to stop the "robbers" and that they would be killed without warning.

Everyone at the scene, includ-

ing De Kock, was ready to fire at the minibus when they received the signal.

The judge said it had to be accepted that Vlakplaas member Dougre Holtzhausen had fired shots with an AK-47 rifle from within the minibus, to make it appear as if the "robbers" had fired shots at the police.

AK-47 rifles and hand grenades were thereafter planted in the minibus, petrol was sprinkled inside the bus and it was set alight.

After this incident, De Kock took charge of the scene and realising that Leballa was not with the others, but was waiting at a nearby petrol station, ordered that he should be fetched and taken to Penge mine. There Leballa was killed and his body destroyed with explosives on De Kock's orders.

Judge Van der Merwe described a "shooting incident report" and statements made by those involved after the incident, as a flagrant distortion of the truth that was in no

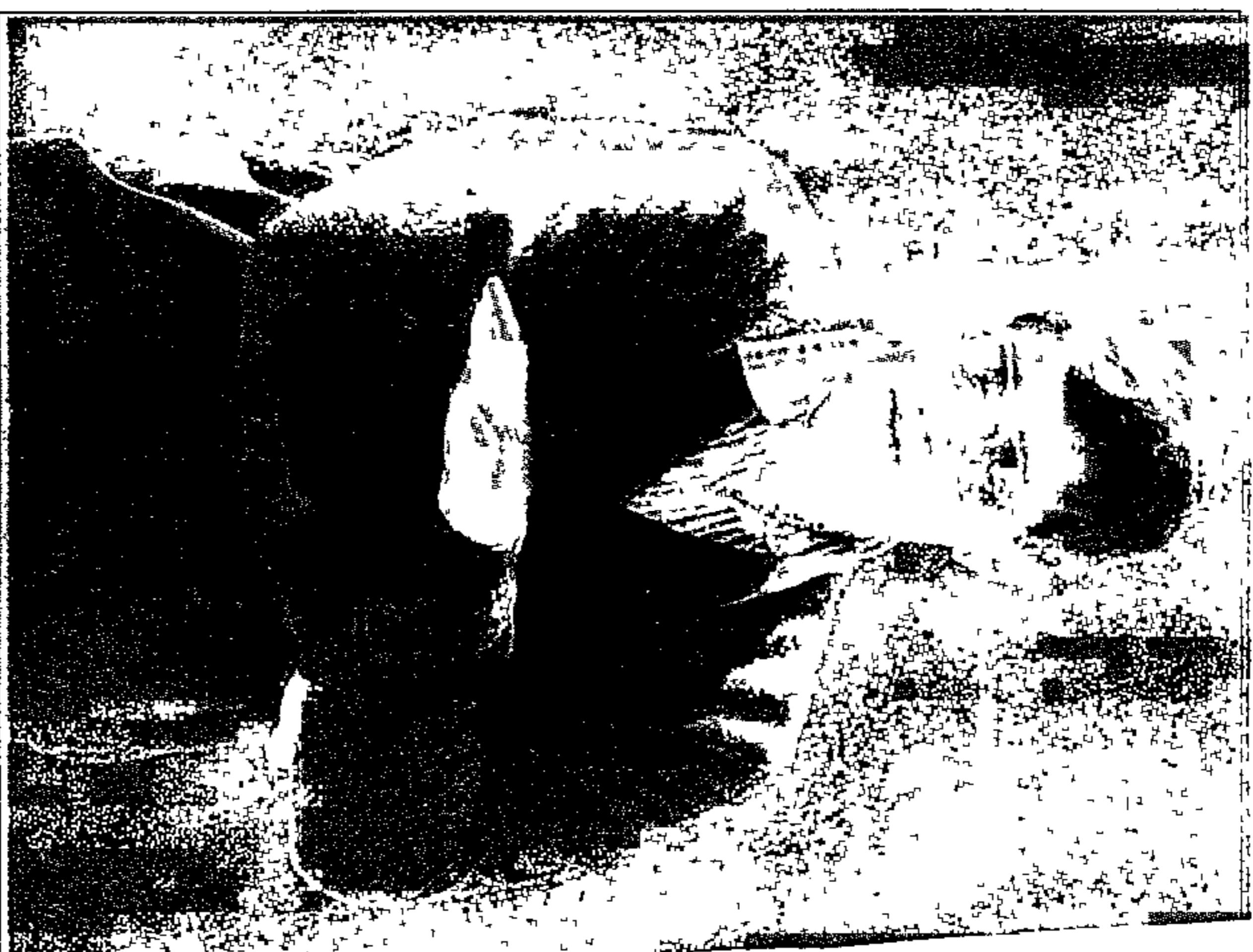
way reconcilable with the facts that came to light from the evidence in court.

Though it had been planned that De Kock would not be involved in the actual shootings, he nevertheless fired shots and thereafter took control of the scene, arranging for Leballa's death.

The judge emphasised that the evidence of some 30 accomplices who testified for the State had to be treated with caution. Some of them were intensely involved in the crimes for which De Kock was on trial and many of them might have had a motive for implicating De Kock, such as self-preservation.

Summing up the court's impression of the more important witnesses, Judge Van der Merwe remarked that many of De Kock's accomplices were still loyal towards him and their evidence had to be treated with caution.

The trial continues today — Sapa



PENSIVE: Colonel Eugene de Kock during the trial in which he was found guilty of five counts of murder yesterday. **PICTURE: PRETORIA NEWS**

Settling the 'bones' of contention with Transnet

INSIDE LABOUR



TERRY BELL

ne today Transnet should be celebrated. Their unexpected fortunes or the l be preparing for a rruption in the trans-

If they did not get their way in terms of higher pay at the generally unpublicised meeting last night, they are almost certain to go ahead with their threatened strike. If they succeeded in persuading the minister to award them a higher basic increase, the increase will have to be passed on to all other Transnet staff.

white, Transnet organisations They were up in arms at the wage agreement signed on Wednesday between Transnet and the South African Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sathwu) and its allies, which include the more than 90 percent-white salaried staff association Salstaff.

This agreement, which allows for a R233 across-the-board payment for all employees, has been castigated as inadequate by most traditional unions. Significantly, however, it was reached by a possibly unique process of negotiation. All Transnet unions, including the traditional unions, agreed that they would not put any demands on the table, instead they insisted that Transnet open its

books and tell the unions what the company could afford. A figure of R270 million, based on commercial criteria, was agreed and the financial cake was accepted as baked. The cutting up began — as did the problems. It had been agreed on the union side that no members should end up with less than a 7,5 percent increase in their pay packets. But after dividing the amount agreed to be affordable, higher-paid employees — those earning more than R3 000 a month — found themselves with a 4,6 percent pay rise. For lower-paid employees, R233 meant a 19 percent increase.

To meet the criterion of a 7,5 percent increase, it was also agreed that anyone not qualifying for a pay rise of that magnitude would have it made up by a non-pensionable allowance, which was to be funded by a cap on overtime payments. That would mean a loss for skilled staff such as train drivers, who tend to face considerable amounts of compulsory overtime, and who still happen to be largely white. That has led to the ironic situation where traditional unions now appear more militant than the much larger, Cosatu-aligned Sathwu.

"The result of what Sathwu has done is to lower the rate for the jobs at the upper levels," said Christo van Heerden, the general secretary of the TWU. "Not so," responded Sathwu's assistant general secretary, Tshiso Moshao. "What they are complaining about is the way we divided up what was available. Yet they also said they supported closing the apartheid wage gap."

As far as Sathwu was concerned, TWU and its allies represented a minority desperate to cling to its privileges. Van Heerden admitted that most of his members were "part of the haves" under the old order. And he agreed that this created problems. "But we are not a white union. About 30 percent of our membership is people of colour," he said. "That's a blue he," said Moshao. "TWU and the unions around it were the bastions of white Afrikanerdom. They are the voice of white aspirations." That may well be, and neither the TWU nor Sathwu have expressed an intention to amalgamate. "By the year 2000 the white Afrikaners' hold on the technical and higher-paid jobs will be broken," said Moshao. Moshao also dismissed allegations that Sathwu was "in bed with management." But he accepted Van Heerden's analogy that Transnet management had thrown some "bones to the dogs and we are fighting over them." "Only we are not fighting," said Moshao. "They are, and good luck to them. We are happy with what we got but if they can get more, we'll also be happy."

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De Kock guilty of 5 murders

(251) Star 27/8/96

Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was found guilty on five murder charges yesterday and the presiding judge in Pretoria will continue his judgment on the remaining 116 charges today

These include three more of murder, two of conspiracy to commit murder, several fraud charges and others relating to the illegal possession of an arsenal of weapons and explosives

Mr Justice van der Merwesaid in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday the defence had correctly conceded that the State had proved the murder charges relating to the deaths of five bank robbers in



Eugene de Kock ... has applied for amnesty.

He said De Kock had been involved in all the steps in the planning of the terrorist incident in the early hours of March 26 1992 and had even altered the list of people who were to take part in the operation. He had taken part in the final planning at the scene and ap-

► To Page 2

live in a society where rape

E Cape police 'a law unto themselves'

(251)

BY DAISY JONES

Star 27/8/96

On the first day of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's hearings in Uitenhage yesterday a commissioner, the Rev Bongani Finca, said he did not "remember us getting so many people testifying about policemen shooting wildly"

He added that "here, in the Eastern Cape, it seems the police were a law unto themselves"

Seuntjie Soya (16) was standing in the road in Despatch, near Uitenhage, chatting to a neighbour when a police patrol car approached. Policemen got out and chased him. He was shot dead as he was running away, his mother told the commission

Notayiti Ndotshayisa broke down when she told the commission that she returned to her home on September 24 1985 to find her husband, Melvin, dead

She said that earlier that evening police had gone to her home demanding to see their boys. When her husband told them that they did not have boys, the policemen entered their daughter, Norita's, room and assaulted her, said Ndotshayisa

She said that when her husband tried to intervene, he was shot in the knee and she fled

She returned to find him dead after hearing a loud gunshot from the house

Four men testified at an event on April 18 1985 in which police opened fire on a group of 15 men, killing four and wounding 11

Vuyani Mxoli was found by his sister in a road near her house on August 3 1985

The commission will hear testimony related to the Langa massacre of 1985 today

■ Robert Brand reports that subpoenas to testify before the commission will be served on a number of former police officers on Thursday. The head of the commission's investigation unit, commissioner Dumisa Ntsebeza, has confirmed

Fivaz warns on go-slow

(251) 
Bonile Ngqiyaza

DISCIPLINARY measures would be taken against Popcru members who disrupted policing while the SAPS was involved in an "all-out fight" against crime, commissioner George Fivaz warned yesterday.

He was reacting to the union's expressed intention to launch nationwide sit-ins and a go-slow on Monday unless he resigned.

Fivaz said an official note, warning of the legal implications of any disruption of police services, would be served on Popcru, and he accused the union's executive of trying to hold the community hostage.

He reminded Popcru that unions in the SAPS had committed themselves to the Sword and Shield plan and to rendering quality service.

Popcru's "new and inexperienced" executive was ignorant of union ethics and the negotiated agreement for conducting police labour relations, Fivaz said.

BD 28/8/96

Chief assassin De Kock will launch amnesty bid after his dirty tricks trial

The Argus Correspondent

(251)

PRETORIA. - Eugene de Kock will begin his amnesty bid after the conclusion of his trial, a source close to his legal team has confirmed

De Kock would apply for amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for some of the charges on which he had been convicted, and for incidents not connected with the trial, the source said yesterday.

The TRC confirmed earlier this year that De Kock had submitted an amnesty application

But it is understood this application was not accepted because it did not comply with the requirements of the amnesty legislation. ARG 28/8/96

The legal source said De Kock had been advised not to resubmit an application for amnesty before his trial had been completed.

But he "definitely" would submit a new amnesty application after he had been sentenced, the source said

De Kock's legal advisers concede that he does not qualify for amnesty for many of the crimes for which he has been convicted, for instance those involving fraud.

But he will apply for amnesty for some of the convictions, as well as for other matters.

It is understood De Kock intends to raise a defence of political motivation when he testifies in mitigation of sentence next month. He also is expected to give evidence about incidents not connected with his current trial.

His Truth Commission amnesty application would include some of these incidents.

Few surprises in court's judgment against De Kock

Stephané Bothma

(251) 90 28/8/96

PRETORIA — There were few surprises in the two-day judgment handed down in the Transvaal Supreme Court against former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock.

In the closing stage of the lengthy trial, his defence team conceded that the State proved most of the 121 criminal charges against the policeman referred to by friends and enemies as "prime evil".

Judge Willem van der Merwe found De Kock guilty of six murders — those of five would-be robbers outside Nelspruit in March 1992 and of Durban security police informer Goodwill Sikhakane in January 1991. Sikhakane threatened to disclose damaging information about the Durban security branch, and the assistance of Vlakplaas had been called for.

The court said the State failed to prove De Kock's guilt on the murder of ANC lawyer Bhek Mlangeni and of Vlakplaas askari Bruce Nthehelang.

Mlangeni died on February 15 1991 when he switched on a Walkman cassette player containing an explosive device manufactured on the orders of De Kock and meant to kill renegade policeman and former Vlakplaas commander Dirk Coetzee. Van der Merwe convicted De Kock of culpable homicide, finding that De Kock had been negligent in not foreseeing the lawyer's death.

De Kock was, however, convicted of attempting to murder Coetzee by mailing the Walkman to him while Coetzee was in hiding in Lusaka after disclosing the existence of police hit squads.

In the case of Nthehelang, the court found that De Kock was an accessory to culpable homicide for getting rid of the askari's body. Nthehelang died during "questioning" by a number of Vlakplaas C10 members after he had lost his firearm in a shebeen.

Although acquitted of abducting Vlakplaas colleague Brian Ngqulunga, Van der Merwe said De Kock was guilty of conspiracy to murder the policeman following fears that he might disclose details of police criminality. The court could not convict De Kock of the murder, as Ngqulunga was shot during June 1990 in the former Bophuthatswana and therefore SA courts had no jurisdiction to try the murder.

Van der Merwe also convicted De Kock of defeating the ends of justice by destroying the body of Sweet Sambo with explosives. Sambo had died during interrogation by security police members stationed at the Komatipoort border post, and evidence stated that now-retired police general Krappies Engelbrecht had ordered De Kock to get rid of the body.

De Kock was found guilty on 61 charges of fraud involving more than R375 000, mainly relating to false claims against the police's secret fund. On several occasions the C10 unit submitted fraudulent claims for payment to non-existent informers and also fraudulently made monthly claims for registered informers who did not exist.

A Vlakplaas secretary, Jessie van Vuuren, a former Vlakplaas member, Snor Vermeulen, and De Kock's brother Vossie all benefited from the fraudulent monthly claims, the court found.

The court also found De Kock had illegally possessed large numbers of armaments and explosives which, testimony stated, had been transported to KwaZulu-Natal in four KwaZulu government trucks to be used for training of Inkatha members.

The former policeman was acquitted on 31 of the 121 charges he faced.

Van der Merwe said the State could not prove beyond reasonable doubt De Kock was guilty of 21 lesser fraud charges. These relate to monthly payments of informer fees to C10 members, but when fraudulent payments started could not be established.

The trial was postponed to September 16, to give De Kock the opportunity to prepare his evidence in mitigation of sentence.

De Kock found guilty on 90 charges

DD 28/8/96 (251)
Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock has been convicted on 90 charges, including six of murder and two of conspiracy to murder, by the Transvaal Supreme Court.

De Kock, 47, who took early retirement from the SA Police in 1993 with a golden handshake of more than R1,1m and a deal that the State would foot all legal costs he might incur, seemed relaxed when Judge Willem van der Merwe handed down judgment on Monday and yesterday. De Kock's defence has cost the taxpayer more than R4,7m.

Van der Merwe made no mention of a possible political motive in any of the murder charges against De Kock.

The motive for De Kock's actions is likely to become known on September 16, when he is expected to start testifying in mitigation of sentence. It is understood De Kock will testify to the truth commission after his sentencing.

He decided not to lead evidence in his defence in this trial. This led to his conviction on possession of several truckloads of armaments and explosives delivered to KwaZulu-Natal for training IFP members.

"The mere fact that the weapons had been supplied to a political party does not mean that it was done with a political motive," Van der Merwe said, saying that if De Kock had acted with political motivation he should have told the court about it.

The court acquitted De Kock on 29

Continued on Page 2

De Kock (251)

Continued from Page 1

DD 28/8/96
lesser fraud charges, a charge of abduction and one of illegally possessing two F1 hand grenades

De Kock was found guilty of negligently causing the death of ANC lawyer Bheki Mlangeni, who died when he unwittingly opened a parcel bomb meant for renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee, and of attempting to murder Coetzee who had been too suspicious to take receipt of the parcel.

Evidence that De Kock and his unit had been used to do dirty work for the security branch has also been confirmed by Van der Merwe's finding that De Kock was guilty of conspiring to murder a colleague, Brian Ngqulun-

ga, who had threatened to disclose details of the 1981 murder of Durban lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, and of murdering a Durban police informer, Goodwill Sikhakane, who wanted to disclose police dirty tricks. When Komatipoort police caused the death of Sweet Sambu during interrogation, De Kock had been given the task of getting rid of the body, the judge found, and convicted him of defeating the ends of justice.

De Kock and his unit in 1985 kidnapped Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maponya in an attempt to obtain information about his brother, a known MK soldier. Maponya, who had failed to provide information, had been assaulted before arrangements were made to murder him.

See Page 4
Comment: Page 12

'Stressed' De Kock guilty

guilty of six murders

Star 28/8/96 (251)

Notorious Vlakplaas commander will plead in mitigation he was suffering from condition first diagnosed in Vietnam war

By NORMAN CHANDLER AND ROBERT BRAND

Eugene de Kock has been found guilty on 89 charges, including six of murder, and is to plead in mitigation that he suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome due to his experiences in the police force

He was a commander of the infamous police base at Vlakplaas when he committed many of the crimes

In the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday Mr Justice William van der Merwe granted a postponement until September 16 when expert witnesses will support the ex-colonel's pleas

And he will begin his bid for amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission after conclusion of the trial. That would be for those convictions which he could claim were politically motivated

De Kock had submitted an amnesty application earlier but it is understood it was not accepted because it did not comply with the legislation. He was advised not to reapply before the completion of his trial

Judge van der Merwe will pass sentence after the pleas for mitigation in requesting a postponement yesterday. De Kock's counsel, Flip Hattingh, said a mitigating factor to be covered by expert witnesses was the stress syndrome which he claimed his client suffered from

Post-traumatic stress syndrome is a medical symptom first diagnosed among returning American soldiers after the Vietnam War. Hattingh said evidence would be

given by psychiatrists, psychologists and criminologists

De Kock - who was a lieutenant-colonel in the police force and commanded the C-10 counter-insurgency unit based at the Vlakplaas farm near Pretoria - has been found guilty on 89 of the 121 charges. These include the five of murder he was found guilty of on Monday and a sixth yesterday of another murder

The judge found him guilty of the murders of Tisetso Leballa, Khona Gabela, Lawrence Nyalende, Glenack Masilo Mama and Oscar Ntshaota - all of whom were killed during or after an ambush on a minibus near Nelspruit in Mpumalanga - and of Goodwill Sikhakhane, an alleged police

informer in KwaZulu Natal

The charge of attempted murder related to an attempt on the life of Dirk Coetzee, who is a previous commander of C-10, and who gave evidence in London to the 1990 Harms Commission of Inquiry into police hit-squad activities

De Kock (48) was yesterday also found guilty of defeating the ends of justice in regard to the blowing up of Johannes Sweet Sambo's body. Sambo was an alleged insurgent who was shot dead by C-10 unit after questioning

De Kock had been asked for advice on how to dispose of the body and had suggested it should be blown up

The judge also found him guilty of being an accessory to culpable homicide in the death of a policeman and former ANC insurgent, Bruce Nthelang

According to evidence, Nthelang had lost a firearm during an operation in Mpumalanga and was severely beaten up at Vlakplaas, after first being hit over the head with a snooker cue wielded by De Kock

De Kock was also found guilty of abduction and of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm to Japie Maponya, a security guard at a Krugersdorp building society's office who disappeared in September 1985 and was "shot to death"

Judge Van der Merwe said Maponya had been so badly beaten during an assault that "C-10 members could not let him go free. It is clear that the accused

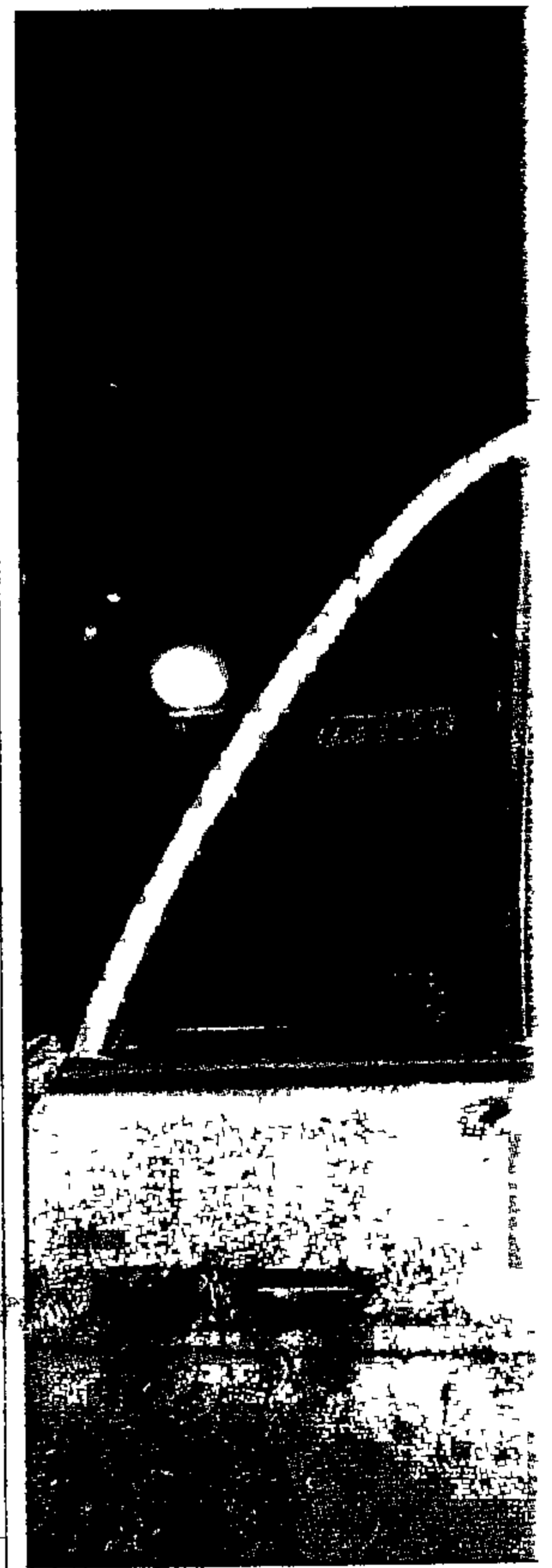
FOUND GUILTY ON 89

- 6 Murder
- 2 Conspiracy to commit murder
- 1 Culpable homicide
- 66 Fraud
- 1 Defeating the ends of justice
- 1 Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm
- 1 Attempted murder
- 1 Illegal arms and ammunition possession
- 1 Abduction
- 1 Accessory to culpable homicide

ACQUITTED ON 32

- 30 Fraud
- 1 Abduction
- 1 Illegal arms and ammunition possession

END OF THE ROAD



High-speed drama ... three suspects v Dykes, who was called to the crash sc-

► To Page 2

De Kock guilty of six murders

► From Page 1

took part in the assault by tear-gassing Maponya in his mouth"

He added that "Japie Maponya was murdered. General Krappies Engelbrecht (now retired chief of the SAP's Criminal Intelligence Service) had played a role in the falsification of petrol claims made by the group who had abducted Maponya, and a false declaration on this was made to the Harms Commission"

The commission had been impressed with De Kock as a witness and the chairman, Mr Justice Louis Harms, said he had "no difficulty in accepting the denial of these allegations" concerning the circumstances around Maponya's kidnapping and disappearance

Judge Harms also found no reason to doubt the correctness of substance and transport forms submitted by police officers in this case

Earlier in his judgment, Judge Van der Merwe said orders had been given for the "elimination" of a policeman, Brian Ngujunga, before he could give evidence to the Harms Commission.

The execution had, however, according to evidence led by Joe Mamasela, been delayed, the judge said

There had been a conspiracy to kill Ngujunga and he had subsequently been abducted and shot with an AK-47 assault rifle after testifying before the commission.

"There is no doubt De Kock was a party to this," he added

Big plan to overhaul the SAPS

SAPS staff sounded out to see how to improve things at police stations

Sowetan 28/8/96

By Charity Bhengu

IN A BID TO WIN BACK people's confidence and create an effective plan to fight crime, police have embarked on a partnership project which will cost the country a staggering R50-million to implement

Project Lifeline, was officially launched by the National Police Commissioner George Fivaz at the Moroka Police Station in Soweto on Monday to rectify managerial problems in the country's 100 most needy police stations

He said "The project fits in with the Police Plan (launched in June) because it is also designed to raise the level of safety and security through improved quality of service"

The launch was attended by

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, Security Secretariat head Azhar Cachalia, Soweto community leaders and business people

Project Lifeline was launched after sponsoring company McKinsey, a leading international management consultancy, conducted broad ranging interviews with SAPS personnel to see how they could improve the performance of the police stations

Bearing fruit

A spokeswoman for Business Against Crime Mrs Wendy Lucas-Bull said the nine-station pilot phase, which began in May, was already bearing fruit

Lucas-Bull said that the the project needed to vigorously implement ideas relating to the improvement of the service delivered by the South African Police Services

De Kock: Noose tightens

By Josias Charle

FOPMFP hit squad commander De Kock is charged with 12 counts of murder and 66 of fraud

De Kock is charged with 12 counts of murder and 66 of fraud. He had pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Appointed in 1988 to head the anti-subversion unit of the South African Police, De Kock was charged with the murder of several anti-apartheid activists and the former ANC president, Dr. Peter Dinko. He is also charged with the contravention of the Arms and Ammunition Act.

De Kock's counsel, Mr. J.P. Hattingh, SC, asked for a postponement to September to prepare a defence strategy.

De Kock is accused of the death of a former director of the African National Congress, Mr. Winnie Mandela. He is also charged with the

murder of Mr. Khona Gabela, Mr. Lawrence Nyafende, Mr. Glenck Momo, Mr. Oscar Ntshanta and Mr. Goodwill Sika. He is also charged with the murder of several other anti-apartheid activists.

The court found De Kock guilty of attempting to kill another self-proclaimed leader, Vlakplaas director, General Constandin van der Merwe, a former member of the South African Defence Force.

The court also found De Kock guilty of discharging a firearm and of being armed with a firearm. Mr. Bheki Mlangeni, counsel for De Kock, was found guilty of culpable homicide.

On the death of Eskom's former political director, turned politician, Mr. Frank Muthusami, De Kock was charged with complicity in the murder.

He is also charged with stealing the car in which he was travelling with Mr. Muthusami. De Kock is also charged with the use of a disused mine

to help in the interrogation by police at the Schwammans camp in the then Eastern Transvaal. Police allegedly involved in the case called for De Kock's help in disposing of the body.

Mr. Justice van der Merwe found that De Kock was guilty of fraudulent claims lodged by him and other members of the Police on behalf of informants who informants.

Some of the evidence stems from information that De Kock had planted in the press which were then disseminated by police informants to informants. De Kock had obtained large amounts of money in the form of informants' expenses.

The court found that De Kock had obtained the state indicated in the summary of the evidence in that he had not only obtained the money but also had it used for his own purposes.

The court also found De Kock guilty of obtaining information on a regular basis.

Operation Lifeline to redeem SAPS

By Charity Bhengu

A DECLINE in morale, suicides, lack of resources, corruption in police ranks, rampant crime and general distrust by members of the community

These are but a few of the myriad problems facing members of the South African Police Services

But, if the newly launched Project Lifeline goes according to plan, these problems may soon be a thing of the past – or, at the very least, police will have some measure of relief

This project was launched by the SAPS at Moroka Police Station, Soweto, on Monday.

It is sponsored by leading international management consultancy, McKinsey Incorporated, which has conducted a wide range of interviews with SAPS personnel

Project Lifeline – which will require up to R50-million to implement – seeks, among other things, to win back people's confidence in the police and to create an effective unit to combat crime

The bulk of the money will be used to fund and provide resources to the country's 100 most needy police stations within a year

These include Moroka, Daveyton, Rabie Ridge, Cato Manor, Ladbode and Nyanga stations

To ensure the success of the project, the SAPS has teamed up with



National Commissioner George Fivaz and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi at the launch of the crime prevention plan Project Lifeline at Moroka Police Station on Monday.

PIC CLEMENT LEKANYANE

McKinsey Incorporated, to help overhaul the police's image

Founded more than 60 years ago with offices in 67 cities worldwide, a better partner than McKinsey could not have been chosen by the police

In a bid to get to the root cause of the problem, McKinsey conducted a broad range of interviews with SAPS personnel across the country

McKinsey manager Mr Mark Jennings said while they were not

experts in combating crime, they would, help to produce dramatic improvements in the performance of the country's most needy police stations within the next year

"The secret to our success in this project will be to enhance operational effectiveness through the development, education and training of personnel," he said

Mrs Judy Wade, from McKinsey's Johannesburg office, said "Project

Lifeline relies on tried and tested business management methodologies adapted to address the needs of the members of SAPS

"We had no set opinions on how we were going to help when we started the project. The magnitude of the challenge facing the SAPS in reducing crime was like nothing we had come across before."

Mrs Wendy Lucas-Bull of Business Against Crime said the project would

come up with an analysis of the key issues affecting the SAPS management and vigorously implement suggested improvements

The SAPS has agreed to part with R1,6-million for the project, and Business Against Crime has agreed to donate R200 000

The SAPS hopes to raise the rest of the money needed from business and the community

Monitor project

Minister of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi announced at the launch that the Government would appoint a police commissioner to monitor the project

"If it should fail, the police commissioner responsible for the project will be fired right on the spot," he added. He commended the police for acknowledging their shortcomings and for reaching out to experts for help

Police Commissioner George Fivaz said "Project Lifeline represents an excellent example of the kind of partnership the SAPS must build with civil society to improve the effectiveness of the service."

He said he believed the project would also address past imbalances and ensure a fair allocation of resources and assets to all needy police stations

Project Lifeline comes months after Fivaz's Police Plan to arrest South Africa's most wanted 10 000 criminals

Mufamadi: No quick fix to police problems

THE GOVERNMENT had to decide between increasing the size of the police service or improving their salaries and had opted for the latter, says Minister of Safety and Security Mr Mfandeni Mufamadi. Political Writer HENRY LUDSKI reports.

ET 28/8/96 (251)

MINISTER of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi says there is no quick fix to the problems facing the police — and that a lack of management skills lies at the root of the police's inability to wipe out crime quickly.

In an interview yesterday, he noted that the transfer of personnel, resources and skills from well-served suburbs to the neglected townships could not happen overnight.

The lifting of the moratorium on appointments to key posts would provide some relief but would not address the key problem of low morale, Mufamadi said.

"The government had to decide between improving the size of the police service and improving the salaries and working conditions of staff.

"We chose to increase salaries rather than appointing more staff and creating a bigger and more dissatisfied police service."

Arguing for more effective allocation of resources, Mufamadi said that far too many highly skilled police officers were tied to their desks by administrative functions.

He said effective training and the introduction of computerised administrative systems would reduce dramatically the number of administrative staff at police sta-

tions and free police officers to "go back on the streets."

"For us to address this situation, we need to acquire a level of administrative competence, which is missing in the police service.

Communities are saying we need more personnel, yet we are still using trained detectives as clerks."

The government was "seriously" considering lifting the moratorium, but this step would help only if a better plan was developed to use the extra staff.

His department was to embark soon on a major initiative to upgrade police stations and build others in areas where they were desperately needed, Mufamadi said.

This would help to create a better working environment and enable his department to concentrate on building management skills and capacity at these stations.



CRIME DISCUSSION: Minister of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi discusses the continuing crisis around crime with Cape Times Editor Mr Moeegsen Williams, left, Deputy Editor Mr Ryland Fisher, political writer Henry Ludski, Mufamadi's special adviser Mr Peter Gastrow and assistant editor Mr Evelyn Holtzhausen yesterday. PICTURE BENNY GOOL

DE KOCK GUILTY ON 89 CHARGES

Multiple Vlakplaas killer to

plead stress

(251) CT 28/8/96

PRETORIA: The case against former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was postponed to the middle of next month after he was found guilty yesterday of a further 84 charges.

FORMER Vlakplaas police commander Eugene de Kock — found guilty yesterday of a further 84 charges, including one of murder — will lead evidence in mitigation of sentence that he is suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome, allegedly as a result of his experiences in the police force.

De Kock was found guilty of five murder charges on Monday.

In a dramatic judgment, Mr Justice William van der Merwe told the Supreme Court here that retired police General Krappies Engelbrecht, the former chief of the SAP's Criminal Intelligence Service, had falsified claims made by hit-squad members who had been involved in an abduction which led to the death of a man.

When requesting a postponement of the trial proceedings after Judge Van der Merwe completed his judgment, De Kock's counsel, Mr Flip Hattingh, said that one of the aspects to be covered by expert witnesses was post-traumatic stress syndrome allegedly being suffered by De Kock.

He said evidence would be led by psychiatrists, psychologists and criminologists in mitigation before the handing down of sentence.

The judge granted a postponement until September 16 after being told that some expert witnesses would not be available until then.

De Kock, who was a lieutenant-colonel in the police and commanded the C-10 counter-insurgency unit based at Vlakplaas farm near here, has now been found guilty so far of 89 of the 121 charges against him.

Apart from the murder convictions, there were also two convictions on conspiracy to commit murder, one of culpable homicide, 66 of fraud relating to falsifying claims made by informers and for an insurance claim on a car, one each of defeating the ends of justice, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and attempted murder, nine of illegal possession of arms and ammunition; and one each of abduction and being an accessory to culpable homicide.

De Kock, 48, was acquitted on 30 charges of fraud and one each of abduction and illegal possession of arms and ammunition.

Judge Van der Merwe found him guilty of the murders.

□ Turn to Page 4

De Kock guilty of more charges

CT 28/8/96 (251)

□ From Page 1

of Mr Tisetso Leballa, Mr Khona Gabela, Mr Lawrence Nyalende, Mr Glenack Masilo Mama and Mr Oscar Ntshaota — all of whom were killed in a minibus taxi near Nelspruit in Mpumalanga — and of Mr Goodwill Sikhakhane, an alleged police informer in KwaZulu-Natal

The charge of attempted murder related to Mr Dirk Coetzee, who is a previous commander of C-10, and who gave evidence in London to the 1990 Harms Commission of Inquiry into police hit squad activities

De Kock was also found guilty yesterday of defeating the ends of justice in regard to the blowing up of Mr Johannes Sambo's body. Sambo was an alleged terrorist who was shot dead by C-10 unit members at a Mpumalanga mine. De Kock had been asked for advice on how to dispose of the body and he had suggested it should be blown up.

The judge also found him guilty of being an accessory to culpable homicide in the death of a policeman and alleged former ANC terrorist Mr Bruce Nthelang, who was severely beaten up at Vlakplaas after first being hit over the head with a snooker cue wielded by De Kock.

Nthelang was smothered with a blanket,

tied up with a nylon rope and beaten before his body was placed in a hole, the court heard earlier.

The court found that the assault had taken place "under the supervision of the accused".

De Kock was also found guilty of abduction and of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm to Mr Japie Maponya, a guard at a Krugersdorp building society's office who disappeared in September 1985 and was "shot to death".

The judge said that Maponya had been so badly beaten during an assault that "C-10 members could not let him go free. It is clear that the accused took part in the assault by teargassing Maponya in his mouth".

He said: "Japie Maponya was murdered (General Krappies) Engelbrecht had played a role in the falsification of petrol claims made by the group who had abducted Maponya, and a false declaration on this was made to the Harms Commission".

The commission was impressed with De Kock as a witness and the chairman, Mr Justice Louis Harms, said he had "no difficulty in accepting the denial of these allegations" concerning the kidnapping and disappearance of Maponya — Own Correspondent

New hierarchy for intelligence services

(251)
Tim Cohen

ARG 29/8/96

CAPE TOWN — The justice department yesterday announced a new structure and leadership for SA's intelligence services, as well as a ministerial review commission to ensure their "orderly transformation".

Justice Minister Dullah Omar announced that ANC MP Linda Mti had been appointed co-ordinator for intelligence and would be resigning from Parliament to take up the position from September 1.

Intelligence services spokesman Moe Shaik said Mti's post was a new one and that he would be responsible for co-ordinating the activities of SA's four intelligence services: the SA Secret Service, the National Intelligence Agency and the intelligence arms of the police and defence force.

The deputy director-general of the secret service, Billy Masetlha, had been promoted to director-general.

The SA Secret Service is responsible for external intelligence gathering, and the NIA for internal intelligence.

Barry Gilder would be Masetlha's new deputy. He had been serving as general manager of the service since its inception in January last year.

Omar said a ministerial commission under the chairmanship of Vusi Pikoli would be established, and would forward proposals on an overhaul of SA's intelligence services by the end of next month.

Good progress had been made in amalgamating the services, but more needed to be done to ensure the process continued in an orderly and non-arbitrary way.

Protests: Fivaz warns union

PRETORIA - Strict disciplinary steps will be taken against Police and Civil Rights Union (Popcru) members trying to disrupt policing services, national police commissioner George Fivaz has warned

He said the South African Police Service would not tolerate such action

Popcru has said it will embark on a go-slow from next week over alleged discrimination against union members. It also threatened to occupy the offices of all police commissioners

"We will remove all white racist commanders from police stations," the union said

Popcru, which claims a membership of 47 000, decided at the weekend to withdraw from talks

with police management and called for the immediate resignation of the commissioner

Commissioner Fivaz said Popcru would be formally notified of the legal implications of its intended protest actions

He accused the union's new executive of being ignorant of labour ethics and of the negotiated agreement within which all labour relations were being handled (251)

"Popcru's inexperienced executive is now trying to hold the community hostage by threatening disruption of policing," Commissioner Fivaz said

Last week five union members were arrested when they demanded a meeting with him at the police's Wachthuis headquarters

in Pretoria. They insisted on the reinstatement of 305 dismissed Popcru members

Commissioner Fivaz said the issue should be dealt with in the SAPS national negotiating forum, adding it would be irregular for him to discuss such matters unilaterally with Popcru

"Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and I have long ago committed ourselves to reviewing the status, on the basis of individual applications, of the 305"

These members had been discharged because of Popcru's "unsound" legal advice to them

"The new executive must therefore be warned not to place serving SAPS members in the same predicament," he said - Sapa

ARG 29/8/96

Two top Popcru officials defect

251

2003

Sowetan 29/8/96
Claims of power mongering and poaching of members abound

By Khathu Mamaila

TWO TOP LEADERS of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union in Northern Province defected to form a new rival union because of their quest for power, Popcru has claimed

Popcru provincial chairman Mr Thabo Bulala said the two members of the provincial executive - Mr Tshifhwa Mutepe and Mr Thomas Hobyane - left Popcru because they were power hungry

Mutepe was Popcru provincial chairman while Hobyane was Popcru provincial secretary. Both unionists were voted out of office about two months ago.

They are co-founders of the National Police and Public Civil Rights Union (Nappcru). Bulala warned all Popcru members in the province to be careful as the two unionists were recruiting

from within the ranks of Popcru

"I would like to warn all Popcru members to be careful about people who are misleading members at police stations by telephoning them to say that Popcru has changed its name to Nappcru," said Bulala

Vehement denial

However, Mutepe has vehemently denied that he and other Popcru leaders left the union because they wanted to remain in senior positions

"We decided to form a new union because we had failed to make Popcru adapt to the new political dispensation

"When Popcru was formed, there was an illegitimate government and it was acceptable for

the union to destabilise the police force. The situation has now changed and we cannot afford to destabilise the government. We have to help fight crime so that our country can attract foreign investment"

He said the other reason which led to the defection was the inability of the Popcru leadership to deal with corruption within the union. He said funds belonging to the union were used to buy a car for one leader and nothing had been done to correct the situation

He said some leaders used union funds to buy clothes. He said Nappcru had a vision of transforming the police service and combating corruption within the police service

Police corruption at heart of crime-fighting problems — Mandela

Wynndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Police corruption was so rife that one of SA's provincial commissioners had a criminal record, President Nelson Mandela told Western Cape religious leaders yesterday.

Mandela said that the process of "cleaning" up the police force was a lengthy and elaborate one.

After being told by religious leaders that it was time to stop producing "pink, green and white papers" and to stop blaming apartheid for the coun-

try's crime situation, Mandela said that he understood their desire for action against crime.

He said that an example of the difficulties being experienced was that in one province two candidates for the post of provincial commissioner were rejected because they had criminal records. When the third was found to also have a criminal record a compromise was made and he was appointed. He did not specify the province.

Earlier Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi told the religious

leaders that action was being taken on police corruption.

He said that in many cases officers appointed to anti-corruption teams were possibly corrupt already.

He said that if an anti-corruption team of four officers was appointed, it was possible that three would be corrupt already.

Mufamadi said evidence showed police corruption "stands at the heart" of failures to bring down levels of gang-related crimes in the Cape Peninsula. He announced that Fivaz has been

directed to set up a special structure to supervise gang crimes investigations in the Western Cape.

Mandela said he was aware that the people wanted action, but stressed that it could not be achieved overnight. The process required patience and understanding, he said, but added that there was hope because of the success special police "focus" units had experienced in halting political violence in parts of KwaZulu-Natal. Similar strategies would now be used in the Western Cape, he said.

Crime

(251)

Continued from Page 1
BD 30/8/96

had expressed concern at Islamic fundamentalism in SA.
Ingrid Salgado reports that Operation Anvil — a four day, high-intensity security forces operation targeting trouble spots in the former Witwatersrand area during the last three days will have resulted in about 100 arrests by early this morning.
Meanwhile, Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte questioned

yesterday whether a spate of attacks on high-profile people in the province during the last three weeks was linked to a campaign to discourage investment in SA.

After meeting Gauteng police area commissioners yesterday, Duarte said they would probe whether the attacks were linked to calls by movements like People Against Gangsterism and Drugs for disinvestment.

Operation Anvil's tactics included 12 air force helicopters ferrying mobile units to Gauteng's crime spots around the clock while several roadblocks and search operations were set up.

He complimented the religious leaders and said their moral authority was needed in the fight against crime. Mandela noted that the peaceful local government elections in KwaZulu-Natal were based on an initiative of religious leaders in that province.

Mandela also scotched any possibility of an Islamic fundamentalist movement taking control somewhere in SA. He said at last weekend's SADC meeting in Maseru some of the leaders

Continued on Page 2

We don't back Rockman, says Popcru

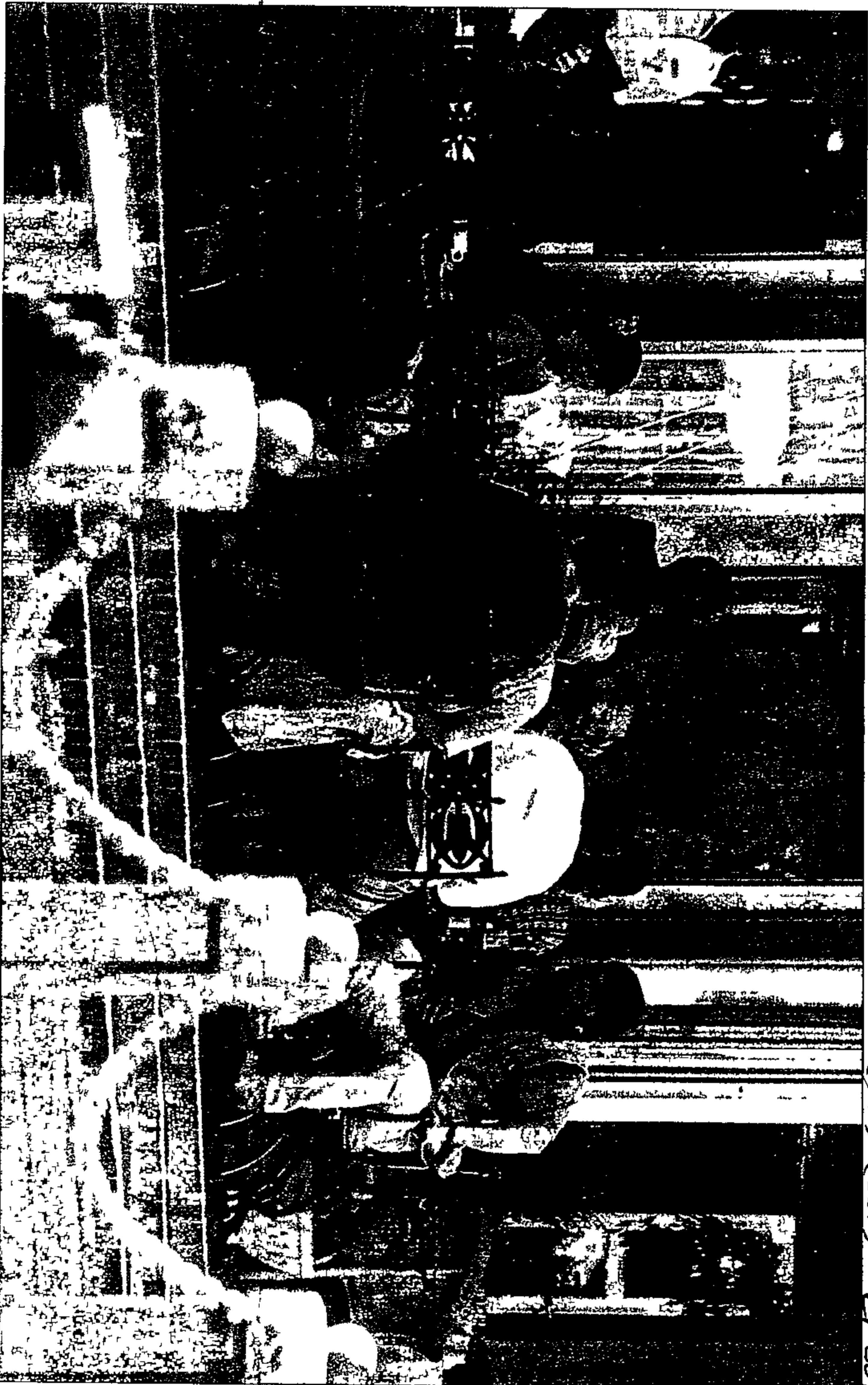
THE Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) has distanced itself from ANC MP Gregory Rockman's support of People Against Gangsterism And Drugs (Pagad). Mr Rockman founded Popcru and is a former pres-

ident of the union (251). Popcru said Mr Rockman was no longer a member of Popcru and his recent appearances at marches in Cape Town and Port Elizabeth had nothing to do with the union. - Staff Reporter

AR/G 30/8/96

The police photo that upset Pagad

(251) CT 30/8/96



THIS picture of a secret lunchtime meeting at the Waterfront between a notorious gangster and a senior detective could be construed as evidence of corruption, and has been by some supporters of People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad).

But it is not.

The picture, about a year old, features the white-shirted back of Director Leonard Knipe, head of the provincial Violent Crimes Unit, and the bearded face of Mr Rashied Stagle, leader of the Hard Livings gang.

It looks like corruption, until you learn the picture was commissioned by Knipe himself, who also had the conversation recorded. The talk was of criminal matters, gang activities and drugs.

But a copy of the snap was evidently stolen from Knipe's office and given to Pagad — only for Pagad to produce it last weekend as incontrovertible evidence that Knipe was colluding with gangsters.

The police do not deny, cannot deny, that corruption and collusion is taking place.

But this picture illustrates that, in some cases, what appears to be corruption is in fact misunderstanding. In other cases, police admit, their own incompetence is sometimes confused for corruption.

Chief of provincial Detective Services Commissioner Willie Smit yesterday recommitted the police to wiping out corruption, which did nothing for police credibility or morale.

Knipe blamed the perception that the entire police service was corrupt on people with political agendas: "It's become a popular theme to explore. Not that I deny there is corruption."

Delays in the criminal justice system also fuelled the perception, he said, adding that the gang unit had solved 78% of its cases between February last year and July this year.

We did not discuss who paid for lunch that day.

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PICTURE

Affirmative action 'demoralising for police'

AT 30/8/76

(ES)

PUT police force affirmative action on hold, execute or castrate rapists and wake up SA, callers suggested yesterday.

Ms Marjorie Higgs, Gardens: "Islamic fundamentalists are out to rule the world and in the guise of religion are rapidly gaining a foothold. One is reminded of the Lockerbie air disaster (still no conviction as the men concerned are safe inside their own country Libya), the explosion in the World Trade Centre in New York and possibly still to be disclosed, the explosion aboard Flight 400 in New York. Why is SA allowing into this country Muslims trained as terrorists in Afghanistan, Libya and Iran, with unlimited funding from oil-rich countries? Wake up South Africa, before it is too late." Mr Herbert Green, Newlands: "The

incidence of rape in South Africa (reported by averaging one every 84 seconds) is the highest in the world. The victims either face an agonising death from Aids or endless mental suffering.

In the Middle East and other countries, the incidence of rape is virtually nil because rapists are castrated or executed. Why do our lawmakers not enact similar laws to protect our wives and daughters?" Mr Roy Fisher, Claremont: "There is nothing guaranteed to promote demoralisation more than to see people who are less

qualified than you promoted to positions of authority. Affirmative action should be put on hold in the police force."

Mr Rochan

McCree, Elsie's River: "The government is spending such a lot of money on so many things, why doesn't it spend money on catching the drug dealers? We're not worried about Pagad, we're worried about the dealers. Why can't the police

make deals with these guys and then catch them? Then they'll find out where the drugs are coming from, and where they're

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going to. We see this happening on television all the time."

Mr Lester September, Lansdowne:

"With regard to Pagad's Olympic bid ultimatum on the front page yesterday, they are going about it the wrong way. There are no real quality facilities for kids and family entertainment in Cape Town right now and I believe the Olympic bid process will provide these much needed facilities."

Mr John Boakes, Table View: "I suggest the traffic police deal with ALL traffic offences and give the overworked police more time to deal with crime. At the moment they are wasting precious time

When you go to the traffic department to complain about dangerous drivers they send you to the police station."

Day of the assassin promises to thrill

(251) M+G 30/8-5/9/96

Pronounced guilty, Eugene de Kock will now have his turn to incriminate members of the old security forces, writes **Eddie Koch**

THE day of judgment had come. Yet there was no air of anticipation in the courtroom. No murmurs of approval in the gallery as the judge delivered his verdict. Not a single family member to snuffle as he was taken down to the cells. In fact, it was the kind of denouement that could have ruined the entire show.

After a courtroom series that took 18 months and cost at least R5-million to produce, the judge asked Eugene de Kock to stand up in the dock and, in just two minutes, summarised his judgment: guilty of six murders, two counts of conspiracy to murder, one of attempted murder, one of culpable homicide, one of abduction, one of serious assault, one of being an accessory to culpable homicide, one of defeating the ends of justice, nine of illegal arms and ammunition possession, and 66 of fraud.

In the old days these multiple crimes — a total of 89 counts, probably more serious than one person has ever been convicted of in South Africa, would have warranted the hangman's noose or at least a sentence of 200 years.

Yet De Kock sat down without flinching. A group of bored schoolkids who had been sent to write up a project about the case shuffled out of court clutching pens and notebooks. And the legal teams got down to planning, in a matter-of-fact way, their next episode: the one that everyone in court knows is going to be the blockbuster which will probably justify the extravagant costs of this drama.

On September 16 Colonel de Kock, a man who has described himself as the most accomplished of the many assassins who executed the apartheid government's covert wars, will explain why he did these gruesome things.

Political ideals, fears of a communist take-over, violent bush wars in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and South West Africa (now Namibia), battle fatigue and shock, instructions from the political hierarchy — all of these factors will be woven into a personal narrative that could turn this country's recent history into the stuff of a Frederick Forsyth thriller.

The mitigation hearings will also have serious implications for other political murderers and assassins.

De Kock has already stated he will, as part of his explanation for the murders he has confessed to carrying out,

give evidence implicating at least eight generals from the old security forces. Whether this information extends to members of the National Party Cabinet and the State Security Council remains to be seen.

Here there is an intricate interplay with the workings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. That organisation's investigative unit has issued subpoenas to seven of the men De Kock could point out: Generals Johan van der Merwe, Mike Geldenhuys, Johan Coetzee — all former police commissioners — and Basie Smit, Krappies Engelbrecht, Johan le Roux and Bertus Steyn.

The timing is convenient. If the generals lie, or fail to volunteer significant details about their role in covert operations, they could well be caught out when De Kock begins to talk next month. This will effectively minimise the generals' chances of lodging successful applications for amnesty before the cut-off date, thus placing them under strong pressure to come clean when they begin answering questions in camera to the truth commission on Friday.

The colonel will also talk about his involvement in the supply of weapons, ammunition and explosives to leading members of the Inkatha Freedom Party in the early 1990s: war material that may well have been used to account for the huge number of murders committed during the low key civil war that still rages in that province.

IFP senator Philip Powell, former KwaZulu police minister CJ Mthetwa and IFP heavyweights in Gauteng, Humphrey Ndlovu and Themba Khoza have all been implicated in the supply of weaponry to Inkatha's self protection units and will be holding their breaths when the Pretoria Supreme Court hearings open on September 16.

But the true importance of De Kock's mitigation hearings lies not in political significance or the entertainment value of the event. They will, probably more than any judicial process ever held in this country, provide a nation desperate to come to

terms with its violent past the opportunity to hear and understand — from a member of the inner circle of

Pretoria's "total war" strategists — why they did the things they did.

More importantly, Justice William van der Merwe will have to take into account De Kock's own testimony, as well as that of a psychologist and criminologist, when he decides at the end of the hearings on what kind of punishment to hand down to the self-confessed killer. Although the comparison is both inaccurate and clichéd — it will be the closest that South Africa has come to an Eichmann trial.

.....
Judgment day: Eugene de Kock, found guilty on 89 charges, now awaits his sentence

PHOTOGRAPH JOHN HRUSA/
SUNDAY TIMES



This places an enormous burden on the judge. He will have to come up with a sentence that is not only balanced, but one that, he has indicated, will have taken into account the broader political imperative of the times: to understand and forgive if this can promote national reconciliation without undermining a culture that respects human life.

By taking into account De Kock's social, psychological and political background, Justice Van der Merwe's sentence could end up using the key proportionality test contained in internationally accepted principles on how to prosecute war crimes.

He will have to decide whether the acts that De Kock committed — including conspiracies to murder friends and colleagues who either told or threatened to tell the truth about the activities of his Vlakplaas unit at the time and gruesome ways of disposing of victims' bodies by burning them or blowing them up into tiny pieces — were in proportion to the political motives and the mindset that drove him to do it.

The judge has already indicated that, during the mitigation hearings, he wants to deal with issues like this that are beginning to shape the jurisprudence of post-apartheid South Africa.

He will weigh up any evidence that De Kock presents about the political nature of his activities, especially with regard to the charges of gun-running to Inkatha, before he delivers sentence. He has also made it clear that witnesses who gave evidence against De Kock will not automatically be granted indemnity against prosecution for crimes they were personally involved in.

This means he could refuse to protect hitmen like "Chappies" Kloppers and Joe Mamasela, who are now receiving material benefits from the Justice Department, including witness protection and monthly stipends, just because they gave evidence against their former colleague.

The way this matter is handled will have a crucial bearing on how the judicial system's need to induce informants to come out of the woodwork is married with the creation of a culture that refuses to reward people who abuse human life.

The De Kock trial falls outside the ambit of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. But, just as that body was set up to do, the marathon case could help find the elusive formula to promote reconciliation and respect for all those who died.

If it succeeds, the taxpayers' R5-million may have been worth it.

'I think the whole society has failed because the culture of corruption has grown over a long while. It's not new, we just did not identify it before'



A policeman is shot while allegedly robbing Eastgate ... the head

The crooked cops

A growing

THESSE are just some of the recent cases reported in the press of policemen who have fallen foul of the law.

● Three members of the flying squad at Thabong near Welkom in the Free State goldfields have been arrested in connection with a robbery at a hostel in the township. They allegedly stole R450 in cash before driving off in a police van

● A syndicate of truck hijackers, which included two serving policemen and three former policemen, terrorised truck drivers throughout the Free State for six months before being arrested after a brazen daylight heist went wrong.

Dressed in SAPS uniforms they forced their victims to stop by closing in on them in a vehicle with a flashing blue light, ordered drivers to leave their cabs, got in and drove away.

● A policeman allegedly raped a theft suspect at the Alexandra Police Station near Sandton last weekend. The off-duty officer was allegedly caught in the act by a colleague who went to get the woman's fingerprints

crime syndicates have police working for them and that's why so few of these crime bosses get caught"

Stef Grobler, head of the national police anti-corruption unit, argues that it is not that cops are much more corrupt "but that we are becoming more aware of the corrupt practices"

He added that the problem is not unique to the SAPS, but also a question of the general lawlessness that prevails throughout the country. Such a rising tide of criminality encourages a guy to close his eyes, extend his hand and collect a pay-off

"I think the whole society has failed because the culture of corruption has grown over a long while. It's not new, we just did not identify it before," insisted Grobler. Indeed he points out

EVIDENCE is mounting that corrupt police officers are at the heart of the country's escalating crime-wave, with worrying signs that some key law enforcers are linked to or masterminding criminal syndicates

Experts say incidents such as the recent shooting of a police officer while taking part in a bank robbery at the Eastgate shopping centre in Johannesburg show that a climate of lawlessness exists within the South African Police Service

Low salaries, lack of proper accountability and insufficient action against bad cops are among the reasons cited for the 8,1% increase in SAPS members investigated by the police anti-corruption unit since January. The allegations range from murder to taking bribes for the deliberate misplacement of case dockets — sometimes for as little as R100

Other reported cases include the operation of rogue officers at the Soweto and Diepkloof vehicle pounds, where parts are stripped from recovered cars and then sold to "chop shops" or other black marketeers

Complaints continue from members of the public despite the arrest of several suspects and the SAPS's promise to clean up its act

Evidence also exists of extensive police collusion in vehicle hijackings and theft syndicates in Johannesburg and Durban where police have been accused of issuing clearance certificates for stolen vehicles, which are then legitimised and sold on the open market.

And collusion between police and gang leaders is said to be at the heart of drug trafficking in the Cape which has sparked off vigilante activities from the group Pagad

Part of this crooked culture is a spin-off from the bad old days when the police wielded vast unaccountable power

As the judge in the trial of former Vlakplaas security police commander Colonel Eugene de Kock said on Monday, it is clear that a police secret fund existed, which had been used as an almost inexhaustible source of financing for Vlakplaas members and other dirty trucks sections of the police

"It was used to pay for tax returns, the entertainment of spouses and merely to let them live in luxury," Justice Willie van der Merwe said. The secret police fund involved tens of millions of rands annually

Critics believe that when the millions of rands dried up, some officers readily embraced criminality in order to supplement their meagre salaries — some even claim it is part of a "fourth" force plan to discredit the new democratic government

Relaxation of the quasi-military hierarchy of the past has also fuelled corruption, indiscipline and collusion with criminals. The result is a continued use of violence — torture is still a popular procedure of getting evidence — rather than sophisticated investigative methods of a democratic police service. This has undermined the country's crime fighting capabilities and allowed criminals to avoid capture

So a brutal apartheid regime of yesterday which spawned mass murderers like De Kock also created an ethos which continues to hamper effective policing today

A Gauteng police reporting officer, advocate Jan Munnick, says the police corruption units set up by the new government are merely touching the tip of the iceberg. "You have only to look at the kind of homes some police officers have and the lifestyles they live to know they are up to no good"

However he acknowledges that many of the crimes being committed are not reported or known about, so it is difficult to get a clear picture. "I think it's a huge problem. Most of the 450 known

'You have only to look at the kind of homes some police officers have and the lifestyles they live to know they are up to no good'

Charged with murder, assault, possession of cocaine

INSPECTOR Jacques Swanepoel is not an exception within a police force widely perceived to be teeming with rogue cops

Swanepoel (33) has been charged with murder, assault, possession of cocaine and defeating the ends of justice. He was granted R1 000 bail

A member of the hard-pressed South African Narcotic Bureau (Sanab), it is alleged that he shot and killed Allan Cash in June this year, during an illegal stop and search on the streets of Hillbrow in Johannesburg

Clive Fourie, Cash's nephew, said witnesses have given statements that his uncle was murdered by

Swanepoel who fired two shots into the car without provocation

Cash(44) was hit by one bullet which apparently entered his left shoulder, went through both his lungs and out his back. A female passenger was wounded by the other bullet

Police say earlier that night Swanepoel and a colleague had tried to gain entry to an upmarket brothel called The Ranch in Johannesburg's plush northern suburbs

When they were prevented by a security guard it is alleged Swanepoel brutally attacked the man, knocking out several of his teeth in the process

'These guys were hoping to get a drug dealer so they could rob him and sell the drugs themselves'

The two men and another officer later stopped Cash's white Ford Escort on the street claiming they were looking for drugs. Swanepoel was officially off-duty on sick leave at the time

"I believe they were out looking for trouble and my uncle was a victim of their aggression," said Fourie. "These guys were hoping to get a

drug dealer so they could rob him and sell the drugs themselves"

His family is planning to sue the state for personal loss on behalf of Cash's elderly parents, who depended on him for financial support

Swanepoel, who is now on suspension, claims he fired in self-defence after Cash attempted to run him over with the car

But Sergeant James van Rooyen, the anti-corruption officer investigating the case, claimed there were several holes in the inspector's story

Van Rooyen, who has investigated more than 100 allegations of crimi-

nal activity by the police in South Africa's highrise slum Hillbrow, said he was still waiting for forensic evidence to show if the shot fired at Cash entered from the back or the front

"The circumstances surrounding the case are still unclear. We have enough information to charge Inspector Swanepoel but the investigation is still not finished"

He said 70% of the proven cases he has investigated in Hillbrow end up with criminal conviction against the officers. The charges range from assault, armed robbery, murders, attempted murders and accepting bribes

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of a car-theft unit is caught in a stolen car ... **Angella Johnson** investigates rife police corruption

at the heart of the crime wave

(251) M+G 30/8 - 5/9/96

list of arrested officers

and the alleged rapist was able to flee from the station.

● Two Chatsworth policemen were arrested in connection with the country's biggest bank robbery when five men wearing balaclavas stole nearly R30-million from the SBV security company in Pinetown outside Durban on August 6.

● Gauteng's anti-corruption unit is investigating allegations against three police senior superintendents and five superintendents, eight captains, 37 inspectors, 56 sergeants and 47 constables

● Two ex-policemen who last November stole diamonds worth more than R3-million and helped to conceal the murder of one of their accomplices, were sentenced to eight years imprisonment by the supreme court earlier this month

● Krugersdorp police sergeant Tjaart Schutte (33) was given three years correctional supervision in May this year after he was found guilty of cutting out a human heart and three gallstones while working at a mortuary in Johannesburg. The organs were

sold for R3 500 to be used for muti.

● A police inspector at Motetema in the Northern Province is being investigated for alleged misappropriation of about R3 500 of some R55 000 provided by the provincial police for a peace rally

● Inspector Darryl Beetge (25) appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court last month charged with taking part in the illegal confiscation of R600 000 during a fake police raid

● Police chaplain Captain Barnabus Mavuso was arrested in Swaziland in possession of five assault rifles, a 5mm pistol and 1 833 rounds of ammunition along with R12 100 in counterfeit money

● Senior Superintendent Pregaras Pillay holds convictions for culpable homicide, shoplifting and fraud, but these did not stand in the way of his promotion

● Two policemen are being investigated in connection with the death of a Vaal Triangle man in June. David Mohli Mosia was allegedly assaulted following a complaint of disturbance of the peace



Crime conditions Low salaries, lack of proper accountability and insufficient action against bad cops are among the reasons cited for the 8,1% increase in SAPS members investigated by the anti-corruption unit since January

PHOTOGRAPH NAASHON ZALK

that despite the increase in corrupt officers investigated over the past six months, they represents only 0,63% out of 140 000 SAPS members "That's just over half of a percent"

William Bratton, the former New York Police commissioner credited with smashing crime and corruption among his men, says the situation is similar to that which existed in New York during the 1970s

"Then we had systematic corruption at all levels of the service. The remedy was to significantly change the internal affairs procedure and there were widespread sackings, including a number of senior officers," he said

When corruption again reared its head in the 1990s, Bratton says it was mainly pockets of crooked cops in the

system "I set in motion very sophisticated sting operations to catch them, using high-tech equipment and sometimes outside investigative bodies. Only 1% of the 38 000 officers were involved with wrongdoings and we rooted them out

In one instance an entire police precinct was sacked. Bratton said he used management powers which allowed him to move or fire people even if the case could not be proved against them in court, but the evidence was strong on a balance of probability

Grobler points out that an officer cannot be fired in South Africa unless they do something illegal that can be proved in court, despite a draft proposal last year to shift it to a balance

of probability, which provides more chances for convictions

Professor Wilfried Scharf, who was the civilian watchdog over police inquiries into senior police complicity with gangs in the Cape and director of the Institute for Criminology at UCT, says it is difficult to generalise as to whether corruption is endemic or is the result of a few bad apples

"However we do know that it is fairly widespread. Clean cops are extremely angry and become demoralised by the fact that dirty cops still get protected and promoted. They say the signal is that they are being foolish and being clean also endangers their lives as they become victimised by dirty cops"

According to Scharf, a senior dirty cop must have been protected by col-

leagues up and down the ladder for a long time. "They often end up bribing colleagues to clear their personnel files of any blemishes in order to secure promotion"

The level of collusion in the Cape is also a throwback to the apartheid period when police used gangs as informants against the liberation movements. "Now these police are senior officers and the gang members have become leaders. Their relationships still hold and this makes it difficult for the police to act resolutely against the gangs — especially when some are on the payroll"

Last year National Police Commissioner George Fivaz said he would introduce psychological as well as lie detector tests to gauge trustworthi-

ness of key personnel, especially in the vehicle pounds. His office says the process has started, but as yet no one has been caught

Fivaz said he is committed to tackling the problem and accepts that there has been a "substantial upsurge" in police corruption, but insisted this was because the police were receiving more reports of bent cops

Both Scharf and Munnick argue that the police must work harder to break the bond of solidarity and silence of complicity, which keeps corruption ingrained in the SAPS

"This cop culture to protect colleagues is a world problem, but we need more personnel and better training and retraining to shrink the problem here," added Munnick

Car theft unit linked to fraud

TWO months before his arrest for allegedly taking part in a huge vehicle fraud syndicate, the branch commander of Rustenberg's police car-theft unit bought himself a house

Nothing out of the ordinary. Just an old family dwelling down the road from the police station for him, his wife and four children. How much of it came from the proceeds of alleged criminal activities is still unclear

It had taken the organised crime unit in Rustenberg over a year to snare Captain JHN Kruger, three other officers and several civilians involved in the syndicate

The charges involve theft, robbery, fraud, falsification of documents, issuing falsified documents, defeating the ends of justice, corruption and making false declarations

According to investigating officer Captain Mark Maass of the anti-corruption unit, the men conspired, colluded or worked together to steal vehicles, including luxury four-wheel drives, between 1994 and 1995 in the North West Province and Gauteng areas

The state's case further alleges

that the accused — including Lance-Sergeants JLC Pieters (24) and CF Pasino (23) and Constable PS Slinda — stamped new numbers on the cars and issued them with clearance certificates. They have all pleaded not guilty

The vehicles were then allegedly registered under false names and sold. The officers then allegedly shared the proceeds with two civilians

Maass is no Serpico — the New York police officer, captured on the big screen by Al Pacino, who exposed widespread police corruption in the city's force during the 1970s

But Maass had no compunction in going against Kruger, his former boss, when he suspected corruption

"We received information from an informant that he was driving a Kombi which had been stolen from outside a school in Linden (Johannesburg)," Maass explained

"But when we approached him Captain Kruger claimed to have bought it from a dealer and insisted he had replaced most of the parts, including the seat, himself"

Further police inquiries concluded that this was nonsense. Five officers from the unit were interviewed and about 107 cars seized following extensive inquiries

The trail linked a huge network of civilians right back to the car-theft unit and Jacob Moeng, a 41-year-old car dealer whose bank account was stuffed with over R170 000. He was also standing trial at Rustenberg Circuit Court this week

Maass, who has been a policeman for 11 years and was part of the car-theft unit until the investigation started, said it was difficult for him to believe what was unfolding before him at the time

"It was hard because I had known Captain Kruger for four years. He was a good officer. I had learned a lot of good things about policing from him"

He accepts there is widespread corruption within the SAPS because of the temptation many officers face. "What we need is to change the culture of the service so that people don't keep quiet when they see colleagues doing something criminal. We must break this cycle of protecting crooked colleagues"



Caught in the act A police officer was shot this week while allegedly taking part in a bank robbery at Eastgate in Johannesburg. PHOTOGRAPH THYS DULLAART

Party banners fly at varsity for first time

At Stellenbosch, blacks are running for office. And that's not the only thing that's different about this year's student elections, report **Joshua Amupadhi** and **Thandi Lewin**

In a first for the new South Africa, political parties — the African National Congress, the National Party and the Freedom Front — are taking part in student elections at the University of Pretoria.

Their participation has not been well-received by established student groups like the South African Students Congress (Sasco) and the Azanian Students Congress (Azasco).

Stephane Allais, a Sasco education officer, questioned the role political parties would play in student representative councils (SRCs) and other student governance following the University of Pretoria lead, while agreeing they should be allowed to operate on campuses. She was worried that their participation might dissolve the impact of progressive voices — particularly on traditionally white Afrikaans universities such as Tukkies.

Allais said "We view ourselves as allies [with the ANC Youth League], we are similar organisations. The issue [of participation by parties] will depend on campus to campus, but we don't understand what the role of the ANCYL will be. At Tukkies, for instance, we [ANCYL and Sasco] are competing against each other — this weakens the chance of a progressive voice at conservative institutions."

However ANCYL national publicity and information secretary Thabo Masebe said the two organisations would still complement each other.

Masebe said "We cannot expect our allies to do the work that the ANCYL should be doing. It is our responsibility to go to tertiary institutions and popularise the policies of the ANC."

Kalli Kriel, who is co-ordinating the formation of a Freedom Front youth league, said the organisation decided to participate at Tukkies because it opposes transformation "as it was being advocated at universities."

"Our policy ultimately is the creation of a *volkstaat*, but because we don't have that now, we will be more



Ballot blues: UCT students (above) have been sluggish to take part in elections, while at other universities interest is greater than ever. PHOTO: RODGER BOSCH

active at universities to preserve their Afrikaans character, which we feel is being threatened."

NP national youth representative Annelize van Wyk said the involvement of "political parties will result in much more responsibility among students, not to vandalise and trash campuses, because they'll be directly answerable to senior structures."

IFP Youth Brigade chair Musa Zondi described direct involvement of political parties in student politics as "a radical departure from the traditional norm, but maybe it is because of recent upheavals on campuses." Zondi said the move by the ANC, NP and FF could bring South African universities in line with institutions in the United States and Britain, where party politicking is a well-established tradition.

Chris Swepu, national publicity secretary for Azasco, an affiliate of

the Azanian People's Organisation said Azasco was opposed to political parties, particularly those that participated in the country's government, taking direct part in student politics.

Meanwhile at the University of Stellenbosch, the *studenteraad* (SR) faces change on a different level.

The Constitution of the Students' Union prevents students from standing for the SR elections if their academic results are poor. This has meant that black students have rarely stood for the SR. But this year for the first time, black students have been nominated to stand for the SR.

However, one of them, the Sasco branch chair, Xola Tsoba, has been disqualified from taking part in the elections on the basis of his academic record. The other student, also a Sasco candidate, is doing a master's

degree, and did his undergraduate degree at another university.

Xola said students from disadvantaged backgrounds at Stellenbosch suffer because of the Afrikaans language policy on campus, and should not be prevented from taking part in student organisations because of this.

"This is going to happen for a long time unless we challenge the Constitution, and the SR will remain the domain of white students."

Sasco feels this is a human rights issue and that the Stellenbosch Constitution does not take into account the new Bill of Rights.

Xola's disqualification also highlights other problems at Stellenbosch, such as a lack of academic support for educationally disadvantaged students.

Darryl Wright, the present secretary of the SR, said Sasco has been encour-

aged to take up the issue through all possible channels. He said the new SR will have to review all the election procedures and propose structural changes. "I do believe that access to the SR will be addressed. There are some dynamic leaders from disadvantaged backgrounds who are being prevented from making a contribution."

At the University of Cape Town (UCT), SRC elections were held this week after a year without an elected body. More than 20 candidates contested the elections. There was also concern that not enough students would vote to reach the 25% poll needed for a legitimate election.

Lack of interest by white students at UCT remained a major problem. Less than a third of the candidates were white, and only a handful attended the candidates' public presentation of their manifestos.

Immigrants board dying — but kicking

Marion Edmunds

THE almost defunct Immigrants Selection Board is delivering some final blows before it finally rolls over and dies. The board, which is due to be replaced at the end of November by a new legitimate structure, is considering defying a court judgment in which it was instructed to reconsider the permanent residence application of British-born David Foulds, which it had hitherto repeatedly rejected.

Foulds took court action against the board — and the Department of Home Affairs under which it falls — this year. The department lost its case in the Johannesburg Supreme Court and was obliged to pay the costs, and take the consequences, one of which meant reconsidering Foulds' oft-rejected application to become a permanent resident.

Six weeks after the judgment was handed down, the board has still not reconsidered Foulds' application, and in addition, has asked for legal

opinion as to whether an appeal against the judgment is possible.

Under normal circumstances, an appeal has to be lodged within 15 working days of the judgment, that is by August 2. This deadline has long since passed, and yet a second senior counsel has been engaged by Home Affairs to look into possible appeal procedures. The board has refused to talk to the *Mail & Guardian* or say what information it has in its possession which might prompt an appeal.

The department said this week "The judgment deals with important principles which have far-reaching implications. The board and the department therefore need to study the implications thereof in detail for purposes of obtaining legal certainty on the issues involved."

It is possible that the board has belatedly realised that Foulds' victory in court in July could open the floodgates for numerous other cases against it from people who feel their applications for permanent resident status have been unfairly rejected.



David Foulds: Will fight till the end

Both Foulds and his lawyer, Susan Nurick, are outraged. Nurick said this week "The longer the matter drags out, the more prejudicial it is to Dave. Their ignoring of the judgment also amounts to contempt of court."

Foulds said this week that the department was pushing his family to the limit. "My business is expanding, but the banks won't give me letters of credit until I have proof of permanent residence. They say they want foreign companies to invest, but is it only the big ones they want, and don't they want the small businessman like myself? This is very frustrating, but we won't give in, we'll fight them to the end."

Mufamadi faces torture case

Mungo Soggot

A MAN who claims he was a victim of police torture will seek a place in South African legal history when he applies to the Constitutional Court next month for R200 000 in damages for the police's invasion of his constitutional rights.

Ntandazeli Fose says he was tortured by members of the Vanderbijlpark Riot and Related Crimes Investigation Unit on May 2 and 3 1994. He says the police punched and kicked his face, electrically shocked various parts of his body, tied him to a chair with a rope and hit him on the back with an object resembling an empty bottle.

Apart from the legal first of asking the court to make the state pay for breaching constitutional rights, the challenge is noteworthy because Fose's lawyers are effectively asking the court to punish the state with the extra damages award.

Fose took Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to court last year for R130 000 in damages for his suffering, his loss of enjoyment of life and past and future medical expenses.

He also asked for R200 000 in damages for the violation of his constitutional rights. Judge Rex van

Schalkwyk rejected this damages claim, but agreed to pass the matter on to the Constitutional Court which will hear the case on September 10.

The claim includes an element of punitive damages, say Fose's lawyers. They argue the police invaded Fose's rights to human dignity and privacy among others. They charge the police have treated others in the same way.

Mufamadi's legal team contends that the Constitution does not include a specific damages remedy for an invasion of constitutional rights. They also contend it is inappropriate to award damages in addition to those awarded by ordinary courts in terms of civil law.

His lawyers claim the common law protects the same rights as the Constitution does. So there is no point in granting additional damages.

Fose insists the matter cannot be left entirely to the common law which, unlike the Constitution, does not treat torture separately from assault. Assault does not involve the state.

His team argues the award of damages for breach of constitutional rights would "vindicate the importance of the constitutional guarantees prohibiting torture, deter the police from more torture and punish the state and its organs for this abuse of power."

KILLING WAS HIS BUSINESS

(291)

ST 119196

IT TOOK 19 months to prove and less than two days to pronounce the guilt of the former security policeman who is, by his own admission, the most successful state assassin unmasked in South Africa.

Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was this week found guilty of 89 charges, including six of murder. MARLENE BURGER looks at the man who lived by two dictums: 'Cowboys don't cry, and death before dishonour'

In finding former Vlakplaas commander Colonel Eugene de Kock guilty this week of 89 charges, including six murders and two conspiracies to murder, the Transvaal Supreme Court confirmed what the man who evoked both undying loyalty and unmitigated fear among his underlings, told another court three months ago. Testifying against five former colleagues facing murder charges dating from the same era of unbridled security police excesses, De Kock acknowledged that no one had better done the dirty bidding of the generals in blue than he.

Some indication of what he has to say, and who he will implicate, is expected when he takes the stand on September 16 to give evidence in mitigation of sentence. Already incarcerated for 27 months, De Kock is desperate to do whatever he must to get out of prison before his two young sons reach manhood, and will spare no one in his quest to apportion blame.

His testimony may also shed some light on how he came to be South Africa's most notorious ex-police-man, the man whose name will forever be synonymous with Vlakplaas, the picturesque farm, west of Pretoria, exposed as the home of police hit squads four years after he made it his personal fiefdom in 1985.

De Kock came to Vlakplaas, and command of the notorious Unit C10, via another highly controversial SAP unit. A founder member of Koerpoet, it wasn't long before he became a legendary figure in the counter-insurgency squad operating against Swapo in Ovambo-land. With more than 300 contacts to his credit, he thought nothing of tracking his quarry for up to 500km on foot.

Born and raised in Springs, the son of a regional court

magistrate and a mother who had "no say" in his own upbringing, or that of his younger brother, Vossie, De Kock is the product of an archetypal white Afrikaner background.

Originally he wanted to be a soldier, but a nervous stint that manifested itself only under pressure, saw the SA Defence Force reject him as officer material. A brief stint with the Department of Justice as a clerk only reinforced his aversion to being fenced in, and he found in the police a solution to both his military aspirations and love of the outdoors, fuelled by childhood holidays on a farm-ly farm in the Eastern Cape.

It was in Koerpoet — the unit whose members sported T-shirts proclaiming "Kill-business is good" — that he found his true home.

By 1985, when he was forced out of the unit after a blazing row with his commanding officer, Major-General "Stek" Hans Dreyer, over corruption at high level, De Kock was a natural choice

to assume command of the ragtag band of fellow Ovamboland veterans and former ANC supporters already operating out of Vlakplaas.

Evidence during his trial showed that almost from the moment he set foot on the farm, the scale of covert operations escalated, reaching unprecedented levels even as the 1989 Harms Commission probed allegations by his predecessor, Dirk Coetzee, of state-sanctioned murder.

With virtually unlimited access to the police secret fund which financed these operations, it wasn't long before De Kock and his hand-picked team began to line



Eugene de Kock with Advocate Flip Hattigh (above) during an in loco inspection at Vlakplaas during his trial; and (right) on holiday with wife Audrey and eldest son Eugene



their own pockets, using the fund, according to Judge Wilhelm van der Merwe, as "their personal bank account" to finance household expenses, pay their taxes and keep them in luxury.

Overtly, De Kock — found guilty of fraud to the tune of R375 000 — led a modest lifestyle. Throughout his career in the police, he never once applied for a housing subsidy, and lived, for the most part, in fairly modest accommodation. There were no flashy cars, no extravagant holidays, his only apparent weaknesses being regular and lavish meals at top restaurants and R8 000 a year in fees for his sons at an exclusive private school in Pretoria.

Behind the scenes, however, more than two years now, De Kock's only contact with his wife, Audrey, and sons has been by correspondence. They left South Africa on the eve of his arrest to make a new life in Europe, where, the state alleged during his trial, he planned to join them after disposing of his assets in South Africa in the wake of the March 1994 Goldstone report on Third Force activities.

Those closest to De Kock say he has lived his life by two dictums: 'Cowboys don't cry, and death before dishonour'.

When he needed to set up a front company under whose aegis Unit C10 could continue to operate after being officially disbanded in April 1993, De Kock chose as its logo, Africa's toughest little creature, the honey badger, described by author Robert Ruark in his eponymous 1965 bestseller as "a bloody brave little animal... maybe the meanest in the world... which kills for malice and for sport".

It must have seemed an apt enough symbol at the time, but had he done his homework, De Kock would have learnt that, fearsome as it may be in the wild, the honey badger becomes quite acquiescent in captivity.

Generals to help truth body

ST 1/9/96

By CYRIL MADLALA



TOP BRASS . . . Mike Geldenhuys, Johan van der Merwe and Johann Coetzee yesterday

Picture: JOHANN VAN TONDER

(251)
FORMER South African police generals have agreed to help the Truth and Reconciliation Commission arrive at the truth in connection with 50 incidents of human-rights violations.

This follows yesterday's meeting in Cape Town between the commission and three representatives of more than 20 former senior police officers

The commission was on the verge of issuing subpoenas for generals Johan van der Merwe, Mike Geldenhuys and Johann Coetzee before they came to see the commission's chairman, Desmond Tutu, his deputy, Dr Alex Boraine and its head of investigations, Dumisa Ntsebeza

Tutu said after the meeting that the generals undertook to co-operate voluntarily with the commission, and to make a submission by the middle of this month. The submission is to include a supplementary list of "50 or so instances that they want to talk about"

"They want to provide a context, and say they did not make laws, they merely carried them out," Tutu said

The generals had also undertaken to persuade their former subordinates to come forward and co-operate with the commission, Tutu said

Ntsebeza said the commission would have to await the submission to decide whether it covered the areas the generals would have been subpoenaed to testify about

The generals declined to comment and referred all inquiries to Tutu

Public 'watchdog' to eye cops

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

(251) ST (cm) 119196

A NEW secretariat which will act as a "super watchdog" over the police is to be established in the Western Cape.

The first chief of the Provincial Secretariat for Safety and Security (PSSS) will be Omar Valley, who is presently a commissioner on the Western Cape Provincial Service Commission. He is a former Regional Director of the Human Science Research Council (Cape)

Valley said the secretariat's formation should be viewed against the backdrop of rampant crime and gangsterism in the Western Cape

A SAPS Western Cape Province Strategic Plan had been put into operation two years ago to promote stronger community involvement in crime prevention

The new secretariat would allow the community to "keep a watch over the SAPS," said Valley, adding that the plan was to complement the existing Strategic Plan of community involvement

The secretariat would promote democratic accountability and transparency in the SAPS and monitor the implementation of policy directives issued by Western Cape Police Minister Gerald Morkel.

Valley said an important aspect of the PSSS was to conduct research into any policing matter and to evaluate the functioning of the SAPS

"The PSSS has a number of goals which, together with all other role-players, will make a difference in our province," said Valley.

"The vision of the PSSS is targeted at a number of strategies and surveys assessing public opinion on crime prevention, problem-solving techniques and the promotion of civilian oversight." Valley has a track record of community involvement necessary for the job, said a source.



Cutting remarks as old barbers throw in towels

By NORMAN WEST

THE battle for men's hair has been lost. The bald facts have been admitted by District Six's longest-serving barbers, Chagan Nathoo and Dabha Palsania, who have thrown in their towels and closed up shop.

They complain that men no longer want haircuts — nowadays the rougher sex insists on steps, layers, ponytails, highlights, peroxides, and even perms.

It was the end of an era on Friday afternoon when the two old barbers locked the doors of District Six's last barbershop, Star Hairdressing Salon at Oriental Plaza.

It was the end of a combined 106 years of snipping and trimming when you add Nathoo's 54 years in the business to Palsania's 52. And their fathers were both barbers before them...

But Nathoo, 71, and Palsania, 66, feel they are a cut above the new-look hairdressers.

They proudly recall giving close shaves to many well-known politicians, businessmen and sportsmen, including Basil D'Oliviera, Tiny Abed, Salie (Lobo) Abed, and Cecil Abrahams.

Palsania, who suffered a stroke two years ago which affected the steadiness in one arm, had to give up the job first. He explains with a touch of humour: "A barber made a mistake."

Corruption hampers community policing efforts, says Mdlalose

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — A total of 24 policemen were facing corruption charges in KwaZulu-Natal, and such behaviour hampered efforts to have successful community policing in the province, premier Frank Mdlalose said yesterday.

In a speech delivered by his spokesman Eric Ngubane at a peace rally in Durban, Mdlalose said the 24 policemen had been suspended and would be expelled from the force if found guilty.

Mdlalose said the police force had to rid itself of corruption, as community policing could become a reality only if the public had "absolute faith" in policemen.

He said many community policing forums in KwaZulu-Natal were not operating effectively

BD 2/9/96
Some forums had been set up without consultation. Both police and communities lacked adequate training and skills.

The KwaZulu-Natal peace committee organised the rally in a bid to bolster ANC-IFP efforts to end political violence in the province. However, only about 50 people attended.

IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, for the third time in recent weeks, cast doubts on the peace initiative. He told reporters at the IFP Youth Brigade conference in Ulundi on Saturday that he did not believe anything "concrete" could come out of the initiative while IFP supporters continued to be killed in the Midlands.

However, ANC KwaZulu-Natal chairman Jacob Zuma, who also addressed yesterday's rally, said

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he did not believe Buthelezi was opposed to the initiative. Rather, Buthelezi wanted more effort to be put in to ensure that violence was brought to an end.

Buthelezi said that while there had been agreement that he and President Nelson Mandela would address joint rallies, this had not happened.

Zuma said such rallies could take place only after the peace initiative had been promoted and explained to grassroots leaders and supporters. This was presently being done.

Zuma said the ANC and IFP had missed the end-August deadline to finalise a code of conduct to govern the behaviour of members of the parties. He said he was confident that it would be completed soon and then implemented.

Disgruntled cops query promotions

By McKeed Kottolo

SEVERAL disgruntled police officers in Soshanguve, Pretoria, including a local station commander, have questioned the criteria used to appoint members to senior positions. Soshanguve police station commander Superintendent Jabulani Frank Sibulela is among a number of senior officers who applied for the positions of station commissioners advertised last December.

(25/1) *See section 249/196*

He said some of the "brilliant officers" from his station had also applied for the same posts and none of them had been considered. However, liaison officer for Pretoria Captain Dave Harrington said appointments had only been done at seven stations in Pretoria. Soshanguve had not been advertised yet.

He also said "everybody had a fair opportunity to apply and the selection committee has appointed the best people to the posts." Sibulela, who holds a B Proc degree, said he could not understand the method applied by the select committee to choose the right people for the right posts.

"Most of the appointed officers are by far my juniors and do not have the same qualifications, experience and skills that I possess. I have been an officer since 1979. "I have been an instructor in charge of the academic department at the SAP College in Hammanskraal for 14 years and I have trained some of those people who have been appointed to the position of station commissioners," he charged.

Sibulela has been a station commander at Kagiso on the West Rand. He was in charge of 12 Platoon in Kwazulu and Six Platoon at Malesoskop near Groblersdal. "I was sent to all these places by my commanders because of my capability and efficiency."

He claimed he was victimised from 1993 when he tried to discipline a white junior policeman who refused to take instructions from a black officer. "I also objected to the transfer of a white officer which was intended to bring him closer to home. "That's when all hell broke loose and false charges were pressed against me and my staff members were also influenced to be against me," he said.

Further dirty deeds named

By DESMOND BLOW

THE SPECIAL police squad led by Colonel Ivor Human, which is investigating hit squad activities, has other evidence against Eugene De Kock which was not included in the 121 counts brought against him in his trial

The evidence includes two massacres of eight young ANC and Indian Congress Party exiles who were enticed back to South Africa from Swaziland and were shot dead in ambushes near Piet Retief. Attorney General Jan D'Oliverie, is expected to charge a number of policemen involved in the two incidents once the De Kock matter is disposed of

On Friday Leslie Kobanhra Naidu, brother of one of the victims, Surenda "Lenny" Naidu (23), told the Truth Commission in Durban that he believed his brother was murdered in cold blood by De Kock, C-10 unit member Almond Butane Nofomela and

Warrant Officer Frederick Pienaar and others

He said a two-year inquest that returned the verdict that police could not be held responsible for the death of his brother and the others was a fraud

"The police were not only murderers but also thieves," he said

He said his brother was carrying a large amount of money at his death and was wearing gold jewellery - none of which was forwarded by police to his family

Pienaar, who was mentioned by the brother, was originally charged with De Kock for the abduction and assault - and eventual murder - of Japie Maponya

The Attorney General withdrew the charge, but is likely to reimpose it when he brings further charges against Pienaar and other policemen, including charges relating to the two Piet Retief incidents Naidu, a member of the Indian Congress Party, was one of four young Durban people who were

shot to death in a car on June 8, 1988 in the first incident

In the second incident four days later another four were killed in a similar manner

Those killed in the first incident were Naidu, Nontsikelelo Cotozo (25), Makhosi Nyoka (25) and Lindwe Mthemba (21)

Those killed in the second incident were also from Durban Boxer Joseph Mtembu (28), Jabulani Sibisi (28), Bruce Nkositlhi Thenjwayo (22), and Sififo Nxumalo

At an inquest into the first incident at Piet Retief in 1990, evidence was given that none of the four young people were armed when they were ambushed and Advocate Marumo Moerane, who represented the family of some of the victims, read a press report in which two former police constables in Piet Retief, Theuns Grobler and James Stevens, described the eight bodies when they were brought into the police station as looking

like "chicken wire," because they were so riddled with bullets

Grobler said that in the second incident a sergeant had told him that a young woman had jumped out of the vehicle and screamed "Please Nkosi, please!" but she had been shot dead

In the first incident 49 bullet holes were counted in the body of the car alone This did not account for the bullets that shattered the windows of the car and those that missed.

Branch security officer Warrant Officer Pienaar, denied to the inquest court that the police had wanted to kill the suspects and not arrest them

He also denied that the police had placed firearms in the car after the massacre

De Kock, who led the raid, admitted to the inquest court that he had personally pulled the trigger of his Uzi sub-machine gun nine times

De Kock to tell all

By DESMOND BLOW

HIT-SQUAD murderer Eugene de Kock who was found guilty of 89 crimes this week, "will spill the beans and name names" of senior police officers who were aware of or involved in his activities when he pleads in mitigation of sentence in the Pretoria Supreme Court on September 16

Some have already been named in the De Kock trial, including retired generals Johan Le Roux and Krappies Engelbrecht

The special police squad led by Brigadier Ivor Human and Captain Mike Holmes, which brought De Kock to trial on 121 counts, are expected to pounce on several high ranking officers once De Kock has been sentenced

Once they are arrested it is almost certain De Kock will turn state witness against them to support his plea in mitigation of sen-

tence

The former Vlakplaas commander feels he has nothing to lose and is angry because he has had to carry the can alone so far

This was confirmed by his counsel, Flip Hattingh, shortly after the marathon 18-month trial was concluded on Tuesday

He also said he expected his client to describe the visits to hit-squad headquarters at Vlakplaas by former Minister of Police Adrian Vlok, who attended braais with members of the hit squad known as C-10

"But I don't know whether he will say that Vlok was aware of any of the crimes of which he was found guilty," said Hattingh

If De Kock involves Vlok, it will prove that the evidence given to the Truth and Reconciliation Committee a week ago by former President FW de Klerk - that none of his cabinet were aware of murders by

state hit squads - was incorrect

On Friday the ANC welcomed the guilty judgment in the De Kock case, but said the judgment and the evidence led during the trial challenged the veracity of claims made by De Klerk that his government never sanctioned murder, assassination, assault and kidnapping

Most of the crimes of which De Kock was found guilty, including five of the six murders he was charged with, were not political but for financial gain De Kock therefore cannot ask for amnesty for these crimes so his best bet is to turn state witness for crimes that involved his superiors, and hope to get a reduced sentence

Evidence was that De Kock had one of his "informers" persuade the five to rob a bank He and his men then ambushed and killed them all

They then murdered the fifth man in a car elsewhere so that he

could not talk, and blew his body up so he could not be identified

De Kock and his men then shared the money paid by the police for the information that led to them preventing the bank robbery

The judge, Justice William van der Merwe, mentioned in his judgment the evidence that linked Le Roux, Engelbrecht and other officers to crimes of which De Kock was found guilty

This included evidence by a former hit-squad member, Nortjie, who gave evidence that the decision to kidnap Japie Maponya in September 1985 was made in General Le Roux's office by Le Roux, De Kock and Nortjie Maponya a security guard at a Krugersdorp building society's office, was so badly beaten that they could not let him go Japie Maponya was then shot dead

De Kock was found guilty of abducting and assaulting Maponya

and of teargassing him in his mouth but he was not found guilty of his murder

The judge also found that General Krappies Engelbrecht then chief of SAP Criminal Intelligence Services had played a role in the falsification of petrol claims made by the policemen who had abducted Maponya and that a false declaration on this was made to the Harms Commission

Engelbrecht was one of the investigators collecting evidence for the Harms Commission

Engelbrecht was also named in the disposal of the body of suspected gun runner Johannes Sweet Sambo who died after being badly assaulted by police near Komatiport According to evidence the policemen involved who are still to be tried contacted Engelbrecht who put them in touch with De Kock - who had the body blown up



ACCUSED ... Warrant Officer Frederick Pienaar.

DP calls for a protector to oversee conduct of Cape police

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Widespread police corruption in the Western Cape has prompted the DP to propose the provincial constitution provide for a protector to oversee the conduct of the force

The constitutionally appointed provincial protector would be empowered to inves-

tigate allegations of police misconduct and corruption. Unlike police reporting officers elsewhere, the protector would be required to report directly to the provincial legislature, bolstering its power and autonomy.

The proposal was contained in the DP's submission on the provincial constitution, presented yesterday to the multi-

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party committee which must formulate a constitutional Bill. The NP and ANC also submitted their proposals.

DP provincial leader and constitutional committee chairman Hennie Bester noted that sections of the Western Cape police force had long been in the pay of criminal gangs. It would be impossible to combat crime,

especially drug trafficking, as long as this continued, he said.

The party also proposed a partial return to constituency-based elections for members of the provincial legislature who would not lose their seats if they changed parties.

The DP also suggested the provincial legislature be elected for a fixed four-year term.

Row over ex-MK members

NORMAN JOSEPH
Staff Reporter

EIGHTY former Umkhonto weSizwe (MK) members are at the centre of a labour dispute between the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) and police management

The ex-MK members, integrated into the police national protection services units, face internal disciplinary charges after taking part in a protest march in Cape Town with the South African Police Union (Sapu)

Several hearings are scheduled for this month and one started this week

Popcru and police management are to have an urgent meeting about the charges and a dispute over the rankings of the former MK soldiers on Friday

Popcru spokesman Greg Goss said if nothing came of the meeting, "we will

have no other option but to embark on action" (251)

Captain Goss said the former liberation fighters were facing charges including leaving their posts to take part in the protest march

He said the union had information that none of the Sapu protesters had been charged and Popcru believed the disciplinary hearings were "grossly unfair" ARG 4/9/96

But Western Cape police spokesman Wicus Holtzhausen said Sapu members who took part in the march had been reprimanded

Captain Holtzhausen said the police did not have double standards and rules "We have the same disciplinary rules which apply to Popcru, Sapu and the Public Servants League "

"The police do not determine first to which union the officer belongs before starting a disciplinary investigation "

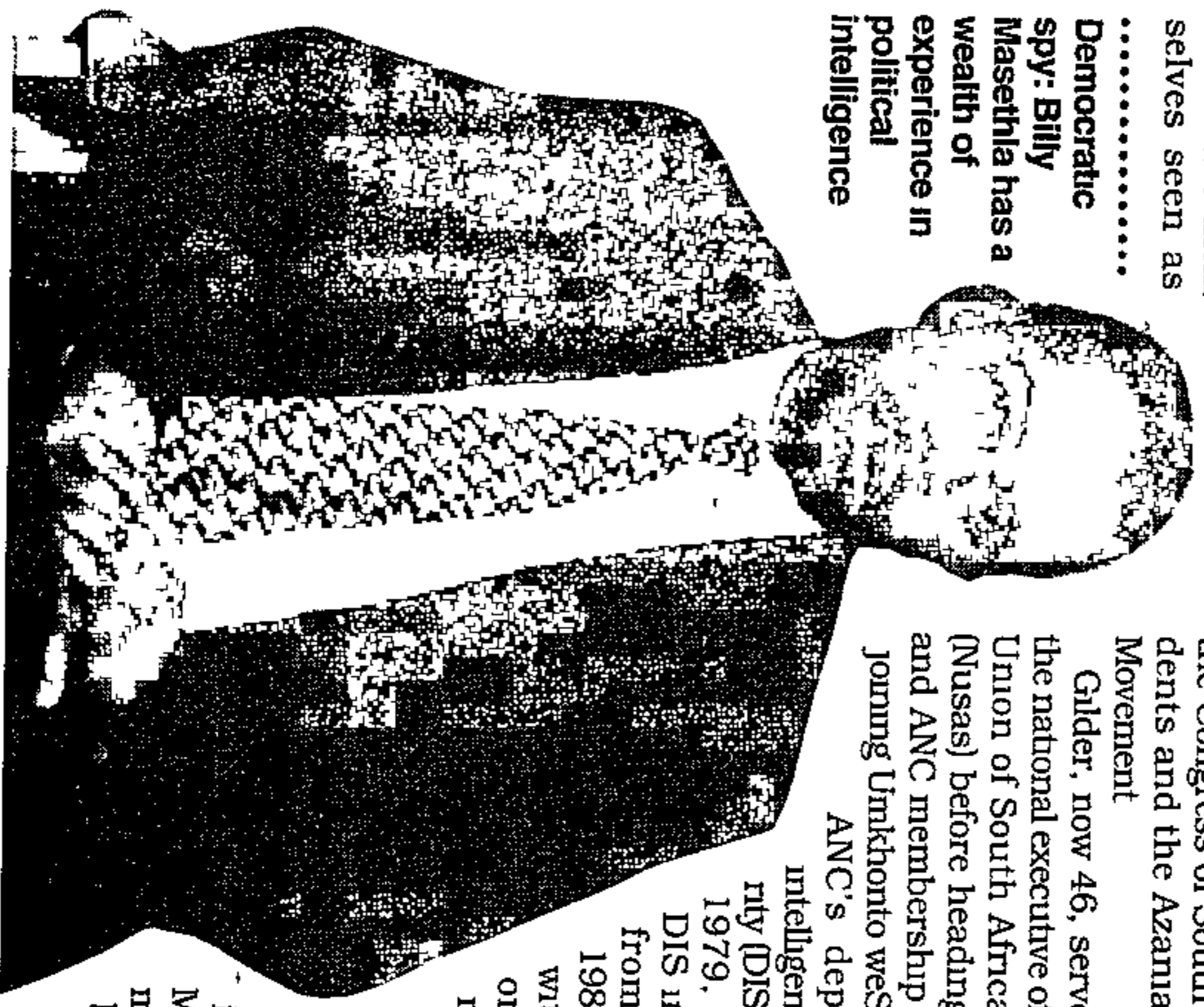
South Africa's new superspies

The new head of the secret service, and his deputy, will be looking out for the dangers and opportunities facing the country, reports **Gaye Davis**

THEY'VE been described as "democratic spies"

student radicals, and they've certainly got the T-shirts — earned during careers which took them from student activism to jail, exile and working underground for the African National Congress. But Billy Masethla, the new head of the South African Secret Service (Sass) and Barry Gilder, his deputy, would prefer to have themselves seen as

Democratic spy: Billy Masethla has a wealth of experience in political intelligence



“democratic spies”

Their appointment brings the former comrades-in-arms full circle they once worked together briefly in Botswana. Masethla, now 41, landed there in 1979 following his release from jail after helping — as an underground ANC operative — direct the uprising unleashed by events in Soweto in 1976 and reorganising the student movement, helping launch the Congress of South African Students and the Azaman Students' Movement

Gilder, now 46, served a term on the national executive of the National Union of South African Students (Nusas) before heading for London and ANC membership in 1976. He joined Umkhonto weSizwe and the ANC's department of intelligence and security (DIS) in Angola in 1979. He headed DIS in Botswana from 1983 to 1989 and served with Masethla on the regional political and military council

Had the struggle not intervened, Masethla might have become a teacher, instead, he

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was trained in military combat work in Angola, specialising in intelligence and counter-intelligence and completing an intelligence officer's course in the former East Germany

Gilder, blessed with a rich repertoire, was known for the political songs he wrote and performed at Nusas congresses. In exile he got involved in cultural politics, helping stage the Culture and Resistance Festival in Gaborone in 1982, before undergoing guerrilla training, specialising in intelligence, in the former Soviet Union

He doesn't sing in public anymore, he says, "Except in the bath — when I have time to have a bath. It was impossible to keep up singing underground, apart from entertaining comrades in safe houses."

His and Masethla's training — different in style and content to that undergone by South African intelligence agents under the old order — has advantages, Gilder says

"The training those of us in the ANC got in the former Soviet Union and East Germany, seen in relation to the training my present colleagues from the old order got, stands us in good stead as a service. We now have the best of both worlds."

Their mission, defined by the changed realities of post-Cold War geo-politics and South Africa's transition, involves refocusing Sass. The old "them and us" paradigm no longer applies national security today is defined less in military terms and more in terms of the full range of political, economic, military, social, religious, ethnic and technological factors that shape security issues around the world

see the cementing together in Sass of the various contrasting attitudes and styles of operating that the amalgamation of operatives from the liberation movement, the Bantustans and the old secret service has brought about

"Our biggest challenge is to change the focus and direction of Sass. The amalgamation brought to the party people who targeted each other in the struggle. That basis for intelligence has gone"

Masethla's wealth of experience in political intelligence and organisational work are said to stand him in good stead for this. "He is a very energetic person, very disciplined, with good leadership skills and a commitment to measured, achievable transformation," said an intelligence source. "Despite his background, he is able to carry all sectors of the service behind him — which is a very necessary skill in this period"

In addition, new legislation passed this year has set up a range of checks and balances none of their predecessors ever had to worry about. Said Gilder "This means we have to change how we behave and how we collect intelligence"

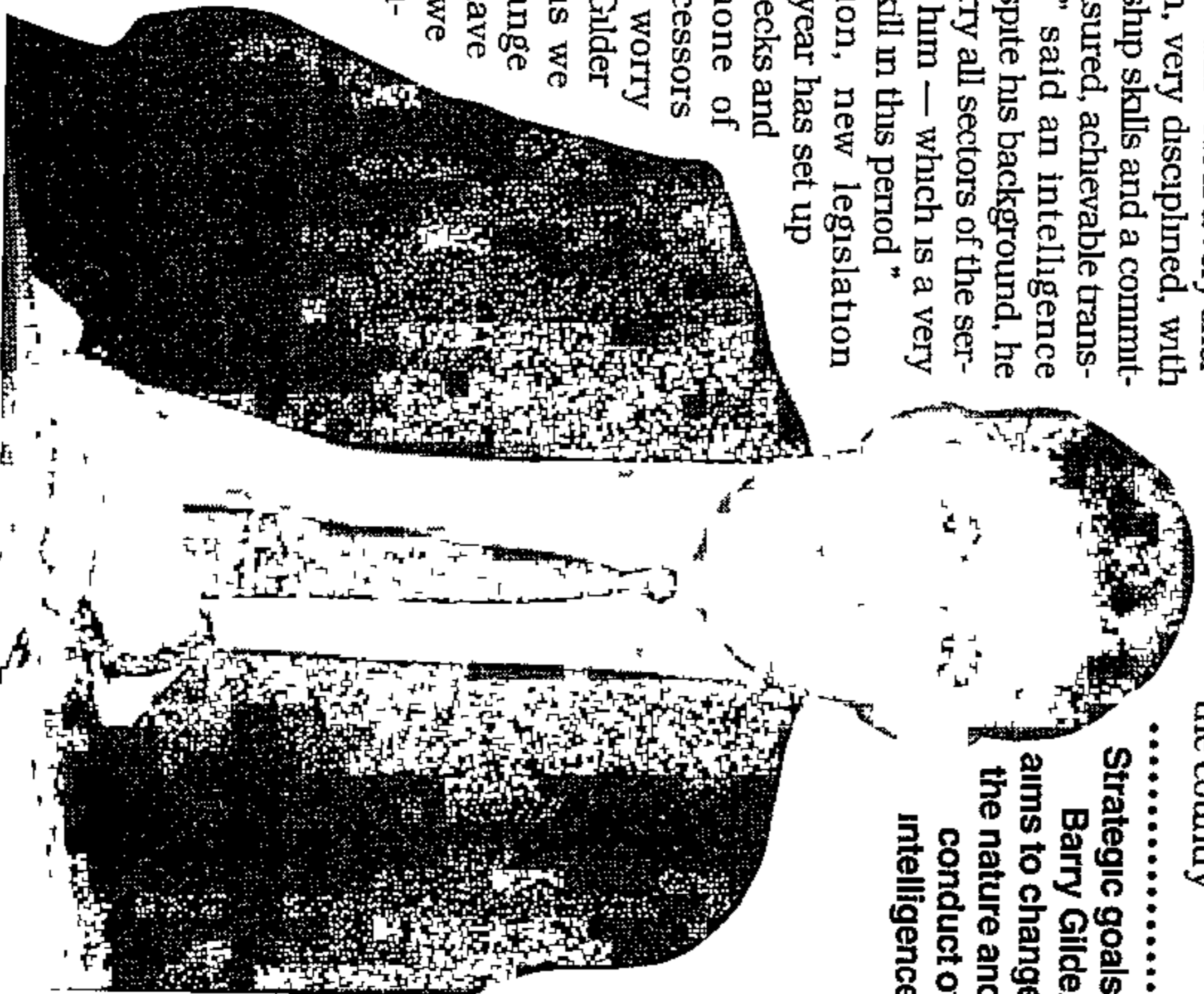
He described Sass's role as providing the government, which now has com-

pletely different information requirements, with "the kind of intelligence it really needs and that will make sense to it"

The presence of foreign intelligence services had "increased quite dramatically", he said "South Africa has become the pet interest of many countries in terms of trade and economic opportunities and political influence in Southern Africa and Africa. The bigger powers are keen to know what makes us tick"

"Our strategic goals, in broad strokes, are to effect a transformation where we can change the nature and conduct of intelligence so as to be able to provide this new government with the intelligence it needs to conduct foreign policy and trade effectively with other countries — and to watch out not only for dangers, but also for opportunities for the country"

Strategic goals Barry Gilder aims to change the nature and conduct of intelligence



planation of apartheid's past

Earlier, his nephew, Willem, the youngest son of his brother, former editor Willem de Klerk, faced a grilling of a different kind — one reminiscent of the days of National Party rule

In response to an advertisement, attorney Willem de Klerk jnr had in February applied for a position at Technikon SA as a lecturer in criminal law to the SA Police Service

CHANGING IMAGE

He was invited to an interview on August 6. The interview panel included Danny Titus, chief of the technikon's police practices department, and other senior staff members

"Believing the police in the new SA are hard at work changing their public image, I was more than willing to assist in the education of their members in lawful policing, as opposed to the notoriously abusive practices of the past," says De Klerk, who started his career as a human rights lawyer and later became a member of the public defenders' office

To his astonishment, however, De Klerk was asked by his interviewers to justify the alleged human rights abuses of the ANC in training camps in East Germany

"In the light of these abuses, I was also asked how I could morally justify the fact that I had acted in a professional capacity against the police on behalf of victims of human rights abuses "

Titus then questioned De Klerk about his ANC affiliations, while another interviewer wanted to know about his relationship with the De Klerk family, which the interviewer referred to in Afrikaans as "die royals "

De Klerk's travels into Africa during 1993 were also questioned. The attention of one of the interviewers was drawn to a Russian-made watch he was wearing. It had been given to him as a present during a visit to Vietnam and has a picture of a hammer and sickle engraved on it

He says the interviewer referred to his "communist watch" and asked him to "explain your ideological affiliations in the light thereof "

Not surprisingly, De Klerk felt that the interview had turned into an interrogation. He says "Believers in the total onslaught are alive and well and teaching our boys in blue who the enemy is "

Titus was not available for comment. *Eddie Botha*

(251)

ONSLAUGHT FRAME OF MIND

FM 6/9/96
Ex-President FW de Klerk recently faced the Truth & Reconciliation Commission to present his government's ex-

Police face charges of torture

BD 6/9/96

(251)

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The SAPS murder and robbery unit was facing allegations of torturing, sexually abusing and making racist remarks against Chatsworth residents — including a policeman — while investigating the recent R31,4m heist from the SBV services in Pinetown.

KwaZulu-Natal com-

plants investigative unit head Supt Pieter Nortje said yesterday that his unit had received complaints from about 15 residents, and had decided to initiate an investigation

Chatsworth policeman Insp John Daniels claimed that about 20 members of the unit had stormed into his house in the early hours of August 20. They called him

a "coolie" and demanded that he "hand over the money". He said one policeman placed a firearm at the head of his seven-year-old son, Kyle, who had been asleep.

Daniels said he had been forced to leave his house with the policemen. They had parked their car on a dirt road where "my hands were pulled back and a tyre rubber was placed over my head and face and a hand pressed over my nose and mouth".

Minority Front leader Amichand Rajbansi said Daniels had laid criminal charges against unit members. "Old order" policemen were behind the torture, and this reflected the need to root them out of the service

Natal University violence monitor Mary de Haas said she had reported to the KwaZulu-Natal legislature's safety and security committee the case of Ragne Chetty, 34, who claimed that policemen fondled her breasts and rubbed her thighs during their investigations.

Nortje confirmed that a woman had claimed to the unit that she had been sexually abused.

Two people had been charged in connection with the heist, but they did not include Daniels and Chetty. Only about R5m had been recovered.



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Old state gangs 'still active'

STATE-sponsored gangs who used their government patronage to build criminal business empires featured prominently during Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) sittings in Mpumalanga this week

Although state support for the gangs officially ended with the dissolution of the South African Police Security Branch in the late 1980s, the gangs are reportedly still active and still enjoy police protection from former security branch members

Fear of repercussions by the gangs prevented numbers of potential witnesses from testifying before the commission, said TRC Deputy Chairman, Dr Alex Boraine

Mpumalanga police Superintendent John Nkuna, who was seconded to the TRC for witnesses' protection, refused to comment on investiga-

tions into the gangs, saying he was afraid that they would target him

"People in this region are terrified of two groups called 'Kabasa' and 'Sibaya Esikhulu', who have earned a reputation for assassinating you in some brutal manner if you oppose their interests," explained Provincial Safety and Security MEC Steve Mabona, who also serves on the provincial TRC Co-ordinating Committee

"They believe that they're the township untouchables and are primarily criminal in their activities. Kabasa and especially Sibaya Esikhulu (which means 'Big Kraal') are extremely well organised," added Mabona

The greatest concern of the head of the Mpumalanga special investigations unit, Captain Fanie Molapo,

CP 8/9/96 (251)
is the perpetual police-protection gangs seem to enjoy

Although declining to give names, he charged that on a number of occasions senior officers totally unconnected with the relevant investigations had stepped in after the arrests of gang members and ordered that all charges be dropped

"There are parts of the police which are horribly corrupt. Senior officers interfere in cases they should have no interest in," he said

"Just last week, the special unit arrested a hitman in KwaZulu-Natal who is used by Mpumalanga businessmen. A senior officer managed to get the man out on bail on a small charge after he was initially denied bail on ten counts of murder," he said - African Eye News Service

CP 8/9/96

84 Western Cape police criminally charged

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Eighty-four policemen in the Western Cape have been charged with crimes ranging from murder to dealing in dagga this year, police MEC Gerald Morkel revealed on Friday at the annual briefing to leading businessmen on provincial affairs by MECs

A total of 785 allegations had been made so far this year against the police by members of the community to the various units set up to investigate corruption in the force

Morkel said the anti-corruption unit, established earlier in the year following repeated allegations of police corruption, had investigated 67 cases of which 42 had been found to

be false. At present, 37 cases were under investigation. In seven cases, 14 policemen were charged with various offences

The national peace accord unit had investigated all cases where a serious breach between the SAPS and the community had occurred as a result of police action

This year the unit investigated 86 allegations of which 10 cases, involving 11 members of the force, were sent to court. Charges included indecent assault, serious assault, attempted murder, theft, dealing in dagga and defeating the ends of justice

The province also had two internal investigation units to investigate alleged criminal offences and serious departmental transgres-

sions by members of the force

The unit in the Western Cape metropole had investigated 620 cases of which 392 had been completed and which led to 59 charges of murder, attempted murder, assault, culpable homicide, negligent loss of a firearm, pointing of a firearm, crimes injuria, indecent assault, theft, drunken driving and housebreaking

On August 28, a national team of 19 detectives arrived in Cape Town to investigate gang and drug-related cases and alleged police corruption. The team was working closely with the attorney-general's office and drawing up a common data base on druglords

The provincial government was also spearheading an initiative to establish a metropol-

itan police force which had the support of the metropolitan council and six substructures

The force would supplement the SAPS and free it to concentrate on serious crimes.

Morkel noted that 3 521 wanted, suspected criminals had been arrested for serious crimes in the Western Cape from June 13 to September 2 under the Sword and Shield plan launched nationally by national police commissioner George Fivaz

However, the overcrowding in jails has led to many releases on bail.

During this period 169 roadblocks were set up, 736 stolen vehicles were recovered, 364 illegal firearms were seized and 219 illegal aliens were arrested.

BDD9/9/96 (257)



'Ex-Selous Scout killer of Palme'⁽²⁵¹⁾

Coetzee
ANTHONY White, the man named by apartheid death squad leader Dirk Coetzee as the alleged killer of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme, was a soldier in the army of Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, a report said yesterday

Coetzee, the second ex-police assassin to implicate former South African operatives in Palme's murder in 1986, told *AFP* that he had learned of White's name from other ex-agents

White, who often uses the first name "Ant," is said to have been "one of the most effective" soldiers in the Rhodesian Selous Scouts unit, which waged war in the 1970s against black guerrillas trying to bring down the white minority government, the *Sunday Independent* newspaper said

Coetzee told *AFP* he knew little of White, except that he had reportedly gone into hiding "somewhere on the Greek islands or in Cyprus" after the Palme killing

Williamson implicated

Coetzee, until 1985 the leader of the notorious Vlakplaas death squad outside Pretoria, has also echoed testimony by his successor, Eugene de Kock, that so-called South African "superspy" Craig Williamson was involved in the killing through a secret intelligence group called "Operation Longreach"

"Exactly how the operation was carried out isn't clear," Coetzee said, acknowledging that his knowledge of Palme's killing was "hearsay, but definitely true"

Williamson has denied involvement in Palme's death, although he has admitted to other bombings and murders during the apartheid era, including the 1982 bomb attack on African National Congress offices in London - *Sapa-AFP*

Cape Flats residents believe corruption rife

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

PEOPLE living on the Cape Flats believe there is widespread corruption in the police and among some judges and prosecutors, and that the levels of crime have increased — but they are divided in their views about Pagad.

More than half supported the use of violence or force to get rid of criminals. These were among the major findings of a

survey conducted by Idasa (Institute for a Democratic South Africa) two weeks ago, the results of which were released yesterday.

“Three-quarters of our sample (75%) felt that at least ‘some’ officers were involved in corruption, 23% said ‘most’ and 5% felt that ‘almost all’ police officers were engaged in corruption.”

“Only 4% felt that there were no police officers engaged in corruption.”

“Respondents were less scathing about judges and prosecutors. Still, over half the sam-

ple (52%) felt that at least some are corrupt.”

“Only 10% said no legal officials were engaged in corruption and more than one-third (38%) were uncertain.”

Idasa said the survey demonstrated how quickly Pagad had become a household name in Cape Town — 97% were aware of Pagad.

However, less than one-third (29%) supported Pagad, 30% opposed it, and 33% said they were neutral. Only 1% were members and 5% would join it if they had the opportunity.

Omar tackles police corruption

(251) M+G 13-19/9/96

Efforts to clean up police corruption are likely to fail unless the roots of police impunity are severed, writes **Ann Eveleth**

MINISTER of Justice Dullah Omar this week mooted a special tribunal and prosecutor's office to rout corruption from the South African Police Service, but human rights groups say it will need far-reaching powers to effect the deep-cleaning operation needed to build public confidence in the police.

Omar told supporters of the Chatsworth-based anti-crime group National United People's Organisation (Nupo) on Sunday that his office intended tabling a draft report to Parliament "soon", calling for the appointment of a tribunal and special prosecutors' office aimed at rooting out corruption from the ranks of the police.

He said the office would be staffed by "special individuals" and monitored by the public and community organisations.

Omar's spokesperson, Peter Du Rand, said this latest effort to stem the national crime wave followed Cabinet's approval in July of the Institution of Special Investigation Units and Special Tribunals Bill which paved the way for a more "effective mechanism" to address all forms of government corruption that presently exists.

Other measures aimed at intensifying the fight against police corruption include the recent appointment of the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD), under the leadership of former KwaZulu-Natal police reporting officer Neville Melville and the expected promulgation of a new police disciplinary code, currently under negotiation between national and provincial police structures.

While human rights groups have welcomed the latest moves as "a step in the right direction", they warn that efforts to build police credibility are likely to fail unless a thorough audit is conducted to ensure that police with questionable records were not placed in "sensitive positions".

"The most important question is who will be appointed to Omar's investigative team. It needs to be independent and it has to comprise



Dullah Omar: Wants a tribunal and a special prosecutor's office aimed at rooting out police corruption

PHOTOGRAPH HENNER FRANKENFELD

people who have shown themselves to be willing and capable of working under dire circumstances. We need a group of untouchables," said Network of Independent Monitors (NIM) Director Jenni Irish.

Natal Violence Monitor Mary de Haas said the unit's success would also depend heavily on its ability to provide transparency regarding past records of police in senior and "sensitive" positions. Criminality was part of police culture under apartheid, so the only way to deal

with it is to have transparency about the past," she said.

De Haas said the public had a right to know the records of senior police in their communities. "We have former security police in senior positions in management in community policing forums and in special investigation units. Although it is impractical to pension off everyone with a past, at the very least they should be transferred out of communities where they have built up criminal net-

works," she said.

De Haas added that senior police appointment processes needed to be vetted by the public, the communities affected by the appointment and by monitoring groups with access to historical data on individual police officers and problematic stations. When East and West Germany unified, the records of the old security police were thrown open to scrutiny. This hasn't happened in South Africa and until we have transparency

about who was doing what 10 years ago and where they are today, there is little hope of the police establishing public credibility," she said.

She added that the public still needed to know details about the 3 000 police officers who FW De Klerk attempted to indemnify in 1994.

NIM's Irish said she hoped the Justice Department's tribunals would provide a forum to scrutinise complaints about police with shadowy pasts occupying senior positions. Otherwise the criminal justice system was in danger of "merely arresting the footsoldiers of crime".

This had been a problem with rooting out "third force" elements involved in KwaZulu-Natal's civil war, but it was also reflected in the problems associated with fighting the national crime wave. "It's the syndicates which are really boosting crime levels and they are surviving because of police involvement. If we don't break that link, we'll never make a dent in the crime wave," said Irish. The ICD's Melville agreed. "If you've got crooked police, there's no hope at all of stopping crime".

Melville thought it was unlikely given the poor response of police to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that a mechanism could be set up to induce police to reveal their apartheid-era activities, but said he hoped the ICD would be able to identify "the causes of corruption, rather than just the symptoms".

This would require a unified database on police corruption information and a handful of initial "test cases" to focus on police involvement in criminal networks, which the ICD intended to undertake, he added.

Melville said that a mechanism was also needed to overcome what was known in many countries as the "blue code" in which police refused to report allegations against their fellow officers. "We need to find a way of encouraging police to break this code without fearing repercussions on their careers," he said.

NIM's Irish said there were "many good police who want to report on their colleagues, are reporting to other people, but are afraid to make an official complaint. We have a situation where good police officers need to be protected from their criminal colleagues before we will get anywhere," she said.

De Kock's time to talk has come

MTG 13-19/9/96 (251)

Next week the world will gain insight into the mind and motives of South Africa's most accomplished assassin as he enters the dock, writes **Eddie Koch**

COLONEL EUGENE DE KOCK, the man billed as South Africa's most accomplished assassin, will round off one of the country's most extraordinary murder cases when he goes into the dock next week to explain how he and secret police agents under his command carried out many of the old government's most notorious dirty tricks campaigns.

The former commander of the South African police's counter-insurgency unit based at Vlakplaas was found guilty this month in the Pretoria Supreme Court of six murders, two conspiracies to murder and more than 80 counts of gunrunning and fraud a mix of political and criminal felonies that is probably unprecedented in South African legal history. But a series of investigations into the activities of the hit squads that operated out of Vlakplaas and a network of satellite bases around the country in the 1980s and early 1990s show that the acts which the colonel has been convicted of are just a small

portion of the bombings, murders, assaults and assassinations carried out by the unit.

De Kock is expected to begin his testimony in mitigation of sentence next week with an account of a career in the South African Police that spanned some of the violent and traumatic periods of this country's history.

His life story will begin with experiences during the bush war in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), include the unconventional campaigns that were used against Swapo guerrillas in South West Africa (now Namibia), and explain how these methods were then turned against opponents of apartheid inside the country.

Although the current trial deals primarily with the colonel's criminal activities, it is believed he will turn the attention of the court and the public to the full spectrum of his unit's activities. De Kock's motive will be to convince the court that he and his colleagues were driven by a mix of right-wing doctrine, stress sustained during counter-insur-



In the dock Eugene de Kock (second from the left) is aware that his only chance of a reprieve is to give a frank account of the Vlakplaas activities

gency operations, and instructions from above.

His appearance in the dock, which is attracting local and international media excitement, is likely to provide unique insight into the psychological make-up of the people who resorted to extreme human rights abuses in order to extend the dying days of apartheid. After De Kock, who has seldom given interviews to journal-

ists, has told his life story, a psychologist and criminologist will present their insights into the mind of a man at the centre of some of the country's most tumultuous events.

It is believed De Kock realises his only chance to obtain some kind of reprieve or a reduced sentence is to give the court a full and frank account of his past. He is thus

expected to name more than 10 police generals and at least two former Cabinet members — most likely ex-police ministers Adriaan Vlok and Hennis Kriel — as the men who gave the Vlakplaas unit its orders.

Scores of further trials involving political leaders and security force officers are also likely to result from the testimony that he will give to the court next week.

Ex-spy chief tipped for top job after R1m payout

(251)

ST 15/9/96

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

CONSTITUTIONAL and Provincial Affairs director general and former spy chief Niel Barnard is to be paid out R1,1-million when he leaves his job at the end of November, but he may carry on working for the public service.

The payout was agreed on by representatives of Barnard and the Public Service and Administration Department this week, with the exact figure still to be worked out by the Department of State Expenditure.

Constitutional and Provincial Affairs spokesman Mpho Mosimane confirmed that Barnard would receive, "after deduction of taxes, in the vicinity of R1-million".

The handshake appears to be much less than the more than R4-million Barnard is believed to be entitled to for 30 years of service in the public sector. He has worked at director general level for 17 and a half years, most of them as head of National Intelligence Service. He was transferred to the government from the University of the Orange Free State,

where he had worked for five years.

A further eight or so "bonus years" have accrued to him in terms of public service regulations.

His decision to take a modest package has fuelled speculation that he is in line for to take over as director general of the Western Cape once he vacates his office in November.

Barnard's spokesman Johan Symington would give no comment on this possibility when approached this week. "I'm not sure what his plans are."

Public Service and Administration director general Dr. Paseko Ncholo said the settlement was the easiest he had yet negotiated with a director general.

"The negotiation process was conducted with dignity and honour. It was easy for us to arrive at a settlement," he said.

Ncholo added "Niel probably knew he's got another future elsewhere."

Had Barnard taken a voluntary severance option, he would be barred from working elsewhere in the civil service, but there was nothing to prevent the Western Cape from appointing Barnard as director general after he had negotiated the termination of his contract with the government, Ncholo said.

PW 'knew of and approved killer squads'

(251) Star 17/9/96

Taking the stand for the first time, former Vlakplaas commander De Kock names superiors who 'gave the orders'



BY NORMAN CHAMBERS
Pretoria Bureau

Eugene de Kock, the convicted police hit-squad killer, yesterday named senior government officials, police and military officers who ordered him and his C-10 counter-insurgency unit to kill and maim people in Swaziland, Lesotho and South Africa. There is more to come today.

Top of the list provided to the Pretoria Supreme Court by the self-styled "state assassin" is former president P W Botha, who was chairman of the State Security Council at the time hit squads from Vlakplaas were activated.

Others named so far are former police minister Louis le Grange - who gave De Kock the Police Star for Exemplary Service after a Swaziland raid - and former SAP commissioners General Mike Geldenhuys, General Johan Coetzee and General Johan van der Merwe.

Others named (with their positions at the time given in brackets) included:

- General Gerrit Erasmus (head of the Commercial Branch)
- Niel Barnard (head of national intelligence)
- Ringader William Schoon (Security Branch)
- Colonel Nick Oosthuizen (border control unit)
- Colonel Jack Cronje (OC, Vlakplaas)
- Colonel Visser (Eastern Transvaal security police)
- Colonel Delpoort (East Rand security police)
- Captain Timmo Goshuizen (unit unknown).

Others were not named as he wanted to give them the opportunity to approach the Truth and Reconciliation Commission voluntarily, De Kock said.

In a previous appearance, De Kock (47) intimated he would "name names" to show that the crimes he had been found guilty of were carried out on instruction of superiors.

He told Mr Justice Willan van der Merwe that at the time the State Security Council, Military Intelligence and the National Intelligence Service were all party to the raids.

He was giving evidence in mitigation of sentence after he was found guilty of six murders, two conspiracies to murder and various other charges.

De Kock's defence counsel, Elip Hattingh, SC, had provided evidence that his client suffered

THE PRESIDENT, THE MINISTER AND SOME OF THE GENERALS NAMED YESTERDAY



General Johan Coetzee, former commissioner ... not sure he wanted to shake De Kock's hands because he said there was blood on them

Police Minister Louis le Grange ... presented De Kock for Swaziland raid

'General' Johan van der Merwe, recently retired commissioner ... implicated in raid on Swaziland

General Gerrit Erasmus, former head of the Commercial Branch

General Mike Geldenhuys, former commissioner ... implicated

General Basie Smut ... the day De Kock a medal after the attack in December 1985

Former president P W Botha was chairman of the State Security Council and knew of the raid

Niel Barnard said Swaziland was very sensitive

from post-traumatic stress syndrome, brought about as a result of his police work in the former Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), South-West Africa (Namibia) and in South Africa.

Doctors had diagnosed stress,

tedness, sleeping problems, disorientation, strange dreams, stomach ailments and lack of concentration, the court was told.

De Kock said that at a party for Koervoet members at Pretoria, he was going from one war to

another war. The war had not ended," De Kock said.

The weapons, including assault rifles, machineguns, silenced weapons and super rifles - "not normally weapons used by the

State," the SA National Defence Force, and Great Lakes, an ANC operative, in Mbabane, Swaziland, was a high-ranking member of the ANC's armed

State," the SA National Defence Force, and Great Lakes, an ANC operative, in Mbabane, Swaziland, was a high-ranking member of the ANC's armed

State," the SA National Defence Force, and Great Lakes, an ANC operative, in Mbabane, Swaziland, was a high-ranking member of the ANC's armed

'PW Botha knew about and approved killer squads'

► From Page 1

wing, Umkhonto weSizwe

De Kock was ordered by Colonel Cronje to undertake the mission "and there was no doubt that it had been approved at head office. It was marked as coming from the generals," he said.

Twenty-six handgrenades were thrown through the windows of the house, which was occupied "by five or six people". Three days later, at a secret ceremony, the then police minister Louis le Grange gave him a medal for the operation.

He had taken over command

at Vlakplaas in July 1985 and his first operations included the ambushing of four bank robbers alleged to be PAC members and the abduction of Japie Maponya, a security guard at a Krugersdorp building society.

The Lesotho raid of December 1985, in which Jacqui Quim and Leon Meyer died, was launched after P W Botha had accused Lesotho of harbouring ANC terrorists, he said.

"I was asked to assist in the planning of an operation in Lesotho. A division of the State Security Council, which fell under

P W Botha, was handling it. There was a feeling of urgency about the operation.

"P W Botha, all the security forces, national intelligence, the commissioner of police, the chief of the Security Branch and Brigadier Schoon all knew."

Stadler had been part of the planning for the abduction from Swaziland of a man named Malaza, which had ended in a Landcruiser being driven over a cliff.

"Malaza was taken away in an SAAF helicopter, never to be seen again."

In another raid, described, according to De Kock, by Barnard, Van der Merwe and Visser as "very sensitive", there had been an assault on a police station inside Swaziland. It was alleged the police station was harbouring "terrorists". One Swazi policeman died.

After another Swazi raid in which four people were killed, the hit squad drove through the night to the Pretoria home of then police commissioner Johan Coetzee, where they were congratulated on their success, De Kock said.

The case continues today.

Win a family trip to Legoland in Britain

See page 14

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Building the Nation

De Kock fingers PW and top cops

(251) Sowetan 17/9/96

By Josias Charle

HIS SQUADS killer Eugene de Kock has implicated former state president Mr PW Botha and former law and order minister Mr Louis le Grange in cross-border raids in which scores of people were killed.

De Kock told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday in mitigation of sentence that he was involved in a number of cross-border raids in which people were killed.

For some of these actions, the policemen involved were awarded the police star for excellent service.

De Kock testified that Botha had accused former Lesotho prime minister Chief Leabua Jonathan of harbouring African National Congress guerrillas.

Police operation

"After this, Brigadier Willem Schoon said we must make a plan for a police operation to take them (guerillas) out," De Kock said.

Schoon is the former head of C10 section that was based at Vlakplaas, outside Pretoria, where De Kock was an operative. Schoon was then based at Wachthuis police headquarters in Pretoria.

De Kock said he had personally planned details of the operation. He wrote down the details in a memorandum he showed Schoon before it was typed out.

"He accepted my report as it was and then he gave the green light for the operation to go on. I have no doubt that PW Botha and the then commissioner of police, Brigadier Schoon, as well as the military and police intelligence knew about the operation," he said.

De Kock said he then finalised other details of the operation, including identification of the location of targets, names of people who were to take part in the operation and the type of equipment to be used.

Answering questions from his senior counsel, Mr Flip Hattangh, De Kock said it was his doctrine that women and children should not be killed during operations.

But in this case all the targets, except those who managed to escape earlier, were killed. Women and children were among those who died.

After the operation, each participant was awarded a medal at a secret ceremony attended by "trusted officials" in Pretoria. They were decorated by former security police chief General Basie Smit.

"I cannot remember if General Johan van der Merwe was present," De Kock said.

Given medals

He told the court that the medals were given out in recognition of the circumstances under which police had to work. "We were not rewarded for killing people."

In this case, ANC cadres had been accused of killing policemen in the Cape area.

De Kock told the court that soon after his arrival at Vlakplaas, he became involved in several deadly cross-border raids into Swaziland.

In one such raid the brother of South African National Defence Force Chief-of-Staff General Siphwe Nyanda, was killed. He identified him as Mr Zwelibanzi Nyanda.

"The order to kill him and other ANC cadres came from police headquarters and I have no doubt that the intelligence people have more on this case."

He said Colonel Cronjé was in charge of the operation in which 26 hand grenades and pistols were used.

They were later given medals by the late Le Grange. Present at this "private ceremony" were General Mike Geldenhuys and General Johan Coetzee.

● See Page 2.



Eugene de Kock (main pic) with some of the top people he named in evidence in mitigation yesterday: former state president Mr PW Botha (top left), former police commissioner General Johan Coetzee (top right) and former security police chief General Basie Smit (bottom left).

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Hushed silence as De Kock speaks

(251) Sowetan 17/9/96

Former Vlakplaas commander tells about his strict Christian upbringing

By Josias Charle

FORMER Vlakplaas unit commander Eugene de Kock was born into a Christian, National Party-supporting family 47 years ago, he told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday during argument in mitigation of sentence.

De Kock said he was raised the hard way and learnt to be independent at an early age.

He described his family background to Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe, and two assessors as being "Christian, Nationalist conservative".

He was born in George in the Cape Province and attended school in

Springs on the East Rand, where he matriculated at Voortrekker High School.

During school vacations he worked on a farm where there was "no time to play - it was hard labour all the way".

His father, a magistrate, was very strict. But he never taught his children to differentiate between white or black in terms of race.

"There was no trace of trampling other races' rights," De Kock said.

He joined the police force in

January 1968. Months after his basic training, he was sent to former Rhodesia where he was involved in several skirmishes with "Swapo terrorists". During these encounters, many people were killed on both sides.

De Kock gave the court a detailed account of his activities in Rhodesia until the time the counter-insurgency unit Koevoet was formed.

He recounted that there were about 300 clashes in which he was involved. Not all of them involved

shooting.

He named former Major-General "Sterk Hans" Dreyer as the commanding officer of the Koevoet unit.

De Kock said it was Dreyer who gave orders that three people captured during the war should be executed.

"But I respect him. Even up to today, I hold him in high esteem," he told the hushed courtroom.

Ironically, it was Dreyer who ended De Kock's career at Koevoet when he discharged him after a clash of words in 1983.

De Kock then joined the Vlakplaas unit as a captain serving under Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Cronjé. He was later to assume leadership of the feared unit.

Dirty tricks revealed for the first time

(251) Sowetan 17/9/96

By Josias Charle

THE hand grenades that killed seven Duduza youths were booby-trapped by police in such a way as to cause death - not just injury - to those who handled them, according to Eugene de Kock.

Lifting off the lid on a number of clandestine and deadly activities that have baffled South Africans over the years, De Kock told Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe and two assessors in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that the grenades were doctored to cause death to those who handled them.

"It was during 1984 or 1985 when it was decided that a group of Duduza activists had to be taken out. They were accused of being involved in various acts of terror, including attacking the police and soldiers. It was then that the grenade idea developed," De Kock said.

He said the F1 grenades were prepared to go off immediately when the pin was pulled out. "Unlike other standard grenades that have an average allowance of about 4,5 seconds before exploding, these ones had a zero time factor - which means they were meant to kill on detonation."

Self-confessed killer

The grenades were handed over to the youths by self-confessed killer Mr Joe Mamasela, who was a Vlakplaas operative at the time Colonel Roelf Venter was in charge of the operation.

According to De Kock, Mamasela had infiltrated the group and he had "trained" them in handling weapons.

The grenades were prepared at the police technical division in Pretoria and the order was that "they had to be deadly so as to avoid Mamasela being identified by survivors".

Seven youths were killed and about six others were badly maimed when they attempted to bomb homes of serving policemen or councillors in the Duduza area.

In another operation in which he was involved, De Kock said, Colonel Visser, then chief of security police in Eastern Transvaal, ordered that an ANC member, known only as Msibi, be smuggled out of Swaziland.

A serving member of the SAP, a Warrant-Officer Malaza was forced to



'The grenades were handed over to youths by self-confessed killer Mr Joe Mamasela, who was a Vlakplaas operative at the time Colonel Roelf Venter was in charge'

go into Swaziland to befriend Msibi and gain his confidence.

Later a group of C10 (Vlakplaas) men, two Eastern Transvaal security policemen and De Kock went through the Oshoek border gate into Swaziland and managed to get Msibi out.

He was handed over to Colonel Visser and General Johan Stadler for questioning. Stadler is a former head of the police communication directorate.

"Msibi was taken to Vlakplaas for questioning and was later fetched by helicopter. 'I do not know what happened to him and never heard of him again'."

In another bizarre incident in which another man was smuggled out of Swaziland, De Kock said an "arrangement" was made with the Swazi police that the South Africans would "take over" a local police station in order to facilitate the taking out of Mr Maurice Sedibe.

The arrangement was that the Swazi policemen on duty would not be armed.

"When we arrived in Swaziland, the police station was deserted, save for a lone policeman who was perhaps not involved in the plan. We managed to convince him to lay down his weapon and we then spirited Sedibe away. He

was handed over to Colonel Visser in Piet Retief."

In yet another operation, De Kock said he was approached by Colonel Nic Oosthuizen and Captain Timo Coetzee. They told him they had problems with a group of activists.

"We had information that the group was intending to attend a meeting at Manzini, Swaziland. Oosthuizen and Coetzee must have had an informer within the group."

"I then arranged a group of 10 Vlakplaas men, armed them with AK-47 rifles and ammunition, a car and false registration numbers and they were dispatched to Swaziland to deal with the troublesome activists."

"In the operation three people were killed. It was a dirty operation and when questions were asked about the car, we arranged that a similar car be made available and our technical unit effected necessary changes to the car's various identification numbers to cover our trails."

De Kock was found guilty last month on 89 charges, including six of murder, two of conspiracy to commit murder and more than 80 of fraud and gun-running.

He was acquitted on 32 other charges. The trial is proceeding.

Big crowd fills public gallery at De Kock trial

By Josias Charle

FOR the first time since the beginning of the Eugene de Kock trial 19 months ago, the public gallery was filled to capacity yesterday with two Cabinet Ministers also in attendance.

The murder and fraud trial has failed to attract large crowds previously, but yesterday, curious members of the public turned out in huge numbers to hear De Kock give his own accounts of events.

None of his victims' relatives, were in court.

Sitting in the gallery were Minister of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi, Deputy Minister of Intelligence Mr Joe Nhlanhla and Secretary of Safety and Security Mr Azaar Cachalia.

A large contingent of local and foreign media filled two front rows and a group of advocates, policemen and other members of the public filled the rest of court DG in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

Space was at a premium and latecomers had to be content with standing in the aisles.

Taking questions

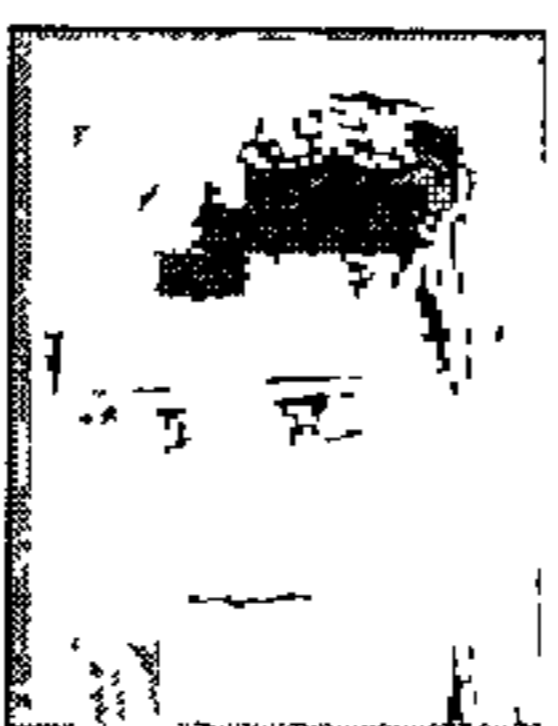
De Kock, wearing a charcoal suit and tie with his hair neatly cropped, took the stand just after 9.50am and was immediately asked to take the oath by Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe's clerk.

He then sat down and started taking questions from his senior counsel, Mr Flip Hattingh.

Not once during the morning session did he seem to notice who was sitting in the public gallery and he always stared forward through his thick-lensed glasses at the judge or at Hattingh.

He hardly ever gesticulated but he spoke confidently, although in a soft voice which belied his tall, large frame.

The judge and his two assessors listened intently to De Kock and from time to time took notes.

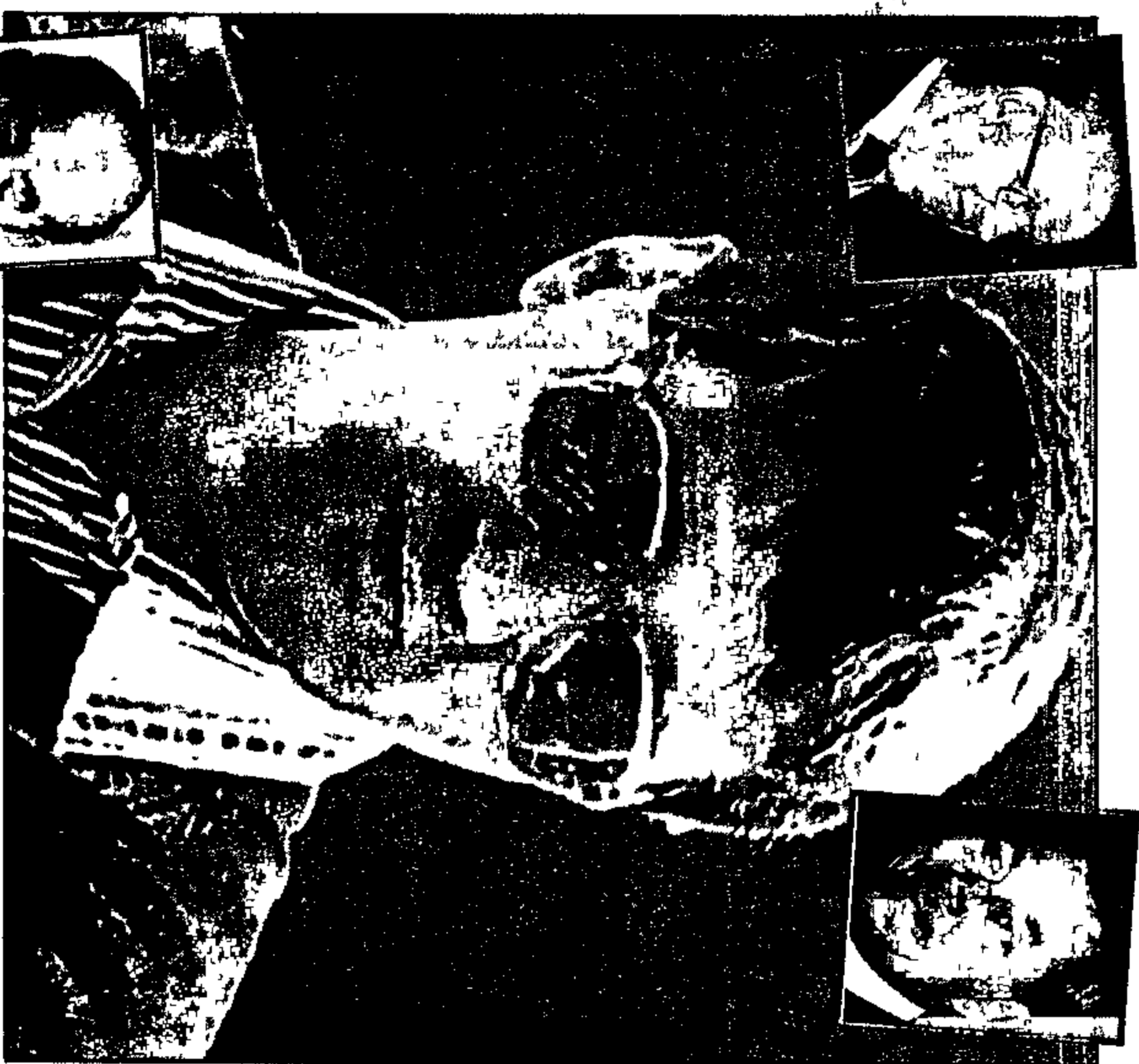


'De Kock was found guilty on 89 charges, including six of murder, last month'

De Kock finds PW and top cops

By Josias Charle

(251) Souwstar 17/9/96



Eugene de Kock (main pic) with some of the top people he named in evidence in mitigation yesterday: former state president Mr PW Botha (top left), former police commissioner General Johan Coetzee (top right) and former security police chief General Basie Smit (bottom left).

HT SQUADS killer Eugene de Kock has implicated former state president Mr PW Botha and former law and order minister Mr Louis le Grange in cross-border raids in which scores of people were killed.

De Kock told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday in mitigation of sentence that he was involved in a number of cross-border raids in which people were killed.

For some of these actions, the policemen involved were awarded the police star for excellent service.

De Kock testified that Botha had accused former Lesotho prime minister Chief Leabua Jonathan of harbouring African National Congress guerrillas.

Police operation

"After this, Brigadier Willem Schoon said we must make a plan for a police operation to take them (guerrillas) out," De Kock said.

Schoon is the former head of C10 section that was based at Viakplaas, outside Pretoria, where De Kock was an operative. Schoon was then based at Wachthuis police headquarters in Pretoria.

De Kock said he had personally planned details of the operation. He wrote down the details in a memorandum he showed Schoon before it was typed out.

"He accepted my report as it was and then he gave the green light for the operation to go on. I have no doubt that PW Botha and the then commissioner of police, Brigadier Schoon, as well as the military and police intelligence knew about the operation," he said.

De Kock said he then finalised other details of the operation, including identification of the location of targets, names of people who were to take part in the operation and the type of equipment to be used.

Answering questions from his senior counsel, Mr Fip Hattingh, De Kock said it was his doctrine that women and children should not be killed during operations.

But in this case all the targets, except those who managed to escape earlier, were killed. Women and children were among those who died.

After the operation, each participant was awarded a medal at a secret ceremony attended by "trusted officials" in Pretoria. They were decorated by former security police chief General Basie Smit.

"I cannot remember if General Johan van der Merwe was present," De Kock said.

Given medals

He told the court that the medals were given out in recognition of the circumstances under which police had to work. "We were not rewarded for killing people."

In this case, ANC cadres had been accused of killing policemen in the Cape area.

De Kock told the court that soon after his arrival at Viakplaas, he became involved in several deadly cross-border raids into Swaziland.

In one such raid the brother of South African National Defence Force Chief-of-Staff General Siphuwe Nyanda, was killed. He identified him as Mr Zwebhbanzi Nyanda.

"The order to kill him and other ANC cadres came from police headquarters and I have no doubt that the intelligence people have more on this case."

He said Colonel Cronjé was in charge of the operation in which 26 hand grenades and pistols were used.

They were later given medals by the late Le Grange. Present at this "private ceremony" were General Mike Geldenhuys and General Johan Coetzee.

● See Page 2.

Chilling testimony of the state's 'number one hitman'

'I don't know if I want to shake your hands, they are covered in blood,' said police commissioner after cross-border raid – for which De Kock got Police Cross

(251) 17/9/96



By ROBERT BRAND

With his neat side-parting, square-rimmed glasses and grey suit, the man on the witness stand could have been mistaken for a civil servant. For much of his adult life, that is exactly what he was. Eugene de Kock, policeman, state assassin.

Staring straight ahead of him, occasionally glancing up at Judge Willem van der Merwe, De Kock yesterday told a stunned courtroom about his career as the state's number-one hitman, an accolade he had claimed for himself during testimony in the recent murder trial of one of his former colleagues.

He spoke of learning to "shoot first, or come off second-best". He mentioned feeling "dirty" after murdering three activists because it was "an uneven fight". He recalled his confusion about the

Christian propaganda pumped into them by police chaplains before they departed on operations finding a Bible in the rucksack of a Swapo insurgent shot dead during one such sortie, he thought that "this man could also have prayed for victory this morning".

Old anger seemed to well up as he recalled a standoff with his commanding officer in South-West Africa, General Hans Dreyer, which resulted in his removal from the operational area.

Dreyer, De Kock said, was threatening him with a stick. "I told him what I would do with his stick if he hit me. I would have injured him severely, Your Honour."

At other times, he uttered sentences which could have had a certain pathos, were they not emanating from the mouth of a man who had admitted to murdering prisoners of war and enemies of the state without so much as a thought.

"He was a hard man," he said of his father, a former chief magistrate of Johannesburg. "He didn't teach us about black and white, or

about Left and Right. Everything was either right or wrong."

Throughout, De Kock remained inscrutable, his soft, even voice never wavering, never reflecting the horror of his words.

After a "contact" with Swapo insurgents in South-West Africa, he said, the first words over the radio from headquarters were always "How many heads?" The Owambo soldiers fighting against their kinsmen were paid R2 000 a head for every "terrorist" they killed.

They rarely took prisoners. If an insurgent was caught, he was "taken into the veld, shot and buried". That was standard practice, although the orders were deliberately vague. "They would say 'this man doesn't want to listen, maybe he needs a rest, or maybe he should go for a ride'."

The "rest" or "ride" would be a bullet and a shallow grave.

They rationalised the killings. "We weren't fighting members of the Red Cross." Even so, the murder of prisoners sometimes bothered him.

"Inherently you knew it wasn't

right. It went against the grain to shoot an unarmed person."

After his fallout with Dreyer, he returned to South Africa "physically and spiritually tired" to join the C-10 counter-insurgency unit at Vlakplaas, near Pretoria.

The unit's purpose, De Kock said, was "to hunt down and eliminate members of the ANC and PAC". They were known as the "slagarm van die mag" (the strike arm of the police force).

They had an arsenal of unusual weapons, including sub-machineguns factory-fitted with silencers, Russian handgrenades, and AK-47 assault rifles.

He and his comrades were decorated twice for cross-border raids into Lesotho and Swaziland, in which dozens of people were gunned down.

After one such raid, De Kock said, they reported to the house of then police commissioner, Johan Coetzee. Coetzee greeted him with the words "I don't know if I want to shake your hands, they are covered in blood."

Their reward was the Police Cross for Bravery (Silver).

Hit squad left child in house after killing its parents

By ROBERT BRAND AND NORMAN CHANDLER

After taking part in a cross-border raid and the murder of nine people in Maseru, Eugene de Kock phoned the Lesotho capital's police to tell them that his hit squad had left a year-old child alive in one of their target houses.

The child was Phoenix Quin, who was to appear years later before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She appeared before the Commission earlier this year in connection with the deaths of her parents, Leon Meyer and Jacqui Quin.

They were gunned down in Maseru during the night while she

slept in her cot.

Self-confessed assassin De Kock gave the Pretoria Supreme Court vital new evidence yesterday about the planning and execution of the raid, launched after then-president P W Botha became convinced that Lesotho was harbouring ANC terrorists.

The raid was ordered by Brigadier Willem Schoon of the Security Branch in Pretoria and approved by Botha, police commissioner Johan Coetzee and Security Branch head Johan van der Merwe, who later succeeded Coetzee as commissioner, De Kock said.

Planning for the raid was hasty, he said. There was a "sense of ur-

gency" caused by a belief that the ANC had to be driven out of Lesotho before the organisation established a firm foothold there.

Six members of the Vlakplaas unit, led by De Kock, were chosen to attack houses occupied by members of an ANC cell believed to have been involved in the murder of a policeman in Cape Town.

Because of the haste, they had trouble obtaining the right equipment, including rubber boats to cross the swollen Caledon River.

While he and a Warrant-Officer Nortje were attacking one house, De Kock said, two other operatives hit the house in which Jacqui Quin and Leon Meyer lived.

He was opposed to the killing

of women and would not allow it in normal circumstances, De Kock said. But when the operative knocked on Quin and Meyer's front door, Quin opened it and grabbed the barrel of his gun. "He fired the weapon," killing Quin, De Kock said.

The two operatives then entered the house, shot Meyer, and locked Phoenix in a room with her child-murderer.

In the meantime, De Kock and Nortje had shot "seven or eight" people in the other house.

After the raid, they recrossed the Caledon River to Ladybrand, from where De Kock phoned the Maseru police to tell them about the child locked in the house.

PVA 'GAVES boom-bomb order'

ARG 17/9/96

De Kock's evidence (251)

1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 21 23 25 27 29 31 33 35 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 51 53 55 57 59 61 63 65 67 69 71 73 75 77 79 81 83 85 87 89 91 93 95 97 99 101 103 105 107 109 111 113 115 117 119 121 123 125 127 129 131 133 135 137 139 141 143 145 147 149 151 153 155 157 159 161 163 165 167 169 171 173 175 177 179 181 183 185 187 189 191 193 195 197 199 201 203 205 207 209 211 213 215 217 219 221 223 225 227 229 231 233 235 237 239 241 243 245 247 249 251

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT AND SABA

Pretoria - Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock today told the Pretoria Supreme Court that former president P W Botha gave direct orders to the police to blow up Khotso House in Johannesburg

De Kock was giving evidence in mitigation of sentence after being convicted on six counts of murder and 83 offences related to hit squad activities

He said he was approached by his commander, Brigadier Willem Schoon, and told to plan an operation to blow up the building "I was amused, because we are now talking about terrorism on home ground I asked him who gave the orders He told me it came from the highest authority I asked if this included the president, and he said yes"

De Kock also told the court the police, with the aid of the Defence Force Civil Co-Operation Bureau, blew up a community centre in Cape Town

Police were also involved in an arson attack on Khanya House in Pretoria He said he helped set the building on fire

Earlier today, De Kock said former defence minister Magnus Malan, former foreign minister Pik Botha and former chief of the SA Defence Force, General Kat Liebenberg, were involved in hit squad activities

De Kock also said he and super spy Craig Williamson, along with three other policemen, had planted the bomb which blew up ANC headquarters in London

His evidence in mitigation of sentence added 17 more police and military officers to the list of people he says are implicated in planning and carrying out cross-border raids in England, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland These were former police commissioner General H G de Witt, General Krappies Engelbrecht, and generals Serfontein and Steyn, both senior police officers He again said former police minister

Louis le Grange, General Johan Coetzee, General Mike Geldenhuys and Brigadier Willem Schoon knew what had taken place

Virtually his first words today implicated police colleagues Adams, Vermeulen, Coetzee and Bosch as having accompanied him on a "suicide mission" to eliminate ANC operatives in Lesotho in 1985 He described it as "a most secret project" which had resulted in the deaths of five people

He had later received the Police Star He said police General Staff had full knowledge of the mission

He said the London attack almost didn't happen due to the vigilance of a British immigration officer who detained him for five hours

Referring to the London bomb, he said "Craig Williamson had a role in this" He repeated to the judge that Williamson had been crucial "because of his intimate knowledge of the city and the movement of ANC people there"

Turning to operations in Botswana, De Kock said the SA Defence Force had been intimately involved in several raids, and had co-operated with police in regard to operations undertaken by the military attached to the Civil Co-Operation Bureau (CCB) and Special Forces He also implicated the Department of Foreign Affairs, naming ex minister Pik Botha

During evidence Judge van der Merwe said "It appears there was a close co-operation between the SADF and the police"

De Kock "It was at the highest level" Judge "Cross-border raids are not decided at a lower level"

De Kock "No the Department of Foreign Affairs was involved in this - Pik Botha and his group The only person who could stop the raids was the State President"



Eugene de Kock: startling evidence

De Kock spills the beans about his superior officers

PW, police generals and others named in chilling testimony in mitigation



Named: former state president PW Botha

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - Former president P W Botha as well as high-ranking police generals and officers and the present defence force chief of staff were named during former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock's first day on the stand in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

The man nicknamed "Prime Evil" by colleagues spent much of his first morning on the stand yesterday detailing his service in Koevoet, the counter-insurgency unit of the then South African Police, which operated against the South West African People's Organisation (Swapo) before Namibian independence.

De Kock was testifying in mitigation of sentence after being found guilty of 89 charges, among them six of murder.

De Kock said he had been involved in



'Superspy': Craig Williamson



Handshake: Gen Johan Coetzee



NIS chief: Niel Barnard

about 800 encounters or skirmishes while with Koevoet.

He left the unit because he felt he was becoming a danger to himself and feared that the unit's commander, a General Dreyer, wanted to eliminate him.

De Kock said he had stress-related prob-

lems on his return to South Africa, including nightmares, ulcers and panic attacks, during which he was unable to breathe.

He gave details of some of the missions Vlakplaas C10 members had undertaken. These included killing senior African National Congress military staffers in

Lesotho, Swaziland and South Africa, blowing up a suspected ANC sympathiser on a missile range in KwaZulu Natal and arranging for dummy ammunition to be supplied to alleged activists.

A raid into Lesotho following a war of words between Mr Botha and former Lesotho strongman Leabua Jonathan saw Vlakplaas operatives clandestinely enter the mountain kingdom and kill senior ANC military intelligence operatives in 1985, shortly before Chief Jonathan was ousted in a coup.

De Kock said he was sure Mr Botha must have known about the raid as he was involved in a war of words with Chief Jonathan.

He also related how in 1983 he killed Zwelibanzi Nyanda, chief of the ANC military wing in Swaziland and brother of the present chief of staff of the SANDF, Siphiwe Nyanda.

He said Zwelibanzi Nyanda had been a strong and forceful leader and was a thorn in the flesh of the police.

Orders to take out Mr Nyanda had come from Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Cronje, Vlakplaas commander at the time.

De Kock said he had no doubt the operation was approved by top security police.

On returning from another mission to Swaziland, where senior ANC operatives had been killed, De Kock said they drove to regional commissioner Johan Coetzee's house in Pretoria to report back.

"The general said he didn't know whether he should shake my hand as there was so much blood on it. I didn't know if he was joking," De Kock said.

Other names mentioned by De Kock included former National Intelligence Services chief Niel Barnard, former Natal police commissioner Jack Buchner and so-called "superspy" Craig Williamson.

ARG 17/9/96 (251)

Generals, PW knew of atrocity

(251) CP 17/9/96

PRETORIA: Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock

believes former state president Mr P W Botha knew in advance of the raid into Lesotho, as shortly before it, he had accused Maseru of harbouring terrorists.

EUGENE de Kock, the convicted police hit-squad killer, has named senior government officials and police and military officers who ordered him and his C10 counter-insurgency unit to kill people in Swaziland, Lesotho and South Africa.

Top of the list, given by De Kock as he took the stand in the Supreme Court here for the first time yesterday, is former president Mr P W Botha, who was chairman of the State Security Council when hit-squads from Vlakplaas were activated.

Others named are former police minister Mr Louis le Grange and former SA Police commissioners General Mike Geldenhuys, General Johan Coetzee and General Johan van der Merwe.

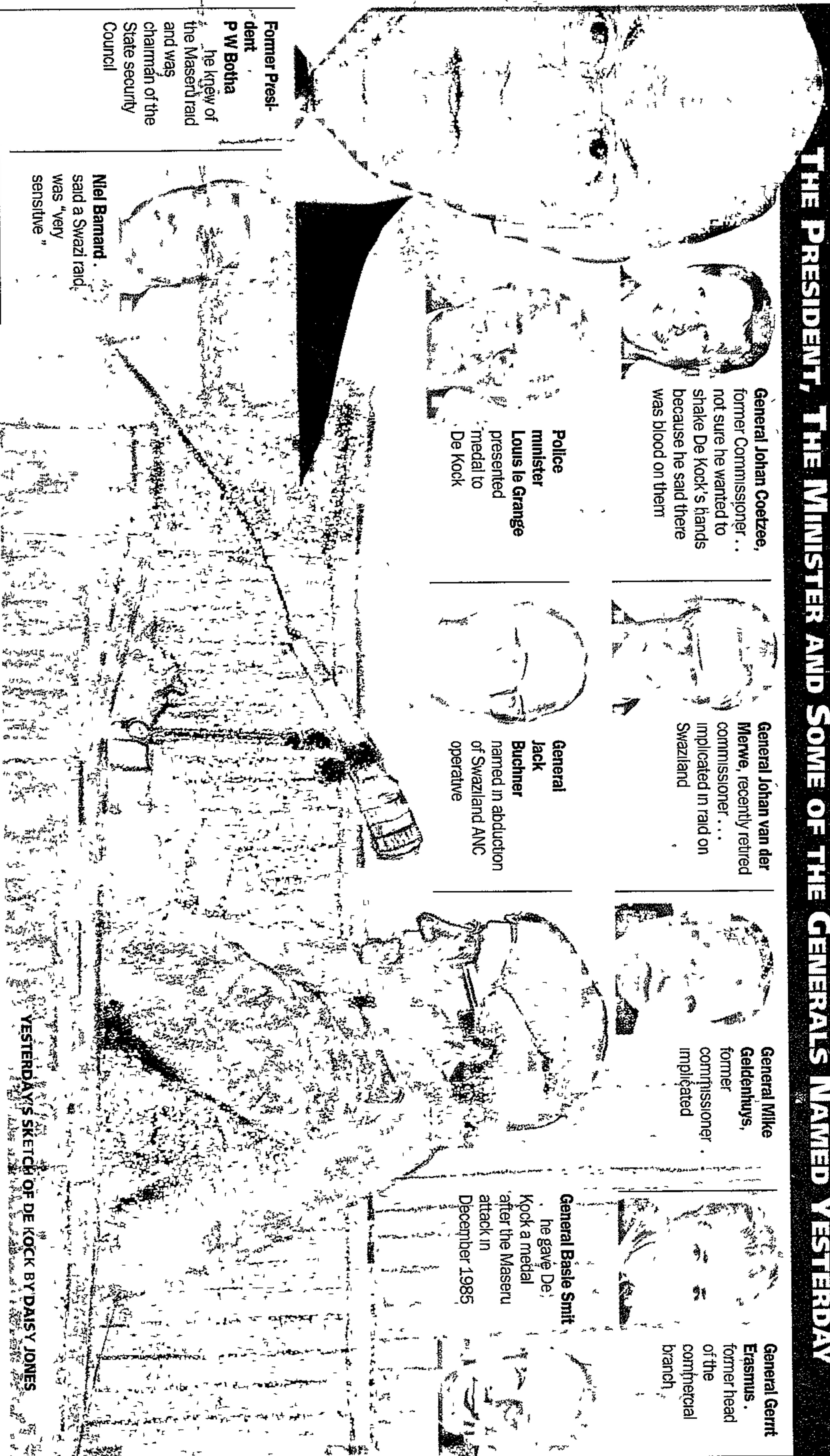
Still others are General Herman Stadler, former head of security and later chief of communications, General Basie Smit, former deputy commissioner, General Jack Buchner, former Natal commissioner, General Gerrit Erasmus, former head of the Commercial Branch, Mr Niel Barnard, former head of national intelligence, Brigadier Willem Schoon, Security Branch, Colonel Nick Oosthuizen, border control unit, Colonel Jack Cronje, former commander of Vlakplaas, a Colonel Visser of the Eastern Transvaal security police, a Colonel Delport of the East Rand security police, and Captain Timmo Oosthuizen, whose unit is unknown.

De Kock said there were some he had not named as he wanted to give them the opportunity to approach the Truth and Reconciliation Commission voluntarily.

In a previous court appearance, De Kock, 47, giving evidence in mitigation of his sentence for six murders, two conspiracies to murder and conviction on other charges, hinted he would "name names" to show the crimes had been carried out on the instruction of superiors.

He said the State Security Council, Military Intelligence and the National Intelligence Service had been party to the raids.

De Kock told the court yesterday that after Koevoet members had a party in the Kruger Nation-



THE PRESIDENT, THE MINISTER AND SOME OF THE GENERALS NAMED YESTERDAY

General Johan Coetzee, former Commissioner... not sure he wanted to shake De Kock's hands because he said there was blood on them

Police minister Louis le Grange presented a medal to De Kock

General Johan van der Merwe, recently retired commissioner... implicated in raid on Swaziland

General Jack Buchner named in abduction of Swaziland ANC operative

General Mike Geldenhuys, former commissioner... implicated

General Basie Smit he gave De Kock a medal after the Maseru attack in December 1985

General Gerrit Erasmus, former head of the commercial branch

Former President P W Botha he key of the Maseru raid and was chairman of the State security Council

Niel Barnard said a Swazi raid was "very sensitive"

al Park, he was dismissed as commander by General "Serk" Hans Dreyer, the officer commanding Koevoet. He returned to Pretoria to join the C10 unit at the Vlakplaas training base.

"I was going from one war to another war. The war had not ended," De Kock said. The Vlakplaas unit had an arsenal of weapons, including AK-47s, machine-guns, silenced weapons and sniper rifles. "These are not normally weapons used by the police," De Kock said. The silenced firearms were used "to assassinate".

De Kock's first assignment was to eliminate Mr Zwellmanza Nyanda, a high-ranking member of Umkhonto we Sizwe and brother of Lieutenant-General Siphiwe Nyanda, now chief of staff of the SA National Defence Force, and Mr "Fear" Laurens, an ANC operative, in Mbabane.

Cronje ordered De Kock to undertake the mission. "There was no doubt that it had been

approved at head office. It was marked as coming from the generals."

Twenty-six handgrenades were thrown through the windows of a house occupied "by five or six people", Nyanda among them. Three days later, former police minister Le Grange gave him a medal for the success of the operation.

De Kock assumed command at Vlakplaas in July 1985. His first operations included the ambushing of four bank robbers alleged to be members of the Pan Africanist Congress and the abduction of Mr Japie Maponya, a security guard at a Krugersdorp building society.

The Lesotho raid of December 1985, in which Ms Jackie Quinn and Mr Leon Meyer died, was launched after then-president Botha had accused Lesotho of harbouring ANC terrorists.

"I was asked to assist in the planning of an operation in Lesotho. A division of the State Security

YESTERDAY'S SKETCH OF DE KOCK BY DAISY JONES

Council, which fell under Botha, was handling it. There was a feeling of urgency about the operation. "Botha, all the security forces, National Intelligence, the commissioner of police, the chief of the Security Branch and Schoon all knew."

Stadler had been part of the planning of the abduction from Swaziland of a man called Malaza. This ended in a Landcruiser's being driven over a cliff and Malaza's being taken away in an SAAF helicopter, "never to be seen again".

In another raid — described by Barnard, Van der Merwe and Visser as "very sensitive" — there was an assault on a Swaziland police station alleged to be harbouring "terrorists". A Swazi policeman died.

After another Swaziland raid in which four people were killed, De Kock and other members of the hit-squad drove to the Pre-

torra home of then-commissioner Coetzee. "The general told me he didn't know whether he should shake my hand, there was so much blood on it. I didn't know if he was joking."

● See Page 5

PW, generals backed raids, says De Kock

BD 17/9/96 (251)

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Former state president PW Botha, former law and order minister Louis le Grange and seven police generals had approved a host of raids into neighbouring countries in the 1980s which left at least 18 people dead, Eugene de Kock said yesterday.

Testifying in mitigation of sentence after his conviction for murder, conspiracy to murder, abduction and fraud, the former Vlakplaas commander also told the Transvaal Supreme Court that he had information about SANDF chief of staff Sipiwé Nyanda that would be "of great interest to the National Intelligence Agency".

Not hesitating to name high ranking former policemen, De Kock refused to name policemen under his command who participated in the operations into Swaziland and Lesotho, wanting to give lower ranking policemen the opportunity to voluntarily tell their stories to the truth commission.

Admitting that he killed Nyanda's brother in Swaziland during an operation in the mid-1980s approved by security headquarters and planned by former security police C-section chief Brig Willem Schoon, De Kock said

"there was a little tale" attached to Nyanda. He said the information would be given to the agency later.

Present in court for the policeman's first day in the witness box yesterday were Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi, safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia and Deputy Intelligence Services Minister Joe Nhlanhla. De Kock, who appeared tense and spoke softly, started his long-awaited testimony by describing his early days as a uniformed policeman fighting the bush war in then Rhodesia and his subsequent four-year period as one of the founding members of the SA Police's notorious Koevoet unit fighting Swapo freedom fighters in the former South West Africa.

During his time at Koevoet, De Kock was involved in more than 300 contacts with Swapo members.

Both experiences taught him to shoot first and ask questions later. "If you shoot second, you come second," he told judge Willem van der Merwe.

Captured Swapo members were also executed and buried and few prisoners were taken. At the time, the SAP had paid a R2 000 bounty for each dead Swapo member to the Ovambo members of the Koevoet unit.

De Kock said the almost daily contact with death had not inured him to violence. However, he had believed the only way to stop terrorism had been to strike first.

In May 1983 De Kock was transferred, at his own request, from Koevoet and ended up at the C10 Vlakplaas unit under the command of then Col Jac Cronje. He was suffering badly from stress at the time and had received medication over a long period because he had been experiencing "horrendous" nightmares and severe anxiety attacks.

One of his first operations at C10 under Cronje's command had been the execution of Zwelibanzi Nyanda in Swaziland during which five other ANC members were also killed.

De Kock and other C10 members all received "Police Silver Star" medals for exemplary service after the operation.

For their involvement in the ANC London headquarters bombing, Le Grange also gave De Kock and his colleagues medals at a function attended by then commissioner Mike Geldenhuys and security chief Johan Coetzee.

A December 1985 raid into Lesotho

Continued on Page 2

De Kock (251)

Continued from Page 1

BD 17/9/96
which left 10 people dead, including Jackie Quinn and her husband, Leon Mare, had been approved by a state security council subcommittee, De Kock said. Schoon and former commissioner Johan van der Merwe were present at the meeting.

"There is no way that PW Botha could not have known about the operation," De Kock said.

Former security police chief and deputy commissioner Gen Basie Smit awarded the policemen involved in the operation with silver cross medals.

In another Swaziland operation, on the orders of former John Vorster Square security branch chief Gen Gerrit Erasmus, the execution of 16 activists was planned, but later three were killed.

One C10 operation, which involved

abducting an ANC member from Swaziland, had caused a major row between NI chief Neil Barnard and police commissioner Johan van der Merwe. Barnard had accused Van der Merwe and the police of jeopardising a very sensitive NI operation involving high ranking ANC members co-operating with the SA.

De Kock also admitted that on Schoon's orders he collected booby-trapped handgrenades from police headquarters which caused the death of a number of young activists on the East Rand. The operation was also ordered by Schoon, he said.

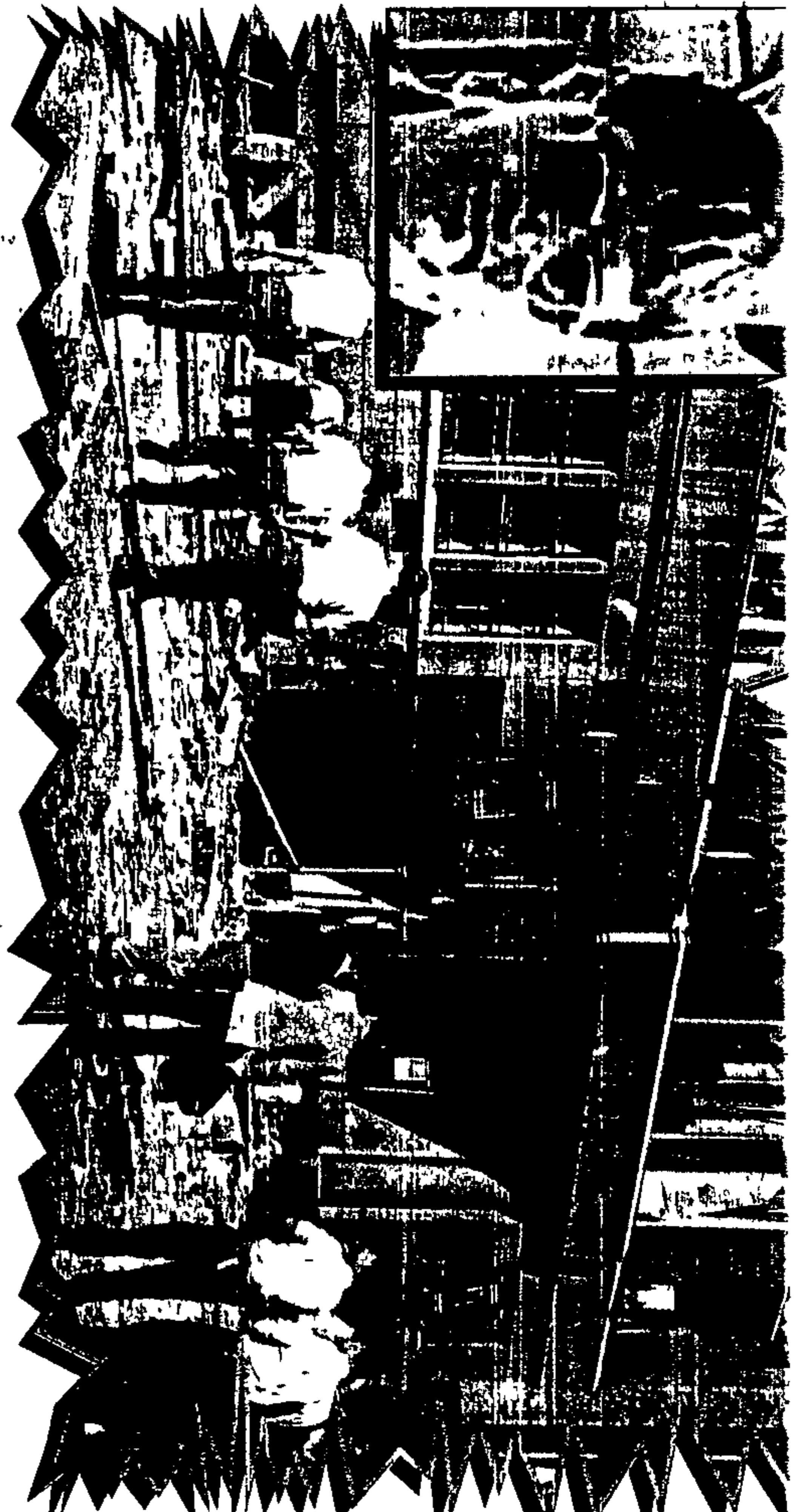
"If my testimony now sounds cold and clinical, it is because one tries to keep one's feelings to oneself," De Kock said.

De Kock is not charged with any of the killings which he testified about yesterday, and said he accepted that he was implicating himself in a number of additional crimes by doing so.

His evidence continues.

**Flash
Back**

Khotso House, the headquarters of the SA Council of Churches in Johannesburg, as it looked after it was blown up and destroyed in a mystery bombing in the late 1980s. Former Viakplaas commander Eugene de Kock told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that former state president Mr PW Botha had given the orders to bomb the building.



'Cops armed IFP'

Source: 18/9/96 (251)

I gave Inkatha weapons supplied by police, testifies De Kock

By Josias Charle

THE weapons that were used by the Inkatha Freedom Party in its fight against the African National Congress were supplied by the police. Eugene de Kock has said

Testifying in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday in mitigation of sentence, De Kock said he was personally involved in transactions in which huge arms caches were handed over to the IFP. In one case, R85 000 was asked for on behalf of the IFP by General Bertus Steyn.

De Kock had received R50 000 and General Nic van Rensburg kept R35 000 because he had "problems". The money was drawn from

Viakplaas slush funds. De Kock also confirmed, for the first time, that when IFP Gauteng leader Mr Thebenba Khoza was arrested at a roadblock with several AK-47 rifles in the boot of his car, "his R10 000 or R12 000 bail was paid by the police."

The rifles were from Viakplaas. "I received an order from Van Rensburg that I should make money available so that Khoza could be released on bail. This was duly done."

Khoza was also given a car bought, with Viakplaas funds, but he later wrecked it near Newcastle in KwaZulu-Natal. The IFP was given two other cars by De Kock.

De Kock recounted that he had personally handed arms to Khoza in Johannesburg while other IFP leaders

who received arms and ammunition were (Reverend) Celani Mthethwa and (Senator) Phillip Powell.

Most of the "home-made" weapons used by the IFP were also manufactured on orders from the police.

De Kock implicated former security police chief General Basie Smut as the person who had authorised funds to manufacture 100 rifles for the IFP.

"Smut said we had to manufacture the weapons and he suggested that I make a false claim from the police secret fund so that we could finance the weapons deal," De Kock said.

In another startling claim, De Kock revealed he had supplied the arms that were used in attempts to

overthrow former Transkei strongman General Bantu Holomisa.

During one of these attempts, he had been approached by businessman Mr Vuyo Mbotoli.

Mbotoli told him that there was uneasiness over Holomisa as he had been put in his place by the military intelligence. Some people wanted him out and were wondering if De Kock might be of some help.

One of these people was Holomisa's former second-in-command Colonel Craig Dull.

De Kock received a "shopping list" of weapons needed for the operation. He personally took them to the Transkei and gave some to Dull.

The coup attempt went awry. Dull and several mutineers were killed.

De Kock said there was a clash over who should kill Dull.

"Chris Haun said Holomisa should shoot him but the general refused and suggested that General TT Matanzima do the job. He also refused. It was left to a driver known as Whiteboy to kill Dull," De Kock said.

The convicted murderer made it clear yesterday that he was a willing officer who was always called in to "rescue" colleagues who were sitting with "minor headaches that wouldn't go away."

Most of these happened to be activists who had to be killed or be blown up. He carried out these tasks without question.

The hearing continues today. ● See Page 2

police'

18/9/96

General 'ordered killing of

(251) Stan

Convicted hit squad assassin Eugene

de Kock says he was told to "shoot

dead" any police at Khotso House

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

Convicted police assassin Eugene de Kock has told the Pretoria Supreme Court that before his unit blew up Khotso House in Johannesburg he had been instructed to shoot dead any police on the street who intervened

He said yesterday that he had asked General Gerit Erasmus, then stationed at John Vorster Square, what to do if a policeman was in the vicinity of the headquarters of the SA Council of Churches at the time planned for the bombing, and the answer had been "Shoot him dead"

After the bombing which virtually destroyed the building, there was a party at his unit's base, Vlakplaas. It was attended by police minister Adriaan Vlok as well as General Herman Stadler, Brigadier Willem Schoon and other senior officers

De Kock said his unit was congratulated by Vlok, who warned in a speech that "We will reign for a thousand years"

De Kock commented in court: "I had heard that from a man called Adolf Hitler, who said the (German) Reich would last one thousand "

The former chief of the notorious counter-insurgency unit (C-10) implicated apartheid-era cabinet ministers and top policemen in murder, cross-border raids,

weapons smuggling and other clandestine operations when he gave evidence yesterday in mitigation of his sentence

De Kock claimed that

Adriaan Vlok and the late police minister, Lous le Grange, as well as then foreign minister Pik

Botha and defence minister General Magnus Malan had full knowledge of dirty tricks employed in the apartheid era

The then Transkei ruler General Bantu Holomisa and SA Communist Party leader Chris Hanu were, with a man known only as "White Boy", implicated in the murder of army officer Craig Duli, when he tried to overthrow Holomisa's military government

IFP Senator Phillip Powell instigated semi-military training for Inkatha and ordered arma-

ments for use in KwaZulu Natal.

Notorious "superspy" Craig Williamson planned the bombing of the ANC's London headquarters while De Kock personally set off the bomb

His unit had also been drawn into the intimidation of Chris Ball, then managing director of First National Bank. The tactics were used because FNB funded the ANC, he told the court.

There was also intimidation of the parents of ANC activist Henk Grosskopf following "certain information given by Vlok". When



Vlok



Botha



Malan



Holomisa

► Untrained IFP

► To Page 2

P.T.O.



Legal eagles... State prosecutors Anton Ackerman SC (left foreground) and Dr Torie Pretorius (right), taking part in the Eugene de Kock trial, leave the Pretoria Supreme Court with the Secretary of Safety and Security Azar Cachalia (centre)

General 'ordered killing of police'

► From Page 1.

the family wanted to take action against the police minister General Basie Smut, then chief of security, had told De Kock that "the SAP must again get Vlok out of hot water. He doesn't know when to keep quiet."

Professor Peter Vale, of Rhodes University, was also intimidated but De Kock said he did not know the reason.

In his evidence about the attempted coup in Transkei, De Kock said, "Plans were made to stage a coup against Holomisa as he was no longer a government front man."

Weapons were delivered to a Transkei businessman, Willie Mbotoli, who had introduced him to Craig Duli, who had once been second-in-command of the Transkei Defence Force. The weapons included rifles, mortars, bombs and explosives.

Duli was later captured in Transkei and taken to a house by

Holomisa, Hanu and "White Boy"

De Kock added "I was told that Hanu had asked Holomisa to kill Duli. Holomisa told White Boy to do it, and eventually White Boy did so. They were all there."

The convicted assassin also told the court that the SADF had been involved in illegal raids and operations by the Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB). Magnus Malan and Pik Botha had been aware of these operations.

At one stage Judge van der Merwe asked him, "It appears there was a close co-operation between the SADF and the police?"

De Kock replied "It was at the highest level."

Judge "Cross-border raids are not decided at a lower level?"

De Kock "No, the Department of Foreign Affairs was involved in this - Pik Botha and his group. The only person who could stop the raids was the state president," who was then PW Botha.

The trial continues

Holomisa denies allegations

Cape Town - Bantu Holomisa has denied allegations by former Vlakplaas commander Colonel Eugene de Kock that he and Umkhonto we Sizwe chief of staff Chris Hanu had been personally involved in the "cold-blooded murder" of homeland coup plotter Craig Duli.

Holomisa said yesterday that the allegations were not new and accused de Kock of "fabrication".

De Kock made the allegations in the Pretoria Supreme Court during evidence in mitigation of sentence. He said his Vlakplaas unit had supplied the weapons for the failed military coup on November 21 1990 to topple Holomisa, then Transkei military leader.

Holomisa, Hanu, the then chief of the Transkei Defence Force Thamba Matanzima and a certain Whiteboy - Holomisa's driver - shot dead Duli, de Kock claimed.

He said he believed the coup was supported by South Africa because Holomisa was a "military intelligence project gone wrong".

Holomisa said he was at his

home at the time of the murder with journalists who "were camping out there". Hanu was somewhere in Johannesburg.

Holomisa also denied that he knew someone called Whiteboy and suggested people should view "de Kock's testimony with scepticism".

He dismissed as ludicrous allegations that he may have been a South African government agent before he "turned", and became pro-ANC. "If he (de Kock) has a file on Holomisa I will welcome him publishing it. Let the public then make their own judgement."

However, his submission to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that South Africa was behind the attempted coup had been vindicated by De Kock's testimony, Holomisa said.

Duli's widow, Nontobeko, told the Truth Commission in June that her husband had been shot by a junior Transkei officer at the Ncise military base outside Umtata - Sapa.

C-10 Vlakplaas unit armed and trained IFP, De Kock testifies

(251) *Aban 18/9/96*

Top Inkatha officials – Phillip Powell, Humphrey Ndlovu and Themba Khoza – implicated in procuring arms

By **NORMAN CHANDLER**
Pretoria Bureau

Convicted hit-squad killer Eugene de Kock told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that he helped in the military training of Inkatha at a camp near Ulundi.

Apart from the training, De Kock's Vlakplaas unit C-10 also supplied weapons to Inkatha, he testified. These had included landmines, fragmentation bombs, missiles, AK-47 rifles and special shotguns as well as tons of ammunition.

De Kock named IFP Senator Phillip Powell as a leading figure in the training, along with prominent IFP members Themba Khoza and Humphrey Ndlovu, who were Johannesburg links to the arming of Inkatha.

He said he had personally driven in a convoy carrying tons of arms to Ulundi, which were then stacked in an Inkatha Women's League youth camp near the town.

He had also supplied weapons to KwaZulu Natal cabinet minister Celani Mthetwa which were delivered to the ministerial complex at Ulundi.

De Kock was found guilty last month on 89 charges, including six of murder. Giving testimony in mitigation of sentence, De Kock had also said many police generals and members of parliament were involved in criminal activities during the 1980s.

De Kock told the court that aid to the Inkatha Freedom Party

started as the result of a conversation at a braai held at Vlakplaas, a farm outside Pretoria where his C-10 unit was based.

He could not remember the date, but said he had personally ended assistance in October 1993, just before retiring from the police force.

"A man named Andries van Heerden came to see (Capt) Willie Nortje at Vlakplaas and asked whether we would arm Inkatha.

"I said no, but offered ammu-

**Guns were
manufactured
to look as if
they were
homemade**

munition if it was required.

"The ammunition was required for AK-47s and it was passed on to Themba Khoza," he said.

Later, at a second social function at Vlakplaas, top police generals Basie Smit, Nick van Rensburg and Krappies Engelbrecht as well as Van Heerden again asked for a supply of weapons.

Mechem, an armaments company near Pretoria, worked out the costs of manufacturing 100 shotguns "and Van Rensburg agreed to the deal and Smit gave it his approval."

The first 60 shotguns – manufactured to look as if they were

homemade – were provided to the IFP at a clandestine meeting under a Johannesburg freeway by Van Heerden and Nortje.

A further 40 were sent to General Jack Buchner, then a top-ranking Natal policeman, with a further 50 shotguns manufactured without authorisation having been received.

Weapons were also delivered to a General Bertus Steyn, who was not further identified in court.

The demand for shotguns lessened when Inkatha said it had found another manufacturer "of a superior shotgun" in Durban, De Kock testified.

Pressure for other weapons mounted, De Kock told the court, and finally, AK-47s were provided, but these were confiscated when Khoza was stopped at a Vanderbijlpark roadblock and arrested for having them in his possession.

De Kock then told of plans for the training of Inkatha supporters as part of a quasi-military KwaZulu self-protection unit.

This was instigated by Powell, who later also asked him to discuss with the Mechem company the procurement of additional ammunition, missiles, mortars and landmines.

The armaments had been delivered in three convoys of two trucks each, and De Kock said he had been involved in a convoy.

De Kock said he had declined to be paid for his services, instead asking that the money should be sent to his Vlakplaas colleagues.

The trial continues

I was asked to 'take out' Sexwale - De Kock

NORMAN CHANDLER
ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - Executive Outcomes, the South African company hired by Angola and Sierra Leone to supply mercenaries, asked the police hit squad to assassinate Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale, the De Kock trial heard today.

The squad's former commander and now a convicted killer, Eugene de Kock, made the sensational claim to Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe in the Pretoria Supreme Court when he began his third day of evidence in mitigation of sentence.

De Kock also told Judge Van der Merwe that Vlakplaas personnel were involved in a huge cross-border car theft racket but were not charged; a number of police officers were involved in the murder of a unit member, and that superspy Craig Williamson had once asked him to "eliminate" another spy.

De Kock said Stuart Cummings, who testified in court yesterday, had been involved in efforts to obtain weapons for the Inkatha Freedom Party and that a nephew, identified as Tom Cummings, who worked for Executive Outcomes, had asked him in a Centurion hotel in 1993 to "take out" Mr Sexwale.

No reasons were given by De Kock as to why the company wanted Mr Sexwale dead but he said that Eben Barlow, director of the organisation, knew of it.

In other testimony, De Kock said that Craig Williamson, who led a team of hit squad members to London in order to blow up the ANC's headquarters in that city, had asked him (De Kock) to eliminate another spy, Peter Caselton, who had also been a member of the London squad.

"Williamson came to Vlakplaas and asked me to help in the elimination of Caselton as he was concerned Caselton, whom I was paying R3-500 per month to help us, would talk about the London bombing."

ARG 18/9/96

(251)

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Vlakplaas: a war of dirty tricks

ARL 18/9/96 (251)

Cosatu backs De Kock claim on bomb blast

STAFF REPORTER AND SABA

Former Vlakplaas police commander Eugene de Kock's allegation of government involvement in the blowing up of Cosatu House in Johannesburg in 1987 had come as no surprise, the Congress of South African Trade Unions said today.

De Kock, 47, made the claim during his evidence in mitigation of sentence after his conviction on six counts of murder and 83 hit squad-related offences.

Cosatu said it had always maintained the former government and its security forces were to blame for the blast. It called on De Kock to disclose the names of others involved in "this dirty campaign", and urged the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate the evidence.

"We further call on police with information to approach the TRC or face the consequences of their silence," Cosatu said in a statement.

In other reaction to De Kock's evidence, expelled African National Congress member Bantu Holomisa denied claims that he and Fimkhonto weSizwe chief of staff Chris Ham were personally involved in the "cold blooded murder" of Transkei homeland coup plotter Craig Dull.

General Holomisa said "If he (De Kock) has a file on Holomisa, I will welcome him publishing it."

He added that his submission to the TRC that South Africa had been behind the attempted coup had been vindicated by De Kock's testimony.

The Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa) rejected De Kock's claims that it had collaborated with the security and intelligence establishment under the previous government.

Idasa executive director Willem James described De Kock's attempts to stir Idasa as malicious and said the organisation's records were open to anyone who sought confirmation of its honourable role in bringing about democratic change.

Professor James pointed out that Idasa had been instrumental in bringing a key witness to the attention of the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry.

ARGIS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - More well-known names were dropped by former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock as he took the stand in the Pretoria Supreme Court for the second day yesterday to plead in mitigation of sentence.

Among those mentioned were Nobel Peace laureate Desmond Tutu, a former state president, a minister of foreign affairs, a minister of police and many high-ranking police and army officers.

De Kock also mentioned the names of Cape Town Olympic bid chairman Chris Ball, the former chief executive of First National Bank, slain Communist Party leader Chris Ham and former Transkei leader Bantu Holomisa.

De Kock's testimony included Winnie Mandela, former deputy arts, culture and science minister, whom he said employed an ex-Askari (a "turned" freedom fighter) from Vlakplaas as a body-guard and sex slave.

De Kock said the Askari, Johannes Magoto, was a former African National Congress member who had been recruited and then joined Mrs Mandela's group.

He was involved in units which were shooting people and police and was also a sex slave. It was believed, according to tapes of telephone calls, he was a man of Olympic standards who did not leave any woman unsatisfied, De Kock told a packed court.

Mr Magoto was later killed.

The former commander of the Vlakplaas C10 unit has been found guilty of six counts of murder, two counts of conspiracy to murder, one count each of attempted murder, culpable homicide, kidnapping, assault, culpable homicide after the fact, defeating the ends of justice, 66 counts of fraud and nine counts of illegal possession of arms and ammunition.

He was on the stand from 9.45am until court adjourned just after 3pm.

Under questioning by his counsel Flip Hartingh, De Kock was an innuendo and used his hands to describe sizes of explosive packages and helicopters circling.

He said former president PW Botha gave direct orders to the police to blow up Khotso House in Johannesburg.

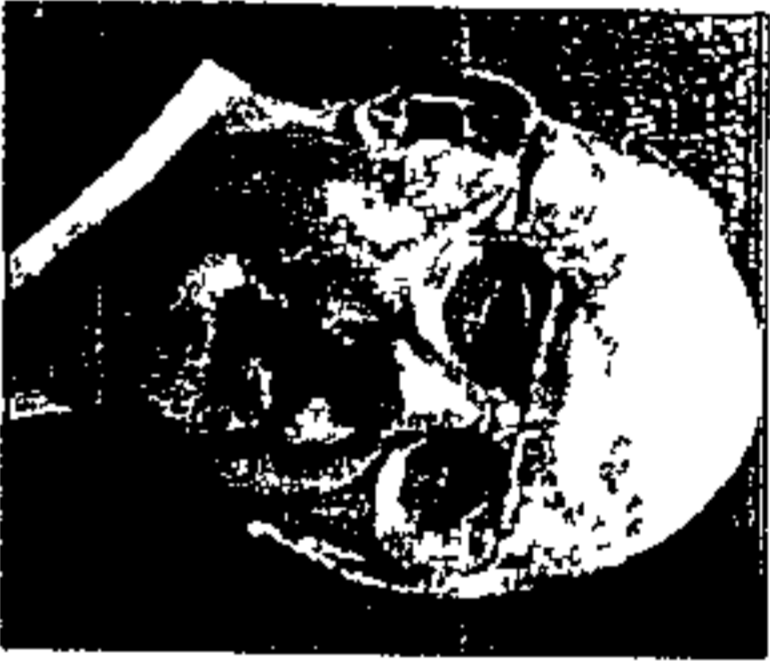
He said he was approached by his commander, Brigadier Willem Schoon, and told to plan an operation to blow up



Targeted Chris Ball, ex bank chief



Impetuous Adrian Vlok, minister



Orders PW Botha, president



Phone tapped Winnie Mandela

the building

"It was one of the few times I felt blown away because we were now talking about terrorism on home ground. I asked him who gave the orders. He told me it came from the highest authority. I asked if this included the state president and he said 'yes'."

De Kock also told the court the police, with the aid of the Defence Force's Civil Co-Operation Bureau, blew up a community centre in Cape Town. Police were also involved in an arson attack on Khanya House in Pretoria.

He had assisted in setting the building on fire but was ashamed when he realised elderly nuns were inside.

"After the Cape Town community centre - I can't remember whether it was in Salt River or Elsie's River - had been blown up, Cape Town security police allegedly tapped a phone call to Bishop Tutu, who on being told of the blast was apparently upset and said 'We don't have money, we are bankrupt'."

De Kock said he had been under the impression the building housed activists.

Former foreign affairs minister Pk Botha and his team were said by De Kock to be the only people who could help after a joint Vlakplaas/COB air attack had "taken out" a house in which alleged senior ANC members lived in Botswana.

"After the attack I found nothing to indicate it had been occupied by ANC members. I found documentation in a briefcase belonging to a member of the Botswana Department of Water Affairs."

Among other missions he was asked to recall by counsel was one incident in which a First National Bank ATM in

Cape Town had been bombed.

"I was under the impression it had to do with Chris Ball's (then chief executive of the bank) alleged funding of the ANC."

De Kock told the court he and alleged superspy Craig Williamson and three policemen, planted the bomb which blew up ANC headquarters in London.

"We were issued with false passports and told we would be unable to seek help from the South African embassy under any circumstances."

He repeated to Judge Willem van der Merwe that Williamson had been crucial to the operation because of his intimate knowledge of London and the movement of ANC people there.

De Kock described as a blatant lie a claim made by General Johan Coetzee that Williamson had no role in the London bombing.

The possibility of assassinated Communist Party leader Chris Ham, General Holomisa or another person having killed Craig Dull, previously second in command to the then Transkei leader and apparently the man behind a failed coup attempt to depose then General Holomisa, was also raised by De Kock yesterday.

He said that after the unbanning of the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress, the government no longer needed General Holomisa "as its man."

Weapons were delivered to Transkei businessman William Mthotoli to be collected and used by Dull in the coup attempt. Unknown to De Kock, Military Intelligence was also arranging to remove General Holomisa and what De Kock called "bungles" led to Dull being captured and the coup failing.

"Dull was taken to a base outside

Umtata where Ham, Holomisa, a senior officer in the then Transkei Defence Force and a driver, "Whiteboy", were present. Each one was apparently asked to kill Dull but refused and eventually I am led to believe the driver did."

Former police minister Adrian Vlok, who allegedly visited Vlakplaas to congratulate unit members on their achievements, was on the receiving end of a scathing comment by former police General Basie Smit, De Kock alleged.

Thus followed two burglary attempts by Vlakplaas members on the house and holiday house of suspected activist Hein Grosskopf's parents in Stellenbosch and at Kooi Els on the Cape coast.

The burglaries were an effort to find documentation linking Grosskopf to the ANC but were unsuccessful, "we found only Christmas and greeting cards," De Kock said. After this a civil action was initiated against Mr Vlok by Mr Grosskopf and De Kock said General Smit told him, "We must again keep Vlok out of hot water. He doesn't know when to keep quiet."

In other replies De Kock said he had once been a member of the Inkatha Freedom Party who had supplied weapons, both home-made and of Eastern bloc origin, to Inkatha self-protection units.

When asked what he thought of the IFP, De Kock said, "Any enemy of my enemy is a friend."

De Kock said he and members of his unit supplied ammunition and later weapons to the IFP for use on the East Rand via its youth brigade leader Tembisa Khosa. Vlakplaas money also paid for buses to transport IFP supporters from Umtata to the East Rand and to transport dead and wounded back.

"The trial continues today

'I shot dead

Winnie's driver'

OWN CORRESPONDENT

EUGENE DE KOCK personally shot dead Mrs Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's bodyguard and driver, Mr Johannes Magota

It was because he (Magota) was a former member of the Vlakplaas counter-insurgency unit who had left in order to "link up with Winnie Mandela", he told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday

Describing Magota as "a sex slave" and "a man of Olympic standards who would never leave a woman unsatisfied", De Kock said it was agreed between himself and Captain Jan Potgieter, of the unit, that Magota be allowed to leave and be dropped at a railway station

However, the plan was to have him eliminated -- "to put him out of circulation"

Instead of a railway station, he was taken to the disused Penge mine east of Pretoria where "I shot Johan Magota myself", De Kock told Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe

The body was later blown up and disposed of

DE KOCK TELLS OF SECRET OPERATIONS

Pik Vlok knew of dirty tricks'

(261) CTE 18/9/96

PRETORIA: The police unit at Vlakplaas was drawn into intimidating former FNB bank managing director Mr Chris Ball and the parents of ANC activist Mr Hein Grosskopf, the Supreme Court heard here yesterday

NATIONAL Party cabinet ministers, a homeland leader, a revered Communist Party boss, a top spy and a sitting senator were implicated yesterday in murder, cross-border raids and other secret operations by convicted killer and former Vlakplaas chief Eugene de Kock

Giving evidence in mitigation of sentence, De Kock claimed that:

● Former police ministers Mr Adriaan Vlok and Mr Louis le Grange (now deceased), former Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha and former Defence Minister General Magnus Malan had full knowledge of the dirty tricks of the apartheid era

● Mr (then General) Bantu Holomisa, slain SACP leader Mr Chris Hanu and a man known only

as "White Boy" were implicated in the murder of army officer Mr Craig Duli who had tried to overthrow Holomisa's Transkei military government in the late 1980s

● IFP Senator Phillip Powell instigated quasi-military training for IFP supporters and also ordered tons of armaments for the IFP's use in the war in KwaZulu-Natal

● One-time superspy Mr Craig Williamson had planned the bombing of the ANC's London office

De Kock set the bomb office De Kock told a packed Supreme Court here how the unit had blown up Khotso House, which housed the South African Council of Churches, in Johannesburg

After the blast, there was a party at Vlakplaas attended by Vlok,



TESTIFYING: Eugene de Kock

General Herman Stadler, Brigadier Willem Schoon and other officers

He said the unit was congratulated by Vlok, who commented "we will reign for a 1 000 years"

De Kock told the court "I had heard that from a man called Adolf Hitler, who said the Reich would

last 1 000 years"

The unit had also been drawn into intimidatory tactics against former First National Bank managing director Mr Chris Ball (now chief executive of Cape Town's Olympic Bid), because the bank had funded the ANC "We were told to frighten him," De Kock said

He did not elaborate The parents of ANC activist Mr Hein Grosskopf were also intimidated following "information given by Vlok" The Grosskopfs' home telephone was tapped and the family had wanted to act against Vlok De Kock said the then chief of security, General Basie Smit, had told him "the SAP must again get Vlok out of hot water He doesn't know when to keep quiet"

He said plans were made to overthrow Holomisa "as he was no longer a government front man"

Weapons were delivered to Transkei businessman Mr Willie Mbotoli who had introduced him

to Duli, once second-in-command of the Transkei Defence Force

Duli was later captured by Transkei authorities and taken to a house by Holomisa, Hanu and White Boy "I was told Hanu had asked Holomisa to kill Duli, Holomisa told White Boy to do it, and White Boy did so"

● Holomisa denied yesterday that he and Hanu had been involved in Duli's murder

He said the allegations were not new and accused De Kock of "fabrication"

Holomisa said he was at his home at the time of the murder Hanu was in Johannesburg

He also denied that he knew someone called White Boy

Duli's widow, Nontobeko, told the Truth Commission in Umtata in June that her husband had been shot in the head by a junior Transkei officer at the Ncise military base outside Umtata — Own Correspondent, Sapa

Justification for SADF raid on Gaborone was created, says

De Kock

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — The arms cache discovered on the West Rand in 1985 which led to a massive SADF raid on Gaborone had been a set-up devised by the SAP and the military, former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock disclosed yesterday.

The arms cache was created to "justify" the cross-border attack and De Kock believed that the foreign affairs department could also have known about the operation. This included for-

mer foreign minister Pik Botha and former president P.W. Botha.

The June 1985 attack left 13 people dead, including women and a child, scores injured and several houses in a Gaborone suburb destroyed, and it saw SA's international image reach a record low.

Acting on orders from his direct superior, security police C-section chief Brig Willem Schoon, De Kock had supplied "36 or 48, I can't remember exactly" AK-47s to a Col Martin Naude of C2. The order was issued after a func-

tion attended by then SA army chief Gen Kat Liebenberg and SADF special forces commander Gen Joep Joubert.

"Shortly afterwards, an arms cache was discovered and as a result the defence force attacked Botswana," De Kock testified in mitigation of sentence following his conviction on charges of murder, fraud, conspiracy to murder and assault.

At the time the SA security forces said the houses attacked were occupied by terrorists who carried out operations in SA from there. However, De

Kock said, no weapons or ANC literature could be found by the attackers.

"I was then ordered to plant three Makarov pistols in the evidence brought back to SA for the benefit of the media. A defence force colonel Prinsloo gave the order for the planting of the Makarovs," he told the court.

De Kock said a document existed which formalised a co-operation agreement between the defence force's Directorate of Covert Collection and the Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB).

He spelt out his involvement in the

De Kock

Continued from Page 1

deaf and dumb children were shot in the attack. "We were given the guarantee that the house would be occupied by trained PAC terrorists. The death of those two children is one of the heaviest crosses I have to carry," he said.

Testifying about supplying weapons to Military Intelligence's Anton Nieuwoudt to be used in a coup to topple then Transkei leader Gen Bantu Holomisa, De Kock said "Holomisa was an MI operation gone wrong." He explained that after the unbanning of the ANC Holomisa could not be controlled anymore and had to be "removed." De Kock supplied weapons on several occasions for planned coups in Transkei and Ciskei.

De Kock said he received orders to bomb Khotso House in Johannesburg and John Vorster Square security chief Gen Gerrit Erasmus told him to shoot if his Vlakplaas members were apprehended by uniformed policemen.

He had also been ordered to break into the home of the parents of wanted ANC operative Hein Grosskopff to find evidence which could assist then law and order minister Adrian Vlok in a civil claim.

De Kock said one of the biggest mistakes he had made was to destroy two

bombing of the ANC's London offices, saying he believed then SACP leader Joe Slovo could have been the target of the bombing. Slovo had been scheduled to attend a meeting with high-ranking ANC officials in London at the time.

De Kock also testified about a cross-border operation by C10 on the instruction of former security police chief Gen Nic van Rensburg in which a PAC training house, owned by the Kahn family, was attacked. Kahn, his wife and two

Continued on Page 2

trunks of documentary evidence collected during his time as a policeman. Three days after appearing before the Goldstone commission in 1994 he had spent a day burning evidence. He had been naive to do that, otherwise he could have provided documentary proof in support of his evidence.

De Kock also testified that he killed an ANC member who worked with the SA Police as an askari but later returned to the liberation organisation to become Winnie Mandela's "sex slave."

De Kock said the security branch had tape recordings made at Winnie's house confirming that Johannes Mabota was her sex slave. "He had displayed sexual prowess of Olympic standards and by all accounts there was not one woman he could not satisfy," De Kock told an amused gallery.

But Mabota was also involved in the murder of three policemen and was arrested. "There was no way that he could be trusted to work with the police again. He would just return to the ANC and to Mrs Mandela and kill policemen again," De Kock said.

Mabota was taken to Penge mine near Ohrigstad where De Kock shot him. His body was later blown up.

Evidence in De Kock's trial earlier stated that Mandela's driver, a would-be bank robber, was also shot and killed at the Penge mine.

See Page 6

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Former Vlakplaas chief reels off a litany of fraud

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — When former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock's expected retirement package of R1.5m did not materialise and he received only R1m, security police chief Gen Krappies Engelbrecht told him to make up the difference with fraudulent claims from the police's secret fund.

Engelbrecht said I had not been treated well by the police and must start looking after myself. De Kock testified in mitigation of sentence in the Transvaal Supreme Court yesterday. He had then fraudulently claimed R450 000 which he used to buy a house.

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De Kock was earlier convicted on 66 charges of fraud, but told the court yesterday that "unaccountable" false claims had been submitted by his C10 unit on the orders of generals and Col Louis Koekemoer, the man in charge of the security branch finances.

It was the norm and the other officers even before I joined C10. De Kock told Judge Willem van der Merwe, recalling that during his first days at the unit he had been ordered by then commander Col Jac Cronje to submit false claims for the "commissioner's fund".

When three police generals, including Johann van der Merwe and Louwrye Malan, took their wives on an official trip to Taiwan, the false claims covered the women's air fares and accommodation, he said. Four C10 members acted as agents for the day's making up false claims at the request of Koekemoer to cover the cost.

Even police chaplains benefited from C10's expertise in filing false claims. When chaplains had meetings they would

be reimbursed for their lunches. When they needed air conditioners and more elegant carpets and furniture than that supplied by the public works department, the secret fund again obliged.

Koekemoer once told me to claim when three police generals, including Johann van der Merwe and Louwrye Malan, took their wives on an official trip to Taiwan. The false claims covered the women's air fares and accommodation, he said. Four C10 members acted as agents for the day's making up false claims at the request of Koekemoer to cover the cost.

False claims were also submitted to finance regular lavish functions at Vlakplaas attended by SAP top brass and Cabinet members where "only the best wines and whisky" were served.

We tried to be as professional as possible and when the catering became too much for members of the unit to handle, I was forced to employ a chef. Expensive gifts were also given to special guests, such as gold trays with gold goblets and silver-handled knife sets. But, De Kock said clandestine internal and foreign operations were also fraudulently funded. Balacalaws, gloves, bolt cutters and forches were bought. When the order came that Vlakplaas had to be upgraded, more than R100 000 worth of claims were submitted under false pretences, such as the payment of informers and rewards for the discovery of arms caches. Snooker tables, televisions and gym equipment were bought. During a drunken "think tank" at Island Rock, other police units seriously damaged three new vehicles. One was washed into the sea and another rolled down a sand dune. De Kock was ordered to submit claims to cover the damage. Although De Kock said he had no idea of the total amount of false claims, he believed that in one year alone he had submitted between R300 000 and R400 000 worth of claims.

Senior officers 'wanted'

the in case of



News reception ... a large media contingent waits outside the Pretoria Supreme Court for Eugene de Kock to be driven into court

Nothing hidden and nothing new in De Kock claims – FW

Cape Town – The claims made by convicted murderer Eugene de Kock about former president F W de Klerk having ordered a 1993 attack on the Transkei were nothing new and nothing had been hidden, De Klerk said yesterday.

There was full transparency about the raid, and media statements were issued at the time

The matter was also raised in his submission to the Truth Commission, De Klerk said. He had authorised cross-border raids aimed at legitimate military targets on the basis of cross-checked intelligence information.

The order specifically excluded attacks on civilians and limited violence to the minimum.

The raid in question had been the result of intelligence gathered about a substantial hidden cache of arms, he said.

De Klerk said that since the NP embarked on its reforms, there had been a "small" element within the security forces who had fought as much against the transformation process as they had against the ANC.

He said he was not bothered by De Kock's statement calling him a coward.

■ Expelled ANC member Bantu Holomisa has denied De Kock's allegations that he and the late Chris Hanu had been personally involved in the "cold-blooded murder" of homeland coup plot-

ter Craig Duli.

De Kock said his Viakplaas unit had supplied the weapons for the failed military coup on November 21 1990 to topple Holomisa. After Duli was caught, Holomisa, Hanu, the then chief of the Transkei Defence Force Themba Matanzima and a certain "Whiteboy" – Holomisa's driver – shot Duli dead, De Kock claimed.

Holomisa said the allegations were not new and accused De Kock of "fabrication" – Sapa

■ Former foreign affairs minister Pik Botha has reacted with shock to statements made by De Kock that the Cabinet was deliberately misled by security forces in order to obtain approval for cross-border

raids, writes Stuart Kelly

He called for a thorough investigation into the credibility and trustworthiness of the information, and particulars which were laid before Cabinet in order to obtain approval for the raids.

"Such raids were supported by all parliamentary parties of that time, but on the grounds of actual attacks that had been launched on South African citizens from neighbouring states."

A newspaper reported yesterday that De Kock claimed Botha had known about an operation in 1985 in which evidence of an arms cache was deliberately fabricated in order to justify a massive SADF raid on Gaborone.

'Used, shunned, betrayed' De Kock hits at generals

(251) ~~251~~
'Each one was going to try and get amnesty. The very last thing on their agendas is to be discredited'

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

Eugene de Kock said yesterday he had been betrayed by former police commissioner General Johan van der Merwe and other top generals

He displayed visible anger towards his senior police colleagues for no longer supporting him

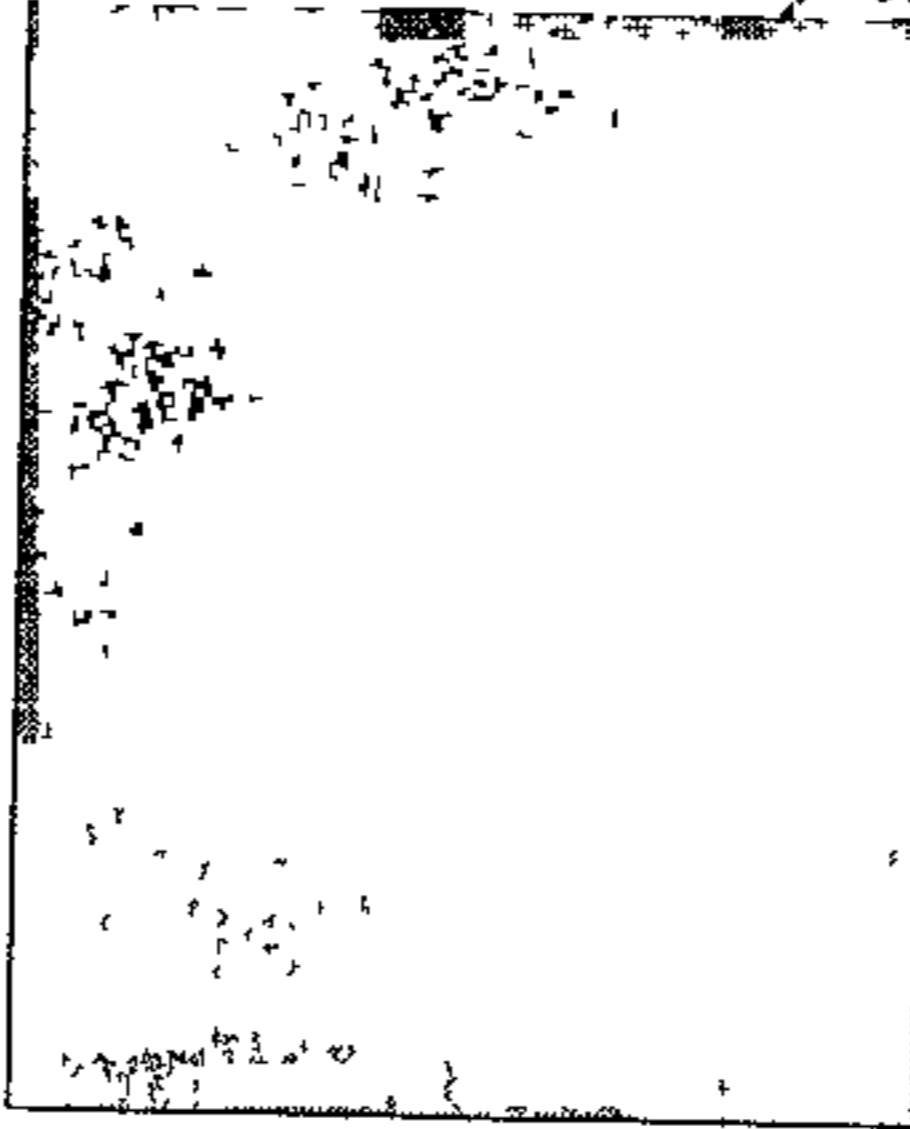
"I knew every one of them and the final message to me that they were not giving their support was when I saw them get off a bus outside the Durban Supreme Court and go inside to support General Magnus Malan. They had dissociated themselves from me," he told the Pretoria Supreme Court

The final straw was when he heard that General Nick van Rensburg had applied for amnesty to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission but had requested that his name be kept secret.

"Each one was going to try and get amnesty. The very last thing on their agendas is to be discredited. They and Van Rensburg are not man enough to stand up and say 'I am going to seek amnesty'. It was then that I decided to look after myself," he told Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe.

De Kock said his life had never been the same since Butana Almond Nofemela and Dirk Coetzee - both former policemen - had revealed in 1989 the existence of a police hit squad.

When the 1989 Harms Com-



Angry De Kock yesterday.

mission said "the interest of higher authority in Vlakplaas slumped dramatically. Headquarters had fallen all over us previously but that all ended. Generals who greeted us now shunned us."

After the unbanning of the ANC, the Pan-Africanist Congress and the SA Communist Party in 1990, he was told by General Willie van Rensburg that the time had come to "scrap Vlakplaas".

De Kock told the court "This was my work. The enemy was the ANC, PAC and SACP. I felt the state had decided we had to go, to cut us loose. My loyalty was to the government and the police. It was absolute."

"I did not leave voluntarily. It has been made to look as if I took pension. General (Krappies) Engelbrecht is the only one who supported me."

Mar 19/9/96
De Kock was originally offered a R1,45-million retrenchment package but finally left with R1-million.

"When I was told this by Engelbrecht, he was so emotional I thought he would cry. He told me it was unnecessary to buy a house out of my settlement and that before I left I had to put in false claims for R250 000 in order to buy a house. Thus I did, and later sold it. I don't feel too happy about this," he told the court.

He had then tried to become an arms dealer, selling G-5 and G-6 artillery pieces on behalf of a partner called Verster, whom he said worked for the Reutech company, to the Serbian army at a cost of \$1,5-million (about R6,7-million) each. The deals had fallen through when the United States got wind of them.

After being arrested by the police in connection with Vlakplaas activities, he had asked a friend to deposit R365 000, US\$16 000 and £43 000 in a bank account in Portugal on behalf of his family.

The friend, who is linked to the French Foreign Legion, stole the money and then telephoned him, taunting him.

De Kock disclosed that before he finally left the police, he had spent hours burning tons of files connected with covert operations, while the technical division threw their files into two cement-mixer trucks, churned them up and then burnt the documents.

at 'coward' De Klerk

(251) Mar 19/9/96

ETIENNE ROTHBART



It's a goal ... South Africa's second, and Joel Masilela gives the scorer, Mark Williams (centre), a hug of delight in last night's game against Australia's socceros. Turning away is John "Shoes" Moshoeu, who scored Bafana Bafana's first goal, and was on hand again to watch Williams deliver the coup de grace. South Africa's 2-0 win gives them an excellent chance of retaining the Four Nations title they won last year. Neil Tovey's team play Ghana in the final match of the tournament in Pretoria on Saturday.

De Kock lashes out at De Klerk

Hit squad killer's tirade includes ex-president, army generals and reveals huge R30-m milking of police slush fund for private use

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

The latest top politician to be fingered by the convicted police assassin Eugene de Kock is former president F W de Klerk, whom he accuses of involvement in hit-squad activities - and calls a coward.

He told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that it was inconceivable De Klerk did not know about covert units or operations during the apartheid years.

"He ordered a raid on Transkei in 1993," De Kock stated specifically.

"FW is certainly the greatest coward that this country has ever seen," he told Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe on his third day of testimony in mitigation of sentence.

"His bags are already packed and he doesn't care about South Africa or South Africans. He went into the negotiations (with the ANC and other parties) a small, scared dog who lay on his back to have his belly scratched by the enemy."

"FW cannot deny that he was involved in hit-squad or covert operations. It is the same with P W Botha. If FW says he did not know of certain covert units, he is wrong. He himself gave the order for a 1993 Transkei operation. He had definitely known."

"If I was given a choice between FW and members of the ANC, I would choose the ANC because I at least would know who were my friends."

De Kock believes he has been betrayed by police generals, who

now no longer talk to him.

He has implicated them, including retired commissioners and other top-ranking officers in the hit-squad activities he says he committed on their orders or with their knowledge.

He also revealed to the court yesterday how police had systematically siphoned R30-million or more from slush funds between 1985 and 1993 by falsely claiming expenses of up to R400 000 a month for eight years.

These included claims for air fares to Taiwan and England for officers and wives; education fees in private schools for their children; purchasing cars; medical ex-

Used and betrayed

penses, and for "helping out" a spy's family after he was captured by Britain when an operation with the Ulster Volunteer Force in Northern Ireland went sour.

De Kock's estimate is that the claims totalled up to R400 000 a month, and were paid each month for the eight years he had been in charge of Vlakplaas.

"We even sent men to Checkers and OK Bazaars to pick up discarded till slips so that these could be signed and then used for claims," he told a packed court.

On one occasion, four officers spent four days signing slips totalling R100 000 to pay for various items, including airfares to Taiwan for the wives of General Johan van der Merwe, the then commissioner of police, and two other unnamed generals who had been invited there on an official

trip.

When General Baste Smut, former head of the security branch, went on official business to London, receipts totalling between R80 000 and R100 000 had to be manufactured to pay for everything from hotels to car hire.

"The slips for false claims were signed in every way possible - left-handed, right-handed, even with their feet or something," De Kock told the court.

"It was a culture (at the unit) Any operation you did had to be financed in this manner," De Kock said.

He added that the police made it as difficult as they could for the service's internal auditor to check back on slips submitted.

A wild party at a police seaside holiday resort and conference centre had resulted in a combi, presented to the police by Volkswagen South Africa, being driven into the sea and totally covered in water. It had cost thousands of rands to restore the vehicle as well as to recover a video camera worth R16 500.

There were also false claims submitted to pay officers in the unit who had been called to give evidence to the Harms Commission into hit squads.

It was decided at the unit that they would give false evidence, and amounts of R18 000, R23 000 and R25 000 were paid out to them to mislead the commission, the court heard.

Another amount of R27 000 was paid to a Colonel Baker, of Pretoria security police, who was

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putting his children through an exclusive private boarding school. He also apparently used the money to lay down a driveway at his home and bought two pedigreed dogs.
"Many other people did the same," De Kock commented.
When Leon Floris, a member of the SA Defence Force, was trapped by British police in 1992 after trying to do a R1-million semtex plastic-explosives deal with the Ulster Volunteer Force, De Kock appealed to General Krappies Engelbrecht for permission to help the Floris family.
False claims totalling well over R100 000 were sent to the controller of the police's slush fund - identified as a Colonel Koekemoer - to meet the costs of petrol and other expenses such as the bond on the family home, medical expenses, education fees, legal costs, a car and the purchase of Christmas presents.
Earlier, De Kock said he had been offered a contract by employees of Executive Outcomes, the South African company hired by Angola and Sierra Leone to supply mercenaries, to assassinate Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale as well as Eben Barlow, managing director of Executive Outcomes.

He said Stuart Cummings - who the court heard on Tuesday had been involved in efforts to obtain weapons for the IFP - and a nephew, identified as Tom Cummings, who worked for Executive Outcomes, had asked him in 1993 to "take out" Sexwale.
No reasons were put forward by De Kock as to why the company wanted Sexwale or Barlow dead. He said he had reported the matter to General Engelbrecht. The case continues.

Innocents killed in apartheid terror campaign, says De Kock

'Top police telephoned orders for elimination'

(251) ARG 19/9/96

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - Government-sanctioned hit squads struck far and wide against the country's enemies, sometimes killing innocent bystanders and petty thieves, convicted apartheid assassin Eugene de Kock told the Supreme Court at his trial today.

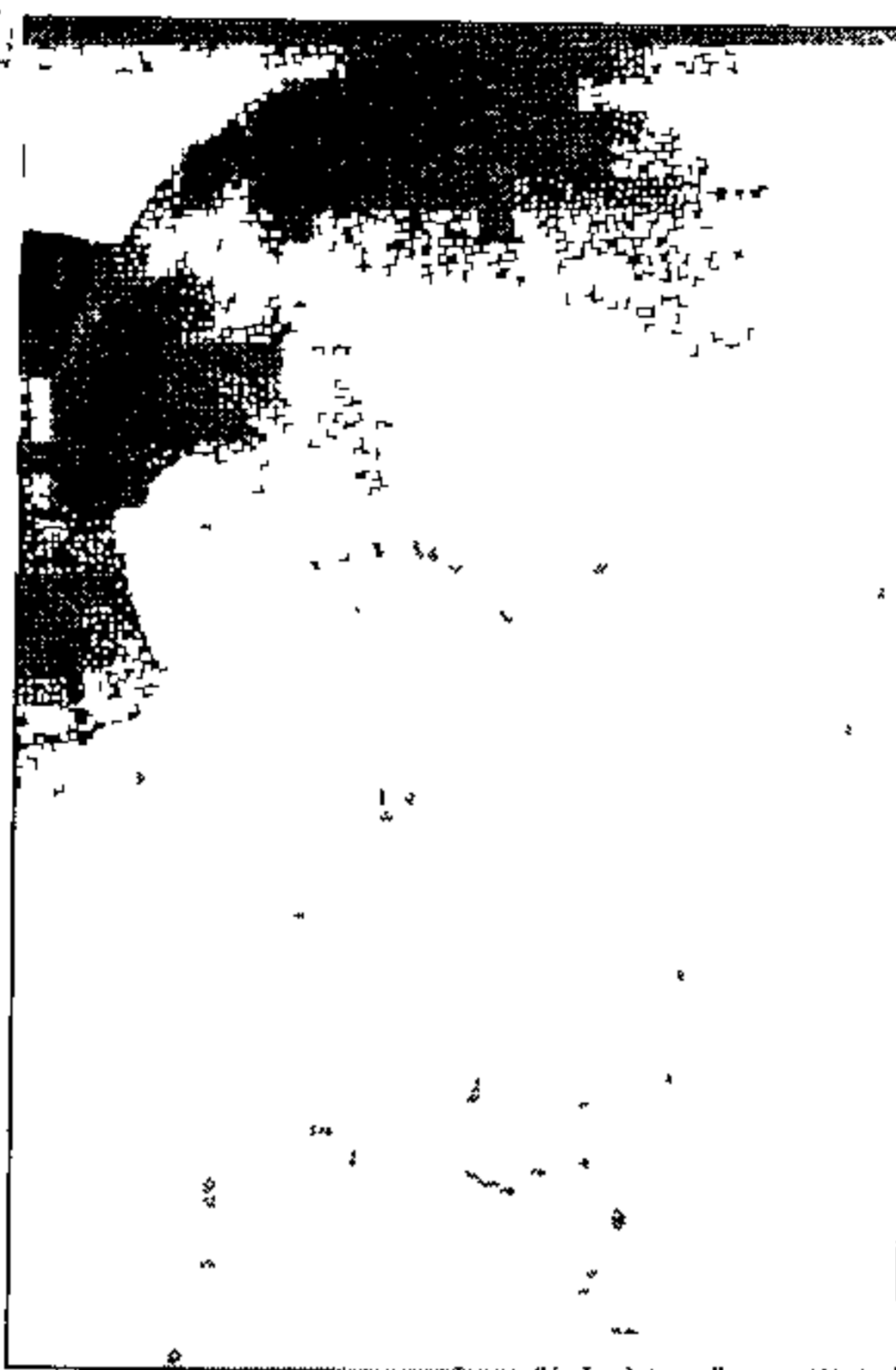
Poisons and booby-trapped bombs hidden in pens, manuscripts, tape recorders and radios were posted to victims in Swaziland, Tanzania and Zambia, he said.

Senior police officers "sentenced" men to death by simply telephoning De Kock and telling him they wanted people "eliminated".

On the fourth day of sensational testimony in mitigation of sentence, De Kock said the Rev Frank Chikane, then a leading figure in the South African Council of Churches, had been poisoned in the late 1980s. Poison was sprayed on his clothing, and the effects nearly killed him.

"Had he got sick anywhere other than the United States, he would be dead now," De Kock told a packed courtroom. "It was only because of American technology that Chikane is still alive today."

De Kock has been found guilty of six charges of murder, two of conspiracy to murder, and numerous fraud charges. Sentence will be handed down, probably in about two weeks,



Eugene de Kock: 'state's top assassin'

by Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe.

De Kock told the court today that generals Bertus Steyn, "Krappies" Engelbrecht and Johan le Roux had all been involved in dirty tricks campaigns in and outside the country.

General Steyn had telephoned him "about a problem he had with an Askari (a turncoat) who wanted to go over to the ANC, and wanted this man eliminated," he said.

General Engelbrecht had also received a call from General Steyn and told De Kock that the "job" had to be done by men from the Vlakplaas counter-insurgency unit.

A team had been dispatched to Durban, De Kock said, without emotion. "Captain Hentie Botha told me later that the men had been killed."

He also recalled how a booby-trapped Walkman tape player was sent to former unit commander Dirk Coetzee, one of the first to reveal the existence of hit squads. It was sent to Lusaka and then returned to a Soweto address where it exploded when switched on, killing ANC lawyer Bhekli Mlangeni.

A booby-trapped pen had been sent to a box number in Manzini, where it was hoped an ANC operative would collect it. But it lay on a shelf at Manzini post office for six months until two postal workers opened it - "we read in a Swazi newspaper that a device had exploded in that post office, severely injuring their hands".

In another incident, a manuscript was prepared containing explosives which went off when it was opened. A courier taking the document to Swaziland decided to read it and lost his hands, De Kock said.

In another incident, a newspaper was posted from London to Lusaka, where it was stolen during a raid on a post office by seven young Zambians. When they opened the package, it

exploded. "I understand most of them were blown to pieces," De Kock said.

Obtaining instructions by telephone to abduct, assault and kill people had been a regular occurrence.

He claimed Japie Maponya, a building society security officer in Krugersdorp, was marked for death by Colonel (later General) Johan le Roux, "who telephoned me directly and said he never wanted to see that man again". But even De Kock hesitated before Mr Maponya was murdered.

"I telephoned Captain Jan Kleynhans and asked him whether the order should be carried out. He told me to wait, and he telephoned Le Roux. Kleynhans came back to me and said that was the intention," De Kock said.

General Le Roux appeared to be a very frightened man when Coetzee's first revelations about hit squads were published in the now-defunct Vryeweekblad.

"He was in my office and sat dead still. He was definitely scared. People who gave orders (like these) don't forget them, not in a thousand years."

Earlier, De Kock said his nickname of "Prime Evil" had been given to him by a reporter from The Star. He said that former Star reporter Jacques Paauw had coined the phrase in an article which appeared on De Kock's birthday, January 21, 1993.

De Kock also acknowledged that he was the state's most professional assassin "for the time being".

Vlakplaas assassin: 'Feeling of the dead never leaves you'

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - For the first time since the beginning of his trial 19 months ago, former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock has displayed some emotion in court.

Speaking about his victims today, De Kock told Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe that he sympathised with families of his victims.

In a voice barely audible and

almost breaking, a sad-looking De Kock said that while he could not compensate those families, he fully understood what they must be going through.

"I sympathise with them as if I have lost my own children under the same circumstances as they have lost their loved ones," he said.

De Kock said nothing would have prepared people like him for the situation he was facing at this stage "but it

is a cross one will have to carry". He said at some stage he felt so bitter that he wished he had not been born. He felt dirty and worthless when thinking about his crimes.

"The feeling of the dead does not leave you even if you were to live for a thousand years," he said, answering questions from his senior counsel, Flip Hattangh.

De Kock told the court that when his family was still in South Africa, he

was worried about their safety. At one stage he heard that a group of black pupils would hold a "toyi-toyi and dance" at the school his children attended. "I armed myself with a rifle and stood guard at the gate to ensure that my children were not harmed."

He later sent his family overseas, where they remain today.

He was often sent letters and pictures showing him the progress of his two boys.

Fivaz heckled by Atlantis residents

(251) (251) 25/9/96

CYNTHIA VONGAI

ATLANTIS residents, dissatisfied with what they see as a police "non-service", yesterday heckled and jeered National Commissioner George Fivaz during the launch of the pilot Community Policing Project (CPP) there.

A group of angry residents gathered outside the Atlantis police station during the launch of the CPP and demanded to speak to Fivaz.

They held up placards which said: "Who does the work, the neighbourhood watch or the police?" and "Away with the police forum. We don't want it".

Atlantis Neighbourhood Watch representative Mr Granville Witbooi said he was disappointed with the way the CPP was launched.

"While they have a finger lunch, we the community are locked outside the gates. We were not invited to tell the commissioner about our problems," he said.

"They did not bother to call us to their launch so that we could also listen to what they have to say about improving the crime situation in Atlantis."



WHAT ABOUT US?: Mr Granville Witbooi of the Atlantis Neighbourhood Watch protests at being excluded from Commissioner George Fivaz's launch of the pilot Community Policing Project at Atlantis Police Station yesterday

PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR

The CPP is part of an agreement between the SA Police Service (SAPS) and the Belgian Federal Police, who will help with training and advice

Speaking about the launch of

CPP, the Commissioner of the Belgium Gendarmerie, Lieutenant-General Wille Deridder, said his government would plough about R22 million into the five-year pilot projects, which will be implement-

ed throughout the country as part of a strategy to improve the quality of service in the community

Fivaz said "It is part of my vision to create a safe and secure environment for all people in South Africa"

However, the chairman of Atlantis Crime Prevention, Mr John Arends, criticised Fivaz saying "Since the community police forum has existed nobody has tackled the problems faced in Atlantis.

"We are talking about a police service in Atlantis, but we still deal with a police force I do not trust the police," he said.

Arends also said if any effective community forum was to work Fivaz would have to deal with the problems associated with the past

Fivaz urged Arends to work with the Atlantis police

"The problem is there is a structure for you to solve these problems but you want it to fit in with you, rather than you with it.

"You can play a positive role Having people standing outside and shouting is not going to help," Fivaz said.

FW 'guilty of hit-squad activity'

(251)

CT 19/9/96

PRETORIA: Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock bitterly attacked former President F W de Klerk yesterday — and accused police generals of hit-squad activities and involvement in large scams.

FORMER President F W de Klerk was as guilty of involvement in police hit squad activities as anyone else, the Supreme Court heard here yesterday.

Convicted Vlakplaas unit commander Eugene de Kock said on his third day of testimony in mitigation of sentence that it was inconceivable that De Klerk did not know about covert units or operations.

He specifically stated "He ordered a raid on Transkei in 1993"

De Klerk became the second former president to be fingered by De Kock, who earlier said Mr P W Botha had known about a December 1985 raid in Lesotho and also that orders to bomb Khotso House had emanated from Botha's office.

He has also implicated former police commissioners and many top-ranking offi-

cers in hit-squad activities during his three days of evidence.

He also told yesterday of how black members of the unit had been paid to give false information to the 1989 Harms Commission, and how police officers had systematically siphoned off more than R30 million from slush funds between 1985 and 1993 by claiming false expenses of up to R400 000 a month for eight years.

Included in these expenses were air fares to Taiwan and England for police officers and their wives, new cars, education fees for private schools, medical expenses and "helping out" a top-ranking spy's family after he was captured in Britain when a deal with Northern Ireland's Ulster Volunteer Force went sour.

For the first time this week De Kock



"BETRAYED": Eugene de Kock

showed a streak of bitterness towards the former government when he said of De Klerk "My opinion is that F W de Klerk totally abdicated his responsibilities. We in the security police knew two to three months before (President Nelson) Mandela was released that this would take place."

He believed he had been betrayed by police generals, who no longer talked to him and did not give him the support they had given to General Magnus Malan, former defence minister, who is also on trial.

"FW is certainly the greatest coward that this country has ever seen," he told Judge Willem van der Merwe.

"His bags are already packed and he doesn't care about South Africa or South Africans. He went into the negotiations (with the ANC and other parties) a small scared dog who lay on his back to have his belly scratched by the enemy."

"FW cannot deny he was involved in hit squad or covert operations. It is the same with P W Botha. If FW says he did not know of certain covert units, he is wrong. He gave the order for a 1993 Transkei operation

every way possible — left-handed, right-handed, even with their feet or something," De Kock told the court.

"It was a culture (at the unit). Any operation you did had to be financed in this manner," De Kock said, adding the police made it as difficult as they could for the service's internal auditor to check back on slips submitted.

A wild party at a police seaside holiday resort and conference centre had resulted in a combi, presented to the police by Volkswagen South Africa, being driven into the sea and totally covered in water. It had cost thousands of rand to restore the vehicle and recover a video camera worth R16 500.

There were also false claims submitted to pay black officers in the unit who had been called to give evidence to the Harms Commission. It was decided at the unit that they would give false evidence and amounts of R18 000, R23 000 and R25 000 were paid out to them to mislead the commission, the court heard.

Another amount of R27 000 was paid to a Colonel Baker, of Pretoria security police, who was putting his children through an exclusive private boarding school. He also apparently used the money to lay down a driveway at his home and bought two pedigree dogs and dog food.

"Many other people did the same," De Kock said.

When Mr Leon Flors, a member of the SA Defence Force, was trapped by British police in 1992 after trying to do a R1-million explosives deal with the Ulster Volunteer Force, De Kock appealed to General Krappies Engelbrecht for permission to help the Flors family.

False claims totalling well over R100 000 were sent to the controller of the police's slush fund — identified as a Colonel Koekemoer — to meet the costs of petrol and other expenses such as the bond on the family home, medical expenses,

education fees, legal costs, a car and the purchase of Christmas presents.

"You never throw away an old spy. He had a family and worked hard for the state. He was part of the security service," he said.

Earlier, De Kock said he had been offered a contract by employees of Executive Outcomes, the South African firm hired by Angola and Sierra Leone to supply mercenaries to assassinate Gauteng Premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale and Mr Eben Barlow, managing director of Executive Outcomes.

He said Mr Stuart Cummings, whom the court heard on Tuesday had been involved in efforts to obtain weapons for the IFP, and a nephew, identified as Mr Tom Cummings, who worked for Executive Outcomes, had asked him in 1993 to "take out" Sexwale.

De Kock did not say why the company wanted Sexwale or Barlow dead. He reported the matter to General Krappies Engelbrecht — Own Correspondent

"If I was given a choice between FW and members of the ANC, I would choose the ANC because at least I would know who my friends were."

De Kock spent hours detailing how police officers filled in false expense claims to fund covert operations, buy vehicles, weapons and other equipment.

"We even sent men to Checkers and OK Bazars to pick up discarded till slips so that these could be signed and then used for claims," he told a packed court.

On one occasion four officers spent four days signing slips totalling R100 000 to pay for various items, including air fares to Taiwan for the wives of General Johan van der Merwe, then commissioner of police, and two other unnamed generals who had been invited there on an official trip.

When General Basie Smut, former head of the security branch, went on official business to London, receipts totalling between R80 000 and R100 000 had to be manufactured to pay for everything from hotels to car hire.

"The slips for false claims were signed in

'I decided to look after myself' after top brass sought amnesty

OWN CORRESPONDENT

PRETORIA: Eugene de Kock said yesterday he had been betrayed by former police commissioner General Johan van der Merwe and other top generals.

He displayed visible anger towards his senior police colleagues for no longer supporting him.

De Kock said the top brass had turned up at the Durban Supreme Court to support General Magnus Malan, but had dissociated themselves from him.

The final straw was when he heard that General Nick van Rensburg had applied for amnesty from the Truth and Commission but had asked for his name to be kept secret.

"Each one was going to try to get amnesty. The very last thing on their agendas, is to be discredited. They and Van Rensburg are not man enough to stand up and say 'I am

going to seek amnesty' It was then that I decided to look after myself."

Since the existence of a police hit squad had been exposed by Dirk Coetzee in 1989, De Kock said his life had not been the same.

"Dirk Coetzee is a traitor," he told the crowded court room.

When the 1989 Harms Commission sat, his bosses had shown little interest in Vlakplaas. "Headquarters had fallen all over us previously but that all ended. Generals who had greeted us, now shunned us. It was as if you were dirty. Even to talk to us was a problem."

After the unbanning of the ANC, the PAC and the SACP in 1990, he was told by General Willie van Rensburg that the time had come to "scrap Vlakplaas". De Kock appealed to General Krappies Engelbrecht to scale down the operation.

After Coetzee had given evidence to the Harms Commission in Lon-

don, De Kock had asked to go on pension, instead he was placed on "special leave" which he described as "pseudo-dismissal".

De Kock told the court "This was my work. The enemy was the ANC, PAC and SACP. I felt the state had decided we had to go, to cut us loose.

General Engelbrecht is the only one who supported me."

De Kock was given a R1 million retrenchment package instead of the R1,45m he was originally offered.

"When I was told this by Engelbrecht, he was so emotional I thought he would cry. He told me it was unnecessary to buy a house out of my settlement and that before I left I had to put in false claims for R250 000 to buy a house. This I did, and later sold it. I don't feel too happy about this," he told the court.

Before he left, De Kock said he had spent hours burning tons of files connected with covert operations.

(251)
CT 19/9/96

4 BUSINESS DAY, Friday, September 20 1996

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The investigation task unit which was responsible for the arrest of former defence minister Gen Magnus Malan in connection with the 1987 Kwa-Makhutha massacre would disband within months, safety and security department special advisor Peter Gastrow said yesterday.

Natal task force to be disbanded

Minister Sydney Mufamadi rather than national commissioner George Fiyaz. He said the arrangement had been necessary at the time of the unit's formation in 1994, as Fiyaz had still not been appointed and the police service had not been restructured.

Gastrow said one reason for the decision to disband the unit was the "unhealthy" situation surrounding it. The unit was reporting directly to Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi earlier this year to investigate political violence. Their formation reflected a "determined effort" to root out political violence. It was an additional reason for the disbanding of the Mufamadi-created unit.

It had shown a commitment to arrest "untouchables" suspected to have been involved in violence. He gained the impression that the four new units were only "going for small fish".

Gastrow said the Mufamadi-created unit had been given the specific mandate to investigate hit squads, arising from allegations made to bodies such as the Goldstone commission. The unit had largely fulfilled its mandate, he said.

Gastrow said while the unit's investigations had thus far led to only one high-profile prosecution — that of Malan and 19 other accused — it had come across vital information which it passed on for investigation. The unit was understood to have lost about half its staff of 48. This included unit commander Sur Supt Frank Dutton, who was investigating war crimes in Bosnia on behalf of a UN-established tribunal. Observers pointed out that the unit's two-year investigations had thus far led to four convictions in two cases.

The only murder conviction related to the 1994 murder of ANC members Mzwandile Mbongwa and Muzwendodwa Ximba. Gale said he did not believe the perceived low success rate in prosecutions was a reflection on the unit. Responsibility for success in the courts lay elsewhere, he said.

Natal task force to be disbanded

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Gastrow said four other investigative units reporting directly to Fivaz had been established in

KwaZulu-Natal earlier this year to investigate political violence. Their formation reflected a "determined effort" to root out political violence. It was an additional reason for the disbanding of the Mufamadi-created unit.

However, ANC KwaZulu-Natal safety and security spokesman Bheki Cele said it was unfortunate that the unit would disband.

It had shown a commitment to arrest "untouchables" suspected to have been involved in violence.

He gained the impression that the four new units were only "going for small fish".

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commission. The unit had largely fulfilled its mandate, he said.

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Cele said he did not believe the perceived low success rate in prosecutions was a reflection on the unit. Responsibility for success in the courts lay elsewhere, he said.

De Kock feels 'dirty and contaminated now'

(251) BD ~~Report~~ 20/9/96

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was considered the most successful assassin in the country, but court cases to follow would make the activities of his hit squad unit look like child's play, he said yesterday.

Festifying in mitigation of sentence in the Transvaal Supreme Court, De Kock said other criminal court proceedings would make it clear he was not the most successful killer.

"I know about other units that put C10 in the shade," he told Judge Willem van der Merwe.

De Kock, convicted of six murders, two charges of conspiracy to murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide and fraud, said the memory of those he killed did not disappear "even if you live to be 100".

Giving details about superior officers who had ordered some of the murders he had been convicted of, the former policeman said "they were in a position of power and used that power".

De Kock said "Those who gave the orders do not have to live with the dead like we have to".

He claimed Gen Nic van Rensburg had ordered C10 to "get rid of" a Vlakplaas colleague, Brian Ngqulunga, who had be-

come a threat to the security branch by planning to spill the beans about hit squad activities. Gen Krappies Engelbrecht also knew about the order.

Durban security branch chief Gen Bertus Steyn had asked C10 to get rid of an askari, Goodwill Sikhakane, who had "become a problem" by also threatening to disclose details about murders committed by the Durban police.

De Kock said it had also been Van Rensburg's idea that an explosive device be sent to renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee, at the time in hiding in Lusaka. The bomb, built into a Walkman cassette player, was not received by Coetzee, but

killed ANC lawyer Bheki Mlangeni.

"It was Gen Herman du Plessis's suggestion that we write Mlangeni's address on the parcel as the sender — to whom the parcel was eventually returned."

The murder of Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maponya had been committed on the insistence of then West Rand security chief Gen Johan le Roux. Maponya had been abducted by C10 in an attempt to establish the whereabouts of his brother, an ANC freedom fighter.

"Le Roux was adamant that Maponya must die. He said he never wanted to see the man again," De Kock said. De Kock did not testify about a number

of crimes he had been convicted of, including the murders of five would-be robbers outside Nelspruit in 1992.

Asked how he felt about the crimes he had committed, De Kock said there were times he wished he had never been born.

"I cannot describe how contaminated and dirty I feel. Whatever we set out to do in the so-called interest of the country, we failed to achieve. All we succeeded in doing was to deliver dead bodies, pain and children who will never know fathers."

"If I could turn back the hands of time, I would never join the police or any organisation where you are required to kill," De Kock said.

There is always a time for the truth, court hears

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Eugene de Kock was nothing less than a murderer with a special talent for deception, Transvaal attorney-general Anton Ackermann SC said yesterday.

In a blistering attack during the first few minutes of cross-examination, Ackermann said the former Vlakplaas commander was a megalomaniac who never served the community as a policeman.

De Kock admitted that during the past 20 years, he had made "unquantifiable" false statements under oath and had committed perjury in at least five court cases.

Asked by Ackermann why suddenly in 1996, after years of lying to judges and magistrates, he now claimed to be honest, De Kock said "There is always a time for the truth."

The court cases in which he lied included the Chesterville case, in which four unarmed people were killed by C10 members, the Piet Rehof case in which four ANC members — three women and a man — were gunned down in an ambush and had weapons planted on them, the Japie Maponya inquest, the Harms commission of inquiry into third force activities and the Goldstone commission.

"But since I have been sitting here (in the witness box) in my own trial, I am telling the truth," De Kock said. He claimed he had lied for the SA Police, the former NP government and the country, but later admitted it had been in his own interest to deceive.

"If I told the truth at the time I would have been arrested," De Kock said. Ackermann said "You actually suffer from megalomania. All the operations which you participated in as a policeman were successful, and the ones you did not take part in were flops."

Accusing De Kock of attempting to create the impression he was a humanitarian who looked after "his people, especially the black members of his C10 unit", Ackermann said De Kock wanted empathy from the court and from "certain organisations". De Kock retorted, accusing Ackermann of conducting his (De Kock's) prosecution through the media.

Deputy attorney-general Ackermann had, over the past two years, turned me into a monster in the eyes of whites and blacks in this country," he said, to which Ackermann replied that the admissions made by De Kock over the past four days had been more "horrific" than any evidence presented against De Kock by the State.

Cross-examination continues today

Killer's allegations will go untested, says Roelf Meyer

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Convicted killer Eugene de Kock's allegations against political parties and leaders would remain untested as he was testifying in mitigation of sentence, NP secretary-general Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

This raised the question as to why he had not made these allegations during his trial, when he could have been examined on the substance of his allegations.

At a news briefing, Meyer said the allegations De Kock made about the NP and its leader, FW de Klerk, had been addressed in the party's submission to the truth commission. De Kock's testimony supported the view of the NP and De Klerk, as set out in the party's truth commission submission, that there was a body of people in the security establishment who fought against reform as hard as they previously fought the ANC. He suggested that the truth

commission investigate the allegations and that criminal prosecutions should follow if they were found to be true. The NP would continue to co-operate with the commission and would make further submissions.

Nomavenda Mathiane reports that IFP MP Themba Khoza, at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday, described as "nonsense" De Kock's claims that he gave guns to Khoza and a Rev Mthethwa, also of the IFP.

De Kock was "lying his way to political indemnity", he said.

He would not go to the truth commission about these allegations because the commission was dealing with political parties in a biased manner. "The dredging up of the past seems to imply I or my party sought to acquire weapons out of the blue. The fact is that after countless assassinations of our leadership, people started to demand security. They used acceptable and unacceptable means."



IFP MP Themba Khoza at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday

Picture: GARTH LUMLEY

CAPE TOWN — Former police generals have warned they will be unable to make their submission to the truth commission unless police commissioner George Fivaz agrees to pay legal costs of policemen wanting to testify before the commission

Negotiations with Fivaz on the provision of legal aid for serving and retired policemen were at a "critical stage", former police commissioner Gen Johan van der Merwe said

"The date for the (commission) hearing is dependent on the outcome of the negotiations," he said

If no agreement was

Generals demand legal aid for police

(251) BD 20/9/96
reached, it would be "very hard" for the generals to go ahead with their submission, particularly in regard to incidents of human rights abuses in which policemen were involved

At a recent meeting with senior commission officials, Van der Merwe and former police commissioners Mike Geldenhuys and Johan Coetzee undertook to provide details of about 50 incidents of politically motivated abuses.

Yesterday Van der Merwe explained that the only information the generals had on the 50 incidents had been compiled from court records and police dockets

He said the generals were relying on individual policemen to provide them with details

This could be done only through attorneys as it would be illegal for him and his colleagues to "consult with anybody who confesses to a crime". — Sapa

Harms: Even if they lied, I was right (251)

Star 20/9/96

BY ROBERT BRAND

Eugene de Kock's admission in court this week that he and other Vlakplaas policemen had lied to the Harms Commission did not invalidate the commission's finding that there was no official hit squad based at Vlakplaas, according to Mr Justice Louis Harms

"My finding was that in a criminal case, with the evidence before me, no conviction could be obtained in respect of any of the allegations made by Dirk Coetzee. And I was right. No court since then has believed him," Harms told The Star.

"I can't undo my work, or do it over. If De Kock lied to me, he lied to me," Harms, now an Appeal Court judge, said from his home in Bloemfontein. "De Kock was not cross-examined by anyone at the commission, so why shouldn't I have believed him?"

The Harms Commission was established by then president F W de Klerk to investigate allegations by two former Vlakplaas policemen, Dirk Coetzee and Almond Nofemela, that a hit squad operating from Vlakplaas had been responsible for a number of murders. The commission was also asked to investigate the Civil Cooperation Bureau, a covert military unit accused of dirty tricks and murders.

After months of hearing evidence from Coetzee, Nofemela, and several serving and retired policemen, Harms found the Vlakplaas hit squad allegations to be without foundation.

De Kock, testifying in Pretoria in mitigation of sentence for 89 crimes, including six murders, said on Wednesday he had appeared before the commission days after returning from a cross-border raid in Botswana. In his evidence to the commission, he had denied the hit squad allegations.

He said at least three other Vlakplaas policemen were paid large sums to lie to the commission.

► How Harms probe failed us all

1137

This time it's true, says a cowed De Kock

Mar 20/9/96

(2/7)

The convicted assassin admits he lied to two state inquiries

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

Convicted police assassin Eugene de Kock admitted yesterday that he misled two state commissions of inquiry into hit squad activities led by senior judges Louis Harms and Richard Goldstone

However, De Kock was adamant that everything he said in the Supreme Court this week in mitigation of his sentence was the truth

In his first cross-examination, the former commander of the Vlakplaas counter-insurgency unit challenged Transvaal deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman to prove him wrong about the involvement of senior politicians and generals in alleged hit squads

Although he admitted giving false evidence to the two commissions, De Kock insisted not everything he told Goldstone had been false "There were certain aspects of my answers which were false and others which were true"

He also alleged that the Goldstone commission had been "deliberately officially misled".

He said statements he had given to Tim McNally, who led the state's case during the Harms Commission, were totally false.

De Kock's defence team closed



De Kock ... shock revelations before defence closes testimony.

his testimony yesterday just after the lunch recess

Before it did so, however, he disclosed that his counter-insurgency unit had wanted to find a way to put certain ANC members to sleep so they could be questioned in police custody.

General Lothar Neethling, at the time the police's leading forensic expert, had been asked to provide a drug to be mixed with beer but had been unable to assist.

"We obtained a potion through the Directorate of Covert Collection [a division of Military Intelligence] which in turn had contacted the bacterial warfare section [of the SA Defence Force]," he said

"I tested the potion on an Askan [an ANC member working for the police] but his heart rate went up to such an extent and became so hyperactive that I had him admitted to Ladybrand Hospital

"If we ever had to give that potion to the ANC leaders, we would still be chasing them around in the Malutis."

Earlier, the court heard that government-sanctioned hit squads struck far and wide, sometimes killing innocent bystanders and petty thieves.

In several instances, poisons and booby-trapped bombs hidden in pens, manuscripts, tape recorders and radios were posted to victims in Swaziland, Tanzania and Zambia

Senior police officers "sentenced" men to death by simply telephoning De Kock and telling him they wanted people "eliminated"

He told the court Generals Bertus Steyn, Krappies Engelbrecht and Johan le Roux had all been involved in dirty tricks campaigns

He said the Rev Frank Chikane, then a leading figure in the South African Council of Churches, had been poisoned in the late 1980s following a plot hatched by the South African Defence Force and the police His clothing was impregnated with poison at Jan Smuts Airport when Chikane was en route to the United States

"Had he got sick anywhere else than the United States, he would be dead now," said De Kock.

IFP's Themba Khoza denies being police spy

By JOVIAL RANTAO
Political Correspondent

There were more questions than answers after Themba Khoza, deputy leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party in Gauteng, addressed a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday to refute allegations made in the Pretoria Supreme Court by Eugene de

Kock.

Khoza declined to answer a number of questions because, he said, he wanted to use his information at a later stage to disprove claims made by De Kock

Testifying in mitigation of sentence this week, De Kock alleged that Khoza was a police spy and that he and KwaZulu Natal MEC, the Rev Celani Mithethwa, were

involved in gun-running

De Kock also claimed that police had paid Khoza's bail when he was arrested after AK-47 rifles were found in his boot in the Vaal Triangle

Khoza denied these claims yesterday: "De Kock never paid my bail .. the (F W) de Klerk government did not pay my bail . I won't tell you who paid my bail".

De Kock on the

the cross I must bear'

Nov 20/9/96 (251)

- MOTLHALEFI MAHLABE

Assassin expresses regret for victims but slates old government for abandoning 'the volk' and media for demonising him

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

Police hit squad killer Eugene de Kock has expressed regret for some of his crimes - but he also lambasted the media for "demonising" him and calling him a "monster", and the government he served for abandoning apartheid after he had offered it the best years of his life to fight what he termed Marxism.

He was giving testimony in mitigation of sentence in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday.

"There was a time when I wished I was never born," he said. "I cannot say how dirty one feels. Whatever we attempted in the interests of the country did not work."

He added "All we did was to injure people, to leave people with unforgivable pain, to leave behind children who would never know their parents"

It was an unusual show of emotion from the otherwise calm multiple assassin who interrupted blood-curdling tales of murder to bemoan his fate. He claimed that his life had turned to misery.

De Kock said he regretted joining the police but it was a cross he had to bear. "The Lord does not allow that (regrets). He lets you carry that cross, I would never have joined any organisation where you have to kill people. It's a cross that you have to bear. You cannot fix it. There is no honour, or feeling of power

"Though there is no way to compensate or console the victims of our actions, I sympathise with them as if it was my own children that I had lost"

He was equally scathing about the volk being abandoned by South Africans in favour of the present nonracial Government, saying he would not offer the best years of his life to what he called Marxism.

Later, during cross-examination by Transvaal Deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman, De Kock admitted that he lied to the Harms and Goldstone commissions into hit squad activities.

Ackerman asked De Kock why he had decided to tell the truth and what had prompted him "to see the Damascus light"

De Kock replied "There is always a point when one sees what is right. I decided in December 1994, when a friend was assaulted by the police, that the truth had to be told. I decided then that I would tell the truth, not to turn state witness and be taken overseas. I want to give the full picture of what took place as the whole country has a right to know."

■ Cross-examination is expected to last for at least another day. It is uncertain when Mr Justice van der Merwe will pass sentence next week because Tuesday is a public holiday. The earliest date will be October 7 because the court goes into a week's recess next Friday.



De Kock concerned he won't get fair hearing from Truth Commission

Confesses to lying at Harms and Goldstone inquiries

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - Convicted hit squad killer Eugene de Kock - said by his police bosses to be "a hunter without mercy" - is worried he may not get a fair hearing from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) when he applies for amnesty.

He expressed reservations in the Pretoria Supreme Court today, the second day of cross-examination of his testimony in mitigation, after his name "was banded about" during a TRC hearing at Newcastle recently.

"I am concerned because on every radio and television broadcast the name 'Eugene de Kock' was used when in fact the security police commander at Newcastle at the time of incidents there was in fact Paul de Kock

"The impression was given that I was responsible for everything I have only been to Newcastle once in my life and I will have to be very

careful about the TRC," he told Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe

De Kock is being cross-examined by Transvaal Deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman in a trial which has so far lasted more than 18 months

De Kock today reluctantly agreed with statements earlier submitted to the prosecution by top policeman Krappies Engelbrecht that he was "cold blooded" in dealings with "the enemy". He was also "a hunter without mercy, single-minded and nothing deviated him from the job at hand. He frightens members of the ANC/PAC/SACP alliance."

De Kock replied, quietly "He (General Engelbrecht) has never been in the field. He only got reports "

He told the court he was not surprised that former president F W de Klerk and former police commissioner Johan van der Merwe had made statements this week that there had been covert

operations launched by the security forces. They made the statements after De Kock had told the court during testimony delivered from Monday that Mr De Klerk had personally authorised a 1993 operation in Transkei

"I have nothing to lose. I have no hidden agenda," De Kock said

De Kock today was in exuberant mood when he arrived at court. He entered the dock wearing an open-necked shirt, multi-coloured pullover and light trousers, stark contrast to the neat business suits of the previous four days. He bounded up the steps from the cells and briskly walked to the witness box, joking with court orderlies that he was wearing "standard Friday uniform"

Resuming cross-examination, Mr Ackerman asked him about his political views, to which De Kock replied he had never voted in his life and was not a member of the National Party

He had, however, joined the IFP,

which he regarded as friends as they fought "the enemy" (the ANC) and also because he believed black people should have been given the vote much earlier

"They fought their hearts out (in the army and police) but did not have the vote," he told the court

He had long ago decided that the aspirations of whites in South Africa had come to an end

Again questioned by Mr Ackerman on why he had joined the IFP, and whether he was still a member, De Kock replied to loud laughter from the public gallery "I'm not a member now. I am a member of the Pretoria central prison "

Under cross-examination yesterday, De Kock confessed to perjury before the Harms and Goldstone commissions

Questioned by Mr Ackermann, De Kock also admitted he had not told the truth when giving evidence in other court cases and also in sworn statements.

De Kock said he had not told the

truth when he told the Harms Commission he was in the Western Transvaal with a Sergeant E Fourie on September 23, 1985 - the day Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maponya disappeared

Mr Maponya was apparently a problem for the police security branch in Krugersdorp and Vlakplaas had been asked to "neutralise" him

Mr Maponya was marked down for death by Colonel (later General) Johan le Roux, who telephoned De Kock and said he never wanted to see that man again

"I telephoned Captain Jan Kleynhans and asked him whether the order should be carried out

"He told me to wait and telephoned Le Roux. Kleynhans came back to me and said that was the intention "

This was duly done and nothing further was said except a remark by De Kock to a senior security officer that "the problem you had in Krugersdorp is no more"

(251) Arg 20/9/96

'I AM THE ONLY WHITE STILL FIGHTING THE ANC'

De Kock sympathises

with hit squad victims

(251) CT 20/9/96

PRETORIA: Eugene de Kock said in cross-examination yesterday that he had decided to tell the truth about Vlakplaas activities after a friend of his was assaulted by the police. Before this he had lied to the Harms and Goldstone commissions about the existence of hit squad activities.

DURING an emotional appearance in court yesterday, convicted killer Eugene de Kock accused the nation of having turned its back on him.

He was scathing about South Africans turning away from the "volk" (in favour of the present government), saying he did not offer the best years of his life to what he called Marxism.

"It seems I am the only white in the whole of South Africa fighting the ANC. Everyone now is a member of the ANC," he declared.

He sympathised with victims of the Vlakplaas hit squads, adding "There was a time that I wished I was never born. I cannot say how dirty one feels. Whatever we attempted in the interests of the country, did not work."

"All we did was injure people, to leave people with unforgivable pain, to leave behind children who would never know their parents."

De Kock lambasted the media for "demonising" him, saying it had caused fellow inmates to pelt him with cakes of soap which had razor blades stuck in them.

Later, during cross-examination by deputy attorney-general Mr Anton Ackerman, De Kock admitted to having lied to the Harms and Goldstone commissions which had probed hit squad activities.

Ackerman asked why De Kock had decided to now tell the truth?

De Kock "There is always a point when one sees what is right. I decided in December 1994, when a friend was assaulted by the police, that the truth had to be told."

"I want to give the full picture of what has taken place as the country has a right to know."

Cross-examination is expected to last for at least another day.

● Responding yesterday to De Kock's admissions that he and other Vlakplaas policemen had lied to the Harms Commission, Mr Justice Louis Harms said it did not invalidate the commission's finding that there had been no official hit squad based at Vlakplaas.

The Harms commission was established by then president FW de Klerk to investigate allegations by two former Vlakplaas policemen, Dirk Coetzee and Almond Nofemela, that a hit squad operating from Vlakplaas had been responsible for a number of murders.

The commission was also asked to investigate the shadowy Civil Co-operation Bureau, a covert military unit accused of "dirty tricks" and murders.

After months of hearing evidence from Coetzee, Nofemela, and a number of serving and

retired policemen, Harms found the Vlakplaas hit squad allegations to be without foundation.

De Kock, testifying in Pretoria in mitigation of sentence for 89 crimes, including six murders, said on Wednesday he had appeared before the commission days after returning from a cross-border raid in Botswana. He had denied the hit squad allegations.

He said three other Vlakplaas policemen were paid large sums of money to lie to the commission.

"I can't undo my work, or do it over. If De Kock lied to me, he lied to me," Harms, now an Appeal Court judge, said from his home in Bloemfontein.

"De Kock wasn't cross examined at the commission, so why shouldn't I have believed him?"

"My finding was that in a criminal case, with the evidence before me no conviction could be obtained in respect of any of the allegations made by Coetzee. And I was right. No court since then has believed him."

Harms said he had been prevented from extending his inquiry outside South Africa because the terms of reference set by De Klerk precluded this.

He had been prevented from sitting in Namibia, as a neutral territory, to hear Coetzee's evidence because the Namibian government would not allow it.

"The information was not available inside the country, and it was politically impossible to operate outside the country," Harms said. — Own Correspondent

Meyer denies De Klerk knew of covert acts, urges TRC probe

ALLEGATIONS by former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock that former president Mr FW de Klerk was involved in police hit squad activities should be put to the Truth Commission for further investigation, National Party secretary-general Mr Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

The party also emphasised that the attorneys-general could also bring any of the allegations to court and institute prosecutions.

Responding to De Kock's testimony in mitigation of sentence that it was inconceivable that Mr de Klerk did not know about covert operations, Meyer acknowledged that De Klerk had approved the SA Defence Force raid in Umtata in 1993 while he was in office.

This had been dealt with in the

NP submission to the truth commission recently and the party was willing to expand further on individual items, including the Bisho massacre of 1992.

It was unfortunate, however, that at the end of the De Kock trial these allegations had been made without opportunity of cross-examination, said the NP.

Some of De Kock's comments had been an expression of political preferences. He had also "raised political views" about De Klerk.

Meanwhile, Inkatha Freedom Party MP Mr Themba Khoza yesterday accused De Kock of fabricating allegations of gun-running by Khoza to save himself.

"De Kock is lying his way to political indemnity," Khoza said at a media conference in Johannes-

burg. The normally fiery IFP stalwart was restrained as he denied De Kock's allegations.

He said he had information that would prove De Kock was lying.

"He is trying to make his own actions appear as political as possible so that when judgment is passed his action will be passed as political activity," Khoza said.

An example of his attempt to politicise his trial was by mentioning that he had joined the IFP. This was irrelevant to the evidence being heard, Khoza said.

"Running weapons has never been my business yesterday, today or tomorrow."

"The allegations by De Kock are fabrications." — Political Staff and Sapa

Shocking revelations from a charming man

'Can you believe he is just a killer?' Eugene de Kock elicits a split response as he makes dramatic revelations in court

He didn't exactly kill with kindness but there is a charm to Eugene de Kock that belies the murderous work he carried out for the apartheid government
Eddie Koch reports

It was a balmy autumn afternoon back in 1993 and Eugene de Kock was sitting, as arranged, on the terrace of the Centurion Park Hotel in Pretoria with a bulging moon bag next to the beer in front of him.

It was our second meeting and I was hoping, naively it turns out, that because the Vlakplaas commander was involved in a bitter dispute with his police superiors at the time he would talk about their role in fomenting "third force" violence. But instead of giving away state secrets the colonel did two things that epitomise the conundrum he has posed for the court and country this week.

He took a state-of-the-art Glock pistol from the bag and with the boyish smile that he displayed all through his testimony in court explained that it wasn't really an assassin's weapon and he only used it on the shooting range. And when he heard I was about to leave for Greece and was thinking of visiting Bosnia he offered some fatherly advice: don't travel in an armoured car because it "will cook you" if hit by an RPG 7 "if you take a head wound ask someone to shoot you because then it's not worth surviving" and if you get into real trouble ask your wife to call me and I'll come and fetch you.

The experience left a set of deeply ambivalent feelings. I was horrified to handle a gun that had probably been used to murder some of the colonel's victims yet attracted by the man's genial manner, disturbed by his professional capacity for violence but beguiled by his offer to help in times of stress.

De Kock's uncanny ability to both shock and charm is a theme that was played out over and over again when this complex man had the judge and his pair of assessors, as well as most of the packed gallery on the edge of their chairs in room DG3 of the Pretoria Supreme Court this week.

There was for example a moment when — after a riveting account of cross-border operations into Lesotho

and Botswana, in which he blew houses and buildings to smithereens, abducted ANC operatives, pushed getaway cars over cliffs and shot men in the head — Justice Willem Van der Merwe asked De Kock what he and his men got in return. "Ag just a good handshake and a little braai." It was a reply that broke the judge's stern countenance into the hint of a smile.

On another occasion the colonel explained how one of his agents had complained that Winnie Mandela turned him into a sex slave after he had infiltrated her gang of township toughs. "We did not believe him but Captain Anton Pretorius who listened to the tapes made in Mrs Mandela's house said he was a man of Olympian standards who could satisfy any woman."

There were more grins on the bench and they were eradicated by the testimony that came seconds later. The Vlakplaas man had apparently killed three policemen during his time with Mandela. "He was taken to Penge mine. I shot him myself. When it came to the part where his body was to be blown up I walked away."

At tea time on Wednesday two petite women rushed up to the dock. They chatted to the colonel for a while, hugged him and each kissed him on the cheek before he went down, flushing slightly to the isolation of the cells below. It was difficult not to feel sorry for the man. "Can you believe he is just a killer?" said the person behind me as we shuffled out of the gallery.

That is the central question that underlies the split response in most of those who heard De Kock's evidence in mitigation for the crimes he has committed. Is he a psychopathic killer, a charming version of South Africa's own Carlos the Jackal, who deserves the 200 year sentence that would normally be handed down for the combination of crimes he has been convicted of?

Or was he just one of the many ordinary footsoldiers who found themselves almost by misfortune fighting a dirty war not of their making but doing it anyway because it had become a mundane and normal part of their working lives?

The colonel's defence team led by Philip Hattingh has presented a compelling case to support the latter view. De Kock was trained to fight

communists and the ANC as the enemy. He suffered repeated stress and tension after fighting bush wars in Rhodesia and South West Africa. The orders for some of his most reprehensible missions came from the highest office. Two state presidents, four cabinet ministers and more than a dozen generals have been named in this regard — and none of them have denied the accuracy of his charges.

Corruption and fraud, ranging from free booze in the Vlakplaas canteen to the filing of false claims worth up to R80 000 a time was the order of the day in the police force. De Kock learnt how to do these things after the generals showed him how. Even though his judgment was clouded by the trauma of what he did, and the culture he worked in, the colonel sometimes refused to carry out orders he regarded as being morally unacceptable.

One of the most shocking moments in his career was when General Gerrit Erasmus allegedly said they should shoot any unformed policemen who may have interfered with their mission to blow up Khotso House. "We decided not to shoot any policemen. If there was no other way (of dealing with their potential to leak information about the covert operation) they would simply have to become members of the security police," De Kock told the court.

But what about the evidence of gratuitous violence? He once split the skull of one of his own agents with a spade. Former Vlakplaas operatives say he beat every one of them during his stint as commander of the base — the black members with a sjambok, the white ones with his fists.

There are countless incidents like these that will have to be taken into account when the court considers the colonel's plea for understanding and remission.



Then there are the gaps in his testimony, suggestions he may be protecting some of his old buddies. Did he play a role in the activities of the CCB unit that operated out of Staal Burger's hotel in Hillbrow? What about the train massacres on the Reef and the Boipatong massacre? These are issues that may be explored to test the truthfulness of the colonel when the state cross-examines him.

Whichever way the judge's decision goes on the question of mitigation, De Kock has already achieved another of his objectives. He has provided *prima facie* evidence that he is not alone in his guilt.

Dozens of those, and they include

former cabinet ministers and generals in the security forces who conived with him and gave the orders, are still in office or they are walking free. If they receive permanent amnesty, the colonel's defence team will ask: is it fair that De Kock spends the rest of his life in jail?

That question is the greatest, most central challenge to the country's criminal justice system that will stem from the De Kock trial.

To use a phrase from Hannah Arendt's book on the Eichmann trial in Jerusalem: "It is one thing for the courts to ferret out criminals and murderers from their hiding places. It is another to find them prominent and flourishing in the public realm."

My strategy is to keep talking and stay alive, says De Kock after four days of testimony

(251) Star 21/9/96

By NORMAN CHANDLER

Eugene de Kock – apartheid's self-styled assassin, and who this week gave evidence about the alleged involvement of presidents, cabinet ministers, generals and other top police officers – yesterday made it plain he is not about to stop talking about government-sanctioned hit squads

In a dramatic day of evidence, he showed he was prepared to answer everything that Transvaal Deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman asked him, and won the round on points when Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe told Ackerman not to get carried away in his cross-examination of testimony delivered in mitigation of sentence over the past few days

De Kock also agreed he was "a person without mercy" who hunted down his foes – a description given him by police General Krappies Engelbrecht, whom De Kock said was his best friend while the Vlakplaas unit was in existence

"My only strategy is to keep alive," he told the Pretoria Supreme Court "I find myself in a steel vault with no passages and no turns"

And about the people he hunted, he said "My enemies are dead I don't think about them Most of them are dead"

De Kock was answering questions from Ackerman in cross-examination of four days of testimony he gave in mitigation of sentence

Earlier, De Kock had been found guilty of six murders, two conspiracies to murder and

numerous charges of fraud The judge yesterday postponed the hearing until Thursday, with the next day scheduled for further cross-examination

Asked by Ackerman whether he was the top assassin in the country, De Kock said that since "no assassins' conference" had

that I was responsible for everything I have only been to Newcastle once in my life and I will have to be very careful about the TRC"

He reluctantly agreed with the sentiments of General Engelbrecht that he was 'cold blooded' in dealings with 'the enemy'

He was also 'a hunter without mercy, single-minded, and nothing deviated him from the job at hand He frightens (spooks) members of the ANC/PAC/SACP alliance'

De Kock replied, quietly 'He (Engelbrecht) has never been in the field He only got reports'

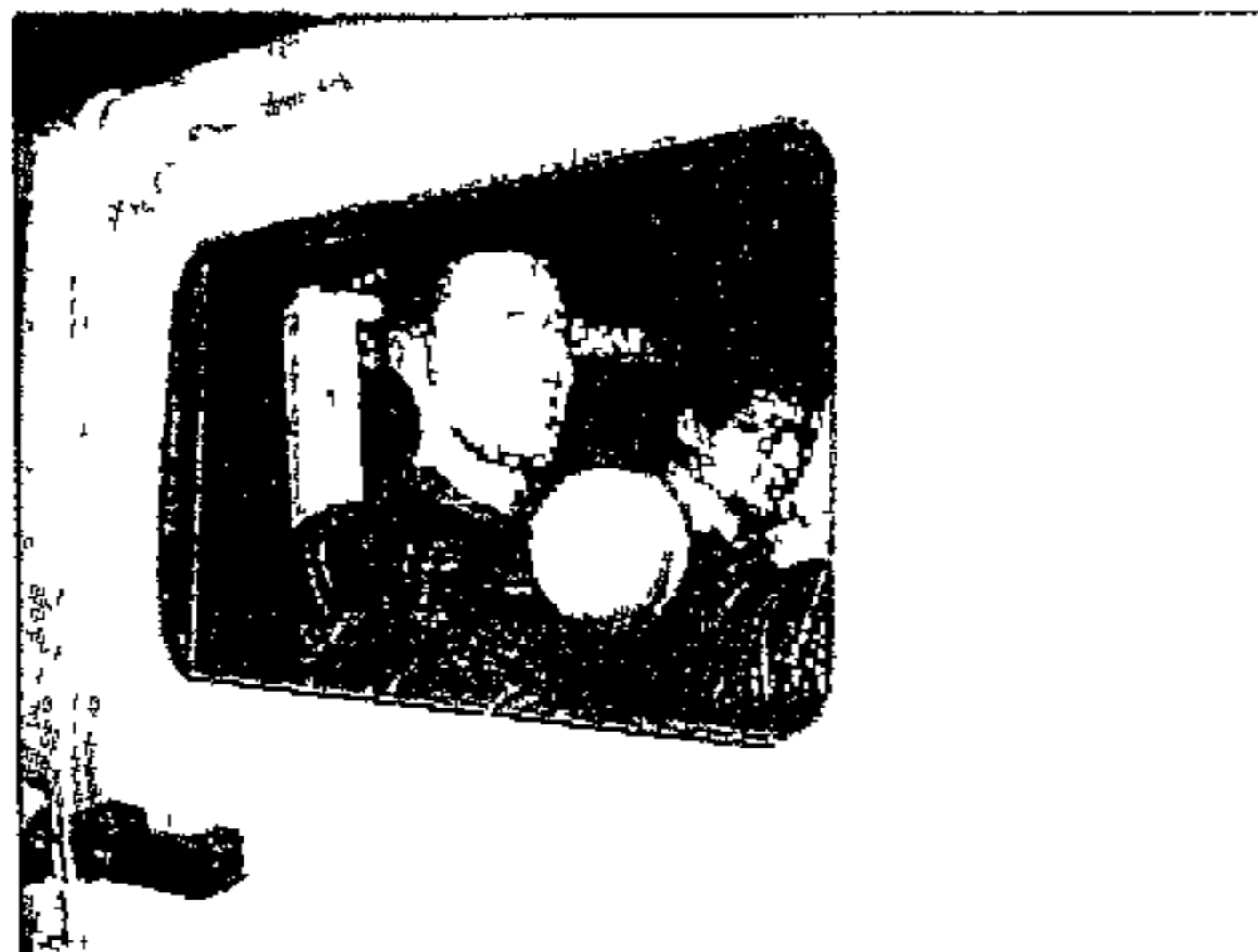
He was not surprised that former president F W de Klerk and former police commissioner Van der Merwe had confirmed this week that there had been covert operations

They made the statements after De Kock had told the court during testimony delivered from Monday that De Klerk had personally authorised a 1993 operation in Transkei

"I have nothing to lose I have no hidden agenda," De Kock said

Asked about his political views, De Kock said he had joined the IFP, which he regarded as friends because they had fought "the enemy" (the ANC) and also because he believed that black people should have been given the vote much earlier

He had joined the IFP, De Kock said to loud laughter from the public gallery, but "I'm not a member now I am a member of the Pretoria Central Prison



LAUGHING POLICEMAN: Eugene de Kock (right) is escorted from at the Pretoria Supreme Court this week PHOTOGRAPH THYS DULLAART

been held, he could not answer He agreed, however, that he had been one of the country's best anti-insurgent operatives

De Kock – said by his police bosses to be "a hunter without mercy" – told the court he was worried he might not get a fair hearing from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission when he applies for amnesty

He expressed reservations after his name "was bandied about" during a TRC hearing in Newcastle recently

"I am concerned because, on every radio and television broadcast, the name 'Eugene de Kock' was used when in fact the security police commander at Newcastle at the time of incidents there was in fact Paul de Kock The impression was given

Generals hint at details, but turn to philosophy instead

By JOHN YELD

A submission by former South African police commissioners to the Truth Commission has been described as "deeply disappointing" as it contains none of the expected details of police involvement in more than 50 incidents of gross human rights abuse.

Some of the abuses which the policemen - who include former commissioners Johan van der Merwe, Mike Geldenhuys and Johan Coetzee - were believed to have been ready to detail were listed in a lawyer's letter to the commission three months ago.

In June, the Pretoria-based lawyer asked about the possibility of amnesty applications on behalf of his clients, 22 senior officers all below the rank of general. Incidents listed included the deaths of the "Pebos" Three in Port Elizabeth in 1985, the 1988 bombing of Khotso House in Johannesburg, the 1991 bombing of Cosatu House in Pre-

toria - mentioned this week by Eugene de Kock in his trial - several murders and disappearances, and the blowing up of a Gauteng power station, previously blamed on the ANC.

The lawyer said the tentative move for amnesty was supported by the former commissioners. Last month, the Truth Commission had been on the verge of subpoenaing seven former generals, including Van der Merwe, Geldenhuys and Coetzee.

But a last-minute agreement was brokered by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, and the three former commissioners and senior Truth Commission representatives agreed to hold off the subpoenas. "This would be in return for an 'omnibus' submission and a supplementary list containing information on at least 50 incidents of human rights abuses.

The generals told the commission they were ready to cooperate, but they thought the subpoenas would be counter-

productive.

At a press conference afterwards, Truth Commission chairperson Archbishop Tutu said they had agreed to go the route of a voluntarily submission.

"Obviously, we will continue to retain the right of issuing subpoenas at any stage and we will evaluate the process."

His deputy, Alex Boraine, said the commission and the generals had agreed they would make their submission by the middle of this month, as the cutoff date for amnesty submissions was mid-December.

The generals had also agreed that the commission would have a prior look at their submission to prepare pertinent questions.

But the submission, now being studied by the commissioners, apparently contains no significant details of names, places and operations.

Instead, it is reportedly only a "philosophical background" in which the generals seek to justify police conduct during the apartheid era.

And the generals are now threatening not to appear at all before the Truth Commission unless Police Commissioner George Fiyaz agrees to pay the legal costs of other policemen wanting to testify.

Negotiations with Fiyaz's office on the matter were at a "critical stage", Van der Merwe told Sapa this week.

The date for the (commission) hearing is dependent on the outcome of the negotiations," he said. If no agreement were reached, it would be "very hard" for the generals to go ahead with their submission.

Both Tutu (chronically) and Boraine (genuinely) have been out of action this week, and the

commission has yet to respond formally to the generals' apparent reneging on their agreement to testify.

The head of the Truth Commission's investigative unit, commissioner Dumisa Ntsebeza, confirmed that the generals' submission - like that of the political parties last month - would do nothing to help his unit.

"The become completely disillusioned, and in fact this is going to make our work harder," he said.

This had not happened, as the political parties had largely tried to whitewash their roles in human rights abuses.

"The National Party did not even acknowledge the establishment of front companies. F.W. de Klerk was very thin when it came to detail."

The submission of the ANC had come closest to what the

commission had hoped for, Ntsebeza suggested.

"You may still question their level of preparedness to say it all and to say it truthfully - the Thabani Zulu story, for example, just does not wash."

"There's something they are not telling about Zulu, but at least they have listed some of the things they have been responsible for, not all of which are complimentary."

"The ANC annexed copies of all the commissions into the murders and the tortures at their Angolan camps. They have talked about people who were killed by ANC cadres and about people whom they have unjustifiably framed and whom they now want to rehabilitate."



THREE WISE MEN: Now former commissioners Mike Geldenhuys, Johan Coetzee and Johan van der Merwe threaten not to testify before the Truth Commission if their costs are not paid

Star 21/9/96 (261)

Ntsebeza said he had hoped that the political parties' submissions to the Truth Commission about their roles would have allowed the commission to map out the country's political framework and identify individuals who had been in charge of the security forces and liberation armies.

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But, for instance, "Freedom Front leader) Constand Viljoen just kept on wanting to hoist a trade with us. He wanted guarantees that as a commission you simply cannot give."

"The NP's claim that it had never sanctioned murders and

torture was contradicted by the large number of deaths in detention and by findings by even the most conservative judges who had ruled that supposed confessions had been extracted under torture, Ntsebeza said.

No one had ever been suspended or dismissed as a result in several cases, those involved had subsequently been promoted, he noted.

"So De Klerk (is) making a mockery of the entire process."

"The now heard four histories about this country - from the NP, ANC, FF and PAC - and they are all different."

The investigative unit still believed that its preferred tactic of forcing alleged perpetrators to testify under oath through the judicious use of subpoenas would be the most effective way of uncovering details of human rights abuses, Ntsebeza added.

"We must do this now, otherwise we will be losing credibility with the public."

DEMOCRATIC REBIRTH

Two years ago the Democratic Party was severely mauled in congressional elections. Now, however, black Democrats look set to emerge stronger than ever, writes SIMON BARBER in Washington

THE Republican capture of Congress in 1994 turned the almost exclusively Democratic Caucus into a minority within a minority. However, the winter of the 39-member caucus's discontent may be on the verge of becoming a glorious summer.

Polls show the Democrats stand an excellent chance of recapturing the House of Representatives when the next congressional elections are held on November 5.

If they do, members of the black caucus are in line to take over the chairmanships of four of the body's most powerful law-writing committees.

Most significantly, New York congressman Charles Rangel is in line to head the House Ways and Means Committee, which will

make him the most influential voice in Congress on trade and tax policy.

Rangel, a staunch ANC ally in the sanctions era, crafted legislation in 1987 to force US companies out of South Africa by denying US taxes for taxes they paid to Pretoria.

He is now starting to take an interest in trade reforms to stimulate African exports to the US.

Meanwhile, California congressman Ron Dellums is set to retake the chair of the National Security Committee, which he lost

two years ago

Missouri's Bill Clasy is in line to run the Economic and Educational Opportunity Committee, and

Michigan's John Conyers the Judiciary Committee. Although the latter two assignments are largely focused on domestic issues, control of so many committees and the leverage and patronage that come with it, will theoretically give major new authority to the congressional voting bloc most interested in Africa.

However, it has not escaped the Republicans' notice that the Democrats —

both black and white — in line for chairmanships should their party regain the majority, stand well to the left of the spectrum, not to mention the ground staked out by President Bill Clinton.

Even middle-of-the-road commentators such as the Washington Post's David Broder are pointing out that the key players in a new Democratic

Congress are interested in reviving activist central government at the expense of deficit reduction and devolution of power to the states.

It will be interesting to see whether the Republicans, desperate to salvage something from what is looking like an increasingly bad year for them, can exploit this point without recourse to racial innuendo or worse.

Boutros Ghali will fight US for second term at UN

By DAVID SAPISTED

BOUTROS Boutros Ghali remained "absolutely determined" this week to win a second term as secretary general of the United Nations in the teeth of apparently implacable opposition from the US.

His decision threatens to cause the biggest crisis the organisation has faced in years.

As diplomats gathered for the opening of the 51st annual session of the gen-

eral assembly, Diogo Freitas do Amaral, the UN's returning president, gave warning that the impasse over the secretary general's job, on top of unpaid dues of almost \$14-billion, pressed "big trouble".

The Americans have threatened to use their security council veto to prevent a second five-year term for Boutros Ghali at the end of the year.

But a source close to him said this week "He is absolutely determined to stay on and see the fruits of the reforms he has instituted, and he is getting a great deal of support."

Many developing nations not only feel he has been a scapegoat for UN failings but they also object to what they see as increasingly high-handed tactics by the US in international affairs.

The security council, which must make a recommendation to the general assembly on a secretary general by year's end, is refusing to discuss the matter until after November's US presidential election.

Then, it is hoped, that a re-elected Bill Clinton will call for a UN compromise that stay on and see the fruits of the reforms he has instituted, and he is getting a great deal of support."

Clinton's problems that any public U-turn over Boutros Ghali before the election would be seized upon by his Republican opponents who are still livid with the secretary general for allegedly failing to cut the UN budget.

There have been other differences between the Americans and Boutros Ghali, notably his endorsement of a UN report, which appeared to accuse Israeli troops of deliberately killing a UN compound in

Jerusalem.

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PAPAL POWER... Pope John Paul II, who co-operated with the CIA in bringing about the downfall of the USSR, according to a new book. Picture: AP

Kremlin mum on Yeltsin's heart attack

THE Kremlin declined to comment yesterday on a doctor's disclosure that Boris Yeltsin had a heart attack this summer while campaigning for re-election.

Dr Rinat Arshurin, who is likely to be the chief surgeon during the Russian president's upcoming heart operation, told ABC News on Friday that Yeltsin had a heart attack in late June or early July.

The embarrassing report came as calls mounted for new presidential elections, with Yeltsin's hard-line and communist rivals leading the chorus.

The ailing president's chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais, said yesterday that Yeltsin's heart problems should not be seen as an opportunity to call for new elections.

Speaking a day after the Communist Party leader, Gennady Zyuganov, declared that Yeltsin, 65, was unfit to govern Russia and that plans should be made for new elections, Chubais said any such plans were premature.

"Those starting into their presidential campaign will quickly discover that their start is a false start," he told a meeting of the Democratic Choice of Russia Party. "Those who leap from the mark will have to return to the starting line, heads cast downward under the intense glare of popularly elected Yeltsin."

Zyuganov, who was Yeltsin's principal rival in the vote this summer, said he was confident of his victory if elections were held. He boasted of 30 million voters and a strong platform emphasising social assistance programmes. Meanwhile, the Kremlin declined to comment on the report that Yeltsin suffered a heart at-

tack campaigning for re-election. Yeltsin disappeared from view before a second round of voting in July. The Kremlin explained his absence by saying he was simply tired or was suffering from a cold. It never publicly acknowledged that he had a heart attack.

"We have no comment at the moment," said a presidential spokesman, Igor Ignatyev.

Yesterday Yeltsin began his second week in the hospital where he is undergoing tests in preparation for his operation. Aides originally said he would be in the hospital only a couple of days.

Dr Sergei Mironov, the Kremlin's chief physician, said on Friday that Yeltsin had some problems that might complicate the upcoming surgery. He gave few details, but said no major liver or kidney problem was suspected. He insisted that Yeltsin was only undergoing tests.

Mironov said a team of doctors would make the final decision about the operation after examining Yeltsin next Wednesday.

Yeltsin continued to work from his hospital room, issuing decrees, making appointments and congratulating Moscow's mayor, Yuri Luzhkov, on his 60th birthday. In downtown Moscow, several hard-liners vented their displeasure with Yeltsin in a demonstration marking the third anniversary of his dissolution of parliament, which led to the army attack on the parliament building, the Russian White House, to oust rebellious law makers.

"Our president makes mistakes after mistake," said a demonstrator waving a Soviet-era flag. "The sooner we have a new president, the better." — Sapa-AP

Major's wife slips out a note of doubt

BRITISH Prime Minister John Major's wife, Norma, sparked controversy yesterday when she hinted she expected the opposition Labour Party leader's wife, Cherie Blair, to be in Downing Street after the next election.

In an interview in the Independent newspaper, Major was asked what advice she would give Blair's wife. "I would say she should slip out a note of doubt."

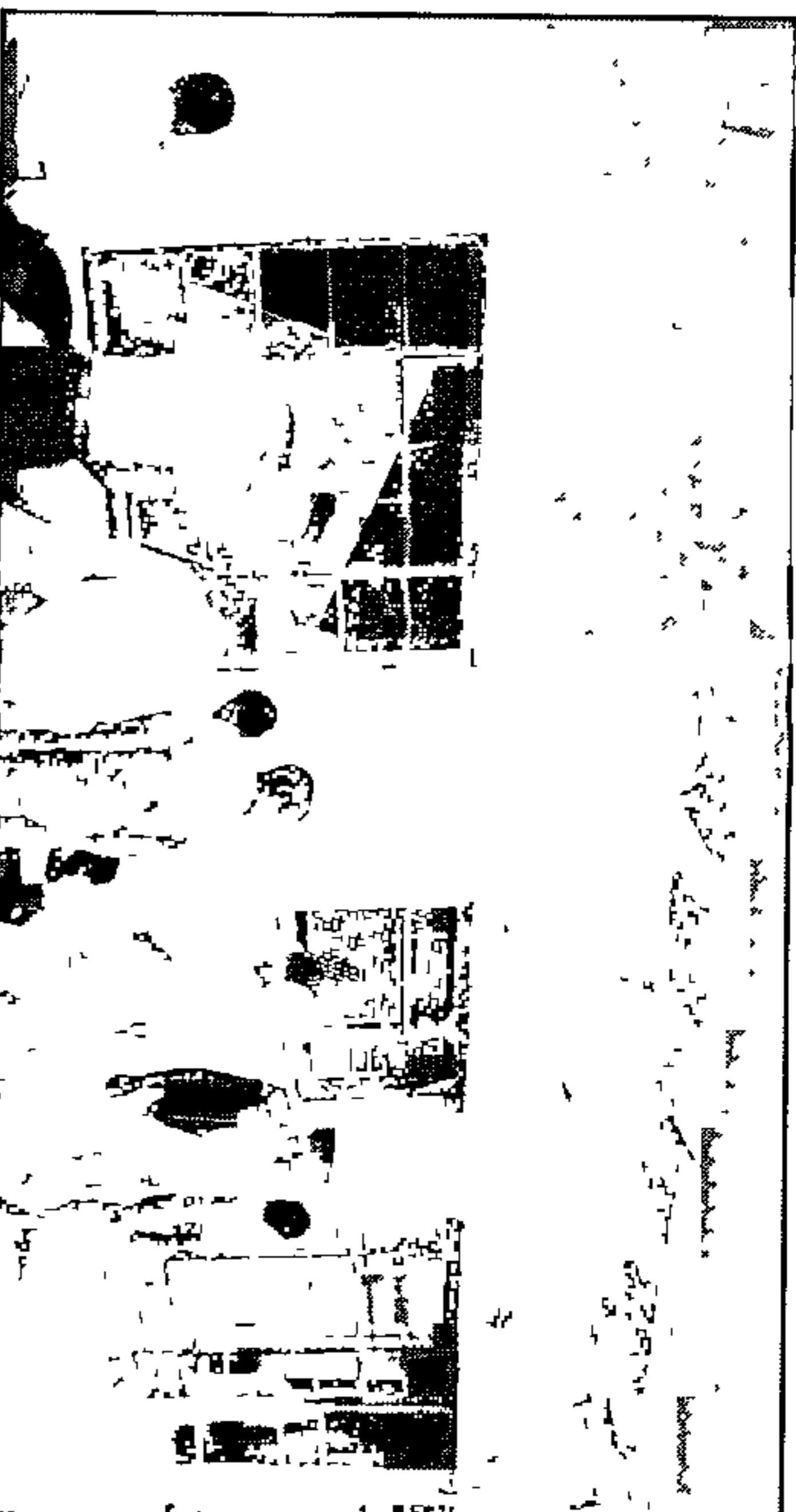
Pope plotted against the Soviets

Pope John Paul II, who co-operated with the CIA in bringing about the downfall of the USSR, according to a new book.

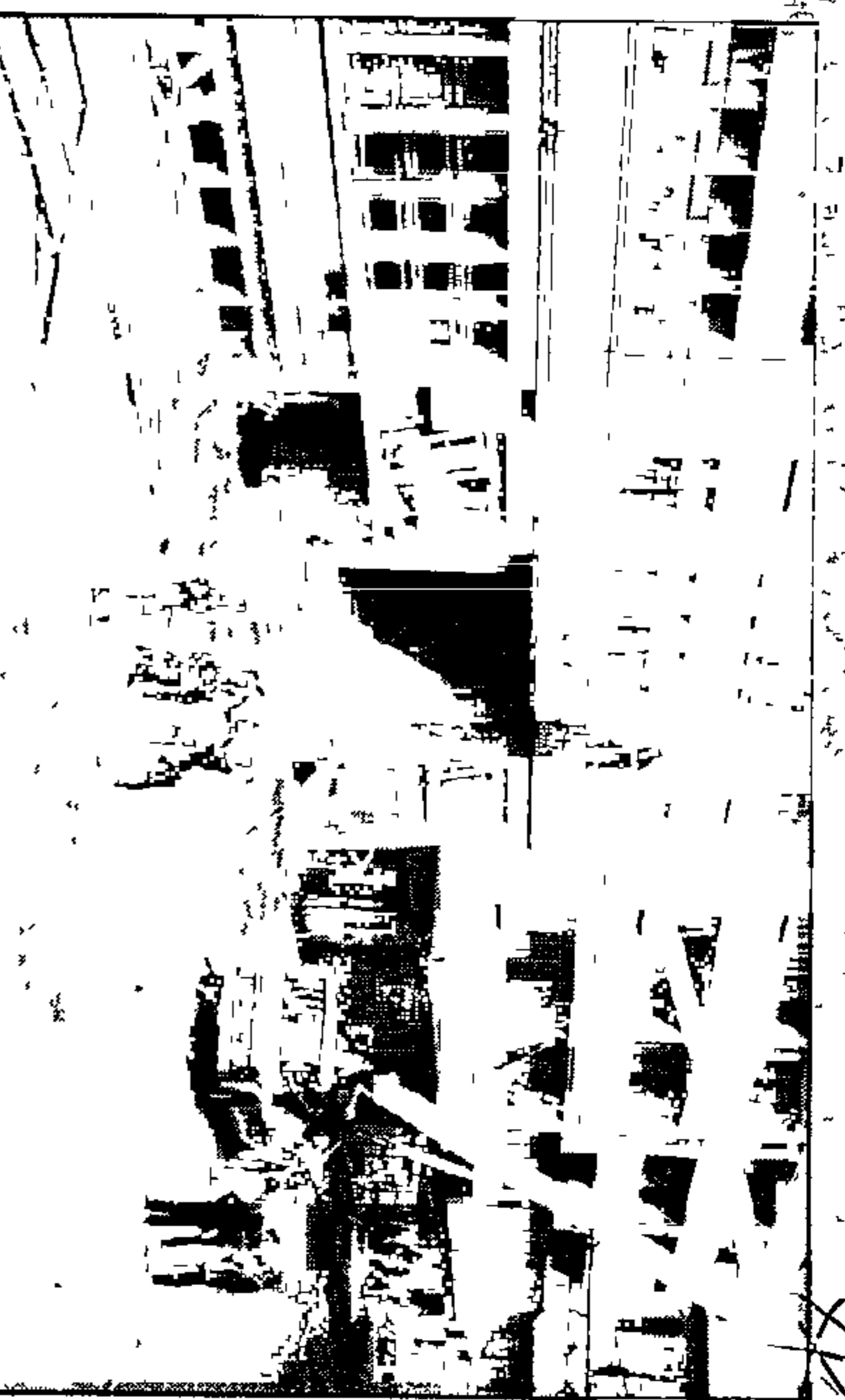
Picture: AP



BLITZED... Botswana soldiers at the Gaborone house after the June raid



DEADLY... Moscow House in Maseru after the December raid



BATTLE GROUND... the security police ordered the bombing of Khotso House

THE PLOTS THAT DE KOCK EXPOSED

TWO ARMY GENERALS

conspired with the security police to set up a false arms cache that triggered the June 1985 SA Defence Force raid on a residential suburb of Gaborone which left 13 people, including a child, dead, according to Eugene de Kock.

The cross-border raid was allegedly aimed at ANC cadres poised to infiltrate South Africa and launch a terror campaign, but De Kock claims that when he searched briefcases retrieved from the runs of houses destroyed in the attack he found "nothing to indicate that the victims were ANC members".

De Kock claims the raid was prompted by the "discovery" of a huge arms cache on the West Rand, which security forces said would have been retrieved by the Botswana insurgents. However, he told the court this week that he had supplied the "36 or 48" AK-47 rifles buried near Krugersdorp by two security policemen.

De Kock was ordered to supply the weapons by his commanding officer, Brigadier Willem Schoon, following a function at Vaalklaas attended by retired SADF chief Lieutenant General Kai Liebenberg, Major General Joep Joubert and a Brigadier Sertontem.

Liebenberg is on trial in Durban, along with former Defence Minister General Magnus Malan, for the murder of 13 people in the 1987 Kwamakhutha massacre.

According to De Kock, the Botswana raid could not have been launched without the approval of "Pik Botha and his people at foreign affairs," and P W Botha must have been involved as well — cross-border raids could not take place without approval at the highest level.

The C10 members who carried out the attack were rewarded with the police silver cross.

WHEN ORDERED

to bomb Cosatu House in Johannesburg, De Kock was "shocked" that the security police were now "waging terror on our own turf".

But, told by his commanding officer, Brigadier Willem Schoon, that the orders came "right from the top" from the state president, he and his men prepared between 60kg and 70kg of explosives for the job.

"I was under the impression that workers who refused to go on strike were being assaulted on the premises before being necklaced," De Kock said this week.

He and his men were also involved in the bombing of Khotso House, the Johannesburg headquarters of the SA Council of Churches, and Khanya House in Pretoria.

The Khotso House bomb was planted at the request of the Johannesburg security police, and shortly before leaving a safe house at Honeydew to carry out the

operation, De Kock says he was told by General Gerrit Erasmus, the former head of the police's commercial branch, that "if any uniformed police appeared on the scene, we should shoot them".

Those involved were thanked for their good work by Adriaan Vlok during a function at Vaalklaas.

"Vlok was effusive in his congratulations, promising that we'd carry on the fight against the ANC for 1 000 years.

"I was quite upset by that remark, because it occurred to me that the last person who promised a 1 000-year battle was Adolf Hitler, and we know what happened to him," De Kock told the court.

WHEN GRAHAMSTOWN

academist Professor Peter Vale became a "headache" for the Eastern Cape security police, De Kock arranged for his car to be stolen. It was used by Vaalklaas operatives before being abandoned in Swaziland.

By that time, Vale had a new car. De Kock acquired a synthetic and vile-smelling substance, known as "Bokvoet", which was sprinkled in the new vehicle.

"It's practically impossible to get rid of the smell. I'm told Vale had his car taken apart to try and find the source of the odour, but to no avail," De Kock said.

Unit C10 — the "strike arm" of the security police which dealt with "problems" ranging from assassination and disposal of bodies to supplying illegal arms and letter bombs — also performed less lethal tasks.

De Kock said a Cape Town electronic bank teller belonging to First National Bank was blown up on the orders of General Basie Smut after bank executive Chris Ball approved the channeling of funds to the ANC.

When Stellenbosch Professor Johan Grosskopf's son, Hein, was accused by Vlok, then Minister of Law and Order, of being responsible for bomb blasts at the Krugersdorp magistrate's court and Wits Command in Johannesburg, Hein's mother, Santele, hit back with a civil law suit.

On orders from Smut, De Kock said, he and three colleagues broke into the Grosskopf homes in Stellenbosch and at Rooi Els, to find "anything that would tell us the whereabouts of Hein, or that could link him to the bombs".

Smut had told him it was "yet another case of us having to help Vlok out of trouble" that he never knew when to keep his mouth shut," De Kock said.

He said he had twice had urgent requests from the Port Natal security chief, General Bertus Steyn, to send him four AK-47 rifles because "they had ambushed and killed unarmed men and needed to justify their actions".

SOME TIME AFTER

Deputy Police Commissioner Lieutenant General Basie Smut approved a secret project to supply the Inkatha Freedom Party with home-made guns, he asked to see one of the weapons "so that he knew what his money was being spent on".

De Kock was asked to produce one of the crude but effective shotguns, about 150 of which were made by Mechem, an Armscor subsidiary.

After requests from Inkatha, De Kock initially agreed to supply ammunition and hand grenades, which were delivered to party official Thembu Khoza.

Some time later, at a Vaalklaas social function attended by Smut, Lieutenant General Krappies Engelbrecht and Lieutenant General Nic van Rensburg, head of the security branch's C section, it was decided that, instead of supplying the AK-47s which Inkatha wanted, the police would give them the home-made shotguns.

Weapons were given to the then-Kwazulu police commissioner, Lieutenant General Jac Burchard, in Umhlabi De Kock, while 50 more went to the Port Natal security police chief, Major General Bertus Steyn.

De Kock said AK-47s and ammunition were later supplied to Inkatha. They also received light machine guns, rifle-powered grenade launchers, and various handguns.

The last arms consignment — six truckloads — was delivered to Inkatha senator Phillip Powell six months after De Kock left the police in 1983.

Other police and Inkatha included three cars, funds for stationery, and six telephone scramblers. Payment for the assistance was made through false claims to the police secret fund.

De Kock said "Once, Van Rensburg told me to put in a claim for R20 000 because the then-police commissioner, General Johan van der Merwe, 'wanted to buy assegais for the Zulus'".

THE FIRST

cross-border operation De Kock took part in after arriving at Vaalklaas in 1983 killed the brother of the defence force's current chief of staff, Lieutenant General Siphwe Nyanda.

The hand-grenade attack in Swaziland earned De Kock his second medal for exemplary service.

The targets were Umkhonto weSizwe members Fear Lawrence and Zwebhanyi Nyanda, head of the ANC's military wing in Swaziland.

During the attack on the house, where "five or six people" were staying, one man managed to lock himself in the toilet. De Kock went outside, intending to lob a stun grenade through the window but, before he could do so,

"this apparition appeared a man came hurtling through the window, frame and all. I opened fire and he fell then he got up and started running.

"There is no way I could have missed him, but he ran five, six metres down the road before he fell. That was Nyanda's brother."

De Kock told the court he had information about Siphwe Nyanda that would be "of interest to the intelligence community" — there's a little tale attached to General Nyanda, but I won't go into it now."

When Nyanda testified last year about his key role in the ANC's plot to resume the armed struggle if negotiations with the National Party government broke down, sources close to De Kock said he was keen to have the former MK chief questioned about a top ANC member who was allegedly registered as a paid informer prior to the ANC's unbanning.

THE MULTIMILLION-RAND

police secret funds were plundered by security police with impunity, paying for "anything from gloves and balacavans to covert operations". The practice of submitting false claims was so endemic in certain units that novitiates in the art of lying were simply told "this is how it's done".

Shortly after arriving at Vaalklaas in 1983, De Kock was given claims to sign by his then commanding officer, Colonel Jack Cronje, in aid of the "Commissioner's Fund". "I had never heard of it, and to this day, as far as I know, it does not exist," he testified.

In his first week, he was asked to sign claims writing off five police vehicles. "I had to say one of the cars had gone over a cliff in Swaziland during an operation."

In a single year, he estimated that he and another member of the C10 unit had submitted false claims for between R300 000 and R400 000. He also claimed about R100 000 for repairs and renovations at Vaalklaas and entertainment equipment.

Even police chaplains benefited when false claims for the refurbishment of their new offices were submitted. De Kock also bought equipment which allowed Unit C10 to reload deadly subsone ammunition for its covert operations and paid for repairs to three vehicles washed away during a drunken spree at a North Coast "think-tank" venue. He also once had four of his men spend four days compiling false claims to cover more than R100 000 for an overseas trip by General Basie Smut.

Port Natal security police chief General Bertus Steyn claimed "between R2 000 and R3 000" on each visit to Pretoria. But when the general increased his claim to R11 000, "we decided that was a bit much".

IN ITS HEYDAY

Vaalklaas had a reputation for hosting "legendary" parties for police top brass, and, with unlimited access to the police secret fund, no expense was spared for the up to 100 guests at a time. According to De Kock "No one ever paid for alcohol at Vaalklaas, and, no matter what they drank at home, we offered only the finest red wines and the best whisky. Chivas Regal was particularly popular."

No one, least of all the high-ranking officers attending the parties, questioned where the money came from.

Basie Smut once asked me if I had a story ready if anyone ever asked, and I did — I'd say we paid for the parties out of canteen funds. But I knew the story would not stand up to any scrutiny," De Kock said.

On at least one occasion, the then Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok was also a guest. But when the first leaks about the bloody nature of the real activities at Vaalklaas began to emerge, the partying stopped.

When the Harms commission began probing allegations of hit squads, "we became pariahs. The generals went out of their way to avoid us," De Kock said. It was "as though we were suddenly dirty, and they were scared they would be contaminated if they even spoke to us".

WOULD-BE BANK ROBBER

Tiso Lebello was not the first of Winnie Mandela's supporters to be blown to pieces by De Kock's men at the remote Penge mine in the Eastern Transvaal.

Some time before Lebello and four companions met their end in an ambush outside Nelspruit in March 1992, the security police recruited ANC member Johannes Mabotha to their ranks as an askari. But, according to De Kock, Mabotha ran away from Vaalklaas, finding refuge with Mandela, who kept him as her "sex slave".

"I was told that tapes taken from her house by the security police showed that the man's prowess was nothing short of Olympic standard," De Kock said.

But Mabotha met a grisly end. Arrested by the Soweto security police in connection with attacks on policemen, he was later released. He was apprehended almost immediately by a Colonel Jan Pongeleter and handed to De Kock with orders that he be "eliminated".

"We took him to Penge mine, and I shot him two or three times in the head. Then his body was blown up with explosives," De Kock said this was the first time, to his knowledge, that the "Buddha" method of destroying bodies had been used at Penge. This method entailed blowing corpses up, gathering the pieces and repeating the explosions until there was nothing left.

De Kock's 'tears of sympathy' cut no ice with victims' families

22/9/96
By WALLY MBHELE

AFTER HEARING former police hit-squad commander Eugene de Kock sympathise with them in mitigation of his sentence, the families of two of his victims this week told City Press they had no mercy for him

De Kock told Judge Willem van der Merwe he sympathised "with them as if I have lost my own children"

But Catherine Mlangeni - the mother of ANC lawyer Bheki Mlangeni who was killed by De Kock's parcel bomb - said she was not moved by his words

Itumeleng Maponya - who attended the hearing hoping that De Kock would shed light on where his brother, former Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maponya, was buried - was also not moved by the assassin's repentance

De Kock testified that Japie Maponya had been abducted from his workplace in Krugersdorp's United Bank on the orders of General Johan le Roux orders - who said he did not want to see Maponya alive again



UNMOVED ... Catherine Mlangeni (centre) whose son Bheki was killed by De Kock's parcel bomb with Bheki's cousin, Betty Vilakazi (left) and Itumeleng Maponya, whose brother Japie was slain.

Swaziland border, where he was questioned about the whereabouts of his brother Odirle. He was tortured before being murdered

Odirle Maponya, an Umkhonto we Sizwe commander, allegedly died in an encounter with the security forces in Pretoria in 1988

"My brother (Japie) was never a member of MK," said Itumeleng. "I'm saying this as a former MK commander Japie was a devout Christian who would not hurt fly. That they killed him because they believed he knew where

Odirle was is unacceptable to our family"

The family wanted De Kock to tell where Japie had been buried so that he could be given a decent funeral at home, he said

"We still feel the pain long after he died - because after he disappeared, the same people who kidnapped him came looking for him at our house," he said

Mlangeni's mother said she did not think De Kock qualified for amnesty because with his acts "he went far beyond anything that can be pardoned by the nation"

□ The two victims' families spoke to City Press this week as De Kock's tales of murder, dirty tricks, cross-border raids, bitterness, accusations and bombings unfolded like a melodrama in the Pretoria Supreme Court

In a virulent attack on former state president FW de Klerk, De Kock said he was the biggest coward South Africa had ever produced. "He cannot deny knowledge of the covert activities within the SAP and SADF. He betrayed those who kept him in power"

are investigating the incident



By **DESMOND BLOW**

THE POLICE are preparing to crack down on several top police officers and former officers — including generals — involved in hit-squad activities within the next few weeks.

Action is expected to be taken by Transvaal Attorney General Jan D'Oliviera and the special squad of top detectives under Brigadier Ivor Human during the Pretoria Supreme Court recess next month — and before former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock is sentenced for 89 crimes, including six murders

The special squad has accumulated a mass of evidence about hit-squad activities during the past two years, including gun smuggling to Inkatha in KwaZulu-Natal — but have waited for the conclusion of the De Kock trial before taking further action

On Friday the trial was postponed until next Thursday, when De Kock will continue to be cross-examined on his plea in mitigation — in which he has named not only police generals but also former president PW Botha as having knowledge of the hit squads

The court will then go into recess — and it is expected that arrests will be made during the recess period, as it is expected that after De Kock finishes his evidence, he will agree to turn state witness

According to his counsel, Advocate "Flip" Hattingh, De Kock will agree to give evidence for the state

"He has already given evidence for the state in the Motherwell case in Port Elizabeth and will give evidence for the state in others"

The Attorney General has refused to strike a bargain with De Kock because his evidence against former colleagues would then be considered tainted — but De Kock has nevertheless decided to turn state witness

City Press was unable to discover the list of those to be arrested or the full number — but understands that if De Kock turns state witness, some

NET CLOSING
... 'Krappies' Engelbrecht is one of the police generals who may be arrested because of Eugene de Kock's evidence.

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CP 22/9/96

approval for the raids had been considered credible and trustworthy

"If De Kock's evidence proves to be true this means the cabinet was deliberately misled," he said

Inkatha also issued a statement claiming that De Kock was a liar

About half a dozen SAPS task force members guarded De Kock during his plea in mitigation

One sat close to him on a high stool while he gave evidence from the witness stand. All of them kept a wary eye on the crowded gallery

The task force members are to prevent any attempt to assassinate De Kock. Fears of an assassination attempt come more from his former colleagues than from the left, City Press was told

De Kock began his evidence on Monday rather nervously — but by Tuesday had become garrulous and gave great detail in his evidence and dropped names of his former superiors and underlings left and right

He admitted to many more murders than the six for which he had been found guilty

De Kock was calm and clinical throughout his evidence and spoke of murder unemotionally

He admitted that the four young people, including a woman, whom he and other members of the Vlakplaas "hit squad" had shot dead in a trap near Piet Retief in 1988 had been unarmed — and that arms had later

TO PAGE 2

P.T.O

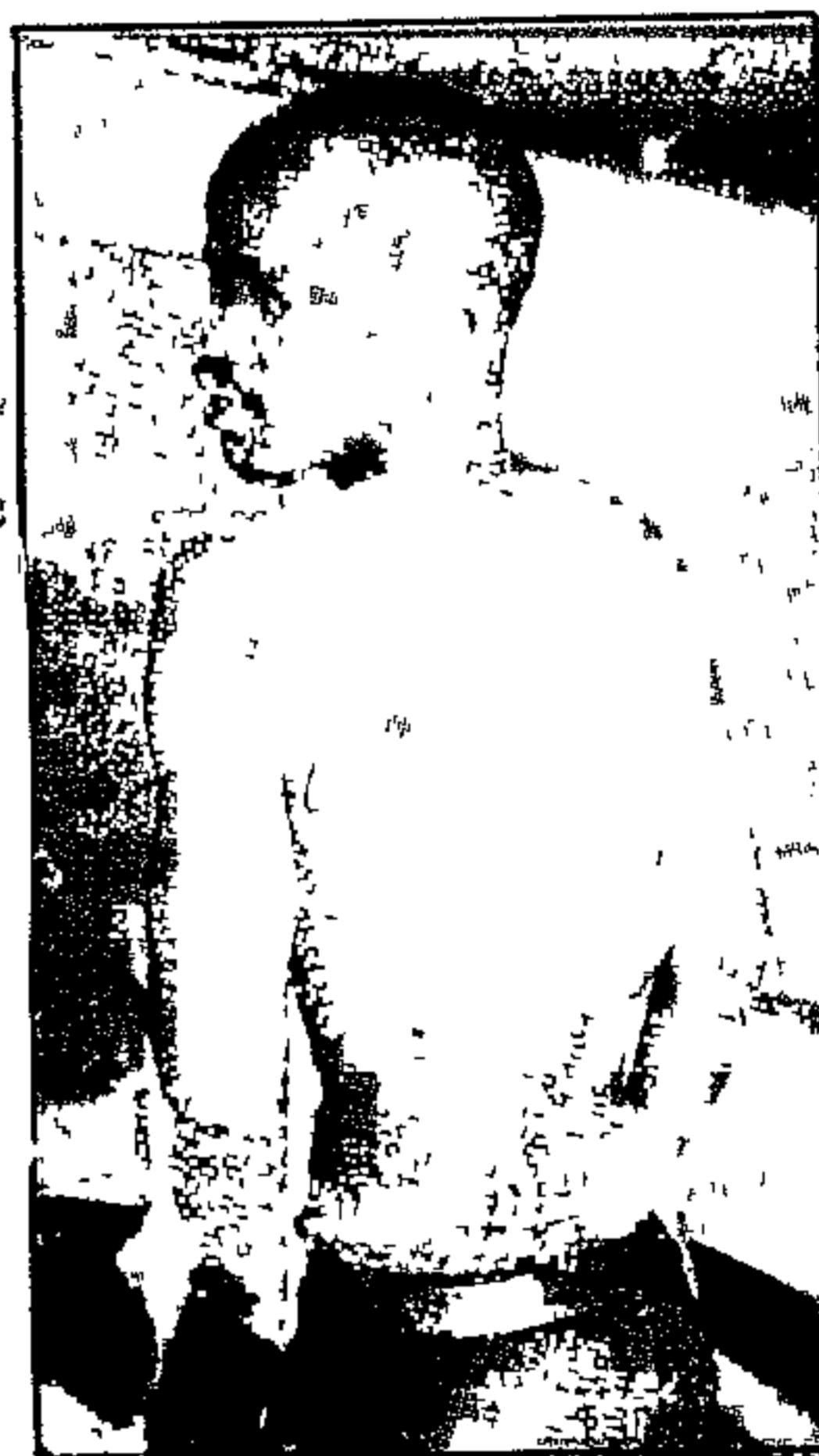
of those whom he claims were involved in hit-squad activities will be among those arrested

They include Generals Johan le Roux, "Krappies" Engelbrecht and Nick van Rensburg, and men who had worked with and under De Kock

Several people named by De Kock this week issued statements denying his allegations

Pik Botha said De Kock's allegations that evidence had been fabricated to justify cross-border raids under the previous government should be fully investigated

Botha said the information laid before the previous cabinet to obtain



Time out for

'Time out for generals' - crackdown looms

FROM PAGE 1

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been planted on their dead bodies
He said an Askari had driven the four into the trap from Swaziland and it had been arranged that the Askari would jump out of the car and run away if the four were armed. The Askari had done so and as his priority was the safety of his men he had ordered them to shoot.

He had later sent men into Swaziland to kill those who had not been in the car.

De Kock said he regretted having killed people. He said he wished he had never been born as he would have to live with his conscience for the rest of his life.

But his voice showed no emotion.
His task force guards found some of his replies to Ackermann amusing - as did some members of the public.

There was laughter, for instance, when he was asked if he had not tried to be invisible and he replied "With my build and spectacles?"

And again when he was asked if he was considered the greatest assassin in the hit squads - and replied "I don't know. We never held an assassin convention."

He said Vlakplaas had been regarded as a small hit squad, and there were larger ones in both the police and the defence force.

The only time De Kock's tone changed was when he spoke about his wife and children who are now in Europe. He refused to say where because of threats against their lives. De Kock said he had refused to

tell his wife of his hit-squad activities.

If he had had to choose at the time between his family and his work, he would have chosen his work, he said.

On one occasion after he had committed a murder, his wife had wanted to go to the State Theatre in Pretoria, but he had refused.

"It didn't seem the right thing to do after a murder," he said.

De Kock said when he eventually did tell his wife about his activities, she had left him. She went to Ireland and later to Europe.

He admitted in evidence that he was bitter about his former superiors and colleagues - and described former president FW de Klerk as "one of the greatest cowards the country has ever produced. Not because he wanted peace - that is a noble cause - but because, like a small puppy, he turned on his back and wet himself. My opinion is that De Klerk abdicated the day he unbanned the ANC, PAC and SACP, which was our enemy. I felt the state had cut us (those involved in covert operations) loose. My loyalty to the government and police was absolute. I would never have sold them out."

De Kock said De Klerk had sold out certain members of the security forces to the ANC.

"These forces never received the benefit of promises for a general amnesty," he said.

generals

'IS'

Tax money goes down the drain

By CHIARA CARTER

PERFORMANCE audits conducted in several government institutions last year found large sums of money had been wasted and a range of bad housekeeping practices had occurred between 1994 and 1995

□ The training courses run by the then South African Police are one example. Not only did the audit find poor planning – but it also discovered thousands of rands wasted

Police from regions around the country attended advanced detective courses in the Western Cape, rather than their own regions. This meant the SAP spent about R2 119 on each detective – compared to about R143 if the course had been conducted in the different regions

A R278 546 handgun-range was built in Hammanskraal in 1994 – but operated for just a month before being closed because it did not meet safety requirements. Trainees then had to be transported to another range – at a cost of about R70 200 each semester

Auditors found that 39 police members at the Pretoria and

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Hammanskraal training colleges had received instructors' allowances – although they were not full-time trainers

About R365 200 was paid each year to police used as caterers, cleaners and labourers – tasks the auditors said could have been performed by civilians

Some trainees did not have the basic skills required to complete a course. Others turned up for courses they had already completed

A policeman withdrawn from the Special Weapons and Tactics Course in February last year because he was a safety risk and needed basic training, was found three weeks later to have had a Z88 pistol for the previous five years

□ Then there was the Meat Board which spent more than R1,4 million on a promotional campaign which never saw the light of day – because the Board discovered there was a shortage of red meat

□ Questionnaires by the Central Statistical Service were sent by certified mail – at a cost of R1,70 more per item than ordinary mail. This translated into more than R463 000

in unnecessary postage expenses over a six-month period alone

Six statistical series were supposed to be collected within an eight-month period – but one year later, only one tiny series had been concluded. Relatively large sampling errors occurred

More than half the population was excluded from a survey on household expenditure – the basis for the Consumer Price Index – because the survey only covered urban areas

□ An audit on marine resources management found that there were no guidelines for what the Sea Fisheries Fund covered and the fund did not have an assets register

A ship called "Algoa" was bought for R5 million in 1991 and a further R1,2 million was spent on upgrading it. Between 1994-1995 more than R1 million's worth of equipment was bought. None of these was recorded in an asset register

□ The Auditor-General's report said many of the shortcomings found during the performance audits had been addressed by the government institutions examined

Assassin tells of SA's dirty past

Or Stephane Bothma, listening to Eugene de Kock put the real threat of total onslaught into doubt

By 23/4/96

(251)

allow the wives of generals to accompany them on a trip to Taiwan.

With dispassionate monotony, he listed off items on the bloody shopping list of SA's dark and dirty past — murder, intimidation, bombs, kidnappings and lies — shipping as a duty of his tongue as his protestations that he did it all "for Volk and Vaderland".

Hearing details of how arms caches were created and then "discovered" by the police and how thousands of rands of "informal reward money" were then used to lure the pockets of policemen and to fund overseas trips for generals and lavish parties, it is easy to reach the conclusion that the terrorist danger to the country had been exaggerated to keep a gullible public and naive media corps satisfied that the billions in tax money which went to the defence and police budgets during those years had been necessary.

Millions were spent from secret funds which "in the interest of state security" were never audited or accounted for. The Transvaal Supreme Court heard over the past week what some of these interests were. The interests included the purchase of ice machines for police headquarters' penthouse bar, expensive liquor for generals, the employment of a chef at Vlasplassen to feed the regular guest, gifts of gold trays, goblets and decanters for special guests, the purchase of pool tables and gym equipment, and to

terrorists and justify the deaths. Bombing Coesth House, Khotsko House and Wits Command and blaming it on MK was a typical Straxcom operation, but for then John Vorster Square security branch commander Gen Gerrit Erasmus to give an order that the covert unit placing the bombs must shoot should they be apprehended by uniformed policemen, clearly shows that the security apparatus would stop at nothing.

More frightening was De Kock's belief that he was in fact not the security forces' "most effective assassin" and that his unit could not "handle the demand" in the country for murder and dirty tricks.

He claimed that National Intelligence, under the command of Gen Hendrik van den Berg, had the most notorious and effective hit squads in the country called the Z-squads and K-unit. Then there was also the CCB which stopped at nothing, De Kock said.

Exactly what these units did, the former policeman has not disclosed yet — he is saving his information for other prosecutions being prepared by Transvaal attorney-general Jan D'Oliviers and for the truth commission where he hopes that in the interest of reconciliation, he will be granted amnesty.

Testimony in mitigation of sentence, following his conviction on charges of murder, conspiracy to murder, abduction and fraud, De Kock said white South Africans had become complacent because they had been protected by a very effective police force for 50 years. That was why they were not prepared to fight the ANC.

De Kock has since broken off all contact with the IFP, and indicated that he would testify in court against his former friend and ally, deputy IFP Gauteng leader Themba Khoza.

Themba Khoza in court soon. This time I will be in the witness box.

He told Judge Willem van der Merwe in cross-examination that he supported no political party. Although he voluntarily murdered and also participated himself for the NP regime, he had never been a member of the NP. "I was one of the NP's most valuable servants and proudly supported the party's policy, but only voted for them once because I was obliged to do so."

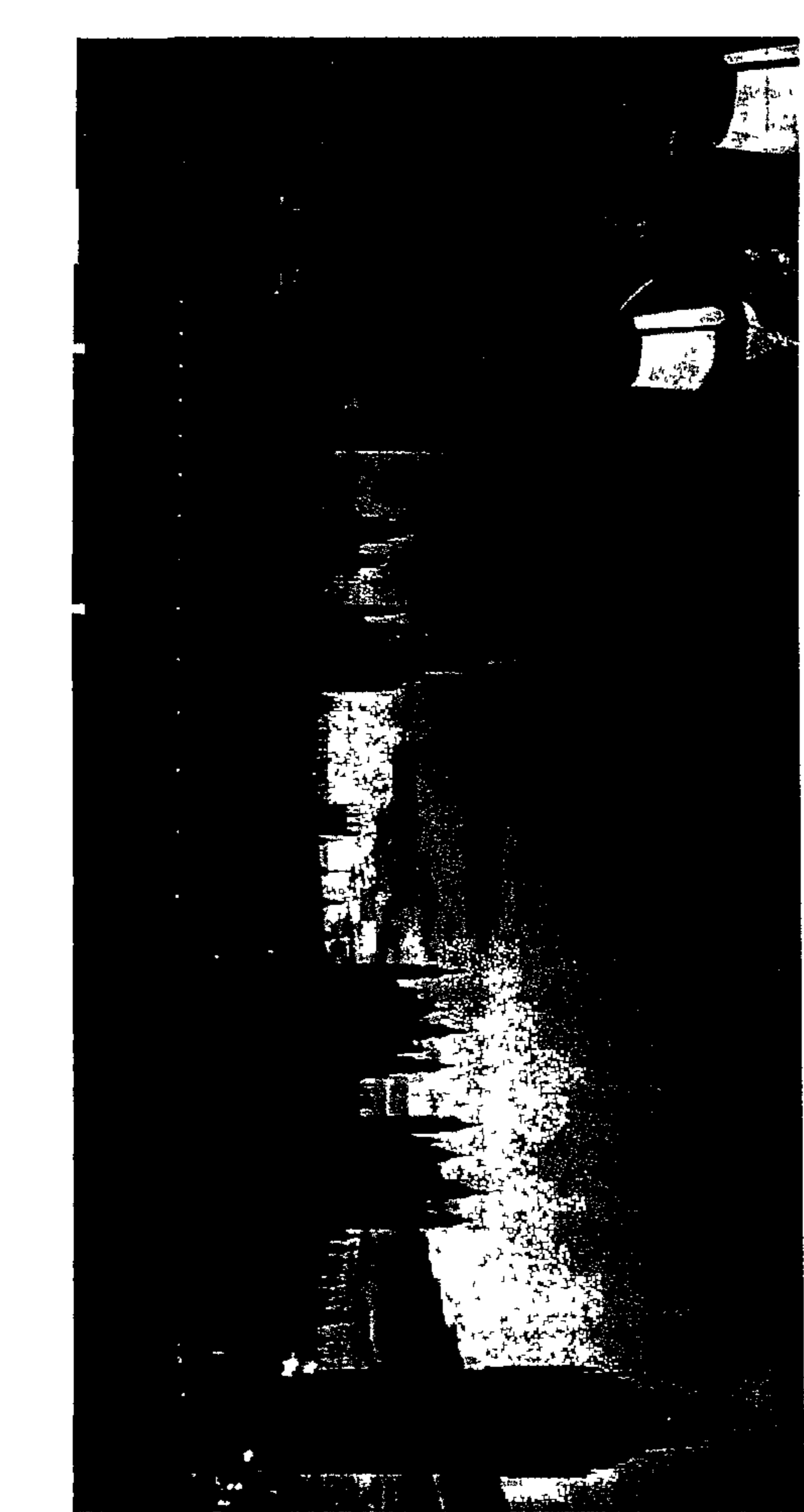
"I am now a member of the Pretoria Central prison. I want no politician or police general near me," he said. He could be helped only by God and himself, he said.

Questioned by Transvaal deputy attorney-general Anton Ackermann SC about why someone with his insight had backed the wrong horse by joining the IFP, De Kock said one did not always fight to win. "You have to take the sweet with the sour," he said.

De Kock denied he was now an ANC supporter or that he attempted to save himself by "singing the praises" of President Nelson Mandela. But, he admitted saying in an interview that Mandela was the closest to a black Messiah that Africa had ever had.

He also admitted having written a letter to Mandela shortly after his arrest "to test the waters", but said he had never received a reply from the president.

"The ANC is the government of the day and no longer the enemy," he said. Asked about his characteristics, De Kock agreed that his friends would regard him as a disciplined, loyal patriot with a broad vision and also as a good commander with a wide general knowledge and insight into Africa and its people.



Eugene de Kock, right, and his lawyer Schaik Hugo during an in situ investigation at Vlasplassen in August last year. Picture: SALLY SHORREND

ay

Generals not co-operating, says TRC

(251) (20)

Cape Town - Former police generals were deliberately putting obstacles in the path of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's investigations and making unreasonable demands before agreeing to testify in full, Dumisa Ntsebeza, the head of the TRC's national investigations unit, said yesterday.

"They are interested in horse trading, asking for things I cannot guarantee," he said.

These included assurances from the commission that they would be immune from prosecution in neighbouring countries and that their legal costs would be covered.

At a recent meeting with senior TRC officials, former police commissioners Johan van der Merwe, Mike Geldenhuys and Johan Coetzee undertook to provide details of about 50 incidents of politically motivated abuses.

Van der Merwe said on Friday that if no agreement was reached as to who would cover legal costs, it would be "very hard" for the generals to go ahead with their submissions.

Ntsebeza downplayed reports that the commission was at loggerheads with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki after he apparently intervened to stop the commission issuing subpoenas to the generals.

"I don't know if we are making a mountain out of a molehill," said Ntsebeza.

While he accepted that Mbeki had acted in good faith, he said the commission's timing had been disrupted because the generals would now be able to examine the testimony of convicted hit squad killer Eugene de Kock before testifying.

The commission had lost the advantage of having them testify first, he said - Sapa

Warning on consequences of police exodus

Star 25/9/96 (251)

OWN CORRESPONDENT
Pretoria

The South African Police Service (SAPS) will soon be unable to serve and protect South African citizens professionally and adequately because of a massive exodus of senior and experienced policemen

This warning was given yesterday by Reggie Marimuthu, Pretoria head of investigations,

who has resigned from the SAPS after 23 years of service and will be joining Telkom as general manager national group security and investigation services

Marimuthu said the Government had done nothing to alleviate the plight of policemen despite appeals for help in improving pay packages

Experienced and well-trained policemen will continue to leave the SAPS if the Government does

not improve salary incentives and packages and overhaul the general working conditions of policemen soon

Policemen are working under dangerous conditions and are killed daily, but the Government is still doing very little to protect them

He said it was natural for people to make career moves which provide growth and better incentives and that the present exodus

was going to have an impact on the SAPS's capability to fight the ever-increasing crime rate

SAPS national human resources management spokesman, Senior Superintendent Johan Smit, said 240 severance package applications had been received from policemen and civilian employees since the announcement was made two months ago, but only 56 had been approved at this stage

Exodus of top cops (251) 'will hurt service'

CT 25/9/96
OWN CORRESPONDENT

PRETORIA: The South African Police Service will soon be unable to serve and protect the country's citizens adequately because of a massive exodus of senior and experienced policemen

This warning was given yesterday by Director Reggie Marimuthu, Pretoria head of investigations, who resigned from the SAPS after 23 years of service to join Telkom.

SAPS national human resources management spokesman Senior Superintendent Johan Smal said 240 severance package applications had been received from policemen and civilian employees since the announcement was made two months ago, but only 56 had been approved at this stage

"I don't think we are dealing with a crisis situation if one considers that we have nearly 140 000 members in the SAPS," he said.

Senior Superintendent Strini Govender, who also works in the national human resources management office, said: "One should admit, however, that the resignation of any policeman, especially senior persons or managers in the SAPS, will have an impact on the quality of service rendered"

Marimuthu said the government had done nothing to alleviate the plight of policemen

"Experienced and well-trained policemen will continue to leave the SAPS if the government does not improve salary incentives and packages and overhaul the general working conditions of policemen.

"Policemen work under dangerous conditions and are killed daily, but the government is doing little to protect them," he said

It was natural for people to make career moves when offered better incentives

Marimuthu said the exodus would have considerable impact on the SAPS' capability to fight ever-increasing crime

"We need to appeal to the decision-makers to urgently address the issue. We are nearing a critical point beyond which there would be almost no possibility of stopping the exodus," Marimuthu said

He also warned that if the government did not intervene speedily, more experienced policemen were going to opt for severance packages and eventually join the corporate world

"It is sad for me to leave the police service, but I'll still be able to do some detective work in my new job — and the money is good"

Marimuthu, who is in charge of the investigation into paedophile Gert van Rooyen, has promised to continue assisting in the search for the five missing girls allegedly abducted by Van Rooyen.

"I'll always be available to assist and share my knowledge in this case, and I'll be a happy man if I end up being part of the team that eventually solves the mystery"

Sweden to probe SA link to Palme slaying

(2/1)

Superspy Craig Williamson's alleged role in the assassination of Swedish prime minister under the microscope

By DEREK RODNEY

Swedish police and government officials will investigate claims made by hit squad killer Eugene de Kock that superspy Craig Williamson had a role in the assassination of their prime minister, Olof Palme, in 1986.

Swedish Deputy Foreign Minister Pierre Schori said yesterday they were taking the allegations very seriously. "The information doesn't come from just anybody, and we have asked our embassy to gather as much information as possible in this affair."

Palme was shot by a lone gunman as he left a Stockholm theatre on February 28 1986.

The Swedish ambassador to South Africa, Bo Hemeberg, said details of the claims would be passed on to authorities in Stockholm to assist in the investigation.

Swedish police superintendent Lars Johnson said last night they would contact South African police to investigate the allegations, and would also contact the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

He confirmed that Williamson's name had cropped up "on more than one occasion" in Stockholm after Palme's assassination.

"I cannot elaborate on any facts relating to him, but I can confirm that he did feature in the early part of the investigation."

De Kock claimed during cross-examination in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that the assassination had been part of Operation Long Reach, one of several operations launched by South



Assassinated .. Swedish prime minister Olof Palme.

Africa's international covert machine during the apartheid era.

Beyond saying he had made a statement about the matter to Antoinette de Jager of the attorney-general's office last year, De Kock did not elaborate on his disclosure. De Jager could not be reached for comment.

Many conspiracy theories and claims of responsibility by radical organisations for Palme's death have been investigated by Swedish police but, more than 10 years later, police have yet to expose the killer's identity or motive.

There was speculation about a South African hit squad connection because of Palme's vocal support of the ANC in its anti-apartheid struggle.

Sources also hinted that Palme was killed for halting illegal arms deals at a time when sanctions blocked sales to South Africa.

Man 27/9/96/76
Christer Pettersson (41) was sentenced to life in prison in July 1989 for the murder, but was freed by an appeal court four months later for lack of evidence.

Williamson could not be reached for comment yesterday. His attorney, Robert Levin, said he was in Angola on a business trip.

Levin said Williamson was preparing an application for amnesty to be presented to the truth commission shortly.

Swedish journalists alleged yesterday that Williamson operated an intelligence network in Stockholm at the time of Palme's death. In an interview with a South African Sunday newspaper in 1990, Williamson admitted to having a "few friends" in Sweden, but denied any South African involvement in the assassination.

He confirmed having met with a Swedish minister in 1987 following allegations of South African involvement in the murder.

Controversy over illegal arms deals between Swedish arms manufacturer Bofors and Iran in the 1980s fuelled speculation that Palme may have been murdered for stopping the delivery of explosives and missiles to Iran.

A gunpowder smuggling network to Iran involving South Africa, Israel, West Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia and Finland was uncovered by Swedish customs officials in 1985.

Palme clamped down by intervening in a missile deal involving Sweden and Iran only four months before he was killed.

Sweden to probe Palme killing claim

Stockholm - Swedish deputy foreign minister Pierre Schori has said that allegations implicating the former apartheid government of South Africa in the 1986 assassination of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme are being taken seriously.

"We are taking this information seriously," Mr Schori told Swedish television, hours after convicted apartheid assassin Eugene de Kock death squad leader claimed superspy Craig Williamson was involved in Mr Palme's murder.

"The information doesn't come from

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just anybody, and we have asked our embassy to gather as much information as possible in this affair," Mr Schori said.

Under cross-examination in the Pretoria Supreme Court, De Kock said Williamson was involved in Mr Palme's killing through a project called Operation Longreach. Mr Palme, a supporter of anti-apartheid movements, was gunned down on February 28, 1986, six months after his Social Democratic Party was returned to power - Sapa-AFP

See page 5

More bombshells from De Kock

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SA operatives linked to killing of Swedish PM

(251)

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria – Alleged South African involvement in the assassination of a Swedish prime minister, money laundering and flaunting of currency regulations with apparent official sanction are among new bombshells dropped by Eugene de Kock.

The former commander of the notorious Vlakplaas C10 unit was cross-examined for a third day by Anton Ackermann, SC, after giving evidence in mitigation of sentence last week.

De Kock has been found guilty on a number of charges, including murder, attempted murder and fraud, in a marathon trial in the Supreme Court in Pretoria.

In reply to a question, De Kock said he had information about Olof Palme's assassination, Operation Longreach, "superspy" Craig Williamson, and the Goniwe Four, Eastern Cape activists who died in mysterious circumstances after being abducted near Cradock in the late 1980s.

The Swedish prime minister was shot dead by a lone gunman as he left a theatre in Stockholm in February 1986. The killing was never solved.

De Kock told the court Williamson was part of Operation Longreach – involving clandestine international operations – but did not elaborate.

Earlier De Kock said he could have escaped and fled the country at any time, because he had the keys to Adriaan Vlok police station in Centurion near Pretoria where he was held after his arrest on hit squad allegations on May 4, 1994.

"I could have left the cell and the police station. The keys were not in the cell but elsewhere in the police station," he said, adding that former colleagues would have given him tacit support in escaping, but he did not want to become a victim of "jungle justice" if recaptured.

"I did not plan to escape. I could have, had I wanted to, as there were certain facilities at Adriaan Vlok which made this possible.

"We (members of the counter-insurgency unit) had broken into jails and not out of them, but there were certain methods that could be utilised. It was easy for me to think of these, as I had keys."

The keys had apparently been copied earlier and given to him by a policeman. After three weeks in custody he gave the



Assassinated: Swedish premier Olof Palme



Linked to 'Longreach': Craig Williamson



Currency smuggling: Eugene de Kock has told how he amassed a R1-m Swiss bank account

keys to his brother, who was later arrested for being in possession of them.

De Kock also admitted he had at first not told his counsel about an approach to the Attorney-General, but denied the negotiations were secret.

He said he had been approached by a former colleague and State witness, Lionel Snyman, to testify in the Motherwell trial in Port Elizabeth.

This had not been his purpose in approaching the Attorney-General a few months later, although he did testify for the State in the Motherwell trial.

De Kock denied misleading various courts after his arrest but admitted lying in a bail application about the Nelspruit shooting of five would-be robbers as well as about his overseas bank accounts.

He admitted he had ordered his wife to close all his overseas accounts when

he learned the Attorney-General knew about them, but said the only reason had been to help his wife and children.

De Kock denied the bulk of his funds overseas – at one stage he had R1-million in a Swiss bank account – came from State funds.

He said some of the money came from his retrenchment package, which he took overseas with the help of policemen. The rest came from his role as a facilitator in international arms deals.

He said he had about R300 000 in cash when he left South Africa through what was Jan Smuts International airport for Switzerland to put the money in a bank account in Zurich.

"I had official help," he said. Questioned, he said it was from the police.

De Kock also said it was not a problem to launder money in Switzerland.

"You can change rands into Swiss francs without any difficulty," he said.

He asked the Zurich bank by letter not to show details of changes in his account.

He told the court that deposits in bank accounts on Jersey and in Switzerland had been in various currencies, including Deutschmarks, Swiss francs, sterling, US dollars, Austrian schillings and South African rands.

The money was commission on arms deals and part of his retrenchment.

Asked whether he had stolen money from State funds to supplement his R1-million retrenchment package, De Kock said he had been told by General Krappies Engelbrecht to submit false claims amounting to R250 000 – "but it could technically be described as theft".

The hearing continues today.

PALME ASSASSINATION RECALLED

Williamson's name

featured in probe

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JOHANNESBURG: Swedish journalists alleged yesterday that South African agent Craig Williamson had had an intelligence network in Stockholm at the time of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme's assassination.

SWEDISH police have confirmed that spy Mr Craig Williamson's name featured during their investigation into the assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme.

This follows claims by convicted Vlaakplaas hit-squad commander Eugene de Kock linking Williamson to the murder of Palme, shot down as he left a Stockholm theatre on February 28, 1986.

Stockholm investigator Superintendent Lars Johnson confirmed yesterday that Williamson's name had cropped up "on more than one occasion". He said "I cannot elaborate on any facts relating to Williamson" but I can confirm that he did feature in the early part of the investigation.

Johnson added Swedish authorities would investigate any new information to emerge from the De Kock trial or possible Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) findings on Williamson Sweden's ambassador to South

Africa, Mr Bo Henneberg, said details of De Kock's claims would be passed to Swedish authorities.

De Kock, during cross-examination in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday, claimed Williamson had had a role in the assassination of Palme — which had been part of Operation Long Reach, one of several operations launched by South Africa's international covert machine to drum up support against the ANC.

Beyond saying that he had made a statement last year about the matter to Ms Antonette de Jager, of the attorney-general's office, he did not elaborate on his bombshell disclosure. De Jager could not be reached for comment.

Many conspiracy theories and claims of responsibility by radical organisations have been investigated by Swedish police, but to date, more than 10 years since the assassination by a lone gunman, police have yet to expose the killer's identity for the motive

At the time, observers speculated on a South African connection, because of Palme's vocal and financial support for the ANC in its anti-apartheid struggle. Sources also hinted at Palme having been killed for halting illegal arms deals.

Christer Petersson, 41, was sentenced to life in prison in July 1989 for the murder, but was freed by an appeal court four months later owing to a lack of evidence.

Williamson could not be reached for comment yesterday, his attorney saying he was in Angola on a "business trip". Swedish journalists alleged yesterday that Williamson had had an intelligence network in Stockholm at the time of Palme's death.

In an interview with a South African Sunday newspaper in 1990, Williamson admitted having a "few friends" in Sweden, but denied any South African involvement in the assassination. He confirmed having had a meeting with a Swedish minister in 1987 after allegations of SA involvement in the assassination.

Attorney Mr Robert Levin said yesterday he could not comment on the Palme allegations and would caution him (Williamson)



WIDOW: Mrs Lisbet Palme, widow of assassinated Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, leaves the Stockholm Cathedral after a 1986 memorial service for her husband, with former Austrian Prime Minister Franz Vranitzky. They are flanked by Stockholm Bishop Krister Stendhal, and South Africans then Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Allan Boesak.

against commenting. He added that Williamson was negotiating with TRC representatives, had consulted with investigators and was preparing an application for amnesty to be presented to the commission shortly.

Controversy surrounding illegal arms deals between Swedish arms manufacturer Bofors and Iran in the 1980s fuelled speculation that Palme might have been murdered for clamping down on delivery of explosives and missiles to Iran.

Investigation by the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society (Spas) into arms deals involved a long list of Swedish officials, some involving Iraq, Dubai, Bahrain and Thailand, in 1984.

A massive intelligence network to Iran involving South Africa, Israel, West Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia and Finland was uncovered by Swedish customs officials a year later —

Own Correspondent

If you read it again I'll scream — judge

RETORIA: The judge in the trial of Colonel Eugene de Kock yesterday told deputy attorney-general Mr Anton Ackermann he would scream if Ackermann continued reading a statement the court had already heard

Judge Willie van der Merwe said the court wanted to deal only with the facts concerning mitigation of sentence for former Vlakplaas police commander De Kock.

De Kock has been convicted of 8 counts, including six of murder, during a trial lasting 18 months

Ackermann yesterday started reading a statement by a state witness which was earlier used in cross-examination by counsel for the defence

"If one of you start reading out any of those statements again, I am going to scream," the judge said

Judge Van der Merwe also said he would not allow the state to cross-examine De Kock to gain information for use in other trials

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De Kock admitted he had tried to discredit witnesses with information in his possession. This included linking state witness Mr Chappies Klopper to drug deals and relations with a black prostitute in a public toilet

He also claimed one of the investigating officers in the case against him had "tubed" a man — smothered him with the inner tube of a tyre — and that another had assaulted a woman in 1986

"My view was that this man had killed someone. How could he investigate me?" he said

De Kock admitted on occasion assaulting some of his men, but said the askaris — former ANC and PAC members — were difficult to work with and sometimes the only answer was to hit them

"It was a world with a thousand shades of grey. You never knew the true reason why you were being sent to do something"

The trial continues — Sapa

'I had keys to my prison cell'

JOHANNESBURG: Former Vlakplaas commander Colonel Eugene de Kock told the Pretoria Supreme court yesterday he at one stage contemplated escaping from custody and had duplicate keys to his cell.

De Kock said that while being detained at the Adriaan Vlok police station in Pretoria, a policeman's carelessness had allowed him to have duplicates made of the keys to his cell and to the station.

He also had a cellphone with him for a while and could have walked out of the station at any time of the night or day.

He decided not to escape, aware that it could have cost him his life. He said he had viewed with suspicion the approaches of members of the special forces who had offered to spring him from custody.

"I know the Murder and Robbery Squad use a lot of jungle justice. I was scared it might be used on me as well." — Sapa

SA agents killed Palme — De Kock

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HENRY LUDSKI AND ROGER FRIEDMAN

SWEDEN is demanding further information after shock allegations by convicted Vlakplaas assassin Eugene de Kock that South African agents were behind the assassination of former Swedish Prime Minister Mr Olof Palme in 1986

De Kock, speaking in mitigation of sentence after being found guilty of six murders and various other crimes, told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday that former state security official Mr Craig Williamson was involved in



VICTIM: Olof Palme

Palme's assassination through a project called Operation Long Reach

Yesterday a Department of Foreign Affairs spokesperson said that Swedish authorities had never approached the government in connection with Palme's death. And it appears that the alleged South African link, long spoken of, has never been aggressively pursued by Swedish investigators

Sweden is offering a multi-million rand reward for information leading to the arrest of Palme's assassins

In a statement issued from Pretoria yesterday Foreign Affairs said it would closely study De Kock's testimony and would be liaising with security agencies about it

Foreign Minister Mr Alfred Nzo and Swedish Prime Minister Mr Goran Persson are both attending a United Nation's General Assembly meeting in New York where the matter is expected to be discussed

The head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's investigative unit, Mr Dumisa Ntsebeza, said yesterday he had yet to see a transcript of De Kock's evidence about the Palme assassination, but "quite clearly his comments will be a matter for us to investigate urgently"

He added: "We hope when his trial is over De Kock will be available to be interviewed by the investigative unit as part of its quest for the total picture to emerge"

Although De Kock had applied to the commission for

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SA agents killed Palme — De Kock

□ From Page 1

amnesty, and it would be useful if he used the occasion to expand on his Olof Palme theory, he could not be compelled to give further information on events outside those in terms of which he was applying for amnesty, Ntsebeza said

Palme's government was a staunch ally and a major funder of the ANC's struggle against apartheid. In the weeks leading to his death the prime minister was outspokenly critical of the then South African regime, notably in an address to an ANC congress in Stockholm shortly before he was killed

Williamson, who has admitted complicity in a variety of dirty tricks against apartheid opponents, has previously been linked to a Swedish intelligence service

He was assistant director of the Geneva-based International University Exchange Fund (IUEF) in 1980 when he revealed that he was a member of the South African security police

De Kock's allegation comes days after the announcement that South African security force operations abroad were the subject of an investigation being conducted from the Netherlands

Both Williamson and De Kock have been linked to several covert operations against opponents of the apartheid regime including the bombing of the ANC London office in 1982

Quest starts to untangle De Kock allegations

Eddie Koch

An investigations team at the Transvaal attorney general's office is working around the clock to probe at least 50 incidents of violence and murder in which security force generals and former Cabinet ministers have been implicated by Eugene de Kock.

The barrage of allegations presented in De Kock's testimony in the Pretoria Supreme Court is likely to place the attorney general's office and the criminal justice system under severe stress as each of them

has to be investigated and, if they turn out to be accurate, the suspects will be arrested and brought to court.

But each of the cases that flow out of the De Kock trial could take up to two years or more. This raises the prospect that the country's criminal justice system — already straining under massive workloads and a haemorrhaging of senior staff — will never be able to punish many of the perpetrators mentioned in De Kock's case.

The next case initiated by the colonel's trial involve the arrest and prosecution of senior members of the Inkatha Freedom Party. This will be

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vigorously defended by the IFP, as indicated by the denials that have already emanated from alleged Inkatha warlord Thembu Khoza, and is likely to take up as much time and energy as the trials of De Kock and those accused in the Magnus Malan murder trial

The attorney general's office will be hard-pressed to manage just this one trial and will be placed in an almost impossible position if its investigations team comes up with enough evidence, which appears likely, to warrant prosecution related to even a small number of the inci-

denents mentioned by De Kock.

But the investigators are pressing ahead with their probes and are likely to interview a number of those implicated by De Kock when the supreme court takes its spring recess next week. Although officials in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission are hoping De Kock's revelations will pressure perpetrators into applying for amnesty, it seems most likely that the culprits will simply sit back and rely on the state's lack of capacity to punish them.

Cross examination of De Kock at the end of this week was expected to

focus on his days spent fighting with the police's Koevoet counter-insurgency unit in Namibia in the 1970s. When the case resumes after the week-long break, a psychologist and criminologist are due to present insights into the mental make-up of the colonel who carried out some of the most notorious political assassinations under apartheid.

It is expected that Justice Willem van der Merwe will sentence De Kock on around 20 October and the ruling is likely to have a major impact on future decisions about whether the political environment and psychological pressures that dirty tricks operatives worked under provide valid extenuating circumstances for the crimes they committed.

Swedish, SA police to probe Palme murder

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Kevin O'Grady and Stephen Laufer

PRETORIA — Swedish and SA security authorities are to investigate allegations of an official apartheid government link to Swedish prime minister Olaf Palme's assassination in 1986.

Former hit squad commander and convicted killer Eugene de Kock implicated former SA spy Craig Williamson yesterday in Palme's killing. Testifying in mitigation of sentence, De Kock said he had spoken to staff in the Transvaal attorney-general's office with a view to exposing Williamson's role in the assassination plan called "Long Reach".

Deputy SA national intelligence coordinator Moe Shaik said De Kock had said a lot which needed to be followed up. "He has been credible on operations" he has talked about, and "now he is implicating others. The state needs to investigate everything he is saying in order to unravel the truth."

Reuter reports Swedish police saying that De Kock's allegations could be a fresh lead in the unsolved 10-year-old murder. "A part of the De Kock information is new," police investigation deputy Lars Jonsson said.

Palme, who was a staunch supporter of the ANC's struggle against the

NP's apartheid government, was shot while leaving a Stockholm theatre in 1986. His assassin has since evaded detection and capture.

A Swedish expert on the Palme killing, journalist Anders Hasselbohm, said last night he had long believed the SA connection should be taken seriously because "Palme had one main professional enemy in the world — the SA apartheid government."

The Sunday before his death, Palme had appeared unexpectedly at a Stockholm rally for then ANC president Oliver Tambo, and had "treated him like a head of state." Williamson had kept close contacts with Swedish government members through his work in Geneva for the International University Education Fund. The fund, financed by the Swedish government, supported hundreds of opponents of apartheid. The fund had "virtually been run from Palme's office" and one of the key links, Bernt Carlsson, had been killed in the Lockerbie bombing. Some reports claimed then SA foreign minister Pik Botha had been warned not to fly on the ill-fated PanAm jet.

Williamson was believed to be travelling in Angola yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

Swedish embassy spokesman Charlotte Wrangberg said staff were "collecting as much information as possible" on De Kock's allegations — including a court transcript of his statement — to send to the Swedish government and the special police unit still investigating Palme's death.

President Nelson Mandela's spokesman, Parks Mankahlana, said De Kock's allegation was "shocking and should be investigated thoroughly." It was "regrettable that at this late stage of the trial he cannot be cross-examined on the allegation."

De Kock said he had asked a lawyer to approach advocate Antoinette de Jager of Transvaal attorney-general Jan D'Oliviera's special investigations team with a view to co-operating "so that facts (about crimes) I was not charged with could come out." He also had information on the murder of Mathew Goniwe and three other activists near Port Elizabeth in the 1980s. Earlier De Kock told the court he could have escaped if he had wanted to from the Adriaan Vlok police station at Centurion, Pretoria, where he was held after his May 1994 arrest as he had duplicate keys for his cell.

Cross-examination continues today

Palme killing claim crazy and a nightmare, says ex-spy

By LESLEY WROUGHTON

Luanda - Former spy Craig Williamson denied yesterday that he was behind the 1986 killing of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme

"It's crazy," Williamson said in the Angolan capital, where he has interests in the diamond industry. "It is enough to answer for what we did, but this is absurd. It came out in a Swedish newspaper six years ago and I denied it then and I shall deny it again."

Williamson's fellow-agent Eugene de Kock told a Supreme Court judge in Pre-

toria that the Palme murder was part of a Williamson project called Operation Long Reach

De Kock said he had first-hand information that Williamson was involved in killing the Swedish prime minister

Williamson said he would reject De Kock's charges when he testifies before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission shortly

"The man either has a hidden agenda, or if he actually believes what he is saying, then he is nuts. The system has made him what he is," Williamson said "This is

(251) a nightmare I am trying to get on with my life"

He said reports of South African involvement in the Palme murder first emerged in the 1980s as part of a Soviet disinformation campaign

"Somebody who started this is laughing today," Williamson said

"Operation Long Reach was an absolutely straight intelligence operation and nothing more. We had an intelligence network throughout Africa and also in Washington"

Williamson said he had known De Kock well when

they were both involved in police anti-guerrilla operations in southern Angola in the 1980s

Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad told reporters that De Kock's accusations were serious "We are waiting for fuller details. It has serious implications for our foreign policy but we would like to substantiate these allegations," he said

Antoinette de Jager from the attorney-general's staff said "All claims will be thoroughly investigated, but I don't want to discuss details" - Reuters

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Swedish prosecutors to probe SA involvement in Palme murder

Stockholm - A prosecutor in the Olof Palme murder investigation said yesterday that the latest allegations of South African involvement could advance efforts to solve the 1986 killing.

A year after Palme was gunned down on a Stockholm street, Swedish investigators studied the possible South African connection.

But Eugene de Kock's allegations that former spy Craig Williamson was involved in Palme's killing have added new urgency to the investigation.

"Now there is a flesh-and-blood person whose name we have, sitting in custody and talking about this," deputy prosecutor Solveig Riberdahl told the news agency TT.

She called the information from Eugene de Kock "interesting" and promised to find out more details about his allegations.

Her boss, chief prosecutor Jan Danielsson, was more cautious, saying "The information is interesting, but it is very scanty and unsupported."

While officials were careful, Stockholm's no-holds-barred tabloids seemed sure of the South African link in the killing of Palme, a staunch apartheid opponent.

Both Expressen and Aftonbladet published front-page pictures of Williamson, saying he had been in Sweden at the time of Palme's killing.

"We received information that Williamson had been here with his death squad and carried out the death of Olof Palme," a former chief criminal investigator was quoted as saying by Aftonbladet.

The Palme killing shocked Swedes' sense of order and safety. Palme and his wife were walking without bodyguards, at that time a common practice for high officials.

The failure to solve the case has distressed and irritated Swedes for years, prompting the formation of a committee to investigate how the investigation is being handled.

A petty criminal was tried for the crime in 1989 but the court acquitted him.

Most of the theories in the killing are based on whom Palme might have angered with his outspoken leftist politics.

As far back as 1966, Palme said apartheid "must become a malignant memory from the past as soon as possible". - Sapa-AP



OLOF PALME

Crime fears as cops talk of go-slow

By PAUL KIRK
and PETA KROST

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Gauteng residents, already reeling under a crime onslaught, face a national police go-slow which could hamper crime prevention programmes.

Police are threatening to undertake a campaign of work-to-rule after the depletion of the national overtime budget has led to police performing special duties without pay.

Mbulelo Vusi, spokesman for Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Jessie Duarte, said last night there were very clear channels for police labour-related problems to be dealt with. He called on the police unions to use them as the consequences for their go-slow action would be dire - not just for the police, but the entire province.

"The police, along with the Government, have made a commitment to bring the level of crime right down. They are entitled to have their grievances heard and settled, but not at the expense of combating crime," said Vusi.

"If they go ahead with their threats, it will impact negatively on the fight against crime - they must be responsible in their decisions. We cannot afford even

one policeman to have a slow or reluctant approach to his work in fighting crime. We need everyone's concerted effort."

However, there have been negotiations between the three police unions and the National Negotiating Forum. But so far no agreements have been reached, according to Thayne Heath, police national standards spokesman and director.

Yesterday Karl Bodin, an organiser for the SA Police Union (Sapu) in KwaZulu Natal, announced that his union would seek court protection for members who refuse to work overtime or perform special duties in terms of the Sword and Shield plan.

"We will be seeking a declaration order from the Supreme Court to protect our members when they refuse to work overtime. Management seem to think they can order members to work overtime without payment, and that is just not on."

Earlier this week Sapu circulated a pamphlet to its members advising them to refuse to perform special duties or overtime unless they were shown written proof they would be paid. The overtime budget for this year was R60-million - R35-million less than 1995. Last year the

inadequate overtime budget led to Sapu embarking on protest action in March and April.

"At the beginning of this year, management had not budgeted one single cent for overtime. We could not believe it. When Sapu pointed this out, R60-million was produced by juggling the budget. That simply is not good enough. At a wild guess we need R300-million or so for overtime," said Bodin.

The depletion of funds has led police management to offer members time off in lieu of pay, a situation Bodin and his union find unacceptable. "The constitution of the Department of Public Service and Administration, under which the SAPS operates, does not provide for the awarding of time off. Members must be paid for working overtime."

"People must not misunderstand us. We do want to fight crime and see crime reduced, but police officers strongly object to working overtime for the love of it."

Bodin laid the blame for the situation on the "wonderful Sword and Shield Plan of Commissioner Fivaz". He said the plan was all very well but was working to the detriment of policemen.

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◆ Go-slow fears

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"People must not forget that the police have rights, too, and it is not reasonable to expect people to work 12-hour shifts every weekend without being paid. The plan has placed tremendous pressure on members and we just don't have the manpower."

Heath said that, while "the unions were aware of the national budget constraints, police management had expressed concern over overtime pay issue."

"Management has undertaken to establish whether savings from within the SAPS can be utilised and allocated to the overtime budget," he said.

Senior Superintendent Strim Govender, SAPS spokesman in Pretoria, said "Management are very serious about the overtime issue. As we speak, senior management is in discussion with the unions and it is hoped the situation is resolved soon."

De Kock: I'll spill dirt to win freedom

Apartheid assassin tells court he will reveal all to TRC in amnesty bid

HERMAN SHADLER
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria - Eugene de Kock intends to go down fighting. He made this clear yesterday when he told the Supreme Court here he would be seeking amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission by again naming the top securocrats who ordered him and his Vlakplaas unit into action in the 1980s.

De Kock - nicknamed "Prime Evil" by his colleagues and "Scourge of God" by the ANC during the total onslaught years of the former government - told the court he had made an application to the TRC for amnesty, but had received a letter which stated that he had incorrectly filled out a form detailing his experiences. He had not yet replied to the TRC, but was determined

to seek amnesty "even from behind bars". "I am not far away from sentencing," he said. "The end result of my amnesty application is to go free. Had I not been sitting in this court, I would have already applied for amnesty."

De Kock said he would be making full confessions to the TRC as he believed he had had "heads of dirt" piled on him by police generals, who he said no longer supported him.

"The generals have decided among themselves not to support police personnel," he said.

Under cross-examination this week De Kock has again named top officers he believes have reneged on him. They include generals Basie Smit, Krappies Engelbrecht, Johan Coetzee, Nick van Rensburg, Johan van der Merwe, Jac Buchler, Gerrit Erasmus, H G de Witt and

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Earlier yesterday De Kock agreed with

Herman Shadler. He has already named former presidents P W Botha and F W de Klerk as well as cabinet ministers Pk Botha, Magnus Malan, Louis le Grange and Adriaan Vlok as being aware of atrocities.

Among the operations he told the court of was the bombing of the London head quarters of the ANC and the killing of the Swedish prime minister Olof Palme 10 years ago in an operation called Longreach which he claimed was masterminded by spy Craig Williamson.

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe told De Kock yesterday he would be asking questions about the Palme assassination, which has never been solved.

Swedish police said that Williamson had been a suspect in the case several years ago, but there was no firm evidence to link him to Mr Palme's murder.

Transvaal deputy attorney general Anton Ackerman that his Palme revelation was "the most astonishing statement".

He said he had not mentioned it earlier as he had not recollected that he had been told about it "in about 1992/93".

De Kock said he had made a statement on the matter to Antonette de Jager, of the attorney-general's office. "There was no specific reason why I had not said anything earlier," he told the court. "I have firsthand knowledge (of it) and not divulging the information was not a ploy to deflect attention from this own case."

The trial, which has already run for more than 18 months, has been adjourned until October 7 when cross-examination by Mr Ackerman will be completed.

The defence will then lead expert testimony from five witnesses, including psy-

chiatrists, psychologists, medical doctors and criminologists. This will include evidence on De Kock's claim that he has post-traumatic stress syndrome, a condition first diagnosed among American soldiers returning from Vietnam.

De Kock says he is suffering from strange dreams, lack of sleep, nervousness and stress as a result of his experiences in the Koervoet army and police unit and with C-10. He has been receiving treatment for the syndrome for two years.

It is expected that sentence will be passed by the end of October. De Kock has already been found guilty of six murders, two conspiracies to murder, and numerous charges of fraud.

Denying that he was "a monster or an animal", he said he had carried out orders which had "probably been part of the system since before I was born".



"Prime Evil" Eugene de Kock guilty of murders

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

SA spy not cleared in Palme killing

SOUTH AFRICAN spy Craig Williamson was never cleared of involvement in the 1986 assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olaf Palme, the Swedish ambassador, Bo Heineberg, said yesterday.

Williamson told the Associated Press in Angola this weekend "The South African and Swedish authorities investigated this year ago. They all know it is completely baseless."

But Heineberg said "I don't know to what extent he has been inves-

tigated. He has never been heard by the Swedish authorities."

Convicted killer Eugene de Kock told the Transvaal Supreme Court this week that he became aware of Williamson's alleged involvement in the killing after a conversation with Inkatha senator Phillip Powell in 1992 or 1993.

Powell denied he had said anything about the Palme killing to De Kock. "It is not true. He's trying to play people off against each other."

But he did not deny meeting De Kock during this period.

When asked about the alleged meeting, he said "Let me pass on that. There have been allegations about delivery of weapons. I would rather wait for that to come up in court."

De Kock's allegations have been backed up by self-confessed hit man, Dirk Coetzee, who told Beeld newspaper that Williamson was involved in the killing through

"Operation Longreach".

Meanwhile, Swedish newspapers have reported that a special investigative unit may come to South Africa to establish once and for all whether South Africa was involved in the assassination.

Heineberg said yesterday that he had met the Minister of Justice, Dullah Omar, this weekend to tell him that his government was "extremely keen to get as much information as we can at this stage."

(251) ~~ART~~ ST 29/9/96

But he could not confirm the reports that a special unit was to fly to South Africa, saying a decision would be taken once evidence had emerged to back up De Kock's allegations.

Stockholm-based Interpol official Ulf Wuxler said yesterday that his organisation was not planning to send investigators to South Africa, but was facilitating communication between Swedish and South African security authorities.

Heineberg said Omar had told him

the South African government viewed the allegations in a very serious light. "He said his government was very keen on providing us with information to get to the bottom of the matter."

The Gauteng Attorney General, Jan D'Oliviera, said his investigators would have to wait until after the trial before asking De Kock for further information.

He said that if evidence was found that South Africans were involved, they could be tried in South Africa for conspiracy to commit murder. They could also be charged with murder in Sweden.

I didn't murder Palme, says (251) 'shocked' White

ARG 30/9/96

Harare — Anthony White, the man accused of killing Swedish prime minister Olof Palme, today denied any involvement in the assassination.

Mr White said in a telephone interview from the sawmill he runs in the Mozambican port of Beira that he was "absolutely shocked" by the allegation, made by South African former death squad leader Dirk Coetzee.

"The allegations are without foundation. There would have been less reaction if you had thrown me in a bath of freezing water," said Mr White.

Asked why he thought Coetzee had named him, he said: "I wouldn't even like to speculate. I've got absolutely no idea."

He denied any involvement in any South African secret services. "I'm a civilian. I've been a civilian for many many years. I can prove that I've had absolutely no 'spook' connections."

Mr White said he had been in contact with the Swedish ambassador to Mozambique and had assured him of his willingness to co-operate in any investigation.

Meanwhile, Mr White has also been implicated in an international ivory smuggling deal with the so-called superspy Craig Williamson.

Mr White — alias Snowy White, alias Ivory White, alias Ant White — is described as tall, mysterious and "extremely dangerous" in *Contraband*, a book on ivory and rhino-horn smuggling by South African investigative journalist De Wet Potgieter.

The book says Mr White joined the Rhodesian SAS as a young man.

He became a corporal in the SAS and later joined the elite and ruthless Selous Scouts.

Potgieter said Mr White later joined Operation Longreach, a "security company" set up by Craig Williamson in 1987.

Mr White was the company's first director, but left after only a few months.

In 1988, Mr White and Craig Williamson were said to be involved in a failed attempt to buy up Burundi's stockpile of 84 tons of illegal ivory — Argus Correspondent and AFP.

Omar plans to unify factions in ANC

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The fragile alliance between the ANC, SACP, Cosatu and the SA National Civics Organisation was a dominant feature of the Western Cape ANC congress at the weekend, with hopes being placed on newly elected leader Justice Minister Dullah Omar to unify the factions.

Omar was unanimously elected after the other candidates — provincial health MEC Ebrahim Rasool, MP Tony Yengeni and MP Carl Niehaus — withdrew from the contest during the run-up to the congress. Omar met with both ANC traditionalists and SACP mem-

bers to stress that he would not be serving either of their interests but was intent on unifying the organisation.

Conflicts centred on the future leadership of the party by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki — which the SACP in the province rejected — and the macroeconomic strategy which the party also opposed. The SACP also called for SA to cut its ties with Taiwan in favour of China.

General secretary James Ngulu, who was re-elected, called for the ANC "to boldly address the incipient anti-communism emerging within our ranks". He mentioned weaknesses in

the ANC/SACP alliance and the "go it alone" attitude of some SACP members.

Ngulu's document also noted the weaknesses in Cosatu as well as the "serious conflict" in many areas which existed between Sanco and the ANC both nationally and provincially.

Sources said Cosatu at provincial level had appealed to the national organisation to disaffiliate from the ANC, but this was rejected.

In his address Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said the ANC had to continually address the question of the alliance to ensure that its members acted as a cohesive force and did not oppose each other.

Holomisa fears expulsion will be confirmed

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Expelled ANC member Bantu Holomisa said he believed ANC executive members had already decided to confirm his expulsion and would do so when they met today despite large attendances at his rallies, held countrywide, last week.

Holomisa's fears were largely confirmed by senior ANC members, who were not im-

pressed either by Holomisa's "road show" or by the kind of people who attended the rallies.

"They may have been well attended but were not supported by ANC activists. The meetings were attended either by people whose tribal allegiances Holomisa could draw on or disaffected members of the former Transkei government.

This group consisted mainly of people who had not been incorporated in the new Eastern

Cape government and who had consequently lost their jobs.

Holomisa had called on this group, taking advantage of a predicament the new government was placed in by Holomisa himself, an ANC source said.

Holomisa dismissed these comments as "sour grapes". He said at the weekend that should the ANC turn down his appeal against his expulsion, then taking the matter to court would be one option he would consider.



Members of the public, left, watch a fire fighting demonstration. A hovercraft, bottom right, used by the metropolitan council.

Palme's killer named

CONFESSED apartheid death squad leader Dirk Coetzee alleged on Saturday that the killer of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme was a man named Anthony White, reports AFP.

He said that the man, of unknown nationality, might be living in the Greek islands or Cyprus. Swedish daily Aftonbladet reported yesterday that White is hiding out in Berra, Mozambique.

Coetzee also echoed sworn testimony by apartheid-era police assassin Eugene de Kock on Thursday that South African "superspy" Craig Williamson was involved in Palme's death through a secret South African intelligence group called "Operation Lon-greach".

Williamson has denied involvement in Palme's death, although he has admitted to other bombings and murders during the apartheid era.

Stephen Lauffer reports that the SA authorities are expected to begin investigating De Kock's allegations in earnest only once the former Vlakplaat commander's trial is over.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi's spokesman Maxwell Mulaudzi said yesterday De Kock's allegations of SA involvement in the murder of Palme and other related matters would be the subject of investigations by the Transvaal attorney general and the truth commission.

Former Selous Scout named in Palme killing 'tried twice to slay Nkomo'

By **ROBIN DREW**
Star Foreign Service

Harare — Anthony (Ant) White, named by former South African police captain Dirk Coetzee as the man who killed Swedish prime minister Olof Palme, was involved in two unsuccessful assassination attempts on the life of Zimbabwe's Vice-President Joshua Nkomo during the Rhodesian bush war.

White, who is living in Berra, Mozambique, where he runs a timber business, denied yesterday that he had killed Palme and agreed to co-operate with authorities investigating the murder.

But he was not asked to comment on his alleged involvement in the attempts on Nkomo's life which were supposed to have happened when he was in the Selous Scouts, the special unit in the Rhodesian forces.

The former commander of the unit, Lieutenant-Colonel Ron Reid-Daly, recounted in his book *Top Secret War* how he had selected the then Lieutenant Ant White to kill Nkomo in Lusaka, from where he was directing operations of Zipra guerrillas. White was flown into Zambia from Kenya posing as a taxidermist.

A booby-trapped car was driven to Lusaka from Botswana and picked up White at a pre-arranged point. The idea was to park on the route that Nkomo took from his residence and detonate the explosives by radio signal when Nkomo's car passed by.

Nkomo, however, changed routes frequently and after five weeks of waiting, White gave up and returned home after destroying the vehicle.

Later he took part in a combined operation with the Strategic Armed Services to launch an attack on Nkomo's residence in Lusaka using vehicles painted in Zambian Army camouflage.

The house was destroyed and the Zipra guards killed, but there was no sign of Nkomo. He said later he had escaped through a toilet window, but Reid-Daly said in his book that he did not believe Nkomo had been in the house at the time of the attack.

The Selous Scouts were disbanded shortly before Zimbabwe came into being.

It is not known what happened to White, by then a captain, but former colleagues said he became notorious for poaching.

Much of the timber for the business which employed him in Mozambique came from the Gorongosa area, where Renamo had been active.

One former Rhodesian soldier described him as a "likeable rogue" but doubted he would have "had the brains" to carry out Palme's assassination.

(251)

Star 11/10/94

Williamson 'planned Paris assassination'

JOHANNESBURG: South African secret police were behind the 1988 murder in Paris of ANC representative Ms Dulcie September, former Vlakplaas commander Mr Dirk Coetzee said yesterday

"I know the section A of the South African services was implicated, but I have no detail on that specific operation," he said

He charged that the assassination was planned by "section A", which was led by spy Mr Craig Williamson

"This special unit of the police was in charge of the anti-apartheid strugglers and more specifically abroad," Coetzee said. Its base, on a farm in the Pretoria region, has now been destroyed

September was shot dead on the doorstep of her office in the French capital on March 29, 1988, at the age of 42. The crime has not been solved. At the time, the South African government formally denied any involvement

A senior diplomat who went

into exile in Belgium in the 1980s told the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in August that he had been the victim of two assassination attempts

Mr Godfrey Motsepe said September's assassination was very likely "the work of the same hit squad which was travelling around western Europe at the time trying to eliminate all ANC people or activists"

Coetzee is due to testify before the TRC in November — Sapa-AFP

(251) CT 1/10/96

Hints to help you stop crime

CT. 1/10/96 (257)

AS a service to readers, the Cape Times Bid Against Crime, in conjunction with the South African Police Service, offers the following hints in an effort to help reduce crime.

Vehicle safety

- All the doors of your vehicle should be locked at all times
- All windows should also be closed at all times, or at least three-quarters closed
- Do not leave parcels, briefcases, handbags or any articles lying in your vehicle unattended. Lock these in your boot. By leaving these articles unattended, you are inviting the criminal to break into your vehicle
- The vehicle should always be in a good mechanical condition and have enough petrol
- Never park too close to the vehicle in front of you. You will be boxed in. In an emergency, there will not be enough space for you to drive away.
- Never pick up strangers (hitchhikers)
- Always park in well-lit areas
- Have your keys ready in your hand as you approach your vehicle. You are vulnerable if you stand there fumbling in your handbag or pockets

● If you suspect you are being followed, hoot, flash your lights and make for the nearest crowded area

● Do not leave your vehicle's engine running while you are opening or closing garage doors or gates. Take the keys out of the vehicle, lock the door and then go and lock the gate and garage door

Domestic help and casual labour

- Never employ people from off the street who come looking for work
- Never allow an employee to keep a key to your home. The employee may be completely reliable, but his or her family and friends may not be

When on holiday

- Do not advertise your absence. The following hints are important when you go on holiday or are away for a long period
- Don't leave notes on doors saying that you will be away for a certain period — criminals read these too. A note on the door could attract a passing criminal
- Avoid leaving an outside light burning continuously for days. Ask a neighbour or friend to switch on a few lights at night and to switch them off again in the morning

● Cancel delivery of newspapers

● Ask a friend or neighbour to remove post from your letter box daily.

● Inform neighbours and friends that you will be away and also inform them of the date and time you will return

Firearms

● Firearms should be locked away safely in a sturdy cupboard, drawer or safe

● Firearms should not be kept in the drawer of your bedside cabinet or under the mattress. These are the two places that housebreakers go for when looking for firearms

● Ammunition should be stored separately from the firearm

Safety on the street

- Don't go for walks after dark
- Don't wear expensive jewellery that will draw the attention of criminals
- Avoid dark and deserted streets, quiet lanes and subways as far as possible — even during the day
- Never carry around large amounts of cash
- Never leave your purse/wallet in your shopping basket or in a grocery trolley

'BOYS IN BLUE' STILL MAKE PEOPLE NERVOUS (257) CT 1/10/91

Forums build up trust in police service

IN THE SEARCH for solutions to burgeoning crime, communities have got together to thrash out the answers through meetings with the police. This gave birth to the concept of the Community Police Crime Forum. **EUGENE HUGO** set out to find out whether they work.

SOME of the people want hanging for murder. Others want hands cut off for burglary or public flogging. The people want every crudity you can imagine, even perhaps the stocks in the town square.

Emotions like these flow from nearly every meeting between the public and police. The people's minds are also still working in the days of the apartheid past. They want to know why the police are not properly protecting them from the horrors perpetrated every day on the streets.

They are still a little nervous when dealing with the "boys in blue" and the suspicions, the myths and the legends permeate every living room — especially when a Eugene de Kok is telling about the dreadful deeds done and the TRC is hearing about the painful effects of those actions.

A senior policeman tells me that we do not yet have a police service — we still have a police force. Some people want the new service others want the force. Yet through this fog of accusation and counter-accusation, anxiety and fear, a new trust is beginning, only just beginning.

If, before, you had asked your average policeman what he was up to, he probably would have answered you with a "snoklap". Now you stand up in a community forum and demand to know what he was up to. And he tells you specifically and seemingly honestly.

In Bellville the Community Police Forum meets at 2pm on a Thursday. It is their September bi-monthly gathering.

He says it is time to "take the bull by the horns" and pursue every avenue to solve the problem. There does not appear to be a ready answer. But at least the community is aware of the problem and talking about solutions.

It seems that Bellville has had more success with the problem of street children — none are to be seen in the CBD area. This is due to "the good work and co-operation of the Bellville SAPs".

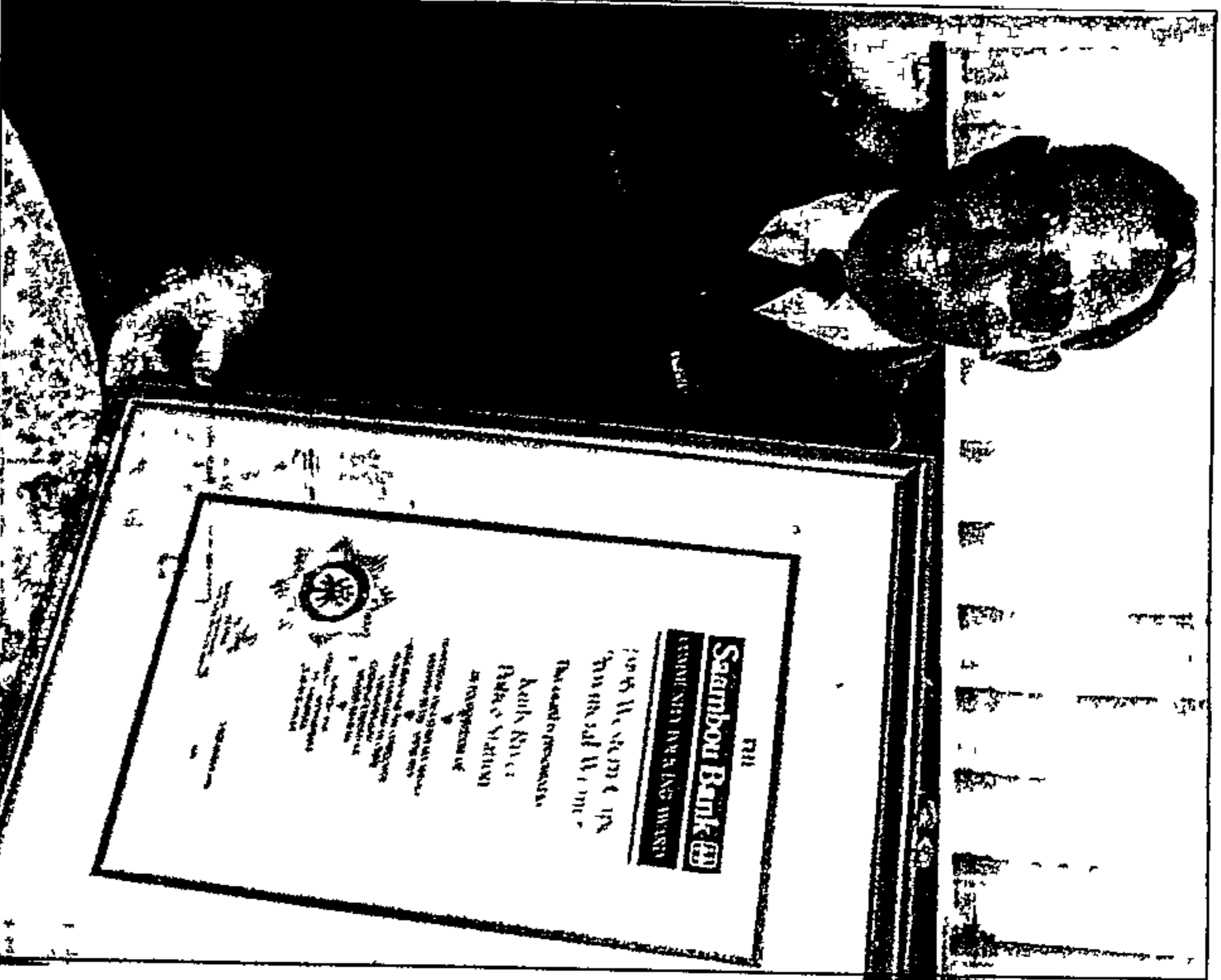
There are still, however, large numbers of these children in Parow and Goodwood. One forum member is concerned about the children sniffing glue and the meeting decides to write to all dealers urging them not to sell strong glues to children — especially street children.

Continuing strife between rival taxi organisations Ceta and Codeta is also on the agenda. But a municipal police official tells me that time and time again they have managed to get rival taxi bosses together only to have them fighting on the streets the moment the meeting is over.

"They were in my office one day hugging and kissing each other with tears in their eyes. I looked out of my window when they left to see them throwing punches in the parking lot."

Police crime statistics indicate that there has been an increase in thefts from business premises. The shock is that 62% of the incidents occur in daylight.

But the police captain informing the public about the SAPs performance has a bigger shock for the forum. He tells them that drug-related crimes are being committed by children from good schools in the area. One boy has confessed to



WINNING STATION Director Raymond Strydom of the Kullis River police station shows off the R10 000 Saambou Bank award the station won for its part in encouraging community participation in combating crime. Strydom said the money would be used for equipment or repairs.

breaking into five different shops to get money for drugs. There is a network of school children operating in the area. They have a controller and they draw plans and copy keys of friends' houses.

But, he says, parents do not want to get involved and the schools want to protect their names. The forum is concerned about apparent public apathy. There are about 30 people at the meeting —

half of them police officials.

Whatever the reason for poor attendance figures this forum appears to be working. The public are being informed in a forthright manner and notice is being taken of their concerns.

Perhaps the biggest plus factor is that misconceptions within the community are being corrected and a new trust, no matter how tentative, is being established in service rather than force.

Join our survey in finding out how the SAPs is perceived by residents

JOIN our Bid Against Crime by working with the Cape Times to find out just how the South African Police Service is perceived in Cape Town and the outlying municipalities and towns.

On Thursday, we will publish your answers and give you the next question. When the survey is complete, we will ask the police to comment on your opinions to try to put right what is wrong.

Today we publish the first of nine questions from a form issued by the SAPS to find out how communities view its service, helpfulness, accountability and other aspects of police work.

Call us on the Crime Line toll free number 080 9622 993 between 8am and 1pm today and tomorrow with your response.

CAPE TIMES
CRIMELINE
TOLL FREE
080 9622 993
8am - 1pm

Pupils urged to help by forming junior police forums

POLICE respond to the letters from pupils at a Southern Suburbs school. Mandisa Sixaba claims a person goes to jail, maybe for a murder, but the following day that person is out of jail and later this person is a friend of the police. The police also receive bribes from this person.

It is clear that you labour under a misconception that most people do. After arresting someone, this person is entitled to bail according to the law, which perhaps creates the perception you have.

Thank you for your concern. We would urge you to discuss with your local police the possible formation of a junior police forum. Such forums have been started at various police stations.

Nicodemus Gasebuc feels that the police do not help when persons are brutally killed in front of them. The police have indicated that their goal is to eradicate drugs, gangsterism or any form of crime from society and is striving to achieve this goal. Unfortunately, not being magicians, we cannot do this alone and need the support of all law-abiding citizens. We urge all to refrain from serious and petty crimes.

LEAD THE CHANGE IN THE WORKPLACE
PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR LABOR RELATIONS

Swedish Star 2/10/96 police to follow Palme trail in SA

(251)
Stockholm - Swedish police probing the 1986 assassination on a Stockholm street of prime minister Olof Palme want to question people named in the Pretoria Supreme Court last week as participants in the crime

"We are definitely going to ask to travel there," said Hans Oelvbrogro, head of the investigating team.

Investigators and prosecutors will meet today in Stockholm to draw up the line of inquiry to be followed by the Swedish team in South Africa, press reports said yesterday

Palme was a fierce opponent of apartheid and no motive for his murder has been found in 10 years Oelvbrogro said that while he was determined to investigate the South African trail, he still believed it was more likely that it was an unbalanced Swede acting alone who gunned down Palme in a Stockholm street

Former South African Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock is said to be about to name a Swede, Bertil Wedin (56), resident in northern Cyprus, as the murderer Wedin has denied any involvement in the affair

De Kock revealed at the Pretoria Supreme Court last Thursday that South African apartheid operatives had been involved in the killing

Former South African hit squad leader Dirk Coetzee has since fingered Anthony White, a former Rhodesian soldier, as the killer White, who now lives in the Mozambican port of Beira, has denied murdering Palme

The African National Congress yesterday asked the National Party to come clean on alleged state involvement in the Palme murder - Sapa-AFP

ANC to seek compromise on policing

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The ANC yesterday dropped its opposition to policing being a provincial power and said in private talks with other parties in the Constitutional Assembly that it was willing to compromise

The ANC's shift from its previous position is in line with the Constitutional Court ruling which called for a strengthening of provincial powers in the new constitution before certification could take place

A senior NP negotiator confirmed his party had received new ANC proposals on provincial powers which included policing. He welcomed the ANC move and said the ANC appeared willing to seek a compromise agreement on one of the most difficult areas facing parties now that the IFP had returned

The court found provincial powers were inferior under the new constitu-

tion compared to the interim one in policing, local government, traditional leaders and tertiary education

NP secretary-general Roelf Meyer and DP chief negotiator Colin Eglu said at the time of the court's ruling their parties would press to increase provincial powers over policing to the level of the interim constitution.

However, a senior ANC negotiator said yesterday the ANC was not prepared to revert to the interim arrangement because it had proved "unworkable". The ANC wanted a new compromise arrangement, he said. ANC and NP negotiators said it was premature to discuss the details in public because negotiations were at a sensitive stage

The court found with policing that a degree of provincial operational control, and the ability to veto the appointment of provincial commissioners, had been reduced to a monitoring role and the right to be consulted on appoint-

ment of provincial commissioners.

IFP negotiators Walter Felgate and Peter Smith tabled the first IFP submission yesterday since its return this week after an 18-month boycott of the assembly. The IFP proposals cover most chapters in the new constitution but, as expected, deal mostly with issues relating to the provinces, local government and traditional leaders

Felgate said the proposals aimed to restore a "balance" between central, provincial and local government levels. The constitutional text presently favoured central government

Meanwhile, the parties announced they had agreed to strengthen rules for making constitutional amendments, but were discussing outstanding issues such as local government, labour relations, states of emergency, the auditor-general, public protector and Public Service Commission. They hoped to conclude their work by the weekend

BD 3/10/96 (251)

Overtime ban in force, claims union

Stephané Bothma

THE SA Police Union yesterday said thousands of police officials countrywide were refusing to work unpaid overtime despite a claim by deputy police commissioner Morgan Chetty that no evidence of labour action within the SA Police Service could be found.

Sapu national organiser Gerhardt van der Merwe said the protest was spreading countrywide and that the SAPS's crime combating capacity had already decreased by 10% since last week.

Claims by the union on Monday that two public order police units were refusing to render services after hours due to lack of overtime

pay were denied by Chetty, who accused the union of using alarmist tactics which smeared the professional reputation of one of the most "disciplined and dedicated" components in the SAPS.

He said SAPS management had already "sacrificed" an extra R40m from other projects for overtime payments, bringing the total amount now available to R100m.

Van der Merwe maintains at least R1,6bn was needed to cover the overtime worked this year

He could not identify the two units or any other police units which refused to work overtime, but said it was expected that most units would soon be affected by the protest action

BD 3/10/96 (251)
Chetty said despite extensive inquiries within the SAPS, the claims of labour action could not be substantiated "All the provincial heads of public order policing units throughout the country have submitted written reports that they were completely unaware of any action in any of their units."

Referring to the additional R40m made available, Chetty said no need existed for Sapu to adopt "a belligerent attitude" towards management or threaten disruption of any policing services.

Funds over and above this would have to be requested from government fiscal structures because the present SAPS budget could not bear additional burdens.

Zim wants Palme (251) killing suspect

CT 3/10/96

HARARE: A former white commando who has been implicated in the assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme is wanted here for questioning about two killings in eastern Zimbabwe.

Two government game rangers investigating elephant and rhino poaching were shot dead in the Gonarezhou nature reserve in 1987, a year after Palme was gunned down on a Stockholm street.

The rangers, Mr Martin Sibanda and Mr Martin Marimo, evidently radioed their base that they were in pursuit of suspected poachers led by Mr Anthony White, a former captain in an elite Rhodesian army unit.

White had long been suspected of poaching and involvement in sabotage and "dirty tricks".

Meanwhile, Swedish television reported yesterday that former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock is about to name a Swede, Mr Bertil Wedin, 56, resident in northern Cyprus as the murderer. Wedin denied any involvement — Sapa-AP

Palme's murder still a mystery ⁽²⁵¹⁾

MtG 4-10/10/96

There is little new proof about who assassinated Olof Palme, despite various accusations, reports **Peta Thornycroft**

THE Swedish government is no closer to proving a South African link in the assassination of prime minister Olof Palme than it was when he was gunned down one night on a Stockholm sidewalk 10 years ago.

Almost every day since convicted police killer Eugene de Kock told the court last week he knew who killed Palme there have been accusations and denials from those named in connection with his death.

The various men accused of killing Palme are known to investigators in Stockholm and South Africa's National Intelligence Agency. They were a motley crew of two-bit operators in lowly jobs in South Africa's clumsy intelligence services.

The names of Palme's "assassin" come from two main sources, via various conduits embellished in the telling in a multitude of bars.

One version comes from a low ranking former security policeman "Riaan" Stander. The second comes from De Kock's wild but loyal friend Peter Casselton who worked for South Africa's spymasters mostly in London for years. One name is common to both men's stories about Palme: former spy Craig Williamson.

Williamson continues to deny any involvement in the Palme affair.

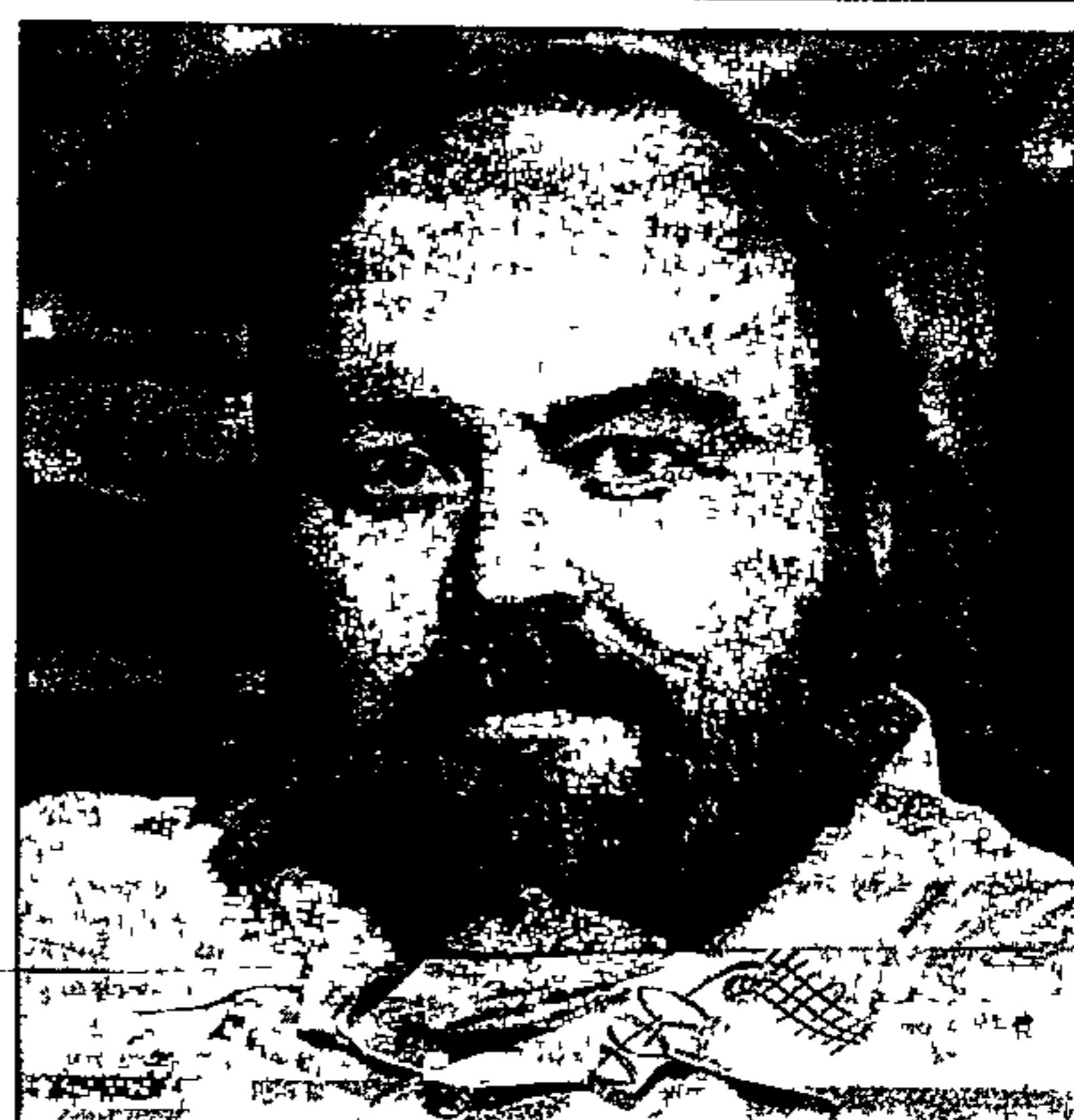
The Stander version of events goes like this: Williamson as boss of a military intelligence operation called Longreach (Pty) Ltd sent former Selous Scout Ant White to shoot Palme. He says White was assisted in the assassination by British "spy" Mike Irwin who also worked for Longreach.

Stander sometimes produces a document, an air waybill which he says was for silencers sent to Irwin and White who were practising their marksmanship in the Seychelles.

Former hit-squad policeman Dirk Coetzee who has had a busy time with the press this week first heard about this version of Palme's assassination from Stander. It was Coetzee who reportedly named White last



Olof Palme Gunned down 10 years ago



Craig Williamson Denies Involvement in Palme's death PHOTO ELLEN ELMENDORP

Little intelligence at Longreach

Peta Thornycroft

LONGREACH (Pty) Ltd failed in all its endeavours. It couldn't sell its intelligence reports, it had only one customer for its security services, and it cost South African taxpayers dearly during its six years in business. Mike Irwin, a Briton recruited into Longreach by Craig Williamson, said he can't recall performing a single useful task during his two years with the company.

"But we had some laughs some good lunches quite a few trips to London one to Florida to talk to Cuban exiles. But we never got any useful intelligence. We entertained right wing Americans, hung around bars with Rhodesians who all said they had been Selous Scouts and we had to deal with acres of useless telex reports from the International Freedom Foun-

datation [another security force front]."

Irwin added that his co-shareholder in Longreach, Ant White, was similarly unsuccessful in his intelligence-gathering exploits in Africa. "He was always sending us telexes for prices on cement, batteries from Uganda, Burundi, but he never got any orders, the letters of credit never arrived."

Longreach was Williamson's idea. After he left the security police in December 1985 he says he was employed by military intelligence (MI) and decided to set up a security consultancy as a front.

Through Giovanni Mario Ricci, later to be his boss, he secured one customer, the jittery government of the Seychelles. His brief, to protect Seychelles and its socialist leader from another South African invasion. And, of course, Longreach executives happily fed Albert René's paranoia about

South African mercenaries and under-employed Rhodesian hit men.

Williamson recruited Mike Irwin, who had served the British marines in Northern Ireland and the Falklands war, and White. According to Irwin — and the *Mail & Guardian* checked his passport stamps — he and Williamson went to Jersey and registered the company.

The *M&G* this week confirmed the company had been registered in Jersey in April 1986, three months after Palme's death.

A couple of months later, Williamson "sold" his 40% share in Longreach to former security policeman Louis van Niekerk, who left a year or so later and now runs a restaurant in Cape Town.

Williamson meanwhile, still employed by MI went to work for Ricci's company GMR. Ricci, a generous donor to PW Botha's National

weekend as Palme's killer.

White, running a furniture factory on the outskirts of shabby dirty Beira in Mozambique, was a ruthless killer for Ian Smith's Rhodesia. But his reputation transcends even those most gruesome war stories.

Journalists piecing together apartheid's secret wars have heard tales of extraordinary pursuits in connection with White. Of how he shipped a warehouse full of elephant tusks out of Burundi. Of how he shot out all Mozambique's elephants.

Williamson confirms White was a founder member of Longreach. He says White didn't know at first the company was a military intelligence front reporting to Brigadier "Tolletjie" Botha.

But Mozambique's Frelimo govern-

ment has sheltered White for years. A senior Frelimo intelligence officer in Maputo told the *Mail & Guardian* in 1992 that White became close to Frelimo during the latter stages of the war against Renamo.

Williamson said from Angola on Wednesday that he hired Stander several months after Palme's death to work for him as a security guard, firstly in Longreach and then in the odd company GMR, named after its fabulously rich owner, Giovanni Mario Ricci.

Williamson said he sacked Stander in connection with allegations of fraud about a year after he hired him.

Casselton's version of the Palme assassination, according to Williamson, involves right-wing Swede Bertil

Weden, now living in Cyprus, who has repeatedly denied any involvement.

Weden's name was first published in connection with the Palme assassination in *The Guardian* five years ago. He has also been the subject of lengthy investigative reports in Swedish newspapers.

Weden was acquitted in a British court 14 years ago in connection with selling information to South Africa.

Williamson said this week he first met Weden in South Africa in about 1980. "He was bright. He told me he was a journalist and he knew the political differences between the African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress. I recruited him and sent him to London as part of the European operation I was setting up. I think we paid him about £1,000 a

Party, knew Williamson was using the company and its funds as a cover for some covert projects. Williamson says he stopped working for MI at the end of 1987 when he unsuccessfully stood for Parliament on a Nat ticket.

"When I was appointed to the President's Council, I gave intelligence reports to politicians instead of generals. As a civilian I could give information to Mozambique and Angola about the generals' lies about the wars in both countries."

"Why do you think I have been able to come and go in Mozambique and Angola all these years?"

Williamson has admitted to involvement in the assassination of several African National Congress members, including Jeanette Schoon and her daughter Katryn.

"I didn't kill Palme, or give any orders for him to be killed and I don't know who did kill him. I will help the Swedish government in any way I can. It's in my interest for this to be solved," he said.

month quite good money in those days."

Weden reported to Casselton who was based in London. But his job ended after his appearance in court in 1982. "He was blown after that no use any more," Williamson said.

Casselton was jailed in Britain after being found guilty in connection with burglaries of ANC offices in London. Williamson said he paid Casselton R100,000 as a gratuity after he was released from prison.

Casselton was also involved, together with Williamson, in blowing up the ANC's offices in London in 1982.

Scandinavian newspapers reported on Thursday that Casselton "confessed" to Swedish embassy officials in Pretoria on Wednesday that Weden had told him he had killed Palme.

PALME ASSASSINATION

SORTING FACT FROM FICTION

(251) FM 4/10/96

A conundrum hangs over the most sensational accusation made by former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock during his evidence in mitigation of sentence his claim, delivered almost casually, that the 1986 assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme was the work of SA agents

The enigma, as State prosecutor Anton Ackermann indicated during his questioning of De Kock, relates to the timing of the statement Why did De Kock not tell the court of the alleged involvement of former police agent Craig Williamson in the murder when he was delivering his evidence in mitigation and, conversely, why did it only emerge under cross-ex-

Continued on page 48

Continued from page 42
amination?

De Kock's explanation is that "it slipped my mind," that "I had many things on my mind" Judge Willem van der Merwe has yet to pronounce on the quality of De Kock's mitigatory evidence in general On the face of it, however, his forgetfulness is strange, particularly as he had intimated to the special investigation team into "Third Force" activities, headed by Gauteng Attorney-General Jan d'Oliviera, that he wished to give it information about the Palme killing

De Kock has cited a conversation with Phillip Powell, a former security police officer who is now an Inkatha senator, as the source for his allegation, insisting that his information was not hearsay but based on a verbal statement made directly to him

Since then, Dirk Coetzee — the man who preceded De Kock as commander of the Vlakplaas special police unit — has elaborated on De Kock's accusation

Coetzee, who exposed the existence of the Vlakplaas unit in 1989 in a series of interviews with *Vrye Weekblad*, says the assassination of Palme was planned from a secret farm bought with money stolen from the Swedish International University and Aid Fund by Williamson

Coetzee, who has been suspended from the National Intelligence Agency pending his trial for the 1982 murder of ANC lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, has identified a former Selous Scout, Anthony White, as the hitman



Eugene de Kock

Williamson, who is preparing a detailed exposition of his role as a police agent in a pending application for amnesty from the Truth Commission, has denied involvement in the killing of Palme White's former commander in the Selous Scouts, Ron Reid-Daly, doubts that White was involved in the killing

Leaving aside Williamson's and White's denials and Reid-Daly's scepticism, Coetzee's foray into the disclosures — or purported disclosures — on the Palme assassination poses another riddle if he had knowledge of a South

African connection in the killing, why did he not mention it during his earlier confessions to *Vrye Weekblad* and his testimony to the Harms Commission in 1990?

Coetzee's credibility as a witness is in a state of limbo Judge Louis Harms found him to be unreliable, Judge Johann Kriegler came to the opposite conclusion

in a later trial in which former police forensic expert Lothar Neethling sued *Vrye Weekblad* and *The Weekly Mail* for damages after they published Coetzee's allegations against him

Since then, the Appellate Division has upheld Neethling's appeal, a judgment which, by implication, casts doubt anew on Coetzee's credibility

The Swedish government is taking the De Kock and Coetzee allegations seriously but without prejudging them to be true Swedish Ambassador Bo Heineback says "They are of the

greatest interest to us It is important to us to establish the veracity of their statements That we can only do in co-operation with the SA government "

D'Oliviera, who has been conducting a sustained investigation into alleged Third Force activities since April 1994, says that Williamson's alleged involvement in the assassination of Palme is new to him He still has to evaluate it to see "if it is true "

He plans to investigate it as soon as the De Kock trial is over After a week's break, the trial resumes on October 7 De Kock, having been found guilty on 89 counts, including six of murder, faces further questioning from senior prosecutor Ackermann ■



Priest
The Re

Deal on police powers spurs talks forward

(251) Star 4/10/96

The IFP says it is happy with the agreement reached between ANC and National Party negotiators last night

By **PATRICK BULGER**
Cape Town

Some police powers will be handed back to provincial governments, constitutional negotiators meeting at Parliament decided at another late night session last night

The agreement was brokered in bilateral talks between the ANC and the National Party and represents a significant breakthrough for talks which earlier this week had deadlocked over the policing issue

In terms of a new draft hammered out by the negotiators, provincial safety and security MECs will now be given a say over the appointment of provincial police commissioners. The agreement also gives the provincial MEC powers to replace a commissioner who has lost the confidence of the province

The agreement is a limited return to the status quo in the interim constitution and has been a key NP and Inkatha Freedom Party demand in the talks. It represents

an about-turn for the ANC which had originally hoped that the requirements of the Constitutional Court in respect of boosting provincial powers could be met by limiting the scope of "overrides" in terms of which national legislation prevails over a provincial law

In terms of the May 8 draft which was rejected by the court, all policing functions were to be

Draft must be finished by Friday next week

nationally directed

The agreement on policing and a simultaneous breakthrough on the labour clause in the Bill of Rights are the most positive indications that the negotiators will complete an agreed-upon draft in time for its consideration by the Constitutional Assembly's bargaining chamber, the constitutional committee, on Monday

The negotiators hope to be able to adopt the amendments in full at a CA plenary next Friday in time for the court to certify the constitution. This would open the way for the constitution to be introduced in January next year.

The new labour clause agreed to last night makes no mention of the right of an individual employer to lock out workers but gives individual employers the right to bargain at plant rather than at sectoral or central level.

The next major hurdle facing the negotiators is how to accommodate the IFP

IFP negotiator Walter Felgate said the IFP was happy with the agreement on policing powers.

"The deal on policing was a great achievement. Of course one cannot be totally satisfied but in terms of what was achievable it went a long way," he said

IFP and ANC negotiators are meeting today to work out a formulation that goes some way towards meeting the IFP's demands for traditional leaders to be protected from electoral challenges

Mandela pledges justice over Palme murder

PRETORIA — Special measures would be needed to ensure justice was done should SA be linked to the 1986 murder of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

After a meeting with the Jewish Board of Deputies, he said he had

never suspected SA was involved in the murder until recent claims by former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock.

"Sweden is playing an important role in facilitating development and reconstruction in our country," Mandela said.

"Therefore we take a personal interest that

(251) 004/10/96
this matter should be thoroughly investigated. If South Africa was involved .. we will have to take special measures to ensure justice is done."

Mandela said he could not make definite statements about SA's alleged involvement until investigations had been concluded. — Sapa.

Policeman's 'promotion' probed

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

(251)

CT 4/10/96

SAFETY and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi has ordered an inquiry into why the commander of a North West police station was made the head of a detective unit after he was convicted of stealing government property

In reply to a question tabled in the National Assembly by Mr Patrick Chauke (ANC), Mufamadi said the police officer was made commanding officer of the Crime Investigating Unit at Swartruggens "due to his senior rank"

The officer was also charged with culpable homicide after a black child was killed by a police vehicle, but the attorney-general declined to prosecute and an inquest found no one was criminally responsible for the child's death

Mufamadi added in a comment to his reply "Since this matter was brought to my attention, I have directed the commissioner of the South African Police Service to provide me with a detailed report which, among other things, explains why the member was transferred to the Crime Investigating Unit and made its commanding officer

"The matter will be taken further once the report is received"

The officer was station commander at Swartruggens when he was found guilty of theft of government property and sentenced to R5 000 (or 12 months), conditionally suspended for four years

He was "not promoted" but transferred to the Crime Investigating Unit.

"After he was convicted and sentenced a board of inquiry was held and the member was demoted to the rank of inspector," Mufamadi said

Palme probe: Swedish team arrives next week

CT 9/10/96 (251)

STOCKHOLM Swedish prosecutors will arrive in South Africa within a week to investigate claims that apartheid-era secret agents were behind the 1986 assassination of former prime minister Mr Olof Palme, judicial officials said yesterday

Deputy prosecutor Ms Solveig Riberdhal said she had lodged a request with the foreign ministry for legal assistance from South Africa and expected a response in two or three days.

"To speed things up, we opted for an informal approach," Riberdhal said, explaining that the visitors would count on the goodwill of those they hope to question

But if "some refuse (to co-operate), we will have to get the help of the South African police," Riberdhal said, adding that a formal request would be time-consuming.

The sources did not say who would be questioned, but chief

prosecutor Mr Jan Danielsson is likely to want to meet Eugene de Kock, the former head of the South African secret police, his predecessor Mr Dirk Coetzee and spy Mr Craig Williamson.

Coetzee alleged that the murder of Palme was orchestrated by two other South African agents, Williamson and ex-Rhodesian soldier Mr Anthony White, who, he claimed, pulled the trigger.

White denied the allegation earlier this week from his home in Mozambique and Williamson has also denied involvement.

President Nelson Mandela said yesterday "we take a personal interest that this matter should be thoroughly investigated".

The matter will likely figure high on the agenda when Swedish Foreign Minister Ms Lena Hjelm-Wallen comes to South Africa for a long-planned visit from October 16 to 18 — Sapa-AFP

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Anti-crime drive poised to crash

Fivaz warns on pay crisis

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

The Police Plan, launched by commissioner George Fivaz to combat crime, will collapse if more than R450-million is not made available immediately to pay for overtime work.

This warning came from the national commissioner's office in a letter to the Department of Public Service and Administration asking for urgent funds.

Meanwhile, police management faces a battle with the SA Police Union, which is protecting members who want to work to rule. The union is seeking an urgent interdict to protect its members threatening to work to rule and is expected to go to the Supreme Court later this month.

This follows an urgent request from the national commissioner's office to the central government last week for an additional R450-million to pay overtime, an amount it said was still not enough to stall a serious breakdown in policing.

Deputy divisional commissioner G J Swart warned the director-general of the Public Service Department that the implementation of Commissioner Fivaz's Police Plan against crime would be "severely hampered".

Commissioner Swart said that "even if the R450-million is made available the

department will in all probability not be in a position to meet the demands for overtime claims during the current financial year"

"This department has to proactively address the situation in order to ensure that there is no breakdown in normal police functions," warned Commissioner Swart

He gave the Public Service Department a deadline of October 10 because a "decision and negotiations have to be finalised as soon as possible"

Meanwhile police management is also investigating giving police time off instead of payment for overtime as an interim measure.

The public service staff code did not provide for time off for overtime but it also did not prohibit it, Commissioner Swart said

But union provincial secretary Andy Miller lashed out at the commissioner's "absurd suggestion" of time off for overtime worked.

"The poor men and women on the ground are working long hours overtime to make up for staff shortages in the first place," he said

"There is simply no time for a time-off arrangement.

"At the end of the day it is the prerogative of the member whether he wants time off or to be paid"

(251) ARG 4/10/96

Breakthrough deal on police powers

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

With only eight days to go before the deadline set by the Constitutional Court for finality on the new constitution, the ANC and NP have produced a draft agreement on one of the toughest sticking points - provincial policing powers.

The agreement came after another night of intensive talks between the African National Congress and the National Party and is expected to be presented to other parties today

But it remains to be seen whether the

ARG 4/10/96
draft on policing will win the approval of the court, which sent back sections of the constitutional text approved in May because of a diminution of powers of the provinces

The court singled out loss of provincial governments' operational control of policing as a failing

The new draft on policing produced by last night's ANC-NP meeting says that national legislation will set the powers and functions of the police service

Sections added after negotiation say that the national minister of safety and security, in determining national policing policy, may provide for different policies in

(251)
different provinces, depending on needs

Provinces will be entitled to monitor police conduct and oversee the effectiveness and efficiency of the police service and will be able to appoint inquiries into complaints of police inefficiency and breakdowns in relations between police and communities

The text provides for reporting by the provincial commissioner to the provincial legislature

The text is subject to further discussions, including between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party, which has made effective provincial control of policing an important part of its constitutional goals

I didn't kill Palme, says Swedish agent

Ultra-rightist claims he was framed

ARG 5/10/96 (251)

Kyrenia, Northern Cyprus - The man who former South African death squad leader Eugene de Kock is reportedly ready to name as the killer of Swedish premier Olof Palme, has said that the apartheid regime's secret police always planned to frame him for the murder - then kill him.

Former Swedish secret service agent Bertil Wedin denied killing Mr Palme in an interview at his home in Kyrenia, in Turkish held northern Cyprus. He said he was there on the night when Mr Palme was gunned down on a Stockholm street on February 28, 1986, but only heard the news a few days later.

"On March 1, 1986, I was in Kyrenia, watching videotapes in my bed together with my wife when I heard of Palme's death from a BBC broadcast. I was shocked," Mr Wedin said. "Of course I did not kill him."

He then detailed his own theory - that the real assassins planned to frame him as the killer and then murder him.

A number of other men have been publicly implicated in the killing by De Kock and Dirk Coetzee, his successor as commander of the South African covert operations unit at Vlakplaas.

"According to my own information, not one person, Olof Palme, but two people - he and I - were the targets of the assassins."

"The killers thought that I would be in Stockholm that day. They were to kill us both the same day so I would be blamed as Palme's assassin, the files would be

shelved and the case closed."

Reports say Mr Wedin was about to be identified as Mr Palme's murderer by De Kock, who was at the Vlakplaas unit notorious for killing and torturing anti-apartheid activists.

Speaking in mitigation of sentence for six murders and 83 lesser crimes, De Kock said he will expose Mr Palme's assassin as "a Swedish agent now living on a Mediterranean island" at the end of the year. The

'On March 1, 1986, I was in Kyrenia with my wife when I heard of his death. I was shocked ... of course I didn't kill him'

De Kock trial continues next week

This week the Stockholm Expressen paper published an interview with an unidentified ex-member of the South African secret police, who claimed that if Mr Palme's murder had been ordered by the apartheid regime, then it was carried out by Mr Wedin.

There have been a welter of other accusations and counter-claims involving Mr Palme's death in the past few days.

Between them, De Kock and Coetzee have also implicated former soldier Anthony White, former apartheid spy Craig

Williamson and Phillip Powell, now an official with Inkatha. All have denied the charges. However Coetzee says White, who now lives in Mozambique, was Mr Palme's killer.

Mr Wedin was relaxed and confident throughout the interview with a group of Swedish journalists. His dry comments were carefully considered, not spontaneous. "I do not know why De Kock implies me," he said. "He must be crazy."

Mr Wedin is an oddball himself. He happily talked of his far-right political affiliations and was equally happy to identify himself as "Middle East correspondent" for the Swedish ultra-right journal Kontra. He confirmed that he served as an agent with the Swedish secret service.

He was accused, but never convicted, of a 1982 burglary at the London office of a black South African political party, but denied Swedish media reports that he was linked to the US, South African or Turkish secret services.

Mr Wedin said he had his "own suspicions" as to who really killed Mr Palme, who backed the killer, and why they had never been caught.

"But I cannot elaborate on them - for then I would face a real threat," he said.

Mr Palme was assassinated in a busy street outside a Stockholm cinema.

He was an early crusader against apartheid and led the first calls for international sanctions against South Africa, while his government gave extensive support to the ANC.

A petty criminal, Christer Pettersson, was tried for the murder in 1989, but acquitted. Despite years of investigation the Swedish police have consistently failed to find a firm lead, though a wide range of scenarios have been presented, including a link to the guerrillas of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK).

The daily Dagens Nyheter claimed that Mr Wedin faked this link with the PKK, which has battled Ankara security forces in Turkey since 1984, and passed it to a journalist on the Turkish daily Hurriyet. A major police sweep of PKK sympathisers in Sweden followed but investigators soon gave up the lead.

Mr Wedin denied any part in promoting the PKK link according to Dagens Nyheter, to throw the police off the trail of a South African connection. He said his research files were stolen from his home in Stockholm in 1987 while he was in hospital.

"Then a report appeared in Turkish daily Hurriyet regarding PKK involvement in the Palme assassination, but myself never implicated the PKK."

Asked why he should spend so much time privately investigating the killing, he replied "It was my national duty." He



Mourners: a crowd gathers in a bloodstained Stockholm street to pay homage to their prime minister



Assassin: Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme who was shot in February 1986 outside a cinema

he had uncovered clues that could help clarify the Palme assassination but said he had failed to get the attention of Swedish officials

Mr Wedin, 56, lives in a two-storey house in the Turkish occupied Northern Cyprus city of Kyrenia, known to the Turkish Cypriots as Girne, in a neighbourhood where Turkish police officers mainly reside. He presently works for the English language service of the Northern Cyprus Turkish Republic's official Bayrak Radio.

Married to a British woman, he teaches three children at home. A fourth daughter is a student at the American University in Nicosia.

He moved to Northern Cyprus in 1985. According to his statements during his trial on charges of burglary of anti-apartheid groups in London, Mr Wedin -

though he now denies links with the South African secret police - said he established links with the apartheid regime after moving to Britain in 1976. The court heard that he was hired to act on their behalf there for R7 000 a month.

Journalist Jan Helin of the Swedish daily Aftonbladet said the Turkish secret service (MIT) co-operated with the South Africans to protect Mr Wedin, who had set himself up as the international head of a pro-apartheid group called Victims Against Terrorism.

The self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is not recognised by any other country in the world but Turkey - making Kyrenia one of the safer corners of the world for the kind of person who might wish to avoid the attentions of foreign police and possible extradition - Sapa-IPS

Ex-Selous Scout sought for clues into grisly murder of British tourists

DONNA GIBSON
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg - Police believe that Anthony White, former Selous Scout implicated in the assassination of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme, could have vital information on the murder of two British tourists at Sodwana Bay in 1992.

The gruesome killings of Julie Godwin and Elizabeth Over, who were hacked to death, made international headlines. No one has ever been arrested. In June last year Ms Over's brother Richard committed suicide in England in a fit of depression over his sister's death.

Richard Over came to South Africa shortly after the murders and lashed at what he described as the "completely inadequate handling of the investigation".

A possibility detectives are exploring is that the women stumbled onto an illegal transaction involving guns, drugs or ivory on the northern Zululand beach that night.

New information suggests a white man and his black companion who were working in the vicinity at the time, could be a missing link.

Mr White is described in the book *Selous Scouts*, by former commander of the unit, Ron Reid-Daly, as the man tasked with assassinating Joshua Nkomo in Lusaka in 1979. The attempt failed.

His name has since been linked to international ivory smuggling. In the book *Contraband* by Pretoria journalist De Wet Potgieter, it is claimed that Mr White moved several tons of ivory to foreign markets.

He is also alleged to have operated an ivory smuggling network within an area identified by Potgieter as the "White Triangle" in northern Zululand. It is these allegations that have aroused the interest of the man investigating the Sodwana murders.

George Visagie of the Empangeni murder and robbery unit said this week he is anxious to meet Mr White.

Meanwhile a man named George White has acknowledged he was in Sodwana at the time the two women were brutally slashed to death, but has denied having any connection with Anthony White.

George White's name appeared in the permit book kept by the KwaZulu local authority at Sodwana Bay which records the registration numbers of vehicles allowed access to the beach.

According to Captain Visagie, George White had a permit to be on the beach the day before and the day after the murder.

Astonishingly, he is one of three men whose names appear in the permit book who have never been questioned by police. The other two are believed to be living in Swaziland and Germany. Contacted in Swaziland this week, George White confirmed no-one had ever questioned him. He said he had been staying at the Sodwana cabins with his family for a long weekend.

"We heard someone had been murdered on the beach and then only remembered seeing the two girls the previous day."

Star 7/10/96

Testify on abuses,

Fivaz tells police

(25)

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz yesterday called on all police officials who had knowledge of past human rights abuses to testify before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

He said this included policemen who may have participated in or had knowledge of human rights violations committed in South Africa and abroad.

The TRC would consider amnesty applications for members of the SA Police Service who did come forward.

Fivaz further said he and the SAPS would submit information on the old and new security institutions to aid the commission in bringing about reconciliation.

This would include former liberation movement personnel who had joined the police - Sapa

TOP COP STILL RIDING HIGH

Police cars 'used for rallies'

DEPUTY Provincial Commissioner Adam Blauw has given a policeman a pat on the back by giving him a job at police headquarters — despite the superintendent's alleged involvement in a litany of corruption cases. **JACKIE CAMERON** reports.

A POLICE Flying Squad superintendent is still riding high after it emerged that he has been spending work time — and taxpayers' money — allegedly participating in motor rallies around the country with police vehicles allocated for emergency situations in the city.

Superintendent Johannes Hermanus Rossouw also allegedly took a car — donated to police by a Brooklyn car sales outlet — and chopped it up before selling the pieces off to other policemen.

His wife Joanne, who is not in the police force, has also enjoyed the benefits of free state travel and has been spotted driving around in a Flying Squad vehicle. She has also achieved good results at a motor rally in a police vehicle.

This is according to police documents and news clippings shown to the Cape Times after the attorney-general's office declined to press criminal charges against the policeman, and last week requested

that police handle the matter "internally".

But what has really angered police is the reaction to this case by Deputy Provincial Commissioner Adam Blauw, who has refused to suspend the policeman.

Instead, Blauw has given Rossouw a post at police headquarters and granted him permission to keep a Flying Squad vehicle.

Rossouw was not suspended from police work during the investigation into his activities, which started in March when a new branch commander took over the Flying Squad.

And this week — despite meeting with SAPS top brass — he is still allegedly driving around in a Flying Squad vehicle, although he is no longer stationed at this unit.

"We saw him last Friday when he filled up at a police pump for petrol in the Flying Squad car," one policeman said.

Captain Greg Goss, a Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union repre-

sentative who works at the Flying Squad, said police at the unit were incensed at the "kid gloves" treatment Rossouw received.

"We are trying to root out corrupt officials. We want to know why this matter is not being taken further. What is so special about this policeman? Another policeman at this unit has been fined R50 for being arrogant to a senior officer, which is a minor matter compared to this."

He said police had gone to Blauw for an explanation, but had not received any.

According to a police report on the alleged "unauthorised" journeys, Rossouw's work-time activities came to light when a police commander received an anonymous telephone call at home.

After an investigation, it emerged he had booked the car for "training" without authorisation and had allegedly driven upcountry at least six times, totalling about 5 000km on each trip.

He is also at the centre of a Commercial Crime Unit investigation involving thousands of rands.

A well-placed senior police source, who cannot be named as it could jeopardise her job, said Rossouw had been to see deputy

commissioner Blauw last week.

Instead of being rapped over the knuckles, Rossouw was told he would now be based at head office.

The high-ranking officer said "Rossouw was in charge of finances and logistics at the Flying Squad, which is why it took so long for his activities to be exposed. He was also involved in the high speed training."

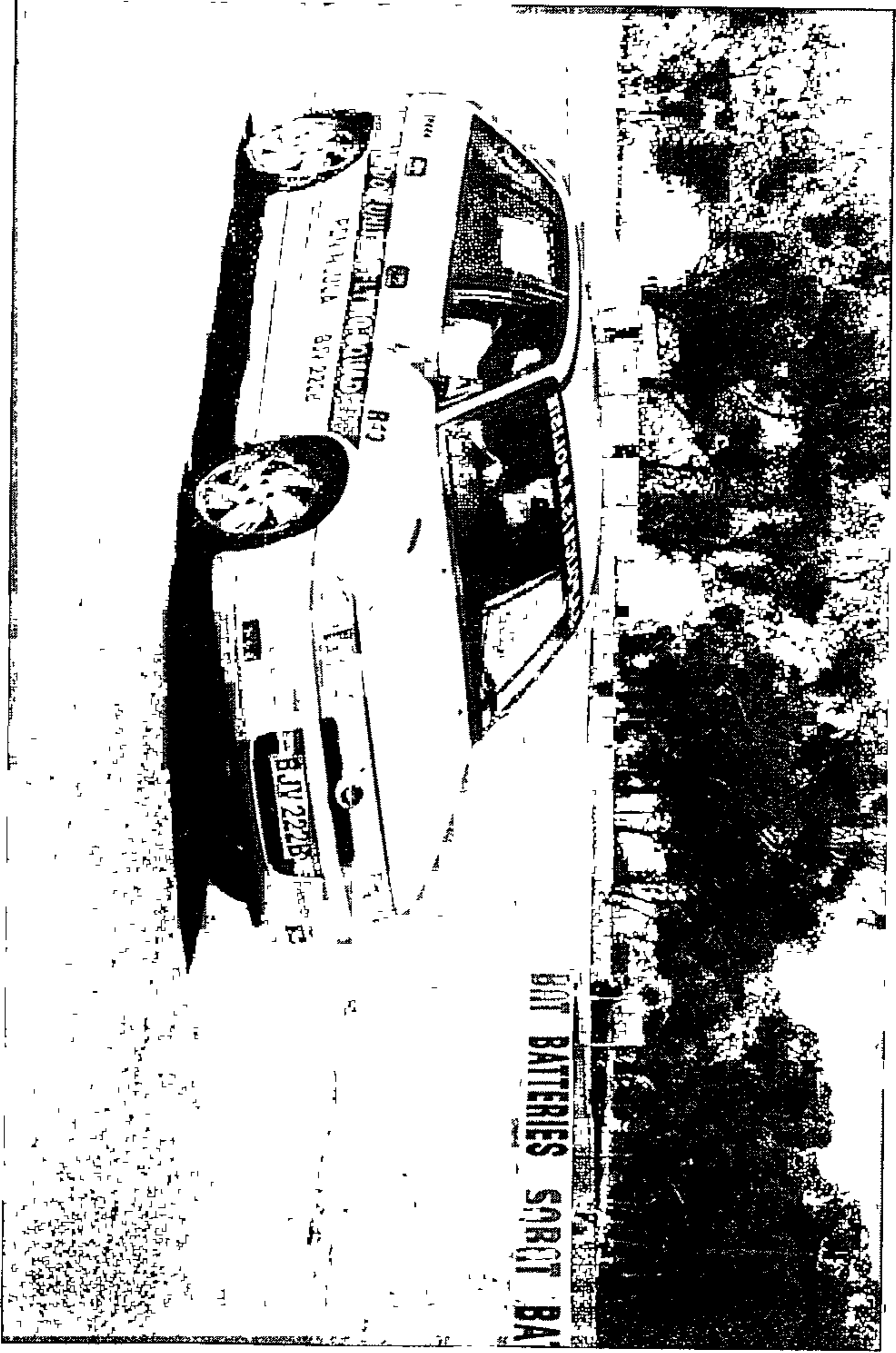
"Blauw has told Rossouw that he can keep the Flying Squad car and continue with the high-speed training. Blauw has also promised him an office at headquarters. Nobody wants him here."

"Blauw has come along and said 'Now my little boy, you've committed fraud. Please go back and do the same'."

"I cannot believe Blauw reacted in this manner. It is very embarrassing for the police, and not the kind of decision one would expect from the second most senior police officer in this province," she said.

"It is also totally unacceptable that the attorney-general's office has declined to prosecute. There is deadly evidence in this docket."

Four other police members, all non-commissioned officers, were facing charges with Rossouw in a number of matters. Their cases



'DRIVING INTO TROUBLE': A superintendent, formerly in charge of finances and logistics at the Flying Squad division of the city's police emergency Crime Reaction Unit, has allegedly been using flying squad vehicles to pursue his motoring hobbies — without permission.

have also been returned to police to deal with "internally".

A spokesman for the attorney-general's office said late yesterday that he would look into the file — handled by a less senior staff mem-

ber — and reconsider the decision. Rossouw could not be reached for comment yesterday, and staff at police headquarters could not say where he was.

Blauw's secretary said the deputy commissioner was unavailable to comment on the matter.

● This is not the first time Blauw has made a decision of this nature. Last year, he was hauled over the coals by former MEC for

Safety and Security Mr Patrick McKenzie after he signed an agreement with a policeman, who had been convicted of dealing in Mar-dax, to postpone all police departmental hearings.

De Kock trial resumes, court told of impersonation

Star 8/10/96

(251)

Convicted former Vlakplaas chief, testifying in mitigation of sentence, denies charges of playing a 'game of misleading'

By ROBERT BRAND

A Swedish journalist who obtained a prison interview with Eugene de Kock last week by posing as a policeman may face criminal charges in his native country

The man, identified as ex-policeman Tommy Lindstroem, gained access to De Kock by showing his lawyers a bogus police certificate, De Kock's counsel Flip Hattingh told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday

He had pretended to be investigating De Kock's allegation that former South African superspy Craig Williamson had had a hand in the 1986 murder of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme,

Swedish journalists covering the De Kock trial said Lindstroem had been dismissed from the police and now works for a Swedish tabloid newspaper.

Swedish prosecutor Solveig Riberdahl said he strongly disapproved of the Lindstroem visit, AFP reports. It is a crime in Sweden to impersonate a policeman.

De Kock continued testifying in mitigation of sentence yesterday. He has been convicted on 89 charges, including six of murder and one of conspiracy to commit murder. He intends applying to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for amnesty on the grounds that his crimes were politically motivated.

State prosecutor Anton Acker-

man SC suggested that De Kock, who had a history of misleading judicial inquiries into police crimes, was still trying to mislead the court.

"I put it to you that you are still playing this game, at which you are a master the game of misleading," Ackerman said during cross-examination. "You are still misleading this court, and you want to mislead the Truth and Reconciliation Commission."

C10 unit's change was a 'smokescreen'

De Kock denied this, saying he had nothing to gain by lying to the court and had decided to tell everything he knew. His testimony in the Motherwell trial, in which four policemen were found guilty of murder, was proof of this, he said.

Ackerman produced documents showing that De Kock's C10 unit had been ordered in 1991 to desist from investigating political cases and to focus on arms smuggling and crime prevention.

But De Kock said this was merely a smokescreen. Major-General Krappies Engelbrecht had told him in 1992 that the C10 unit could not be disbanded because the ANC could pull out of constitutional talks at any time

and resume the armed struggle.

A Captain Deon Greyling of the CIS regularly burgled an ANC apartment in the Ponte Building to steal documents, De Kock said.

"The Crime Intelligence Service was the security police in everything but name," he said. "The iron fist was never fully withdrawn."

De Kock listed operations in which parcel bombs were sent to ANC members abroad, including the bomb which killed Ruth First, the wife of Communist Party leader Joe Slovo, in Maputo.

He had heard about this bomb from another policeman, Sergeant Steve Bosch, who had later joined C10, De Kock said. He said Bosch was annoyed at not receiving an award for the bomb.

In another instance, a copy of the Koran was sent to an ANC member in Zambia. However, other ANC members stole the package before it reached its target and "some of them died" when the parcel exploded.

Asked about the financial package he received upon leaving the police in April 1993, De Kock said the money was "enough" if invested prudently to provide for him and his family. He formed an arms-dealing company called Afro-International Technologies, through which he had supplied arms to the Inkatha Freedom Party in KwaZulu Natal and to IFP youth leader Themba Khoza on the West Rand, he said.

Krappies and Basie first police generals to face commission

(257) Star 8/10/96

Cape Town - Retired police generals Basie Smit and Krappies Engelbrecht have been subpoenaed to appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission this month.

They are among the eight retired, apartheid-era, high-ranking policemen the commission wants to see to help it in uncovering full details of human rights abuses, including murders and other politically-motivated crimes prior to the 1994 democratic elections.

The commission began legal action last week to subpoena the eight policemen as well as former police minister, Adriaan Vlok, to give evidence.

Alex Borane, the commission's deputy chairman, said in a statement yesterday Engelbrecht

had been ordered to appear before the body on October 24 and Smit the following day.

Both hearings would take place behind closed doors at the commission's head office in Cape Town, he said.

The generals will be entitled to legal representation.

The generals will be the first senior members of the apartheid government's security establishment to appear before the commission, headed by Nobel laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

It is also the first time the commission, which is probing human rights abuses on all

sides of the political struggle between 1960 and 1993, has used its legal clout to force witnesses to appear.

Borane did not indicate in his statement whether Vlok had yet

First time

TRC has

used its

legal clout

been subpoenaed.

Failing to appear before the commission or to answer allegations fully and satisfactorily could render

Vlok or the police officers liable to an unlimited fine plus up to two years' imprisonment, commissioners have said.

Four of the generals who have yet to be served with subpoenas are former heads of the South

African Police, which was regarded for many years by black liberation groups as a political tool of the National Party government.

They are being called to answer to between 50 and 60 claims of human rights abuses by police, made by earlier witnesses at the commission, Borane said last week.

The commission has heard evidence of murders, mysterious disappearances, torture, bombings and other incidents from hundreds of individuals as well as political parties since it began sitting in March.

The commission is empowered to grant compensation to the victims as well as amnesty to perpetrators providing they fully confess their deeds - AFP.

Metropolitan police force on the cards, says Kriel

(251) ET 8/10/96

PETER DENNEHY

LOCAL police forces may soon become a reality, Western Cape premier Mr Hernus Kriel said in Strand last night

He was speaking to about 350 delegates at the first annual congress of Wesloga, a local government association for all the municipalities in the Western Cape

Kriel has in the past mentioned the possibility of forming a metropolitan police force for greater Cape Town, but this idea was met with scepticism

He said talks had taken place with all six municipalities in the metropole, the idea was favourably received and a task group was set up to investigate the possible establishment of a metropolitan police force

"The indications are that the task group will come up with recommendations, or a progress

report about their investigation, reasonably quickly

"Scepticism over the establishment of local police forces was finally dispelled last week when the negotiating teams agreed that Parliament would accept legislation providing the framework for local police forces"

He added that the provinces would fill in the details in this framework themselves.

A metropolitan police force could be the forerunner of more local police forces in other towns of the Western Cape

"They (local police forces) will not be forced on local authorities

"Once again, each local authority will decide for itself, according to its needs," he said

One of the realities that we experienced daily, Kriel said, was that the SAPS could not see to all our security needs

Touching on other matters,

Kriel said he believed representation in the provincial legislature should be expanded to accommodate interest groups like local government organisations

And if it was unfortunate that the expulsion from office of councillors who had fallen into arrears with their municipal payments had been seen as politically motivated, he said.

"It is important that councillors set the example in their communities

"If they do not pay their dues, how can they expect that the municipal taxpayers will pay?"

Unless something drastic was done about non-payment of municipal dues, "we will witness the collapse of local government"

"Such a collapse is too ghastly to contemplate," he said "Local government structures are inherent to the success of South Africa's newly-established democracy"

Angola nabbs 'superspy'

Police quiz Craig Williamson after arrest in hotel

ANDREA BOTHA
STAFF REPORTER

South African former "superspy" Craig Williamson has been arrested in Angola and is being interrogated by police.

Mr Williamson was arrested in his hotel room in Luanda on Friday, but Angolan authorities have given no reasons. The South African ambassador in Luanda, Roger Ballard-Tremeer, said today it was unclear why he had been arrested.

Former hit squad commander Eugene de Kock, during his trial in Pretoria, named Mr Williamson in connection with the assassination of former Swedish prime minister Olof Palme in 1986.

Mr Ballard-Tremeer said the timing of the arrest was strange. "Mr Williamson has been operating in Angola since 1991 or '92 as a businessman, bringing in supplies to bush companies and exporting potatoes from the Cape to Angola."

He said he did not believe the arrest had anything to do with new investigations

into the assassination of Mr Palme. "One can only assume that it has to do with the Cancer 2 government strategy to get rid of the country's illegal aliens."

Three other South Africans were arrested in Angola last week and are being held in police cells. Their arrests are apparently unconnected to that of Mr Williamson.

Sapa-AFP reports that former Swedish police chief Tommy Lindstroem, who has visited De Kock in jail in Pretoria, said he no longer believed South Africa was involved in Mr Palme's murder.

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Mr Lindstroem said that after talking to De Kock in prison he did not believe Mr Palme's assassin came from South Africa. De Kock had told him he knew no more than Inkatha Freedom Party senator Philip Powell, who had said he knew nothing of the assassination.

Mr Lindstroem led the investigation into the Palme murder for a time before being taken off the case.

The South African judge hearing De Kock's appeal in mitigation of sentence criticised Mr Lindstroem's prison visit.

Mr Lindstroem, who was sent to South Africa by a Swedish newspaper, posed as a serving officer to gain access to De Kock. Supreme Court judge Willem van der Merwe said "It's unbelievable how many vultures there are."

The meeting was also criticised by a Swedish prosecutor involved in the Palme probe. "It could be that Lindstroem has given information to De Kock that could make it more difficult to evaluate the information that De Kock will communicate to us," Solveig Riberdahl said.



Craig Williamson: no reason given for arrest

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cliques in security force 'untouchable'

(257)

It seems to have been a case of the tail wagging the dog, says judge

Nov 9/10/96

By ROBERT BRAND

Small cabals in the security establishment wielded more power than politicians during the apartheid years, launching operations without political approval whenever they thought it was in the national interest, convicted killer Eugene de Kock told the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday.

Former police ministers Louis la Grange and Adriaan Vlok were often informed of operations only after they had been completed because the security police chiefs feared they would inform Parliament and the operations would be stopped, De Kock said on the last day of his testimony in mitigation of sentence.

De Kock has been convicted of 89 crimes, including six murders.

High-ranking security police officers would submit false expense claims to raise money for operations which could not be funded from the police's secret fund because of their sensitive nature, he said.

"If they were funded from the secret fund, we would have to account to Parliament.

"We couldn't go and tell Parliament we had used the money for an act of international terrorism in London, for instance," he told the court.

De Kock previously testified how members of his Vlakplaas unit had bombed the London offices of the ANC.

He said security policemen were expected to use their own initiative in deciding on operations against the "enemy", the liberation movements.

They decided who should be

Ministers informed only after operations

killed and what was in the national interest.

The head of the security branch would be informed beforehand about operations, including cross-border raids. He would inform the commis-

sioner of police, De Kock said.

But nobody else knew - not even the heads of other branches of the police, not the Cabinet, not Parliament.

"I believe that Louis la Grange, who decorated us, was only informed about our operations afterwards because if he had known them in advance he would have had to tell Parliament.

"The same went for Adriaan Vlok," he said.

"The commissioner, the head of the security branch, the commander of the operation and the men who did the operations were the only ones who knew," De Kock said.

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe described this as a "terrifying thought".

"It seems to have been a case of the tail wagging the dog. A small, powerful group within the state - the security establishment - did what they wanted to, ignoring the rules and regulations.

"I have the impression that they were not even limited by the borders of our country. They operated in neighbouring states, even in Europe.

"They seem to have been untouchable," he said.

De Kock agreed with this description, adding that the security police and military intelligence were "the mightiest groups in the country" and even dictated policy to Cabinet.

"We protected the constitution by unconstitutional means." The trial continues today.

Unjustified killings would haunt him until his death

By ROBERT BRAND

In a rare show of emotion on his last day of testimony in the Pretoria Supreme Court, convicted killer Eugene de Kock yesterday said his victims would haunt him until his death.

"There have been so many times I thought: how is it possible? How could I sink to that level? Until this day I cannot reconcile (the murders) with my religion. There is no justification.

"If it were within my powers, I would bring back those who were killed. But this is how God is punishing me: you can never go back and change things. I will have to bear this for the rest of my life."

In other testimony yesterday, De Kock said he had been ordered at one time to murder the then ANC Women's League president Gertrude Shope in Lusaka, but had refused because he did not consider her a priority target.

"I refused because there were more important targets, people like Chris Hanu and Thabo Mbeki," he said.

De Kock said he suffered from post-traumatic stress syndrome brought about by his experiences as a member of Koevoet in the former South-West Africa.

He said several members of Vlakplaas had been found unfit for duty and gone on early pension because of this affliction.

However, he never sought psychological help from the police because he thought it would be a blot in his career. He once consulted a psychologist at his own expense, but the man was unwilling to help him when he heard he was a former member of Koevoet.

De Kock completed his testimony yesterday. Evidence from medical and psychological experts will be led today on his psychological condition.

'GOVT COVERING UP NEAR-ANARCHY'

Community police forums 'a sop to public'

(251) 4 CT 10/10/96

COMMUNITY Police Forums (CPFs) in some areas are helping to build a new and mutual trust between the South African Police Service and the public. There are still problems to be solved if the concept is to play a significant role in reducing crime. **EUGENE HUGO** reports

HITRE a hitman That was the advice the chairman of the Southern Cape Area Community Police Board, Mr H St John Thomson, claimed police gave a friend of his because they were too scared to arrest his attackers.

Thomson told how his friend was stabbed and then thrown out of a window. Police, he alleges, told the surviving victim they knew who his attackers were but would not arrest them for fear of retribution against their families.

And they advised him to hire a hitman he said.

He would not name the alleged victim nor would he say in which suburb the incident occurred because, he said, he had been sworn to secrecy. It has been established, however, that the suburb was Sea Point.

Thomson, chairman of the umbrella body that governs 32 CPFs in the Southern Cape, decided to speak because he believes the government is covering up a state of near-anarchy in the country.

He used the Sea Point incident to illustrate how it had become apparent to him during two years of service as an office bearer in police forums that the government and its bodies such as the SAPS were unable to cope with a crime

"Practically, this is not the case. It has taken three years for these forums to function at only 60% of their potential. There is an awful lot of talk, but very little action," Thomson said.

He explained the forum "family tree" as follows: at the first level you had the CPFs, chairpersons then served on area boards and chairpersons of these boards in turn were supposed to serve on provincial boards.

"But when I last checked, the Boland had no board, two Peninsula areas had no board, nor did the rest of the country. I am officially appointed to serve on the provincial board, but I have no board on which to serve at that level," said Thomson.

"We have reduced crime dramatically in the Southern Cape, with one of the lowest crime rates in the country. We have achieved this by becoming involved in reducing crime to acceptable levels."

Acceptable levels, he said, were when the major crimes were break-ins at empty houses, when most crimes were petty and liquor-related and when there were no murders.

Instead, countrywide there were multiple murders daily, hijackings happened too regularly and there were break-ins in daylight.

If 10 policemen managed to control crime at a particular level, it took 20 police to keep it at that level. You had to have a police presence and that meant police on the beat with high visibility.

"We are achieving this to some extent in the Southern Cape, but we are 50% understaffed and we

have only three vehicles to cover 1 200km² in Stilbaai. If there is a call to the far end of our territory, it takes 30 minutes to get there if the response is immediate."

Thomson said that in Stilbaai the community had probably one of the best police management commanders in the country in Captain Wynand Forgieter, who tried to identify priority problems.

But at provincial and national levels there were huge problems. "We met with the minister and it soon became apparent that he had neither the authority nor the power to do anything about the situation. At national level, we have a manager (George) Fiver. He is the wrong person in the wrong position."

"At cabinet level we have three ministers fighting each other in the

press. Justice, Police and Prisons are not working together. They are reducing the budget by 30% we are losing 400 police officers in the Western Cape and there is a moral vacuum on new appointments."

Thomson said that motor vehicles should be replaced at the rate of 8 000 a time. However, replacements were at a rate of 6 000, there fore creating a downward spiral.

"The politicians are screwing it up. It's like a defrosting refrigerator unless you turn it on, the ice just keeps on melting."

Thomson said he sometimes felt the government did not want to stop crime for some nefarious political reason. In the meantime, the average citizens kept on suffering at the hands of criminals.

"CPFs are a window-dressing joke and it seems that some people

in higher authority are actually shocked that I am prepared to move my bum to try to do something about the situation," he said.

He said he was a "hands on" chairman and since he had taken over, he had been on police patrols that covered the entire Southern Cape area from Plettenberg Bay to Heidelberg Ladismith, Mervelville, Beaufort West and Murraysburg.

Out of a population of about 450 000, no more than 10 000 people were involved in the CPFs with 67 representatives of specific groups.

"I have met every forum chairperson in my area — travelling in a borrowed vehicle as I cannot get an official one. And I have no chance of properly recovering my expenditure. Money is provided for the wrong things at the wrong time."

arranged meetings for either later this month or early next month and a date has been set for the first meeting of the Provincial Board — December 4, 1996.

The delay has been caused by the need to establish a functioning community forum at every one of the 186 police stations in the province (the Police Act only became law in October 1995) and today 153 forums are functioning.

Now that the majority of forums are up and running, the Area and Provincial Boards can be formed (from these forums as prescribed by law).

Thomson does not appear to understand what community

Province 'not unique' in having shortages

THE provincial communication services of the police respond to claims by the chairman of the Southern Cape Area Community Police Board, Mr H St John Thomson, about problems concerning the Community Police Forums.

FIRST of all the allegation regarding the advice to hire a hitman is viewed in an extremely serious light to the extent that one could say that it is criminal to withhold such information.

Which is more acceptable — to withhold information because one is sworn to secrecy or to supply information that would prevent a reputation of the unacceptable behaviour?



Police officers universally experienced this type of behaviour — a code of conspiracy or silence — especially when they are investigating gang activity and/or organised crime.

In all fairness and in view of the responsible position held by (sic) "hands on" chairman Thomson would it not serve as an example to all communities, and in fact be his civic duty, to supply the information he allegedly has?

There is no record at the SA Police Service Sea Point of the incident described by Thomson.

It is indeed sad to be informed through the media that the meeting which took place between Thomson, Police Service Minister Mr Gerald Morkel and Commissioner Leon Wessels was described as "abortive" as this was not the impression left on conclusion of the meeting.

This province is not unique in experiencing logistical shortages. All provinces have a similar problem. To alleviate the problem, an extra 40 scout vehicles were acquired and distributed in order to relieve the shortages, which is nowhere near the shortages described.

Plans are also afoot to relieve the shortages on an equitable basis. In view of Thomson's position as chairman of the Southern Cape Area Community Police Board, he should be at least with current plans in this regard, through liaison with the Commander Sterrenberg Area Commissioner, Southern Cape

Practical way to involve public in fight

COMMUNITY police adviser to the provincial police services minister, Mr Peter Stevens, responds to claims about problems of the Community Police Forums.

READERS will know that this matter has been an area of dispute that led to Police Services Minister Mr Gerald Morkel successfully petitioning the Constitutional Court.

The result is that in the last few days the National Assembly has redrafted the constitution to provide provinces with far greater powers over their police.

Mr H St John Thomson is sadly misinformed on the creation of the other three Area Police Boards for the province. All have

policing is. The term refers to a policing style in which the safety and security of a local area is not left to the police alone, but one in which local people have a right to know what their police are doing, how and why they are doing it, and what results are being achieved.

It implies that the police and the community are working together in a partnership against crime.

Community policing addresses the causes of crime and not only the symptoms, with communities vigorously helping to eliminate crime in their area. Thus, community policing is about making

understand what community

provinces have a similar problem. To alleviate the problem, an extra 40 scout vehicles were acquired and distributed in order to relieve the shortages, which is nowhere near the shortages described.

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De Kock abused by heirarchy, court told

(251) Sewetan 10/10/96

A CRIMINOLOGIST yesterday told the Pretoria Supreme Court that former Vlakplaas security police base commander Col Eugene de Kock had been indoctrinated, used and abused by the higher police hierarchy, but now had to face responsibility for his actions alone.

Describing the context in which de Kock committed 89 acts of murder, conspiracy, attempted murder, culpable homicide, kidnapping, illegal arms possession and fraud, Prof A E van der Hoven, a University of South Africa criminologist, said the command structure in the police placed him in a position of power and used him to do their dirty work.

"His ideological views, namely that communism and socialism had to be opposed, were abused. He believed that terrorists were communists who wanted to take over the country. Because of his command position he had to take responsibility for the actions of his unit," she said.

"Due to the effect of long periods

of exposure to situations of war on the accused, he was particularly vulnerable to abuse. His emotions became blunted and he was capable of killing someone in cold blood if it made sense to him.

"There were no inspections at Vlakplaas and the top structure of the police allowed things to run their course. Orders were given orally to the accused and thereafter a blind eye was turned. The attitude was that it was up to

him how he took command. There was a lack of proper supervision and control from the top structure."

Van der Hoven said the habit of instituting enormous false claims against the police should also be seen against the background of a particular climate within the security police, where top officers were royally treated and the expenses were covered by false claims.

She said during interviews De Kock had described the intelligence world as a paranoid, misty world in which he as a member was used and abused.

"It was a world in which you had no friends. You were guilty if you did not protect the public."

Van der Hoven said for the accused the war had never stopped. He regarded the present wave of crime in the country as urban terrorism and believed the former security forces had been sold out by former State President FW de Klerk.

"Today he feels that his struggle was not worth it. He does not know

any more for what he fought. He feels his actions were futile and nothing was gained."

She said de Kock's childhood experiences in a house with a strong father figure, whose hidings bordered on child abuse and who never encouraged or praised his children, influenced de Kock's later life.

His father was a role model for aggressive behaviour, and trained his children from a young age to suppress their emotions. This created a need for security and to excel.

She said De Kock's crimes should not be viewed in isolation but in the context of a particular system. In the bush, and also in a security unit like Vlakplaas, there were norms, values and rules that differed radically from those of normal society. De Kock had been taught to shoot first, or be killed. He was also taught that the end justified the means and it did not matter how he killed the enemy as long as they were stopped. The trial continues.

- Sapa

Swedes to probe Palme killing in SA

(251) STAR 10910196

A team of Swedish investigators is to arrive in Cape Town today to probe claims of South Africa's involvement in the 1986 murder of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme, the Swedish embassy said yesterday.

Bo Heineback, Sweden's ambassador to SA, said the team would include chief investigator Hans Olivebro and chief prosecutor Jan Danielsson. They had already received permission from the Department of Foreign Affairs to interview people implicated in the crime, he said.

Heineback declined to name the people the team would attempt to question.

National crime investigation

services spokesman, Director Reg Crewe, stressed it would be up to those implicated to grant or refuse interviews. He added that the police would do everything in its power to assist the investigation.

Paul Setsetse, spokesman for Justice Minister Dullah Omar, said a meeting would be called between the investigating team, the Attorney-General and SA Police Service representatives.

Omar, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi and the Attorney-General had met Heineback on Monday to discuss the planned visit, he added.

"They undertook to assist the investigation team to see anybody they want to see," Setsetse said.

Former Vlakplaas security police base commander, Eugene de Kock - recently convicted of six apartheid-era murders - earlier this month implicated the former South African security services in Palme's assassination.

De Kock said former police spy Craig Williamson had been involved in the Palme assassination as part of an operation dubbed "Long Reach". Palme was gunned down in a Stockholm street in 1986 and the assassin was never caught.

Heineback would not say if the team would meet De Kock, or elaborate on their programme. The duration of the visit would depend on how the investigation proceeded, he said. - Sapa

NEWS



INVESTIGATORS: Swedish prosecutor Mr Jan Daniellsson and Police Superintendent Hans Olvebruk, who arrived yesterday to probe claims linking South African agents to the assassination of Mr Olof Palme discuss their investigation with Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar. **PICTURE: GARTH STEAD**

Swedish investigators to meet De Kock

ET 10/10/96

(251)

POLITICAL WRITER

AN official Swedish investigating team will meet former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock in Pretoria in the next few days to investigate his claim linking South African agents to the assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Mr Olof Palme 10 years ago

At a news briefing yesterday,

Swedish chief prosecutor Mr Jan Daniellsson and Superintendent Hans Olvebre, who arrived in South Africa yesterday, said they would meet Transvaal attorney-general Mr Jan d'Oliveira today to see how he could help with their investigations

D'Oliveira said last night that apart from claims by De Kock and Mr Dirk Coetzee, another former

Vlakplaas commander, he expected that they might have leads of their own which required his help.

Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar said the Swedish investigators, whom he met yesterday, would be given every assistance by their South African counterparts.

Olvebre said they would stay in South Africa for as long as it

was necessary to complete their investigation.

He said no decision had been taken to travel to Mozambique to interview former Selous Scout Mr Anthony White implicated by Coetzee in Palme's killing

Omar said he was uncertain if South Africans were involved in the Palme murder, but the matter needed to be investigated

Malan verdict: Judge says key witness may have lied

Durban - A key prosecution witness in the murder trial of former defence minister Magnus Malan may have been trying to save himself instead of telling the truth, the judge in the case said today.

Beginning his verdict in the biggest post-apartheid political trial to date, Mr Justice Jan Hugo questioned key aspects of the prosecution case.

The verdict was expected to take two days to read, and it was unclear when Judge Hugo would announce the fate of the 16 defendants.

General Malan is the highest-ranking apartheid era official to face criminal charges so far.

Journalists and spectators jammed the Durban Supreme Court, while about 50 armed policemen stood guard outside.

General Malan and 15 other defendants face charges including murder and conspiracy in the 1987 massacre of 13 people in KwaMakutha township outside Durban.

Judge Hugo began his verdict by reviewing the evidence of former military intelligence officer J P Opperman, who tes-

tified under immunity from prosecution.

Mr Opperman, who admitted planning the operation that led to the massacre, had said two defendants - former military leaders Louis Botha and Jannie Geldenhuys - gave permission for the attack.

But Judge Hugo called Mr Opperman an "accomplice witness" and said the court had to be careful in evaluating his testimony.

"The court was not expecting the highest degree of integrity and propriety from these accomplices," he said.

"It is obviously tempting to tell the police what the witness perceives they want to know."

Four of the original 20 defendants previously were set free because of a lack of evidence, signalling that prosecutor Tim McNally could have trouble securing convictions against some or all of the rest.

At issue is whether General Malan and his military colleagues trained Inkatha Freedom Party supporters and sent them on murder missions against anti-apartheid activists, particularly those linked to the African National Congress.

AR 6/10/10/96

(251)

Judge Hugo today said the evidence showed the Inkatha unit trained by the military carried out the KwaMakutha attack, adding "Massacre is an accurate description."

But he added there was no "objective" evidence that five members of the Inkatha unit standing trial with General Malan were part of the raiding party. Judge Hugo also questioned why Mr McNally failed to use other police and military officials to corroborate the evidence of Mr Opperman and other "accomplice witnesses."

White leaders called the indictment of General Malan and 19 others last December the start of the long-feared ANC witch hunt against apartheid officials.

They asked President Mandela to grant a blanket amnesty for all the defendants - but he refused, saying they had rejected previous opportunities to apply for amnesty.

For years Mr Mandela and other anti-apartheid leaders had accused top apartheid officials of working with Inkatha to wage war against the ANC and its allies - Saba-AP

Extradition promised if Palme's killer found

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — If a top-level Swedish investigation could prove a South African was involved in the murder of former Swedish premier Olaf Palme, SA would co-operate in extraditing that person to face charges in Sweden, Justice Minister Dullah Omar said yesterday.

Omar was speaking at a news conference to welcome a high-powered Swedish investigation team which arrived in the country yesterday to follow up claims by former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock of a SA connection in the assassination of Palme.

Omar said that even if the truth commission had granted amnesty to an SA national found to be involved in the murder, he would assist in having that person extradited.

Omar said it was not possible to grant amnesty for crimes committed in other countries.

The Swedish investigation team is headed by chief prosecutor Jan Danielsson and superintendent Hans Oluebro. Danielsson said he had been offered all the help needed by Omar

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and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi. He said the team could be in SA for some time in an attempt to get to the bottom of De Kock's claims.

He denied that the possibility of an SA connection had ever been excluded by Sweden. He said it was the aim of the investigation team to establish whether such a connection existed or not. Interviews with former security force officers and old-order politicians could form a part of the team's work.

Omar said arrangements so far had been made on the basis of the friendship between the two states.

He hoped evidence would be given to the Swedes voluntarily, but would not hesitate to force SA citizens to give evidence to the investigators.

Mufamadi and Omar, in response to questions, said that there had been no progress on the SA side as court procedures had run their course before the attorney-general in Pretoria could resume questioning De Kock.

The ministers pointed out cross-examination of De Kock had been completed only on Wednesday. This was why no further questioning had yet taken place.

Commission will address sexual abuse

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The truth commission would hold its first hearing for women only in Durban on October 25 to give women an opportunity to speak about the violation of their personal rights during the apartheid era, commission KwaZulu-Natal spokesman Mdu Lambede said yesterday.

He said most of the people who had appeared before the commission had been women. However, they had not testified about human rights violations — such as sexual abuse. The commission had decided to arrange a "small and intimate" hearing at which women could relate their suffering to women commissioners, Lambede said.

About 30% of the commission's

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KwaZulu-Natal investigative unit were made up of women, who would take statements from victims, he said. The commission will hold separate sittings in Durban and Maritzburg over the next two weeks where other, high-profile cases will be dealt with.

These will include President Nelson Mandela's biographer Fatima Meer, who will recall an attempt to assassinate her husband, ANC KwaZulu-Natal MP Ismail Meer, and the 1978 assassination of Natal University political scientist Rick Turner.

The amnesty application of police Capt Brian Mitchell, convicted on 11 counts of murder and eight counts of attempted murder in connection with the 1988 Trust Feeds massacre, will be heard in Maritzburg next week.

'SA linked to killing' - Omar

(251)
sowetan 11/10/96

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

A TOP-level delegation of police investigators is in South Africa to continue investigations into the assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olaf Palme during the apartheid years.

Yesterday Justice Minister Dullah Omar promised the delegation whatever assistance it required and, in their presence, said that it was possible that the apartheid regime was linked to the assassination.

He said that the possibility of apartheid South Africa's involvement in the assassination was possible in the light of the fact that hit-squad activity was prevalent both inside and outside South Africa. These hit-squads were responsible "for taking out" opponents of apartheid.

Omar said "Every single lead needs to be followed up."

There was enough reason to believe that South Africa was involved in the brutal killing, he said.

"Anything is possible especially in the last decade of apartheid rule," Omar said.

Present at the meeting in Omar's office was Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi, Swedish Ambassador

Mr Bo Heineback, the Swedish Chief Prosecutor Jan Danielsson and Swedish Police Superintendent Hans Olivebro.

Danielsson said that the investigation into Palme's murder had not been solved in a satisfactory way and everything was being done to find the solution.

"We do not know if there is a South African connection but we will investigate thoroughly," he said.

Omar said that arrangements had been made to facilitate all the meetings that the Swedish delegation require. Today they will be meeting the South African Attorney General, Jan D'Oliviera. The AG, Omar said, will assist in setting up the necessary meetings.

It was not clear whether the delegation would meet Eugene de Kok who is currently on trial but, Danielsson said, the matter could be discussed with the AG today.

As representatives of the government, Omar said, they expressed to the delegation the fact that there was deep concern about the murder of Palme who was "a friend of democracy and our ally in the struggle against apartheid." Swedish grief for their beloved Prime Minister was shared by the democratic South Africa, he said.



BEARING THE BRUNT: Evert Schnetler (18) at home after his kidnapping ordeal. The marks where he had been burnt with cigarettes are clearly visible on his body. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF BEELD

Kidnap may be linked to probe of ex-CCB men

Nov 12/10/96 (251)

By PETA KROST

The men behind the kidnapping and torture of the 18-year-old son of a Witwatersrand deputy attorney-general could be linked to ex-Civil Co-operation Bureau members or former policemen.

Evert Schnetler's kidnapping coincided with positive developments in the "extremely sensitive cases" his father, Fanie, is working on, involving "former CCB members and ex-cops", according to a source close to the investigation.

Evert was kidnapped on Monday night at a shopping centre in Centurion, near Pretoria, but escaped after he was burnt with cigarettes and questioned about his father's activities.

The teenager spent a night in terror before walking more than 20km to his home. He collapsed at the gate, covered in cigarette burns, his clothes torn and bloody.

When Schnetler began working on cases involving former CCB operatives and ex-policemen, he, his two investigating officers and their families started getting threatening phone calls.

"My wife received a call two weeks ago in which a man threatened to kill her, and Superintendent Luke Enslin's family was also harassed," said investigating officer Detective-Sergeant John Gates.

Schnetler has received several calls, among them a warning that he would not live to see Christmas.

He believes his son's kidnap-

ping was "a very clear message" "I hope it will end here. I am furious that they can hurt my son to get to me. If they have a problem with me or the police, why must they take it out on my child?" he asked.

He was in a catch-22 situation, he would not stop investigating as this was his job, but he did not want his family hurt because of his work. "I will not stop the investigations until we have convictions," he said.

Evert, who was to start his matric exams in a week, was still in shock. He had mentioned to his father at about 6pm on Monday that he was concerned about a white car with one occupant which drove past their house, but did not say why he was worried. At 7:45pm, Evert left

to meet someone at the shopping centre. A few blocks from home he noticed a white car following him. "He thought it was some guys playing, coming up close and then pulling back."

By the time the teenager reached the centre, they seemed to have gone. Then he noticed four men whom he realised were after him.

He fled and found a public phone to call his father, but the phone was engaged, so he con-

tacted his girlfriend, telling her to ask his father to fetch him because people were after him.

The men followed Evert to his car and pushed him in, forcing him at gunpoint to follow the white car.

He was taken to Sunnyside where he was shoved into the white car. One of the men drove his car into the Apies River.

"The men were burning him with cigarettes while they asked him questions about my work: what I was doing, then, what my routine at home was, what time I got home, whether I had servants, and demanded our house keys," said Schnetler. "My boy was terrified."

Momentarily left unattended, Evert ran away. He spent the night hiding behind a church wall. At daybreak he began to make his

way home.

His parents feared the worst. "I did not sleep a wink. I searched for most of the night and then I just sat waiting," his father said.

Police found Evert's car at 10am on Tuesday. When Schnetler went to identify it, he was sure his son had been killed. As he got to the scene, radio control contacted him to say his son was home.

The case is being investigated.

WANTED MAN: An identikit image of one of Evert's kidnappers.

Police union planning work-to-rule

By PETA KROST

The South African Police Union declared last night it would begin rolling mass action on Tuesday which might end in a work-to-rule policy being implemented

Representing 55 000 members of the police, Sapu has been given the mandate to "go all the way" with its demands for paid overtime and an acceptable promotion and affirmative action policy, according to Sapu leader Peter Don Brand. The union's

negotiations with police management and the Department of Public Service and Administration ended yesterday without resolution.

"We have the mandate to go ahead with mass meetings and marches and if there is still no joy, we will refuse to work overtime without pay," said Brand.

The union has planned a mass meeting near Parliament on Tuesday, to which members from the Eastern Cape, Free State and Northern Cape will be brought. "We

will then march to Parliament and hand over our memorandum of demands," he said.

Marches in KwaZulu Natal, Gauteng and the Eastern Cape will follow, he said.

"Should there be no positive steps taken by management by October 29, our final date, we will hold a conference and executive meetings which are likely to end in a legal action campaign.

"With the community's backing, we will refuse to work overtime unless we get paid for it."

STW 12/10/96 (251) (752)

Police men to shed light on unsolved murders

By MARLENE BURGER

THE five former security policemen whose amnesty applications will be filed with the truth commission tomorrow were among several facing imminent arrest by the investigators of the Transvaal Attorney General, Dr Jan D'Oliveira.

The five were among 22 former security policemen who approached the commission in June through a letter endorsed by seven retired police generals to test the amnesty waters.

The "incidents" which the men indicated they "might" be able to supply information about include some of the most sensational unsolved murders of the apartheid era.

These include:
● The May 1985 disappearance of the so-called Pabco Three — Sipho Hashe, Qaqawuli Godolozzi and Champion Galela — abducted from

PIET NTULI

THE Kwandebele minister of interior affairs died in a car bomb on July 29 1986.

The Parsons commission of 1992 was told that Ntuli had twice ordered Mhokotho to destroy shops. It also heard that police had rescued 20 youths abducted by Mhokotho. Their captors had forced them to walk over hot coals and had held

THE VICTIMS

their heads under water.

PEBCO THREE
Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation leaders Sipho Hashe, Qaqawuli Godolozzi and Champion Galela disappeared on May 8 1985 after travelling to H F Verwoerd Airport in Port Elizabeth to meet a bogus "British diplo-

mat". It has been alleged they were led to a farmhouse near Cradock where they were beaten to death.

DR FABIAN RIBEIRO
Dr Fabian Ribeiro, 53, and his wife, Florence Vemba, 53, were shot dead in Mamelodi, Pretoria, by two masked men on December 1

1986. Their son Christopher was injured by a bullet during the attack.

Ribeiro was known for giving free medical assistance to political fugitives. Christopher has said his father was never affiliated to any political organisation.

JEFFREY SIBIYA
A resident of Buyafuthi Hostel in Katlehong, East Rand, Sibiya was killed by mem-

bers of the defence force in April 1994. Witnesses deemed he had been shooting at soldiers, as had been alleged. Group 41 commanding officer Colonel Chris du Toit said Sibiya died during an anti-crime operation. He said the operation had started following reports that weapons were being brought into the hostels.

the Port Elizabeth airport,

● The 1986 murders of Mamelodi activist Dr Fabian Ribeiro and his wife, Florence, gunned down at their home.
● The 1986 murder of Kwandebele cabinet minister Piet Ntuli, who died in a car bomb.
● The 1985 deaths of eight

Congress of South African Students (Cossas) members in Duduza who had been supplied with booby-trapped hand grenades by former Vlakplaas operative Joe Mamasela, and
● The murders of ANC members Jeffrey Sibiya, Harold Setoia, Andrew Makupe and Jackson Maake. The most senior of the five,

Brigadier Jack Cronje, served as commanding officer of Unit C10, based at Vlakplaas, from 1983 to 1985, when he handed the reins to Eugene de Kock.

Mamasela alleges Cronje was a key figure in the 1989 cover up of in-squad activities at the Harms commission. Mamasela claims he has

cheques proving that Cronje paid him to be at the commission. De Kock told the Transvaal Supreme Court that the first covert operation in which he took part, on Cronje's orders, was the execution of Zweibanzi Nyanda in Swaziland. Cronje was in charge of Unit C10 at the time of the Pabco Three disap-

pearances Mamasela, who claims he was "there when they died", implicated Colonel Roelf Venter in the murders. The three were allegedly taken to an abandoned police station outside Cradock, severely assaulted and killed.

Venter has been implicated by De Kock in the supply of booby-trapped hand grenades to an East Rand cell of Cossas.

Captain Wouter Mentz, now a member of the police's endangered species protection unit, served at Vlakplaas under De Kock from 1989 to 1992.

Two years ago, Mentz was charged with the 1991 murder of an alleged gunman near Komatipoort. The case was postponed indefinitely. Little is known about Captain Jacques Hecher and Warrant Officer Paul van Vuuren, but both are believed to have been the Northern Transvaal security policemen.

(251) (251) (251) ST 13/10/96

Top apartheid cops to tell all

By CYRIL MADLALA

FIVE high-ranking former security branch officers, some of them Vlakplaas colleagues of Eugene de Kock, have broken ranks with the generals and will tell all in exchange for amnesty

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission announced the "breakthrough" yesterday and said a flood of applications was expected to follow

The officers' formal application will be handed in tomorrow, and will be followed by a hearing in Johannesburg next Monday

The men are seeking amnesty for incidents involving 40 deaths, including those of

- Dr Fabian Ribeiro,
- The Pebco Three,

● Kwandebele cabinet minister Piet Ntuli,

● Eighteen people in two incidents in Mamelodi, near Pretoria, and

● Jeffrey Sibiya and Harold Sefola

Their application is also expected to throw some light on bombings, weapons smuggling and the supply of booby-trapped hand grenades to anti-apartheid activists

Among the five is the highest ranking officer to apply for amnesty, Brigadier Jack Cronje, who was the commander of the Vlakplaas base from 1983 to 1985

Others are Colonel Roelf Venter, based at Vlakplaas at the same time as hit-squad commander De Kock, between 1984 and

1985, Captain Wouter Mentz, based there from 1989 to 1992; Captain Jacques Hechter; and Warrant Officer Paul van Vuuren

The commission's chairman, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, said yesterday the application represented a "real breakthrough"

"Rightly, people have been critical, saying we have seen the tears, heard the harrowing stories, why have we not heard anything much from the perpetrators. We think we will be beginning to do the sort of things we have been promising — to give some answers to those who have been appearing before the commission"

His deputy, Dr Alex Boraine, said the commission had long been waiting for a breakthrough from police

"I don't think this is the last word. This is the start of a river which will become a flood"

Tutu said the outcome of the Magnus Malan trial in Durban on Friday had shown that Nuremberg-type court cases were not the answer

"Acquittal in a criminal court says very little about moral guilt or innocence. Those people who have been calling for Nuremberg-type trials are now able to see that a trial does not guarantee the truth and a conviction"

The decision of the commission to expedite processing the application is expected to prompt other policemen to apply before the December cut-off date.

● See Page 2



Magnus Malan and his co-accused, who walked free after seven months in the dock Picture: RICHARD SHOREY

which led to the charge of a conspiracy

ator But McNally said the opinion of "all the top military men who had contact with Buthelezi in those years was that he was a man of non-violence A man who favoured the

peaceful option" At the same time, McNally said, Buthelezi, whose Inkatha was under attack by the ANC, saw part of the solution as the creation of a paramilitary

capability which would include an offensive capacity or a protection element through which the UDF-ANC-SACP could be prevented from disrupting Inkatha gatherings, damaging property or terrorising, injuring or murdering Inkatha members

Buthelezi was, therefore, exonerated from plans to form a hit squad

● The failure to call certain witnesses, such as former defence force colonel, Mike van den Berg, to verify the duty sheet of key witness Johan Opperman to explain why, under a paragraph on offensive actions, he was instructed to "clear" targets with the military, the security police and Inkatha

Another key witness not called was Daluxolo Luthuli, the self-confessed Inkatha hit man who blew the whistle on the Caprivi trainees and their involvement in the massacre. He was also the trainees' "political commissar".

● A failure to deal with the type of training given to the Caprivi trainees

● The failure to question the accused on whether they foresaw the possibility the training could have led to killings

The judge said Investigating Task Unit commander Superintendent Frank Dutton's evidence was "misleading and probably deliberately so" He criticised the unit's apparent coaching of witnesses

A former member of the unit said they had spent several weeks trying to convince McNally to prosecute. His decision had come only after numerous meetings and heated exchanges



TIM McNALLY Desired to win

Even after deciding to prosecute, McNally and the unit had differed on the approach to the case, particularly on the charges of conspiracy against the generals which McNally added to the original charges less than two weeks before the trial began in March.

Even before it started, Kwazulu Natal ANC officials raised questions about McNally's previous stance on state-sponsored hit squads and his perceived reluctance to prosecute

And the parliamentary justice committee grilled McNally for six hours, in September last year, on allegations that he was complacent when it came to acting against state-sponsored hit squads

Among the most vocal critics of McNally's judgment was the ANC in Kwazulu Natal

"The failure of McNally would have led any judge in any country to acquit the trialists," said provincial ANC spokesman Dumsam Makhaye

"McNally did not come up with the evidence We

hope the legal community, advocates, lawyers, judges and magistrates, will do something about this"

But President Nelson Mandela irked family of the victims by calling on South Africans to respect the acquittal

Mbuzi Ntuli, the younger brother of Victor, the target of the January 1987 attack, said his family was bitterly disappointed with Mandela's acceptance

"I don't think he meant what he was saying It's the blood of the people who died which helped free him, now he is defending those people"

Ntuli, who was 12 at the time, lost two older sisters, a three-year-old sister and his father, Willie, in the attack

He and his brother were in hiding at the time but Victor was killed in 1990 No one has been brought to book for the murder

The National Association of Democratic Lawyers said yesterday that, while it understood the President had to support the courts and judicial process, "justice was not done in the eyes of the people"

But presidential spokesman Parks Mankahlana said that although Mandela appreciated the Ntulis' sense of grievance, as head of state he had to ensure people respected the decision of the court

He pointed out that, while the accused had been acquitted, the courts had proved "the former state assisted and abetted political violence aimed at undermining the ANC and the liberation movement"

A spokesman for Nadel, Krish Govender, called for the suspension of all trials dealing with past political atrocities

He argued that trials involving the generals hampered the truth commission's work as alleged perpetrators could rather choose to be tried in court where they stood a chance of being found not guilty

Earnest Thusini, who lost five children in the massacre, said he couldn't bear to be in court on judgment day because he was expecting a "terrible injustice"

"I don't see this as justice If the courts cannot find them guilty with this evidence, there's something wrong This whole thing smells rotten"

Ntuli said he was not surprised by the judgment "McNally has a history of not supporting the theory of state involvement in hit-squad activity," he said

"The other reason is the South African government is afraid to take the bull by the horns and punish the apartheid offenders."

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FACE?
blic broadcaster

Mufamadi tells truth body he will seek destroyers of police files

Wynham Hartley

CAPETOWN — An internal SAPS investigation has found that thousands of files have been destroyed and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has promised the truth commission that he will find out who did this, commission deputy chairman Alex Boraine said yesterday.

News of the mass destruction of police files emerged yesterday following reports that recently policemen fearing that they might be implicated in hit-squad murders had broken into the police archives and stolen files.

Boraine said he was "sick and tired" of hearing of the authorities' incompetence in protecting archival material vital to the commission's work. He said it was well known that files had been destroyed during the past four to five years, but the "monotonous regularity with which they still go missing is a condemnation of security in this country."

He said Mufamadi had briefed the commission on an internal audit of files at the SAPS and had found that thousands and not hundreds were missing. Boraine said Mufamadi had asked the commission if it wanted him to investigate how the destruction of material had taken place or if the commission wanted to do the investigation.

On being told that the commission did not have the resources to do the job, Mufamadi promised that he would find out who had destroyed the files and who had ordered them to be shredded. Mufamadi's spokesman Maxwell Mulanda confirmed that Mufamadi had a lengthy meeting with

commission chairman Desmond Tutu and Boraine on Thursday last week. The mass destruction of police files, particularly financial records, now makes the testimony of Eugene de Kock and the five senior policemen who have broken ranks and are to give evidence to the commission's amnesty committee in a week's time even more vital, if the truth about apartheid atrocities is to be uncovered.

News that the five, Brig Jack Cronje, Col Rolf Venter, Capt Wouter Meentz, Capt Jacques Hechter and W/O Paul van Vu-

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uren, had broken ranks and would apply for amnesty today represents the biggest breakthrough yet for the commission.

They apparently have inside information on the deaths of about 40 people which include the high-profile Febes Threese, Fabian Rabeura and Piet Ntsho cases.

The five were originally among the 22 police officers who approached the commission under the guidance of former police commissioner Johan van der Merwe and other generals who were organising their interaction with the commission. Van der Merwe and the other generals have been subpoenaed to appear at the commission.

Boraine said that the five had "come to us" of their own accord and he surmised that they must have feared the tightening net of Gauteng attorney-general Jan D'Olivier's investigation into hit squads. He said the pressure on policemen to come forward had also been increased by the "trial which De Kock has started".

Cronje was also a commander at the infamous Vlakplaas base in the early to mid-1980s before De Kock took over command.

Freed security cop tells of 'bad blood' in the force

(251)

CT 14/10/96

STAFF WRITER

A SECURITY police superintendent accused of stealing R16 608,72 from a safe in the city offices of the intelligence unit of the police last year, was set free in the Regional Court on Friday after charges against him were dropped.

State prosecutor Mr André Boucher withdrew charges against Mr Piko Mbambo after a decision by the attorney-general.

Mbambo said he believed charges had been brought against him to make him a scapegoat for money that could not be accounted for.

He doubted whether there had been a theft from the safe. Even if there had been, he certainly did not take the money, he said.

Mbambo said there had been bad blood between members of the security police "old guard" and 20 new people, including himself,

who came from the ANC's Department of Intelligence and Security.

Mbambo, who is 27 years old, was born and raised in the Eastern Cape. He has a BA degree, a Higher Diploma in Education and an Honours degree in criminology from the University of Fort Hare.

He was a Cosas student at school, a Sasco member at university, and went on to become a member of the ANC's Department of Intelligence and Security. Then he was integrated into the SAPS intelligence service as an analyst of crime intelligence.

"We were not warmly welcomed," he said.

"Tensions started to appear. We felt undermined and marginalised. They (the old guard) said we did not have any idea about intelligence."

Late last year, about a week before a scheduled visit by internal police auditors, the keys to an

office safe went missing. They were apparently stolen out of a woman sergeant's bag or case.

After this it was claimed that a large sum of cash was missing from the safe.

Fingerprints were taken and Mbambo's, among others, were found on the safe — which was not surprising as he had helped move the safe on one occasion, he said.

Four people from the office were subjected to lie detector tests, and eventually he was charged.

His advocate, Mr Nathan Erasmus, told the court he wanted to see the accounts of the secret fund, to prepare a proper defence. The court ordered that he should have access to them.

The court then adjourned for two days, in which time discussions were held between the attorney-general's office and the prosecution.

Mbambo was then acquitted.

New KwaMakhutha probe mooted

Star 15/10/96

254 (251)

Police Commissioner George Fivaz is considering a new investigation into the KwaMakhutha massacre after former defence chief Magnus Malan and others were acquitted on Friday

Fivaz said yesterday that the killers were still free and it "cannot be automatically assumed that the KwaMakhutha massacre must now be regarded as closed and that the real killers must go undetected"

He said police would study Judge Jan Hugo's ruling, which

criticised the prosecution case, and described key state witnesses as liars and unreliable

They would also look at Hugo's criticism of the detective work

Malan was cleared of masterminding the attack on the home of an ANC supporter

The state argued that the massacre was part of a military operation of support for the Inkatha Freedom Party

Sydney Mufamadi, the minister of police, said his ministry

took Hugo's criticism of the investigation seriously, and wanted to ensure that future investigations met "the highest possible standards"

The ANC slammed FW de Klerk yesterday, accusing him of showing no sorrow for those who were massacred

"De Klerk has demonstrated that he is only interested in protecting himself and the (National Party) power clique that abused our country" an ANC statement said

Swedes quiz Palme suspect

Star 16/10/96

(251)

Swedish investigators, in South Africa to investigate new evidence in the assassination of former premier Olof Palme, yesterday met the ex-soldier fingered as his killer, the Swedish embassy said

Last month, Dirk Coetzee, former head of the Vlakplaas anti-terrorist unit, accused Anthony White, a one-time soldier of the former Rhodesian army, of killing Palme in 1986 on the orders of the South African secret police. White, who runs a sawmill in Mozambique, has denied the accusation.

Prosecutor Jan Danielsson and police chief Hans Oelvro "won't discuss the contents of their discussion before they finish their investigations", Swedish ambassador Bo Heneback said

The investigators, who have already met several witnesses, were due to meet Coetzee next.

The Swedish team had already interviewed Eugene de Kock, Coetzee's successor at Vlakplaas. De Kock was the first to cite South African involvement in the Palme assassination - AFP

Fivaz and police union battle over pay, promotion

Star 16/10/96 (251)
Capé Town – National Police Commissioner George Fivaz is locked in a war of words with the SA Police Union about police overtime pay and promotions

The union has given the Government until Tuesday next week to reply to their demands on overtime pay and the failure to promote police members. The police union, referring to "a reliable source leaking information from Commissioner Fivaz's office", says R590-million was needed to promote members who had waited 10 months to the next rank.

Andy Miller, the union's Western Cape secretary, said Fivaz had stated to the press there was only R100-million available.

"The community should realise that it is a one-sided statement which should be seen against the backdrop of almost R600-million needed so that a clear picture of the situation could be painted," said Miller

Miller said it was the right of police to be properly paid for overtime – Own Correspondent

Warrant of arrest issued for yet another Vlakplaas commander

Stephane Bothma

PRETORIA — Arrest warrants have been issued for another former Vlakplaas commander Brig Jac Cronje and for Northern Transvaal security branch member Capt Jacques Hechter or charges which include murder.

The warrants will be executed by Transvaal attorney-general Jan D'Oliveira's special investigation team despite the fact that both men have applied to the truth commission for amnesty and their hearings have been

scheduled for next week.

However, lawyer Willem Brits told television news last night that his two clients had entered a truth commission witness protection programme yesterday and therefore the two former policemen would not be able to "co-operate" with D'Oliveira's team until after their amnesty hearings.

Commission vice-chairman Alex Boraine said last night he had been informed about D'Oliveira's intention to bring charges against the two men. He did not, however, confirm Brits's

claim that Cronje and Hechter had entered a witness protection programme but said that the amnesty hearings would continue.

In a separate development, the commission was also poised last night to serve a subpoena on former West Rand security chief Gen Johan le Roux — making him the third police general to be called to the commission to disclose information about abuses by the security branch during the apartheid era.

Evidence in the Eugene de Kock trial alleged that Le Roux had authorised

the abduction and subsequent murder of Krugersdorp security guard Japie Maiponya, who had been questioned by Vlakplaas members about the whereabouts of his brother, an MK operative.

Sources last night said that the arrest of Cronje and Hechter were imminent and that the two men would appear in court in Pretoria within the next two days.

The exact charges against the two men could not be established last night, but in a letter written to the truth commission by a lawyer repre-

Warrants

(251)

Continued from Page 1 PD 16/10/94

Roelf Venter, Capt Wouter Mentz and W/O Paul van Vuuren, also applied for amnesty with Cronje and Hechter.

D'Oliveira told the truth commission that he intended charging two and using two others as State witnesses.

Cronje will be the third former Vlakplaas commander arrested for murder after De Kock and Dirk Coet-

zee. Over the years the counter insurgency unit had only four commanders to oppose Cronje and Hechter's amnesty applications, sources said it was unlikely that he would do that.

Boraine said last night it was unlikely that a trial date for the two men would be set before the end of January.

"The commission will follow the same procedure as in the Dirk Coetzee case and will continue with the amnesty hearing before the trial date," Boraine said.

sending 22 security policemen, including Cronje and Hechter, it was stated that they had "knowledge" of, among others, the 1986 murder of KwaNdebele cabinet minister Piet Ntuli, who died in a car bomb, and the death of several young men from the Mamelodi township outside Pretoria.

A concept indictment would be served on them at their first court appearance this week, the source said.

Three other former policemen, Col-

Continued on Page 2



ROY WIGLEY

In protest: Andy Miller, SAPU secretary general, hands a memorandum to Pieter Gastrow .

Union clashes with Fivaz on police pay, promotions

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

ARG 16/10/96
National police commissioner George Fivaz is embroiled in a war of words with the SA Police Union over police overtime pay and promotions.

The union has given the government until next Tuesday to reply to its demands on overtime pay and the failure to promote members

The union referred to "a reliable source leaking information from Commissioner Fivaz's office" saying R590-million was needed to promote members who had waited 10 months for promotion

Andy Miller, the union's Western

(251)
Cape secretary, said Commissioner Fivaz had told the press there was R100-million available "The community should realise that it is a one-sided statement which should be seen against the backdrop of almost R600-million needed, so that a clear picture of the situation could be painted"

He said it was the right of police to be properly paid for overtime

A delegation of union members has delivered a memorandum addressed to President Mandela and Minister of Safety and Security Sydney Mufamadi giving the government until Tuesday to come up with R450-million

Mr Miller said the union would not be held accountable for the members' actions if no funds were forthcoming

Official, Fivaz at odds on union

BD 17/10/96 (251)

Kevin O'Grady

SAFETY and security secretary Azhar Cachalia criticised the formation of a new police union yesterday in a statement that conflicted with support expressed earlier this week by national commissioner George Fivaz for the National Police and Public Civil Rights Union (Nappcru)

Sapa reports the new union was launched by its president Makhosani Basket in Vereeniging on October 5 after an apparent split in the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) Basket said that the union had about 9 000 members

Cachalia said yesterday that the safety and security ministry "must

question the wisdom of the formation of yet another police union"

"While we recognise and support the right of members to organise into unions in order to protect their own interests, it cannot be in their interest or that of the public to have splinter unions emerging," Cachalia said

Members of the SAPS were already organised in three unions — Popcru, the Public Servants Association and the SA Police Union — before the advent of Nappcru

Commenting on the statements yesterday, a Fivaz spokesman said "Mr Cachalia is entitled to his own opinion on the matter, but Commissioner Fivaz stands by his viewpoint" (backing a wide choice of unions)

Post-stress trauma is ruled out

BD 17/10/96 (251)

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Planning had been a trademark of all Eugene de Kock's crimes, and this excluded the impulsiveness associated with crimes by victims of post traumatic stress syndrome, a leading psychiatrist told the Transvaal Supreme Court yesterday.

Dr Jan Plomp, a veteran witness in forensic psychiatry in SA courts, said none of the crimes for which the former Vlakplaas commander was convicted could have been triggered by post traumatic stress syndrome.

He said even if De Kock had some symptoms of the disorder, no evidence existed that he had committed any of the crimes as a result.

Plomp was called by the state to rebut testimony by three expert witnesses for the defence who all claimed that De Kock suffered from the syndrome first identified in Vietnam veterans.

De Kock was convicted on six charges of murder, two of conspiracy to murder, attempted murder and 66 charges of fraud. "I cannot see how any symptom could have influenced De Kock to commit fraud," Plomp said.

According to Plomp's observation of De Kock during his eight days of testimony, he suffered from a general anxiety disorder originating from combat stress rooted in his four years in the former South West Africa as a member of the SA Police's notorious Koevoet anti-insurgency unit.

Let police use drug cartels' assets, says American expert

ET 18/10/96

(251)

CHRIS BATEMAN

LAWS permitting the seizure of drug cartels' assets and the use of those assets by the police would help them fight druglords on a more even footing, former Atlanta police chief Mr Eldrin Bell suggested yesterday

Bell, who is on an extended drug fact-finding mission on behalf of US President Bill Clinton, said one of the largest buyers of technology in the US, besides the government, was the drug industry

"If we are to successfully challenge them we must have technology and new sources of revenue," he said during a visit to the Western Cape Police MEC, Mr Gerald Morkel

Bell, who retired as Atlanta's police chief in 1984 but still advises the department, is one of the country's most respected law-enforcement officials and serves on numerous national law-enforcement bodies

He said US intelligence was that Cape Town had become a shipment point to Africa and Europe, mainly for cocaine and heroin from Brazil

His job was to verify whether ship-

ments were increasing, but inadequate local data made this very difficult

Bell urged Morkel to increase "problem and research analysis" so that police could act on accurate information — the life-blood of effective policing

Legal reform to ensure "swift and certain" penalties was needed to counter the frustration of local policemen who faced the "horror" of waiting up to nearly three years for cases to come to court

The US interest in foreign countries was illustrated by 1994 figures which showed that 303 metric tons of drugs were seized entering the US that year, versus 115 metric tons seized entering other Western countries

"I will urge our State Department and government to establish mechanisms by which your police and MECs can be made aware of the information I've been working with"

Bell said that in the early hours of yesterday he took the local National Priority Crimes Unit chief, Superintendent Attie Trollip, to "places even he didn't know about" However, he

declined to cite locations for "strategic reasons"

He advised Morkel to introduce laws allowing for ways to check the drug history of people entering prisons Seventy percent of all people entering US jails have a drug history

This would give police in South Africa a database to gauge the extent of the drug problem

Another tack was to introduce strict truancy laws for children as a means of reducing demand for drugs

Bell rejected the widespread perception that crime had increased dramatically since local democratic elections, saying that five to seven years ago a black life meant "nothing", while intense murder probes focused on white victim cases

"But all of a sudden life has become important to the same number of police officials

"They are focused on what is now true crime. Crime reportage is way up," he added.

A law to forbid any public transport operator from carrying a gun would also help reduce taxi violence, he believed

Shock report on policing in the CBD

Star (9/10/96) (251)

The *Saturday Star* has acquired a confidential report exposing widespread irregularities in the SAPS and Business Watch system in Johannesburg

Corruption, unconstitutional policing, and mismanagement of funds are highlighted in the report commissioned in August by provincial commissioner Sharma Maharaj

It is alleged policemen in the CBD are badly managed – and spend much of their time dealing with false alarms from businesses that have installed panic buttons Ordinary citizens feel they are being neglected by police who focus on assisting businesses that can afford the buttons

The *Saturday Star* has also received reports that the once

highly successful Business Watch system, which was initiated in Johannesburg and has spread countrywide, is floundering

Police have admitted that there are serious problems with the current policing methods in Johannesburg and are promising swift action

SE 92

Business Watch, too, seen to be failing — and overhaul is recommended

Report sets off alarm bells over policing in the CBD

By CRAIG URQUHART

Allegations of widespread corruption, unconstitutional policing and mismanagement of funds — preventing them from effectively combating crime in the Johannesburg city centre — have been levelled against the SAPS and the Business Watch system.

A damning report leaked to the *Saturday Star* claims Business Watch is failing dismally in containing crime in the city centre, and understaffed and underpaid policemen are being badly managed.

Provincial Inspectorate director Johan van den Heever, who compiled the report for Commissioner Sharma Maharaj, paints a bleak picture of current crime prevention structures. Several senior police officers have been implicated for mismanagement and it is recommended that they be transferred.

The report says the popular panic button system, installed in businesses across the city by a private company, is "draining police

resources as officers are constantly responding to false alarms. Subsequently, police are neglecting ordinary citizens who cannot afford the panic alarms, making this method of policing unconstitutional.

"The general feeling is that members of the community were deceived over the purpose of the donations, contributions to the Business Watch, the purchasing of motorcycles, etc.

Responsibility

"The combating of crime cannot be promoted by attending to alarms. The private security companies must control the attending of alarms in partnership with the SAPS," the report states.

Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Jesse Duarte said last night "We will not tolerate any form of corruption. We will take all measures to get to the root of the problem and make sure corruption of any kind is uprooted."

Director Azwimndi Nengwehela said Maharaj had directed

management services to study the document and make recommendations.

Area Commissioner Frans Malherbe said yesterday his office rejected the report. He conceded it had highlighted many policing problems he was already aware of.

Maharaj has now commissioned a second report. Director Marnus Penning, who is preparing the new report, confirmed he had already established there were definitely problems with policing in the CBD. "We are lacking proper management and I will recommend that senior policemen are transferred."

Penning said the panic button system was seriously flawed.



FIGHT GOES ON: Police were active in the CBD yesterday. PHOTOGRAPH NAASHON ZALK

still trying to establish who authorised the system. Our duty is to serve the whole of the city — not just

certain businesses." The report claims Emergency Reaction Services, a private com-

pany responsible for installing the panic alarms, made healthy profits at the expense of policemen in the area.

This week the Johannesburg Policing Forum unanimously resolved to request the SAPS to halt monitoring and responding to alarms installed by private companies.

Chairman Paul O'Sullivan said the inability of police to stop responding to panic buttons was preventing the community policing forum from carrying out its own crime prevention initiatives.

O'Sullivan has begun an investigation into the affairs of Business Watch, which he describes as a "non-existent entity", and has handed his findings to the SAPS. Malherbe said the Business Watch system worked very well

until the end of last year when it became more of a reactive than a pro-active service, partly due to the panic button system. "There are perceptions that Business Watch is looking after people who can afford the buttons — if this is the case, I will scrap that system immediately." The Business Watch system started in Johannesburg and is endorsed by police in every major metropolitan centre. The last thing we will do is scrap it — we just need to get it back on track here."

Successes

Mornis Maram, manager of Emergency Reaction Services and the Business Watch co-ordinator for the chamber of commerce, said he was asked by the police in 1992 to design a panic button system for the Business Watch. Police were getting calls for help only after the businesses had been robbed.

"After initial successes, Maram said, the situation changed dramatically early this year when police visibility became almost non-

(261) Star 19/10/1996

existent. Maram said he complained to the police commissioner that policing had disappeared in the CBD and the police scramblers were no longer seen. He said a subsequent investigation by police tried to lay the blame on the panic alarm system but gave no reason why visible policing had stopped.

"It is ludicrous to blame the panic button system for the demise of policing in the CBD. The system was in the past a major deterrent to crime. There are only a handful of men who respond to the system out of the hundreds who are supposed to patrol the CBD. With correct police management, there is no question that police can return the CBD to a safe environment."

Maram said it was not the panic button system that was faulty, but rather the operation of the system that was flawed. "If the panic button system is to be blamed for the demise of visible policing in the CBD, they are putting blame on the most useful tool the police have had in the CBD in recent years."

Shock report on policing in the CBD

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It is alleged policemen in the CBD are badly managed - and spend much of their time dealing with false alarms from businesses that have installed panic buttons. Ordinary citizens feel they are being neglected by police who focus on assisting businesses that can afford the buttons. The *Saturday Star* has also received reports that the once

highly successful Business Watch system, which was initiated in Johannesburg and has spread countrywide, is floundering. Police have admitted that there are serious problems with the current policing methods in Johannesburg and are promising swift action.

SEE PAGE 9

Cops in the dark over burglary

(251) ST 20/10/96

By RAY HARTLEY Political Correspondent

POLICE have yet to establish what was taken during a burglary at their Pretoria financial archive in late September, despite claims by Police Commissioner George Fvaz that "absolutely no documentation relating to the Eugene de Kock trial" was taken.

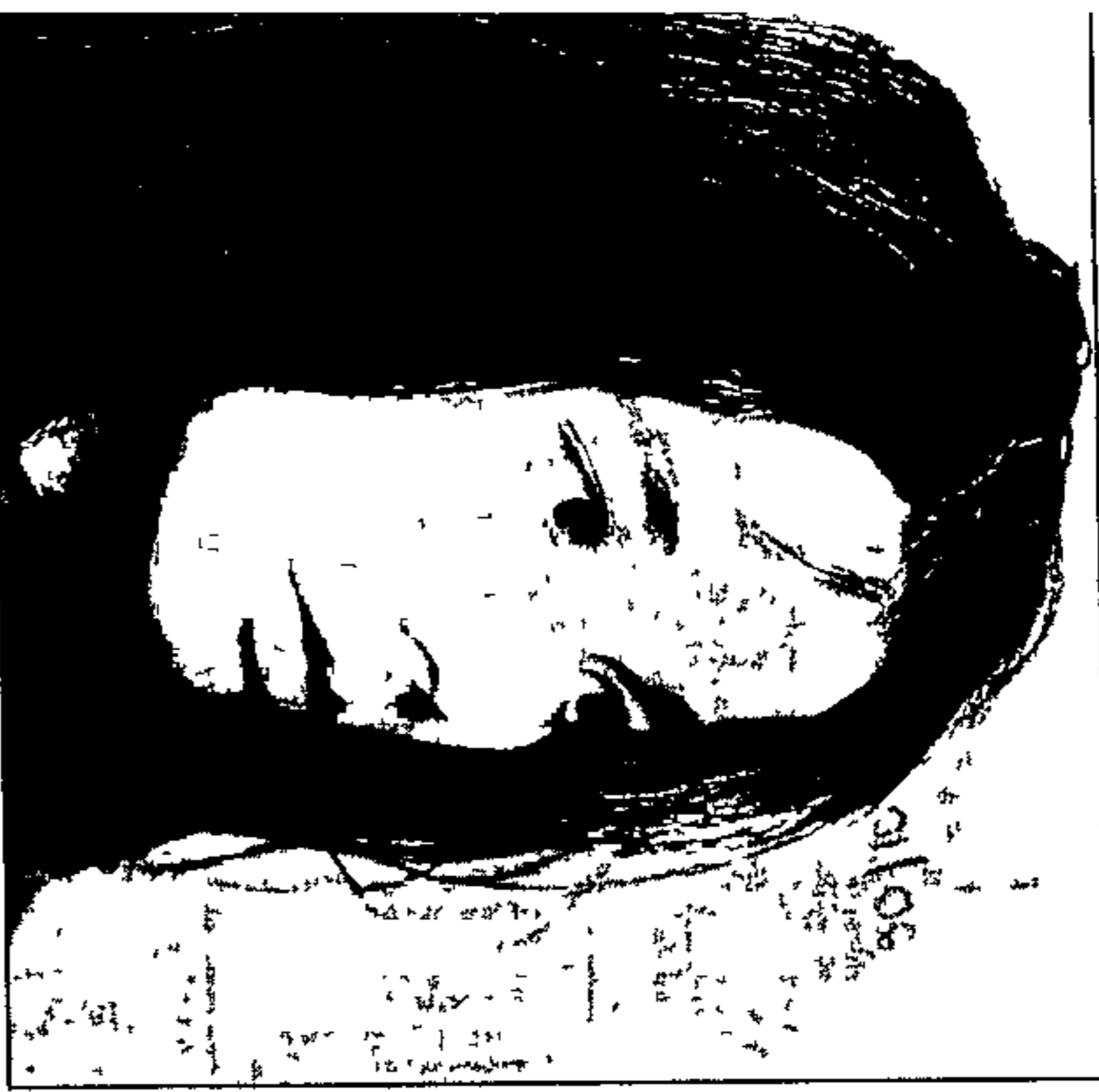
Superintendent Hen Kinghorn, who was ordered to investigate the Maritime House burglary as a result of inquiries by the Sunday Times, said this week that he still did not know what had been stolen.

He said he had not spoken to Fvaz, who had issued a statement on Sunday saying "Steps to safeguard all possible records pertaining to the De Kock trial had already been taken by the time the break-in took place."

A member of a second investigating team, looking into the matter on behalf of Transvaal Attorney General Jan D'Oliveira, would not comment on Fvaz's statement.

Fvaz convened an urgent damage-control meeting last Sunday following the publication of details of the burglary in the Sunday Times. The meeting was attended by divisional commissioner Karel Craemer, who is responsible for police archives, and assistant commissioner P J Bosman, who is the head of police finances.

At the meeting, Craemer assured Fvaz that all De Kock-related documents had been removed from the archive. But while Fvaz's statement focused on documentation "pertaining to past and present police secret-fund projects", the Sunday Times has been told by a source, who used the financial archive regularly, that the stolen documents could have covered withdrawals from the normal police "open account".



ICELAND'S TOP EXPORT . Björk plans a future visit to SA

Iness keeps Björk away

By GLENDA NEVILL

ANDIC superstar Björk has cancelled the rest of her world tour, including dates in South Africa.

The eccentric singer has a serious throat infection and her doctors have insisted she for the next few months, said promoter Ly Quinn of Real Concerts.

She was to perform in Cape Town on Tuesday and at the 5FM 21st birthday party on Saturday.

Unable to see her perform, she is deeply upset and passes on her best wishes to her fans and supporters.

Quinn said ticket money would be refunded for the Cape Town show, but that refunds in Johannesburg to people who had bought tickets for the 5FM birthday sale to see Björk was under discussion with Computicket. Tickets must be returned before Wednesday.

Unfortunately news of Björk's cancelled concerts came too late for the Sunday Times to change the cover of Inside magazine. But fans will be sure to enjoy the interview with the singer anyway.

In the meantime, Tracy Chapman has added an extra concert in Johannesburg, which will take place on October 29 at the Standard Bank Arena. The singer, who is hugely popular in South Africa, is currently riding high with her album, *New Beginnings*.

Read our interview with Björk in this week's Inside magazine.



Gadamina is a pig when it comes to beer

By PREGA GOVENDER

YOU won't see pink elephants at a shebeen in Ladysmith's Esankhezi township, but you will probably bump into a man sharing a few beers with a pig.

Midoda Hlobi was a lonely and depressed man after his wife walked out on him a year ago. Then a brown pig came into his life.

He christened her Gadamina, meaning "guard me", and they became constant companions. The pair are a familiar sight in the township and at the shebeen near Hlobi's home.

Hlobi, 48, who bundled his two young children off to his mother's house after buying the pig for R30, said the porker had given him a reason to carry on living.

"When I bought Gadamina, after my wife left me, things suddenly changed. It was as if I had turned over a new leaf. Life had once again become wonderful for me," he said.

"But I am now very worried about her. Gadamina is costing me a lot of money at the shebeen. She goes with me everyday and loves to drink bottles of beer."

"When we walk home, I can see she is not sober. I wonder if she is becoming addicted to alcohol," he said.

"My baby understands Zulu and immediately reacts to *hala phansi* (sit down), *wozu* (come) and *nge-na endini* (go into the

Viewing the many faces of Prime Evil

Former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock's dirty (and clean?) washing is hung out for all to witness in two-part, tell-all SABC documentary

By JAMES SMITH

Some man genius family friends and former colleagues offer a range of descriptions for former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock. His brother says he was a "shy and lonely child". Koevoet soldiers call him "one of the very bravest".

But where is the truth? Lost inside the images of a small, sandy-haired boy in Voortrekker uniform? Or worn down and burnt like the man in battle fatigues? Perhaps shattered like the spurt of a prisoner meditating on a wasted and detested life?

Perhaps De Kock is both a God-fearing man transformed into a killer by an iniquitous political system and apartheid's most wicked protagonist.

Whatever: his past has now been liberated in a shrieking squall by SABC producer Jacques Pauw, who first opened the Pandora's box when he introduced hit-squad mastermind Dirk Coetzee to the world in the *Vrye Weekblad* in the late 1980s.

Tonight, Pauw will astonish the viewing public with the first of an explosive two-part television documentary series revealing De Kock through the eyes of those closest to him during more than 20 years in the bloodied, filthy trenches.

Prime Evil, to be screened on SABC1 at about 9pm tonight and tomorrow night, depending on when sentence is passed, is an extraordinary event.

Not only is it easily the finest political documentary yet made in this country, it also marks the first time that some of De Kock's most notorious underlings, side-kicks, henchmen and acolytes have spoken on camera.

And what they have to say will almost certainly alter perceptions of a man who was given his most widely used nickname not by Pauw, but by former jailbird and agent of the National Party state, Ferdi Barnard.

A fan of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Barnard said he thought the name of the show's villain, Prime Evil, suited De Kock

carried out after parties where extreme drunkenness and sometimes even violence and assault between colleagues took place.

In response, there are oddly poignant home movies which depict broken men at war with their past.

Pauw admits that in spite of himself and his horror at the death squads, he almost admires and perhaps even likes some of the men with whom De Kock surrounded himself.

Maybe it is his remarkable ability to be objective in encounters with Barnard and others that allowed them to open themselves up to him and the nation with such liberation in *Prime Evil*.

"It wasn't easy getting them to do it," he tells. "But maybe it has something to do with the fact that I am an Afrikaner, that somehow I understand them. I don't think an English person could have done this documentary."

His search for protagonists like Barnard, Peter Casselton, Ronald Bezuidenhout, Leon Flores, Raan Stander, Corrie Goosen, Craig Williamson and others like De Kock's brother Vosse and his Angolan comrade-in-arms from Koevoet led Pauw deeper and deeper into the dense, thorny cannoufflage that has protected them for years.

If only it were the tale of *Sleeping Beauty*, who woke up after the magical kiss of her prince. Coetzee's revelations were, instead, the kiss of death for these sleepers

— and they unleashed De Kock's closing act of fury.

Pauw's gallery of rogues describe in frank, horrifying detail what happened under De Kock's command, from the Rhodesian bush war through Koevoet days and into Vlakplaas and the aftermath in Johannesburg's dangerous underworld, where hookers, strippers, smugglers, junkies and pushers were invited into the inner circle.

"Throughout, this was a brotherhood of men," says Pauw. "If you murder, you can only share your secrets with other people who murder with you."

"What people want to understand is how all of this could have happened — and why."

Brilliant, not to mention courageous, editing of more than 80 tapes by Michelle Liebrandt, with provocative camerawork by Jan de Klerk — a master of the close-up — serve Pauw's talent well in this documentary, which is punctuated by a soundtrack that includes the theme to *Pulp Fiction*.

Prime Evil will haunt you for a long time with its compelling, frightening stories of a very bitter war. Photographs of a mad past. Stone angels weeping in a park. Autumn leaves blowing wildly over dark grass. Lonely, lush plantations where so much agony took place.

The "Total Onslaught" is over, and this show goes a long way towards refuting the "Total Lie".

(2151) *RAW 21/10/96*

Former policemen to disclose details of 35 apartheid murders

Stephane Bothma

RETORIA — Former security policemen Brig Jac Cronje and Capt Jacques Hechter will disclose full details this week of their involvement in more than 35 murders during the apartheid years.

Charged in the Pretoria Magistrate's Court on Friday with 27 murders, the men will speak during amnesty applications on hearings starting today. Although not charged with the crimes, it is understood that

Cronje, a former Vlakplaas unit commander and Hechter, a former Northern Transvaal security branch member, will shed light on the December 1986 murders of activists Fabian Ribeiro and his wife Florence.

Details of the deaths of 18 young Mamelodi men — lured from home with the promise of military training outside SA's borders — will also be disclosed. Nine of the young men were killed in KwaNdebele and the others in Bophuthatswana. Transvaal attorney-general

Jan D'Oliviera issued warrants of arrest for the two ex-policemen last week, and they appeared briefly in court on Friday before being released on bail of R1 000 each.

They were informed that they would stand trial in the Supreme Court on March 24 next year for the murders of Madiphosa Masuku on March 5 1986, Joseph Tsele on May 6 1986, 10 unidentified men on June 27 1986, Jeremiah Magagula, Jimmy Mabena, Samuel Ledwaba, Zekias Skhosana,

Obed Mokitshwana, Mbuso Malobala, Abram Makolane, Nemesane Mafadi and Jeffrey Hope on July 15 1986, Piet Ntsh on July 29 1986, Jeffrey Sibya and Jan Mohale on June 16 1987, and Jackson Masake, Andrew Makune and Sello Se-fola on July 17 1987.

Cronje, Hechter and three former colleagues, Col Roodt Venter, Capt Wouter Mentz and W/O Paul van Vuuren, all applied to the truth commission for amnesty, and together the five men will confess involve-

ment in or knowledge of at least 40 deaths of activists.

These include the disappearance of the so-called Pebo Three, the death of young activists on the East Rand after being given booby-trapped hand grenades by police and the killing of a policeman and his wife at Hammanskraal.

Stephen Lauffer reports that the truth commission appears set on a collision course with SA's political leaders, including President Nelson Mandela, over its proposal to extend

its brief from December 1993 to May 10 1994.

Mandela and Parliament's justice committee chairman Johnny de Lange made clear at the weekend that they remain opposed to a shift in the dates.

Parliamentary spokesman Parks Mankabana said Mandela was concerned that any extension of the amnesty would send the wrong message to opponents of democracy who might contemplate violent action in the future. There should be no suggestion that amnesty

could be an option time and again, just because crimes were politically motivated, as such an idea could spur militancy on the far right.

The extended period proposed by the commission would allow several perpetrators of gross human rights violations, including PAC activists and the ultraright bombers who tried to prevent the April 27 election, to apply for amnesty.

Mandela would observe and be sensitive to Parliament's feelings on the issue, Man-

kabana intimated, but said the President was "resolutely opposed to any extension" of the cut-off date. De Lange said the ANC felt that December 1993 was the "right cut-off date".

On the commission's proposal of an extension by three months of the possibility to apply for amnesty, De Lange indicated the ANC could prove flexible. The key issue was that the commission should have sufficient time to complete work on the amnesty applications before its mandate ran out.

(257) BS 21/10/96

Palme was never seen as threat, says Williamson⁽²⁵¹⁾

CT 22/10/96

JOHANNESBURG Former security police spy Craig Williamson yesterday emphatically denied that he was involved in the 1986 assassination of Swedish prime minister Mr Olof Palme

Speaking at a media briefing at his attorney's rooms, Williamson said although Palme was not considered "a friend" by the South African authorities at the time, he was opposed to Soviet-style Marxism and was therefore not seen as a threat

His attorney Mr Allen Levin said it was possible Williamson would make a submission to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission "More information on that will be available in the next week or so"

Williamson arrived in South Africa at the weekend after being freed from a Luanda jail. He was arrested two weeks ago by Angolan authorities who initially said he was picked up in an operation designed to control illegal aliens. While in detention in Angola,



LEGAL ALIEN: Craig Williamson

Williamson was questioned by Swedish investigators regarding the allegations by former hit-squad commander Eugene de Kock that Williamson was involved in Palme's assassination

Williamson said he objected to being questioned without legal representation. He was questioned by a Swedish prosecutor and South

African secret service officials

Asked why he agreed to it, he said "The circumstances prevailing at the time made co-operation rather attractive"

Levin said Williamson was welcome to return to Angola and continue his business there whenever he wished

Williamson said he had for three years conducted legitimate business there, importing consumer goods and working in mining contracting. He had a valid work permit

He said he had never met Palme and that "Operation Long Reach" — the operation in which Palme was allegedly murdered — did not exist until after Palme's death

Williamson said he had been well treated by the Angolan prison authorities and had been allowed contact "with the outside world". He refused to elaborate on who he contacted

Williamson also denied allegations that he was involved in arms deals with Unita — Sapa

Public lack trust in the police as almost half of all crimes go unreported

By **DEREK RODNEY**

Anti-crime authorities are allowing vital information to slip through their fingers by not conducting thorough investigations, while a survey of Gauteng crime victims shows that an increasing number become repeat victims.

A survey of 1 000 respondents in the Johannesburg area between January and March this year by researchers at Unisa's department of criminology for the UN Inter-Regional Crime and Justice Institute in Rome revealed only 58% of victims reported crimes to police

The majority of respondents (68%) said they were victims of crime over the past five years and 38% were repeat victims.

South Africa's legal system and the perceived inability of the police to do anything about crime are mooted as some of the main reasons why little over half of all crimes are reported to police.

Research co-ordinator Professor Beaty Naudé expressed grave concern for the low reporting rate and said it was a poor indictment of the SAPS's credibility. More than half of the respondents experienced some form of

corruption involving the police or traffic police which directly resulted in extremely low levels (3%) of corruption cases being reported.

"Community policing is doomed to fail as the poor reporting rate has a massive effect on national crime prevention strategies," Naudé said.

The survey, conducted in 40 areas including Lenasia, Westbury, Eldorado Park, Orlando East and West, Protea, Jabulani, Meadowlands, Sandton, Benoni, Randburg, Sophiatown and Florida, is representative across the racial, sex and income spectrum

Naudé said it was also of concern that many respondents failed to report crimes because they believe authorities can do little and that some incidents were not regarded as serious enough.

Sexual offences, with a reporting rate of 43%, were often not reported as it was felt they were inappropriate for police involvement.

Most incidents of car theft (94%), motor cycle theft (75%) and burglary with entry (59%) were reported while incidents of corruption (3%), personal theft (17%) and assault or attempted assault (26%) had the lowest re-

porting rates. The high reporting rates are attributed mainly to insurance claim purposes.

Official national police statistics show that 2 337 520 crimes were reported from January to December last year. Reported crimes include rape (36 888 cases), serious assaults (171 656), common assault (176 517), business burglaries (78 350), residential burglaries (214 854), vehicle theft (97 947) and theft out of vehicles (189 692).

► Help for victims

De Kock's acts 'result of beliefs, upbringing'

PRETORIA: Counsel for former security police commander Colonel Eugene de Kock, who has been found guilty of 89 charges, including six of murder, told the Supreme Court here yesterday that one should never forget he had operated within a system where the ANC, SACP and PAC were the official enemy.

Mr Flip Hattingh was arguing in mitigation of sentence.

Hattingh asked the court to take cognisance of recent evidence before an amnesty committee of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in which retired police commissioner General Johan van der Merwe implicated former state president Mr P W Botha in the Khotso house bombing in Johannesburg in 1988.

De Kock had made a similar claim in his evidence.

Hattingh said De Kock had grown up in a conservative, Afrikaner home and was taught from early on that communists were the enemy, even De Kock's church had justified apartheid and the fight against communism through scripture.

This view was reinforced in his military and police careers.

Hattingh said De Kock was ordered to kill people for his country from early in his police career. This continued at Vlakplaas, where his actions were rewarded with medals.

When De Kock had left the notorious Koevoet unit in Namibia in 1993, he had felt he was losing his values and had complained of ulcers and other stress-related symptoms. He should never have been placed with Vlakplaas, but was regarded by the security police as being right for the job.

De Kock had acted on the orders of, or with approval of his superiors. "Let us not forget that we lived in a dispensation where the Communist Party, the ANC and PAC were the official enemy and where people who promoted that ideology were prosecuted by people such as my learned colleagues, the state prosecutors, and sentenced by people like you (Judge Willie van der Merwe).

The trial continues. — Sapa



'ORDERED TO KILL': Convicted Vlakplaas chief Eugene de Kock

CT 24/10/96

De Kock portrayed as victim of connivers

Nov 24/10/96 (251)

'Superiors turned a blind eye to death and mayhem and used the unit to submit false expenses including trips for wives'

By **NORMAN CHANDLER**
Pretoria Bureau

Eugene de Kock was portrayed yesterday as the victim of cynical top-level conniving by powerful cabinet ministers and top police officers who saw an opportunity in the Vlakplaas counter-insurgency unit to wage war and at the same time make a financial killing in the name of "volk and fatherland"

As unit members rampaged through southern Africa in the 1980s fighting "the enemy" - the ANC, PAC and the SA Communist Party - their superiors were turning a blind eye to death and mayhem, instead ordering that false expense claims be submitted for air tickets, artefacts, hotel bills, money gifts and other purchases

"Everyone in the hierarchy of the police know they have been responsible (for Vlakplaas)," said De Kock's defence counsel Flip Hattingh yesterday when presenting heads of argument to the Pretoria Supreme Court prior to Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe sentencing De Kock

He is to be sentenced, probably next week, for six murders, two conspiracies to murder and numerous other charges. The trial has taken about 20 months

Hattingh argued that De Kock was the only person from Vlakplaas to have been charged - "not only are other people not being investigated, they have not been charged either," he added. He was portrayed as a 'traitor' by former colleagues for telling what really took place at Vlakplaas

De Kock's allegations about

top officials having knowledge of unit activities were given credence this week as a result of what former police commissioner General Johan van der Merwe had told the TRC, Hattingh said

Van der Merwe admitted to the TRC that former president P W Botha had given orders for the blowing up of Khotso House, headquarters of the South African Council of Churches in central Johannesburg. De Kock had also implicated former president F W de Klerk in regard to a raid into

“**Vlakplaas C-1 was the hyena of the police but was also its milch cow**”

Transkei. De Klerk subsequently confirmed he had known about it

Hattingh said there was no way Vlakplaas operations could have occurred without authorisation by senior officers

He added "What was not thought about was that the people they were trying to kill would come to power as the government of South Africa"

Unit members were awarded medals and congratulated for their exploits. Evidence was led earlier how former police ministers and top generals attended

parties at Vlakplaas

False expense claims - described as part of the culture at the unit - had also been authorised by top generals, including the financing of air tickets, hotel accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses for generals' wives

"Vlakplaas C-1 was the hyena of the police but it was also its milch cow," Hattingh said

The court heard that De Kock had co-operated extensively with the Transvaal attorney-general and that his legal team hoped this would have a bearing on what type of sentence he could expect. De Kock would almost certainly take part in other trials of a similar nature and a precedent had been set, and Hattingh urged the court to take this into consideration

De Kock was given *carte blanche* by the defence to work with the A-G's office and would probably continue to do so

Hattingh told the court the attitude of whites such as De Kock to the ANC and its allies had been seen on television on a documentary featuring former presidents John Vorster and P W Botha

"They gave the official view and told people that South Africans had to fight," Hattingh said, adding that Afrikaans churches had also given their support for "the policy of apartheid"

Turning to Judge van der Merwe, he said "Let us not forget that people we all knew were involved. People whom you and the assessors, my learned colleagues appearing for the State, were aware of"

Hattingh continues his argument today



De Kock: State wants 185-year sentence

(251)

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

F The State has called for sentences effectively totalling 185 years to be imposed by the Pretoria Supreme Court on police hit squad commander Eugene de Kock

De Kock's legal team asked for a maximum of 25 years "in the event of sentence being passed" and argued that a life sentence would be inappropriate under the circumstances

De Kock has been found guilty of murder, abduction, conspiracy to murder, and possession of arms and ammunition

Further legal argument takes place again today but it is not expected that sentence will be handed down until at least Wednesday

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe told the court he would "need a couple of days under a tree" to make his decision

De Kock, who turns 48 in

January, showed no emotion as Transvaal Deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman detailed what the State believed should be appropriate sentences for each offence

These were 20 years each, to run concurrently, for the murders of four people in a taxi at Nel-

spruit; 20 years each for conspiring in the attempted murder of former Vlakplaas commander Dirk Coetzee and conspiring in the murder of C-10 member Brian Ngqulunga, 10

years for participating in the blowing up of the body of Sweet Sambo, 15 years for culpable homicide in regard to the death of Bheki Mlangeni, 25 years for the murder of Tiso Leballo, 20 years for the murder of Good-

will Sikhakhane, three sentences of 10, three and 20 years respectively for being part of the abduction and murder of Japie Maponya, five years for illegal possession of AK-47s, 15 years for other weapon offences, and two years for illegal possession of ammunition.

Ackerman said De Kock was guilty of the charges and that the "high hierarchy" of the police could not be held responsible

Calling for a sentence which would be "a frightening deterrent", not only for people involved in covert operations but also for people in powerful positions, Ackerman said this included "politicians who used people

in those positions".

Judge van der Merwe said senior policemen who may have been part of the Vlakplaas situation may be called upon to give evidence in other cases involving covert operations

"Fingers have been pointed at the 'top hierarchy' (and) questions should be asked whether these are justified"

Defence counsel Flip Hattingh said it had been learnt that several of De Kock's colleagues who had given evidence for the State against him had been provided with employment by the National Intelligence Service at salaries in excess of R88 000 a year, plus car and housing allowances, and held positions far higher than they had commanded in C-10

"What kind of impression does this leave on De Kock? He did not do the planning by himself. These are men who may have shot others and are just as guilty of murder, being given new jobs"

“I need a few days under a tree to make my decision - trial judge”

STAN 25/10/96

De Kock defence in fierce attack

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Eugene de Kock's defence counsel yesterday launched an attack on Transvaal attorney-general Jan D'Oliveira for using "about 30 accomplices, many of them executioners" to convict one man — De Kock — while numerous other killers had not been arrested.

Hattingh was completing his argument in the Transvaal Supreme Court in mitigation of sentence of former Vlakplaas commander De Kock, who was earlier convicted on 89 charges, including six of murder.

"I know it is sometimes necessary to use an accomplice to secure a conviction, but in De Kock's case the attorney-general went completely overboard," Hattingh said.

He said a perception had been created that "one scapegoat had been snatched from the past and made an example of" by D'Oliveira.

Sapa reports Hattingh said other Vlakplaas members who were as guilty as De Kock walked free. Men like Brood van Heerden and Willie Nortje were even promoted to high positions in the National Intelligence Agency, with enormous salaries.

Deputy Transvaal attorney-general Anton Ackermann SC told the court that De

Kock had been convicted on non-political criminal charges and two years ago the death penalty would have been a possibility in his case.

Ackermann asked Judge Willem van der Merwe to impose a sentence on the former policeman which would "satisfy the demands of an appalled society."

He said De Kock should be sentenced to at least 25 years' imprisonment for each of the more serious crimes and to 20 years for the less serious ones.

"Murderers belong behind bars," Ackermann said, rejecting a submission by Hattingh that the security police culture prevailing in the country at the time was a mitigating factor.

Society had been grotesquely misled by the security apparatus of the old regime and had been "led by the nose" about the activities of the security police.

"There, currently exists an overwhelming feeling of indignation in the Afrikaner community about having been lied to for so long," Ackermann argued.

Hattingh argued: "It may sound cold and callous, but we did not have to do with a civilised, orderly society in those times. We had to do with two opposing groups that hated each other and attacked each other in

the most gruesome ways possible.

"Large sections still hate each other. There are still very few signs of true reconciliation between those two groups. We don't have to do with a homogeneous society in which everyone feels the same about the crimes committed by the accused."

Ackermann said De Kock had not been formed by the system to become what he was today, but possessed certain characteristics which made him perfect for being in charge of a killer unit.

"From early in his career he wanted to hunt people," Ackermann said, referring to the fact that De Kock had on nine occasions as a young policeman volunteered to fight in the then Rhodesia and voluntarily stayed in the notorious Koevoet unit in Namibia for four years. "In him, his masters found a perfect assassin."

He said De Kock showed no remorse for his evil deeds and the only reason why he had agreed to co-operate with the attorney-general in the investigation into the activities of other policemen was for revenge.

The crimes De Kock committed were carefully planned and executed and not one of his victims had been a member of any "terrorist" or banned organisation. "Many of them were in fact his colleagues."

State demands 185 years for De Kock as 'deterrent'

PRETORIA BUREAU

ARG 25/10/96 (251)

The State has called for sentences totalling 185 years to be imposed by the Pretoria Supreme Court on police hit squad commander Eugene de Kock.

De Kock's legal team asked for a maximum of 25 years "in the event of sentence being passed" and argued that a life sentence would be inappropriate under the circumstances.

De Kock has been found guilty of murder, abduction, conspiracy to murder, and possession of arms and ammunition.

Legal argument continues today, but sentence is not expected until Wednesday at the earliest.

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe said he would "need a couple of days under a tree" to make his decision.

De Kock, who turns 48 in January, showed no emotion as Transvaal deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman detailed what the State believed

should be appropriate sentences for each offence.

Mr Ackerman told the court De Kock was guilty of the charges against him and that the "high hierarchy" of the police could not be held responsible for them. He had been the unit's officer commanding and he had "sent people to carry out the deeds".

Calling for a sentence which would be "a frightening deterrent" - not only for people involved in covert operations but also for people in powerful positions - Mr Ackerman said this included "politicians who used people in those positions".

Judge Van der Merwe said senior policemen who might have been part of the Vlakplaas (hit squad) situation might be called upon to give evidence in other cases involving covert operations.

"Fingers have been pointed at the 'top hierarchy' (and) questions should be asked whether these are justified," the judge said.

'A SCAPEGOAT TAKEN FROM THE PAST'

De Kock's crimes not political, state insists

(251) CT 25/10/96

PRETORIA: The prosecution called yesterday for Eugene de Kock to be sentenced to a total of more than 160 years' imprisonment. His defence claimed he had been made a scapegoat, while others had been promoted

THE state denied yesterday that the Pretoria Supreme Court trial of former security police commander Eugene de Kock was a political one, in which the "victors were seeking retribution"

"This is not a Nuremberg type of trial. This is about the punishment of common criminal deeds," senior prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann said

"There is a universal feeling — one finds it in the Bible — that you may not kill or steal. Murderers and thieves belong behind bars. The more serious the crimes, the longer that period should be"

The state did not ask for life imprisonment, but nevertheless argued that De Kock, who was convicted on 89 charges, including six of murder and two of conspiracy to commit murder, should receive an effective sentence on the more serious charges that would by far exceed 160 years in jail

Ackermann said that although many people would probably not have been shocked by the death of a "terrorist" in the 1980s, the court should note that a whole community had been deceived by, among others, the security police, and had not realised the full impact of what was happening under their noses

"The defence makes great weight of the fact that the accused was fighting ANC terrorists, but not one of the deceased in the charge sheet was a trained ANC terrorist. The system did not create De Kock. He already had the characteristics that were noted and used by the system

"From early on in his career, he endeavoured to hunt down people. He wanted to be feared. He was a man who did not hesitate to murder, blow up buildings, defeat the ends of justice and commit fraud



FOR SENTENCING: Eugene de Kock

He was a highly effective assassin, the commander of an assassination unit," Ackermann said

He argued that De Kock showed no remorse whatsoever for his actions, and tried to blame others

According to the state, one of the most aggravating factors in the trial was that De Kock had been a policeman, whom the community expected to uphold law and order. Instead, he planned crimes, committed crimes and then rewarded himself for "solving" those crimes

Many of his victims were colleagues, who were murdered because they wanted to tell the truth about crimes committed by policemen

That De Kock had supplied an arsenal of assault weapons and ammunition to Inkatha, a political party involved in an "armed struggle" against the ANC, was also aggravating, Ackermann said

Mr Flip Hattingh, SC, argued on behalf of De Kock that any sentence the court imposed should reflect the present spirit of reconciliation in the country

He said a perception was being

created that one scapegoat was being taken from the past, and that an example was being made of him

The perception could even be created that the trial was about political gain rather than the true prosecution of a criminal

He said the court should, in imposing sentence, also reflect the fact that there did not seem to be any equality before the law

De Kock alone was charged with the many atrocities that others helped him to commit

He added that other Vlakplaas members, who were as guilty as De Kock, walked around freely, and men like Mr Brood van Heerden and Mr Willie Nortje were even promoted to high positions in the National Intelligence Agency, with enormous salaries

Hattingh said De Kock's crimes should be seen against the background of a specific culture that existed within the police, where the enemy was communism, and the feeling among the police hierarchy was that the enemy had to be eliminated

"It is a normal reaction for any person not to feel much sympathy when your enemy is killed. The accused also did not feel any sympathy for his enemy

"It may sound cold and callous, but we did not have to do with a civilised, orderly society in those times. We had to do with two opposing groups that hated each other and attacked each other in the most gruesome ways possible

"Large sections still hate each other. There are still very few signs of true reconciliation between those two groups

"We don't have to do with a homogeneous society in which everyone feels the same about the crimes committed by the accused," Hattingh argued

Final argument will be concluded today. Mr Justice Willie van der Merwe is expected to postpone the trial for a few days to consider sentence — Sapa

De Kock awaits sentencing for years of apartheid treachery

(251) Nov 29/10/98

State prosecutors have asked for the harshest sentence possible

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

Three events have catapulted the trial of police hit squads commander Eugene de Kock into history

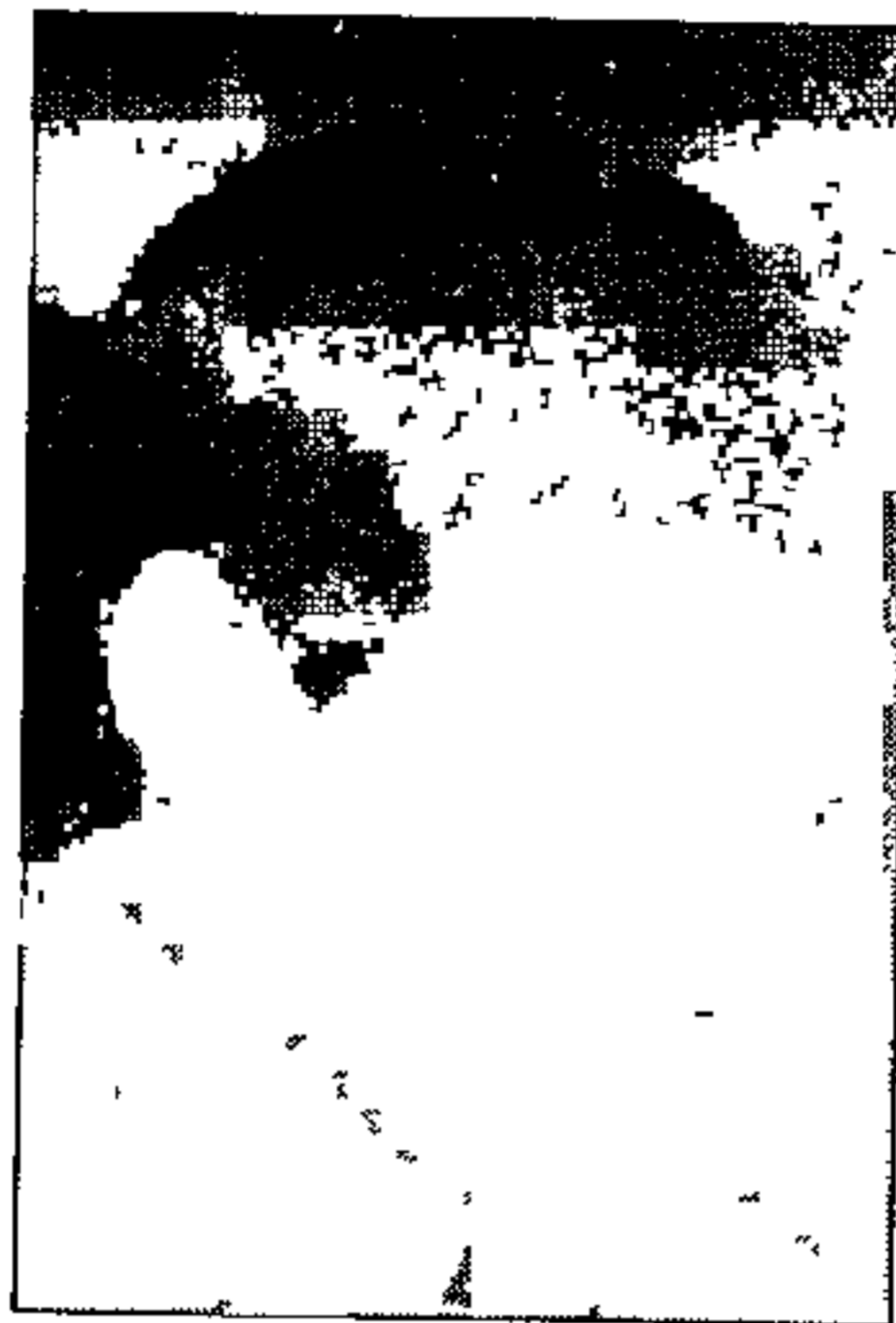
The first was the claim that South Africans had been behind the assassination of a Swedish prime minister, the second that former presidents and government ministers of this country knew of dirty tricks across the sub-continent and beyond, and, thirdly, that the South African Police of the apartheid years had unleashed a hit squad to fight the liberation armies, the so-called "enemy"

The ramifications of what De Kock has said during his 20-month trial in the Pretoria Supreme Court have been enormous, with denials and counter-denials from every quarter. But last week, during hearings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, it was former police commissioner General Johan Van der Merwe who pointed a finger at former president P W Botha for having given orders to blow up Khotso House, home to the South African Council of Churches.

Compounding De Kock's evidence was the corroboration by another former president, F W de Klerk, that he was aware of cross-border raids into the former Transkei homeland.

However, there has still been no resolution of the circumstances surrounding the assassination of Olof Palme seven years ago, despite a team of Swedish investigators interviewing De Kock in his prison cell. Former South African superspy Craig Williamson spent two weeks in an Angolan jail before the same investigators were given permission to talk to him. De Kock had implicated Williamson in the assassination plot.

Today, De Kock has 24 hours alone with his thoughts in one of Pretoria Central prison's one-time death row cells before Mr Justice



De Kock ... in Pretoria Central mulling over his past deeds.

Willem J van der Merwe pronounces sentence on him tomorrow

The judge, by his own admission, will have spent the past weekend "under a tree" in contemplation of De Kock's fate putting the final touches to his judgment which could turn out to be one of the most devastating yet pronounced on the apartheid police, particularly if one takes into consideration the incredible evidence led and the recent statements made at the TRC by senior policemen.

Judge van der Merwe has been asked by prosecutors to pronounce the harshest sentence possible on De Kock. They have called for sentences totalling 185 years for six counts of murder, two of conspiracy to murder, culpable homicide, illegal possession of arms and ammunition, and defeating the ends of justice.

They say De Kock has not shown any remorse for his actions, and that he was acting alone in carrying out murders. They have also rejected claims by expert medical witnesses that De Kock is suffering from post traumatic stress syndrome (PTSS), a condition first diagnosed among returning American soldiers from the Vietnam conflict.

The State said in heads of argument last week that the community had been "horribly misled" by the security police and other security organisations.

The defence team has in its turn asked for leniency on many grounds, and has said that if a sentence were to be imposed, it should be no more than 25 years.

The team pointed to evidence submitted during the marathon trial that De Kock was merely carrying out orders given him by senior police generals who, in turn, had received those orders from persons in higher authority - named by De Kock during his sensational testimony last month as former presidents Botha and De Klerk, former police commissioners, former cabinet ministers, and senior police officers.

Cabinet ministers such as Louis le Grange and Adriaan Vlok had congratulated the unit on their activities, decorating De Kock for his work, while other cabinet ministers and officers had either attended parties at Vlakplaas or lauded them for their achievements during the years of "total onslaught".

De Kock, his defence argued, could not believe that he had come to be regarded as a "traitor" by his former colleagues merely because he was assisting the state in naming names, and doing so only because police generals whom he believed to be his mentors and friends had chosen to desert him in his hour of need.

The defence says De Kock has shown remorse for all that has taken place, and has for several years been suffering from PTSS caused by the stress of his work. They produced evidence that police headquarters knew 13 years ago that he was under severe stress while serving with Koevoet in the South West African bush war but, instead of returning him to normal police duties, the generals decided to appoint him to Vlakplaas.

The trial has provided an insight into the horrors previously

only whispered about which were perpetrated by hit squads during the apartheid years.

It has detailed an incredible litany of death and mayhem, first related by a former police sergeant, Bufana Almond Nofomela, who at the time was awaiting the hangman's noose for an unrelated murder, and then by another former Vlakplaas commander, Dirk Coetzee (who is soon to face a charge of murder relating to the death of activist Griffiths Mxenge).

Allegations made to the Goldstone Commission finally led to the disbanding of the C-10 unit and the arrest of De Kock.

The unit's main work, according to De Kock's affidavits submitted to the court, was to identify what the apartheid-era identified as "terrorists" entering the country and to deal with "sensitive political issues".

This included the blowing up of the bodies of dead suspects, death threats to witnesses, torture, the delivery of booby-trapped radios, newspapers, manuscripts, music recorders and hand-grenades to unsuspecting people, various bombings, vendettas against fellow policemen, kidnapping, random killings and assassinations, vicious assaults, misappropriation of state funds, and the tape recording of conversations.

Said one witness "If I had to write down all the names of people who disappeared, my book would be as thick as the Bible".

De Kock retired from the police in 1993 after 27 years, and received a golden handshake of just over R1-million.

When arrested, he was found to have British, Swiss, and Portuguese bank accounts containing millions of rands, a credit card in a false name, and a passport in a false name. Evidence was led that at one time he had access to eight passports, all with false names.

It is for the murders and his total disregard for the laws of society that he will be sentenced tomorrow.

Prime Evil sentenced to

(251) CT. 31/10/96



Convicted killer serve time in application to Reconciliation

MR JUSTICE Willem van der Merwe told an impassive Eugene de Kock yesterday that in terms of the law no one who receives a sentence of more than a 100 years may be paroled.

And the Truth and Reconciliation Commission deputy chairman Dr Alex Boraine said yesterday that De Kock would serve time in jail even if his amnesty application was successful.

The life sentences, to run concurrently, are for the murder of Mrs Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's driver/bodyguard Mr Tisetso Leballo and for conspiring to murder Krugersdorp bank security guard Mr Japle Maponya.

He also received 20 years each for the murders of Mr Khone Gabela, Mr Lawrence Nyalende, Mr Glenack Mama and Mr Oscar Ntshona, who were passengers in a minibus ambushed near Nelspruit, and for the murder of Mr Goodwill Sikhakhane.

Charges of fraud and illegal possession of arms and ammunition received varying sentences of between two and 10 years.

Leballo's murder had been "cold-blooded with no respect shown for human life or bodies", Judge van der Merwe said when handing down sentence.

It had been "a calculated and cold-blooded act. That of Brian Ngqulunga was planned to the finest detail".

De Kock, 47, showed no emotion as he sat writing down the details of his sentence.

The judge had earlier spent three hours detailing evidence led during the 21-month trial and quoting legal principles and precedents.

Actions taken by De Kock — former commander of the police's C-10 counter-insurgency unit based at Vlakplaas — had taken place in a period "to which we will never return" a reference to evidence led in court that he had been a victim of the apartheid era and would never have committed the crimes had this not been the case.

But the judge added, "The actions leave one with a chilling feeling. It fills a person with revulsion. With this sentencing, a warning must be given that such action will not be tolerated."

"After considering all the facts, I have come to the conclusion that lifelong imprisonment is a suitable sentence. The actions were chilling and calculated."

The judge said "The accused had believed he was fighting an enemy — a communist enemy of the folk and fatherland. The enemy,

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Roll call of death and destruction

- Murder of Khona Gabela — 20 years
- Murder of Lawrence Jacev Nyalende — 20 years
- Murder of Glenack Masilo Mama — 20 years
- Murder of Oscar Ntshona — 20 years
- Conspiracy to the murder of Tisetso Leballo — life
- Illegal possession of weapons — five years
- Fraud — 48 years total
- Conspiracy to the murder of Brian Elliot Ngqulunga — 20 years
- Defeating the ends of justice in the death of Johannes Sweet Sambo — six years
- Murder of Goodwill Sikhakhane — 20 years
- Conspiracy to murder Dirk Coetzee — five years
- Manslaughter of Bhekil Mlangeni — 10 years
- Robbery — two years
- Abduction with intent to seriously injure — four years
- Conspiracy to the murder of Japle Maponya — life
- Conspiracy to the manslaughter of Phapelo Moses Ntshelang — 12 years

enced to 212 years

(251) CT 3110196

Convicted killer Eugene De Kock will serve time in prison, even if his amnesty application to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is successful.

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"After considering all the facts, I have come to the conclusion that lifelong imprisonment is a suitable sentence The actions were chilling and calculated"

The judge said "The accused had believed he was fighting an enemy — a communist enemy of the folk and fatherland The enemy,

he believed, was already inside the country"

After quoting from a previous judgment he said it did not appear that a political milieu could be regarded as an extenuating factor as "what we have here is a cold-blooded decision in which other people were required to perform the deed"

The crimes had been well-planned and carried out, with attempts made to ensure that no traces were left to link the crimes to the police

"A clear message has to be sent out that a return to such incidents will not be tolerated," he said

Judge Van der Merwe said that in this instance the court could be said to be blind to claims that ideology had played any part in De Kock's activities, but he had to take into consideration the ideological argument as "his emotions were used by others in armed warfare" What had happened, however, was that "the wrong is to him right"

De Kock had been emotionally desensitised as a result of a strict upbringing in a Christian home in which he had been taught to hide his true emotions, and believed that he was taking part in a "full-scale war"

His values had become impaired, but he had believed his values were also strengthened by others who had given him orders — "the system had given him a choice and had helped him in his aims"

The activities of the C-10 unit had resulted in people who were not guilty being eliminated — "even members of the police, the Askaris, were victims"

The judge found it reprehensible that people who were to be killed were "kept waiting until they were executed"

The judge said earlier in his judgment that De Kock had seen many gruesome sights during his 27-year police career, particularly in Namibia, and had taken part in armed contacts with Swapo insurgents Evidence had been led that he had been in poor health in Namibia and had been transferred to Vlakplaas from the Koevoet counter-insurgency unit

His health had again failed while at Vlakplaas but despite that he had been appointed officer commanding in succession to Colonel Jack Cronje

In evidence given in mitigation, De Kock had pointed fingers at various high-ranking officers and at political figures

There had also been evidence that De Kock could "look after himself" and that he had come to be regarded as a good leader of men attached to the unit

**MORE
REPORTS,
PICTURES
— Pages 8 & 9**

"De Kock should not be the fall guy for those in higher authority." — Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

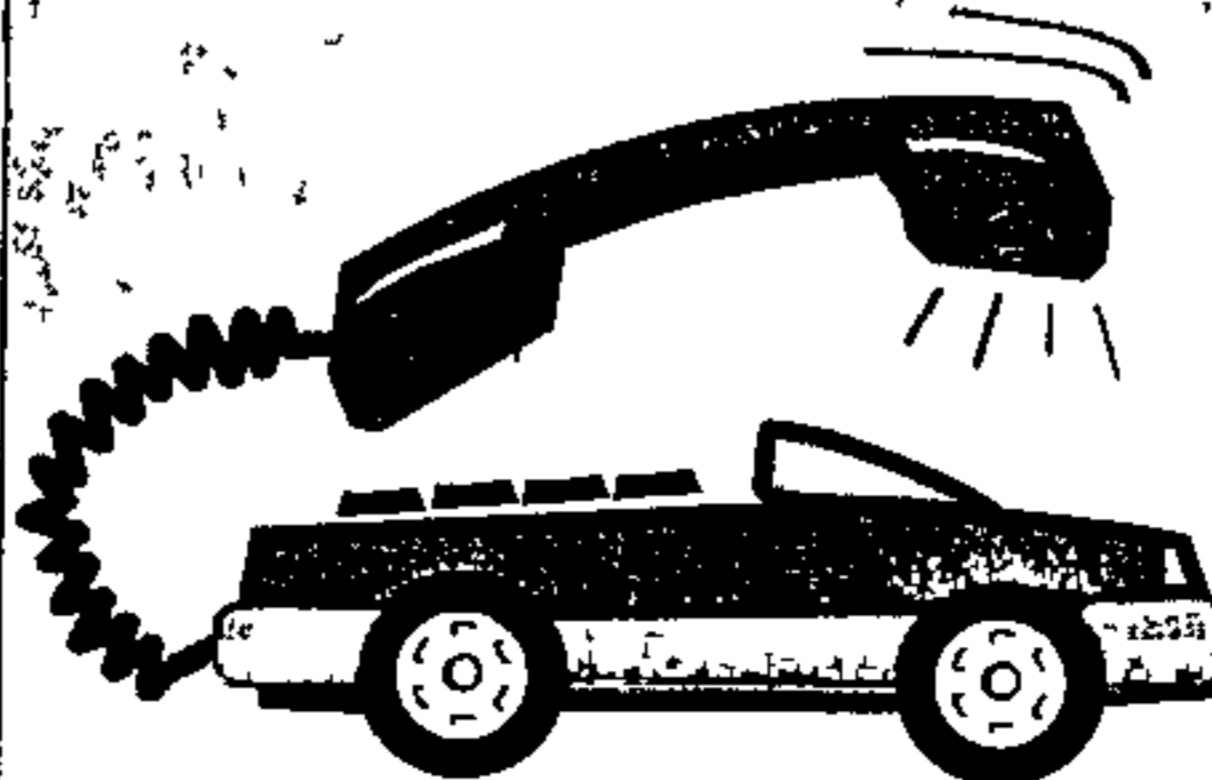
"I think in this case justice took its course." — spokesman for Justice Minister Dullah Omar.

"I would not like to comment." — Former Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok.

"It was in the hands of the court and you can't dispute it." — Former Police Chief General Johan van der Merwe.

"If he only got five years for trying to kill me, obviously my life is dirt cheap." — Former Vlakplaas Commander Dirk Coetzee.

THE INSURANCE HOT-LINE





Mrs Catherine Mlangeni, mother of murdered African National Congress lawyer, Bheki, outside the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday. Mlangeni was killed by a bomb that was initially intended for former Vlakplaas commander Dirk Coetzee. De Kock was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for Mlangeni's death.

PIC VELI NHI

De Kock gets two life sentences

Southern
31/10/96
(251)

By Josias Charle

THE day started rather slowly with grey clouds hanging ominously over the Pretoria sky as if to capture the sombre mood inside court GD

The court room filled as more and more people started arriving. Space was at a premium.

At 9 30am De Kock's junior counsel, Mr Denny du Preez, arrived. He was soon followed by the instructing attorney, Mr Schalk Hugo.

Senior counsel, Mr Flip Hattungh, failed to show up.

At 9 35 De Kock entered the court from the underground cells. He was escorted by a group of policemen who then took up strategic positions around the court room.

He was wearing a grey suit, white shirt and tie and he looked calm and confident. He then consulted his legal team.

The State's team arrived at about 9 37am with co-prosecutor Dr Torie Pretorius leading the pack. He was followed by assistant Mr Emile Viviers and minutes later prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann, SC, sauntered in casually. At about 9 40am the Secretary for

In addition he is given a further sentence of 212 years in jail

Safety and Security Mr Azhar Cachalia arrived. He took a seat behind the legal teams.

About five minutes later, convicted killer Almond Nofemela was escorted into court by two burly Correctional Services warders. He was wearing a grey suit and a T-shirt.

Judge's sole decision

At 9 55 the assessors took their seats near the advocates, but this time they did not join Justice Willem Van der Merwe on the bench as the decision on sentence was decided on his own. They were to hear for the first time De Kock's sentence.

The judge's clerk carted in a trolley fully laden with legal books at about 10am - an indication that Van der Merwe was to spend hours going through the preamble to the sentence.

Minutes later the court orderly shouted "staan in die hof, rise in court", and Van der Merwe stepped in holding a red file that matched his

flowing scarlet robes.

As soon as he was ready, De Kock stood up in the accused box, but the judge asked him to take his seat as sentence was going to be rather lengthy.

Van der Merwe then started what he said was an unpleasant task that he had to perform after the 20-month trial.

He said he would be sitting alone with no assessors but he was grateful for their support in previous months. He also commented that the case had aroused huge public interest and the media had reported very well on it.

Sentencing started shortly after 10am and lasted about three hours. The marathon trial drew to an end when Van der Merwe imposed two life sentences and a string of 20-year jail terms for several murder charges and terms ranging from two to six years imprisonment for various charges of fraud and illegal possession of weapons.

Prime

Appartheid assassin jailed for 212 years

By Josias Charle

FORMER Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was sentenced to two life sentences and 212 years in prison by the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday.

De Kock sat calmly and showed no emotion throughout the proceedings.

Most of the time when Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe read out the lengthy preamble to the sentence, De Kock sat passively, staring at the judge.

When Van der Merwe read out the years he would serve for each of the 69 counts he was convicted on, De Kock jotted them down. But it remained difficult to figure out what was going through his mind.

Dramatic climax

The dramatic climax of De Kock's sensational trial was witnessed by a jam-packed courtroom as scores of people clamoured for seats in court GD.

When the judge started reading out the sentence and made several legal references, no one could have expected that the 20-month trial would end up with De Kock receiving two life sentences and 212 years of other jail terms.

The life sentences are for blowing up of the body of Mr Tisetso Leballo, former driver of

Mrs Winnie Madikizela-Mandela and for conspiracy to abduct, assault and kill Krugersdorp security officer Mr Japie Maponya.

Van der Merwe sentenced him to 20 years each for the murders of Mr Khona Gabela, Mr Lawrence Nyakende, Mr Oscar Ntshona and Mr Gleanck Manna who were with Leballo when they were caught in a police trap in Nelspruit in 1992.

De Kock was jailed for 20 years for conspiracy to abduct and kill Mr Brian Ngulunga. He was sentenced to another 20 years for murdering Mr Goodwill Sthakane in January 1991 in Natal.

He was jailed for 10 years for the killing of African National Congress lawyer Mr Bheki Mangeni. He was found guilty of culpable homicide for his death.

Mlangeni died a gruesome death when a bomb concealed in a tape recorder intended for former Vlakplaas commander Dirk Coetzee blew him up.

For the attempted murder of Coetzee, De Kock got five years. Van der Merwe jailed the self-confessed state assassin for 12 years for the death of Mr Bruce Ntshelang, an askari who was assaulted and killed after losing a firefight during an operation in the then Eastern Transvaal in 1989.

De Kock was jailed for terms

ranging from two to six years for about 66 other charges of fraud and gun-running.

His counsel, Mr Denny du Preez, did not apply for leave to appeal.

During sentencing, Van der Merwe sketched the background of De Kock and concluded that he was a well-mannered, intelligent, strong man who was in control of himself.

It is clear to see why he was commander at Vlakplaas. The judge said he accepted that the crimes for which De Kock had been jailed took place in a particular context but most of them were well planned and executed brutally and ruthlessly.

Judge unhappy
Van der Merwe seemed particularly unhappy about the manner in which Leballo and Maponya had been killed.

He said Maponya's son was that he had a brother whom the police were looking for. Maponya was not a politically minded person and he had just wanted to provide for his wife and child.

Leballo had been shot and his body blown to pieces so that no part of it was left intact.

Van der Merwe said De Kock had committed the most heinous crimes and the community expected the court to punish him accordingly.



Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe said former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock (above) had committed the most heinous crimes.

'Rotten system allowed De Kock to commit these crimes'

By HELEN GRANGE

All crimes had been carefully planned and executed and accused had in every instance had enough time to come to his senses before committing them, judge finds

sentencing which focused strongly on mitigating factors - leading some to believe that Eugene de Kock might have been spared a life sentence - turned sharply at the end yesterday and found De Kock's actions to be "chilling and cold-blooded".

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe referred to numerous international precedents in his efforts to illuminate every legal consideration which had to be taken in a case such as De Kock's - especially how to exact the correct punishment without it weighing too heavily on the side of either leniency or cruelty.

Quoting Cicero, he said anger should be suppressed in punishment, and that it was desirable for judges to approach punishment not in a spirit of anger but in a spirit of equity.

"Hastiness, severity or misplaced pity is no less to be censured. The penalty must fit the crime and not be sadistic," he said.

He quoted from numerous previous judgments in South African and Scottish courts over the issues of retribution, rehabilitation and deterrence. Among judges quoted were Hoexter, Rumpff, Nicholas, Davis, Schreiner, Holmes, Hienstra and Chaskalson.

In considering the sentence, he said he had looked specifically at De Kock's character, which had been heavily influenced by his strict father and his conservative ideological background.

stop. He became ill and stressed," he added.

De Kock, the judge said, had testified on a number of occasions that he had received orders from officers of a higher rank than himself.

The judge found that throughout De Kock's cross-examination, the accused had been "well mannered, neat and tidy, intelligent, at times suffering a speech impediment". He was "quick to respond to questions, in total control of himself at all times and had strong leadership qualities - but only in military instances".

Three medical experts had testified that he was suffering from post-traumatic stress which was rooted in his childhood, where he had learnt to suppress his emotions.

"His biggest motivation in life was to kill communists. He saw them as enemies. He shot them without question and was not financially rewarded for it.

"He had a tendency to disassoc-

His motto

was: 'You

shoot first,

otherwise

you die'

ate himself emotionally. Whether he personally murdered or gave instructions for someone to be murdered was unnatural to him. He suppressed any guilt complex he might have had. He tended to blame his victim instead of himself, although now he is showing remorse and accepting blame.

"The prognosis was that, with help, he could become manageable, although he was a poor psychological patient. He had the potential to become active in society under certain circumstances after treatment."

The judge noted that Vlakplaas unit members had told the court that De Kock had shown exemplary conduct towards his men, and this had been taken into consideration in the judgment. De Kock had from an

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early age been able to keep his emotions in check and this had held him in good stead in operational areas.

Judge Van der Merwe said that for the purposes of punishment, three points had to be considered - deterrence, reform and retribution. In any sentence passed, it had to be ensured that there would be no recurrence of the crimes committed.

In the case of retribution, we had long outgrown eye-for-an-eye justice. Yet it was also important that the feelings of the community should be taken into account.

"The question is 'Who or what is the community?' Different groups think differently. Most of the SAP is still friendly towards him and would vote in his favour. Others want revenge.

"Some in the community, who are aware of the facts and of his remorse and guilt, would be happy for him to become part of the community again. Mercy must not be ruled."

He added that punishment should fit the criminal as well as the crime, to be fair to the accused and society. In De Kock's case, the crimes were "monstrous".

"I was not asked to make a finding on whether the crimes had a political motive. The accused believed that he was fighting the enemy of Namibia, which justified any methods that he chose to use. He accepted that the killing was not for personal gain, but that, under the circumstances, it was for political gain.

"He believed that he fought against an enemy with the main aim of destroying his fatherland.

"In my opinion the court is there to punish the crimes, and not to approve or disapprove of any ideologies. For that the court has to remain blind," he said.

The judge's remarks, which led most in the public gallery to believe that he was bolstering a decision to pass a lenient sentence, then made a surprising turn.

In summing up, he commented "These actions leave one with a chilling feeling. It fills a person with revulsion."

"It is correct that his activities came from a certain time, to which we will never return," the judge said. "With this sentencing a warn-

ing must be given that such actions will not be tolerated."

Judge Van der Merwe said that some of the murders committed by De Kock had been cruel and filled one with horror. He clearly had no respect for human life or dead bodies.

"Your actions were chilling and calculated. These sentences will reflect the revulsion of the community at the deeds," he said.

All the crimes had been carefully planned and executed. In every instance, De Kock had had enough time to come to his senses before the crimes were committed.

Warning must

be given

that such

actions won't

be tolerated

The crimes were cold-blooded and cruel and took place over a long period. Innocent people who posed no threat to the po-

lice were often killed, while some policemen were murdered to keep them quiet.

In trying to conceal the crimes, De Kock implicated people who had nothing to do with the crimes, and he had no qualms in paying the assassins he used, the judge said.

Courts and commissions of inquiry were misled through false evidence and victims' families suffered greatly, he added.

A severely aggravating factor in the fraud charges was that De Kock had been in a position of trust and that he had committed fraud in a devoted and misleading manner.

No qualms

about

paying the

assassins

he used

Judge Van der Merwe found, however, that a "rotten system" had allowed De Kock to commit the crimes. The same system

approved of his actions, or did not disapprove of them, and had helped him to conceal and continue with his activities.

The judge said he was faced with "a difficult task" in sentencing the accused. Although he had sat with two assessors during the 21-month period of the case, the decision he would be handing down was his own, he said.

He had had to take into cognisance the fact that other similar cases had come to the fore while hearing evidence in the De Kock trial, but he had tried to look at all the evidence with "objectivity and integrity".

The Patriot



A life of scheming and death

Van 31/10/96

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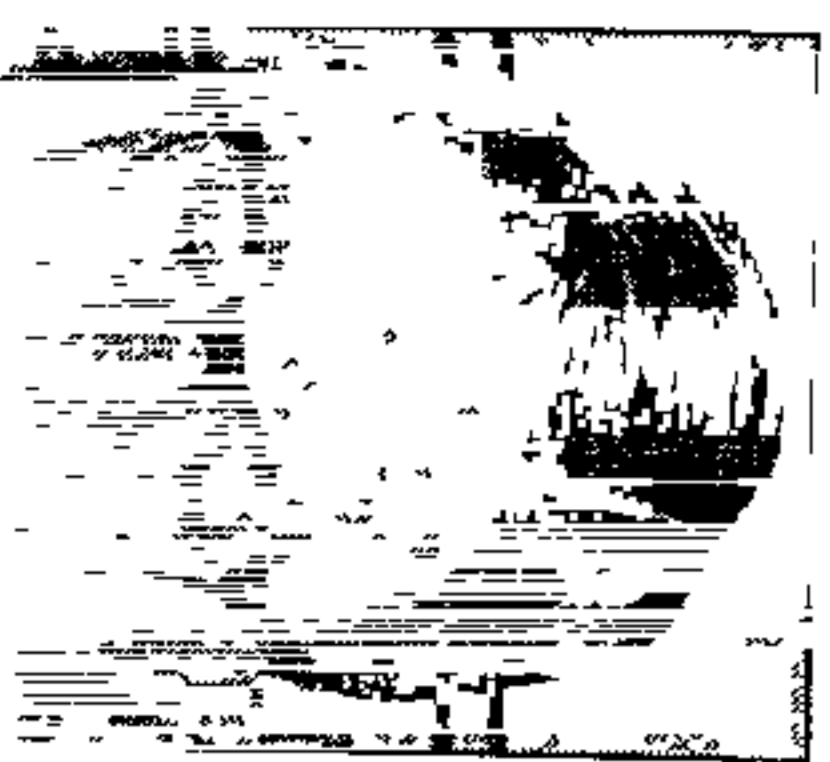
Seeds for leaving a grim trail of blood and violence sown during his childhood

By HELEN GRANGE

Eugene de Kock the assassin could strike the fear of God into a man just by walking into the room. But as a boy, he was mocked by other kids because he wore glasses and had a speech defect.

The seeds of De Kock's fate, culminating in his sentencing today for a life of perennial murder and crime, were sown during his childhood - a childhood in which to any self-respecting nationalist at the time was absolutely normal.

Born in George, he and his brother Vossie were raised on a plot in Springs on the East Rand, where he attended the Beantrek Primary



ing courage in combat situations was fully revealed.

During this war, in which 40 000 died, he and renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee learnt how to dispose of bodies, a skill he put to good effect against anti-apartheid activists later.

He returned to SA in 1973 and soon afterwards became heavily involved in suppressing student activism in the East Rand townships.

Then in 1977, he was sent to Ovamboiland as commander of a police base and in 1979, was transferred to the notorious counter-insurgency unit Koervoet in Oshakati, where he spent the next four years in bloody conflict with Swapo.

A founder member of Koervoet, he and his colleagues were involved in at least

One man, so much misery, so many murders

By HELEN GRANGE

Eugene De Kock began the rest of his life yesterday - as a prisoner who will never be let out.

He was given two life sentences and jailed for a total of 212 years after he had been found guilty 89 charges, including six murders.

But it is clear, both from his own evidence in mitigation, confessions of other policemen and other investigations that countless other executions were carried out by the Vlakplias hit squad, while it was under De Kock's command from 1985 to 1989.

And evidence given by his former colleagues is that De Kock has implicated De Kock in scores of the killings.

Journalist Jacques Pauw, who produced the recently screened television documentary *Prime Evil*, has been engaged in an investigation into De Kock's past for the past nine months, and found that he was involved in the murders of 65 people during his 10 years at Vlakplias between 1983 and 1993.

This is apart from the thousands killed by weapons provided by De Kock during the



Voortrekker
High School in Boksburg. The boys belonged to the Voortrekker movement and went to compulsory veld camps.



De Kock as a young man

De Kock had by then become an extremely efficient killer - but it was taking a heavy toll. His officer commanding at the time, citing "stress

problems" and recommending he be returned home, wrote: "This man has been far too long in a war situation. In this officer's own interests, he should be brought back to normal duties."

In De Kock's own admission, he would have to psyche himself up before each operation and afterwards, felt "emotionally drained".

But bush war was to be only the first wave of De Kock's career. On returning home, he immediately joined Vlakplaas, home of the police hit squads, and became its commander two years later.

De Kock told the court "It was a foreign fear, and no other fear I have ever experienced, not in combat, not during unrest or any other situation, was ever the same or so intense."

Armed with an obsessive desire to "fight terrorism", he did his national service in the army in 1967 and wanted to join the SADF Permanent Force. But due to his poor eyesight, he failed the medical. Deeply disappointed, he joined the police in 1968, and after training at police college, was sent to Beroun.

That same year, at the age of 18, he was called up for war duty in the former Rhodesia and found himself fighting alongside crack Rhodesian troops.

It was here that De Kock's leadership skills and his outstand-

ing performance were recognized. He was highly decorated - twice for cross-border raids into Lesotho and Swaziland, in which dozens of people were gunned down.

But the changing political tide eventually caught up with De Kock and he was arrested in May 1994. De Kock, in this time, has "seriously" considered suicide, and has pleaded for his freedom.

Testing an mitigation of sentence, he told the court "As I sit here now, I wish I'd never been born - all we ever achieved was the destruction of people's lives"

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The De Kock dossier: all those he named in his plea for mercy

These are all the policemen and politicians named by De Kock during his plea in mitigation.

- **Ex-president P W BOTHA** ordered raid on Maseru as well as the bombing of Khotsiso House.
- **Ex-president F W DE KLERK:** ordered raid on Transkei in 1993.
- **LOUIS LE GRANGE,** former minister of police gave De Kock police star for exemplary service after a raid.
- **ADRIAAN VLOK,** former minister of police, congratulated De Kock.
- **PIK BOTHA,** ex-minister of foreign affairs "had to know" about cross-border raids.

- **GENERAL JOHAN COETZEE,** former police commissioner congratulated Unit C-10 at his home after raid on Swaziland but did not want to shake De Kock's hand as there was blood on it.
- **Approved raid on Lesotho**
- **GENERAL JOHAN VAN DER MERWE,** ex police commissioner implicated in raid on Swaziland. Approved raid on Lesotho. False claims made out to provide funds for Taiwan trip.
- **GENERAL JACK BUCHNER,** former security chief in Durban named in abduction of Swaziland ANC operative.
- **GENERAL MIKE GELDENHUIS,** former

- **GENERAL JOHAN COETZEE,** former police commissioner congratulated Unit C-10 at his home after raid on Swaziland but did not want to shake De Kock's hand as there was blood on it.
- **Approved raid on Lesotho**
- **GENERAL JOHAN VAN DER MERWE,** ex police commissioner implicated in raid on Swaziland. Approved raid on Lesotho. False claims made out to provide funds for London trip.
- **NIEL BARNARD,** former head of National Intelligence Service warned of implications of Swaziland raid.
- **GENERAL BERTUS STEYN,** security police involved in dirty tricks campaigns in South Africa and abroad. Requested elimination of unnamed

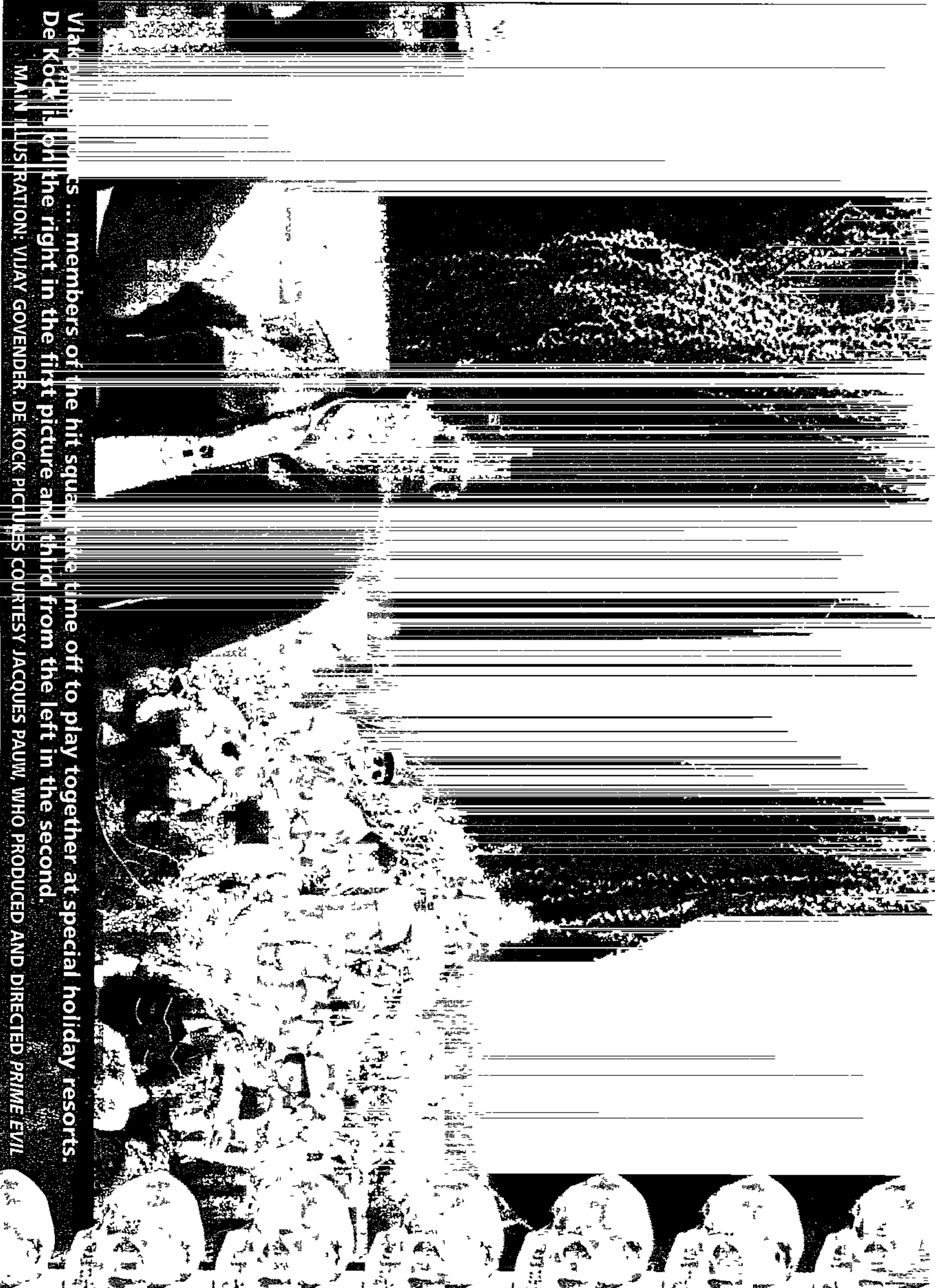
- **former ANC man in Durban**
- **GENERAL JOHAN LE ROUX,** security police involved in dirty tricks in South Africa and abroad. Requested elimination of Japie Maponya.
- **GENERAL BASIE SMIT,** ex-deputy commissioner gave De Kock the Police Cross for Bravery (silver) after Swaziland raid. False claims made out to provide funds for London trip.
- **GENERAL HERMAN STADTLER,** ex-chief of security and later chief of communications was aware of unit's activities and helped plan abduction of ANC.
- **BRIGADIER WILLEM SCHOON,** former security chief, Pretoria - approved raid on Lesotho and implicated several times as having been involved in raids.
- **GENERAL KRAPPES**
- **ENGELBRECHT,** former

- **security chief urged De Kock to "make own arrangements" to obtain R250 000 extra for his pension. Approved false claims for police officers and military intelligence spies involved in dirty tricks campaigns in South Africa and abroad.**
- **CRAIG WILLIAMSON,** former police and military intelligence spy implicated in assassination of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme and took part in bombing of London offices of ANC.
- **PHILIP POWELL,** IFP senator wanted arms and ammunition for Inkatha special forces.
- **COLONEL NICK**

- **OOSTHUIZEN,** of Border Control Unit, SAP implicated in death of Japie Maponya.
- **COLONEL JACK CRONJE,** former officer commanding, Vlakplaas ordered raid on Swaziland.
- **COLONEL VISSER,** Eastern Transvaal security policeman implicated.
- **COLONEL DELPORT,** East Rand security police officer implicated.
- **CAPTAIN TIMMO OOSTHUIZEN,** unit unknown implicated.
- **COLONEL BAKER,** of Pretoria security police was given money to pay for schooling of his children.
- **CAPTAIN JAN KLEYNMANS,** of police

- **headquarters implicated in death of Japie Maponya.**
- **De Kock also named GENERAL BANTU HOLOMISA,** former Transkei leader and ANC deputy minister, and **CHRIS HANI,** assassinated secretary general of the SA Communist Party as being implicated in the killing of former Transkei defence force officer Craig Dull

- **February 1991** Lawyer Bheki Mlangeni blown up by a parcel bomb.
- **July 1991** Body of a detainee blown up with explosives.
- **March 1992** Four suspected bank robbers murdered in Nelspruit.
- **March 1992** Fifth suspected bank robber blown up with explosives.
- **An old colleague of De Kock, former Vlakplaas operative Joe Mamasela, also listed a number of askaris who were killed, either because they "knew too much" or were "distilled" or couldn't be trusted to keep secret the unit's brutal activities**



Members of the hit squad take time off to play together at special holiday resorts. De Kock is on the right in the first picture and third from the left in the second.

MAIN ILLUSTRATION: VIVAY GOVENDER. DE KOCK PICTURES COURTESY JACQUES PAUW, WHO PRODUCED AND DIRECTED PRIME EVIL

- **In 1983** Two ANC activists shot dead in Swaziland.
- **May 1985** Three UDF activists kidnapped and murdered in the Eastern Cape.
- **June 1985** Eight students blown up on the East Rand.
- **September 1985** Japie Maponya, brother of ANC activist, kidnapped and murdered.
- **December 1985** Seven people shot dead in Lesotho.
- **June 1986** Three ANC members shot dead in Swaziland.
- **June 1986** Four ANC youth members shot dead near Durban.
- **August 1986** Five ANC members shot dead in the Eastern Transvaal.
- **May 1987** Three ANC members shot dead in Swaziland.
- **June 1988** Eight ANC members shot dead in the Eastern Transvaal.
- **July 1989** An askar murdered in the Vlakplaas pub.
- **December 1989** Four people blown up near Port Elizabeth.
- **Between 1990 and 1993,** another 16 were killed.
- **1990** Three people blown up in Botswana.
- **April 1990** Four people shot dead in Botswana.
- **July 1990** Bran Ngqulunga murdered.
- **January 1991** Askari Goodwill Sikhakhane murdered.
- **February 1991** Lawyer Bheki Mlangeni blown up by a parcel bomb.
- **July 1991** Body of a detainee blown up with explosives.
- **March 1992** Four suspected bank robbers murdered in Nelspruit.
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NO WAY OUT FOR DE KOCK

Cold-blooded killer given two life sentences and 212 years, told he does not qualify for parole or full amnesty

By NORMAN GUARDIAN
and Own Correspondent

Eugene de Kock will stay in jail even if his amnesty application to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is successful.

TRC deputy chairman Dr Alex Boraine says De Kock - who has started serving two life sentences and the 212 years he was sentenced to yesterday - will not be granted amnesty on all his convictions. There are charges on which he was convicted which fall outside the term of reference of the Commission.

These included the fraud and possession and smuggling of arms convictions, a TRC spokesman said.

De Kock is expected to apply for amnesty soon and his attorney has contacted the TRC.

Mr Justice Willem van der Merwe said that no one sentenced to more than 100 years could get parole.

The life sentences, to run con-

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It fills a
person with
revulsion
”

currently, are for the murder of Winnie Mandela's driver/bodyguard Tisetso Leballo and for

(251) Star 31/10/96 FRANCOIS SMIT



was taking part in a full-scale war. His values had become impaired but he believed his values were also strengthened by others who had given him orders - "the system had given him a choice and had helped him in his aims", the judge said.

He criticised the State for calling particular witnesses, saying there was an impression that those who took the witness box were being offered amnesty or being made aware they would be immune from prosecution.

"Can it not be said that other people will be investigated as well? Some could go scot-free and it is a possibility that must be taken into consideration."

The activities of the C-10 unit had resulted in people who were not guilty being eliminated - "even members of the police, the askaris, were victims".

"In certain instances, some members of the unit were the executioners while others were ordered to file false expense claims."

The judge found it reprehensi-

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Others may
be probed
as well
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ble that people who were to be killed were "kept waiting until they were executed"

De Kock sentenced to a life behind bars

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Vlakplaas murder squad commander Eugene de Kock had to spend the rest of his life behind bars to pay for his heinous crimes "condoned and covered up by a system rotten to the core", the Transvaal Supreme Court ruled yesterday.

Only a life sentence would satisfy society's demand for retribution for "revolting acts planned and executed in cold blood", Judge Willem van der Merwe told the court packed with spectators desperate to see the face of the man dubbed "Prime Evil".

Elated spectators shouting "ANC" waited outside the court building for hours demanding to see "murderer De Kock" after Van der Merwe sentenced the 47-year-old state assassin and father of two young sons to two life sentences and to 212 years' imprisonment for six murders, two charges of conspiracy to murder, attempted murder, culpable homicide, assault, abduction, illegal possession of arms and ammunition and 60 fraud charges.

He ruled that the sentences run concurrently, effectively sentencing De Kock to one life term.

Van der Merwe's ruling ended a trial lasting 20 months and ten days, with De Kock's defence alone costing the SA taxpayer more than R5,1m.

An application by the SA Police Service for De Kock to repay R72 111 — the money he claimed fraudulently from state coffers, was rejected by Van der Merwe. The judge said he made this ruling because it was likely that the SA Police Service would still institute civil claims against De Kock, and because he did not have enough information about De Kock's personal financial situation.

Even if De Kock is granted amnesty for the "political crimes" he committed, he will remain behind bars at least until 2014 for ordering the killing of a suspected would-be bank robber, Thiso Leballo. De Kock has been in custody for the past two-and-a-half years. In terms of legislation to be tabled this week, a life sentence will mean not less than 20 years behind bars.

It was on De Kock's orders that Leballo, who at the time of his murder in 1992 worked as Winnie Mandela's driver, was taken to a deserted mine near Ohrigstad where he was shot and his body blown up with explosives. Rolf

Geyers, the Vlakplaas member who pulled the trigger but received indemnity from prosecution for testifying against his former master, was sitting in court during sentencing. Like De Kock, Geyers showed no emotion.

A second life term was imposed for the 1985 abduction, assault and subsequent killing of Kurgersdorp security guard Japie Maponya. "Maponya's only sin was that his brother, a trained MK operative, was wanted by the police," Van der Merwe said.

He described De Kock as an intelligent, well-raised and mannered person, but said his crimes were cold-blooded, cruel, calculated and callous.

He sentenced De Kock to six separate terms of 20 years each for the murder of four would-be robbers outside Nelspruit, the conspiracy to murder colleague Brian Ngqulunga and the murder of Durban askari Goodwill Sekhakhane.

De Kock was also sentenced to 10 years for being responsible for the death of Bhekri Mlangeni, the lawyer killed by a bomb meant for renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee. For attempt-

Continued on Page 2

BD 31/10/96 (251)



A policeman keeps the crowds at bay outside the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday after former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock was sentenced to two life sentences and 212 years in jail.

Picture: TYRONEARTHUR

De Kock

Continued from Page 1

ing to kill Coetzee, he got five years

He was sentenced to 48 years on 60 charges of fraud. As aggravating factors, Van der Merwe found that the crimes had been carefully planned and executed, had been cold-blooded and that De Kock showed no mercy to his victims. "Innocent people were killed and those Vlakplaas members who had

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acted as executioners had received financial rewards."

The judge found in mitigation that De Kock had operated in a war milieu and in support of a particular ideology. "However it is not up to the court to support or condemn any political ideology," Van der Merwe said.

Superior officers condoned De Kock's actions and in fact praised and rewarded him. "A system rotten to the core not only allowed him to commit his crimes, but also condoned and helped to cover them up," Van der Merwe said.

'Nerdish' looking boy turned killer

CT 31/10/96 (251)

OWN CORRESPONDENT

EUGENE DE KOCK the assassin could strike the fear of God into a man just by walking into the room. But as a boy, he was mocked by kids because he wore glasses and had a speech defect.

The seeds of De Kock's fate, culminating in his sentencing yesterday for a life of murder and crime, were sewn during his childhood — a childhood which to any self-respecting nationalist at the time was absolutely normal.

Born at George, he and his brother Vossie were raised on a plot in Springs on the East Rand, where he attended the Baanbreker Primary School and the Voortrekker High School in Boksburg. The boys belonged to the Voortrekker movement and went to compulsory veld camps.

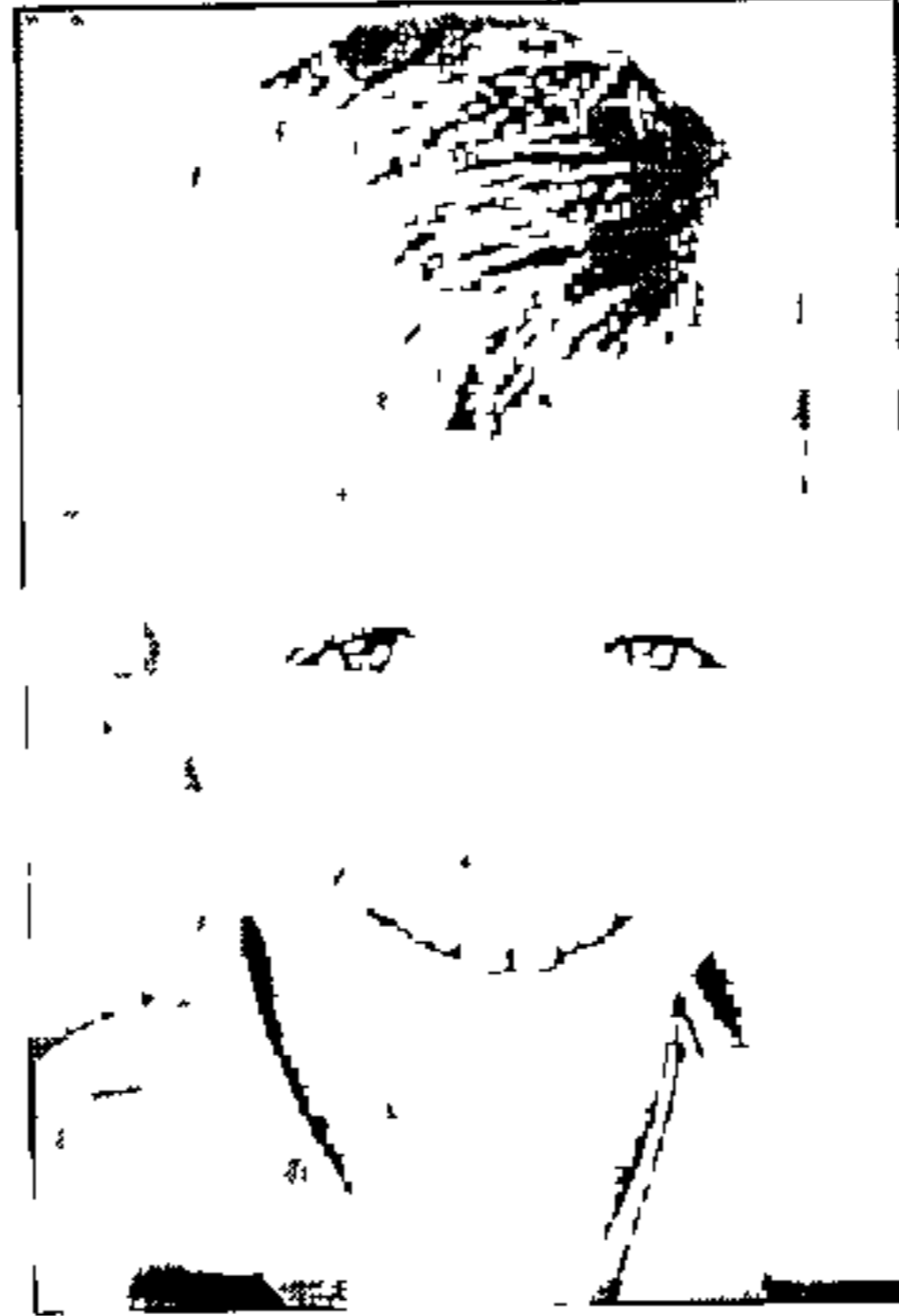
The progeny of a conservative Afrikaans family, they were fed a daily diet of patriotism by their father, a magistrate who belonged to several right-wing groups and whose frequent administration of corporal punishment bordered at times on assault.

Yet only once did De Kock feel an intense fear, unfamiliar and never again experienced during his adulthood as a soldier and policeman.

It was the time his mother threatened to leave home. Vossie and he watched her from a window getting into a car and his brother began to cry.

De Kock told the court: "It was a foreign fear, and no other fear I have ever experienced, not in combat, not during unrest or any other situation, was ever the same or so intense."

Armed with an obsessive desire to "fight terrorism", he did his national service in the army in 1967 and wanted to join the SADF Permanent Force. But due to his poor eyesight, he failed the medical. Deeply disappointed, he joined the police in 1968, and after training at police college, was sent to Benoni.



AS A BOY: Eugene de Kock was mocked for wearing glasses and having a speech defect.

That same year, at the age of 18, he was called up for war duty in the former Rhodesia and found himself fighting alongside crack Rhodesian troops.

It was here that De Kock's leadership skills and his outstanding courage in combat situations was revealed.

During this war, in which 40 000 died, he and renegade policeman Mr Dirk Coetzee learnt how to dispose of bodies, a skill he put to good effect against anti-apartheid activists later.

He returned to SA in 1973 and became heavily involved in suppressing student activism in

the East Rand townships.

Then in 1977, he was sent to Ovamboland as commander of a police base and in 1979, was transferred to the counter-insurgency unit Koevoet in Oshakati, where he spent the next four years in bloody conflict with Swapo. A founder member of Koevoet, he and his colleagues were involved in at least 350 skirmishes.

De Kock had by then become an extremely efficient killer — but it was taking a heavy toll. His officer commanding at the time, citing "stress problems" and recommending he be returned home, wrote "This man has been far too long in a war situation. In this officer's own interests, he should be brought back to normal duties."

But bush war was to be only the first wave of De Kock's career. On returning home, he immediately joined Vlakplaas, home of the police hit squads, and became its commander two years later.

He was nicknamed Prime Evil by his colleagues and Scourge of God by the ANC during the "total onslaught" era, and from 1983 to 1989, planned or helped carry out the execution of dozens of ANC members and so-called "Askaris" (ANC turncoats).

De Kock was decorated for his services. But the changing political tide eventually caught up with De Kock and he was arrested in May 1994.

Ex-Vlakplaas chief involved in other killings, probe shows

27 01/10/96

(251)

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: Eugene de Kock has been found guilty and sentenced for six murders, but this can by no means be the only killing he has been involved in.

The Vlakplaas police unit, which he commanded from 1985 to 1989, was involved in countless executions of anti-apartheid activists and, according to former colleagues who have come clean, De Kock was involved in most of them.

Journalist Jacques Pauw, who produced the recently screened TV documentary *Prime Evil*, has been conducting an investigation into De Kock's past for the past nine months.

Pauw found that De Kock was involved in the murders of 65 people during his 10 years at Vlakplaas between 1985 and 1995.

The report from the thousands killed by weapons provided by De Kock during the late 1980s to the war-ridden townships of KwaZulu-Natal and the Witwatersrand-Pretoria.

Pauw found that at least 40 people were killed by the Vlakplaas unit during De Kock's command there. These were:

- 1984: Five ANC activists shot dead in Swaziland
- May 1985: Three UDF activists kidnapped and murdered in the Eastern Cape
- June 1985: Eight students blown up on the East Rand
- September 1985: Mr Japie Mijneer, brother of an ANC activist, kidnapped and murdered

- December 1985: Seven people shot dead in Lesotho.

- June 1986: Three ANC members shot dead in Swaziland

- June 1986: Four ANC youth members shot dead near Durban

- August 1986: Five ANC members shot dead in the Eastern Transvaal

- May 1987: Three ANC members shot dead in Swaziland

- June 1988: Eight ANC members shot dead in the Eastern Transvaal

- July 1989: An Askari murdered in the Vlakplaas pub

- December 1989: Four people blown up near Port Elizabeth

Between 1990 and 1995, another 16 people were killed:

- 1990: Three people blown up in Botswana.

- April 1990: Four people shot dead in Botswana.

- July 1990: Mr Brian Ngqulunga murdered.

- January 1991: Askari Mr Goodwill Sikhakhane murdered

- February 1991: Lawyer Mr Bheki Mlangeni blown up by a parcel bomb.

- July 1991: Body of a detainee blown up with explosives

- March 1992: Four suspected bank robbers murdered in Nelspruit

- March 1992: Fifth suspected bank robber blown up with explosives

An old colleague of De Kock's, former Vlakplaas operative Joe Mamasela, also listed a number of Askaris who were killed, either because they "knew too much", were "disillusioned" or couldn't be trusted to keep secret the unit's brutal activities

Eastern Cape police get R45-m boost

Johannesburg - Forty-one police stations in the Eastern Cape are being renovated as part of a R45-million programme to improve policing in the province, especially in the Transkei and Ciskei, police deputy national commissioner Zolisa Lavisa said here

The Rapid Delivery Procurement System (RDPS) is the pilot project in the upgrading of stations, beginning with the Eastern Cape, where police facilities have become seriously dilapidated

The RDPS was called for by Commissioner George Fivaz, who visited the area in March

At the time, Commissioner Fivaz said that he was disgusted at the situation in the former home-

lands, and called for urgent funds to be provided

Deputy Commissioner Lavisa said the first smaller stations would be completed towards the end of the year and would be handed over to the SA Police Service during the first half of 1997

Bigger police stations like that in Butterworth would also receive urgent attention

He said that during the initial stages of the RDPS, about 430 inquiry documents were issued throughout the Eastern Cape

National contractors who were awarded some of the tenders had sourced large proportions of material and labour with local suppliers and enterprises, he said - Sapa

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Kids go short as police bands play

(248) (251) CT 1/11/96

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

POLICE bands were funded to the tune of R26 million in 1995/6 — compared with R15,2m allocated to child-protection units.

The relatively low spending on preventing child-abuse has struck a sour note with social workers and children's rights organisations.

Their call for increased spending on child-protection units will be underlined tomorrow when the "children's truth commission" sits

in Parliament and children give evidence about abuse.

The extent of spending on police bands and child-protection units was disclosed yesterday by Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi when he replied to a question tabled in the Senate by Mr James Selfe (DP).

Mufamadi said he was concerned because some of the budgetary allocations in the South African Police Service were not in line with the policing priorities set out in the annual police plan of the national commissioner of

police or the crime-prevention strategy.

"I have given a directive that the matter be addressed as far as future budget allocations are concerned," he said.

The Resources Aimed at Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, the organisers of the "children's truth commission", said recently:

"It is not good enough to say that there is no money for protective services for children social welfare services in communities of need."

Corrupt police stymie plans

(251) MAR 4/11/96

SAPA
Umtata

The level of corruption among policemen was so high that government efforts to halt the upsurge of crime and violence were severely undermined, President Nelson Mandela said in Umtata in the Eastern Cape at the weekend.

He was addressing local lawyers during a week in which a renewed outbreak of taxi violence at Mqanduli claimed at least six lives. The group asked the president what the Government was doing to beat the scourge of crime and violence.

Mandela said the Department of Safety and Security had conceived a secret plan to halt crime and violence and to eliminate acts of corruption in the government service "as an emergency step", but gave no details.

"The unfortunate thing is that when the emergency steps are taken, innocent people will also suffer. But there is no way we can avoid that

"The Government has simply declared war on violence, taxi wars, mur-

ders, robberies, hijackings and other acts of crime"

The main problem, Mandela said, was police corruption. Instead of helping to eliminate crime and violence, a good number of policemen were known to be undermining the effort by associating with criminals for financial gain.

He said cases of police involvement with crime syndicates at local and international level had been uncovered

Involvement in crime syndicates uncovered

Leaders of large crime syndicates were even boasting that nothing could be done to stop their activities because they could pay policemen more than what government could afford, he said

As confirmation, he said, essential documents like police dockets often disappeared mysteriously just before suspects were due to stand trial. In other cases, important files and crime dossiers also vanished from strongrooms and safes

However, Mandela said, prosecutors and court interpreters were also suspects. He said the ANC government had, since taking power two years ago, arrested every known police suspect.

SAPS budget: Reports slated

CT 4/11/96 (251)

JOHANNESBURG: A report that the SA Police Services' (SAPS) budget for next year faced an effective R600 million cut was "misleading, unauthorised and irresponsible", Police Commissioner George Fivaz said yesterday.

Reacting to statements in Sunday newspapers by national police budget co-ordinator Senior Superintendent Johan Nelson, Fivaz repudiated the report that government spending on crime and policing was not a major priority.

"It is far too early to indicate firm intentions with regard to the budgets of individual government departments, including the SAPS," he said.

Nelson said that although government departments were still finalising the national budget to be presented to Parliament next year, he already knew what to expect.

The budget team had proposed an increase of R1,1 billion, bringing the total budget to R10,9bn.

They said the increase, which accounted for a 10,4% nominal growth rate, would barely see them through the financial year. They were reportedly told to expect a 0,2% increase instead.

Nelson added that funds are needed for personnel and resources like computers, phones, fax machines and desks — Sapa

Corrupt police undermine crime-fight, says Mandela

Umtata - Police corruption levels are severely undermining government efforts to bring an end to crime and violence in South Africa, says President Mandela.

He was speaking to lawyers in Umtata in the Eastern Cape at the weekend - after a week in which a renewed outbreak of taxi violence at Mqanduli claimed at least six lives.

The lawyers asked the president what the government was doing to beat crime and violence.

Mr Mandela confirmed that the Department of Safety and Security had conceived a secret plan to halt crime and violence and to eliminate corruption in the government service "as an emergency step", but gave no details.

"The unfortunate thing is that when the emergency steps are taken, innocent people will also suffer.

"But there is no way we can avoid that

"The government has simply declared war on violence, taxi wars, murders, robberies, hijackings and other acts of crime."

(251) ARU 4/11/96
The main problem, Mr Mandela said, was police corruption. Instead of helping to eliminate crime and violence, a "good number" of policemen were known to be undermining the effort by associating with criminals for financial gain.

He said police involvement with crime syndicates at local and international level had been uncovered.

Leaders of large crime syndicates were even boasting that nothing could be done to stop their activities because they could pay policemen more than the government could afford.

As confirmation, he said, essential documents like police dockets against criminals often disappeared mysteriously just before suspects were due to stand trial.

In other cases important files and crime dossiers vanished from strongrooms and safes.

Prosecutors and court interpreters were also suspects, Mr Mandela said.

He said the African National Congress government had, since taking over power two years ago, arrested every known police suspect - Sapa

Experts train police on human rights

(251)
David Capel

BD 4/11/96

SENIOR police officers in Northern Province were last week put through an intensive course on human rights by a team of international experts.

The week-long workshop was organised by the province's safety and security department and the renowned Raoul Wallenberg Institute at Lund University in Sweden. It ended in Pietersburg on Friday.

A former chief superintendent with the British police and a fellow of the Human Rights Centre at the University of Essex, Ralph Crawshaw said during the workshop that Northern Province police officers had displayed a "whole-hearted desire" to operate in a humane manner. He had not detected more resistance to the concept of human rights than he had in any other country.

Station commanders and other officers were put through their paces on a range of human rights issues, including the deprivation of liberty, arrest and detention, treatment of detainees and the use of force.

Deputy director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS) at Wits University, Prof Shadrack Gutto delivered a paper on police powers and human rights under the new constitution.

Crawshaw said that police officers needed to be convinced that human rights and policing were compatible.

Culture of corruption the problem, says Fivaz

Cape Town - Police Commissioner George Fivaz yesterday supported President Nelson Mandela's concerns about corruption in the police services, but said police corruption could not be isolated from the pervasive culture of corruption in South African society

"I wholeheartedly share President Nelson Mandela's great concern about the cancer of corruption in the civil service as a whole, including the criminal justice system," he said

The president's strongly-worded concerns would give powerful impetus to efforts to fight corruption in the civil service, including the police

"But police corruption cannot be isolated from the pervasive culture of corruption now taking root in almost all levels of South African society"

Fivaz said Mandela's statements highlighted the urgency of creating a comprehensive and co-ordinated anti-corruption drive

including all sectors of South African society

"This is shown by the reluctance of the business sector to take stringent steps in all cases of corruption, thus in some cases also undermining actions to identify and act against corrupt police individuals

"A narrow focus divorced from a general anti-corruption strategy on fighting police corruption, will therefore not produce decisive results," he said. - Sapa

(251)

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Police dockets handed over to attorney-general

BO 5/11/96

(251)

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — A "cardboard box" containing police dockets relating to human rights violations during the 1980s by a wide spectrum of individuals, including ANC members, has been handed to the office of the Transvaal attorney-general and is being studied.

"We are working through the dockets, looking at the evidence and will decide on whether or not prosecutions should take place," senior advocate Antonette de Jager said yesterday.

She confirmed that a docket relating to the Pretoria Church Street bomb was among the dockets received from the SAPS.

Police commissioner George Fivaz said the handing over of the dockets — relating to politically motivated crimes during the apartheid era — had been done at the request of Transvaal attorney-general Jan D'Oliveira.

"D'Oliveira recently requested that the SAPS give him any outstanding dockets relating to politically motivated crimes because he felt a victim of a perception that he was not even-handed in probing such atrocities across the political spectrum," Fivaz said.

D'Oliveira's special investigation team has for the past two years been

investigating, among others, crimes allegedly committed by members of the former security forces and had been responsible for the investigation which put former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock behind bars for life.

Recently, another former Vlakplaas commander, Brig Jack Cronje, and a member of the Northern Transvaal security branch, Capt Jacques Hechter, were also charged by D'Oliveira with 27 apartheid crimes. The two are due to appear in the Supreme Court next year, but have applied to the truth commission for amnesty.

"D'Oliveira indicated that he and his investigation team would assess the relevant dockets, after which he would decide on any further investigations and possible prosecutions," the commissioner said.

Fivaz said it was incorrect to infer that the police had established investigation teams to reopen the dockets for further investigation.

He said the perception that the dockets in question related only to actions allegedly committed by ANC members also had to be dispelled.

"To be even-handed, these dockets should include investigations against a wide spectrum of individuals linked to the conflicts of the past," Fivaz said.

Cape council embarks on valuation

Linda Ensor

BO 5/11/96

CAPE TOWN — The Cape metropolitan council and five of the six municipalities incorporated under it have agreed to embark on a valuation of properties based only on the market value of the land, without consideration being given to the value of structural improvements.

The sixth, Helderberg, still has to discuss the issue.

As properties in some parts of Cape Town were valued only as far back as 1974 and 1979, it was expected that some people could be paying substantially higher rates to reflect the escalation in the market value of their land.

It was envisaged that new rating structures on the basis of next year's valuation would be implemented from July 1998.

Former Cape Town city planner and South Peninsula municipality representative Neville Riley warned yesterday that ways would have to be found to soften the impact on those whose properties were last valued in 1979.

The council and municipalities decided that unlike Gauteng, there would not be a uniform rate imposed throughout the metropolitan area. It would be left to each municipality to decide its own rates in the light of their budgetary and social needs and individual policy on rebates.

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Police corruption 'part of culture'

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — Police corruption could not be isolated from the pervasive culture of corruption now taking root in almost all levels of SA society, national police commissioner George Fivaz said yesterday.

Reacting to a weekend statement by President Nelson Mandela that police corruption was undermining government efforts to halt crime and violence, Fivaz said it highlighted the urgency of creating a comprehensive and co-ordinated anti-corruption drive including all sectors of the society.

"I share the president's concern about the cancer of corruption in the public service as a whole, including the criminal justice system," Fivaz said.

20 5/11/96 (251)

He said Mandela's concerns would give impetus to further efforts to fight corruption throughout the public service, including the SAPS.

Addressing lawyers in Umtata in the Eastern Cape, Mandela said instead of helping to eliminate crime and violence, a good number of policemen were known to be undermining the effort by associating with criminals.

Mandela said cases of police involvement with crime syndicates had been uncovered.

Fivaz said the culture of corruption in almost all levels of society was shown by the reluctance of the business sector to take action in all cases of corruption—in some cases also undermining actions to identify and act against corrupt police officials.

Delay in decision on plant 'not undue'

Reinle Booysse

SA COMPANIES investigating a Taiwanese proposal to build a \$3,5bn petrochemical plant in SA have rejected accusations that they are taking unduly long to reach a decision on the project.

The consortium of SA firms is deciding whether to support a feasibility study on the project, involving building an integrated petrochemical-based industrial node somewhere along the coast.

"The parties are all taking the matter seriously, and they are all involved," said one source.

The proposal is for the SA companies to take a 50% stake, while

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the other 50% will be taken up by a consortium of Taiwanese companies. These include the state oil and petrochemical company, Chinese Petroleum Corporation, and Tuntex, a major Taiwanese petrochemical company.

One participant said he had received a letter from the Taiwanese delegation expressing sympathy for the scale of the investigation by the SA companies.

Taiwan's ambassador, I-Cheng Loh, reportedly told the SA Republic of China trade conference in Johannesburg last week that the Taiwanese investors might lose patience with the cautious approach adopted by the SA

companies

However, SA industry sources said it was no surprise that the investigation was taking so long. "This is not an easy, quick decision," said one source. "The project cuts across three major sectors, and it will take time to get through the process."

He said the three sectors were oil refining, which generated the feedstocks which would be needed by the petrochemical plant; petrochemical manufacturing itself; and the fibres sector, which would use petrochemicals to manufacture textiles and garments.

The project also involves a range of other SA companies

'Bobby on the beat' campaign

Mass action to pressurise Government to act on manpower shortage in force

(251) Star 6/11/96

By Anso Thom
Crime Reporter

A manpower shortage of more than 3 000 police officers in the Johannesburg area has prompted community policing forums to launch a mass action campaign, pressurising Government to put 2 500 officers, drowning in administrative duties, back on the streets.

The campaign appeals to Government to replace these officers with civil servants who voluntarily took severance packages.

The three-pronged "Bobby on the Beat campaign" - spearheaded by the Rosebank community policing forum and the Johannesburg community policing area board, and supported by the 22 community policing forums - was launched yesterday and is aimed at

- Persuading the Government to hire civilians to free nearly 2 500 trained police officers currently employed on administrative duties in Gauteng, and

- Getting Government to lift the moratorium on recruiting police to allow nearly 500 trained policemen seeking re-admission to the force, to rejoin

The action plan involves the gathering of tens of thousands of signatures on public petitions over the next two weeks, the orchestration of a letter campaign to the office of the Minister of Safety and Security, and the winning of public support through publicity campaigns and the media

JO'BURG POLICE MANPOWER STATISTICS

Station	Existing Staff	Staff Granted	Staff Shortage
ROSEBANK	58	285	79,6%
SANDTON	234	680	65,6%
BRAMLEY	161	441	63,5%
FAIRLAND	60	157	61,8%
YEOVILLE	79	198	60,9%
LINDEN	159	385	58,7%
NORWOOD	127	295	56,9%
HILLBROW	358	566	54,4%
RANDBURG	248	512	51,6%
BRIXTON	169	347	51,3%
BOOYSENS	303	596	49,2%
CLEVELAND	168	318	47,2%
LANGLAAGTE	85	157	45,9%
MONDEOR	118	208	43,3%
SANDRINGHAM	105	163	35,6%
PARKVIEW	99	144	31,3%
NEULANDS	154	199	22,6%
JOHN VORSTER	943	1 144	17,6%
JEPPE	340	380	10,5%
ALEXANDRA	247	274	9,9%
TOTAL	4 215	7 449	43,4%

*Figures as at 31 May 1996

Rosebank police station currently has 35 policemen, leaving four policemen on a shift because of staff requirements such as study leave, sick leave and annual leave

Two policemen work in the charge office and two patrol the streets in a van.

According to SA Police Services manpower statistics, the Rosebank station should have 285 staff members if the size of the area, population size and several other factors are taken

into consideration

Chairman of the Area Board, Gerald Heine, said Operation Urban Strike, which involved the drafting of 1 000 policemen from other parts of the country into Johannesburg, had significantly cut crime, proving crime could be reduced if sufficient manpower was made available in the city

"Urban Strike has proven that visible policing is the answer," Heine added

He said once the policemen

used in Operation Urban Strike had left, the criminals would simply take up where they had left off, unless permanent arrangements were made to fight crime

"Police have not been trained to push paper around. They are not good clerks. The time has come for the public to pressurise Government to do something now," Heine said, adding the two year moratorium on the recruitment of policemen had to be lifted

According to Heine there was widespread support from within the police force for the campaign.

Campaign co-ordinator Neil Jacobsohn said Johannesburg's crime could be solved within a matter of weeks, if the campaign was successful

"It is not good enough for Government to say there are no funds available. Do the politicians know what the cost of crime is? These steps would be a drop in the ocean, but we could solve a major problem," Jacobsohn said "This is not a cost, but an investment in South Africa's future"

Heine said if Government and police showed a willingness to lift the moratorium and recruit civilians, business would be willing to support the police in supplying the 3 000 policemen with equipment

Anyone wanting copies of the petition or letter is asked to contact (011) 280-5007, or 788-7774 or 442-8907

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 7, 1996 ★

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TEAM IN CITY

'SA police still use torture'

(251) CT 7/11/96

SAFETY and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi admitted yesterday that there were some 'rogue elements' in the police service. Political Writer **BARRY STREEK** reports.

POLICE in South Africa were using torture on petty criminals, the secretary-general of Amnesty International (AI) Mr Pierre Sané said yesterday

"We have been observing the practice of torture despite the commitment of the new government to stop it

"It is a vestige of the apartheid regime. It shows such incompetence by the police that they have to beat up people to get information," he said in an interview

Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi said he had no illusions about most of the problems in the police force

"I think in general the police know what they are expected to do and what they are expected not to do in the new South Africa

"But I think there are some who find it difficult and we actually go out of our way to search for such rogue elements if they exist and we take the appropriate steps to stop these things "

Mufamadi said the evidence before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission had shown what the police had been ordered to do

in the past, but today there was "not a single order of that sort"

Sané, who is visiting SA after Amnesty International was refused visas to visit Nigeria to commemorate the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa a year ago, held talks yesterday afternoon with Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Alfred Nzo to urge him to put a higher human rights profile into SA's foreign policies

"We were initially disappointed by the early stance of SA's policies towards Nigeria, but we were very pleased with the tougher reaction after the executions

"We were very encouraged by the outcry and by the establishment of support groups for human rights in Nigeria

"Now, however, we are disappointed by the approach of the government to Nigeria "

The AI delegation also met Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Mr Kader Asmal, who is chairperson of the cabinet's arms sale control committee, about the sale of arms to countries in the Great Lakes region

Sané, the first African to be secretary-general of AI, said it had



AMNESTY HEAD: Mr Pierre Sané



LAWMAN: Mr Sydney Mufamadi

established its first office in Africa in Nigeria more than 20 years ago

"They are still functioning and they are quite alive on human rights issues, particularly the death penalty "

National chapters of AI had been established in 10 African countries, it had opened its first office in South Africa, and there were interest groups in a number of other African countries

It had published a report on violence in KwaZulu-Natal and it was monitoring the situation closely

It had also followed the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and had contributed when the bill establishing the commis-

sion was debated, Sané said

He added that the organisation would be holding its first ever international conference in Africa next December, when 450 delegates from 85 countries will meet in Cape Town. It will be the first time in 35 years that it has been held in Africa

● AI will hold a vigil in Cape Town to commemorate Ken Saro-Wiwa's execution. On Sunday at 4pm a meeting at the Central Methodist Church in Greenmarket Square will be addressed by Professor Kole Omotosa, a professor at the University of the Western Cape, and the Democratic Party's Mr Colin Eglin

Police increases 'a bookkeeping exercise'

Wyndham Hartley

(251)
BD 8/11/96

CAPE TOWN — The much publicised salary increases for SA's policemen had effectively raised their take-home pay very little, Parliament's safety and security committee chairman Rapu Molekane said yesterday.

The committee and the ANC's study group were very concerned about police salaries and the effect this had on morale. He confirmed that when the increases were introduced last July ordinary policemen's existing allowances

were simply made part of their salaries. He acknowledged that once the allowances became part of the formal salary package they became taxable — further decreasing the benefits of the "increase".

Policemen have complained that the increase was a bookkeeping exercise and put no money in their pockets.

"It has affected morale," Molekane said, adding that he had been assured by SAPS management that the salary

Continued on Page 2

Police

(251)
BD 8/11/96

Continued from Page 1

issue was being "sorted out".

Molekane said the committee and study group had recommended that the moratorium on new police recruits be lifted and he was sure Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi was moving towards ending the freeze on training new police officers.

He said the committee could not support a cut in the safety and security budget. At the very least the safety and security budget should be maintained at its present level. This, as well as savings in other areas, should enable the

SAPS to begin recruiting in areas where manpower was desperately needed — such as for criminal intelligence, detectives and members of the child protection unit.

Sapa reports Mufamadi told the Senate yesterday the SAPS was preparing to establish an academy for detectives. Several foreign governments had indicated they would assist in establishing a detectives' academy and a prosecutors' academy. In keeping with the intention to do away with a fragmented criminal justice system, Mufamadi and Justice Minister Dullah Omar had instructed their respective directors-general to explore the possibility of training detectives and prosecutors at the same academy, he said.

Police cut off home alarms

Warning on 'Rambo guards'

ARC 11/11/96

(251) (ST)

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

Police radio control will no longer respond when home burglar alarms are activated.

The decision, taken by Western Cape police because the 10111 emergency number is being snowed under by false alarms, is certain to lead to a big increase in business for the mushrooming private security and armed response industry

Security companies say they are ready to intensify their policing role, but a police spokesman has warned against the creation of a militant private army culture and a playground for "Rambo guards" in Cape Town

In future alarm calls will be dealt with by suburban police stations. A senior officer at Radio Control, Arno Widmer, said 99 percent of home burglar alarm calls were false and this placed an unnecessary burden on already depleted police resources

"But the real issue is calls hogging the 10111 number, which is solely there for emergencies," said Superintendent Widmer. "We get calls from people wanting to report thefts, minor car accidents and domestic complaints which should really be phoned through to the local charge offices

"There, counter staff will register the complaint on the police computer network which is monitored at radio control," said Superintendent Widmer

The decision by police to stop home alarm companies channelling alarm calls to police radio control has drawn a positive reaction from security companies

Already the eyes and ears of police, they say they are prepared to intensify this role. Although residents have the right to police protection, which obliges police to investigate activated home alarms, the security industry has already recognised police staff shortages and started filling the gap

Cape Town's extensive security industry had become a commercial community-based police service, said a spokesman for the industry

Several top security companies were already working hand in hand with police. Many companies had well-trained 24-hour response teams, including security and medical staff, who often outnumbered police personnel and vehicles

Security company staff now also patrolled neighbourhoods for suspicious-looking people and used their own patrol vans to arrest alleged offenders

They made regular visits to clients and maintained a high visibility in neighbourhoods to deter would-be criminals, the spokesman added

Police liaison officer Wicus Holtzhausen said the police welcomed the efforts and initiatives of the community to fight crime and create a safer and more secure environment

Safety and security was as much the responsibility of the community as it was

of the police. "A well-trained professional security service is a step in the right direction," Captain Holtzhausen said

"But we must still guard against the fly-by-night element, who could infest the security industry with a militant private army culture

"Fortunately there are control authorities in place in the industry who ensure that the fight against crime at grassroots level remains co-operation between the community and police and not a playground for Rambo guards," Captain Holtzhausen said

The South African Intruder Detection Systems Association, national umbrella organisation for home alarm and armed response companies, pledged its support to police on the issue of false alarms

It said the poorer section of the community, which could not afford security systems, also suffered when police were kept busy attending to false alarms from the homes of more affluent people

Association executive member Robin Hunt-Davis said people with alarm systems should be more careful about activating panic alarms

"Approved intruder detection equipment should also be fitted to homes to minimise the chances of 'cry wolf' activations due to malfunctioning hardware," he said. "People without alarm systems should be able to telephone the police emergency number when they are in danger and get immediate response. It's their right"

Fivaz and Sapu in slanging match over claims about the union's origins

The rift between Commissioner George Fivaz and the SA Police Union (Sapu) widened with each criticising the other over allegations that the union was founded by the former security police.

As Sapu accused Fivaz of spreading false information, the commissioner vowed to make every effort to unearth the truth about the union's history.

Fivaz said he would ask Public Protector Selby Bagwa to investi-

gate the matter "Should he not be in a position to do so, another independent and impartial mechanism must be found to do so."

"If it is indeed true that Sapu was originally conceived of apartheid-era securocrats, it explains why Sapu has always tried to discredit the new SA Police Service and me personally."

Sapu national secretary Peter Don Brandt said Fivaz was merely seeking a smokescreen to draw

public attention away from problems in the police "We cannot allow a national commissioner to go public with false information, and we demand that he substantiate his allegations immediately."

A newspaper report yesterday quoted sources as saying Sapu was founded in 1993 as a strategic communication (stratcom) project of the former security police to counter the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union.

Fivaz reportedly said he was aware of the claim, adding he would ask Bagwa to investigate Fivaz also said it appeared to him as if Sapu had a secret agenda.

Brandt said Fivaz's statement was defamatory Sapu was an apolitical and transparent organisation, accountable to all its 55 000 members "It is a shame that the commissioner chose to implicate more than a third of the employees in the police in a ridiculous so-

called plot," he said

Brandt said Sapu had invited Bagwa to start his probe without delay The union's records were also open to the media

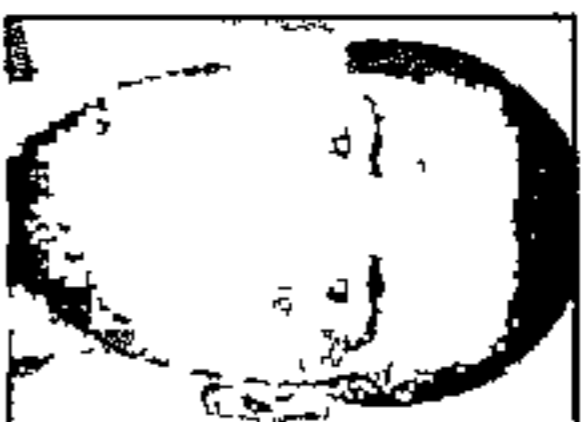
He said Sapu would continue to press for Fivaz's resignation unless he apologised in public for his statements "Whatever happens, we want the Public Prosecutor to go ahead with his investigation. These unfounded rumours must be put to rest," he said - Sapu!

(251)

Star 12/11/96

Reluctant to change

JOHANNESBURG: Comments by a top Gauteng police officer at a meeting in Pretoria, perceived by other officers as being anti-government, have caused ripples. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.



THE South African Police Service, already bedevilled by alleged widespread corruption, low morale, indiscipline and labour-related difficulties, now faces serious question marks over its commitment to democratisation and transformation

Some senior officers who attended a top-level "motivational meeting" in Pretoria last week aimed at improving discipline, fighting corruption and accelerating transformation — convened by Commissioner George Fivaz — emerged from the meeting alleging a "serious division in thinking" between the old guard and the new

Certain participants at the meeting accused some of their colleagues of expressing an "anti-government attitude", an attitude which was by no means unique in the senior echelons of the police, and which did not contribute to defeating crime.

Although Fivaz last night played down the significance of the Pretoria meeting, well-placed police management and Security and Security ministry sources have told the Cape Times that the contents of the meeting are the subject of much debate in policing circles. Apparently the meeting was captured on video-tape

The Pretoria meeting — the first of three motivational meetings called by

Fivaz, the last of which was held in Port Elizabeth yesterday — brought together the top police officers from headquarters, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, North-West and Northern Province

It followed widely reported statements by President Nelson Mandela in Umtata that the level of corruption among police was so high it was undermining government efforts to halt crime and violence

According to a statement issued by Fivaz last Friday, "the improvement of discipline and service is a key component of SAPS strategy to fight police corruption, accelerate transformation and improve service levels. Improvement of discipline and thus service will therefore be a major strategic objective for the SAPS in 1997"

The motivational meetings were "an integral part of this process", he said. At dispute in Pretoria were alleged

remarks by a member of the "old guard police management" that none of the government strategies such as the RDP, the Macro Economic Policy or the National Crime Prevention Strategy were having an effect on crime levels

There has apparently been a reduction in crime in Gauteng recently, which this officer ascribed purely to the Police Plan — the one which promised 10 000 major arrests, and is not a government policy, but a police plan

"His attitude and approach seem to bear out the conspiracy theory suggested recently, that police are unwilling to change and that they are not prepared to seriously tackle crime, but rather to embarrass the ANC government," one of the people who attended the meeting said

Fivaz said he thought it "wrong" for police to sit in any meeting and criticise the government. "because I do not think that is the role of the police" — not that he believed that this had happened.

Can this police management be trusted? Can they transform themselves? How can the community expect crime to be reduced when top management is divided, mistrusted and white-dominated?"

Another participant said "As public servants, our role is to implement gov-

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ernment policy, not to criticise the government in a negative way"

A third said "I did not get the feeling his remarks were anti-government. I got the feeling his remarks were out of place. He did not quite add value in terms of the discussion. It was almost finger-pointing, or kragdadighheid"

A fourth said it would be exaggerating to say that the meeting was divided, but that the remarks in question "probably represented the view of the old guard" and "did seem out of place"

A fifth, Gauteng Commissioner Sharma Maharaj, speaking on his own and "to my mind, the entire Gauteng provincial management's" behalf, said there were no problems at the meeting "A division, no, really, there was nothing of the sort"

Fivaz said last night he had left the Pretoria meeting with a "general impression of a state of positiveness"

There were problems which needed to be sorted out, but "for the first time in many years you can see a turning point in Gauteng it is going much better"

Fivaz said the impression he had gained of the officer's remarks was that they were meant to convey that the RDP and National Crime Prevention Strategy were long-term measures, while the Police Plan was paying short-term dividends. He did not believe they were anti-government. In fact, he said, "to a large extent (the person who made the remarks) is a supporter of the new government"

In principle, Fivaz said, he thought it "wrong for police to sit in any meeting and criticise the government. I do not think that is the role of the police"

The motivational meetings were aimed at re-enforcing the need to "reinvent" and "re-engineer" the police

Rumpus as Fivaz targets police union

JOHAN SCHRONEN
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

National police commissioner George Fivaz has ordered a probe into whether the SA Police Union was formed by security police under the previous government.

This follows growing friction between police management and the union

The latest allegations against the union suggest it was the brainchild of the old security branch to counteract the leftwing Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru)

The allegedly dubious origins of the SA Police Union prompted Commissioner Fivaz to approach Public Protector Selby Baqwa for advice

Commissioner Fivaz said if Mr Baqwa was unavailable to do the investigation he would find another "independent and impartial" mechanism for the probe

"If it is indeed true that the SA Police Union was conceived by apartheid-era securocrats, it explains why the union has always tried to discredit SA Police Services management and me personally," said

(261)
Commissioner Fivaz

"Even an indirect securocrat role in establishing the union would amount to a gross betrayal of thousands of ordinary police members who believed they were joining a bona fide labour union

"Police managers regularly complain that the union has a deliberate strategy to undermine democratic policing and discipline in the service

"This tendency is especially apparent whenever the new SA Police Services achieves significant successes in crime-fighting

"Tragically the real victims of the SA Police Union's destructive and obstructive tactics are law abiding South Africans, healthy labour relations and quality of service," said Commissioner Fivaz

Union national secretary Peter Don Brandt strongly rejected Commissioner Fivaz's statement and slated allegations of "hidden agendas" in the union as "ridicu-



George Fivaz: growing friction

ARG 12/11/96

lous" He said the union would seek legal recourse.

"It can definitely not be allowed that one of the main functionalities of the South African judicial system goes around making irresponsible and defamatory statements about a reputable organisation"

Union Western Cape secretary Andy Miller, a former member of the security branch, said Commissioner Fivaz had "gone crazy"

"He's got the wrong union - he must go for Popcru The commissioner should wake

up. It's clear he is trying to create a smoke-screen to shift the focus from the very sensitive real issues of promotions, overtime pay and salary increases in the police

"I have copies of the founding papers of the union Fivaz is getting a hiding and he can't handle it.

"Fortunately we now have the new Labour Relations Act to settle this We'll see him in court," said Mr Miller

KwaZulu-Natal police exodus worries IFFP

(201) 90 1411196

Farouk Choithia

DURBAN — Three senior KwaZulu-Natal policemen will quit the service at year-end, sparking concern in IFFP circles that the volatile province is losing much-needed skills to combat crime and violence.

KwaZulu-Natal police spokesman Bala Naidoo confirmed yesterday that Maritzburg area commissioner Eric du Preez and his deputy Siphwe Ngcobo had taken severance packages offered by central govern-

ment. Durban area commissioner Irwin Kitching was to retire.

IFFP KwaZulu-Natal MP Arthur Konigkramer said while he did not know why the three were leaving, their departure was extremely disturbing. It seemed that there was an unpleasant working environment in the service, and police faced considerable political pressure, he said.

Naidoo said that about 250 KwaZulu-Natal policemen had applied for severance packages, but he did not know how many

had been approved.

ANC KwaZulu-Natal safety and security spokesman Bheki Cele said the ANC welcomed the departure of "old guard" policemen, but steps had to be taken to ensure they were replaced with policemen committed to the new democratic order.

On replacement policy, NP KwaZulu-Natal MP Gordon Haygarth said the NP agreed with the ANC that police management should show "flexibility" in selection, so that the playing fields could be levelled.

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Government set to scrap police freeze

(251) BT 17/11/96
By CRAIG DOONAN

THOUSANDS of new police recruits could be employed early next year as the government prepares to lift its freeze on recruitment amid soaring crime and the loss of about 6 000 personnel every year.

The Minister of Safety and Security, Sydney Mufamadi, has urged police management to speed up human resources plan so that he can present it to cabinet for a decision on lifting the two-year-old moratorium.

His spokesman, Maxwell Malaudzui, said Mufamadi was still awaiting the plan following the amalgamation of the country's 11 police agencies.

"Now that this has been completed there's a need to look into the question of the moratorium," he said.

More than 12 000 police personnel who have died, gone on pension or left the force in the past two years have not been replaced because of the freeze.

In addition, the number of low-ranking members is shrinking rapidly, and there are more sergeants than constables.

Senior superintendent Johan Smal, communications official for human resources management, said the service comprised 117 593 policemen and 20 261 civilians — over 20 000 short of its optimum strength of 160 000.

Already, it had lost 5 521 members and civilians this year. Last year the figure was 7 076, Smal said.

In a leaked memorandum signed by Divisional Commissioner Andre Pruis this week, provincial and divisional commissioners are asked for an urgent response, detailing how many trained officers can be released for active duty within one year by the employment of civilians.

It says the information has been requested by the Ministry of Safety and Security "with regard to the allocation of funds".

National police commissioner George Fivaz has frequently called for the moratorium to be lifted.

The South African Police Union's national secretary, Peter Don-Brandt, said if the moratorium was not lifted soon and internal disputes were not resolved quickly, "we will have a serious problem".

"Posts are going vacant that can't be filled with new recruits. New recruits don't have experience — there's a building period of two to three years before they attain experience, to be on the beat."

"The simple answer is to open up recruitment. But we must also accept there are serious problems regarding the internal environment of the police service, such as remuneration, overtime and working conditions."

Top cops 'involved in crime syndicate'

ST (CM) 17/11/96 (251)

By NORMAN WEST

A MEMBER of the SAPS is planning to blow the whistle on senior policemen who are allegedly involved in a nation-wide crime syndicate.

The syndicate's alleged activities include money counterfeiting, hijacking, illicit diamond buying, dealing in gold and illegally trading in weapons and ammunition

The police officer, who has appeared in court on charges related to counterfeit money, claims to have been framed by his former "handler" attached to the Police Syndicate Fraud Unit

He was not asked to plead and will appear in court again early next year

His lawyer, Peter Mopp, said the officer, who has not been suspended from duty, planned to reveal details of the alleged syndicate "in order to save his reputation and his job"

The Cape Metro has in its possession sworn affidavits by the policeman which reveal the involvement of senior policemen in a sophisticated crime syndicate.

Others involved in the syndicate allegedly include a former CCB operative, a former bank manager, people attached to the legal profession and the owner of a printing press

It is understood that the possible involvement of members of the Police Syndicate Fraud Unit in Cape Town is being investigated by police

About R1,5-million in counterfeit notes was seized by police in two swoops on the unit's offices, on Cape Town's Foreshore, in the past few weeks

In the first raid, counterfeit notes were found stashed in a safe in the unit's offices and, in the second swoop, more notes were found in a policeman's briefcase

The counterfeit money and a load of documents were taken for forensic tests

Western Cape Minister of Police Gerald Morkel said yesterday he was committed to rooting out police corruption and had asked Western Cape Commissioner Leon

Wessels to order the speeding up of the investigation

"I will request that he prosecute any police officer implicated in illegal activities," he said

The policeman who has been charged with counterfeit, has sworn an affidavit in which he claims he was instructed by a high ranking police officer to infiltrate the crime syndicate.

The policeman, who says he was assigned a "handler" in the SFU, claims he discovered that information he was gathering was relayed back to the syndicate

Information obtained independently during a Cape Metro investigation was corroborated by statements in the policeman's sworn affidavits

Mopp said "Certain members of the unit are alleged to have been involved with the crime syndicate and their illegal transactions will be disclosed during cross-examination of certain witnesses when my client goes to court. We believe that trumped up charges were brought against him to silence him"

The lawyer said his client, who was "keeping a low profile" had kept "copious notes" of dates and information relayed to his "handler", both during personal contact and in calls to his handler's cell phone

A senior police source confirmed this weekend that the origin of counterfeit money confiscated in the raids on the SFU's offices "is receiving urgent attention" at top police management level

A top-ranking police officer said "The source of the counterfeit money will only be revealed after the completion of the investigation"

Police announced that steps were being taken to transfer the unit's commander, Hester van Rooyen, and a senior officer, Simon Nothnagel, pending completion of the investigation

Anyone found guilty of contravening the Prevention of Counterfeiting of Currency Act could face imprisonment for a period not exceeding 15 years

Lifespan of team probing corrupt police extended

Rumours hamper work

ARG 18/11/96

(251)

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

The lifespan of the national task team, set up to investigate allegations of police corruption in the Western Cape, has been extended by at least a year.

This was confirmed at a meeting on Friday between members of the team and national police commissioner George Fivaz.

The team was thrown into disarray through persistent talk among local senior officers that it would be disbanded at the end of the month.

The team, headed by top Johannesburg detective Willem Minnaar and crack policemen from police headquarters in Pretoria, was set up by Commissioner

Fivaz in September to help investigate gang and drug-related cases, and allegations of police corruption and complicity with gangsters.

Last week it emerged that Western Cape policemen were seriously hampering the task team's work by withholding vital information and spreading rumours that the team was about to be disbanded.

A member of the team, Arno Lamoer, said the decision that the unit would continue operating for another year was an indication of how seriously Commissioner Fivaz took their work.

"The decision will also remove the uncertainty created by the talk that was doing the rounds and restore the community's confidence in the police," Director Lamoer said.

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More police set to opt for packages

(251) STAN 18/11/96

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town – Thousands of experienced, competent police members are seriously considering taking severance packages, as the Government spends millions of rands trying to trim the numbers of civil servants

At least 800 police members nationwide, and about 140 in the Western Cape, have had their applications approved since they were notified in August that they were eligible for retrenchment packages, along with staff in other government departments

Thousands more police members have made serious inquiries about the packages, many of them trying to secure jobs in the private sector before they submit their applications

The majority of senior officers who have opted for the package are those who failed to get the posts they wanted when the police force transformed into the SA Police Service

"These officers were shifted into jobs as 'inspectors' to oversee the work of other police officers. But many police officers who were promoted to top positions, as well as competent younger police officers, are also seriously considering the packages," several police sources said.

The packages range from several thousand rands to around the R1-million mark, depending on seniority and length of service, said director Collin Sherriff, who heads the provincial SAPS human-resource management department.

Police members would have to sign an agreement that they will never work for a government department again, not even in an administrative capacity

"We urge members to apply their minds carefully before they take a decision. They also lose out on pension benefits if they take the package. It is risky if the prospects of a member obtaining employment, once they have left, are slim," Sherriff said. "A major advantage enjoyed by police members and not by many other civil servants is that members of this government department will continue benefiting from the police medical aid Polmed for life."

The first R30 000 of the packages are taxable, and anything after that is tax-free, according to Sherriff

800 APPLICATIONS APPROVED

'Packages' lure police to quit

(251)

CT 18/11/96

AS THE GOVERNMENT struggles to contain crime, police officers have joined the queue of civil servants eager to take advantage of a lucrative severance package, designed to trim the lumbering government bureaucracy. **JACKIE CAMERON** reports.

THOUSANDS of experienced, competent police members are seriously considering taking severance packages, as the government spends millions of rands to shave off redundant civil servants.

At least 800 police members nationwide — about 140 in the Western Cape — have had their applications approved since they were notified in August that they were eligible for retrenchment packages.

Thousands more police members have made serious inquiries about the packages, many of them trying to secure jobs in the private sector before they submit their applications.

The majority of senior officers who have opted for the package are those who failed to get posts when the police force transformed into the SA Police Service.

These officers were shifted into jobs as "inspectors" to oversee the work of other police officers.

But many police officers who were promoted to top positions, as well as competent, younger police officers, are also seriously considering the packages, several police sources told the Cape Times.

The packages range from several thousands of rands to around the R1 million mark, depending on seniority and length of service, Director Collin Sherriff, who heads the provincial SAPS Human Resource Management department, told the Cape Times.

Police members would have to sign an agreement that they will never work for a government department again — not even in an administrative capacity.

"We urge members to apply their

minds carefully before they take a decision — they also lose out on pension benefits if they take the package," said Sherriff.

A major advantage enjoyed by police members — and not by many other civil servants — is that members will continue benefiting from the police medical aid, Polmed, for life, he said.

The first R30 000 of the packages are tax-free and anything after that is taxable, according to Sherriff, who said

Smal, of police headquarters in Pretoria.

He said that although provincial and national police management could refuse to rubber stamp applications, it was unlikely that Minister of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi — who has the final say — would refuse permission for packages.

There was a feeling that it would serve no useful purpose to keep demotivated members in the SAPS, Smal said.

Despite the stampede for information about packages, police management are optimistic that the department will lose fewer staff than other government departments.

The Department of Education is expected to lose about 6 000 teachers by the end of the year.

Sherriff said "We have had hundreds of inquiries from people wanting to know what they are worth."

"For a lot of people, this is just a small little boost rather than a serious inquiry."

He said the number of applicants for the package was small when one compared it to the total police staff contingent of about 147 000.

The police packages have been calculated according to a formula which includes years of

service, an average of the last two years' salary, and rank.

A director with about 30 years' service could expect to walk away with about R1,2 million, a captain with about 30 years' service will get about R700 000, and a sergeant with the same length of service will receive about R400 000.

Police members with 10 years' service — the minimum length of service needed to obtain optimum benefits from the rank of captain and down — would get amounts ranging from about R60 000 to R100 000.

Meanwhile, Department of Public

THE GOVERNMENT CASH OFFER TO POLICE		
	What he/she will get	What he/she earns
A director with 30 years service	R1,2 million	R164 000 p/a
A superintendent with 20 years service	R320 000	R106 000 p/a
A sergeant with 10 years service	R60 000	R35 000 p/a

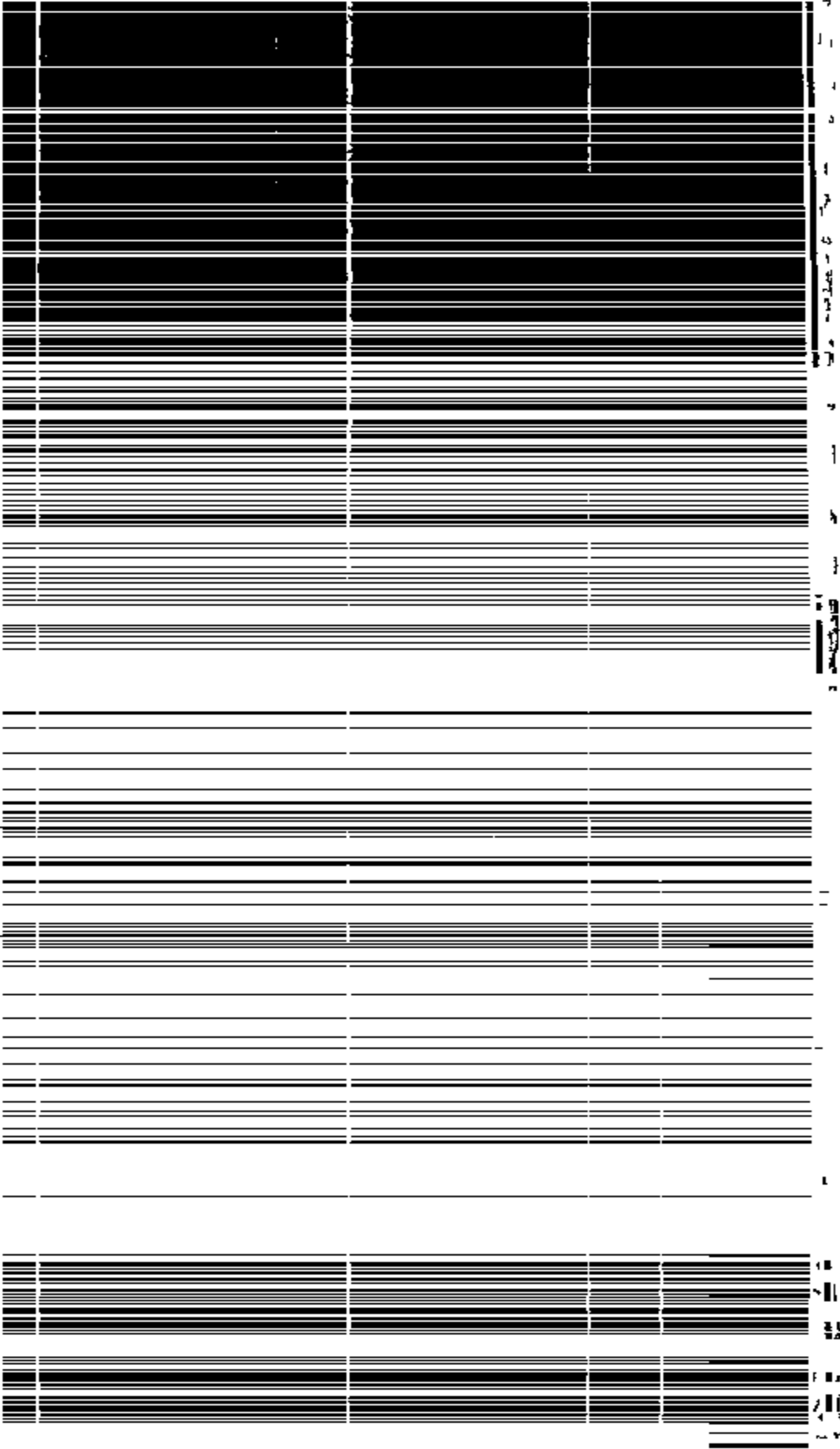
* These are approximations. Each individual package will vary. Salaries vary within ranks.

that many were also considering the offer as an alternative to early retirement, when comparing the amount to how pensions could be taxed.

The tempting offers could deal a further blow to the SA Police Service's crime-fighting capability if many of the experienced officers, who have made inquiries, exercise their option to take a package.

The SAPS has been identified as a government department with a staff shortage.

"We cannot deny members the right to the package, which is being offered to all civil servants," said Director Johan



Service and Administration spokesperson Ms Harlene Bekker said on Friday that about 12 000 civil servants had applied for the voluntary severance packages at the last count, made at the end of July

About 4 000 applications, excluding those submitted by teachers, had been approved, she said

According to the department's statistics, about 7 000 staff members with the provincial administrations in Gauteng and the Western Cape had applied for the packages and about 800 Department of Water Affairs and Forestry staff members had put in applications

At least 600 Department of Justice officials had asked that their services be terminated, she said

Bekker said "A hold has been put on

employer-initiated retrenchment of personnel until further notice

"The initiative whereby officials can opt for the voluntary severance package forms part of a broader programme to right-size the Public Service

"The main objectives are to create a leaner and cost-effective Public Service, in order to reduce the wage bill to affordable proportions and to promote representativeness," she said

The government had not yet decided whether employer-initiated retrenchments would be implemented if "right-sizing" was not achieved

Neither the Public Service and Administration nor the SAPS could provide details about the amount of money which is expected to be paid out for severance packages by the end of the year



SAPS plans to put more men on beat by contracting out some functions

Stephen Laufer

THE SA Police Service is planning a major restructuring programme which could see many logistics and administrative functions outsourced and up to 35,000 uniformed personnel transferred to core policing duties.

SAPS commissioner George Fivaz said in an interview at the weekend that the first pilot outsourcing projects would begin in January. Two feasibility studies were under way to produce detailed recommendations on

competences to be outsourced

A variety of outsourcing combinations was being looked at, including options which could allow financial resources tied up in fixed assets to be used in lease and rental systems. The SAPS employs 140 000 uniformed personnel, of whom 35 000 or 25% are involved in administrative and support functions. This could mean salaries of police personnel released from administrative duties would remain unaffected by the outsourcing. Much had been learned from the

Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which cut its annual budget by C\$600m in five years while increasing the number of officers on the streets by farming non-police functions out to the private sector, said Fivaz. The functions currently exist in a broad and often inefficient web across SA, with every police station responsible for the administration and control of at least some essential supplies ranging from stationery to torch batteries, shovels, and firearms. Changes were being contemplated in the area of

vehicle purchasing and fleet management, uniform supplies, information technology and financial administration, he said. While it was necessary to have certain items on hand in each station, huge inefficiencies still existed, resulting in thousands of lost staffing hours and poor cash flows. Log-Tek, an integrated logistics support company, was studying how uniform and other supplies could be outsourced. In Canada, the Mounties had abolished their clothing stores, handing ad-

Police (251) BD 18/11/96

Continued from Page 1

private companies which had to guarantee the availability of helicopters and fixed wing aircraft at all times.

The advantage to the police was that they would no longer be responsible for maintenance and attempting to retain pilots at salaries well below those of the private sector. Avoiding capital equipment outlays would benefit the SAPS budget as a whole.

The SAPS bought 40 000 standard production vehicles each year, but lost huge amounts of staff time because they were available at only four depots around the country from which they had to be fetched by officers who were then missing from policing duties — sometimes for days. Negotiations were under way with manufacturers to have vehicles delivered to the units they had been assigned to. A pilot project using a major fleet

rental and management company would start in Pretoria in January to determine the real cost and benefits of outsourcing the entire police fleet. The company, which was being selected by tender at the moment, would install smart chips in each vehicle, allowing close management of their use. This project had the blessing of the state expenditure department, he said.

The SAPS spent up to R300m a year on computer software and hardware, Fivaz said, and major cash flow efficiencies could be achieved if much of the information technology could be rented, along with maintenance and development services.

He also wanted to look at moving such areas as human resources and accounting out of the SAPS. Johannesburg's "operation urban strike", which had brought crime rates down markedly in some key areas, had shown the value of focusing resources on visible policing.

Comment: Page 13

administration and sales of uniforms to a chain store group. A computerised management system ensured that only legitimate police personnel received the number of uniform items they were entitled to each year.

Discussions were currently under way with Denel on a second feasibility study to examine the possibility of outsourcing the entire SAPS air support wing. In the US and elsewhere, police services bought flying hours from

Continued on Page 2

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Functions

BENEFICIARIES OFTEN IGNORED

Police fast-tracking runs into problems

PARTICIPANTS IN a police plan to fast-track promising officers from disadvantaged communities aired their grievances yesterday. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.



(251) CT 20/11/96

BENEFICIARIES in the Western Cape of the police fast-track programme to promote promising officers from disadvantaged communities to senior management positions claimed yesterday the scheme had put their careers in reverse.

It emerged during a city meeting chaired by the national head of the Representivity and Equal Opportunities Programme (REOP), Assistant Commissioner Zelda Holtzman, that 10 of the 16 Western Cape participants feared, among other things, that they had unwittingly become the models in an elaborate display of affirmative action window-dressing.

The participants claimed that because they were on the programme they were often overlooked for seminars, workshops and training courses, that the mentorship project was being stymied by some insincere mentors, and that most of them had been allocated postings they did not request.

They also feared they had been misled into participating in the programme and that the police management in the Western Cape seemed incapable of solving what they thought was a growing crisis.

They also questioned the selection of white male senior officers

among the 231 REOP candidates identified nationally last year and wanted to know when the police would announce an affirmative action programme.

One officer with 11 years' experience said "I cannot prove they are discriminating against me, although it is clear as light. If nothing is done for us through REOP, I feel I cannot go on. My problem is that I'm doing exactly the same things I had been doing. In fact, I'm in a worse situation."

Another, whose mentor is the station commissioner at a large Cape Flats police station, said whenever the mentor was away there were several more senior officers at the station to stand in for him. However, instead of gaining experience in running a police station, this REOP participant was made to feel unimportant.

"I was appointed about a year ago. Since then I have received no formal or informal training from my mentor or anyone else. I have not acted as station commissioner once. They say this is a fast-track programme, but we have been side-tracked, as if they think we've already been given something."

A third officer said "This programme has become my worst nightmare. From the date I was

appointed until now, nothing has happened. This programme is killing me from the inside and it's hurting my family. In the division where I work I am the only coloured person. I'm not acknowledged. It's cold there."

Holtzman said the police, like other government departments, would have to approach representivity in terms of the government's target that by the year 2000 all levels of management should comprise 50% black employees and 30% women. REOP should not be seen as an alternative or a substitute for affirmative action, she said.

"Clearly, drastic measures will have to be taken if we are serious about representivity. REOP only comprises 231 people in a 24 000-strong service. Let us accept that this is an experiment. Maybe a positive side of REOP is that it can be viewed as a demonstration programme for what works and what doesn't."

Holtzman, the most senior black woman officer in the police service, said afterwards that a police affirmative action policy would be announced shortly. The policy had already passed through the police policy forum and could be announced after the next "minister's meeting" between Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi and senior policemen.

She said many of the concerns raised at the meeting were real, but felt there was already a process to address some of the concerns.

"They have all been evaluated, and now a panel must make recommendations regarding their final placement. These recommendations will be made to Commissioner (George) Fivaz this month."

Black cops subjected to racism

(251) Sowetan 20/11/96

By Khathu Mamaila

A BLACK police sergeant at Warmbaths police station in Northern Province says he is used to being ridiculed by conservative whites in the town who do not want to be served by a "kaffir"

"When you want to take a statement from white people, they will give you this funny look and ask you, *waar is die mense* (where are the people)?" Sergeant John Thiyo told *Sowetan* yesterday

"Racism is still alive and well here. You only need to come to the police station to prove this," said Thiyo.

Thiyo was commenting on a row that has erupted over racially segregated toilets for females at the police station. He said this was "only the tip of the iceberg"

A meeting on Monday at the police station, which was to decide on whether segregated toilets should be introduced, was disrupted by a group of angry black policemen and women

Female Constable Lecky Mashao said "A white female inspector openly told me that I should understand that blacks and whites cannot use the same toilet because blacks will infect white people with illnesses"

"She said blacks are dirty and whites cannot use the same toilet as them"

Ms Catherine Ngobeni said she was only allowed into the "white" toilet to clean it. However, Inspector Lindie Marx denied that whites were still clinging to racial segregation

"The whole thing is not about race but about hygiene. We only want to have clean toilets and there is nothing racist about this," Marx said

Relating more incidents of alleged racism, Thiyo said white police officers had insisted that every person should bring his or her own cup into the tea room and that the cups should not be kept at the same place to avoid "contamination"

Provincial police spokesman Senior Superintendent Phuti Setati said yesterday that racism would not be tolerated in the police service. He said the matter was receiving attention at the highest level

TRC call has ruined our careers, say top cops

LINDSAY BARNES
CRIME DESK

Two top city policemen say their careers are in tatters since they were summoned to appear before the Truth Commission's human rights violations committee to testify about the killing of the Guguletu Seven.

Directors Johan Kleyn and Leonard Knipe said last night they believed their careers were over because of a public perception that they were guilty of gross human rights abuses.

Director Kleyn, station commander at Mitchell's Plain, said that since the announcement in the press last week he had been hounded by his colleagues and had laid a charge of crimen injuria after finding a photograph of himself, with the words "Number One suspect" scrawled across it, on a wall at the police station.

He had been victimised because of his high-profile position in the police service, he said. The manner in which the commission had summoned him and the reporting of the announcement in the media had created an incorrect public perception that he was guilty of human rights violations.

Both men said the state had neglected them in spite of their years of loyal service, and they believed they were entitled to representation by police lawyers.

Director Knipe slammed the way the commission had summoned senior police to appear and said this, combined with sensational press reports, had irreparably damaged his reputation irrespective of whether he proved his innocence.

He criticised the commission for not sending its team of investigators to him instead of making the sensational announcement which might prove to be the end of his police career.

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(257)

Kahn to head probe into police corruption

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Attorney-General Frank Kahn has been put in charge of the special police probe into Western Cape gangs and their alleged involvement with corrupt police and justice officials in a bid to strengthen the investigation.

During the past week, the work of the team has been thrown into disarray through persistent talk among local senior police officers that it would be disbanded at the end of the month.

Local police are alleged to be destabilising the work of the team by withholding vital information

The team, headed by Johannesburg detective Willem Minnaar and police from headquarters in Pretoria, was established by national police Commissioner George Fivaz in September

Yesterday Commissioner Fivaz again emphasised that he had no intention of disbanding the unit, saying that the team was to intensify its work under the direct supervision of Mr Kahn

"I must therefore urge the community not to be deceived by disinformation that

(251)
this unit will be disbanded.

"They will continue until I am satisfied that it has achieved its purpose - identifying and rooting out corrupt police and judicial officials," Commissioner Fivaz said

Given the unique crime and social problems plaguing the province, the task team still had a major role to play in combating official corruption and related crime.

Mr Kahn said there was ongoing co-ordination of information

"We have given the police legal guidance on how to prepare their cases and will continue to work closely with them, but I don't want to be portrayed as a super anti-corruption policeman ... I am an advocate, not a policeman," Mr Kahn said

Task team spokesman Faizel Kader said they had been working closely with Mr Kahn's office ARG 21/11/96

"This interaction has been very beneficial as the team is completely aware of what the requirements are and what evidence is needed for putting together a case that will stand up in court," he said

People with information about alleged cases of officials involved in corruption can call team members Faizel Kader on 083 625 2436 and Arno Lamoer on 083 626 9120

No one guilty - Minister

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

MINISTER of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi has told Parliament that no one has been held responsible for the carnage that followed the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging's invasion of the then Bophuthatswana in 1994.

At the end of the dramatic siege outside Mmabatho, 16 people were left dead, including three members of the AWB. Mufamadi said 13 murder docketts were registered and were still under investigation.

These docketts, he said, did not include the three AWB members "who were killed during an AWB invasion".

"The investigations revealed that most of the injured were hit in the crossfire between AWB and the Bophuthatswana security force members," said Mufamadi.

Mufamadi reveals

police corruption

25/1/96
Sowetan 22/1/96

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

THIS YEAR SAW A RECORD NUMBER of members of the police investigated for corruption with more than 1 000 cases reported, Minister of Safety and Security Mr Sydney Mufamadi has revealed in Parliament.

He said 1 067 members of the police were investigated on allegations of corruption up until September this year. This number far exceeded the combined total for the past three years.

Mufamadi said in 1993 32 members were investigated, in 1994 there were 56 investigations and 89 last year. However, the increased figures relate to the fact that the National Anti-Corruption Unit started keeping

Investigations show that Gauteng has highest guilty police count

records of its own cases since 1993 while provincial units only started records this year.

Mufamadi explained "Statistics for the period 1985 to 1992 were not kept before the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Unit. To date they have not kept records of internal disciplinary inquiries."

The minister said that the highest number of "police" arrested and charged on criminal charges relating to alleged corruption this year was in the Western Cape.

Thirty-two members were arrested and charged, followed by the Pretoria Head Office with 22, North West 20, Johannesburg 18, East Rand 17, Eastern Cape 12, KwaZulu-Natal 11. Mpumalanga and the Free State had six each while the Northern Province had one.

There were no arrests of members in the Northern Cape. Although the number of police arrested and charged was extraordinarily high, few were found guilty of corruption since 1985.

Altogether 25 members of the police were found guilty of corruption. On a provincial breakdown, Johannesburg led the way with ten members found guilty with Pretoria Head Office having five.

In the past few months the Government had cracked down on corruption in the South African Police Services with Commissioner George Frvaz taking the lead in launching investigations.

Belhar police run on anger, frustration

SPITE OF the poor condition of Belhar police station, ice who man the station still manage to serve a community plagued by gangsterism. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

'S kept tidy and looks unremarkable from the outside, but elhar police station — the nsula's most under-resourced ion — faces a deluge of 300 plants on any weekend and ne shift-policeman for at least 2 residents

ago — is nestled deep in Sexy Boys gangster territory and covers the neighbouring and controversial Delft housing scheme where housing disputes and evictions are daily sources of complaints. It has one first-aid box and two patrol cars

Domestic violence is the main cause of charges being laid, with the hard-pressed staff — some of whom work in plainclothes

because they have no uniforms — acting as mediators/counselors when the indignity of poverty erupts in the home

"There just isn't enough time to sit down and talk because most of the time they're too drunk anyway — so we tell them to come into the station the next day when they are sober and then try to help them," says Sergeant Frans de Klerk-Kruger

Warrant Officer Kelvin Samuels' biggest complaint is that "we're supposed to be community-friendly, but our premises are

pathetic to serve people. There is nowhere where they have privacy for interviews, they queue up at the complaints counter, where everyone can hear their story — be it rape, molestation or whatever".

Three policemen staff the Belhar station, three the (satellite) Delft station, and another four handle vehicle patrols (per shift)

Samuels says bleeding victims often stumble into the Belhar charge office after 4pm when the first-aid box has been locked away. None of his colleagues has first-

(251) CT 25/11/96

and training — let alone training in how to deal safely with HIV. "At accident scenes people get angry with us when we don't touch anything until the ambulance comes — and that sometimes takes over 40 minutes," he adds

Station commander Superintendent Freddie Helms says he needs another 20 men to add to his complement of 50 and to double his four-vehicle fleet

Because of the staff crisis, they can only run half their four-vehicle fleet

Over the past 19 days they've dealt with 25 housebreakings, 24 common assaults, 10 grievous assaults, seven car thefts, six attempted car thefts and five robberies — and it's just "warming up" to the usual summer madness

Over an "average" weekend, the six- to 10-person shift (depending on absenteeism) deals with 300 complaints

De Klerk-Kruger chips in "People need their liquor and drugs, but when it gets out of hand other people don't want to get involved. If they see a murder, they'll close their windows and doors"

He says the Sexy Boys are "top dogs" at present, with the Dixies, Hard Livings and Americans vying for territory and the illegal supplies of "anything". He adds matter-of-factly "Gangs control Belhar and Delft as they do anywhere else where poverty, liquor and violence are synonymous"

Of the workload and promises of extra staff and equipment, Samuels says "We just get frustrated, angry and demotivated"

The lack of social workers in the area also meant they could not concentrate on "proper" crime

A permanent police station is being built at Delft and is expected to be commissioned in September



EXPLAINING: Belhar police station commander Superintendent Freddie Helms leans on a bare cupboard in his poorly furnished briefing room

PICTURES THEMINKOSI DWAYISA



MAKING THE BEST OF THINGS Warrant Officer Kelvin Samuels (left) and a colleague demonstrate the fingerprinting room which doubles as a make-shift kitchen at Belhar police station.

The Cape Town installation was delayed until now in the hope that it would be installed straight into the new centre

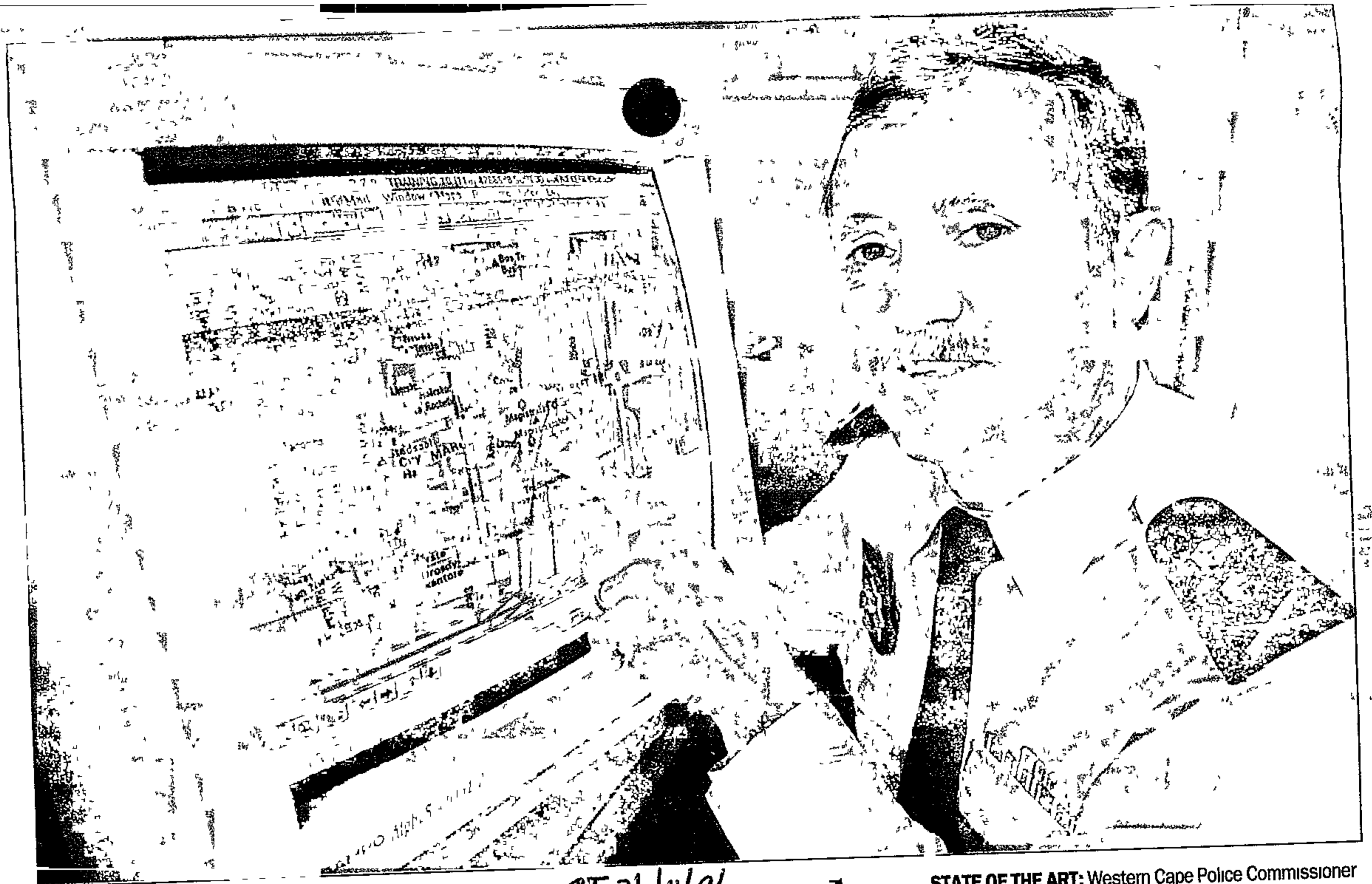
Provincial police chief Commissioner Leon Wessels said yesterday "Project Tafelberg" would be completed in three phases over three financial years, this year being the first

The reduction in reaction time was one of the most favourable aspects of the new system "Reaction time is very important to the police, and with this system you can set yourself specific goals and work towards meeting them," he said

The Mobile Data System will incorporate four different computer systems, an interface to existing data bases, a geographic information system, vehicle tracking and Computer Aided Dispatching

Inside the vehicles, a computer map shows present position — updating itself every one or two seconds — and shows the incident location, which is effectively the vehicle's destination The onboard computer terminal also allows the vehicle operator to search for street and place names

Thus far, the province has spent nearly R100 million on an entirely new, modern radio system and on building the control centre Once the centre is equipped, the word is, there will be a shortage of staff to run it And the police will be unable to employ extra staff because of budget constraints



Police hi on tech, low on cash

ET 26/11/96

(251)

ROGER FRIEDMAN

HI-TECH facilities and equipment to launch Western Cape policing into the 21st Century were unveiled yesterday — but, because of financial constraints, it will be several years before they are fully operational. Eventually, your telephone call to the police hotline 10111 will be logged immediately into a computer system linked to all police vehicles; police officers will be able to download information from a central database and have access to all statistical information; the vehicles will be monitored by a Global Positioning

System, and the whole show will be run from a custom-designed new Radio Control Centre, which is in the final stages of construction in Pinelands. The system would reduce police reaction time substantially, ease overloaded communication channels and allow police to check vehicle and firearm licences on the spot, provincial police top brass attending a demonstration of the new system heard yesterday. The demonstration was held in an office next to the present radio control centre, which — because it is overcrowded and near the dog unit

— is apparently deloused every two weeks. Occupation of the new centre will be delayed until mid-1997 because there is no money for telephone lines and computers. The Cape Town Control Centre, said to be one of the busiest in the country, handles more than 2 000 telephone calls a day and covers the entire Metropole and much of the Boland. It is the seventh and final major control centre to be equipped with a Mobile Data System, following in the footsteps of Johannesburg, Benoni, Soweto, Pretoria, Durban.

STATE OF THE ART: Western Cape Police Commissioner Leon Wessels demonstrates a new, hi-tech computer system, which will eventually be installed in police vehicles and helicopters, linking them directly to the new control centre in Pinelands. But the project will take three years to complete due to lack of funds

PICTURE: BENNY GOOL

Turn to Page 3

P.T.O.

Police service to be enlarged — Mufamadi

ing your data

(251)

Stephen Laufer

THE time had come to increase the size of the police service and government was committed to lifting the moratorium on SAPS recruitment, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi announced yesterday.

He told a Pretoria news conference there had also been a national decline or stabilisation in the rate of 16 out of 20 key crimes committed.

He would hold discussions with the finance ministry before taking police commissioner George Fivaz's staffing proposals to the cabinet. New recruitment to uniformed units would allow the transfer of experienced officers to the detective and crime intelligence branches where they were needed most, and recruitment of civilians for administrative work would help strengthen visible policing.

Mufamadi said it was not yet possible to say how many new officers would be recruited. Besides allowing management to put skilled officers where they were needed most, new recruitment was an important tool for change within the SAPS, as it allowed the service to draw in fresh blood.

The murder rate had decreased 9,6% between January and August against the same period last year, and while he congratulated the SAPS, "we must not become triumphalist". Vehicle thefts and housebreaking had also declined, but rape, illegal possession of firearms, and certain categories of theft and robbery were up.

The statistics referred only to reported crimes, and did not indicate whether they had been followed by ar-

rests, convictions or sentences. The national crime prevention strategy was to develop an integrated data base for the criminal justice system.

Speaking at the first quarterly crime briefing based on year-on-year comparisons for the whole of SA, including the former homelands, Mufamadi said police crime information had been inadequate in the past. Accurate, timely and appropriate information was essential to effective policing as it was the basis for planning and operational deployment.

Information gathering and evaluating systems were still less than perfect, but the time lag had already been reduced from more than six months to six weeks. The information turnaround time would be reduced even further.

Illustrating the difficulties still facing the SAPS's information-gathering operation, the director of the new crime information management centre, Chris de Kock, said the exact background to 92,8% of SA murders was unknown. Systems were being changed so that the circumstances of a murder would be reported automatically, allowing a more detailed crime analysis and more finely tuned police response.

Equally, more information was needed to explain why the Northern Cape had the highest murder rate in the country in proportion to its population, or why the rape rate always rose in December, while car hijacking was consistently higher in winter.

De Kock said that while commercial crime figures appeared stable, there was significant underreporting. Many

Continued on Page 2

Police

(251)

Continued from Page 1

larger companies had their own investigators and kept responses to white collar crime in-house, while banks were reluctant to allow crimes which could affect public confidence to become public.

Independent crime experts urged caution in analysing the figures. Mark Shaw of the Institute for Defence Policy said there were still large reporting gaps which made it impossible to identify real trends. The quarterly briefings should become long term to allow

real comparisons. Antoinette Louw of the University of Natal said that rather than indicating a negative trend, the Northern Cape murder figures could indicate a better than average relationship between police and communities which led to more crimes being reported. A more detailed provincial breakdown of crimes was needed, which would require better reporting to the national level.

Mufamadi said that the quarterly briefing from a central source should avoid past credibility gaps and would become the yardstick for measuring crime in SA.

See Page 13

BD 26/11/96

'Lock them away' — Pagad

allies target corrupt police

New group helps task team fight graft

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

A new organisation, People Against Corrupt Justice and Policemen (Pacjap), says confidence in the police service and criminal justice system will only be restored once corrupt officials are locked away.

Shahen Ismail, spokesman for the group which is closely associated with Pagad, said he formed the organisation last year after his own experiences at the hands of allegedly corrupt police officers.

He said he was arrested in October last year on a "trumped up charge", assaulted and threatened by the police's fraud unit. The charges were later withdrawn and he sued the Safety and Security Ministry for wrongful arrest and assault.

After his ordeal, he said, he had to get psychological help and was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress syndrome. "But I

decided I could not let other people suffer the same fate and decided to fight back."

Mr Ismail said there were hundreds of people who experienced similar treatment at the hands of the police and who did not know where to turn to for help. "Many are scared and confused but we help them to overcome their fears and show them where to go for assistance. I have now started looking at and investigating these cases and passing the information on to the relevant authorities. From my own work I found that often court officials and policemen colluded to defeat the ends of justice and worked together to corrupt the system.

"Many ordinary people have lost faith in the criminal justice system and that is why organisations like Pagad can draw such large crowds to their protest rallies."

Mr Ismail said several "clean" policemen had approached his organisation with vital information, which he passed on to the task team established by national

Police Commissioner George Fivaz to investigate such matters.

"Already we are beginning to see the fruits of our work as policemen are being arrested for their corrupt practices. But for the general public to believe in the police and criminal justice system we need to root out all corrupt officials," Mr Ismail said.

Task team spokesman Faizel Kader said police welcomed any community initiative that would help get rid of corruption. "We have been liaising with Pacjap and other community-based organisations who have all been very helpful in supplying us with information. The task team has acted on and investigated the data supplied and a lot of it has proved very fruitful."

He said the task team was happy people had organised themselves in a way that would allow them to get involved on a constructive basis and help tackle the problem of alleged corruption in the criminal justice system.

Call for Cape A-G's

1981
SAV
MOS

Kahn accused over Ferdi Barnard

NORMAN CHANDLER AND LINDSAY BARNES
STAFF REPORTERS

Former Witwatersrand Attorney-General Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau today asked for a warrant of arrest to be issued against Western Cape Attorney-General Frank Kahn for not providing files relating to the Ferdi Barnard case.

Mr Barnard, a former Civil Co-opera-

tion Bureau (CCB) operative, appeared in the Pretoria Regional Court today with suspended Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit commander Charlie Landman and another former CCB operative and policeman, Gert Marais, on charges of corruption and defeating the ends of justice.

They pleaded not guilty to the charges, which arise out of an alleged R20 000 scam involving counterfeit US dollars.

Mr Von Lieres, who is appearing for Mr

Barnard, told magistrate W W P Moyeses that Mr Kahn had been subpoenaed to produce various files, but by this morning had not done so.

"I will be asking for a warrant of arrest," he said.

State Attorney Antonette de Jager said she would investigate the situation and advise the court accordingly.

In an interview in Cape Town today, Mr Kahn lashed out at Mr Von Lieres's call as

"cheap sensationalism which ill befits the stature of the man."

He said he had received a subpoena on November 22 and had been told by Ms De Jager he was a State witness in the case.

"His allegations are absolute rubbish. If anyone wanted my files they could have had them, but I have not been approached," he said.

At today's hearing Mr Von Lieres said Mr Landman's privacy had been invaded

in contravention of the Constitution when police seized and copied bank statements

At the start of proceedings, defence attorney Christo Merring and later Mr Von Lieres drew the magistrate's attention to media reports yesterday and today about allegations by Mr Barnard's former girlfriend, Amor Badenhorst, that he had confessed to her that he had shot academic David Webster and knew who had assassinated Swapo activist Anton Lubowski

Files
ARG 2/12/96

arrest

Manpower shortage is critical, police admit

(251) STM 4/12/96

Crime has risen steadily in Rosebank, says Duarte

By LARA SMITH

Police in Johannesburg have admitted that a lack of manpower is hampering their fight against crime

Shock statistics revealed that there are only 6 000 policemen currently employed in the entire Johannesburg policing area. They cover more than 1 000sq km in a city with almost 5 million people.

The figure excludes civilian personnel and an additional 1 500 policemen currently in the province as part of the ongoing anti-crime operation Urban Strike.

The manpower problem is particularly critical at station

level, where some are operating at almost 80% under capacity.

According to Gauteng Safety and Security MEC Jessie Duarte, Rosebank, which has 30 000 residents, has only 70 policemen and 14 vehicles. Ideally, there should be 301 policemen and 76 vehicles. As a result, the number of reported crimes in Rosebank has risen steadily over the past three years, she told the provincial legislature in answer to a question by Democratic Party MPL Jack Bloom.

The number of reported crimes had risen from 2 823 in 1994 to 2 905 last year and 3 022 so far this year.

"Residents and shopkeepers have every reason to be dissatisfied

and to expect more adequate resources to be poured into the area in an effective manner," Bloom said.

In other areas such as Alexandra and Hillbrow, where the population is estimated at half-a-million people each, there were 358 and 250 policemen respectively.

Yet, despite the shortage of manpower, police are still optimistic that crime levels in Johannesburg are dropping. In the first 10 months of this year, the number of priority crimes reported has dropped by 9 611 compared to the same period last year, and the number of serious crimes has fallen by 8 914 cases, police spokesman Sergeant Mark Reynolds said.

Respect for police increasing, survey finds

Business Day Reporter

RESPECT for police has increased by the second successive year, according to a survey conducted for Business Day by Market Research Africa (MRA)

The survey showed 35% of respondents said they had more respect for police than a year ago. In a similar survey last year 36% of respondents said that they had more respect for police than a year before. Respondents also felt that police performance was improving, though the positive rating was slightly down on last year's.

The mid-year survey reflected the attitudes of 2 504 urban adults, area-stratified to represent the views of about 13,5-million people. Participants were asked to think back to this time last year and say whether they now had more respect, less respect or felt the same towards the SA Police Service. Then they were asked whether they thought the current overall performance of the SAPS was very good, good, average, poor or very poor.

Although police lost respect in the eyes of 24% of respondents, this was outweighed by the 35% whose respect increased, said MRA MD Hanna Fourie. "This indicates that while the SAPS has not dramatically improved its overall public image, neither has it suffered from adverse publicity.

"This is the second annual survey on attitudes towards the SAPS results do not differ much from those in 1995. This year police performance was rated good to very good by 45% of respondents. Last year it was 47%.

"In 1995 performance was deemed adequate by 30%, and this time it was 31%," Fourie said. Police continued to earn most respect in black communities, where 42% of respondents said they had a higher regard for the SAPS than a year ago. Job performance might have contributed to this shift in at-

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Performance levels were seen as good to very good by 49% of blacks — a 4% improvement on the findings of last year's survey.

"This suggests an important turnaround in a society that has long regarded the police with deep suspicion," said Fourie.

In white communities, good work did not necessarily equate with respect. Although 44% of white adults rated police performance as good or very good, this was a decline of 13% on the number of people who gave these ratings last year. Among whites, 26% respected police more than they did a year before, but 22% had less respect than a year ago.

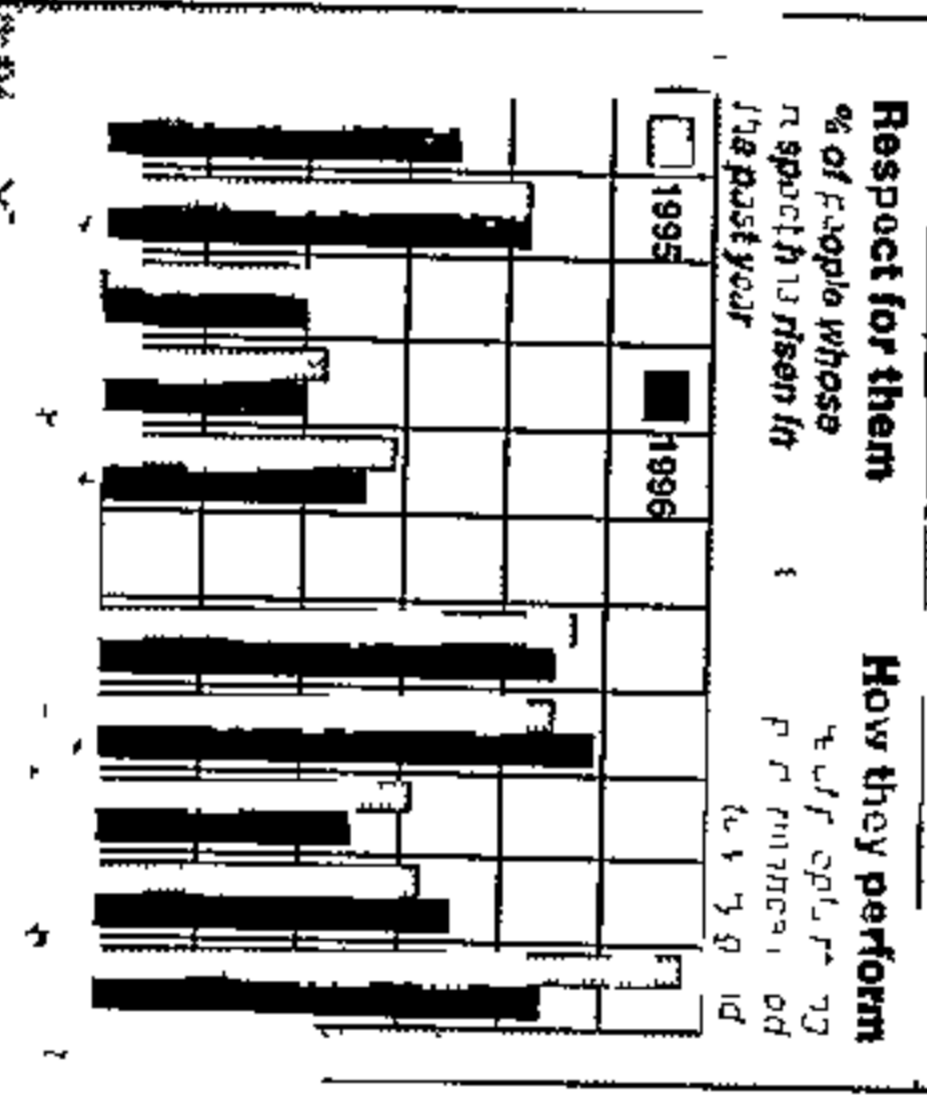
The predominant white view — 52% had not changed their opinion of the SAPS in the past year — was mirrored by a majority of coloured respondents (64%) and Indians (57%). Both groups considered po-

lice performance as average. Respect for police increased most in Eastern Cape (46%) and declined most (30%) in the Free State. Compared to the results of last year's survey, police performance was judged to have declined in Western Cape, Northern Province, Mpumalanga and the Free State, where fewer people than last year rated it good to very good.

Police seemed to perform best in North West and Northern Cape, where almost six in 10 respondents regarded their efforts as good or very good.

In Kwazulu-Natal, 45% of residents rated police performance from last year. In Gauteng, the 27% of residents who rated the SAPS performance as poor were outnumbered by the 42% who rated it good to very good (36% last year).

Rating of the police



R100-m for policemen leaving force

BY ANSO THOM

Crime Reporter

Star 10/12/96

(251)
Hundreds of experienced policemen, including many senior detectives, have joined the mass exodus from the South African Police Services - severely depleting sorely needed crime-fighting skills and costing the country tens of millions of rands.

Many reasons have been offered for the policemen accepting retirement and severance packages as part of the Public Service rationalisation process, but large-scale dissatisfaction appears to be a common denominator.

Those leaving include Detective Chief Wouter Grové, National Safety Services Commissioner Daantje le Roux, eight commissioners as well as another 40 senior officers. It is believed about 850 policemen have taken packages amounting to R100-million.

Confirming long-time rumours, a senior police source said "Grové didn't jump, he was pushed".

Grové, who has reportedly spent a significant time on overseas trips in an effort to be elected Interpol Africa vice-president, failed in his bid and was not elected.

"This broke his heart, but the force couldn't afford to have him absent from the office for such lengthy periods. He has also failed in implementing several policy issues," the source said. "He accepted a severance package, which is a nice way of saying he was fired."

A spokesman for National Commissioner George Fivaz denied this, saying Grové was leaving the force on good terms. "He was offered a hefty package and he accepted it," Senior Superintendent Leon Engelbrecht said.

Grové could not be reached for comment today.

Despite skilled policemen leaving the force in droves, Engelbrecht denied it would lead to a brain drain. "Not all those people leaving are senior officers, and many of them were planning to retire anyway in the near future."

The latest exodus has led to renewed calls for the lifting of the moratorium on the recruitment of new police officers. At a press conference two weeks ago, Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said Government would be reviewing the possibility of lifting the moratorium, but stressed the need to use the existing resources more effectively.

"It is time to revisit the moratorium on recruitment. Government will ensure that it is lifted," he said.

Mufamadi has also asked Fivaz to submit a strength and weaknesses analysis before approaching the Department of Finance.

Bo 10/12/96
Fivaz still to

probe claims on origin of police union

(251)

PRETORIA — National police commissioner George Fivaz still intended to ask for an official probe of claims that the SA Police Union's origins lay with the former security police, his office said yesterday.

"The matter has certainly not been laid to rest," his office said. "Sapu earlier in the day demanded a public apology from people who had accused the union of having been a former security police initiative."

No evidence had yet been brought forward to support claims made in this regard three weeks ago, Sapu national secretary Peter Don Brandt said. The union would ask the Public Protector Selby Bawqa to look into its financial and other records to disprove claims about its origins.

Sources said last month that Sapu was founded in 1993 as a strategic communication project of the former security police to counter the Police and Prisons Rights Union.

It was also alleged that a secret fund had been involved about these claims, Fivaz said at the time he was aware of rumours and would ask Baqwa to investigate.

Sapu said yesterday that no complaints had been lodged with Baqwa. "We will now approach the public protector of our own accord and request him to investigate all Sapu documentation and financial records so that our names and integrity be cleared once and for all," Brandt said.

Sapu said a formal, public apology would be approached when Baqwa said a decision for Fivaz would be taken once certain information about Sapu's founding had been gathered.

"The SA Police Service still believes that such an investigation will be in the best interests of sound labour relations within the service," he said — Sapa.

Shock in Western Cape

IN A 15-MONTH PERIOD, 618 Western Cape policemen were investigated. In the Southern Suburbs, 75 charges are laid against policemen each month. CHRIS BATEMAN reports

SHOCK figures released yesterday show that the "bad cop syndrome" is rife in the Western Cape with 227 policemen having been convicted of serious crimes, including murder and armed robbery, in a recent 15-month period.

They were among 618 police service members charged between May last year and August this year in the Western Cape.

According to figures supplied by the province's civilian Secretariat for Safety and Security, the remaining staff members were acquitted or had the charges against them withdrawn.

This means 36,7% of the policemen who were charged were convicted. Dockets were opened against a significant 4,8% of the Western Cape police complement of 12 872 members.

In the Peninsula's Southern Suburbs, 75 criminal charges are laid against policemen each month on average. The charges range from murder to theft and common assault.

In September this year, 228 dockets on policemen were opened and 22 policemen were convicted. Just weeks ago, President Nelson Mandela announced that the present government had arrested

more policemen in its 2 1/2 years in power than the National Party government had in its 46 years.

Mandela said 238 police force members had been arrested in KwaZulu-Natal since July 1994. In the same period, corruption charges had been investigated in 8 000 cases against policemen in Johannesburg.

Of the 618 dockets opened on Western Cape policemen during the 15 months, 10 were for murder, 30 for attempted murder, 12 for culpable homicide, 20 for malicious injury to property, 145 for common assault, 49 for assault with the intent to do grievous bodily harm, 31 for theft, 30 for pointing a firearm, 37 for reckless or negligent driving, and 53 for drunken driving.

Police were unable to provide detailed figures for earlier than the second half of 1995.

The local convictions arose from investigations by the police's Anti-Corruption Unit and Internal Investigation Unit — a hardened bunch of experienced policemen and women reputed to guard jealously their profession's reputation by undertaking determined probes.

Although they may refer to their 2 000 investigations against Western Cape police service mem-

bers in 1995 as evidence of their dedication, human rights bodies are insistent that the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) quickly become operational to help create a new policing culture.

The Rev Matt Esau, a spokesman for the United Front Against Crime, a local body representing the government, non-government organisations and churches, said policemen had been trained at a time when it was "almost expected of them to commit crimes" to be effective law officers.

"Even if we argue that these figures are not as high as expected, society now expects something different — a police force that can be trusted to protect and serve," Esau said.

Last month in Mitchells Plain, where Esau is rector of the Portlands parish church, one policeman was charged for armed robbery, four for assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, five for theft, one for kidnapping and eight for common assault.

Esau said it was "not surprising to me that these figures can be produced. We're trying to deal with a police service that is badly in need of transformation — and how can we then say that crime does not pay or work?"

The leader of the Democratic Party in the Western Cape, Mr Henne Bester, cautioned against "police-bashing." He said the dis-

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closure of the figures was encouraging and evidence that police were "taking this problem seriously."

The overwhelming number of policemen were honest and needed community support, Bester said. "Those who transgress must be treated with the full force of the law, but if police don't enforce the law we have no one else — they're our only hope against crime," he said.

Mr Gerald Morkel, MEC for Police Services in the Western Cape, said corruption could be found "in every field such as commerce and industry — but a single case in the police services is too much as far as I'm concerned."

He said Mandela had overlooked that it was the same men and women who were serving the public now as had done in the past.

They were moving "from a force to a service and doing their best."

The police welcomed the ICD's launching — expected by April — because they "want credibility". Morkel appealed to police service members to report corruption "in your own interests."

Recent sentences handed down to policemen include eight-year jail terms for a Lansdowne constable convicted of murder and for a Lansdowne sergeant convicted of rape, six months (or R1 000) for a Matieland constable convicted of drunken driving, and a R150 fine for a Mitchells Plain constable convicted of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

It seems that deterring the "bad apples" will remain a long-term goal in the wider battle to transform the service.

HUNDREDS CONVICTED OF SERIOUS CRIMES

Bad cops

Popcru in campaign against crime

Jacqui Pile

(251) (23)
BO 11/12/96

IN AN effort to curb increasing crime in townships, the Police and Prisons Civil Rights' Union (Popcru), and the Soweto community, will launch a campaign against crime on Saturday

The campaign will involve educating people on reporting crime to the police, participating in local community police forums and against buying stolen goods

After the launch in Soweto, the campaign will be broadened to other areas and continue until crime is reduced to an acceptable level

"We hope to build a positive rela-

tionship between police and communities in townships," said Gauteng provincial secretary James Makapane

Makapane said that he wanted people to unite against crime and to be aware that Popcru was there to protect them. Popcru was calling on police officers to "do everything in their power to combat crime so that communities can go back to leading normal lives"

Representatives of both the Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte and the provincial police commissioner Sharma Maharaj's office will join Popcru and SA Police Service members at the launch which will take place at Orlando Stadium.

Severance packages expected to deplete police ranks further

Kevin O'Grady

THE SA Police Service (SAPS) was expecting a further depletion of its ranks by the approval of a second batch of voluntary severance packages, a spokesman for national commissioner George Fivaz said yesterday

This followed the announcement that despite an SAPS attempt to block the granting of severance packages to its members, 841 had been approved at a cost of about R100m to the state

Spokesman Supt Leon Engelbrecht said further approvals were in the pipeline but the second batch was not expected as big as its predecessor

Of the 841 packages approved up to November 21, 164 were for civilian employees, 113 for sergeants, 187 for inspectors, 142 for captains, 137 for superintendents and 63 for senior superintendents, Engelbrecht said

One severance package for an SAPS divisional commission, commissioner Wouter Grove of the detective service, was also approved.

Engelbrecht said the SAPS had an-

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ticipated a flood of applications for the packages and had requested that it be exempted from allowing its members to apply for them

This was denied as it was not legally possible to treat SAPS members differently from other officials who were eligible for the packages as part of government's programme to "right-size" the public service, he said

The SAPS would miss the skills and experience of the members who had been granted packages but stressed that they represented less than 1% of the total service

"We would have loved to have kept them because we're definitely not over-staffed, we're understaffed, and they were experienced," Engelbrecht said

Unlike when SAPS members bought their discharge from the service, reasons did not have to be given on applications for severance packages. However, Engelbrecht did not believe many of them stemmed from discontent or resentment about the transformation process but were rather the result of lucrative packages on offer

Popcru in campaign against crime

Jacqui Pile

BO 11/12/96
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Mufamadi orders police to settle bomb case

Mungo Soggot

(251) M+G 13-19/12/96

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has ordered the police to bow out of a case brought against them by three widows of the victims of the 1989 Motherwell car bomb. He has instructed them to admit guilt for planting the bomb and to make an out-of-court settlement.

Mufamadi, who also criticised the police for litigating in the same way as they did under apartheid, said he had ordered a full investigation after a report on the case in the *Mail & Guardian* last week.

The M&G reported that bureaucrats under Mufamadi's control had hired the same lawyer for the case who had defended the policeman responsible for planting the bomb —

Gideon Niewoudt. The lawyer was PJ de Bruyn SC, the Port Elizabeth Bar's most senior "silk".

The widows' claim against the police and Mufamadi was for loss of support as their husbands were the policemen blown up by Niewoudt.

After holding a meeting with senior officials on Wednesday, Mufamadi said he had instructed the police to withdraw their pleas — which included the contention that South African Police Service (SAPS) members had not caused the death of the deceased — and to negotiate an out-of-court settlement.

"The SAPS is to concede the merits which include the admission that the Motherwell bombing took place at the instance of the police," he said.

One of the widows, Doreen Mgo-

duka, said she was "more than delighted with the decision".

The minister said that at his meeting with SAPS legal officials "concerns were raised about De Bruyn in light of the fact that he had defended policemen who were charged with, and convicted of, the murder of the victims of the Motherwell bombing.

"The visible implementation of the new style of litigating and a complete breakaway from the style so reminiscent of the apartheid era is long overdue."

Mufamadi said he had criticised SAPS legal officials for not consulting him on how to approach the case and which counsel to select.

He said the officials had failed to follow "recently developed legal policy of having prior and proper consultations with the safety and security

secretariat and the ministry both in regard to the manner in which politically sensitive matters are to be dealt with and the choice of counsel to represent the minister."

Earlier in the week, legal director of the safety and security secretariat Annichand Soman said the legal policy introduced in February to give Mufamadi more say in cases against the police had proved ineffective.

In the new year, the secretariat would prepare "monitoring mechanisms to track implementation of policy".

The policy is supposed to give Mufamadi more say in deciding which cases against the police should be fought, the choice of argument and the choice of counsel — as opposed to leaving such decisions to civil servants and state attorneys.

Soman said he had queried the choice of advocate when he found out about it last week and had organised Wednesday's meeting.

Soman said he had not been satisfied by the officials' response that it would lead to "unnecessary costs" if the department hired a different advocate.

In June, safety and security secretary Azar Cachalia complained about the handling by state attorneys of police legal matters, particularly their "knee-jerk" habit of defending all claims against the police.

Cachalia criticised the frequent "abdication of responsibility by state attorneys" and said he was also often troubled about the choice of counsel.

Cachalia said the root of the problem was that old guard bureaucrats were used to acting in an environment in which the minister abdicated his responsibility, as opposed to it being a case of old guard officials undermining the ministry.

Intelligence ministry makes a smart move

Sexual equality tops the agenda here

MXOLISI MGHASHE
STAFF REPORTER

(251)

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The newly established Ministry of Intelligence has taken the lead among government departments in fostering gender equality

The ministry, established to transform an institution that for years played a crucial role in enforcing apartheid, is not only in the process of establishing a gender and equity desk, but has eight women in top managerial positions

The person who heads the desk will also interact with the various wings of the intelligence services. The post is currently being advertised

Deputy Minister of Intelligence Joe Nhlanhla told Saturday Argus this week his ministry saw gender equality as the cornerstone of its work

"Gone are the days when men thought that women were best suited and trained to become secretaries and the men the bosses," Mr Nhlanhla said in a rare interview

He said it was an immutable fact that women were capable of performing as well

as men in intelligence work. Mr Nhlanhla said gender issues and affirmative action were part of the overall transformation his ministry had been going through

He said the process of transformation in the intelligence community had been made easier by the acceptance of early severance and retirement packages by many of the old employees

"In the early stages there was a rush among many of the old officers, who probably thought there might be reprisals, but some of them have since changed their minds and have become a great asset to the service," Mr Nhlanhla said

Accountability was now one of the cornerstones of the intelligence and security profession and it was no longer possible for the secret service to simply bug telephones as they pleased, he added

The National Strategic Intelligence Act of 1994, which replaced the old Intelligence and State Security Council Act of 1972, requires agents to seek legal authorisation for tapping telephones

They are also required to provide the authorising judge with good and sound

security reasons for wanting to do so. "We also have the Human Rights Commission, which is another legal recourse people could appeal to in the event of their human rights being violated by the intelligence and security community," said Mr Nhlanhla

"Parliament, which was responsible for enacting the law which now stresses accountability and transparency, has the power and opportunity, together with the parliamentary intelligence oversight committee to monitor us all the time

"Never again will intelligence work be done without any oversight or supervision. That chapter of our history is now closed," he said

The ministry was facing a serious problem of leakages of sensitive information, he said. This was caused by the mushrooming of several private intelligence and security organisations set up by former security agents, he added

"But on the whole we are satisfied about our achievements. We have gone a long way in stabilising and transforming the intelligence community," he said

Special cop unit yields hundreds of 'bad apples'

By LANNIE MOTALE

MORE than 1 000 members of the National Protection Service (NPS) – a component of the National Safety Services within the South African Police Service – have been charged for departmental and criminal

offences since 1994.

Police have dealt with 544 departmental and 461 criminal cases against members which in turn led to the suspension of 35 members and the acquittal of 98 percent of the alleged departmental offenders.

NPS spokesman Superintendent NS Rasivhetshele said the criminal cases included murder, fraud, armed robbery, attempted murder, attempted armed robbery, assault, sedition and driving under the influ-

ence of liquor.

He said all these cases had been sent to the attorney-general for a decision.

Rasivhetshele said the problems affecting the NPS were not unique compared with the entire SAPS

"This will not, however, affect the morale and effectiveness of rendering a service of high quality.

"The role model is the Presidential Protection Unit, which is doing a very good job," he said

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CP #27 22/12/96

Top intelligence post still unfilled

OWN CORRESPONDENT

(251)

CT 30/12/96

DURBAN: There is growing pressure for Parliament to review the appointment of Mr Louis Skweyiya as inspector of intelligence, following a dispute over his salary

Skweyiya was selected by the joint parliamentary committee on intelligence and approved by both houses of Parliament in March — but he is unhappy with the R360 000 a year package and has not taken up the appointment

Parliamentary sources said last night that the committee, chaired by the ANC's Ms Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, turned down a request for a package approaching R1 million a year

Attempts to reach Skweyiya at his luxury La Lucia home proved fruitless yesterday

A family member said first that he was "in the bath" but later revised that, saying he was "out"

One of three NP representatives on the 16-member committee, Mr Piet Matthee, said last night that the job should be paid at the level it was advertised at — that of a Supreme Court judge or the public protector (the official watchdog of Parliament and government)

Matthee said it was in the public interest that the issue be dealt with swiftly.

Democratic Party representative on the committee, Mr Kobus Jordaan, said the fact that Skweyiya had not taken up the job amounted to non-supervision of the five intelligence wings and a "non-appointment"

Jordaan said he would take the matter up with the committee when Parliament resumes in February.

The inspector-general's functions include receiving complaints from the public who feel compromised by the activities of the National Intelligence Agency, the SA Secret Service, the police crime intelligence unit and military intelligence

Jordaan said the DP had objected to the appointment of just one inspector-general for all these services, instead of four

He said the position was critical as it allowed the inspector-general access to all documentation, which was way beyond the access that the parliamentary committee was allowed

Meanwhile, Mapisa-Nqakula was reported as saying that the Justice Ministry had to decide on the Skweyiya package and that the committee could not comment until the matter was resolved.

Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar's spokesman, Mr Paul Setsetse, could not be reached for comment