

## **JANUARY 1999**

### **Fri 1**

Heavy fighting, in the Angolan city of Huambo in the Central Highlands, has led to members of the Unita Nations mission being evacuated. The move comes after a heavy artillery barrage by the Unita rebels.

Following the loss of UN personnel, after the plane they were travelling in was shot down (qv 28/12) the security council, in New York, has passed a resolution that the Angolan authorities allow rescue teams to search for survivors.

### **Sun 3**

Three people were injured when a car bomb exploded in Cape Towns crowded waterfront. Police said they had no clues to the motive, but the explosion was near to the site of the Planet Hollywood bombing which killed two people and injured 25, for which Islamic militants were blamed. - IOS page 2 C 6 -

### **Mon 4**

The United Nations has ordered 1,000 peace monitors out of the Angolan combat zone, in the Central Highlands. Officials will also consider the future of the movements Angolan feeding programme, in response to the shooting down of a second aircraft.

It appears that the Hercules transport plane was specifically targeted, as there had been other flights out of Huambo that did not attract rebel fire. Both sides in the resumed conflict have apparently lost confidence in the United Nations, according to Issa Diallo the head of mission in Angola.

### **Tues 5**

A United Nations envoy, investigating how two UN planes crashed in Unita rebel held territory in Angola, met government officials yesterday but failed to secure a cease fire that would allow the Unto look for survivors.

A government spokesman said that there was heavy fighting in the area around the crash sites. - AP -

### **Thurs 7**

Arguments that tokenism in sport can be rectified by legislation, put forward by the minister of sport, Steve Tshwete (qv 2/12) are ill founded. Thirty years of ill balance in the make up of the South African national team could not be put right in the four

years since the inception of the multi racial government lead by Mr Mandela. - **F Keating writes -**

### **Fri 8**

A soon to retire Nelson Mandela, hard of hearing, with defective eyesight and walking with the aid of a stick; welcomed Mr Blair to his official residence in Cape Town. The last meeting between the two men in an 'official' capacity came after the prime minister has a 2 hour meeting with the presidential heir apparent, Thabo Mbeki, where they discussed encouraging trade links between the two countries.

Later in the day the British visitors were shown around a women's centre in Alexandria township. During the 90 minuet visit to a clinic run by the National Network of Violence against Women they learned that South Africa was the 'rape capital of the world,' or as one client remarked "South Africa is the first and third world in the country" Locally it is estimated that 80% of women have been raped at one time.

At the end of the visit Mr Blair announced that his government would provide a £1.9m package to ensure that the charity could continue its work. The money would also continue to fund Soul City, a television production company that promotes the anti violence message in a soap opera format.

A 33 year old British mining engineer was one of four victims of the continuing violence in northern Angola. The death of P Bergan, a consequence of 'popular resistance,' according to Unita's general secretary occurred in the diamond town of Lumbago in Cuango province on 6/1.

The former student of Cameroon School of Mining was employed by the Australian company Ashton Mining, which was itself in partnership with the SDM in Angola.

**Cartoon** A prime ministers request "Would you like a job as a nurse?" as Britain 's NHS runs short of qualified nurses

### **Sat 9**

Renewing an association, forged over 2 years ago, when the Blair 's agreed to sponsor Mary an abandoned child; HIV positive cared for by the nuns who run Nazareth House who belong to the Poor Sisters of Nazareth

Commenting of the hold the Aids virus has on the African continent the prime minister said that the continent had 70% of the world's cases. He also pledged an extra £20,000 to fund an extra 14 beds at the centre, thus allowing the Sisters to give shelter to a total of 54 children.

Throughout his visit Mr Blair has been dogged by protests about current British policy. On his first day white Afrikaners showed their anger over the introduction of the concentration camps, during the Boer War. Latterly, Muslims have taken to the streets of Cape Town, and elsewhere, to protest at the action by the RAF along with

the United States at the bombing of Iraq at the end of 1998. One piece of good news has emerged. It is hoped, after the intervention of president Mandela, that the two Libyan suspects of the Lockerbie bombing will be brought to trial in 1999.

Leader Comment, **Those Winds of Change** “the reality of five years of multi racial politics is that the old colour bar remains as a wealth bar.” Promises from the ANC before the election to redress the gross injustices of apartheid have now that it has become the government has a policy which will enable benefits to “trickle down.”

In re branding the country as the New South Africa, after 1994, which many thought would not take place - although the ANC would take power - was largely due to T Mbeki's post as the movement's high profile diplomat and the forgiving nature of Mr Mandela on his release, in 1992. What has not been addressed is the money that could be raised by the middle income earners.

Speaking to the parliament in Cape Town Mr Blair, in a Wind's of Change speech - Part 2 - “would have done better to address his message mainly to South Africa's whites. History has treated them to a degree of mercy which few deserved. Mr Blair could have suggested that, instead of endless whinging about crime, they think of social justice and put something back.

### **Mon 11**

Aid workers fear that three besieged Angolan towns will run out of food because the United Nations has suspended flights and withdrawn staff from the country's war zone. An official of the UN World Food Programme said yesterday that Cuito, Huambo and Malanje, scene of heavy fighting between Angolan government and rebel Unita forces, were virtually cut off. The UN halted flights to the country after two of its planes were shot down. - *Reuters* -

### **Tues 12**

To enable the Dutch football club Ajax to benefit from the soccer mad youth in the townships and who have eventually played in European countries like Lucas Radebe (qv 13/8) who signed from the Mamelodi Sundowns in 1994 to play for the English Premier team, Leeds United.

In this instance the Dutch champions have taken a 51% financial interest in a new team called Ajax Cape Town, which has been formed by the merger of two existing Cape Town teams, the Seven Sisters and the Cape Town Spurs, both in the South African Premier League.

Ajax Cape Town will benefit in a number of ways, proven methods of training young professionals will be imported from Holland. An investment of \$1.2m will be made in the existing training ground of the Cape Town Spurs. A nation-wide hunt for talented township players will be formed.

In return the Dutch Ajax will be allowed to have the pick of the best talent from the its South African franchise, who will be then introduced into the European nation of

football. Analysts believe that this is the first time that a football club has been franchised and it is the way forward if teams want to find fresh talent and exploit their brand names.

### **Wed 13**

South African police disclosed yesterday they were working on proposals for a security crackdown following the death of a demonstrator during protests against last week's visit by Tony Blair (qv 9/1).

Yusuf Jacobs, aged 32 who was a member of the Muslim militant group People Against Drugs and Gangsterism (qv), was hit by a rubber bullet in Cape Town during the demonstration against Britain's support of the USA against Iraq.

The Cape Town commissioner of Police said the force would be pouring additional resources into the Western Cape, in a project called 'Operation Good Hope' aimed at fighting terrorism in the province. He said legal advisers were drawing up proposals that could include banning "certain organisations. - **D Beresford GDN page 13 C 1 [adb]** -

The Angolan rebel group Unita claimed last night that it had a United Nations chartered plane that went down on January 2. Portuguese state radio said the rebels had informed the UN of the plane's location and that there were no survivors. The plane was the second UN chartered plane to come down in Angola within a week. - **AP** -

### **Fri 15**

In his long awaited autobiography; *The Last Trek : a New Beginning* published by Macmillan former president de Klerk behind the scenes bitterness he has felt towards the man who replaced him as they jointly negotiated away the end of apartheid.

The acrimony began, even on the day that Mr Mandela was released from prison in 1990 (qv 13/2) when he addressed a large crowd in Cape Town's Grand Parade in the evening. In that speech he maintained the rhetoric of the hard-line ANC over the armed struggle. There were other occasions when Mr de Klerk had to hide his bitterness - at the opening of the Codesa talks in 1991 (qv 21/12) the then president had to control his anger at the opening remarks of his opponent in which he has called the government of leading a "discredited minority regime and of being incapable of upholding moral standards."

In 1993, when both men were in Oslo to collect the jointly won Nobel Peace Prize to the consternation of de Klerk the crowd gathered outside greeted him with calls to "kill the Boer," - an old ANC slogan, while they greeted Nelson Mandela as a hero.

The acrimony continued after the 1994 election. This time the argument was about the home that the de Klerk's would occupy - would it be state buildings in Cape Town or a home in Pretoria.

## **Sat 16**

The national example, of a young black sportsman from the townships being picked to represent his county at an international level, has been severely damaged within the past 72 hours with the arrest of the prominent cricket M Nitini.

Mr Ntini, who was a member of the Springbok team who played a Test series in England in 1998 (qv 12/5) has been charged with the rape of a student at East London's cricket ground. He has been released on bail of £500/ R5,000 and is due back in court in 3/99.

A meeting of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, who's chairman Ali Bacher said "He has always remained adamant that he is completely innocent. On that basis I support him fully.," will be held on 17/1. The outcome of which will decide the cricketers future. The National Sports Council has already reached its decision, after a meeting on 14/1 - if he is found guilty Mr Nitini's hopes of representing South Africa, at international level were ended.

"A survey has shown that 87% of South African's expect to be car - jacked. Which accounts for the success of the Blaster, a device operated by the driver if approached by thieves, and we all know what they look like.

The Blaster throws a 2m - long flame either side of the car. Its inventor, 33 year old lawyer C Foruire, though not a victim himself said, "I want to fight fire with fire." So far, 26 Blasters have been sold at £420 each, with 760 on order.

Ulf Gunter of Johannesburg refuses to pay that kind of money: he keeps a bottle of brandy laced with cyanide in his glove compartment." - **T Busman Zeitgeist, GDN** -

## **Mon 18**

Following the return of the Archbishop Trevor Huddleston 's remains to Sophiatown in 1998 (qv 30/7) the intention was to inter the ashes in the walls of the Church of Christ the King. This did not happen because of lack of funds.

Today the Father Superior of the Community of Resurrection, Father C Harrison, later this week begins the journey to South Africa to "keep his promise to his friend and bring about a quick resolution to this impasse."

## **Tues 19**

In a report to the security council Koffi Annan, the secretary general of the United Nations, has proposed that the mission sent to Angola in 1995 withdraw the majority of its personnel from 20/3. The logistics of the UNAVEM 3 (qv 19/4) would see a small number of military remaining in the war torn country to protect those working on the UN 's humanitarian programmes.

Commenting on the conditions inside Angola Mr Annan said that the international community, who had originally sent 7,000 peacekeepers, had spent £900m. The

failure of the mission, as he saw it, was the organisations largest failure since the United Nation 's involvement in the Congo in the 1960's.

Following the spirit of the Land Act Reclamation (qv 21/12) a farmer in the town of Hartbeesport is to divide his land in half, which was taken into government ownership from its African owners in 1911 by the British, and hand it back to those who have lived on the land for generations.

The decision, by R Roman, originally fell foul of the local council by not following the correct procedures and therefore rejected. The decision was reversed when the agricultural minister, D Hankon intervened.

### **Wed 20**

Hundreds of young men lined up outside municipal offices in Angola yesterday to register for compulsory military service after the government, faced wit renewed civil war, cracked down on draft dodgers.

Men aged between 20 and 22 have one week to register with the authorities and must then carry their registration slips at all times or face immediate arrest.

During the implementation of the United Nations brokered peace deal between the government and Unita rebels over the past four years the government has relaxed mandatory military service. - **AP** -

A self confessed murderer seeking amnesty for his part in the massacre of forty six men, women and children in Boipatang, South Africa in 1992 (qv 20/6) has claimed the Inkatha leader and home affairs minister Mangasotho Buthelezie congratulated the killers for "the good job" they had carried out, in a speech he gave about a month later.

Andries M Nosenga made his allegation to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission .  
**C McGreal GDN, page 16 C 5**

### **Thurs 21**

South Africa's most wanted man, among the criminal fraternity, C Chaukie has been arrested in the town of Nelspruit on 19/1. His alleged crimes range from car jacking to robbery of £1.3m from a security van.

This most notorious former member of Umkhonto we Sizwe and local councillor achieved his 'recognition' after he evaded capture by police, who raided the home of P Mokabe who is the deputy minister of tourism and the environment in the government.

### **Fri 22**

On a 500 acre site, next to the exclusive suburb of Cape Town, Somerset West, a London émigré of 24 years G Hazeldon is to develop Heritage Park a 'walled city'

that will have all the amenities of a small town with the added advantage of total security. The residents will, if they wish, not have to the new town as all their needs; employment and social will have been catered for.

The first of the 200 homes are expected to be finished by the end of 12/99, and the remainder within the next 10 years are selling well, according to a local estate agent. At present there is a squatter camp, at the edge of the development, which houses 1000 people. When Heritage Park is complete the developers will provide 142 rent free homes for these residents. Although the homes are outside the security cordon it is hoped that many of the camps residents will be employed inside.

The local ANC councillor is, naturally, opposed to the idea commenting "there are better ways of beating crime ... community involvement." The design of the homes range from Cape Dutch to English Tudor will be priced from £20,000 to £200,000 will be on the market to all who are 'good neighbours' but economic apartheid will exclude many blacks, even for the cheaper homes, because of South Africa's high interest rates and the difficulty of repayment of the mortgagee.

According to the Times newspaper during the visit by the British prime minister (qv) an approach was made to Labour Party officials to help to secure a second term of government led by the ANC ; to be decided by a general election, which is expected to take place in 5/99 or 6/99.

The target of the ANC 's administration is Mr Peter Mandelson, the 'godfather' of the Labour victory in 1996. For him to accept this offer, coming after his recent bout of notoriety.

On the other hand Mr Blair would be encouraged for his friend to take up this offer, that would only last six to eight weeks, as it would strengthen the ties between the two countries, and promote the 'Third Way' so loved by the prime minister.

*authors note;* accepting an undeclared loan from a government official] would harm his rehabilitation as a member of the government

### **Sat 23**

Residents scrambled to escape the northern city of Malange yesterday after Unita rebels seized a key bridge and vowed to shell the city. Witnesses said the population, of 200,000 had more than halved since Unita first attacked on 26/12 and the exodus had accelerated since 20/1 when the rebels captured Porto Salazar bridge over the Kuanza river. The government has now 2,000 reinforcements to the city.

Angola returned to civil war last month after the collapse of a four year old peace accord. - **Reuters** -

When the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act passes into South African law later this year, polygamy will become legal to all races. This should make the land a haven for ageing politicians and pop stars, and a nightmare for tabloid journalists, who will have nothing whatsoever to write about. - **T Busman, Zeitgeist, GDN** -

## **Sun 24**

Sifiso Nkabinde\* (qv 12/7) a key South African opposition figure has been shot dead, leading to fears of renewed political violence.

The United Democratic Movement, which he helped form after leaving the ruling ANC has attracted many disaffected ANC supporters. Recent clashes between both parties have claimed some lives.- **Independent on Sunday, page 2 -**

*authors note;* the former ANC leader in the Midlands district of KwaZulu Natal in 1998 (qv 12/7)

## **Mon 25**

The killing of S Nkabinde (qv 23/1), who when speaking to South African television in 1998 said that he would die a violent death, has sparked off a number of revenge attacks in KwaZulu Natal province.

In the most violent incident 12 members of a single family, attending the funeral of an ANC official in the town of Richmond, were killed by attackers armed with automatic weapons, in the same incident 8 other mourners were injured. In another outbreak of unrest in the province a group of visiting politicians and their police escort were ambushed

This increase in political violence, in KwaZulu Natal, in the run up to the general election echoes the situation before the 1994 vote. This gives rise to speculation, from a spokesman for president Mandela, that there is a 'third force' at work who are exploiting the tensions in the province for their own ends.

## **Tues 26**

An official of the United Democratic Movement, in the Cape Flats squatter camp, has become the latest victim of a perceived political fuelled battle with the African National Congress that began in Natal province.

Mr V Matiyasa, the deputy chairman of the regional branch, of the UDM was killed as he opened his front door to his killers and was hit by a number of bullets from his two attackers.

In Natal itself an associate of S Nkabinde (qv), H Gwamanda, expressed sorrow for the families of those who died at the funeral wake for a member of the ANC, but there was no sorrow for the victims themselves; which were in retaliation for the death of the UDM 's regional leader, or for the deaths in Cape Flats.

It is now clear that deaths of the mourners was a revenge attack. One of perpetrators of the massacre, M Mtolo the right hand man of Mr Nkabinde, was shot dead during a police chase. He was due to appear in court on a charge of murder arising out of an incident in a bar in the town of Richmond in 1998 (qv 12/7).



Five people will appear in court in connection with the spate of killing over the last 72 hours.

### **Wed 27**

Preparation for South Africa's second general election were hit yesterday by the resignation of one of South Africa's most respected judges., Johan Kriegler, as chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission.

The reason for the resignation was not disclosed but the media have speculated that the government's refusal to increase the commission's budget and differences with subordinates and the deputy president Thabo Mbeki, were to blame. - **D B GDN page 13 C 1** -

In an interview, given in connection with the publication of his autobiography, F W de Klerk (qv 15/1), according to the reviewer, maintains the recent history of South Africa goes something like this : "a white minority government, ruled by a series of benevolent dictators, was keen to devolve power to the black majority as equal partners. Some white extremists metered out a degree of racial injustice and neither the blacks or the rest of the international community were interested in the deal.

The white rulers decided the most reasonable and fair thing to do was to give up their power and hand it over to people they had recently seen fit to put in prison. They were led by Nelson Something - or - other - a nice chap, although he could get uppity on occasions and proved something of a disappointment to those keen on establishing a democratic, non racial country."

### **Thurs 28**

Unita rebels have overrun the key city of Mbanza Congo in northern Angola giving them control of a large area from which to launch attacks on foreign oil installations Soya, 124 miles to the east.

The city which is near the Congo border, fell on 26/1 after days of heavy shelling,. Its capture also gives Unita a base for attacks on government owned diamond mines in the east. - **AP** -

The tragedy of apartheid may be over and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's work done, but in South Africa the memories live on. A book, Country of My Skull, by A Krog published by Jonathan Cape @ £16.99, reports on her response to the testimonies she has heard; part fact part fiction, part plea for forgiveness.

### **Fri 29**

Eleven people were hurt yesterday when a bomb exploded outside Cape Town's main police station. Police in the South African city detained two suspects.

It was the latest incident in a season of bombings and shootings linked to Muslims angry at local drug peddling gangs and Western air attacks on Iraq. - **Reuters** -

### **Sat 30**

With the publication of letters exchanged between Thabo Mbeki and Judge Kriegler (qv 27/1) it is seen that 'administrative row' that preceded the judges resignation, was the cost and availability of the new bar coded identity cards that will be needed for voters to take part in this years general election. \* - **Economist page 60 C 2** -

*authors note*, this will take place in 7/99

Opposition to the planned introduction of these new cards has come from the ANC 's political opponents, who claim that they will have an unfair advantage as the majority of holders of these cards are there own supporters; who were issued them when they returned from self imposed exile in another country. Everybody else will have to purchase one to replace their existing card.

### **Sun 31**

Featuring more and more among the South African sporting community, as a diet supplement, is a chemical form of the bodies naturally produced creatine. Produced in the liver which manufactures about 2 grams a day to replace what is used up during every day living.

Widely on legal sale, as production has been ordained by the USA 's Food and Drugs Administration, athletes and other sports persons are prescribing themselves a 3 months course, initially 20g per day for 7 days. this is then followed by a reduction in dosage per day. One months supply can cost £26 / R650.

## **FEBRUARY 1999**

### **Mon 1**

Funerals have taken place, of the latest violence in KwaZulu Natal province, within the last 48 hours. The town of Richmond was the location for the funeral of S Nkinbide (qv) and the mourners from the funeral of a second ANC official (qv 26/1), who were killed in retaliation for the death of the UDM politician.

Monitors of political violence, within the province, say that 250 - 300 deaths occurred in 1998 due to 'faction fighting' between rival supporters. Another observer says that 5,000 deaths have occurred since the last general election.

A member of the largest violence monitoring unit, M de Haas, believes the sustained number of deaths is due mainly to the structure of the police force in the province. The top echelons in the force, now filled by blacks, are beholden to the former apartheid regime because of the fact that many of them came from similar positions in the 'homeland' administrations.

### **Fri 5**

News item, during the state opening of parliament President Nelson Mandela, who was performing the right as the state president, a role he is to relinquish after South Africa's second multi - racial general election, made a reference to the increase that his government has given to the state pension.

The comment, that he and his wife, would be grateful for any increase in financial aid from the state, was greeted by applause from the assembled members of parliament.  
ITN News 5.40pm

### **Sat 6**

SA Tape 58, Correspondent, BBC2 19.15 – 20.00; an extract, the life of a 15 year old in Thokosa township. The battle of minds whether to remain at school or join his contemporaries, who have not returned to education, 'on the streets' or as members of the self defence units (qv) now being reformed to fight the out of control crime patrol the streets.

### **Sun 7**

Despite claims that the problem of crime is being controlled, from a member of the parliamentary justice committee the deaths of high profile people still occur. The latest victim was the president of the car company Daewood, who was killed in an attack in a Johannesburg street recently.

The danger is that many of the foreign owned businesses that have bases in the country will leave and take their economic benefits elsewhere. One example - there are 13 Korean companies that are based in and around Johannesburg who bring benefits of £61m [\$100m] to the economy. One bright spot for the economy is that of the tourist industry, which brings 4.5% of South Africa's Gross National Product, has been placed 25th on a list of the world's most visited tourist attractions.

Albanian's exiled would - be king Leka Zogu, was among four foreigners taken into custody in Johannesburg, South Africa on 5/2. They were arrested for possession of illegal weapons, including 70 firearms, grenade launchers, AK47 rifles, anti personnel mines, hand grenades and more that 14,000 rounds of ammunition. - **Independent On Sunday, page 2 C 7 -**

### **Mon 8**

Following the arrest of wannabe King Zogu (qv 7/2), the Los Angeles Times in Johannesburg, has reported "the arrests come less than 48 hours after the South African government rescinded a deal he made with the previous apartheid regime 1991 giving him, and his 'possessions and archives' diplomatic immunity.

### **Tues 9**

A defence has been put forward as to why exiled wannabe monarch in Albania was arrested along with four bodyguards - all ex mercenaries, from Britain and the former Rhodesia.. They were to be used as protection from possible attack from Albanian anti monarchists or in support of the Kosovo Liberation Army, who are involved in a struggle for independence from the Serbian government in Belgrade.

Marius Schoon, a prominent opponent of apartheid, who's wife and daughter were killed by a police letter bomb has died of lung cancer in a Johannesburg clinic.

He returned to the public eye last year when during the hearings into the apartheid era held by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, when he opposed amnesty by the ex police agent that killed his second wife, Jenette and six year old daughter, Katrynin Angola in 1984. - **AP abridged** - \*authors note; see Truth Commission, evidence to 23/9

### **Thurs 11**

Following the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species decision in 1998 (qv 18/6) to continue the restriction of the sale of ivory in Africa and Asia the country's most affected have won a partial reprieve, all be it with restrictions.

The governments of Namibia and Zimbabwe have been allowed to sell 33.8 tons, only to Japan, where it must be used to manufacturer only ornaments for sale inside the country.

The deal is to be financed by the British government, who will monitor of al ivory trade in Africa and Asia. \* authors note; valued at £60m, see page 16 C7 according to the London Times,

## **Fri 12**

Conflicting accounts of the three day visit made by P Mandelson (qv 22/1) have emerged. Speaking to Radio 4 a senior member of the ANC, Thabo Masbe, said that Mr Mandelson was seen out of courtesy after he himself had requested a meeting.

According to the general secretary of the Labour Party in London the former cabinet minister, who's visit was sponsored by the Communication Workers Union and the Amalgamated Electrical Engineers Union, his three day visit to Johannesburg and Cape Town was at the request of M Msimang the ANC's treasurer general.

The letter also said "we are writing to confirm our interest in taking up your party's offer ... to release Mr Peter Mandelson to come to South Africa for the specific purpose of assisting us in the current general election campaign."

## **Sat 13**

Government troops in Angola claimed yesterday to have retaken a key northern city where Unita rebels were preparing to launch attacks on foreign oil installations. Unidentified army sources, cited by the state radio RNA, said they had driven the rebels out of Mbanza Congo, about 200 miles north of Luanda, after fierce fighting..

The city fell into rebel hands (qv 28/1). Unita's secretary general, Paulo Lukamba Gata, dismissed the claim as "nonsense." They haven't taken anything from us. The city is still in Unita hands," he said. - AP -

Reacting to the partial lifting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species 's (qv 11/2) ban on the export of elephant ivory

"The agreement will raise much needed revenue for conservation and community schemes in the African countries concerned. ... The funds raised ... will be directed back into elephant conservation where populations are flourishing, as well as helping local communities live alongside the elephant." - **M Meacher; press statement from the Department of Environment, Transport and the regions, 11/2 -**

"The World Wide Fund is disappointed that mechanisms to halt trade if poaching increases are not in place before the sales will occur.... However we recognise that the measures agreed will in the long term improve the monitoring of poaching and illegal trade and as such benefit elephant conservation in Africa and Asia." - **J Newby, Director of Species Conservation WWF International, 10/2 - The Editor, page 7 -**

## **Mon 15**

Renewed shelling of the northern Angolan town of Malanje by Unita rebels killed at least four people at the weekend, a senior aid worker said yesterday. "They [Unita] seemed to be getting closer ... We think there has also been 40 injuries," the Malange based aid employee said, adding that until Friday heavy artillery fire was only heard on the city's outskirts. He said the latest attack was made using smaller, portable weapons, as opposed to cannon. - AP -

A fire swept through some of South Africa's most scenic wine country yesterday, threatening fruit and wine harvests and closing roads. The blaze, which began on Saturday, stretched for about 12 miles between Paal and Franschhoek and severed road contact between the two towns.

The fire started on a South African Forestry Company plantation. The possibility of arson has not been ruled out. - **AP** abridged -

### **Tues 16**

The former wife of the president, Winnie M Mandela, is on the verge of a political comeback. In the ANC rankings, for the coming general election; which will take place between 18 – 27/5. The former minister for the arts, culture science and technology, has been placed at number 10 in the list of preferred candidates.

In the view of Tony Leon, the leader of the Democratic Party, such a position, which is almost certain to guarantee a cabinet seat for Ms Madikzela, "it would finally convince the world that we are not to be taken seriously and that we are becoming a third rate African country." Responding to this Kgalema Motlanthe, the ANC's secretary general said "This is a reflection of how ANC members feel... It is an expression of confidence."

### **Wed 17**

Thabo Mbeki, the deputy president of South Africa, yesterday floated the possibility of a power sharing deal with his rival, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezie, after the elections in 5/99.

He told reporters that he saw no obstacle the continuing the coalition established in 1994 between the African National Congress and Chief Buthelezie's Inkatha Freedom Party, which controls the country's most populous province, KwaZulu Natal.

Mr Mbeki did not comment on speculation that he might appoint Chief Buthelezie, now minister of home affairs, as his deputy president. - **Reuters** abridged -

### **Thurs 18**

In the eyes of the ordinary South African, and increasingly the members of the international community, the United State's vice president A Gore; and Americas attorney general, J Reno who have arrived in Cape Town to attend a meeting of the joint USA/SA bi national commission, the fear of crime is still a prominent feature of concern.

Despite soothing words from Nelson Mandela, in 1998, who derided people who left the country because of their fear of crime the Institute of Security Studies says that the fear of crime is having any number of effects on their lives, ranging from the social, political and economic consequences of living in a country where nearly two thirds of the residents of 'greater Johannesburg' have fallen victims of crime.

Bishop S Mogoba, the leader of the militant Pan African Congress, has offered a solution. Convicted criminals should be punished by amputation, this is “the language they understand.” There is also an increasing call for the resumption of the use of the death penalty

### **Fri 19**

According to a report by the World Tourism Organisation South Africa was the 25th most visited country in 1998. The percentage change, from the previous year, 10.0. This compares well for the number of tourists that came to Africa as a whole - where international visitors rose by 7.5%. - **Economist page 135** -

### **Sun 21**

A policeman involved in investigating Cape Town gangs suffered serious wounds in a drive by shooting. Superintendent S Visargie formerly headed the investigation unit into an Islamic vigilante group, People Against Gangsterism and Drugs [qv] which has been linked to a series of bombings at tourist and other venues over the past year . **Independent on Sunday, page 24 C 7**

### **Mon 22**

**Obituary Dr Ntsu Mokhehle** the former Lesotho politician, aged 79, has died in a Bloemfontein hospital. Doctor Mokhehle became the country’s first prime minister after elections in 1993, as head of the Basotho Congress Party, turning Lesotho into a “one party parliament in a multi party state.

”Ousted 12 months later because he would not accede to King Letsie the Thirds wishes to reinstate his father - Moshoeshoe the Second as King. He was pressurised into acceded to the monarchs wishes, by the leaders of neighbouring countries, and restored to his position.

Facing a new general election in 1998, and defeated by the newly formed Lesotho Congress Party (qv 29/5) he went into voluntary retirement

### **Thurs 25**

Cuito returns to the front line in the civil war in Angola. Home to 70, 000 who have fled the recent fighting from other disputed areas locations (qv 28/1), They have only been fed on one sack of beans and maize by the World Food Programme. This shortage of supplies is mainly due to government troops who have stolen many of the foodstuffs for their own use. They have also stolen 12 vehicles belonging to the UN agency and should have been used to distribute supplies outside the city

This is the second time, in recent years, that the World Food Programme agency has had to come to Cuito. The last time, in 1993 (qv 28/8), the main problem was the destruction of the city. This time it is the moral of the refugees who are on the brink of resuming their lives to a semblance of normality.

The land mines, used to deadly effect by both sides, is again making its presence felt. Cuito hospital currently has 25 amputees on its wards. In 1/99 35 amputations alone were carried out. The average number of patients who lost limbs in 1998 was only three.

### **Fri 26**

During a debate in parliament, on the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its published report in 1998 (qv 30/10) Thabo Mbeki condemned the work of Archbishop Tutu and his fellow commissioner. He also hinted that the report might have to be written again. The 'president in waiting' was particularly angry when the report - refereed, to earlier in the debate by the president as an "interim report" - equated the crimes of the liberation movements on the same levels the crimes of the whites, and this goes as far back as the 17th century settler's racist remarks.

Comments, by both the president and his deputy, indicated that the final report would only be available when the Truth Commission's committees dealing with amnesty applications had considered all applications.

Following the remarks of the Minister of Sport, S Tshwete, in 1998 (qv 2/12) a new quota system, for the inclusion of black and Coloured players, has been agreed which would show the true multi - racial make up of any national and provincial side.

The disciplines covered include Rugby and Cricket

Rugby - Craven Week; under 13 's, Province; minimum of 4 non whites squad of 20 Coca Cola; under 17 's, 13/20, under 19, 13/20. South African Schools; 6/21. Emerging Springbok; 3/15 on the field. South Africa under 23 's 5 out of 20 squad Under 21 's 6/21. Under 19 's 7/24. South African Schools, First team; 9/26. South Africa, under 17 's 10/30.

Cricket - Provincial B team 3/squad. Provincial A; one non white player in each team. Provincial Schoolboy 's minimum of 40% of teams made up of non white players. National team; Cricket board directive states no all white teams may be chosen. Minimum of 1 non white player per team.

### **Sat 27**

In an effort to stem the countries gun culture - where 9 million South Africans legally carry weapons, ranging from hand guns to ex liberation fighters with AK 47's held as souvenirs,- and to end some of the deaths [11, 000 in 1997] actions are being taken by the authorities.

From 14/2 people applying for a gun licence - now rated at 18,000 per month - will be required to submit to more extensive background checks. The licence, once granted, will have to be reapplied for every 5 years. It will no longer allowed to own a replica gun and armour piercing shells will also become illegal.



Another method of changing the dependence on the gun is to target the young. A campaign - Gun Free South Africa - is running in the nations primary schools. So successful has been township school, in Mapela, in the Northern Province, that the children's art work does not depict any guns. - **The Economist, page 62** -

### **Sun 28**

The South African election is not that far away and idle computer fans are already having fun with it. At the end of May the voters will be deciding whether the African National Congress should be given another five years mandate, and whether Thabo Mbeki 's should succeed Nelson Mandela as president.

In reality the result is no contest and everyone knows it. It is more fruitful to speculate on how Mbeki will differ from his predecessor once he has the top job: more socialism and less kindly treatment the whites is the prevailing view.

With this in mind someone has constructed what looks like a Web page, which asks "Do you intend to vote for the ANC?" You are prompted to click on the "Yes" button which brings up the message "Thank you Comrade, we will distribute the wealth us." Try to click on the "No" button and it jumps all over the screen, eluding your frantic pursuit with the pointer. - **Flat Earth, Independent on Sunday page 23 C 7** -

## **MARCH 199**

### **Thurs 4**

Yesterday President Mandela announced the date, 2/6, that elections for a new president of South Africa will take place. At the same time there will be elections for seats in the regional legislatures. The race for the National position is a foregone conclusion, with the present deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, assured of the top spot.

In the general election, the aim of the ANC will be to increase its 63% share of the vote; won in 1994 to a 2/3rds majority. This will enable the party to amend the constitution without interference from other political parties.

Analysts feel that the ANC's attempt to gain control, in KwaZulu Natal province, will fail as will their attempt to gain control in the Western Cape from the National Party.

Thirty two parties have registered to take part in the general election. Only seven will give cause for concern to the ANC as they are all vying to become the main opposition party. The seven are in reality redistributing the white vote in a different mix. The National Party - renamed the New National Party - is losing the support of its white voters, and not picking up any other from across the racial divide.

Opinion polls show that the level of support for the ANC has held since 1994. Also that the Democratic Party will gain enough votes to become the official Opposition Party.

### **Sun 7**

President Nelson Mandela has registered to vote in South Africa's next general election, which will be held in June. His attempt to join South Africa's first all race register of eligible voters failed last year when he visited the wrong bureau. **Independent on Sunday, page 22 C 7**

### **Sun 14**

Like most events in the country the soon to be held general election (qv) has brought forth the satirical element. Chief among these is the input from P D Uys; a long time critic of the former apartheid system, who has not lost his cutting edge with the current administration.

Issues are more serious this time around for the ANC, not as in 1994, when concerns were that "South Africa got a Y Front beach towel as a national emblem." Today's problems concern education, housing, health and the faction fighting in Natal.

This time round, if Evita Bezuidenhout, the Afrikaner persona that Uys takes on in his current stage tour, confronts the issues current today; “Mandela was behind bars for 27 years, now he wants everyone to have bars codes in their identity books.”

### **Mon 15**

Four deaths that have occurred in the area known as Cape Flats have sparked fears that a ‘third force’ assassination group has begun its evil work again. Three of the deaths were presumed revenge attacks following the death of an ANC councillor, Z Hlazo, in the squatter camp of Nyanga township. Those killed in revenge were members of the newly formed United Democratic Movement from the squatter camps of KTC and Crossroads that surround Cape Town.

A spokesman for the UDM, the ANC ’s main political rival in the forthcoming general election, denies killing Mr Hlazo, and the ANC concur with this view, that the battle for the black vote is being orchestrated by others, for whatever reason, These could be to ensure that the New National Party retains control of Cape Province, its only success in the 1994 election, or it is in fact the work of the ANC who are trying to ensure that a political rival is eliminated.

### **Tues 16**

The pop music phenomenon Michael Jackson, who fell in love with all things South African after performing in the country in 1997 (qv 1/8), has with his business partner and the American gambling magnate Don Baden purchased shares in Sun City International, which was begun by Sol Kerzner (qv) in the former homeland of Bophuthatswana, as a relaxation resort for the whites of pre 1994 South Africa.

In purchasing the entire holding of the North West Development Corporation’s 27 % as the regional authority had a legal responsibility to sell by 10/5, for £40m/ R400m it is hoped that the company can reinvent itself as a family based company; after the gambling laws were changed by the Pretoria government. Other projects that are in progress of development are a theme park in Namibia and an orphanage in Swaziland.

Current to the statistics on the spread of the Aids virus, issued in 1998 (qv 29/12) it is estimated that 1 : 5 black women are HIV positive and the welfare ministry predict that within 5 years 500,000 children will be orphaned by the disease. The life expectancy will fall from 60 to 40 years.

The public face of the government campaign to make people aware of the spread of Aids is Prudence Mabele, aged 26, who herself is HIV positive and lives in the KwaManza township near Durban. Her life has not been easy since attending an Aids conference in Canada, in 1994, as she became recognised back in her home country from the news coverage.

Since that time she has been shunned by neighbours and many of her family and has been pointed out as “she’s the one with Aids.”

## **Thurs 18**

The trial of Dr A Boesak, delayed in 1997 (qv 18/3) has ended. The former veteran anti apartheid campaigner, head of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the co founder of the United Democratic Front has been found guilty on 4 charges of fraud and theft. He was acquitted of 25 lesser charges.

The charges that led to his conviction, relate to £130,000/ R1.3m that had been donated by the American singer Paul Simon after the Gracelands tour of 1988. and a Scandinavian Foundation that sent donations to be used for the education of township children and voter education for their parents. Also finding its way to financing the “nice clothes, good residential address and luxury vehicles”, evidence given by an earlier trialist F Steenkamp, was £100,000 that was sent by the churches in Norway, to aid voter education before the 1994 multi party election. This was fraudulently used to provide a studio for his wife; a television producer

## **Fri 19**

The mining company, Cape PLC based in London but with interests overseas, is to defend claims in a British court, brought initially by five South African nationals who have caught cancer through the mining of asbestos. Their claim hinges on fact that the mining company did not provide the required safety equipment that would prevent them breathing the damaging fibres.

If they are successful with their compensation claim then the way is open for a further 15,000 former miners to claim a total of £100 million.

The company is lobbying the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine, through a parliamentary lobby firm, to make a change to a 1997 House of Lords ruling that allowed a Namibian mine worker to receive legal aid to pursue a claim in a British court against another company. The lobby firm GJW and Clewington hope to persuade parliament to make changes to the Access to Justice Bill that would prevent foreign workers of a British company being able to receive legal aid.

President Nelson Mandela, a known supporter of the noble art of boxing, has offered South Africa as a venue for the rematch between Lenox Lewis and Evanda Holyfield to settle who will be the Heavyweight champion of the world.

At a press conference in London, the fight promoter for the British champion, P Elades, indicated that the president would offer a ‘peace belt’ with a value of £1.9m/ \$3m, made of 22 carat gold. A move such as this would open the way for South Africa to become the venue for other international sporting contests.

It is hoped a deal can be arranged within the next 10 days, although there is a dispute about the size of the ‘purse’.

Continuing racial clashes, similar in nature to those in 1998 at Vyreburg High School (qv 20/3) have now involved the legal profession. In this latest outburst of unrest the school governors have gone to the high court to rule against the decision of the

provincial government that A Babrlo aged 19 cannot be expelled for plunging a pair of scissors into the neck of student C Erasmus.

A nephew of Nelson Mandela, the Reverend D Mandela, who left the ANC a number of years ago has decided to join the New National Party. Not only is he to join, he is also going to establish a branch of the Party near Port Elizabeth.

### **Sat 20**

The Swiss government has launched an inquiry into the links and active support to the pro apartheid regimes that governed South Africa between 1948 and 1994. The workings of the parliamentary inquiry will be coordinated by members of the economic ministry.

One of the main 'helping hands,' given by the Geneva authorities, was an introduction to the international world of chemical and biological weapons to the regime in Pretoria. Evidence of such links were highlighted in evidence to the Truth Commissioning 1998 by Dr W Basson (qv 7/6)

Other documents show that the Swiss banking fraternity also bankrolled the 'pariah state', in 1974, for example, more than 320m Swiss francs were deposited in South African banks.

### **Sun 21**

The San Bushmen, of the Kalahari Desert which straddles the Namibian and South African border in southern Africa are after a long legal battle are to have a recognise 'homeland.'

The land, donated by the government in Pretoria, will be known as the Gemsbok National Park, is 60,000 acres centred on the town of Molppo. The Khomani clan, one of the three groups of the San, will become the landlords of the Gemsbok National Park. This is land that they owned, until 1973, when they were evicted by whites and settled between two cattle farms near the town of Welkom.

With the help of the South African Sans Institute, who acted as advisers in the legal claim and will continue that role, the clan are perfectly aware of the importance of the tourist dollar and are capable of exploiting their peoples 30, 000 year s of culture to their visitors and their own advantage.

### **Wed 24**

Reacting to the early release of F Styne, a white farmer convicted of killing six month old A Zwane, whose funeral occurred in 1998; see Correspondent, SA Tape 56 the South African justice minister, Dullah Omar, has called for a report from the relevant authorities as to why the farmer does not have to serve ant time in detention.

## **Thurs 25**

Following the conviction of Dr Boesak (qv 18/3) on three charges of theft and one of fraud, Judge J Foxcrof has jailed him for a total of eight years; with two terms to run concurrently. In passing sentence the judge said that the contribution made by the veteran anti apartheid campaigner was no excuse for the theft of charity money.

His lawyers are to appeal against the courts ruling that Dr Boesak cannot appeal against the severity of the detention, to a higher court.

Detailing the symbiotic relationship between Winnie Mandela and a former member of the security branch, Paul Erasmus (qv 30/6), who retired in 1995.

## **Fri 26**

The long awaited trial of South Africa's Dr Death is imminent. Implicated in 1998 the charges against Dr W Basson (qv 14/6) has now been set down in an 270 page dossier.

The army brigadier will face the following charges when the trial proper starts in 10/99. Twenty nine counts of murder, 24 counts of theft and fraud which relate to £6 million of the States money set aside for research purposes. There are 6 counts of drug dealing; Ecstasy and Mandrax tablets.

Among the alleged murder victims were R Kasrills, the former commander of the ANC 's military wing and the present minister of justice, Dullah Omar.

Bail was set, by the magistrate at £4,000

Following the failed attempt to secure a preferential trade agreement with the European Union in 1998 (qv 16/6) an agreement has now been finalised at the heads of government meeting in Berlin.

The sticking point to an earlier agreement was the governments of Portugal and Spain's insistence that their chief exports, sherry and port, were not compromised by the South African products of a similar nature. This new understanding allows for the South African vintners to call their products 'sherry' and 'port for a further 12 years. In return the government in Pretoria have promised not to disrupt the export of canned fruit from the European Union.

Still outstanding is an agreement in the fishing industry between the two. Until this is settled, that is until fishing boats of European nations are allowed into South African territorial waters, then the distribution of goods with a South African origin will face restriction in their movements within the European Union.

## **Sat 27**

A soberly dressed Nelson Mandela, who was making his last appearance in parliament on the last day of the current session before the 6/99 general election. Accompanied

by his wife, he began a long series of goodbye's; with as speech that set the place of South Africa, free of the yolk of apartheid, in the international context.

“The world admires us for our success as a nation in rising to the challenge of our era. Those challenges were to avoid the nightmare of debilitating racial war and bloodshed, and to reconcile our people on the basis that our overriding objectives must be together to overcome the legacy of poverty , division and inequity.”

Political opponents, setting aside their differences over unemployment and the high crime rate spoke of his “understanding of the need to heal wounds of the past.” - M Schakwyke, Leader of the New National Party.

The leader of the Democratic Party, T Leon placed Mr Mandela in the special group of people which transcends the politics of his age..

### **Sun 28**

The plight of the female domestic workers, often an immigrant, - see SA Tape 3 ”Maids and Madams 22.6.86, are now becoming valued members of the household. Now employed by the increasing number of black population they are being culinary educated into the ‘dinner party’ catering set.

One such scheme, run from a house in Killarny, a suburb of Johannesburg, ‘Domestic Bliss’ is run by C Singer and J Hoods. There they teach a course of about eleven domestic workers, or delegates as they are now known for a £29/ R 290 three day course spread over three weeks the finer points of preparing for a dinner party .

The result, as the employer and employee readily agree, is that the domestic maid becomes more confident and self assured. The employer also knows that she has even more time to pursue her busy life style knowing that the running of the home is in good, and confident, hands.

### **Mon 29**

On the day that the Truth And Reconciliation report becomes available to the international community, a Guardian reporter likens the hearings to those that gave accounts of the Holocaust, during the Second World War. In fact J Cartwright concludes that the crimes committed in the name of the apartheid regime were much worse.

This can be best illustrated by his assertion that the ANC encouraged Albertine Sisulu to make evidence, before the commission, less damaging to Winnie Mandela and the crimes that she and her followers committed in the name of the liberation cause.

For further insights into the working of the Truth Commission see Country of My Skull, by Antji Krog, published by Jonathan Cape @ £16.99

## **Tues 30**

The Soweto residence, once home of Winnie Mandela in Vilakpi Street, Olando West and now owned by the Soweto Heritage Trust, since 1997, is the centre of a legal row between the president and his former wife.

The former Mrs Mandela claims that the matchwood house, lived in only briefly on two occasions by Mr Mandela; before his jailing in 1963 and on his release in 1990, was never his to give away.

The presidents legal team will argue in court, possibly later this year, that the home was leased to him, even during the time he was not resident there. The council sold it to him in 1997 for the equivalent of £350.

Angola's rebel troops have continued to put up a strong attack round the central city of Malange (qv 15/2) for the last seven days, as well as maintaining the pressure on other towns in the Central Highlands; Huambo and Cuito. Whilst not making any effort to occupy Malange they are well able to move in at any time they decide to.

One fear facing the Luanda government, and indeed the west, is that Unita may decide to move against the oil fields of the Cabina enclave. To have control of the source of much of Angola's foreign earnings and the supplies to the western world is something to horrible to contemplate. There is even talk of the dos Santos government expelling the Unita members from the coalition cabinet and for the army to return to the offensive.



## **APRIL 1999**

### **Sun 4**

Doctor W Bassan, who is committed to face trial on 4/10 (qv 26/3) on the basis of evidence gathered by the prosecutor advocate, T Pretorious, on 274 pages of the indictment. The evidence gives more detail than was given when the alleged fraudster and drug dealer gave evidence before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 1998 (qv 1/8). The evidence of that submission was, as head of 'Project Coast' Dr Bassan acknowledged that he was head of the South Africans biological and chemical weapons programme.

The basis for these charges are the official documents of the former South African Defence Force, code named 'Barnacle', that say, in essence that the Roodplant Laboratory was designed to facilitate the 'elimination' of Pretoria's enemies.

### **Wed 7**

At an amnesty sitting of the Truth Commission, sitting in Pretoria, the former commander of the South African Defence Force's special forces unit, A Joubert, has detailed the killing of 10 youths in 1986.

As the national commander of the unit he approved the plan, drawn up by the provincial commander, without knowing the identity of the victims. The operation began with the victims being befriended by an undercover policeman who drove them towards Botswana, where they were to undergo military training in an ANC camp. To accomplish the mission the victims were first encouraged to consume alcohol, which was spiked with drugs that would render them unconsciousness. Their death was due to the vehicle, in which they were travelling, being destroyed by an explosion.

Five other officers are claiming amnesty for the killings of the "Nietverdiend 10."

### **Thurs 8**

The vehicle manufacturing industry, more used to the production of top of the range Mercedes and BMW's, where sales have dropped 10% recently, is with the foresight of an Afrikaner business man about to face a revival.

With government approval a Johannesburg marketing executive, J Story, is to resurrect production of the Peugeot 40, Ford Cortina Mark 3 and the 1960's model of the Mercedes. These cars have been chosen because of their ruggedness, reliability, size, comfort and ease of repair; attributes well suited to the large family that travels the long distances involved between South African cities.

The Afrokaizen, as it will be known, will sell for £6,500/ R65,000, which is well below the price of other vehicles; VW Citi Golf at the lower end of the market that people use.

There now remains the problem of securing the permission of the companies that hold the trade mark to the Peugeot, Ford and BMW to release them to allow the dream to become a reality.

South Africa's Truth Commission denied amnesty yesterday to the killers of the South African Communist Party leader, Chris Hani.

The commission, which can pardon politically motivated crimes committed under apartheid, said the two white right wing extremists had no political mandate when they killed Hani, a possible successor to Nelson Mandela, in 1993. - *Reuters* -

### **Wed 14**

A decision by the Constitutional Court, sitting in Johannesburg, has rejected the claim that the ANC will have an unfair advantage, over other political parties, in the forthcoming general election.

Council for the New National Party, among others, argued that a decision by the Electoral Commission, that only those members of population who had been issued with the new bar coded identity cards would be allowed to use their vote in the general election.

The mainly white opposition parties said such a decision would naturally give the ANC a distinct advantage at the polls, as many of their supporters were returning from exile and were issues with the new type of card as they entered the country.

### **Fri 16**

Highlighting the increases in the crime of Rape, is the recent case that involved the violation of a high ranking official in the UNICEF organisation, in her own home in Pretoria. In this specific case five men are alleged to have raped her, on three occasions, during a burglary at her home.

The situation throughout the country; according to the police the crime of 'gang' rape is on the increase. Reported rape, in 1998 - 50,000 - up one third since 1994. The conviction rate has fallen eight per cent.

### **Wed 21**

Television film footage, shot by the BBC with presenter J Vine in Johannesburg, has resulted in the suspension, and being charged with assault, of six white members of the police force's special flying squad.

Invited by the police to accompany a night patrol the film crew witnessed a vicious attack on black and Coloured members of a criminal gang of car thieves. During the

attack, as a result of which a gang member subsequently died, members were hit with gun barrels, attacked and bitten by a police dog and one victim had a cigarette stubbed out on his head.

In mitigation the regional police commissioner, S Maharaj, condemned the behaviours “despicable acts of lawlessness.” A more restrained response came from the Commissioner of the South African Police, G Fivas (qv) who indicated that the police needed more help to combat the stress of dealing with the frequent murders and violence. There were approximately 300 policemen killed on duty in 1998.

One of the leading contenders for a seat in the Constitutional Court, Mr Justice E Cameron, has revealed that he has the Aids virus. The judge made his announcement during a public hearing into his nomination to the countries highest court.

The human rights activist, and the countries first openly gay judge, and a member of the Johannesburg High Court said that by speaking out he would create a greater climate of openness. “It is only by creating conditions in which people can speak out without fear that we can begin to end the silence surrounding South Africans living with Aids and HIV.”

### **Thurs 22**

Members of the Board of Directors of New African Investment Limited, who poached Cyril Ramaphosa away from the world of policies in 1996 (qv 15/4), and were intent on paying themselves multi million pound bonuses had to change their minds hours before the companies annual share holders meeting. The disclosures, to the press, were made by the former secretary general of the ANC, who himself left the company in 1998 after a dispute with a fellow director.

The ability to pay directors such vast amounts, even though the company is only 5 years old, brings into question what is its function? Is it to provide funds for fellow blacks to start out on the path of financial empowerment, or has the company been formed to allow it to be just a money making scheme for the few? - which the liberation movements were supposed to have being fighting against, before the 1994 general election victory.

Thousands of refugees in the rebel besieged Angolan city of Malange [qv 15/2] are sliding towards starvation because of problems distributing food aid, observers said.

Despite regular deliveries by the UN 's World Food Programme in recent weeks, greed and poor distribution mean some of the most needy are going hungry. *Reuters*

### **Fri 23**

South Africa's most prominent black poet, M Mbuli, was sentenced to 13 years in prison yesterday after being convicted last month of robbing a Johannesburg bank of £1,500 and wielding a hand grenade.

A large crowd voiced support for “the peoples poet” who, under white rule eluded security police to deliver funeral orations for anti apartheid activists.

“I am no stranger to harassment. I am no stranger to hatred. I am no stranger to pain and life in solitude,” he said. - GDN, page 15 C 2 -

### **Sat 24**

Following his arrest, over allegations of rape, M Ntini (qv 16/1), the most promising black player in the Springbok cricket team, appeared before the court. He was charged with committing the offence against a 24 year old unnamed women at the Buffalo Park Cricket ground in East London. Sentence will be passed on 27/5.

## MAY 1999

### Sun 9

With 1999 barely five months old one hundred members of the South African police department have just paid tributes to the 75th and 76th police officers to have been killed while on duty. A sergeant and constable dog handler were killed in an ambush attack. The ANC claim that the crime rate is no different from the time before the 1994 general election, it is just the fact that more is heard of complaints by the white population, who are more exposed to its effects now.

With the majority of the population still not trusting the police force's ability to fight crime effectively emphasis is being placed on township projects; Operation Good Hope in the Western Cape, is a good example. Another measure is township forums, where residents come together to discuss how to control their circumstances. However there is an element of vigilante activity used.

### Tues 11

Following a ticker tape parade through the centre of Johannesburg, to mark the five years of the Mandela presidency, a post he will relinquish on 17/7, the president addressed a gathering of journalists.

Reflecting on the past five years Mr Mandela said he was initially reluctant to accept the role of president in 1994, as it would seem that the Xhosa people were to dominate the government as Thabo Mbeki also comes from the Eastern Cape. The president also said that these last 5 years had confounded the critics who said that there could not be a peaceful transfer of power. Mr Mandela also said that despite the last 300 years of white rule more progress had been made over these last 5 years.

Speaking about his role as an international mediator, especially to bring the Lockabie 2 to trial, he indicated that a court could have been convened as early as 1992 if it was not for the objections of the British prime minister, J Major. As to the future he was looking forward to retiring to his home village and spending time with his 27 grand children.

More than a dozen robbers carrying assault rifles shot at security guards at a primary school outside Pretoria yesterday, South African police said.

While pupils at Laerskool Uniefees School were in class guards exchanged about 60 shots with the robbers, a police spokesman said, Seven suspects were arrested and the hunt for a further 10 continued. - AP -

## **Wed 12**

The 'Africanisation' for the remedy of the increasing township crime rate, that the police seem unable to halt (qv 9/5) has been taken up by a new breed of vigilante groups. Here, the death of the victim is not the object of the beating, more likely the recovery of stolen property and as a warning.

One such group is called Mapogo, a Mathamanga, which was formed by Chris Mathamanga, a black businessman, after five of his colleges were victims of crime..

The latest branch has been set up in Dendron township in Northern Province. Membership costs £17/ R165 a year. Taking part in the whipping of those alleged of crimes in the township is optional, although help to other members of Mapogo a Mathamanga is expected when required.

Nationally membership of this group is put at 35,000 in 85 branches. This vigilante group, condemned by the police and also the government, joins other groups Pagod (qv), groups formed by taxi drivers and the Comrades.

## **Fri 14**

With the discovery of a secret arms dump located in KwaZulu Natal province, a new peace deal has been signed between the Inkatha Freedom Party and the ANC.

The whereabouts of this six tonnes of weapons, including land mines TNT explosive and rocket propelled grenades, enough to fill two lorry loads, was hidden by Eugene de Koch (qv) and an Inkatha official, P Powell, in 1993.

Mr Powell, a convicted killer, who used to train members of Inkatha to act as bodyguards at the beginning of the 1990's, is now a member of the regional parliament is under the impression that he has immunity from prosecution, the police say they have reached no agreement with him.

## **Sun 16**

A British film company, the 8th of May Group, is to make a film; The Man Who Drove With Mandela. the film portrays the life of Cecil Williams, an English born theatre director, who was arrested with Mr Mandela in 1962.

The reality of such a person, highlighted by Albie Sachs (qv) was credited with forming multi racial South Africa's gender discrimination laws in 1996 (qv 9/5) was the person who 'allowed' the outlawed leader of the ANC to act as his chauffeur, as he went about his anti apartheid work.

The openly homosexual Mr Williams, who counted such 'notables' as Danny Kay and Lawrence Olivier as his friends, was soon released by the white authorities, unlike Mr Mandela who stood trial and was jailed for life in 1963, was born in 1906. Soon after his release he left the country and died in England in 1979.

## **Tues 18**

Humanitarian conditions in the Angolan city of Malange, under siege by Unita rebels, have become “extremely worrying”, according to officials of the United Nations World Food Programme [WFP].

The city, about 280 miles east of the capital Luanda, is sheltering around 100,000 people displaced by the resumption of the civil war in December. Jean - Charles Day, a WFP representative, suggested on state radio that food aid might have been diverted from the needy. - *Reuters* -

## **Wed 19**

With the dismissal of the news editor of the South African Broadcasting 's award winning Special Assignment TV series; recent winner of 6 awards, racial tensions are once again heightened in the state broadcasting field.

The editor, Max du Preeze, the former editor of Vyre Weekblad, the newspaper that exposed the work of the 'death squads' in 1990 (qv 8/3) - has not had his contract renewed by the Corporation. The decision was made, at a higher level, because he objected to an 'offensive scene' in a programme, in the Special Assignment series, that was looking into the work of witchcraft.

**Gary Young writes** - The issue takes on racial overtones in the light of a white journalist being sacked so close to the general election. Also to be considered is the position of the Board of Governors, who are seen to be protecting their positions of influence, with the expected change in the slant of the Mbeki government.

With the inevitability of the ANC winning the 2/6 general election, with a 66% of the vote which will allow them to alter the constitution at will the question has to be asked will this be a good move for South Africa?

A popular party does not necessarily make good government. In this case the opposition is of poor quality. The Inkatha Freedom Party is rooted in ethnic rivalry. The New National Party has not really changed from the days of de Klerk - looking after the interests of the white population. The same can be said of the Democratic Party, in a more liberal and acceptable way.

From a liberation movement, prior to 1994, the ANC has now within its borders 3 political ideologies trying to surface - the hard left of the South African Communist Party, the centre left liberal democrats, in the guise of Mbeki and Mandela. The third 'party within a party' is elements of Black Consciousness, with Winnie M Mandela taking the mantle from S Biko. There is no way these different ideals can be tested as all 3 are already in government.

It seems now is the time for the ANC - a splendid movement for the instigation of a democratic South Africa - to make a peaceful transition and allow countrywide thought and development. The alternative is to see the politically disenfranchised - those at the bottom of the heap, even in the townships, return to the way of the bullet.

## Fri 21

With the New National Party in disarray, even Pik Botha, the foreign minister in the de Klerk administration, says “the election will be the end of the National Party, there is not the slightest doubt about it.” Also the party leader, M van Schalkyk, is struggling to hold his party together because of his age.

The white population are being encouraged to gather under the “Fight Back” slogan adopted by the Democratic Party, under the leadership of Tony Leon. At a meeting in the small village of Curry's Post, in KwaZulu Natal Mr Leon told a gathering of 80 white farmers they were not to blame for the sins of apartheid; “go out there and assert yourselves,” was his message. In response the ANC has introduced a new slogan to the campaign; Don't Fight Blacks

Allegations, from two London based Sunday newspapers, that Mr Mandela had arranged, in exchange for a cash gift, to send South African oil to Nigeria. The request was supposed to have been made by the Nigerian leader, President Abacha.

The president's lawyer, Ismail Ayob, said that the only money that the president received was a donation of £83,000/ \$134,000 for the Nelson Mandela Children's Charity Fund.

## Sat 22

Bush meat, popular in most of the African continent, will soon be available with the opening of a £250,000 canning factory in northern South Africa. The Warmbaths factory sited 200 miles north of Johannesburg is to be run by a group of white farmers and businessmen.

The meat used will be from the 12 to 15 baboons that have been caught in the vicinity after they have been captured because they were causing untold damage to local crops and being a danger to the locals. The canned meat will then be sold to countries in Eastern Europe. The residue, hands and ears ect, will be sold to countries in Asia for their aphrodisiac properties.

The London based Sunday Times is behind the allegations that Mr Mandela was prepared to take a bribe from the Nigerian president, that was intended for the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund.

Right wing praise for a black president; “He walked free and, with him a nation began the walk to freedom. He became head of state, and it seemed as if patience and justice had created a new politics for the people, one without bigotry or repression.

Now the era of Nelson Mandela is about to close, this writer looks back at the life of a man who has been much more than a great leader - he has become a saintly icon for the world. - **Andrew Brink** -



### **Sun 23**

Even 5 years after the first multi racial election, and within sight of the second, emigration from South Africa is still an option for many whites who take advantage of a package from companies that specialise in relocation overseas. One such company, International Immigration Alliance, recently held a seminar at an auditorium outside Johannesburg at which 50, mainly whites attended.

They were told by J Gambarana, the companies representative, that there was no stigma on leaving the country, whether it be for Australia, Canada or the United States. The selling of the package is as if you were buying a time share, during the Initial 90 minuet session. To follow on is a one hour session, at a cost of R350, of personnel interview.

According to the Institute of Race Relations, over the last 5 years 1,767 national have left for Australia in 1996. Their the government figures say 3,200 people have entered from South Africa. In 1997 1,205 nationals left for the United States, according to Washington. Pretoria's figures say only 700 went there.

Among those attending the IAA seminar were a black middle class family were Mr and Mrs Semake aged 28, who said that to move overseas was for the sense of adventure. This was a fair comment on many of the majority population who were leaving. They would, however, return home at a later date.

Hout Park, a 'Coloured' squatter camp on the fringe of Cape Town; life for the new urban poor.

### **Mon 24**

At his last media breakfast, for journalists, President Mandela said that the post 2/6 government has no intention of imposing restrictions on a free press. This welcome announcement comes at the same time as South Africa's Human Rights Commission begins an investigation into alleged racism in the written media.

The wide ranging inquiry was instigated by journalists on the Mail and Guardian and The Sunday Times, both based in Johannesburg, were accused of subliminal racism in their coverage of stories and giving more credence to the white point of view.

### **Wed 26**

Letter, **R Ellis, London**, as the former Sunday Times correspondent in Pretoria refutes the predictions that were made at the time of the last general election (qv 22/5)

### **Thurs 27**

It is not the numbers of those that choose to emigrate (qv 23/5) that worries the government, rather it is the quality of the jobs that will have to be filled. Of those that

leave more than 50% are economically active; professional and semi professional and managerial workers.

Emigration from South Africa was 7% down from the 1997 for 1998. according to V Williams, of the southern Africa migratory project. To leave not only forces up the wages, in these jobs, but widens the inequality in earnings throughout the economy.

### **Fri 28**

Indications are that, despite calls for an inquiry, in 1992, into the 1985 death of the noted civil rights leader in the Eastern Cape, revelations into the death of Matthew Gonwie (qv 8/5) show that de Klerk, as a member of the state security council, and former president P W Botha, were instrumental in calling for his death.

The original request, made to the SSC on 19/3/84, came from the then education minister, Baron du Plessis, to “remove “ or “eliminate” Mr Gonwie who was teaching in Cradock.

Letter **G Bloch, London** further insight into the reporting of the 1994 general election by the London based Sunday Times; “prefer prejudice to accurate reporting.”

Reflections on the 1994 General Election, and the changes to their lives, if any from M Zulu, the cook; M Morell, the wife; C Nkabinde, the thief, and the lover B Maulong.

### **Sat 29**

Following the revelations concerning the killing of M Gonwie (qv 28/5) the lawyer G Bizos, who is acting for the families of the Cradock 4, to refer the case back to the Truth Commission for it to decide whether the amnesty application lodged there by the 5 policemen who have confessed to the killings ‘on political grounds’ is correct.

Meanwhile the former president, P W Botha who was fined in the courts , in 1998 (qv 7/6) for refusing to appear before the Truth Commission, has launched an appeal against his suspended prison sentence and fine of £1003.

### **Sun 30**

In the final days, before the 2/6 general election, in which 26 parties, 16 of which are competing for the national vote, the ‘resident in waiting’ Thabo Mbeki has been deep in the homelands of his birth in the Transkei. Then he attended a final ANC rally in Durban.

Unhappy in the rural areas, blame his unease on the lack of time spent here, after being encouraged to go into exile in Britain when he was 18 years old; to leave the Congress in the capable hands of Winnie M Mandela and others from the Xhosa clan who remain loyal to the government.

A donation of £12m/ \$20m from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, will be seen as a welcome boost to the ANC 's funds, as it hopes to gain a 2/3rds majority which will enable to alter the constitution of 1996 to what it sees is the countries advantage.

One element of the 1994 campaign that is missing this time is the faction fighting, between the supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party and the ANC, when at the time there were at least 10 deaths per day. In 1999 there is even an element of joint campaigning taking place. The high regard that Chief Buthelezie has shown itself at Inkatha rallies - with the Party leader voicing the chant "Viva ANC" to his supporters.

As the civil war in Angola continues a more sinister campaign is being spread throughout the country by the Unita rebels. During this upturn in violence farmers are being turned off their lands, leaving the crops to be stolen or rot in the ground. This will have serious consequences for the rest of the population in the months ahead.

According to the UN 's World Food Programme one million, 10%, of Angola's population have been forced off their land and forced into besieged cities like Malange (qv 21/4), thus putting further pressure on the aid agencies. As many as 11 million people will be dependant on the government as more farmers are forced off their land.

Prior to the resumption, of the civil war, The United Nations asked the international community for \$67m, all that has been received so far is \$25m. Of the UN 's costs for distribution of donated aid \$110m has been asked for. Of this the World Food Programme will need \$8.8m, as all its transport costs will be spent on aeroplanes because to use the roads is too dangerous. - **The Economist, page 71** -

Why I will vote for the ANC? "I'll vote for the ANC ...because I want our leaders to run out of excuses as soon as possible so that we can come to grips with the real problems that beset our country." ... "Our leaders won't be able to dodge for whatever ensues. As for us pale creatures ... we will regain the benefits of our surrender, and sidle onwards into oblivion. - **Rian Malan** -

Leader Comment, **Mbeki's South Africa**; an extract "The way forward next week is not a thumping majority for the ANC but a commitment to honest, tolerant and effective government - and to a continuation of Mr Mandela's concomitant policy of reconciliation. And if the ANC splits in the next five years, so much the better. Then South Africa will look even more wonderfully like a normal democracy". - **The Economist page 14** -

### **Mon 31**

Notwithstanding the dispatch of the ANC 's 'notables' to the former homeland of the Transkei in the Eastern Cape, the government is facing a serious challenge, one that could capture at least 10% of the national vote, for the newly formed United Democratic Movement (qv). So serious, in fact, that there has been cases of meeting disrupted and threats of all out violence between the two parties.

The expatriate vote in London, who were able to make a significant contribution to wards democracy in 1994, will only to be able to do so this time if they register in the country in person. However they will be able to indicate their choice of 'virtual voting' on the internet site; <http://voteiafrica.com>. The site is a way of protest by nationals who have not updated their registration.

Letter **G Elliot and Avan de Vilet, London** the perceived notion, in the west, that Thabo Mbeki is "authoritarian", "untrustworthy" and "has a hidden agenda" like Robert Mugabe is wrong among the 88% of blacks and coloureds and many of the remaining 12% of whites who have made the subject part of their 'gossip.'

Thoughts such as these do no good, and damage the image of South Africa in the international scheme of things. Also it belittles the work of the nationals - blacks and whites who thinking the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

Leader Comment, **After Mandela 's Miracle, has democracy really taken route yet?** "This week the miracle seems to have been confirmed, by the lack of drama accompanying the second general of the post apartheid era". Thabo Mbeki, the ANC's new president justifies this delay [of turning the liberation movement into a political party] as necessary to secure the triumph of freedom."

Unfortunately, it means the world will have to wait another five years to be convinced that the seedlings of democracy, planted with such high hopes in 1994, have really taken root in South Africa."

## JUNE 1999

### Tues 1

Following the conviction of M Nitini (qv 22/4) over the rape of a young women, the court has now ruled that he must serve a jail sentence of 6 years; according to the Star newspaper in London.

The future of the Inkatha Freedom Party, after the forthcoming general election is in doubt, if the opinion polls are to be believed. According to these only 10% of the population of KwaZulu Natal province will support the Zulu dominated party at the 2/6 poll. It is expected that the ANC will gain enough votes to have a majority in the legislative assembly.

Notwithstanding the peaceful overtures between the two rivals that have been made in the past, the position of home affairs minister for Chief Buthelezie in the Mandela government; and the hope of the position of vice president in the Thabo Mbeki administration, there will be many members of Inkatha that will be angry at defeat and see a return to violence as the only way forward.

According to Winnie Mandela, who is to give an interview on a United States television programme, her marriage was a sham and the president cared little for his two children and their birth was "quite coincidental".

Judge E Carson (qv 21/4), has been appointed to the Constitutional Court - despite informing the interviewing panel that he was infected by the HIV virus.- GDN 2, page 8 C 5 -

### Wed 2

Despite what has been written in the Guardian newspaper, concerning Mr Justice Carson (qv 1/6), it is incorrect to say that he has been appointed to the constitutional court. Following an intervention from the deputy presidents office it is apparent that Mr Mbeki, although he denies this, vetoed this new role for Mr Carson. The countries legal fraternity are angry at the appointment of the only black candidate, Mr Justice Sandile Ngobo, to the vacant post.

The former president, P W Botha, has won the legal argument (qv 28/5) in the Cape Town high court about being forced to appear before the truth commission. The appeal was allowed because the original request from the commission was served after the law establishing the commission had lapsed and before laws were enacted to extend its sittings.

The lack of self knowledge among whites is breath taking. To take the policy of affirmative action as an example - "it is about removing privilege from the workplace. It is not about putting incompetent people in positions of responsibility, but removing them. It is about making sure that the right person gets the job. Anyone who seriously

believes it is about giving jobs to black people who could not get them otherwise need look no further than Nelson Mandela. Then FW de Klerk.” - **Gary Young** -

### **Thurs 3**

General Election Day Two, sees a forecast of 60% of the votes being cast for the ANC, which is now unfettered from having to be a ‘government of national unity’. It would therefore be theoretically possible for Mr Mbeki’s government to rule without any outside assistance, although this is unlikely.

Throughout the campaign the ANC have placed great store on their achievements, over the last five years; 750,000 homes built and 3m homes linked to electric and running water supplies. At the same time it has confessed to its shortcomings; the failure to make inroads to the unemployment situation and the rising crime rate.

Revisiting the Mouche family in the Alexandria township, who are strong supporters of the ANC and Mr Mbeki. The family, two parents, three children and two grand children, all live in the one bedroom, brick built shack, that they did in 1994. However they are all now unemployed, except the father who works in a textile factory in Johannesburg. - **Gary Young** -

Letter, **Land D Turner, London** South African nationals also have enlightened views (qv 2/6)

### **Fri 4**

With almost three quarters of the votes counted after the second multi racial elections the ANC has already gained 3% more than the total votes won in 1994 - 66%. The New National Party has lost its position as the Official opposition. In the voting for the provincial assemblies the ANC ousted the National Party in the Western Cape and Inkatha in KwaZulu Natal. They will have to be run via a coalition.

New National Party 7%, Democratic Party 10% and the United Democratic Front 3%

With the Democratic Party as the Official Opposition Mr T Leon, as leader, will bring a different format to parliament, in an effort to curtail the presumed excesses of the ruling ANC. He will loudly proclaim, in his belief if he feels that the government is rolling over the authority of parliament - he is pugnacious and self righteous.

In the governing of KwaZulu Natal and the Western Cape the Democratic Party holds the balance of power. A hoped for coalition with Inkatha, in the province that itself controlled since 1994, has been deemed possible by Chief Buthelezie. On the other hand the former cabinet minister has let it be known that he would prefer to be the partner of the ANC in the Western Cape.

South Africa’s new president is a secretive fixer, still unpredictable. If Mandela was the Margaret Thatcher of politics then Mbeki is the John Major - working behind closed doors, to do secret deals. - **Anthony Sampson** -

## Sat 5

With the final results, from the general election due in the next 24 hours, it would seem nationally that the Inkatha Freedom Party had gained about 9% of the countries votes. There would be a claim that the party could make a challenge to become the Official Opposition, along with the Democratic Party. Inside KwaZulu Natal there is still rivalries between Inkatha and ANC supporters, as there was before the elections in 1994. On a national scale the ANC have been able to placate Chief Buthelezie, first with his appointment as home affairs minister, and the possibility of becoming deputy president in the Mbeki government

Leader Comment, **Challenge for the ANC** “the only party capable of serving the majority of the people.” Comparing the government styles of Mandela - the ‘great showman’ and Mbeki as the ‘administrator’ The new president will not have to sideline the issues of corruption and unemployment, as his predecessor was wont to do. There must be no tolerance of ‘graft’ just the official had played a part in the liberation struggle - cabinet appointments, to the new cabinet, will show Mr Mbeki ’s intentions.

With the expected two thirds majority of the votes cast, that will allow the government to alter the constitution - amend the balance in the judiciary and the administration - most talked about the president elect says “he does not want to” as to do so “would be a loss of confidence and deviation from governments important goals.”

In the British press the battle for the votes in the South African general election was the sixth, out of eight, most covered stories in the past seven days. There was 410 column inches written - as measured in the six leading broadsheets and the tabloid Daily Mail

“In the foreign press the election coverage focused on the departure of Nelson Mandela and the expectations for his vice president and successor, Thabo Mbeki.”

Our war - South Africa’s liberation struggle - is over. One June 2, we shall cast our votes in our second post apartheid general elections. We have been led to that day by one of the great men of the century. - N Gordimer. *New York Times* 30/5

What might we expect from kick arse Mbeki? [He] has extraordinary intellectual gifts which few people he encounter at his level will ever match. I believe neither of his two predecessors as ANC president, Oliver Tambo and Nelson Mandela could match him intellectually. an extract, **Leader, Mail & Guardian** -

There are many sceptics, particularly among whites, who have great fears about[Mbeki]. They are seriously suspicious about use of the word ‘Africa and think he will be a dictator. - **The Sowetan, Johannesburg, 31/ 5 - The Editor, page 7**

## Sun 6

With only one million out of the total of sixteen million, votes remaining to be counted from the 14,650 polling stations the state of the parties; ANC 66%, Democratic Party 9.97%, Inkatha 8.34%, and the New National Party 7%. As can be seen a battle to be named as the 'Official Opposition' in parliament could depend on the remaining uncounted votes.

A delay in announcing the result has been caused by the leaders of the seven main contenders in this election have called for the opportunity to inspect all the ballot papers; visually as there are claims that at some polling stations there was a 300% turn out.

A diary of the events; at the time of the launch of Mandela, The Authorised Biography, published by Harper Collins @ £24.99 - A Sampson -

## Mon 7

Letters, **1] C Jones Luton, Bedfordshire** the 'open society' and aspects of life. The role of Tony Leon (qv 4/6).

**2] F Bolkestine MP, President Liberal International** in support of the leader of the Democratic Party.

**3] S Orton, University of Warwick** the level of support, from the black South African, for 'affirmative action' was 35% in 1998.

## Tues 8

The final results, of the 199 general election, have been declared. Unexpectedly the ANC failed, by one seat, to gain the required majority of seats to amend the constitution if it so desired. The Party gained 66.4 % of the total vote.

Of the other main party's votes were cast as follows; Democratic Party 9%, which makes the party the Official Opposition in parliament. Inkatha Freedom Party 8.6%. New National Party drew less than **7%** support.

In the provincial elections, there were changes in the administration in two provinces. In KwaZulu Natal, both the ANC and Inkatha gained about 40% of the vote and the Democratic Party holds the balance of power. It is expected that the two 'principals' will come to an understanding and form a coalition. In the Western Cape, the ANC there was just a majority of votes cast for the ANC, but on its own not enough to form the next administration without going into a coalition.

## Wed 9

The Truth Commission as theatre, as part of the London International Festival of Theatre, will stage two plays with this theme.



The first “The Story I’m About To Tell You” recreates testimony of three witnesses before the Commission. It was devised by a member of the Sharpville Six (qv)

The second, Ubu and the Truth Commission, recreates the mind of a torturer for the apartheid state. Use is made of a three headed dog and a puppet crocodile, animation and back film projection to show the full horror of South Africa’s apartheid years.

The two plays can be seen at the Tricycle Theatre London NW6. 0171 638 8891

### **Sat 12**

Notwithstanding the concerns of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund over Mozambique in 1988 (qv 15/4 & 10/5) the Jubilee 2000 campaign, a movement to have the debts of the Third World set aside by the First World, has identified the country as one of the Heavily Heavily Indebted Poor Countries.

As such it has agreed to write off \$1.4bn of debt. In essence this will only mean that the Maputo government will pay back \$100m, whereas between 1995 and 1998 it had to repay \$113m

Statistics; Life expectancy 45 years. Illiteracy rate 60%. percentage of population with access to safe drinking water 24%. Percentage of GNP spent on education 4.4% GNP per capita \$131. Debt owed per capita \$361.

In the case of debt, in relation to South Africa the president elect, T Mbeki, has announced that the debt owed by Namibia to the Pretoria regime has been written off. He also plans to do the same for Mozambican debt.

In the British press, the aftermath of the South African general election, was the fourth, out of eight, most covered stories in the past seven days. There were 610 column inches written - as measured in six leading broadsheets and the tabloid Daily Mail according to - **The Editor** -

### **Sun 13**

The film project of Celia Sandys, the grand daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, who was a war correspondent for the London Times newspaper during the time of the Boer War, looks unlikely to receive the financial backing she feels it deserves.

With the cancellation of financial backing, already promised, from the board of the banking company Standard Bank the television documentary seems unlikely ever to reach the screens. According to the Bank’s hierarchy, many of them members of the new elite black community, and members of the government, explained away the significance of the Boer War as ‘a squabble between land grabbing colonialists.’

The project, filmed by the Shooting Party television company, would visit the notable battle sites, Spion Kop, Tugela Heights among others, and talk to relatives and even survivors, in KwaZulu Natal, of the war at the beginning of the 19th century. With no

funding from inside the country, it is likely that this potential tourist boosting enterprise, will seek funding elsewhere to see its completion.

A 'notable' writes on her feelings of being a citizen of the country, following the second general election.- **N Gordimer** - the author feels that this article was first published in the New York Times - *see The Editor (qv 5/6)* -

### **Mon 14**

The Truth Commission, as theatre (qv 9/6), "Ubu and the Truth Commission, programme notes, Hard edged and humorous, [the play], shines like a diamond. The result of a brilliant partnership between South Africa's leading artist, W Kentridge and Handspring Puppet Company. It combines the chaotic mayhem of A Jarry's absurdist play, Ubu Roi, and the testimony of witnesses at South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The show uses animation and actors to try to make sense of the madness that overtook South Africa during Apartheid. The very last performance of a world wide hit." - **London International Festival of Theatre guide page 8** -

The Story I'm About to tell You, "Take a taxi to Sharpville, on an intimate journey behind the files and dossiers of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Testimony to the personnel drama of loss, of triumph, of violation that was forgotten in the struggle against Apartheid. This is the real history of South Africa

Three professional actors and three actual survivors give their own account reflecting the humour and humanity that Apartheid failed to destroy. The Story I'm About to Tell You is about being truly being heard". - **ditto page 20** -

### **Tues 15**

South Africa's parliament elected Thabo Mbeki unopposed to succeed President Nelson Mandela, who retires formally tomorrow. Mr Mbeki, 56, president of the ruling ANC, got in by acclaim at the national assembly, whose members gathered to be sworn in. - **Reuters** -

### **Wed 16**

With the imminent retirement of President Mandela his new home, to his birth village of Qunu in the former homeland of Transkei, the surroundings will be familiar as the floor plan is the same as that of his house in Victor Vesty Prison.

The villagers hopes for their honoured son, from the children at the local school at least, is that he will come and read them a story. Other residents hope he will spend much of his time in his new home, even though he is to keep his home in Johannesburg. Another important role that they hope for Mr Mandela is that he fulfils his role as a village elder; mediating in disputes and taking part in community discussions, as befits a member of the Thembu royal house

## **Thurs 17**

In front of the crowd gathered in front of the Union Buildings in Pretoria, with the action of swapping chairs on either side of the platform, Nelson Mandela handed the role of President to Thabo Mbeki, for at least the next five years. This was a rather a symbolic move as the vice president had, in effect, been running the country for at least the last two to three years.

Among the honoured guests were 30 president, all but 3 from the African continent. Among the 'notables were former president Suhato, of Indonesia, Colonel Gadafi from Libya and the chief of intelligence in Burma, General Nyunt.

With the befriending of dictators and the leaders of countries that have a poor record of upholding Human Rights such as Indonesia, Nigeria and China - Nelson Mandela, who claims such friendships because these countries were the only ones to finance the fight against the apartheid regime, deserve the recognition, is damaging his status as a world icon. **Guardian correspondent Chris Mc Greal -**

Leader Comment, **Mandela: a hero departs - a world figure, not just South Africa's** - "the romance and the tragedy that is the life of Nelson Mandela still has to run its course," as the first part of his life has finished with the hand over of the presidency to Mr Mbeki he is seen as "one of the great men of the 20th century." This is not because of what he did for his country but because to the world he is an "Everyman."

"But if Mandela has shed the formal powers of high office, his moral authority remains undiminished". The final chapter of the life and legend of Nelson Mandela will be told in how he reacts to a situation that he feels that he must return to the centre stage of politics, in his own country,

## **Fri 18**

Cabinet make up; 8 women and 21 men. This is a 100% increase of female input from the outgoing Mandela administration.

Changes; Out goes Chief Buthelezie, as deputy president, he will be replaced by Jacob Zuma. The leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party will retain his position in the cabinet as the home affairs minister.

Mr Trevor Manuel has retained his position as finance minister, as he has been seen to be keeping tight control of the economy, in the eyes of the international community. Another minister to make the transfer from the previous administration is A Irwin, the trade minister.

A new position of 'cabinet enforcer' has been given to Essop Pahad, who will take on the responsibilities of the deputy president's office in the Mandela cabinet..

The position of justice minister has gone to P Maduna, a man criticised by a spokesman for the Democratic Party, as being a weak person as there was little reform of the mining industry - when he had the Energy portfolio.

The former health minister, Dr N Zuma, will take on the responsibilities of the foreign minister. This confirms, the former wife of the new deputy president, as the most powerful women in South Africa.

### **Sat 19**

The inauguration of President, which took place 23 years after the schoolchildren of Soweto instigated the final phase of the 'liberation struggle,' cost R47m /\$7.7m. Critics thought this money should have been spent more wisely.

The position of Chief Buthelezie, announced in light of the cabinet changes (qv 18/6), could have remained as it was during the previous administration if the leader in KwaZulu Natal had relented his regional role and allowed Jacob Zuma to become premier. Another cabinet change - K Asmal has been appointed as the Education Minister. - **The Economist, page 72** -

### **Sun 27**

After winning 66.4% of the vote in the recent general election, the African National Congress entered into an alliance with a small independent led party to gain the two thirds majority necessary to change the constitution

Thabo Mbeki, who is to succeed Nelson Mandela on June 16th , said that the party had no intention of altering the document. While aligning with the Minority Front, with a single parliamentary seat, the ANC indicated that that it might also join forces with the Zulu based Inkatha Freedom Party, taking its alliance to three quarters of the Parliament.

The ANC - Minority Front deal also gives the ANC control of 34 seats in the KwaZulu Natal legislature - equal to Inkatha. - **World Watch, page 24 Time Magazine 21/6,**

## JULY 1999

### Thurs 1

With a replenished military arsenal, from Belarus; a former member of the Russian Federation, paid for from the sale of illicit diamond production from the northern provinces of Angola Unita have continued their offensive to such an extent that it is estimated, by the Catholic Church, that there are 150,000 extra refugees who have fled from the countryside inside Malange. This will add considerably to the refugee crisis in the city (qv 18/5).

Meanwhile the government in Luanda has begun the conscription of the 'Class of '78'. In effect this means that the poor and those that do not have wealth or money to buy themselves out are press ganged into the army.

Despite this influx to the army, the 'politicos' and the top echelons in the army seem not to be interested in ushering in the peace that has eluded Angola, despite various Accords since 1975, because there are profits to be made.

Officials from the UN 's World Food Programme, say their is only enough food left to feed the population of Huambo for another 14 days. The Angolense newspaper, which is sympathetic to the government of dos Santos, has uncovered that a £200m commission had been paid to a senior military officer. To reveal the details would be seen as cause for killing the investigating team.

Another form of corruption can be illustrated with the claim by the governor of Malange that he needed funds to pay 11,000 members of the military, in the defence of the city. The papers investigation revealed that there was only 1,000 on the pay roll. Of those only 'hundreds' could be found at any one time.

The government in Luanda are paying for this renewed offensive firstly by a £300 million loan from a Swiss bank. They have also sold £600 million worth of oil exploration licences. However the World Bank has stopped the international banking community from financing Angola until the oil and diamond industries are open to international scrutiny. Also there must be internal market reforms.

Despite a pledge to continue the war the dos Santos Foundation; funded by gifts from the oil industry is to spend millions on sprucing up Luanda in time for the beginning of the millennium. Projects undertaken include mending pavements and planting trees in the vicinity of the foreign embassies. However no money will be spent on the hospitals that lack facilities and drugs.

### Sat 3

From the current issue of Civilization Magazine "we should forgive, but not forget. Truth and reconciliation are the only hope for nations that are bitterly divided. **Nelson Mandela** -

## **Tues 5**

Lawyers, acting for Cape PLC (qv 19/3), have begun their five day appeal in the London High Court to prevent a claim for compensation from five employees having the case heard in England. The reason the five want the claim settled by an English court is that they believe that any compensation awarded will be greater than would be awarded by a court in South Africa.

In its defence company denies it, as the parent company, is responsible for overseeing the standards of health and safety that are set in place by one of its overseas subsidiaries. The company, based in Uxbridge, is also asking the court to strike out the application on the grounds that to give the go ahead to this claim, on behalf of the five will open the floodgates for another 4,000 cases; all who were not on the original writ.

## **Thurs 8**

At the behest of the group Action for South Africa, the successor to the Anti Apartheid Movement, the poet laureate, J Morton, has written a verse to mark Nelson Mandela 's retirement.

The four line verse will be entered into a tribute book. The first entries will be made, this date, by the 'notables' in the House of Commons in London. The book will then travel throughout the country for all comers to add their comments. The completed book will then be presented to the former president in 8/99,

## **Fri 9**

The United Nations has decided, because of the deterioration humanitarian conditions in the towns and cities of Angola, to go ahead with plans that will starve the rebels of funds and military hardware.

To this aim the UN committee on Angolan sanctions, with a gift of £640,000 /\$1m will form two sub committees. The first of which will investigate the funding of Unita's war, through the sale of illicitly mined diamonds. The second will determine where the rebels obtain their military equipment from.

To this end R Fowler, the Canadian at the head of the Angolan committee, has been on a shuttle diplomacy mission over the last few days. Firstly he went to the diamond buying centre; Antwerp where he received the assurances of the selling companies like De Beers of full cooperation. Also he visited the Russian Federation, a growing market for the purchase of these precious stones. Part of the mission will then be to visit the African countries, rightly or wrongly accused of helping Unita.

Many other measures are envisaged; asking the intelligence services of the West to provide information. The UN could finance officials to act as customs officials to locate goods that pass through African countries, and may be en route to Unita.

It is estimated that there are at least 10 flights a day into rebel held territory in Angola from neighbouring country's remote airfields.

## **Thurs 15**

An assault charge has been made against white farmer Eric de Beer by labourer M Nokosi who claims he was accosted by farmer and another man whilst he walked across his farm in Mpumalange province.

Under duress, threatened to be shot, the black employee was forced into a truck and driven to a house where he was covered in silver toxic paint, from head to foot. Mr Nkosi then had to spend 48 hours in hospital while the paint was removed with methylated spirits. The accused were released on bail.

## **Fri 16**

The former head of the South African Police Force, General J van de Merwe, has given evidence to the Truth Commission; which is also corroborated by unnamed members of the police, that former president P W Botha and the police minister Louis le Grange had ordered the killings of four anti apartheid activists on the East Rand, in 1985.

The decision whether to prosecute, as is the decision on a similar charge over the killing of M Goniwe (qv), rests with the state prosecutor to decide if the 'zero zero deaths, as they became known are to lead to a second court appearance for the former president.

The government has taken the views of the Gun Free South Africa (qv 27/2) campaign to heart as it announces measures to stem the number of weapons freely available in the country.

Under the new legislation gun owners will have to reapply for a licence, there will be no licences available for machine guns to the ordinary citizen. Only one gun per person. Applicants to own a gun will have to undergo psychological tests to satisfy the authorities that they are of sound mind.

## **Sat 17**

The work of charities, like HMD, who send volunteers to clear land mines from countries that have been at war are having a perilous time in Angola. With the civil war reigniting, over the last few months their work is becoming a fruitless battle with both combatants.

Many of the new minefields being laid are surrounding the towns in the Central Highlands like Huambo and Malange that are being besieged by the rebels.

A new design of mine is now being detected, ones that are light sensitive, others that explode when they detect the presence of a mine detector. Such a difficult time are the personnel having what with the government preventing mine clearance in Huambo and Cuito. Also the Unita movement will not allow the charity into areas that they do not control.

A spokesman for the charity said that they had been forced to change tactic. No longer do they send in the 24 strong team in, rather they only respond to emergencies. They

also make time to train the local population to do the job themselves.

### **Sun 18**

*authors note*; an unsourced decision by the British government to sell some of Britain's foreign exchange - stocks of gold, held in the Bank of England - and purchase 'the Euro' in exchange has the following effect.

Thousands of South African gold miners have marched on the British and Swiss embassies in Pretoria to demand a halt to the gold reserve sales which have battered bullion markets and threatened 70,000 mining jobs. - **IOS, page 18 C 7** -

The BBC's Africa correspondent reflects the changing life, for whites in South Africa, as he prepares to return to England to take up another position.

### **Tues 20**

Not only are their protests by gold miners (qv 18/5) about the fall in the price of bullion affecting their employment prospects, there are mining companies that are on the brink of closure. This would effect 100,000 workers; not necessarily just from South Africa.

The fall in the price of gold, to £160 per ounce the lowest price for 20 years, has so unsettled the producer companies - six have asked to lay off 20,000 workers between them - that one, East Rand Proprietary Mines is one step away from going into liquidation.

One example of the effects of these lay off 's can be seen in the village of Mquandui in the former homeland of the Transkei, where 100 of the companies workers send money home to support their families. Families are going without food and having to take their children out of education because they cannot afford the school fees. Extra burdens are placed on the women folk, especially grandparents, while the parents are away in the cities looking for replacement jobs.

One hope for the villagers is that their may be coal in the region's valleys which is some times exposed on the hill sides after a bout of rain.

Letter            **Professor Vic Allan, Keighley** selling part of the Bank of England's gold reserves (qv) will have wide effect on southern African countries Lesotho's economy is almost all dependant on the earnings sent back home, as is the economy of southern Mozambique. Recently a delegation from the NUM was received by Treasury officials, in London where their pleas for a stop of the sale of gold reserves was dismissed. In the United States there was a positive response, from members of the US Congress who said they would try and influence the International Monetary Fund to halt the sale of any of its reserves.

### **Sat 24**

A hundred years ago the siege of Mafeking became a symbol of British pluck; Baden Powell is not the only hero remembered there.

At the same time as the were fighting the expansionist Boer Republic and defending



their colonial interests Sol Plaatje was working in the town as a member of Cape Colonies civil service. He was fluent in three foreign languages and another three local ones.

As well as working for the British he was passionate about the civil rights of the black population and he was one of the founders of the African National Congress.

### **Mon 26**

Highlighting the number of killings of members of the black community that die at the hands of farm owners and the courts reluctance to impose a deterrent sentence (qv Styn N 23/4). In recent months other land owners have come before the courts on assault and murder charges; P Henning, in KwaZulu Natal, was jailed for 30 years for the crime of killing two of his employees for daring to call their boss by his first name, a rare occurrence of late.

Some say that this outbreak of violence, directed against their workers, is due to the farmers fears that in certain circumstances blacks can claim back land from which they were expelled. The whites also fear that their workers can claim land, as their own, that they have lived on while working on the land.

### **Wed 28**

Letter **R Bean, London** in Mafeking (qv 24/7) although there was conflict between the members of the Baralongs and Shanguaans nations that were trapped inside the town Sol Plaatje is more than likely to have come in contact with the military commander, Baden Powell through his employment in the civil administration as a translator for the Commissioner, Charles Bell.

Another point made in the article, by Justin Cartwright, that the Baralongs suffered most during the siege is incorrect. It was their enemies, the Shanguaans, who suffered most as they formed the majority of the Black Watch detachment who being armed and charged the Boers' machine gun emplacements, something the British military were not expected to do.

### **Thurs 29**

Up to a million civil servants are poised to stage what could be the biggest strike in South African history today after wage talks with the government collapsed earlier this week. The action represents the first major challenge to President Thabo Mbeki's six week old government. - *Reuters* -

### **Fri 30**

The initial impact of what was to be a 48 hour strike by the members of the civil service (qv 29/7) is to have closed many of the state run schools and cut services to some hospitals. The cause of the industrial actions; to force an increase, to 10%, a government pay offer of 6% which is below the rate of inflation.

Although the strike was supposed to last two days, with three other public service unions; covering the hospital workers, police and prison service wanting a similar rise

the conflict could be ongoing.

Underlying the protests, in which nine other unions plan to join the protest if the administration does not improve the offer, are the fears that the new Mbeki government will begin a wide scale programme of job losses in the state sector heralding a move towards wide scale privatisation. Strike organisers say that the government is more interested in protecting the interests of big business, keeping a tight fiscal grip on the economy, rather than looking after the interests of the common man.

## AUGUST 1999

### Sun 1

Palanca Street Children's Rehabilitation Centre in Luanda, is the home to many of the city's street children; who otherwise would be homeless. The centre is home to 250 boys and was established in 1993 and financed by BP and Amoco and run by Fr Renaldo.

Many of the residents are from the Bacongo nation, who live in the north east of Angola. They are boys, usually last born, who have been accused of being involved in witchcraft and had to flee from torture..

### Mon 2

Following the 48 hour civil servants strike (qv 30/7), which involved 1m workers, there was a patchy response and now a gradual drift back to work. The most strong support came from the 320,000 teachers in the state schools.

Whilst pursuing a greater than 6% wage rise on their £2,000 to £7,000 yearly salary it is noted that members of parliament earn £20,000 and have use of a free car, home and enjoy free transport.

### Tues 3

To little, for the children of women suffering from Aids, is being done by the governments of east and southern Africa says a recent report. The United Nations estimates that in 1998 1.4 million people died of the disease. It also said that life expectancy will fall from 60 to 40 years - and leave 1 million orphans.

One such centre where an attempt is being made to find homes for the children of sufferers is Mahau Children's Centre in the township of Atteridgeville outside Johannesburg. Managed by a British national, B H Gibbs and his fellow workers who look after 2,500 HIV positive children. They also care for 22 children on a full time basis - who are looking for foster parents.

### Wed 4

In his first move, on being appointed a foreign office minister Peter Hain (qv) called on the South African ambassador, C Carolus; at the embassy in Trafalgar Square, where he had spent many times outside the building in his capacity as a leading anti apartheid campaigner.

As a minister with special responsibility for Africa he said he would concentrate his mind to the giants of the continent, Nigeria and South Africa, where his specialist knowledge would be most of use.

The United Nations food agency plan to send 2,500 tons of emergency food this month to the war ravaged Angolan City of Malange, where up to 10 people a day are reported to be dying of hunger.

The government controlled city's population has almost doubled by 130,000 refugees since fighting between the army and Unita rebels resumed in December . Aid was cut off for two months by the fighting. - AP -

### **Mon 9**

Officials in central Angola say three mass graves, holding about 100 bodies, have been uncovered in the highland province of Bie. The report follows one by and by an independent radio station in mid July that mass graves had been found.

Since Angola's civil war re – erupted last December Unita guerrillas reportedly forcibly displacing rural people. The rebels who control about 70% of the country, deny driving people to seek shelter in overcrowded government cities. – **Time, World Watch, page 13** –

### **Mon 16**

Gunmen, thought to be Unita rebels, have attacked a 3 vehicle commercial convoy in Angola, killing 13 people and wounding 12, according the independent radio station Ecclesia.

The ambush, in the coastal province of Benguela on Thursday followed up the blowing up of a bridge over the Caludengue river the day before, which blocked the return of an army convoy. – AP –

### **Fri 20**

With Tito Mboweni now in soul charge of the South African Reserve Bank after the 12 month spent the outgoing Chairman C Stals (qv 7/7). The opinion is that economic policy will only change a little – in that a little more room for growth by the former deputy head of the ANC 's economic planning department.

Inflation figures; 6/99, headline 4.1% down from 7.3%, although the core remains high at 8.2%, The fall in the headline rate sees that this latest is the lowest level since 2/71.

Economic growth next year is expected to be 1% and the population to grow at 2 to 2.5%. This is not enough growth for the prospects of the masses to improve. In the year 2000 it is hoped that GDP will reach 3 – 3.5%.

Under the ANC 's guidance the budget deficit has been reduced from around 10% to 3% of Gross National Product

## **Sat 21**

Claims of equality may still be up for debate in the New South Africa, but the success of the tourism industry is certainly something to rival other African countries. According to South African Tourism [Satour] the number of tourists from the UK had doubled since the abolition of apartheid.

The period January – December 1998 saw 321,281 arrivals from the UK, compared with 159,604 during the same period in 1994. – **GDN Travel page 15** –

## **Wed 25**

The series of strikes called by the civil service (qv 30/7) has now spread to all 12 of the public service unions. Protest marches have been held through the cities of Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town. All the participants were demanding that the government should increase their pay offer to 7.3%, from the 6.3% that have already said was as high as they could go at this time.

Also protesting; with their elders were schoolchildren, in Johannesburg, who were tear gassed by the police. In the townships, students of examination age were involved in protests demanding the right to have extra time to take their finals as their tutors were taking part in the wider pay protest at this critical time.

## **Fri 27**

Gradually being replaced are the Malaan Drives and the Jan Smutt Avenue's, the city streets in Johannesburg that are dedicated to the memory of the architects of apartheid that litter the towns and cities of South Africa.

The new government is following in the steps of the previous administration, under Nelson Mandela, who has unveiled a memorial statue to Steve Biko (qv), with its own ideas. The government of Thabo Mbeki is to ask members of the public to come up with a new design for a coat of arms to replace the 1910 British design, that showed medieval armour, an Afrikaner Trek wagon and a white woman, that was imposed after the union of the Cape colony and the Boer republic.

A more wonderful idea has come from R Kasrils, the minister for water affairs and forestry, is the creation of numerous wooded areas as "trees can provide healing for the soul."

## **Sun 29**

Crime is sweeping South Africa, as one might expect when affluence and poverty exist side by side, and the demoralised, underpaid and racially divided police force cannot cope.

What to do? Roger Russell, of Cape Town, decided the answer was to spend six months walking from Johannesburg and back, a distance of nearly 2,000 miles, to raise public awareness of the tough task facing the police. You can guess the rest:

barely 12 miles into his trek, he was mugged at gunpoint near Cape Town's airport and robbed of everything except the clothes he was wearing.

Mr Russell is gamely planning to set out again tomorrow, and is appealing for donations to replace his lost gear. – **IOS, Flat Earth, page 18, C 1** –

### **Tues 31**

South Africa's justice minister criticised the respected constitutional court yesterday for inefficiency and came close to accusing the white legal establishment of racism.

Critics say some black lawyers promoted to the bench lack experience. But Penuell Maduna dismissed this as "whinging," saying the establishment had done little to prepare black lawyers for senior jobs. Even now "white attorneys never brief black advocates."

Unita rebels have stepped up attacks in southern Angola as they close in on Lubango, capital of Huila province, after capturing a cluster of other towns, a government official in the region told Radio Ecclesia yesterday.

Unita has seized Jamba, a Hulia town with gold and silver mines, after fierce battles with government forces, according to the independent weekly *Agora*. This gives the rebels control of supply routes from the Cassinga iron mines east of Lubango.

The government army lost 50 troops in fighting that saw them overpowered by rebel armed vehicles, mortars and rocket launchers. – **Reuters** -

## **SEPTEMBER 1999**

### **Fri 3**

A taxi driver was shot dead and 10 private taxis were firebombed yesterday as a chaotic transport turf war broke out in the South African coastal town of East London

The violence, the latest in a series of countrywide conflicts over lucrative transport routes, flared after an argument about rights to a taxi rank.

Two men were arrested and charged with public violence and attempted murder. **AP**

### **Sun 3**

In a bid to fight scourge of any number of diseases, especially the Aids virus, which as a bi - product has the effect of stopping the exploitation of members of the black community, the Mbeki government is battling to complete the final stages of a Mandela era piece of legislation.

The Medical and Related Substances Control Amendment Act, was introduced in 1997, with the specific intention of allowing suppliers of drugs to fight the onset of the HIV virus to go elsewhere and purchase them.

In response the international drug companies have made a two pronged attack. On home ground they have taken the government to the Constitutional Court, and on the wider front they have accused the government before the World Trade Organisation of restrictive practise.

With a visit, to the United States, by the South African president, imminent it is hoped that a little pressure from Washington will stop the multi nationals in their tracks. Meanwhile the constitutional court faces a challenge by 41 companies who say such a law will “offer the potential for abrogation of intellectual property

### **Wed 8**

As in most countries, including England, South Africa has judges who sometimes give those convicted the ‘benefit of the doubt’ when passing sentence.

In the most recent case Mr Justice D Kotzee has been severely criticised for jailing a rapist for only 10 years after attacking and violating two different victims. According to the Judge B Maharotsa was not entirely to blame, as the girls were “naughty” and not virgins at the time of the attack. They had had consensual sex two days before the rape occurred.

There is any number of other cases of rape in which the term of imprisonment has attacked the anger of the wider community; community service for a convicted rapist

of two girls from the Port Elizabeth area. The rape of a grandmother, aged 76, by her grandson. The rape of a 7 year old girl by her brother. It is also observed that a member of the police force commits rape at least every 2.5 days.

A prominent member of the ANC has been given custody of her 14 year old grandson by a court in Johannesburg after he was charged with rape. He is the grandson of one of South Africa's most prominent anti apartheid leaders.

### **Fri 10**

Accusations have been made against a number of ANC officials and businessmen. They are charged with taking 'kickbacks,' worth two and a half million pounds, that would secure Armscour, the state armament procurement agency contracts in the United Kingdom and other European companies.

Pat Lille, a Pan African Congress member of parliament says she has received the document from a 'concerned' group of ANC MP 's.

At the same time as this was happening the president, Thabo Mbeki, has said that a police unit, the Special Investigations Unit, which was set up by his predecessor to deal with such accusations, is to be closed down. In the future, as well as the 1,000 cases already being looked into, an ad hoc committee appointed by a member of the judiciary will investigate any wrong doings.

### **Mon 27**

With the introduction of the Gender Discrimination Act, in 1998 (qv 9/5), South Africa could be said to have the most open outlook in this field anywhere in the world.

Cape Town, a city where some 300 people would be arrested for 'immoral acts' under the apartheid regime, have gone a step further and made it council policy to encourage like minded people to visit the area as tourists. This move comes after the spate of recent bombings (qv 3/1) that has damaged the local economy.

Critics of the move see council policy of encouraging sexual exploitation as damaging the work of others who are desperate to halt the rise in those members of society infected by the Aids virus. This is countered by city hall officials who say that they will only promote establishments where the employees are treated fairly and the use of condoms is the rule. – **Economist, page 91** –

Leader Comment, **Angola's endless war** 'the United Nations needs to recognise that a military victory is not in sight, and there is little to choose between the two sides. **ditto page 19**

The City of Leeds has sent a council delegation, led by the Lord Mayor; K Parker, on a trip to the city of Durban. The aim of the trip is to improve relations with the people of this coastal town that was first started in 1998.



While the delegation is in the city a visit will be made to the Zulu monarch, King Goodwill Zetheleni, the Second. They will also, with the help of a twenty six thousand pound grant from the British government, improve links with the areas schoolchildren who have been helped in the past with the donation of twenty thousand educational books donated by Leeds schools.

### **Tues 28**

Troops, loyal to the Luanda government, have had a long awaited military success against the Unita rebels. In the last few days these troops have recaptured the town of Bailundo in the Central Highlands. They are also advancing towards other towns that have been under siege from the rebels for a number of months.

Meanwhile criticism of the continued conflict has come from the authorities in neighbouring countries and from the Roman Catholic Church, inside Angola. As recently as 7/99 the Bishop of Uige wrote a pastoral letter, which stated 'war is destroying this country, its infrastructure and its people'.

### **Wed 29**

The former practise, among the Zulu nation, of testing whether the women were virgins on the eve of their marriage has been revived, as a cultural identification of the nation. The scheme is backed by the All African Cultural Organisation.

At a school in northern KwaZulu Natal, Qophumlando, pupils are proud to show off their certificates which show that they are untouched. Of the 1,500 who have been examined only 30 were found with the hymen torn.

The testing of the students is only a cultural issue, however there are benefits in that they become aware of the dangers of the Aids virus.

## **OCTOBER 1999**

### **Sun 3**

In a move that is intended to entice the tourists back to the city of Johannesburg the local council has tightened up on the issuing of licenses for the increasing number of street hawkers who sell anything from oranges to shoe laces from the pavements.

After five years in power the effect of positive discrimination, in favour of the black majority, the number of blacks in middle management in the civil service as compared to those in similar positions in private business are at variance. In 1994 the number of black middle managers was only 6%, by 1997 the proportion was 38% in central government and in the provincial; administrations were 66%. In private firms the numbers, for 1994 to 1996 rose from only 10 20%.

Various reasons are put forward for these differences; white private business managers are racist, as some certainly are. However it was the failure of the economy that pushed the business community and the ANC together, which led to the end of the liberation war and the government of national unity in 1995. During this period, 1975 1990, black wages rose by 50% whereas whites only went up by 1%.

During recent times this policy has seen the government accept tenders from black run firms, that were priced higher than others, which in the terms of a stagnant economy, led to fewer contract from the government to build homes, roads and other every day needs. Thus leaving the poor black even poorer.

Other hindrances are the new legislation that has been introduced, which academics refuse to stand up against, for fear of being labeled as racist, has not helped the situation.

The Employment Equality Act, which was introduced in 8/99, concerns firms with more than 50 employees sets roles for 'specifics' and numbers of employed – on a demographic basis – that is 75% black, 52% female and 5% disabled. It will be up the employer to prove any case of disagreement, rather than his employee.

Other legislation in the pipeline, The Promotion of Equality Bill to be introduced in the year 2000 – will ban all acts of discrimination, from race to social status. It is also estimated that one in thirty of he people that enter the job market are finds formal employment. – **The Economist, page 75/6** –

### **Mon 4**

The trial if South Africa's own Dr Death, W Basson (qv) has begun. Evidence will be heard from about 250 witnesses, and take approximately to reach its verdict.

A gender based organisation; A Group of Concerned Men has successfully challenged an advert that accuses half of South African males of being racist. The Advertising standards Authority agreed that the television advert, fronted by South African born Hollywood actress C Theron, was wrong to give the impression that the majority of men were not sufficiently opposed to rape to make those that act this way social outcasts

A second advert, with a similar format and asked have you ever raped a women? Was allowed. The idea for the campaign was launched by the Rape Crisis Centre and Femina magazine and the Trauma Centre in Cape Town

South African police fired stun grenades and bullets at a crowd at the funeral, on Saturday, of a black soldier who shot dead eight white colleagues, after mourners began an illegal 12 – gun salute.

Lieutenant S Madbela was shot dead by a colleague after he fired at soldiers at Bloemfontein army base ‘to teach whites a lesson. – GDN, page 11 C 6 –

### **Tues 5**

Doctor W Basson (qv), the story retold.

### **Wed 6**

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, whose impassioned pleas and sermons helped end apartheid in South Africa, was named today as the second winner of the Sydney Peace Prize. It will be presented at a ceremony in November. – YEP page 4 C1 –

### **Fri 8**

Proposed legislation, the Equality and Prevention of Discrimination Bill, is to go before parliament in the near future. The purpose of this Bill is to stop the use of language that the Coloured, mixed race and black populations had to endure from members of the minority whites during the years of the National Party governments.

Opponents say that the effect of the proposed Bill will be a prevention of free speech; a violation of the constitution. It will prevent the reporting of words spoken in anger. It would also ban the media from violating an individuals privacy – through photo or written. Another effect will forbid the description of a person as ‘disabled’ as it would, according to the Bill, ‘impair their dignity.’

Among the words that would be banned are Kaffir, Boer, Meid, Hotnot, Coon, Coolie and Bobbenjaan.

## **Sun 10**

The beginning of the Boer War was remembered in the town of Brandfort, at the site of 75 newly discovered graves of blacks. The ceremony, attended by the South African president along with the Duke of Kent; to represent the British royal family, was rich in apology from the former colonial power in respect of its treatment of the Afrikaner women and children as they corralled them in 'concentration camps' to try and bring their menfolk' It. to and end. Mr Mbeki, heaped praise on those that were seen as rebels against the colonial power and praised them for their determination to throw off the aggressor.

There were few Afrikaner 'notables' at the official ceremony. They did their remembering with 3,000 other Free State traditionalists at the farm owned by a relative of the last Afrikaner president of the Orange Free State – Styne.

Despite the success of the Advertising Standards Authority after its refusal to allow an anti – rape plea (qv 4/10); 'Every 26 seconds a women is raped in South Africa ... but are there any real men out there who care'? - voiced by C Theron a third one is planned. D Kumalo, a football player, will front this.

With only 13 letters of complaint the allowed advert sparked of a nation wide debate, which was divided along the colour line. One side pushed out the figures for rape, 900,000 women and 600,000 children; 10 : 1 per 1,000 population /USA 3.9:1000. Conviction rate 7%. Rural women, 40%, believe that their culture endorses violence from their husbands as ' a sign of love'. Others point out that for every rapist there is a husband or brother, a 'real man', who should not be blamed for the crimes of others.

Government troops, in Angola, have – mainly by the use of air power alone – captured the strategic town of Bailindu in the Central Highlands region. The way is now open for a military assault on the town of Andulo – the Unita rebels headquarters – 55 miles north east of Bailindu. The timing of the attack was unusual as it is now the rainy season in Angola, when it is difficult for ground troops to move easily about the countryside. Other military actions are taking place in the provinces of Uiaje, Hulia and Moxico where towns and cities and under threat from the rebels.

With no official recognition of these military moves from the Luanda government, has been given by the dos Santos led administration. It can deny any such attempts have been made if they show signs of failing. – **The Economist, page 90/1** –

According to a survey the urban South African women has the following views on her Aspirations and the reality – should have all the same rights as men 63% do have the same rights 23, are in a better position than their grandmothers generation 77% and are happier r than this previous generation 54%- **ditto, page 92** –

## **Mon 11**

**Obituary D Tsafendas** the assassin of Dr H Verwoed, who was kept on death row until 1994 and then moved to a mental asylum (qv 1/7)

## **Tues 12**

A trade deal, with the European Union (qv 26/3), has been signed. Before the ceremony there were harsh words from the president who accused the European Union commissioners of acting only in the interests of self – interest and to protect the interests of the Continents producers of ‘named products.’ The issue of the naming of ‘sherry and port’ by the South African producers as such has been left over for further negotiations. This came at the insistence of France, Italy and Portugal.

At the ceremony, in Pretoria, the country’s trade minister, Alec Erwin, said that this stance, by the Europeans, had damaged its credibility. It also went to show who held the real power in Europe; the agricultural lobby. It is felt that the regime in Pretoria had done much to favour trade with Europe, even to the extent of turning away from its existing markets. All it was asking was for a fair deal.

## **Wed 13**

A South African court has dismissed key charges against Wouter Basson, the former government chemical warfare scientist. A judge ruled that Dr Basson could not be tried for allegedly providing muscle relaxants to kill about 200 prisoners of war in Namibia in the 1980’s because it was outside the court’s jurisdiction.

Dr Basson still faces 61 charges of murder, conspiracy to murder, embezzlement and drug dealing. – GDN, page 16, C 5 –

## **Thurs 14**

Attempt to provide insurance against rape and HIV infection have been dismissed by those that are fighting to bring pressure on the community as a whole not to tolerate this kind of behavior. The policies are only likely to be taken up by middle class white women; when the most at danger grouping are female blacks.

The plea to the Advertising Standards Authority to halt the rape advert (qv 10/10) was initiated by 28 workers from a chemical plant, one of whom thought it was directed at him.

A recent survey revealed that 1: 3 Johannesburg schoolgirls have been raped or sexually assaulted. Only one third reported it; just 12% knew it was illegal. In the same survey more than 1:10 schoolboys admitted to having raped or sexually assaulted a girl. Nearly half said they believed a girl said ‘no’ when she really meant ‘yes’. While 16% believed girls enjoyed being raped and almost one third said the victims ‘asked for it.’

## **Mon 19**

Eugene Terreblanche, a neo – Nazi leader who once threatened a race war in South Africa, faces jail after a court rejected his appeal against a six year term for two attacks on black men.

Eugene Terreblanche, 55 was convicted in 1997\* of attempted murder and assault. He has 14 days to appeal to the highest court. – AP – \* authors note 24/4

## **Thurs 21**

Building of the success of the military action in the Central Highlands in Angola (qv 10/10) the government feels secure enough to officially announce that the strategic towns of Bailudo and Andulo, once the headquarters of the Unita rebels, have been captured by troops loyal to Luanda. Further, it is reported that Jonas Savimbi has fled across the border into Burkina Faso, where he enjoys the support of the president.

In Brussels the International Federation of Journalists has voiced concern over an Angolan journalist, R Marqvens, who has been detained by the authorities. Missing for seven days Mr Marqvens is charged because he called dos Santos a dictator in an article he wrote in 7/99.

## **Sat 23**

South Africa's advertising authority has reversed a ban on an anti – rape advert (qv 4/10) which says that men are not concerned about the problem. It decided the advert did not discriminate against men. – GDN, page 18, C 5 –

## **Tues 26**

Ten white South African policemen who stood by and allowed two of their colleges to beat up crime suspects have been cleared of any wrongdoing, the public prosecution face said yesterday.

Two separate incidents were filmed by the BBC\* when police beat up four blacks and mixed race men they suspected of car hijacking. South Africa's independent complaints directorate had recommended that the state prosecute not only the police who did the beatings but also the 10 who looked on.

Reaction to the BBC film was mixed. Many members of a public fed up with high crime levels supported the harsh police conduct. – *Reuters adb* – \* (qv 21/4)

### **Wed 27**

South Africa may not have enough fresh water to meet its population growth and the demands of economic development, and ultra violet radiation is at a dangerous level because of depletion of the ozone layer, the government said yesterday in its first report on the environment.

Much of the existing water supply was 'polluted by industrial effluents, domestic and commercial sewage, acid mine drainage, agricultural runoff and litter.' The department of environmental affairs and tourism said.

Depletion of the ozone layer has raised the levels of ultra violet B radiation to the 'dangerous to very dangerous categories for almost half the year in Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town', the report said.

The report encouraged South Africa to take care of their immediate surroundings and minimise their individual use of resources, and said companies should comply with the minimum standards for use of resources, waste minimisation and recycling. – AP –

### **Sun 31**

With the recapture of strategically important towns of Bailindu Andulo in Angola (qv 21/10) government officials are now claiming that 'Operation Restoration' – the 6 week and semi secret military offensive to smash the effectiveness of the Unita rebel movement is well on the way to completion.

When the media and television cameras were allowed into these recently recaptured areas it was noticed that despite claims, by the government, that heavy fighting was needed to retake the towns there was very little evidence of this. In fact it could be said that the population and the rebels had fled the area leaving the towns empty of people and military equipment.

The rebel version of events – spoken to journalists via satellite phones, is that they abandoned their heavy weapons and will return to they have done best: guerilla warfare. An announcement like this will worry those that run the oil and diamond concessions for the government – they will be open to attack and their assets seized. Unita has also said that its priority will now be the capture of the capital Luanda.

The best solution for a settlement – agreed by the international community – will have to be of a political nature, even though the Luanda authorities have vowed never again to enter negotiations with Unita. To do so would be seen, by them, of just giving the rebels more time to build up their stocks of weapons and support, as they did at the end of 1998, which has led to the current crisis. – **The Economist, page 84 -**

## **NOVEMBER 1999**

### **Fri 5**

Rival minivan taxi operators waged a gun battle yesterday in Empangeni, KwaZulu Natal province, on South Africa's east coast, leaving at least 10 dead and 24 wounded, police said.

The incident was the most serious of its kind in recent years. Taxi associations often wage violent battles to control lucrative commuting routes. The minivan taxis, known as kombis are the main means of transport for poor black South Africans.

'It was such chaos we cannot say for sure how many people were shooting,' he said. Hand guns, shot guns and heavy caliber weapons were used.

Captain Naido said taxi violence in Kwa Zulu Natal had tapered off two years ago thanks to talks between rival taxi associations. But in the last month one taxi association in the city had accused its rival of poaching passengers.

The authorities last month shut taxi routes in townships north of Pretoria, where 11 people had been killed since August.

The industry is largely unregulated and the government has a long term plan to replace 16 seater mini buses with regulated buses and 24 seaters. – AP –

### **Sun 7**

A bomb ripped through a gay bar in Green Point, Cape Town, South Africa. Six people were hurt, four seriously. – IOS, page 5 C 6 –

### **Thurs 11**

Arriving in South Africa, to open the Commonwealth Conference that is to be held in the port city of Durban, Queen Elizabeth the Second made some remarks that could be seen as an apology that the wives and children of the Afrikaner farmers fighting to preserve the Boer Republic; the Boer War, received at the hands of the colonial British military forces. The remarks were also addressed to the descendants of the blacks that were caught up in the fighting.

Speaking at a state banquet the Queen said it was fitting to remember this 'tragic chapter'. She continued: 'We will remember with sadness the loss of life and suffering, not only of British and Boer soldiers, but of those caught up in the war – black and white, men, women and children. No one who reads of the distressing conditions in the detention camps, which held both white and black detainees, could be failed to be moved



even today. It is surely right that we commemorate the centenary of this war in the spirit of reconciliation’.

### **Sun 14**

A young persons scheme run by the Commonwealth, ‘the working holiday scheme; recently relaunched in South Africa, after that countries years of exclusion. Is having something of a renaissance.

The scheme, open to those aged between 17 and 27, is expected to attract 30, 000 participants this year which is a ten fold increase on five years ago. During the time away from home, a period of 24 months, travelers are expected to see something of the world and also work part time to finance their exploits.

Run the British High Commission in Pretoria, but because of the current state of affairs in the country; the high crime rate and rates of unemployment, it is mainly young white people are taking up the challenge. Officials found there was an economic barrier to those taking up of the scheme. Young black people were less likely to be able to raise the R10, 000 that was needed to participate in the scheme.

### **Mon 15**

At the end of the Commonwealth summit in Durban the South African president, Thabo Mbeki, has announced that he will recommend to cabinet, on the advice of his government’s scientists, that the country should begin again the import of British beef. It had been suspended after the export of British beef had been forbidden, on a worldwide basis, after the fear that Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis infected the meat. It is planned to import 35, 200 tones of beef.

Other issues tackled at the four day gathering included the British prime ministers push for the American style protectionism of free trade. This Blair move was criticised by the smaller member nations as it was seen as a move that will endanger their trade with the Commonwealth. Moves like these smacked of double standards; European Union protectionism for British products was assured.

Other plans, after considering a report after the 1997 Edinburgh Commonwealth conference implied that money was wasted on expensive on pointless conference’s, was Tony Blair’s warning on corruption being endemic among the smaller member nations.

### **Sat 20**

Reproductions, from the Guardian newspaper of significant events in the 1960’s that drew the world’s attention to the looming struggle for majority rule. Those highlighted include Sharpsville; 22.3.60 and 4.5.60. The black peoples defiance of the Pass Law on 28.3.60 and a profile of Nelson Mandela, by Mary Benson, at the beginning of the Rivoena trial.

## **Sun 21**

In a challenge to the ethos that the rights of the homosexual are protected, in the same manner as a heterosexual person, under the 5 year old constitution, a contest to find the person who would stand up and challenge other African leaders who are not so enlightened as the rulers in South Africa.

The Miss Gay South Africa contest, which was held in the town of Nespruit, will be an effective leader to counter the recent comments of the Zimbabwean president.

The decision to hold the contest in this deeply Christian town was attacked by the Reverend T Taute, of the Afrikaanese Protestantse Kerk, with the observation that the Bible says that it is wrong that a man should lie down with another man.

The event was the culmination of 197 similar events nationwide. The final eight finalists were to be judged here.

## **Mon 22**

Following the Miss Gay South Africa contest; a challenge to gender politics (qv 21/11), which was described by one resident 'as the only interesting thing to happen in his life time,' was not without its drama.

Out of the 9 finalists 2 were disqualified, one failed to turn up, and the other had made use of breast implants; which had been banned from use. The eventual winner was named as B Rabiera, who will now have the task of lessening the impact of the ideas that ones sexual orientation makes you any less of a man, or women.

## **Tues 23**

Lawyers, acting for a right wing Afrikaner group, is to challenge the ruling of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission concerning its decision not to allow those convicted of the killing of Chris Hani (8/4) to be granted an amnesty for this 'political' killing.

A report from the South African Human Rights Commission has accused the country's media of acting in a racist manor. The report, following a series of articles and a picture in the Johannesburg Star, says that the paper was portraying black people as being criminals, incompetent and of having worthless lives.

Critics of the report pointed out that a main feature of the article, a photograph of two birds sitting on the edge of a rubbish bin, when the bin was representing the city of Johannesburg, was also of a derogatory nature.

## **Thurs 25**

About 45% of South African mine workers are infected with the HIV virus, which causes Aids, the deputy minerals and energy minister, Susan Shabangu said yesterday.

Another expert recently said Aids could kill up to 10% of the work force a year in the mining industry, South Africa's biggest earner of foreign currency. – *Reuters* –

## **Sun 28**

The question of ethics, as applied to the supply of weapons and the payment of alleged financial sweeteners, has emerged with the disclosure that money from an overseas manufacturer has been provided to encourage support from internal opponents of the deal.

In this case a joint bid by the British company British Aerospace and the Swedish company Saab is alleged to have been helped on its way with a donation to the building of an Industrial School for the National Union of Mineworkers of South Africa. The money was channeled through the Union of Metal and Clerical and Technical Employers in Industry in Sweden.

The joint British/Swedish bid was to supply 28 fighter aircraft and 24 Hawk training jets. The numbers were cut, to 9 and 12 respectively, following internal pressure – to allow the savings to be used to make improvements to the countries housing and the levels of poverty. There was also an element of helping to build up the home grown defence industries, which would enable the manufacture of the spare parts the aircraft would eventually need.

While both the British and Swedish governments say that the companies involved have done nothing wrong, investigations will be launched in South Africa. The contract will be scrutinised by the Heath Commission that was set up by Nelson Mandela to investigate such allegations.

Prince Thokonzani Thembekosi Zulu, 26, a member of South Africa's Zulu royal family, was stoned to death near his parent's palace in the politically charged province of KwaZulu Natal. – *IOS page 24, C 1* -

A few years ago Victor Vester, the prison near Cape Town where Nelson Mandela spent the last few months of his 27 year prison sentence, came up with a new scheme to rehabilitate prisoners. Believing “ the good rather than the bad should be drawn out of inmates”, they decided to let them keep budges

It was a big success, so much so that other pets were brought into the scheme, including goldfish and cats. But at this point rehabilitation suddenly went into decline. “The prison authorities have had one to many incidences of disagreements following cases of one prisoner's cat eating another's budgie,” said Cape Town criminologist, Wilfried Scharf. *Flat Earth, F Bell, IOS, page 25, C 8*

## **Mon 29**

A second bomb attack on a cafe bar in Cape Town (qv 7/11) appears to have been a revenge attack by the pro Muslim group Pagad (qv). This latest incident could have been in response either to the conviction of one of the anti drugs and gangster group members of the shooting of 4 people, in 3/1, in the Waterfront district of the city.

An alternative theory is that the attack occurred because a group member was recently extradited to the United States on charges relating to that country's response to the bombing of its embassy's in east Africa and the bombing of sites in Afghanistan and Sudan.

## **Tues 30**

Making an appearance before the Truth and Reconciliation Committee Jerry Richardson has accused the former wife of Mr Mandela of being directly involved in the death of another young person.

The claim came as the former manager of the so called Winnie Mandela Football Club appeared in an amnesty plea, that he had already told Mrs Mandela's lawyer he thought was hopeless, for the killings of three people. The commissioners heard the jailed killer accuse Mrs Mandela of the direct involvement in the death of K Zwane because she believed that she was spying for the police. An alternative theory for the killing is that both Mrs Mandela and Ms Zwane were involved in a relationship with the same man.

The people of Mozambique are preparing for the second democratic elections the country has seen, since independence. It is due to take place on 3/12. With the post of president likely to unchanged, as the Renamo leader A Dkhalama is the only challenger. The distribution of seats in the new parliament is of most concern to the ruling Frelim party. To mount a challenge to be the largest party in parliament the Renamo party and a number of smaller party's have joined together to form a unified opposition.

## DECEMBER 1999

### Fri 3

In an attempt to improve the country's tourist industry, to the foreign traveler a group of London taxi drivers have been invited to tour the country's finest game reserves and beach resorts. Only once, in a Johannesburg hotel, were they asked not to venture out, did they feel neglected?

There were various reactions from the 40 participants in the scheme. They ranged from the "I would recommend it to anyone," view to their views on discrimination; "a thing of the past." When speaking to local women they were given a different perspective when they said it was still very bad.

Back in London the South African Tourist Board had been allowed to paint the 'black cab' in the colours of the South African national flag

### Thurs 9

A sharp decline in political killings has contributed to a fall in South Africa's murder rate over the last five years, although the country remains one of the most violent in the world, new police statistics show.

The number of murders per 100,000 people fell from 57 in 1994 to 45 this year. But other crimes, including rape, aggravated robbery and serious assault, have risen. – *Reuters* –

### Sat 11

South Africa's truth and reconciliation commission yesterday granted amnesty to 10 white right wingers responsible for bombings in 1994 which killed 21 people in the Johannesburg area.

The commission ruled that the crimes of the 10, members of the neo Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement, who had received prison sentences of more than 25 years each, were politically motivated. – *Reuters* - authors note see notes, 4.4.1996

### Sun 12

President Mbeki, he of the belief in the African Renaissance, seems to have changed his stance. In recent days, much to the anger of the human rights movement and those who believe in an independent Tibet, the South African president has gone against their wishes.

By his actions, firstly African Watch, the international human rights group, have been denied the chance to force the ousted former leader in Ethiopia to stand up in court and

defend his actions during his rule in that country. In the second case, of turning his face against the international community, the president refused to have a one on one meeting with the Dali Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet.

To show solidarity with the Free Tibet campaign would anger the China government, where Mr Mbeki has recently received an ecstatic welcome.

### **Fri 17**

In publicising the death of her former brother in law, Graca Machel the widow of Mozambique's first president, Samora, has broken the unwritten rule that there should be no reference to the cause of death being associated with the HIV virus.

Boaventura Machel had objected to the now wife of the former president of South Africa writing an obituary that gave the cause of death of her relative as that of Aids. This is not the first time that Aids as a cause of death has been denied. Earlier this year Mozambique's prime minister, M Mocumbi; a doctor made the observation that other diseases, liver failure or tuberculosis were the prime cause of death when really it was the HIV virus was to blame.

Many people throughout Africa want to hide the fact that they are carriers of the Aids virus because of the treatment metered out to them, and their families, if it became known that they were. In cases reported school children have been expelled from school and workers sacked. In South Africa a member of the Zulu nation was beaten to death by her neighbors after joining an Aids awareness scheme.

According to officials in Maputo the rate of HIV infection in the country is 1 : 7

### **Sat 18**

Members of the G8 summit, meeting in Berlin, have agreed to a proposal from the British foreign minister that it would make it more difficult to sell illegally mined diamonds on the world market. The measure is needed to try and halt the activities of the Unita rebels in Angola, as well as funding other conflicts in east Africa.

The scheme would certificate' approved' diamonds that would be eligible for sale on the world market. Diamonds that failed to have the appropriate paperwork, mined illegally, would be more difficult to sell. For this scheme to work efficiently the approval of South Africa; the world's largest producer, and Belgium, the home of the largest market would be needed.

There would be an interim document ready for the members to consider by spring 2000 and a detailed proposal by 7/2000. Meanwhile the authorities were open to suggestions from the industry itself, which would then supersede the above.

With further military advances by the military forces in Angola, towards the diamond mines illegally worked by the Unita rebels, and having pushed them from their headquarters in the Central Highlands the forces led by Jonas Savimbi are threatening to widen the conflict, and take the war across into Namibia.

It is well known that the Namibian authorities offer their Angolan allies their facilities to refuel Angolan aircraft. There have also been cases of Angolan air attacks on villages inside Namibia that are suspected of offering refuge to Unita rebels.

### **Tues 21**

Angola has taken its war against Unita rebels into neighbouring Namibia. Troops entered Namibia, with its government's agreement, and crossed back into Angola to cut off the retreat of the beleaguered forces. – GDN, page 13, C 2 –

### **Wed 22**

Launching an expensive advertising campaign, with the slogan 'show here you love her for the next thousand years', De Beers is hopeful of selling 3 billion pound's worth of diamonds in association with the millennium period.

To adhere to the hopes expressed at the recent G8 summit to stop the sale of illicit diamonds from the rebel held mines in Angola (qv 18/12) the company chairman has said that ways of breaking the link between guns and gold and takes diamonds out of the conflict has been put in place.

In what has been a poor sales year for the world's largest conglomerate, because of the poor economy of the Asian field, more bad luck was announced on the home front. A commission of inquiry investigation, which produced its findings last month, showed that the rules governing the valuing, sale and exporting of diamonds needed overhauling. The report concluded that the benefits fell to heavily in de Beer's favour and did not benefit the South African economy to any great extent; only 6%.

### **Sun 26**

With the slogan 'Arrive Alive', the authorities are trying to maintain the trend of fewer fatalities on the countries roads that is in evidence over the last few years. So far, in the first twenty three days of this month 507 people have been killed on the countries roads. This compares with the 718 fatalities in the whole of 12/98.

Much of the improvement is put down to measures put in place following the deaths of 37 tourists, mainly British, who died following a coach crash in 9/99. Other measures imposed, not without resistance from the owners of the 20,000 minibus taxis who ferry South Africa's car less majority on their daily business, to limit speeds to 60 mph/ 100 km.

## **Tues 28**

Following the recent military advances by the Angolan forces (qv 18/12) an even greater symbolic battlefield success has been accomplished against the Unita rebels. In the last few days troops loyal to the government have captured the town of Jamba in the Central Highlands.

This town was the base from which the rebel forces, under Jonas Savimbi, launched the civil war against the newly independent rule of President dos Santos, in 1976.

Summing up the military situation the army chief of staff said that the rebel force was a spent force, as he claimed that one in ten of 60,000 fighters had surrendered. It was also claimed that 80% of the force's heavy weapons were destroyed.

## **Thurs 30**

Police have moved against those they feel that are responsible for the recent spate of car bomb attacks in Cape Town (qv 29/11). As a culmination, of an ongoing investigation, three men and a women have been arrested; all who are members of the group known as People Against Gangsterism and Drugs.

One of the men arrested, A S Ebrahim, the movements national coordinator, as well as being questioned over his recent activities, will be charged with the murder of R Staggis in 1996 (qv 8/8)

## **Fri 31**

Namibian president Sam Nujama was returned to power with 77% of the presidential vote, while his South West Africa Peoples Organisation [SWAPO] collected 76% of the ballots for parliamentary seats – an increase of 2% over their last election figures.

The party buffered a challenge by the recently formed Congress of Democrats that many had expected would prevent SWAPO from wining a two-thirds majority. – **Time 20/12, World Watch, page 19, C2 -**