Public Sector Coup: Defence

1994

May - July.
SANDF to discipline Walmansthal soldiers

ABOUT 200 soldiers at the Walmansthal assembly point north of Pretoria will face disciplinary action by the SA National Defence Force for their part in Monday’s stoning and harassment of former Umkhonto we Sizwe chief-of-staff Siphiwe Nyanda’s motorcade.

A spokesman for the SANDF’s joint operations centre at Walmansthal, Col Riaan Louw, said a preliminary investigation was in progress and disciplinary steps would be taken.

Nyanda, who is awaiting confirmation of a new post within the SANDF, said yesterday his motorcade had been set upon by soldiers at the base.

Those involved were all former MK members. Most of the recruits responsible were among those who had besieged the ANC offices in Natal last year, claiming they had been neglected by the organisation, he said.

About 400 former guerrillas are based at Walmansthal awaiting integration with regular troops.

Nyanda said this had been his third visit to the base and he had been there to brief soldiers on wage payment arrangements made by the Transitional Executive Council.

The rowdy soldiers, some apparently drunk, interrupted his address midway and he was whisked to safety by his bodyguards. Nyanda’s motorcade was stoned as it proceeded through the compound.

Louw confirmed that a TEC delegation had visited the base yesterday and was supervising payment of salaries to soldiers.
TEC will decide on fate of peacekeeping force

BY CHARMEELA BHAGOYAT

The future of the National Peacekeeping Force (NPKF), which has been dogged by controversy since its inception, hangs in the balance pending a TEC recommendation to the government of national unity on whether it should be disbanded.

A member of the TEC sub-council on defence said the council would meet today to discuss the matter and then report to the TEC.

The force was initially formed to operate until the end of July. Subsequently, the TEC approved a budget for the NPKF until 1995.

However, since then, several allegations of misconduct and criminal activity have been levelled at members of the force.

East Rand police said on Monday they were investigating six charges of attempted murder against NPKF members.

The NPKF’s effectiveness came into question when Star photographer Ken Oosterbroek was killed in Tokozan at the height of the violence, with witnesses claiming he had been shot by an NPKF member.

NPKF commander General Gabriel Ramushwana said yesterday that if the NPKF was disbanded the members would return to the forces from which they were seconded and ultimately become part of the new South African National Defence Force.

He said the soldiers would undergo rigorous training to ensure an equal standard in the new integrated army.

Asked if he would make a recommendation, Ramushwana said: “The TEC will have to decide. This is the TEC’s baby.”

NPKF spokesman Major Muff Andersson said that if the force was not maintained its training would have to be adjusted or it would have to remain a peace force and not be deployed into violent areas.

“It is clear that the peacekeeping skills taught and learnt during training were not suited to conditions of violence and extreme volatility such as they experienced on the East Rand. Six weeks of training is not enough,” said Andersson.

After the East Rand experience, no further NPKF battalions were deployed, and in the Katoros area — where the SADF returned to quell violence — the NPKF was relegated to less aggressive tasks.

The TEC is expected to meet next week when a decision regarding the force will be made.
"Tainted" peace force may be disbanded

JOHANNESBURG. — The much criticised National Peacekeeping Force (NPKF) is likely to be disbanded, says a leading military analyst.

"A decision has been made in principle to disband the force," said the director of the Independent Institute for Defence Policy, Jakie Cilliers, quoting senior NPKF and National Defence Force officers.

"Its deployment has been frozen, it's politically tainted and has been a public relations disaster," said Mr Cilliers.

He said the African National Congress, which pushed for the "premature" deployment of the peace force, now realised it had to rely on the existing white-led defence force to maintain law and order.

Officials of the ANC were not available for comment yesterday.

NPKF spokesperson Nuff Anderson said no decision had been taken on the force's future, but its command council had made a series of recommendations about its position.

An option was apparently for the force to be recalled to its base at De Brog, near Bloemfontein, for more training.

The defence sub-council of the Transitional Executive Council planned to meet behind closed doors in Pretoria today to discuss the issue.

Mr Cilliers said morale was very low in the force.

He said former guerrillas in the peacekeeping force may be sent for retraining at Wallmannsthal, north of Pretoria, where a new unified national defence force was taking shape.

— Sapa-theater
Probe to decide future of NPKF

THE entire life of the National Peacekeeping Force — from its training to claims that the force was "sabotaged" — is to be probed by a team of independent investigators, NPKF spokeswoman Maj Muff Andersson announced yesterday.

She said the fate of the force was in the hands of Defence Minister-designate Mr Joe Modise. Sources say he is likely to accept recommendations to repatriate NPKF members to their forces of origin, from where they might be incorporated either into the SA National Defence Force or SA Police Service.

Maj Andersson said that in the next few weeks a team of independent investigators would be formed to study "everything" about the NPKF.

This included training problems, claims that SADF members logistically "sabotaged" the NPKF, claims that black troops were "not up to scratch", claims of racism by white officers, the breakdown of discipline on the East Rand — and why the NPKF were deployed "in such a volatile area".

The TEC yesterday refused to comment on the future of the NPKF, saying it was a matter for the new government. Mr Modise could not be reached for comment yesterday.
Britain to help build SA force

From LINDA ENSOR
LONDON — Britain is to send a team of 31 defence force officers to help build South Africa’s new, integrated national defence force.

Defence Secretary Mr Malcolm Rifkind announced yesterday that the British Military Advisory and Training (BMAT) team would be drawn from the British army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force and would be commanded by Brigadier Dick Trager.

The role of the team, which should be in South Africa by the middle of next month, would be to validate selection criteria and training standards, monitor training across all four arms of the national defence force (the army, navy, air force and medical services) and to settle disputes.

Nine members of the BMAT team would remain in South Africa for about two years and the rest for about six months.

"I am positive the experience, expertise and efficiency of our military force will benefit the new multi-ethnic armed forces in South Africa," Mr Rifkind said.

Britain has wide experience in training and integrating defence forces in countries torn apart by civil war, having been involved in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Angola. Its military training teams are active in many parts of the world.

Mr Rifkind’s announcement was made shortly after the return to Britain of Foreign Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd from South Africa where he met President Nelson Mandela’s inauguration.

In South Africa Mr Hurd apparently agreed to the TECO’s request for Britain to help in integrating the defence force.

Mr Hurd said in a television interview here he expected the relationship between Britain and the new South African government to be both politically and economically good.

"We are the biggest investor after all and it is very important to them to keep that confidence, to keep that investment coming," Mr Hurd said.

Mr Hurd said he had had short, but good, talks with Mr Mandela, Mr P W de Klerk and Mr Thabo Mbeki in South Africa.

He was confident the impetus apparent over the past few days would keep the “delicate coalition of whites and blacks”, despite the difficulties.
Defence burden can be transformed into a national asset.

Krish Naidoo
SANDF mum on service abroad

JOHANNESBURG — The South African National Defence Force says it is inappropriate to comment on the desirability or otherwise of peacekeeping operations beyond the borders of South Africa.

This comes after media speculation about the possible role of the SANDF in operations outside South Africa.

The SANDF said in a statement yesterday that although the new constitution made provision for such operations, the government of national unity decided on the role the SANDF would play "in any given set of circumstances".

"Involvement beyond the borders of South Africa is therefore a political decision," the statement said.

The SANDF would only decide how to run an operation once a decision had been taken by the government.

Several practical implications would affect any decision to deploy the SANDF anywhere beyond the borders of South Africa, including the strain on manpower and logistics, budget considerations and the legal aspects of the operation, the statement read.

The SANDF was "not in a position to handle an operation of this nature at present".

The leadership of the SANDF would be consulted on any deployment decisions, it added — Sapa.
If we are to prosper in our militarised past, WE must break with...
Former Minister gives pledge

Outgoing Coetsee will back Modise

CONFIDENCE in the future of SA and the capabilities of the Defence Force expressed at a farewell ceremony

Former Defence Minister Kobie Coetsee and his deputy, Wynand Breitenbach, pledged their support for newly appointed Defence Minister Joe Modise yesterday.

They addressed dignitaries at a farewell function at the South African Air Force officers' mess at Voortrekkerhoogte.

The function was preceded by a retreat ceremony on the SAAF college parade ground.

Breytenbach said that he was optimistic about the future of the country, and that he and Coetsee would always be voices supporting the SA National Defence Force and Armstrong in Parliament.

He and Modise had come along way as members of the Transitional Executive Council's sub-committee on defence, Breytenbach said.

Praised

He had assured Modise of his support as long it served the best interests of Armstrong and the Defence Force.

Breytenbach praised the Defence Force's "profound professionalism" and adaptability. He said he had no doubt that these characteristics would help the force adapt to the changing circumstances in South Africa.

Coetsee described the "formidable" the Defence Force's management capabilities, its vision and loyalty to the country.

SANDF chief General Georg Merring paid tribute to Breytenbach and Coetsee. — Sapa

New guard ... Defence Minister Joe Modise with the South African National Defence Force chief General Georg Meiring at the ceremony. PICTURE SEAN WOODS

Parties name PWV senators

The four political parties in the PWV Provincial Legislature have nominated their senators for the 90-member senate.

The six ANC senators are former deputy secretary-general Henry Makgatho, former Moscow representative Simon Moka, attorney Molemo Moosa, SAPC member Indres Naidoo, trade unionist Ria Ndzanga, and Joyce Kgobag.

The NP senators are a former Minister, Dr Org Mars, and NP chief secretary Dr Gerard Koornhof. Former Natal CP leader Carl Werth is the Freedom Front's senator.

The DP's senator is its PWV vice-chairman, William Must.

Ball is in Lesotho strikers' court

Masera — Striking Lesotho police and prison guards debated their next move yesterday after Prime Minister Ntsa Mokhehle rejected their wage demands.

About 2 500 policemen below the rank of captain in the 3 000-strong force started a strike last week, demanding a 80 percent pay increase. They were joined by junior prison warders.

On Monday, Mokhehle rejected the pay demand, saying there was no money for it. He told the strikers it would be "very unfortunate" if they did not return to work — Sapa-Reuters.

2 arrested after surgery holdup

A helicopter was called to help detectives search for two suspects who held up a Palm Ridge doctor in his surgery near Germiston yesterday.

Two youths, aged 17 and 22, were arrested. Police found an R5 rifle, a ZS6 pistol and a 9 mm pistol.

A spokesman said the gunmen held Dr F Jashat at gunpoint.

The suspects were arrested in the veld nearby by two policemen.
"Transkei jobs safe in SANDF"

UMTATA - The Chief of the South African Air Force, James Kriel, assured members of the former Transkei Defence Force that their jobs would be safe in the new South African National Defence Force. Speaking after meeting with members of the former Transkei Defence Force, Lieutenant-General Kriel said the integration of the air wings of the former homeland armies would not pose a problem.

Reports by Sapa. Art 18/5/94.
future of peace force

NPKF fate in balance

By Mphikeleli Duma

The future of the controversial National Peacekeeping Force will be decided tomorrow when the Transitional Executive Council's sub-council on defence meets in Pretoria.

The force was recently deployed on the East Rand but was last week sent back to its training camp at De Brug outside Bloemfontein. An informed source stationed at De Brug said yesterday that NPKF members were handing in their weapons and uniforms.

He speculated on the possibilities that existed for the force's future role. It could be integrated into the new South African National Defence Force or be retrained and its name changed. It could also be a force similar to the American National Guard or it could remain as it is and undergo intensive training.

As a national peacekeeping force it could also play a significant role in flashpoints of violence around the world, he said.
PRETORIA — SA had grown into the 10th largest arms supplier in the world and hoped to reap the full benefits of its expertise as soon as the UN arms embargo was lifted, Armscor marketing GM Peet Smith said yesterday.

The arms procurements company had issued 631 export permits for arms worth more than R2bn over the past two years.

Smith told military correspondents at a briefing that SA would most likely become a member of the Missile Technology Control Regime by October and Armscor was positioning itself for this prospect.

SA was finalising a national arms control policy in terms of which all arms-related control measures would be centralised under the Defence Ministry, he said.

"Armscor has committed itself to becoming more transparent and accountable, especially regarding aspects such as its arms exports in international terms."

But, Smith said, Armscor found it difficult to thoroughly police the final destiny and use of arms manufactured in SA because of a lack of cooperation between government bodies such as the SA Police Services, Customs and Excise and the Trade and Industry Department.

However, Armscor was committed to adhering to government regulations and rules regarding client countries. Smith said SA had a firm policy in terms of export clients and would under no circumstances export to certain countries.

He said the list of client countries was classified, but, for example, SA had stopped supplying Rwanda several months ago when civil war broke out there.

Smith said although Armscor suggested clients to whom SA should sell its arms, government had the final say in the matter. "After all, we are only civil servants."

Smith agreed that Armscor, to a certain extent, had a credibility problem because of its operations during the sanctions years. But he said the company "never allowed anybody in the industry to break SA's own rules and regulations."

He said it was Armscor's first priority to have the UN embargo lifted, and to achieve that, it would not tolerate any transgression of any international regulation.
PRELIMINARY STEPS towards consolidating the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) are likely to cost about R2bn. This will push defence spending in next month’s Budget to at least R11bn from last year’s R9.5bn.

The figure could be higher if the four-year trend of real cuts in defence capital spending is reversed — as is being urged by the military hierarchy and the defence industry. Defence spending has been cut by 43% in real terms since 1989, most of which has come off the capital budget. The SANDF has also retrenched 7,000 personnel at a cost of R350m.

Defence analysts say ANC Ministers who have called for substantial cuts in defence spending next month to help finance the party’s reconstruction & development programme are out of touch with reality. They say any further cut in the R3.8bn allocated for arms procurement last year could cripple the defence industry, which is a significant foreign currency earner.

Jakkie Cilliers, executive director of the Middrecht-based Institute for Defence Policy, says new Defence Minister Joe Modise will argue in Cabinet for additional support for the defence industry in an effort to boost its export earnings. This would in turn contribute substantially to the cost of the SANDF.

There is also strong support within the ANC for additional defence funding. In a recent article in Business Day, Rocklyn Williams, director of the ANC-aligned Military Research Group, and Armscor corporate communications GM Abba Omar (both former MK operatives) point out that not increasing defence spending — let alone reducing it — the SANDF’s capital budget would have to be cut. This would have a marked effect on its operational capabilities.

It is important, they say, that opposition to the previous government’s military structures does not “diminish the value of retaining a national defence force.”

In a similar article, research group member Krish Naaidoo argues that a healthy SANDF could benefit the reconstruction programme in many development areas. He warns that cutting capital spending in the SANDF could have serious long-term implications and may even threaten national security.

Cilliers says the integration of MK, Apla, SAFDF and the former TBVC defence forces will be a complicated and expensive administrative exercise that must be done correctly to ensure its success.

He adds the estimated 23,000 MK members awaiting integration represent a massive increase in the estimated number of operatives in 1990. However, it is likely that 8,000-10,000 have simply joined MK without any formal training — possibly from township self-defence units — and will not meet the minimum standards for recruitment into the SANDF.

Cilliers says this group can be accommodated in a services brigade, which could be used in the implementation of the reconstruction programme. Though the members would not qualify for the same pay and service benefits as SANDF personnel, the cost of establishing the brigade would be about R500m annually.

The integration of the remaining forces would cost at least R1bn annualised and result in a bloated SANDF, which would need to be trimmed over a few years.

Cilliers says he has no doubt that the defence budget will increase dramatically next month, simply to absorb the cost of integration. Though savings are still possible in some areas, these figures will be insignificant. The “peace dividend” has already been absorbed.

He warns that any drastic cut in capital spending will kill off what is left of SA’s defence industry and create dangerous backlogs in the procurement of essential equipment. “There is no fat left. We are now cutting into the muscle.”

Cilliers says President Nelson Mandela will also need to consider the role of the SANDF over the next few years. With police morale low and the SA Police Service restructuring into nine regional services, there is an overdependence on the military for internal stability. It could therefore be politically unwise to alienate the SANDF generals and other senior officers — many of whom will be former MK and Apla commanders with considerable influence.

The struggle now will be in Cabinet, where Modise will have to argue strongly for more money. His main opponents are likely to be Trade & Industry Minister Trevor Manuel and Minister Without Portfolio Jay Naidoo, who have both recently called for drastic cuts in defence spending.

Modise’s chance of success are good. He will be backed by the general staff of former SANDF officers, with whom he is reported to have already built up a good working relationship, and by a defence industry skilled at lobbying in the corridors of power here and overseas.

His most compelling argument is likely to be the need to integrate successfully the various forces and prepare the new SANDF for any role in southern Africa. He will no doubt point out the contribution the SANDF and the services brigade will make towards the reconstruction programme — but also warn of the consequences of not adequately considering the welfare of more than 30,000 former guerrillas.

Perhaps Modise’s most difficult task will be to convince the anti-militarists that the defence industry has enormous export potential — Krish Naaidoo believes it can capture 5% of world arms trade — and that it must be nurtured. His staunchest backer in this regard is likely to be Finance Minister Derek Keys.

But Keys is also likely to warn of the danger of pushing defence spending too high. Though the defence budget is only just over 2% of GDP, which, according to Krish Naaidoo, is well below the world average of 5%, the IMF and World Bank have put limits of 2% on some developing countries as a condition for access to financial facilities.

The biggest danger, of course, is that the Cabinet will apply the cake and give everyone more or less what they want. If that happens, the SANDF may be called on to restore stability sooner than we think.

THE CABINET

Placing the power

Cabinet committees, rather than the Cabinet itself, are likely to emerge as the real focus of power in the Government of National Unity. The Cabinet, which meets for the first time in Cape Town on Monday, will probably be no more than a clearing house for major decisions and a forum for exchanging ideas, says University of Cape Town political science professor David Welsh. This means individual Ministers, or groupings of Ministers, could become more independent than their predecessors under National Party rule.

But the pressures to deliver, particularly...
NPKF will soon be disbanded

Star 2016/10/14

BY DUNCAN GUY

The National Peacemaking Force is to be disbanded soon, according to the Ministry of Defence. Reports said yesterday that an announcement ending the NPKF could be expected as early as Tuesday after the Cabinet meets in Cape Town.

But Defence Ministry spokesman Major Charle de Klerk could not confirm this. "Its disbandment is under consideration. I can't give an indication when an announcement can be expected, but it should be soon," he said.

There were still a number of technical considerations, such as how NPKF members would be accommodated at their forces of origin.

NPKF spokesman Colonel Conne van Rensburg told The Star about 2,800 members were on secondment from statutory armies — namely those of the now defunct TBVC states and their police forces, and the old SAPF and SAP — and would return to them.

Van Rensburg added that between 1,000 and 1,200 of the rest of the approximately 4,000-strong force were Umkhonto we Sizwe members who had the opportunity to report to assembly points as individuals wishing to join the SA National Defence Force.

The NPKF was established in February and was meant to maintain peace during the April election. It received a poor reputation from lapses in discipline and mutinous behaviour.

After a disastrous first outing on the East Rand, during which this paper's award-winning photographer Ken Oosterbroek was killed on April 18, the NPKF was withdrawn to barracks.
Satellite and Security Minister Syedna Muhammed addresses his 69 generals in Protea yesterday.

Face to face, reports say, the minister told his generals that the battle against terrorism is not just a military one, but an information war as well. He urged the generals to be more proactive and not just react to threats.

The meeting was reportedly tense, with some generals expressing frustration at the lack of support from the government. The minister, however, remained composed and reassured them of his confidence in their abilities.

The meeting has sparked controversy, with some calling for an independent inquiry into the government's handling of security threats. The minister, however, has denied any wrongdoing and has called for the media to focus on the real threats facing the country.
Mufamadi meets generals

From Page 1

It was said in a statement that, in-depth, discussions had taken place on a wide range of policing issues.

It was the first time that Mufamadi and his Deputy Minister for Public Order were able to hold face-to-face discussions with their generals since taking office last week.

The meeting was one of a number which the two Ministers have been holding with departmental and ministry officials.

The generals pledged their full commitment to uphold the constitution and assured Mufamadi and Mathews of their full support in the fight against crime and violence; the statement said.

It was agreed that the SAPS would perform its duty in "a professional, impartial and non-political manner, in service of all the people of South Africa."

Reconciliation and nation-building were priorities for the SAPS, which looked forward to providing the security necessary for democracy and economic growth to flourish in South Africa.

The generals also assured them that they had nothing to fear in terms of their jobs and security, and said they would be treated in a fair and just manner at all times.

Earlier Mufamadi announced that a press conference, scheduled for today, at which he would indicate "the way forward", would now take place only on Wednesday in Cape Town.

Deputy police commissioner General Basie Smit told The Star there was "a positive feeling among the generals" about how the police could assist the new Government.

Smit was one of three generals implicated by the Goldstone Commission report on the so-called Third Force. Of the other two, General John le Roux was also present at the meeting.

The third, General Kappies Engebrecht, has retired from the force on grounds of ill-health.
Peace force to go

JOHANNESBURG. - The National Peace-keeping Force will be disbanded within the next two weeks, Defence Ministry and NPKF spokesmen said yesterday.

An announcement ending the NPKF's brief and inglorious life can be expected as early as Tuesday, after the cabinet meets in Cape Town.

"Its disbandment is under consideration. I can give an indication when an announcement can be expected but it could be soon," Defence Ministry spokesman Major Charl de Klerk said.

He said there were still a number of technical considerations to be settled.

NPKF spokesman Colonel Connie van Rensburg said the force was wasting for an official announcement on its future. Asked whether it would be retained in another form, Col Van Rensburg said, "I personally very much doubt it."

The NPKF was established in February. It was seldom out of the headlines as reports of ill-discipline and insubordination became commonplace.

In military and political circles it was called the "National Peace-keeping Force".

Disastrous

It was intended to keep peace during the election period. But after a disastrous first outing on the East Rand during which a car was killed, the NPKF was withdrawn to barracks.

Col Van Rensburg said the South African National Defence Force had said it could accommodate about 1,200 members of uMkhonto weSizwe, who comprise the force's non-statutory component.

The matter was discussed at a meeting of the Joint Military Command Council in Pretoria on Wednesday. The JMCC is overseeing the restructuring of South Africa's statutory and non-statutory forces.

Col Van Rensburg said the original agreement was that the 2,800 members of statutory forces would be returned to their forces of origin.

The Koeberg NPKF base appeared mostly deserted yesterday, but a corporal said all the troops were still in barracks.

"We do exercises, play snooker and soccer but we don't know where we will be going in the next few weeks," he said.

A captain said the liaison officer was unavailable and the media were not allowed into the base.
30 000 cadres for army intake

By Tyrone August

The integration of 30 000 soldiers, including Umkhonto we Sizwe and Azanian People's Liberation Army members, into the SA National Defence Force is a key priority of Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise during the next few years.

The integration will cost R1 billion for one year alone. "In order to integrate them successfully, we've got to train them and bring them up to equal standard," Modise said.

"This is another way of affirmative action, giving those who did not have the opportunity to catch up with those who had all the opportunities."

In an interview yesterday, Modise said the British army would play a role in overseeing their training and would also participate in adjudicating the integration.

The integration of MK, Apla and other former homeland armies would inflate the size of the SANDF initially, but the standing force would finally consist of between 67 000 and 70 000 soldiers.

"Naturally people will be very concerned about what happens to those who are going to be rationalised," he said.

"We are looking at the creation of a service brigade."

Those who will lose their places in the SANDF will be given vocational training to prepare them for civilian life.

Modise said the SANDF would no longer play a policing role inside the country once stability was restored. He said the police, assisted by the community, should be able to cope.

He also ruled out the possibility of a military role outside the country. "We have our own problems," he said. "I don't think we are ready for that role.

"We are still in the process of reorganising our army and building it."

Regarding speculation about the SANDF intervening in Rwanda, he said: "We have not been approached and, even if we are approached, we won't accept.

"You cannot play a peacekeeping role where there is conflict."

"The conflicting parties must first agree and only then can a peacekeeping role be played."

Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise yesterday outlined the new role of the SA National Defence Force. He ruled out the possibility of a military role outside the country after speculation that South Africa would send a peacekeeping force to Rwanda. See Page 6.
Peace force to disband soon

By Tyrone August and Sowetan Correspondent

THE National Peacekeeping Force will be disbanded within the next few weeks, Ministry of Defence spokesman Major Charl de Klerk announced yesterday.

"The NPKF will be disbanded but we don\'t know exactly when," said de Klerk.

NPKF spokesman Colonel Connie van Rensburg expected a final decision on the NPKF\'s future early next week when the Cabinet meets in Cape Town.

"Those from the statutory forces will be redeployed to their own organisations," he said. These include soldiers and police from the former TBVC homelands, SAP, SADF and MK.

However, the Cabinet will have to take a decision about the future of the MK members who serve in the NPKF. According to some, the actual disbandment could take place on June 2.

The NPKF was established in February. It was set up out of the headlines as reports of disbandment and internment during the peacekeeping became commonplace.

It was described as a propaganda weapon during the election period. But after a disaster in its first outing on the East Rand during a high-profile photographer, Ken Dosterbeck was killed, the NPKF was withdrawn to barracks.

Van Rensburg said the SANDF had already said it could accommodate about 700 MK members who comprised the non-statutory component of the NPKF. The MK members could be taken in the SANDF assembly point at Wommelshof, north of Pretoria.
NEW GUARD: Newly appointed Minister of Defence Joe Modise with South African He-
Join Rainbow Navy 100 a day seek to

460 new breed sailors in historic passing out parade

Special Correspondent

DINAH WHITE

...
Former MK leader gets to grips with his army

By PETER De IONNO

ALTHOUGH the mantle of power sits on Joe Modise’s broad shoulders as snugly as his new tailor-made suit, the atmosphere in the new Defence Minister’s office twangs with tension.

Mr Modise’s musings areitchly Nothing as certain Civil servants are walking on eggshells to preserve their jobs.

The process of educating the minister has barely begun. Although he sat on the Transitional Executive Council’s defence sub-committee, Mr Modise must be schooled before he is quizzed and tested in public.

“Don’t question him too deeply,” whispers an aide as we enter the L-shaped office on the fourth floor of the Armoured building, east of Pretoria.

The advice is an unnecessary as it is unwelcome.

Mr Modise is no stranger to hard questions. He has been bitten by the bullet many times. His orders to MK ranked cadres’ lives and wrought death and destruction in apartheid South Africa.

But, like the thousands of guerrilla soldiers Mr Modise led as commander of Umkhonto we Sizwe, he is still being integrated into the new defence force.

Mr Modise, 64, is bright-eyed and alert. He speaks carefully, his multi-million rand commitments must be balanced on his comments and decisions.

His immediate priorities are to establish a civilian department of defence and scrutinise the defence accounts for any “prangings” that will enable the SANDF to take on new responsibilities for integration without pushing the current R9.5 billion budget above R11 billion next year.

Mr Modise says details of plans that will effectively draw the teeth of the generals by putting responsibility for military policing, funding and personnel under civilian control will be announced “within days.”

“If we are going to break with the past, we must make the Ministry of Defence a civilian apparatus that is accountable to Parliament,” he says.

While Mr Modise refuses to discuss names, Lieutenant-General Pierre Steyn, the SANDF second-in-command “Mr Clean” who took early retirement last year, is a favoured candidate for Secretary of State for Defence.

He would have equal status with the Chief of the Defence Force who will retain operational control.

On the matter of appointments, Mr Modise says he cannot explain why he has no deputy, a post that was mooted for MK and SAPC firebrand Ronneke Kasiratsch.

“I have been asking that question myself,” says Mr Modise. “Defence is a huge task. It is too much for one man. I am seeing it from the outside now.”

“I have raised it with the deputy president and he cannot answer, so I will ask President Mandela why I can’t have a deputy.”

As excited, Mr Modise is doubting the National Peace-keeping Force, ending the many of uncertainty for the “blue berets,” the controversial force integrating SANDF, MK, SAP and homeland troops that he helped establish.

Members are being returned to the unions from which they were suspended.

Refusing to join the chorus crowing over the hastily-trained and rashly-deployed peacekeepers’ failures, Mr Modise blames part of the fiasco on a “reluctance” by the SANDF and SAP to wholeheartedly support the force.

“Now that the situation is normalising, the police must do their work of law and order, and the army must go back to barracks.”

“I don’t see any reason for the NPKF,” says Mr Modise.

The NPKF is estimated to have cost about R100 million. Axing it now leaves more than R120 million to be recouped from its budget.

Anything that can be saved is a bonus. The cost of integrating more than 20000 soldiers from MK and the homeland armies into the SANDF, followed by the unverifiable pay-offs for retraining, to rationalise the force below 100 000, is likely to add more than R1 billion a year to the defence bill.

“Such a sensitive subject,” Mr Modise says with a wince. It is clear that in the next round of cuts, jobs as well as treasured projects will be lost.

It is not a policy of savings at any cost, however. Mr Modise supports the Navy’s R1.2 billion bid to acquire four corvettes to restore its blue water patrol and anti-submarine capability.

He sees the project fitting into the ANC reconstruction and development programme (RDP) by creating jobs in the country’s shipbuilding industry as green lights” bought overseas. The project also ensures the protection of South Africa’s marine resources.

Caught between his ministerial responsibility to champion the best interests of the SANDF and the ANC’s obligations to better citizens’ lives, Mr Modise plays down the conflict inherent in his new job.

Long dubbed a hawk, Mr Modise sees South Africa’s multi-billion-rand arms industry as an irreplaceable source of skills, jobs and income for the RDP.

“There is no contradiction. Morally the ANC is bound by the RDP to create jobs for people and if the defence budget is kept where it is and the arms embargo is lifted, jobs are going to be created,” he says.

As far as Mr Modise is concerned, the lifting of the UN Security Council arms embargo, now openly disregarded, is but a formality.

“We called for the embargo because of apartheid and if we call for it to be lifted anybody opposing will have to come with good reasons. We cannot impose it on ourselves,” he says.

Another major step towards normality will come with the return of MK cadres who have been trapped in Tanzania.
Mandela, Makwetu talk on Apla/SANDF

The incorporation of PAC military wing Apla into the new SA National Defence Force was discussed in talks last night between President Nelson Mandela and PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu.

ANC spokesman Mr Joel Netshitenzhe said after the talks the ANC had agreed in principle that Apla cadre be incorporated in the SANDF even if existing legislation would have to be changed.

He said Apla had found it difficult to comply with deadlines laid down by the Transitional Executive Council, but if it was necessary to accommodate them, the legislation would be changed.
Ban: Armscor set to make a killing

By WILLEM STEENKAMP

THE imminent lifting of the 17-year-old United Nations arms embargo could mean big business for Armscor — in military equipment.

Apart from being able to market arms openly, the end of the embargo will allow Armscor to promote non-offensive items such as mine-protected vehicles and mine-clearing equipment.

The UN Security Council yesterday began to examine a resolution that would lift the embargo and might also dissolve a commission that monitored South Africa’s arms sales.

The ban originally forbade all arms sales to South Africa but later included the purchase of military-related equipment from the country.

Deputy President M Thabo Mbeki and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Aziz Pahad are to fly to New York today for Mr Mbeki to address the council tomorrow.

Spokesmen for Armscor could not be reached for comment yesterday but a military analyst said the suspension of the embargo could mean “big money” for Armscor from weapons such as the Rooivalk attack helicopter and other arms and non-offensive equipment such as Armscor’s SAMIL truck range.

South Africa’s state-of-the-art mine-protected vehicles and mine-clearing devices could prove especially popular, and imports would be limited to “certain ships and aircraft”, the analyst said.
New role is shaping up for SANDF

NEW MINISTER Among Joe

Modise's plans is the establishment of a service brigade:

By Tyrone August
Political Reporter

The role of South Africa's defence force, which in the past was widely regarded as one of terror and destruction, will change fundamentally in the years ahead.

Its participation in cross-border raids and attacks such as those on a suspected Apla base in Transkei last year, are still fresh in the minds of many.

But the new Minister of Defence, Mr Joe Modise, is determined to change the role of the defence force. Among his plans is the establishment of a service brigade.

“A lot of thinking has gone into the creation of a service brigade,” said Modise in an interview in Pretoria. “This brigade will be funded by the Government and the community.”

Initially, the new SA National Defence Force (SANDF) will provide vocational training for those who cannot become part of the standing force of between 67 000 and 70 000 soldiers.

Those who lose their places in the SANDF as a result of rationalisation will be given vocational training to prepare them for civilian life.

“At the same time, they will also play a major role in the Reconstruction and Development Programme,” said Modise.

“After dealing with ex-servicemen, the service brigade might also bring in young people who are in the streets and train them to play a part in the economy.”

He said similar brigades were successfully established in Taiwan and in the United States. In South Africa, they will be managed by the SANDF but not be part of it.

“It will be more or less an auxiliary body with a lot of emphasis on preparing people to participate in our economy,” said Modise.

They will be trained as builders, bricklayers, carpenters, electricians, and later, also as motor mechanics, panelbeaters and spray painters.

Some will also get technical training (for example, in electronics) and at a later stage training in agriculture.

“We would like this service brigade to carry on indefinitely, like it has in Taiwan,” said Modise. “There it has become a very important instrument in developing the economy.”

Instrument

“That’s the route we want to follow. A service brigade in South Africa could become an instrument of the people that would help to develop our country.”

The establishment of a service brigade was first hinted at in a review of 1993 published by the then South African Defence Force (SADF) earlier this year.

“There are a large number of indi-
Joe Modise... reorganising the army.

Individuals who have received military training of some sort and who will not be accommodated in the new defence force,” it said in its report.

“To leave these individuals jobless in the streets is to invite trouble.” This is where the SADF saw a role for a service brigade.

“This brigade could be used in non-military tasks, like building projects,” it said. “After a period of service in the brigade, they can leave and make a living in the private sector.”

The old SADF saw the new defence force playing an increasing role in socio-economic development. “The SADF has considerable ability in this area,” it said.

“Although the SADF should be designed primarily for conventional operations, pragmatic considerations dictate that it may sometimes be used for non-military tasks.”

“The driving principle should be that the return on investment in the SADF (now SANDF) should be maximised by putting its community utility value to good use without unpinning its primary role,” the report said.

The SANDF pointed to the role of the military in the United States during the Great Depression of the 1930s as an example of what it envisaged.

“The vast pool of management skills and knowledge that is inherently part of any defence force was used, rather than military equipment per se, for upliftment projects,” the SANDF said.

“Some military personnel with the necessary expertise were seconded to other state departments for use in the socio-economic environment. “This ensured that military equipment, which is needed for war and developed at great cost, could be reserved for its original purpose.

“Knowledge and expertise that had public application, for which the taxpayer had in any case paid, thus became available for use to the advantage of the country as a whole.”

In South Africa, the report said, qualified personnel from the SANDF could be used to help teach science and mathematics in schools where there was a shortage of qualified teachers.

Medical orderlies could also be used to teach and promote basic hygiene and primary health care.

Like Modise, the SANDF also saw a role for the new defence force in preparing youth who were not adequately trained to pursue a career or profession.

“A possible partial solution to the problem is to develop an organisation that can equip these people with the necessary skills to enable them to make a decent living,” the report said.

“It is foreseen that the SANDF can be used to train people for a better future. The organisation has the training facilities, the training expertise and the will to help.”

These ideas are in line with the aim of the new Ministry of Defence. “We are in the process of reorganising our army, said Modise.

“We have always had problems with the defence force playing a military role inside the country.” In the short term, the SANDF will continue to help maintain stability inside the country.

But further down the road, it is clear that there will be a major shift in the role of the new defence force.

“We are now building a national defence force,” he said.

“The force is now being legitimised. This is the people’s own force. The must do everything in their power to support it because it is their own instrument of protection,” Modise said.
No big cuts in defence, says Modise

DAVID GREYSE

CAPE TOWN - Defence Minister Josiah Modise yesterday indicated he did not expect the defence budget to be cut substantially, despite earlier speculation that the ANC had targeted defence for big cuts to help finance the reconstruction and development programme.

He announced the permanent component of the SA National Defence Force would initially be increased to about 70,000 members, from the present 45,000, before its final rationalisation under British supervision.

The increase in manpower forming part of a plan to integrate the country's various statutory and non-statutory armies into the new SANDF.

However, the operation would have an effect on the defence budget, and would have to be taken into account when the budget was finalised, Modise told a news conference.

"It must also be forgotten that the SANDF will play a major role in the RDP, via Armarco and the arms manufacturing facilities," he said. "There is a lot of job creation there."

Some observers speculated yesterday that the defence budget could increase normally, even if in real terms it was cut.

Modise admitted he had been one of those politicians outside the SADF who had accused it of being a "bottomless pit."

"Now that one is there, one has come to realise the reality of the situation, and the needs. Money coming into the SADF is money well spent," he said.

Modise confirmed the appointment of Gen. Georg Meiring, head of the former SADF, as chief of the SANDF.

Meiring said afterwards his appointment had given him the opportunity to create "a truly legitimate, a truly modern, and a truly professional military force of high standards."

Modise confirmed an end to cooperation "which was in line with ANC policy."

"Defence is going to be voluntary," he explained.

However, Britain's new central force would not only oversee the integration of the various military forces, but also assist with the training of the new SANDF.

Defence

The SANDF was also looking at establishing a service brigade, or veterans' association, "so that people who leave the armed forces are not thrown onto the streets."

Meanwhile, Minister Without Portfolio Jay Naidoo yesterday would not say where budgetary cuts had been made to raise the R3,5bn for social spending announced by President Nelson Mandela in his opening of parliament speech.

Naidoo declined to confirm if the cuts had come from the controversial special defence account, which forms part of the defence budget.
Call for an end to police killings

PWV safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte yesterday called for an end to the killing of police, who, she said, were no longer part of an apartheid apparatus.

Duarte’s statement followed an SA Police Services report yesterday that about 81 policemen had been murdered in the past five months.

Police spokesman Maj Nina Barkhuizen said despite the fact that unrest incidents had declined drastically, the killing of policemen continued.

Despite the attacks and difficult working circumstances, police “members remain dedicated to their task”.

“It is the responsibility of the community to assist police and become involved in police-related matters so as to ensure a future for all South Africans,” she said.

Duarte appealed to people to resolve their differences with the police amicably rather than kill them. “People should begin to know that the police service is theirs and that the policemen are now accountable to the people’s President, Nelson Mandela.”

She said she was aware that distrust remained between police and the community. It would take time for communities and police to accept one another.

Integrating members of self-defence units into the police service and establishing community policing structures were matters requiring urgent attention from communities.

Duarte added that her office would embark on a campaign of disarmament of people who had more than one firearm.

Our Cape Town correspondent reports that police commissioner Gen Johan van der Merwe said the SA Police Services was already changing into a nonracial structure.

Van der Merwe was reacting to Duarte’s statement that the service would implement affirmative action within its ranks.

Duarte said all senior police officers were white males but this would change soon.

Van der Merwe said the integration of TBVC police forces — which were mostly staffed and run by blacks — into the newly-created SA Police Services meant that highly placed black officers were being brought into the force.

“A whole new police structure is being established,” he said. “The integration of all (police) services creates a new structure.”

All appointments had to be effected in such a way that nobody was prejudiced. Affirmative action within the police “should be on an objective and measurable basis”.

UN set to lift arms embargo

THE lifting of the UN arms embargo brought a sigh of relief to many, including the South African industry, which has been hit hard by the sanctions.

The embargo could now import crude on the open market “although this has been taking place unofficially all along”.

But the consumer was still paying a premium on petrol. “This should now fall away,” said Petros Eskias, head of the National Economic Forum’s liquid fuels task force. “The structure of the petrol price.”

He said the end of the embargo could prompt international oil companies to consider expanding their investments in SA.
Meiring to head defence force

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Defence Minister Joe Modise yesterday announced the appointment of General Georg Meiring as the Chief of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) for five years.

The appointment was approved at Monday's first Cabinet meeting.

Modise said Meiring's task was to "build a legitimate, credible and fully representative" defence force.

"Our defence force has to be a balanced, modern and technologically advanced military force with internationally accepted professional norms and standards, capable of executing its functions in terms of the constitution."

The Minister said methods of integrating the various statutory and non-statutory forces had been studied for the past four months. The non-statutory forces were now gathering at assembly points for a selection process.

Preliminary training had already begun at the Modise... ANC is opposed to conscription assembly points. Training to afford all in the new defence force an equal opportunity would start within the next few days, Modise said.

He added that the ANC was opposed to conscription, and participation in the defence force during peace time would be voluntary.

The Minister said the size of the defence force would initially swell with the integration of the various armed formations, but a force of 70,000 soldiers was being envisaged. He said the budget would initially have to accommodate the enlarged defence force before rationalisation took place.
Defence Minister Joe Modise confirmed this week that the formation of a new national defence force will mean an increase in the defence budget — but cuts will be possible through rationalisation in the long term.

At a press conference in Cape Town to announce the appointment of SADF chief General Georg Meiring as head of the SA National Defence Force, Modise said the integration of various armed formations would inevitably mean the creation of a large force, which will have cost implications.

Neither Modise nor Meiring was willing to speculate on details of the defence allocation in next month’s Budget, but military analysts believe it will need to increase by at least R2bn in nominal terms over last year to cope with the cost of integration. (Current Affairs May 20)

Modise says it has been agreed after a process of negotiation that a force of 70,000 will be adequate to defend SA and play a role in stabilising the region. He adds that the integration of the forces is progressing.

Meiring (54) says he regards his five-year appointment as an opportunity to play a part in the formation of a truly legitimate, modern and professional defence force of the highest standard.
POLITICS

Apla 6,000 ‘included’ in integrated SANDF

CAPE TOWN — Six thousand members of the PAC’s armed wing, Apla, would be included in the SA National Defence Force, PAC president Clarence Makwetu said after meeting President Nelson Mandela yesterday.

The number could rise to 10,000, Makwetu said.

Speaking on the steps of Tuynhuis after their meeting, Mandela said he had asked the PAC leader for a list of PAC members who could be included in the new government’s service and diplomatic corps.

Mandela said Apla members had fought and suffered. They should be included even though they applied for membership after the cutoff date for inclusion of non-statutory forces in the SANDF.

Mandela said his discussions with Makwetu were part of a continuing attempt to forge unity.

He said he was encouraged by the cooperation he was receiving from other political parties and welcomed a loyal parliamentary opposition.

“The role of the opposition is to draw attention to those things we may not be alive to,” Mandela said.

Meanwhile, independent military analyst Jakue Cilliers said the costs of integrating disparate forces into the SANDF threatened stability.

Cilliers said he did not believe the SANDF could absorb all potential recruits, including 25,000 members of the ANC’s armed wing, 9,000 to 14,000 former homeland soldiers and 3,000 to 6,000 Apla members.

At least an additional R1bn added to the defence budget was necessary for the integration of regular and guerrilla armies.

Cilliers was speaking at a conference held to release a report on a joint investigation by his independent Institute for Defence Policy and the HSRC into the deployment of the National Peacekeeping Force in East Rand townships earlier this year.

He asked why it had been deployed on the East Rand — “with the volatile ANC/Inkatha Freedom Party tensions when it was identified by many as being an ANC-partial force”.

Cilliers said conversion of the force into an alternative to the SAP’s internal stability division or integration into the division would have enabled the SAP to concentrate on crime prevention and community-based policing in the area.

There would remain for many years to come a requirement for a public order police force in addition to a community police service.

The report described the NPKF as an “expensive exercise in futility”, and presented several options for the force, now confined to barracks in Bloemfontein and Cape Town.

Among the options were

- Conversion training as a fifth arm of the SANDF, and
- Training as a separate public order force.

The report added there should be no question of the SANDF being kept permanently in the East Rand townships — it should be withdrawn after a period of overlap with the police.

“The SANDF, an initially illegitimate force, through the support it publicly received from the ANC and its effective operations in the eyes of the community, succeeded in earning legitimacy over time, therefore legitimacy bestows authority” — Sapa-Reuters
Attempt to retain local govt bodies

THE CP-dominated Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) resolved yesterday to push for the prolongation of the life of the transitional local government co-ordinating committees, saying this would contribute significantly to peace.

TMA vice-president Paul Fouche said the organisation did not think it was possible for local government elections to be held in the immediate future, given the logistics involved. As a result, the organisation thought the extension of the life of the co-ordinating committees would be in the best interests of the country, as it would contribute towards peace.

Fouche said the organisation decided at a meeting yesterday to ask CP leader Ferdi Hartzenberg to prevail upon President Nelson Mandela to accede to this demand.

In terms of the Local Government Transition Act, negotiations should be embarked upon to create the joint local government councils and the co-ordinating committees which will run municipal affairs until elections are held.

The local government elections are scheduled for early next year. But the TMA wants the co-ordinating committees to operate for the same length of time as the government of national unity.

The Act stipulates that a dispute arise over the setting up of the joint councils, provincial premiers can intervene and appoint co-ordinating committees.

Fouche said his organisation was opposed to the joint councils and favoured the co-ordinating committees because, to a large extent, they maintained the status quo.

Unlike the joint councils, the committees would not consist of non-statutory bodies.

However, the TMA had come to accept that the councils were inevitable in metropolitan areas such as Johannesburg. "But we still advise members there to opt for the co-ordinating committees," Fouche said.

According to Fouche, there are 68 CP-controlled municipalities in the former Transvaal.

Meanwhile the North East Rand Forum, comprising Kempton Park, Tembisa, Ekurhuleni and Modderfontein, meets this evening to debate the type of local authority for the area.

POLITICS

PAC, DP may get public service jobs

CAPE TOWN — President Nelson Mandela has raised the possibility of including members of the DP and PAC in the public service.

Mandela pledged members and supporters of all parties would be welcome to apply for jobs in the public and foreign service and military.

"After holding discussions with DP acting leader Tony Leon and PAC leader Clarence Makweta, we requested that the parties draw up lists of members who could fill top posts," Mandela said.

However, he said, he was determined that the country should follow an inclusive approach to national building that involved all parties.

Mandela said the process of cross-party dialogue and co-operation in which "leaders put their hands together" would continue for as long as he remained in power.

Mandela said he was adamant that all political parties had to become part of the inclusive process of tackling the country's challenges.

Mandela said the idea of bringing leaders of smaller parties into the executive would be opposed because of the critical factor of democracy.

Leon said he did not seek specific jobs for DP members "although the President did raise this matter in the context of his inclusive and welcome approach to national building".

The meeting had been "a very cordial and warm exchange.

Powell is Inkatha's 'defence minister'

CAPE TOWN — The Inkatha Freedom Party parliamentary caucus yesterday appointed controversial Inkatha senator Phillip Powell as its shadow defence minister and firebrand Transvaal EWV leader Themba Khoza as his deputy.

"There is a need for a new defence minister," PM Col. Cato Dlamini said. "Phillip Powell is a man who is not afraid of the job, and there is a need for him to take charge.

Department of Defence spokesman Banywa Naidoo said Durban yesterday that Powell was wanted by police for questioning in connection with a home-made weapon allegedly found in his car last month.

Naidoo said representatives of the SAPS legal department had been in contact with Powell's legal adviser, "We have not had the chance to resolve this issue yet, but we will be able to interview Powell," he said.

Naidoo said that although Powell had gone into hiding to avoid the police, "Powell is at the centre of a number of controversies and has been linked with the Inkatha allegations." Powell's legal adviser, "We are not seeking to avoid the police, but we are working on the legal aspects of the case.

The appointment of spokesmen for the many parties, among others, land affairs, public works, and transport, was deferred until after the Inkatha leaders met.

Inkatha, ANC youth team up

Inkatha, ANC youth team up

DAVID GREYEB

Gavis Woods of the Inkatha Institute in Durban was appointed shadow minister for finance and "government spending". His deputy in both portfolios is Dennis Madide, the former Kwazulu government finance minister. Madide was also appointed by health spokesman.

Other appointments included:

- Labour — Ben Skosana
- Agriculture — Senator Godfrey Bengu
- Mineral and energy affairs — Eric Laca
- Trade and industry — Henkie Becker
- Welfare — Inca Mar
- Home affairs — Zoba Janye
- Posts, telecommunications and broadcasting — Suzanne Vor
- Environment — Peter Smith
- Public enterprises, and housing — Mandla Msimi
- Education — Lionel Mashal
- Deputy education spokesman — Faith Gaza, and
- Sport and recreation — Maureen Naz

The appointment of spokesmen for the many parties, among others, land affairs, public works, and transport, was deferred until later.
6 000 Apla cadres to join SANDF

By Themba Molefe
Political Correspondent

Up to 6 000 Azanian People's Liberation Army cadres had
applied to join the new South African National Defence
Force, PAC leader Mr. Clarence Makwetu said at Cape
Town yesterday.

Addressing journalists at Toyinhaha after holding discussions with President
Nelson Mandela, the Pan Africanist Congress MP and party president said
that 10,000 Apla soldiers would eventually sign up with the SANDF.

Makwetu said that Mandela would hand over a list of PAC members who would be placed in
various departments of the revamped civil service.

This would include placings in the diplomatic corps and thereby PAC
members could be appointed to ambassadorial posts throughout the world.

Makwetu said his meeting with

Makwetu, whose party polled a mere
1.3 percent in the April 27 election, was
part of his strategy of total unity despite
Apla's late application to join the
SANDF.

Yesterday's announcement, made
on the second day of parliamentary de-
bate on Mandela's historic "state of the
nation" address of national reconcilia-
tion, underscored his commitment to
accommodating those parties on the left
and right which had stayed out of the
transitional structures created through
multiparty negotiations.

These parties, said Mandela, would
be accommodated subject to the interim
constitutional provisions.

To crown his commitment, Mandela
on Wednesday also met Conservative
Party leader Dr. Ferdi Hartzenberg on
the question of "the Afrikaner demand
for a volkstaat".

That meeting, held at Toyinhaha, is a
foreunner to full-blown talks between
government parties, CP, Freedom Front
and Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging
scheduled for Monday in Pretoria.

Those talks would be an historic
first four-way encounter between FF leader
General Constand Viljoen, AWB chief
Mr. Eugene Terre Blanche, Hartzenberg
and Mandela. Meanwhile, debate con-
tinued in the 490-member National As-
sembly yesterday about the President's
address and will end today.

Parliament will reconvene on June
20 in preparation for Budget day two
days later.
SA arms exports 'likely to double'

PRETORIA — The lifting of the UN arms embargo against SA was expected to more than double the country's arms exports for the current year to R1.8bn, Armscor chief Thelman de Waal said yesterday.

The increase in armsments deals could lead to about 20 000 more jobs in the industry, De Waal told a media conference called by the armaments procurement company to welcome Wednesday's lifting of mandatory and voluntary arms boycotts by the UN security council.

"The lifting of these resolutions is very significant. It will result in the normalisation of SA's international arms trade," De Waal said, adding that Armscor was now able to conduct its business openly.

However, Armscor did not foresee that the lifting of the embargo would substantially change procurement patterns, except that foreign procurement would no longer have to be conducted in secret and could be conducted in a more cost-effective manner, he said.

Defence exports by SA had recently increased to more than R600m a year, but, because of the arms embargo, SA had a small share of the international market — less than 0.5%.

More than 15 000 defence industry jobs were currently dependent on exports, he said: "We estimate that an increase in defence exports by more than R1bn for the current year is possible."

SA manufactured top-of-the-range defence equipment such as the Rooikat armoured vehicle, the Rooivalk attack helicopter, mine-resistant vehicles, frequency-hopping radios and the G-5 and G-6 guns.

Africa was not a main market. He believed SA products could be sold in Europe and the Far East because they were on a par with European and US weaponry.

SA would also now be able to buy on the international market, but all deals would depend on counter-trade agreements.

Although he had not yet discussed the issue with President Nelson Mandela, official talks with Defence Minister Joe Modise indicated government supported SA arms exports, De Waal said.

Because of cuts in the SA National Defence Force budget, the country's arms industry was dependent on exports. Armscor deals already made up 4% of the total of manufactured goods exported by SA.

De Waal said SA had in the past exported a selection of armaments, including rifles, mortars and hand grenades, to Rwanda. These were valued at about R100m.

"However, Armscor had halted the supply late last year after civil war had broken out in the country. Orders worth about R55m had been cancelled."
'Role for NPKF in new force'

JOHANNESBURG: The failed National Peacekeeping Force and controversial internal stability division should be incorporated into a new arm of the defence force which would be responsible for public order policing, a defence policy think-tank said yesterday.

The proposed fifth arm of the SA National Defence Force, incorporating military commando structures, would also be used for border duties and rural police work, the Institute for Defence Policy said.

This would free the regular army to concentrate on national defence, international peacekeeping and disaster relief.

The police could focus on community policing and crime prevention and work to repair their image.

"Public order policing and community policing are not reconcilable," IDP director Mr Jakie Cilliers told a media briefing where he released a comprehensive report on the National Peacekeeping Force — Sapa
6,000 PAC men to join SANDF

Political Staff

SIX THOUSAND members of the Pan-Africanist Congress' armed wing, Apla, will be included in the SA National Defence Force, PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetsa said after meeting President Nelson Mandela yesterday.

The number could rise to 10,000, he said.

Speaking on the steps of Tuynhuys after their meeting, Mr Mandela said he had asked the PAC leader for a list of PAC members who could be included in the new government's civil service and diplomatic corps.

He said Apla members had fought and suffered. They should be included, even though they had applied for membership after the cut-off date for inclusion of non-statutory forces in the SANDF.

He said his discussions with Mr Makwetsa were part of an ongoing attempt to forge unity. "As long as I am President, I think this dialogue should continue."

He was encouraged by the cooperation he was receiving from other political parties, he said.

On Wednesday Mr Mandela met Conservative Party leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, and next week he will meet AWB leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche.

Before meeting Mr Makwetsa, Mr Mandela held an hour-long meeting with acting Democratic Party leader Mr Tony Leon.

Mr Mandela said he welcomed a loyal parliamentary opposition. "The fact that people differ with us is no reason why we should not give attention to their ideas. The role of the opposition is to draw attention to those things we may not be alive to." — Sapa
UN lifts arms ban

SOUTH AFRICAN arms exports are expected to more than double to R1.8 billion in the next year, creating about 20,000 jobs, following the lifting of the United Nations arms embargo.

Jobs for

likely

"The defence industry has a substantial range of top quality defence and security products to offer and we believe exports could increase substantially in the next few years."

Among weapons earmarked for export were artillery, including the long-range G5 and G6 guns, "frequency hopping radios", the Rooivalk armoured vehicle and Rooivalk helicopter, and mine-resistant and mine-clearing vehicles.

The British defence establishment recently expressed keen interest in Rooivalk helicopters displayed there.

Mr De Waal said SA defence exports had recently increased to more than R800m a year, but as a result of the arms embargo, SA had a very small share of the international market — less than 0.5% estimated to be worth more than R40bn (about R144bn).

At present more than 15,000 jobs in the defence industry were dependent on exports. Mr De Waal said he said that although he had not yet officially discussed the issue with President Nelson Mandela, talks with Mr Modise indicated the government supported arms exports by SA.

Mr Modise said that although the defence industry raised moral and political questions, in reality it could contribute significantly to reconstruction and development.

There need be no fear that arms and equipment would fall into the wrong hands, he said. The trade had to be conducted in a responsible and accountable manner.

Mr Modise said he was delighted that the embargo belonged to the past.

— Staff Reporter, Sapa-Reuters
Pebco Three follows in the wake of Goniwe case

PORT ELIZABETH. — After the Goniwe inquest reaches its climax here today, the spotlight will fall on another of South Africa's great unsolved political crimes — the disappearance in 1985 of three United Democratic Front activists known as the "Pebco Three".

Eastern Cape Judge President Neville Zietsman hands down his inquest findings today on the murder of UDF activist Matthew Goniwe and three others.

But, about the same time nine years ago, Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation secretary general Sipho Hashu, president Quqawuli Godololzi and the organisation's organising secretary, Champion Galata all of Kwatshabele disappeared off the face of the earth.

That night, the Pebco Three left Mr Hashu's home and went to the airport in response to a telephone call which invited them to meet a member of the British Embassy.

The three men were never seen again and several applications, all unsuccessful, were made in the Port Elizabeth Supreme court calling on the security police to produce the men.

Now their families are hoping that, with a new government and the re-opening of the Goniwe inquest on the instructions of former President F W De Klerk, something will be done to trace the three men.

Mr Hashu's widow Mathabile, mother of nine, who hawks vegetables to earn a living, has called on President Mandela to do all in his power to find out what happened to the men. Mrs Hashu appealed to Mr Mandela to go into the matter with her attorney Priscilla Jana.

She said their children kept mentioning their father's name.

She said the former government should know the fate of the men because people saw them when they were arrested at the airport on the night they disappeared.

"If our men were killed . . . we must be told so," she said.

Perhaps there may be some hope. It has taken a decade and two judicial inquests for the families of Matthew Goniwe; Cradock teacher and activist Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkonto and Sicelo Mthiwalli to come close to hearing a verdict — a day they never thought they would see.

The inquest has run for more than a year at a cost of nearly R3 million. The gallery, benches and corridors of the supreme court are expected to be packed when Mr Justice Zietsman hands down his finding.

Some observers feared it could be something of a damp squib now that those in charge at the time are no longer in power. Many of the witnesses have left the police and defence force.

During the hearing, fears were raised that the finding could be used by politicians in the run-up to the elections.

The judge faces a formidable task. Were the deaths of the Cradock Four the result of a conspiracy between army officers Joffel van der Westhuizen, Lourens du Plessis, Johannes van Rensburg and policemen Harold Snyman and Eric Winter?

Legal representatives for the family maintain this is a key question. As the head of Eastern Province command and the local joint management centre, General van der Westhuizen, later to become head of military intelligence and who retired recently, allegedly instructed his staff officer Colonel Du Plessis to send a secret military signal to General Van Rensburg at the state security council in Pretoria.

The signal sent on June 7, 1985, called for the "permanent removal" of Mr Goniwe, his brother Mbolelo and Mr Calata.

Three weeks later the charred and mutilated bodies of the Cradock Four were found in dense bush. It appeared attempts had been made to bora the bodies beyond recognition. Both counsel for the SADF and police said suggestions of security police or SADF involvement in the killings were pure speculation with no concrete evidence whatsoever.

The inquest findings will also impact on a civil action. The widows are collectively claiming R1.6 million in damages from the government.
Spooks under gavel

Cradock Four verdict to raise spectre of apartheid strategy and amnesty

A significant verdict in South African political history will be delivered today in the Eastern Cape.

PATRICK LAURENCE
Weekend Argus Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH — Judgment will be given today in the landmark inquest into the deaths of the Cradock Four — Mr Matthew Gonwe, Mr Port Calata, Mr Sparrow Mkhonto and Mr Sicelo Mhlauli.

It is up to the presiding officer, the Judge President of the Eastern Cape, Mr Justice Zietsman, to decide in the supreme court in Port Elizabeth, whether there is a prima facie case implicating the security forces.

If this is indeed his finding, will he recommend that murder charges be pressed and what bearing will such a decision have on the issue of amnesty for politically-motivated crimes and national reconciliation?

It is well-documented that the four activists left Cradock on June 27, 1985 for Port Elizabeth and were going home when they were murdered near Bluewater Bay, on the outskirts of Port Elizabeth.

At the first inquest, held in a magistrate's court, presiding officer E de Beer concluded the men were killed by unknown persons.

But, in May 1992, the New Nation published a military signal which led to the re-opening last year of the inquest, under Judge Zietsman.

Evidence was that senior Staff Officer Lourens Du Plessis sent, on the orders of Brigadier Joffel Van der Westhuizen, the signal message to General Johannes Janse Van Rensburg.

It was dated June 7, 1985 and referred to Mr Gonwe, his brother, Mbuilelo, and Mr Calata.

Twenty days later, the Cradock Four were dead.

The message, marked 'Top Secret', had said, in part: "It is proposed that the above-mentioned people should be permanently removed from society as a matter of urgency."

Counsel for the families contended that the words "permanently removed" meant they were to be killed, and that the phrase was military code language authorising their murder.

They noted Mr Gonwe was considered to be an "enemy of state", that the Eastern Cape was in a state of political turmoil at the time, and that the security forces' counter-revolutionary strategy included "eliminating" revolutionary leaders.

Staff Officer Du Plessis also testified that "permanently removed" meant killing the four.

But the value of his evidence was reduced when he admitted, under cross-examination, that there was a 50 percent chance he could be wrong.

Counsel for the SADF, Mr Anton Mostert, SC, offered an innocent interpretation of the words "permanently removed", arguing that they meant long-term detention.

But, his legal opponents countered, if detention was under consideration, why had the signal message not said so in plain, unequivocal language?

The law provided for detention without trial and there was no need to use ambiguous language, they argued.

There were two further objections to the innocent explanation.

Mr Gonwe, his brother Mbuilelo, and Mr Calata were detained for more than six months in 1984 and there was no abatement in the revolutionary turmoil in the Eastern Cape.

The SADF did not make the signal available to investigators at the time of the inquest under Magistrate De Beer.

If it was a legally permissible order, why was it withheld?

According to the legal team for the families, led by Mr George Bizos, SC, police officers were involved in the conspiracy and carried out the murders.

It was common cause they had kept Mr Gonwe under surveillance.

A bug" was planted in his home, so they would have known, in advance, about his unscheduled visit to Port Elizabeth.

Circumstantial evidence heightened suspicions of police involvement.

Mr Gonwe's cut number one left was removed and a false one left at the scene.

Several parking spots by a building, eventually found to have a small square where a bullet entered, were used.

When the families was questioned, although they planned the murders in advance, they were caught out.

Judge Zietsman subsequently ruled that such an elaborate attempt to cover up the planning of the murders were well-planned and well-executed.

He agreed that the finding that the security forces were involved in the killing of the Cradock Four was the result of the murdered having evidence that could have been used to support their charges.

whether by Judge Zietsman or the inquest, the investigating judge had been imbalanced.
General Georg Meiring
— from hawk to dove

PETER de IONNO looks at the man to whom Defence Minister Joe Modise this week entrusted the running of South Africa’s military for the next five years.

"It is a reality that if one does not plan one's own future that someone else may do it for you and you may not like what you eventually get," he said.

The paper, emphasising legitimacy, high standards of preparedness within a non-threatening posture, acceptance of integration and commitment to national development helped settle the controversy around his appointment to succeed General Kat Liebenberg as Chief of the SADF (ZSA).

There was never any doubt that General Meiring is ideally qualified. His 30-year experience is unusually broad, and it was accepted that he commanded the loyalty of the SADF and could be counted on to pull it through what was widely expected to be a turbulent and violent election.

The distrust was understandable. The NP had tainted the SADF’s protestations of no political allegiances by keeping it in reserve, out of negotiations. It was perceived as the white minority’s ace in the hole. These perceptions of partiality were underlined by General Meiring himself. In a series of unsubstantiated allegations about MK plots and in his outright resistance to integration of MK into the SADF he stood against the ANC. He is not one of those who think...
speed with which trust has developed between General Meiring and Mr Joe Modise, the new Defence Minister. Direct contact between the SADF and Umkhonto we Sizwe was forbidden until April last year.

In taking the job in the face of Mr Modise's plans to establish a civilian department of defence which will be responsible for policy, personnel and finance, General Meiring has tactfully accepted that his power will be diluted.

Georg Lodewyk Meiring was born in Ladybrand, in the Free State, on October 18, 1939. His five-year service contract will keep him employed past the usual defence force retirement age of 55.

General Meiring's advisors refused to allow an interview for this profile, but a handful of his past and present general-staff colleagues were prepared to discuss Meiring the man on condition that they were not identified.

All seized on his scientific background — he received an MSc (physics) from the University of the Free State in 1962 — and his military origins in signals as key factors in his development.

"His only problem is that he is a signaller," said a headquarters colleague. "It is always a challenge for someone who does not know it all, but if he does appreciate something you have done he is a bit shy about revealing it.

"He is not a relaxable kind of person. There is always some tension about him. Even when I socialise with him I am always sitting on the edge of my chair."

A rare glimpse of gentleness behind the steely facade is revealed in a long letter replying to a 14-year-old student's request for personal details from his hero. "If you accept challenges, believe in yourself and in God, you will make a success of your career," General Meiring told the lad.

Soothing the boy's fears, General Meiring wrote: "It is wrong to speak of the 'new South Africa'. There will be changes in the political and legal terrain, but this does not mean we will find ourselves in a new land.

"We are in the army. A few years ago that there would be changes in our land. We could have ignored the signals, behave passively and hoped for the best. We felt that was not what we should do."

These are the words of a pragmatist. As the defense buckles down to historic change, he will see through, even if it was not all of his choosing. General Georg Meiring will do his duty.
Widow’s case against State ‘stronger’

Goniwe: general may be charged

BY MICHAEL SPARKS

The finding of the inquest into the deaths of Matthew Goniwe and three other eastern Cape activists has raised the possibility that retired General Joffel van der Westhuizen could be charged with incitement to murder.

Saturday’s finding, which blamed unnamed security force members for the murders, also strengthened the civil cases of the four widows, according to lawyers.

If Van der Westhuizen is charged with incitement to the murders of the four activists and former Ciskei leader Lennox Sebe, as well as perjury, he could be forced to reveal details of the controversial Operation Katzen.

Katzen in his own defence, according to sources close to the case.

In the inquest into the murders of Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkhonto and Seelo Mhlawuli on June 27 1985, Van der Westhuizen refused to answer questions on Operation Katzen on the grounds that he could incriminate himself.

Katzen was a plan drawn up by Van der Westhuizen which would have resulted in Sebe being killed to install a conservative-black, anti-ANC faction in the eastern Cape.

Speaking from Port Elizabeth, Goniwe’s widow, Nyameka, said last night she was convinced the inquest finding made the civil case of herself and the other three widows much stronger. The widows are suing the State for R1.5 million.

Giving the inquest verdict in Port Elizabeth on Saturday, Eastern Cape Judge-President Mr Justice Zietsman said he was satisfied that when Van der Westhuizen sent the signal calling for the “permanent removal from society” of Goniwe and two others, he had meant they should be killed.

> Security forces fingered – Page 7
GROUP RECOMMENDS ARMS EXPORT POLICY

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Guidelines for South Africa's post-apartheid arms industry, compiled by a multiparty working group, have been referred to the Ministry of Defence for decision.

The draft policy document, drafted by representatives of Umkhonto we Sizwe, Armscor and the Association of Arms Manufacturers, is due to be released this week.

The document strongly recommends an export-oriented arms industry following the lifting of the arms boycott against South Africa last week.

Noting that South African arms industry exports constituted less than 1 percent of the international export market, the group said exporting arms was essential as the industry could not be solely dependent on the South African National Defence Force for its market.

The document proposed that a Defence Ministry committee be established to determine to which countries South Africa would be exporting.

The working group was established by the former Transitional Executive Council's subcouncil on defence.

It suggested that Armscor fall under the control of the Ministry of Defence but added that it was not the group's responsibility to define Armscor's future role.

In a further boost to the arms industry, it is proposed that Armscor should assist black-owned companies in meeting criteria for arms manufacturing.
Officers suspected of firing gun and other allegations...
Goniwe inquest finding given to A-G

PORT ELIZABETH — The Goniwe inquest findings have been handed to the Attorney-General of the Eastern Cape for a decision on whether any criminal charges against those implicated in the killings are justified.

Mike Hodgson, SC, the Deputy Attorney-General, said the full inquest findings were presented to Attorney-General Les Roberts today. On Saturday the Judge President of the Eastern Cape, Mr Justice Zietsman, found that the security forces murdered Matthew Goniwe, Fort Calata, Sparrow Mkonto and Sibelo Mhlaba on June 27, 1985.

But there was no prima facie evidence enabling him to pin the murders on any specific individual or group.

Unless further information, which was not part of the inquest investigation, comes to light, it is unlikely that charges will be brought as a result of the inquest findings.

The judge said suspicions had been raised against security police officers Colonel Harald Snyman, Colonel Eric Winter, General Joelf van der Westhuizen, Colonel Lourens du Plessis and General Johannes van Rensburg.

Suspicion did not constitute prima facie proof, he said.
Light on defence industry

A draft document approved by the Transitional Executive Council as the basis for a national policy for the defence industry was released in Johannesburg yesterday.

The draft policy was produced by the TEC's sub-council on defence, and approved by the TEC in April as the basis for the Government's defence industry policy.

It says because the defence industry is one of the country's major assets, "it would not be in the national interest to totally discard it." However, the new defence industry policy should be seen within broader political and moral considerations as part of the general industrial policy for manufacturing in South Africa.

The draft document calls for retention of some of the defence industry's capabilities for military and security applications. It proposes diversification and conversion to meet civilian market needs central to the new defence policy is the retention of research and development spending at the current level of R260 million a year.

Unless the expenditure is maintained, the industry will lose its technological edge and much of its design and development capabilities, the working document states.

Turning to an arms trade policy, the proposal includes the development of guidelines regarding customers of conventional arms. A list of recipient countries should be approved by a Cabinet committee. "Arms should be sold only to recognised governments and not to guerillas or other movements, the document proposes.

Speaking at a news briefing in a Johannesburg hotel, Dr André Buys, the convenor of the TEC working group which produced the proposals, stressed the document was merely a draft.

— Sapa
Defence research spending stays at R420m

JOHANNESBURG — Spending on defence research and development is to remain at its level of R420 million a year, in draft proposals for the industry approved by the Transitional Executive Council in April and released yesterday.

Unless this expenditure is maintained the industry will lose its technological edge and much of its design and development capabilities, the working document states.

A joint management system has been recommended for technology development and to co-ordinate long-term planning of all military research and development.

The draft proposals say the state should encourage private industry to invest in defence research and development.

The document says that because the defence industry is one of the country's major assets "it would not be in the national interest to totally discard it."

The draft also proposes greater transparency and accountability to Parliament, the public and the auditor-general.

Among the other points in the draft document are:

- No new industry establishment, through state funding, should be undertaken, where capabilities already exist in the private sector.
- Armaments should only be sold to "recognised governments" and not to guerrilla or other movements.
- The arms industry should strive for diversification and conversion to meet civilian market needs.
- South Africa should refrain from trading in weapons of mass destruction.
- The country should no longer strive for complete self-sufficiency in arms — Sapa.
Shaping defence policy: New look task group recommends

Draft spending cuts, not rise • Helped bring changes in South Africa

By Sharon Chety

NEWS FEATURE

Thursday June 2, 1994

SOWATAN

FEAR'S $6 BILLION PAYOUT

- The new security measures were introduced to protect the nuclear facilities from potential threats.
- The following recommendations were put forward by the task group:
  1. Implement comprehensive security protocols.
  2. Increase funding for national defence.
  3. Enhance international collaboration to combat terrorism.
- The government has agreed to implement the recommendations to improve national security.

Source: Department of Defence
demobilisation ⚪ Poor election showing examined

**NPKF members set to join SANDF**

The National Peacekeeping Force would be disbanded today, Defence Minister Joe Modise said in Pretoria yesterday.

Modise said the constituent forces would be returned to their home units in preparation for integration into the South African National Defence Force.

He said he was following a recommendation by the National Peacekeeping Force command council, which was endorsed by the Transitional Executive Council’s sub-council on defence.

SANDF Chief General George Menchu said that after two weeks of demobilisation, Modise said the process of deciding which forces would be integrated would begin.

A passing out parade was being held for NPKF members at the force’s Koeberg base in the Cape, a source at the NPKF said. Force members would also be given certificates of commendation.

It was not known whether a similar parade would be held at the NPKF’s De Bruin base in Bloemfontein.

The NPKF was formed in February to help keep peace during the April elections. After its first outing on the East Rand, however, it was withdrawn.

It is understood that about 1,200 NPKF members came from Umkhonto we Sizwe, the armed wing of the African National Congress, would go to the Wallmannsthal assembly point north of Pretoria for incorporation.

About 2,800 members from the Transkei, Ciskei and Venda defence forces will return to their forces of origin until such time those forces are incorporated into the SANDF.

It is not known what would become of the NPKF’s commander, General Gabriel Ramushwana, formerly head of state and armed forces commander in Venda — Sapa.
Appeal to minister to release army objectors

Political Staff

The conscription advice service has asked Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise to review the positions of about 170 white conscientious objectors who fell foul of "the old apartheid military system."

Spokesman Mr Richard Steele was reacting to a manpower department report, released yesterday, which reported that 130 conscientious objectors were "classified" by the board last year.

An SANDF spokeswoman said last night that there were a number of legal details which had to be sorted out by the government. She could not say whether they would now be released from service.
Hawks set their eyes on the arms bazaar

A government discussion paper on the arms industry argues the case for more weapons — and more civilian products, reports Stephen Laufer.

T
e South African arms industry is setting its sights on an increasing piece of the international weapons trade, while a Transitional Executive Council working group on the industry's future has issued a study likely to anger and please producers and peacekeepers alike.

Weapons manufacturers have become the country's primary repository of high technology research and development skills, argues the group. They can only be sustained through the continued purchase by the South African National Defence Force of expensive equipment like the Rossvalk attack helicopter, and by exports.

But there are moral and economic arguments against a free-for-all in the international arms bazaar, and efforts to convert military into civilian industrial capabilities must be strengthened, cautions the group.

Armscor should become a multi-purpose government procurement agency active not only in the military field, but in large-scale civilian projects too.

The working group included representatives of Armscor, the metal-workers' union, the SANDF Force, Umkhonto weSizwe, and of the arms industry introducing their 43-page study this week, they said it was intended as a discussion document which should be debated publicly and in parliament.

The study's apparent contradictions reflect the diverse composition of the working group. Its reasoning contains both vestiges of apartheid's efforts at military-industrial autarchy and attitudes prevalent in the unions, where a staged conversion of military to civilian design and manufacturing capabilities is favoured as a precondition of greater international competitiveness as consumer-oriented industries.

Proceeding from the constitution's demand for a modern, technologically advanced military, the study argues it will be cheaper in the long run for South Africa to maintain an efficient arms industry. The alternative, purchasing weapons from foreign manufacturers, would have the additional disadvantage of making South Africa dependent on other countries, argues the study.

Turnover in the defence industry has plummeated by 60 percent with a loss of 65,000 jobs since the start of spending cuts in 1989. The survival of the industry, and with it much of South Africa's high-tech capabilities, are at stake, says the study. Armscor says increased defence exports could see the creation of 20,000 new jobs.

But sustaining an industry capable of keeping the SANDF at the technological forefront in Africa requires the authors to define a threat which justifies spending billions of rand. This they apparently found hard to do. The study's scenarios vacillate between the general threat to South Africa and regional stability from weak neighbouring economies, and the big bogeyman from over the seas.

Ultimately, it fails to differentiate between threats to stability perhaps best dealt with through economic aid and civilian assistance, and those which require a military response.

In one section, the analysts say "the most immediate threat to the national security of South Africa and the other states in the region is the danger of political and socio-economic collapse, exacerbated by natural disasters." The enemy is unlikely to be an African country operating on its own. It will either originate from outside Africa or it will at least receive substantial support from outside Africa. It must therefore be assumed the enemy will be strong and sophisticated, industry can hardly disregard the implications of this requirement.

Renewing vast costs of such big-ticket items as fighter aircraft and attack helicopters down will require larger exports, argues the study. Aware of the implications, the authors caution against exports to unstable regions. But they look longingly at the potential arms market in Africa. The sound of shots being licked at potentially fat export earnings parade with expanding political influence is impossible not to overhear.

"Although the prime motivation for South Africa's arms trade will be based on economics," argues the study, "politics too, may play a role. Military trade will be the only contact with some countries. African states may seek to reduce their dependence upon non-African supply sources. Already Nigeria has begun to make such intimations. At a recent conference in Harare, the Nigerian High Commissioner in Botswana stated that by switching away from North American and European suppliers to South Africa, money spent would remain in Africa." The study recommends keeping defence research and development spending at the current R420 million. Anything less will seriously jeopardize the country's ability to stay at the cutting edge, it says.

But R&D must increasingly benefit South Africa's civilian industry, which in recent years has received virtually no resources for the independent development of innovative, internationally marketable products, argues the TEC working group. A Diversification Council should be established to ensure communication between defence and civilian industries and other state departments.

But conversion of military R&D and manufacturing capabilities to civilian output is not as easy as it seems. The defence industry is accustomed to designing and building its products in the exact specifications of its clients, while civilian entrepreneurs have to be greater risk takers, developing a product and hoping it will sell.

State money should be made available to enable weapons manufacturers to diversify into civilian products, says the study. United States President Bill Clinton, recognising that conversion will not take place without government assistance, has promised spending $2 billion over five years to help workers, communities, and industries hit by defence cuts. The Russians, facing a 60 percent cutback in military spending, have allocated up to 250 million rubles for the task.

The Chinese, who have converted more than 1,000 enterprises, are spending an billion yuan until 1995.
SANDF planning to form service brigade

PRETORIA — The establishment of a service brigade accommodating those who did not make the grade as soldiers in the SA National Defence Force was being planned to assist government’s reconstruction and development programmes, SANDF chief Gen Georg Meiring said yesterday.

The brigade would acquire skills in areas such as building houses and digging trenches. It could take over some of the non-military functions performed by the SADF in the past, such as drought relief and other civil projects.

The integration of non-statutory forces into the SANDF would mean about 30,000 additional members. The integration process, which would include bridging and other training programmes, would take about three years. After that, about 30,000 members would be retrenched to keep the SANDF at its current size — the only size the Budget allowed.

Meiring said the defence budget had been cut back 47% since 1993 and had now reached the point where further major cuts would not be feasible.

"The present budget is optimum to provide growth and allow the SANDF to fulfil its expected role in SA and the region," he said.

He was convinced the integration of the non-statutory forces into the SANDF would not be as disastrous as the formation of the National Peacekeeping Force had been. Proper planning and procedures had been set up to ensure the SANDF would maintain its professionalism.

Meiring said because Apla had chosen not to be a part of talks at the Transitional Executive Council, its forces would not automatically become SANDF members. But individual Apla applicants would be considered on the same basis as civilians.

He did not foresee the SANDF playing a major role in African peacekeeping efforts in the near future as the force still had to find its feet.
Poor training ‘led to peacekeepers’ failure”

PRETORIA — The National Peacekeeping Force (NPKF) failed because of insufficient training and inadequate, low-level command structures, SA National Defence Force (SANDF) chief Gen Georg Meiring said yesterday.

Meiring, who was addressing a news briefing at SANDF headquarters in Pretoria, said the new SANDF would not suffer the same problems as the NPKF.

The NPKF was being demobilised yesterday little more than three months after it was brought into being to act as a defender of the peace during the elections. However, it was deployed only once, on the East Rand.

Meiring said protracted multilateral discussions between political parties resulted in the NPKF coming into being only early this year. It should have been in operation by August last year.

“This force was not properly trained,” he said. “The defence force of the future will not have this problem.”

He said it was not true that the former SADF had sabotaged the NPKF. While wanting to fund the NPKF had received about R34m in cash and kind from the SA army.

“We did what we had to do and we did more,” Meiring said.

Our Cape Town correspondent reports that NPKF chief Maj-Gen Gabriel Ramushwana heaped praise on the Roeburg battalion when he attended its disbanding yesterday.

Spurning criticism that the NPKF was a costly failed experiment, Ramushwana said the battalion was a model of how the NPKF could have been and would have acquitted itself well in the field.

The 1 000-member 4th Battalion was not deployed during its controversial four-month stay at Roeburg.

Roeburg soldiers will be transported to their home units or to De Brug to await secondment into the SANDF or police service.

Ramushwana said the NPKF had learned lessons which could be valuable in integrating the new security forces.

“The time period given to deployment must not be too short; members have different training backgrounds which will need to be equalized first; and politics should be kept out as far as possible,” he explained.

He hoped President Nelson Mandela’s government would consider forming another force.

He was sad the NPKF had to go, but felt such a force was necessary.

Military analysts said the force never had much hope of fulfilling its task because the six-week training period was too short.

The 6 000-strong force was plagued from the start by charges of indiscipline and internal squabbling.

Ramushwana said the NPKF had laid the foundation for integrated security forces.

“We managed to bring these people together … the positive thing is that people of various forces came together for the first time in the history of SA. People who were enemies before were integrated to one,” he said.

He would draw up a report for Defence Minister Joe Modise suggesting that political affiliations of new members be taken into account.

“They must try to destroy political affiliations and create neutrality,” he said.

Both former SADF and MK soldiers interviewed said they had valued the experience and were disappointed at having spent no active service. — Sapa-Reuters.
Ciskei "My chief, helped out Cagozo!"
By DINAH WHITE

The National Peacekeeping Force (NPKF) was infiltrated by several policemen according to the other unit's allegations, which were confirmed by the South African Police Service (SAP) in an investigation. Senior NPKF sources told the Sunday Times that the infiltration took place at Koeberg.

The infiltration was confirmed by a senior police officer who had been threatened by the SAP. The officer claimed that the infiltration took place in the 4th Battalion of the NPKF, which was stationed at Koeberg. The infiltration was said to have been carried out by a group of police officers who had been recruited into the NPKF.

The infiltration was confirmed by the SAP, which stated that the infiltrators had been given access to the NPKF's headquarters and had been trained to act as spies. The SAP also stated that the infiltrators had been given access to the NPKF's files and had been trained to use the NPKF's equipment.

The infiltration was confirmed by a senior NPKF source, who stated that the infiltrators had been given access to the NPKF's arms and had been trained to use them.

The infiltration was confirmed by the SAP, which stated that the infiltrators had been given access to the NPKF's weapons and had been trained to use them.

The infiltration was confirmed by a senior NPKF source, who stated that the infiltrators had been given access to the NPKF's arms and had been trained to use them.

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NPRF initiative alleged

By Dinah White
Vicinity

4th Battalion

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THE army has been selling thousands of rifles and pistols at bargain-basement prices to defence force members for personal use.

Despite a national outcry against a proliferation of weapons, 303 rifles are being sold for as little as R34.10.

The price is less than the cost of a packet of 20 cigarettes at dealers or the R50 revenue stamp on a police licence to possess a firearm legally.

Ammunition for the 303s is sold by the army at 28c a round.

Many serving officers and citizen force members, the majority of whom have jumped at the offer, and some have resold the weapons as hunting rifles through gunshops, making hundreds of rand profit out of the ex-army stock.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brian du Toit of the Directorate of Communications of the army confirmed that the sale of the 303s was continuing.

He said that, in terms of army regulations, the following people qualified to buy the weapon:

- Serving members of the permanent force, citizen force and commandos who have completed five years' continuous service;
- Members of the permanent force who are returning after 20 years' service;
- Veterans of World War II if they can provide a service certificate.

In the past, special revolvers were also sold in the same way, but were no longer available, Lieutenant-Colonel du Toit said.

ANC-MP and former MK commander Roonee Kabiris, who served on the defence sub-council of the TEC and works closely with Defence Minister Joe Modise, said yesterday he was taking up the matter immediately with Mr Modise with a view to halting the sale of the weapons investigated.

"I am totally stunned to hear of the sales," he said.

He said the 303s might be anticipated but were dangerous and lethal compared with homemade weapons which were used to kill maim people.

"We already have a problem with an overarmed population. There is not telling in whose hands these weapons eventually end up, and the ANC regards the sale of 303s as highly irresponsible on the part of the army," Mr Kabiris said.

"An alternative could be simply to destroy them in public as is done with confiscated illegal weapons. I have no doubt Mr Modise is aware of the practice and that he would be equally shocked to hear of it."

"Minister of Defence Professor Dan Herbst said he believed the sales were "a continuation of an old policy". "I'm sure the minister has not yet been briefed on this," he said.

The rifles have been identified as Lee-Enfield No 4 MK2 (P) 303s by Mr Willem Steenkamp, an author and expert on South African military matters who assisted the TEC as adviser on military issues.

"He said it was known that thousands of these weapons had been disposed of at very low prices. "There are precedents for the disposal of redundant and obsolete weapons in this way in other countries," said Mr Steenkamp, who is a captain in the citizen force.

Weapons dealers confirmed yesterday that the second-hand weapons sell for between R100 and R1000 and there is a special demand for them at this time of year because of the three-month hunting season in June, July and August. (I/L) (IL)

The army sold ammunition for the 303s at 28c a round (R585 for a packet of 20) compared with between R50 and R60 for a packet of 20 rounds of 303 ammunition quoted by gun dealers to the Sunday Times yesterday.

Lieutenant-Colonel du Toit said that only members of the permanent force and citizen force and commandos on active duty could obtain ammunition if available.

The spokesman said Treasury authority was given in 1986 for these weapons to be sold and that the last 303 rifles in stock were being reallocated to the commandos and divisions to be used by members of the defence force.

By NORMAN WEST, Political Reporter

Row over 'cheap' guns sale

The Sunday Times has asked for confirmation of our information that "many thousands of weapons have been sold in this way and asked how many exactly had been disposed of, but no figures were given in the army's faxed reply to our queries.

There has been an outcry recently against the proliferation of weapons in the country.

This prompted an ANC MP in the PWV area, Mr Obid Bapela, to propose a "one person, one firearm" policy as part of the ANC's plan for a gun-free society.

Gun dealers say they knew the weapons were ex-army stock but, since they had been legally acquired, they were quickly prepared to sell the weapons as hunting rifles at the request and on behalf of owners when a customer required one.

Soldiers who have bought the bargain weapons said the availability of the weapons was "not generally known" to those who knew about the special deal kept it to themselves, they claimed.

But Lieutenant-Colonel du Toit said that, though the sale of the weapons was not advertised "in the general media" as these weapons were sold only to members of the defence force, the sale has been brought to the attention of all members of the defence force, including the citizen force and commandos.
DENEL listing 'still on the cards'  

UNLISTED armaments manufacturer  
Denel was preparing its second annual financial statement for publication in the first week of July, the corporation said at the weekend.  

Denel spokesman Paul Holtzhausen said the statement would detail the company's market position as well as how its business prospects were likely to be influenced by the lifting of sanctions and SA's membership of the Commonwealth and other international organisations.  

Holtzhausen said a listing on the JSE was still on the cards but the issue would realistically be looked at after a sound track record had been established.  

Among the criteria required for a listing was a good rating by the JSE which took cognisance of real equity growth, rise in share value, turnover and profits, as well as a good history of paying dividends.  

The proposed listing could go ahead around 1994 provided the present track record was maintained and there was consensus on the new ministerial policy for the industry.  

The company had three months to prepare a 1,000-page document on SA's bid to supply 91 Rooivalk attack helicopters to the British defence ministry.  

The bid would be presented to a British arms procurement council by October. If successful, it could translate into a R4bn order for Denel.  

Such a windfall would boost foreign currency reserves and generate thousands of jobs, Holtzhausen said.  

The company's projections of R600m sales in 1994/95 were 'still very positive and the lifting of sanctions has made us more enthusiastic about future results'.  

Denel was ranked the 13th largest unlisted company in 1992/93 by an SA financial magazine.  

Judging criteria included asset base, order book and turnover.
SANDF seeks volunteers for national voluntary military service

Sowetan Reporter

RECRUITMENT for next year’s national voluntary military service is now open and the closing date for applications is October 25.

This follows approval by Defence Minister Joe Modise of the continuation of voluntary military service in the South African National Defence Force.

According to an SANDF communiqué, members who are accepted will be required to volunteer for 10 months full-time training for service in the Citizen Force. This will be followed by 30 days

Training will be provided in the SA Army’s corps, the SA Navy and the medical services. There will be no intake for the SA Air Force.

The 1995 intake will be the first group of soldiers to undergo training since the inception of the Government of National Unity in April.

The date for reporting is the first week of February next year.

For more details call Toll Free number 0800 11 12 30 or write to The Registering Officer, Private Bag X281, Pretoria 0001.
Where to now?

A
rmcor's executive general manager, Tielman de Waal, speaks about the organisation and its future role in southern Africa in general.

What problems has Armscor faced in adjusting to its new role and function since converting to its new status as the acquisition organisation for the SANDF? It has primarily been an organisational and functional change. We had to change our vision of the present and future South Africa as well as our view of Armscor's position in the country's economic household (and this) involved scaling down manpower activities in certain areas, and strengthening manpower in others. Our relationship with the arms industry has never been healthier.

Do you place a high premium on local companies increasing their international market share? Exports are of paramount importance for the economy to grow to required levels over the next 10 years. Companies have, for too long, suffered from a "blockade mentality" and need to broaden their outlook. The only way our economy can grow is through active participation in international markets. To be successful, however, we need to become far more productive and competitive.

The arms industry has a tremendous advantage over other players who have been manufacturing under licence agreements from overseas companies for a considerable time (as) Armscor's producers are mostly unique and that is why the arms industry is the

How do you see Armscor's future as the acquisition organisation for the SANDF? Since the SANDF will need to replace most of its major equipment over the next two decades, or face a massive reduction of its capabilities, Armscor will still have a vital function to fulfil.

The local military industry will have to contend with full foreign competition, and this means it will have to look closely at performance, value and cost-effectiveness.

We are not only acquiring capital equipment for the arm but are engaged in procuring everyday necessities, which may sound mundane but are important for the well-being of the soldier — items ranging from basic foodstuffs to socks and boots.

What specific areas of growth would there be for Armscor? There are tremendous growth opportunities, not only in servicing established clients, but also extending services to government institutions. We can also be of invaluable help to other countries in southern Africa, and this is an area in which I perceive growth potential.

The whole of the sub-continent has a wealth of military vehicles and equipment left over from recent wars (and) these need to be maintained and upgraded. Armscor's biggest growth area, however, lies in the field of counter trade, in which we are the leaders in this country.

By being active in this field, we can contribute towards the growth of industrial enterprise and contribute further towards the saving of foreign exchange and new job opportunities.

America has the Avon cosmetics lady and the Fuller brush salesman, both of whom have become part of that country's folklore. Destined to become part of South African legend is the "Armscor Man," now hanging up his hat after 17 years of foot-in-the-door international canvassing to convince the world that South Africa needed military equipment and offering, in return, top-of-the-range systems to anyone with the capability to pay cash or barter.

Like the cosmetics lady and the brush salesman, "Armscor Man" has on occasion been spectacularly successful, but has also, at the same time, endured a hard, long slog in representing a beleaguered armsments industry trying to reach out internationally during years of weapons sanctions imposed by the United Nations as part of the campaign to end apartheid.

Last month, the UN decided apartheid had ended and, as a result, the imposition of crippling sanctions should also be terminated. That was, of course, due to no small measure to the stunning victory at the polls of President Mandela's ANC.

The story of how Armscor — the Armaments Corporation of South Africa — developed its expertise in a number of fields will probably remain classified for years, but from what little is known the company has taken South Africa into the big league of arms manufacturers, exporters and procurers.

Executive general manager Tielman de Waal went on record immediately after the lifting of sanctions as saying: "Armscor will be able to conduct its business in an open and transparent way.

"We do not foresee that the lifting of the (UN) embargo will substantially change the procurement pattern of the past, except that foreign procurement will no longer have to be conducted in secret, and it can be conducted in a more cost-effective manner.

The organisation is at pains to emphasise that its staff did not conduct highly secretive meetings in the back alleys of Baghdad, Casablanca or other such
Mysterious cities but rather "worked the room", as the saying goes, finally getting what it wanted in the boardrooms of the world.

What has been acquired overseas remains a matter for conjecture.

Armscor calls its acquisitions operations (or sales pitch, in plain English) the "value-for-money option", with expertise on tap to provide specialist guidance to ensure maximum cost savings, without sacrificing quality and product capability.

During the last five years, the organisation has made acquisitions totalling R30 billion, the bulk of which has been for South Africa's defence force.

Armscor says "This was made possible through a well-developed system comprising dedicated teamwork, the highest technical expertise, strict financial discipline, advanced project management and marketing, quality assurance, logistical support and product-lifecycle management."

Behind those claims are the men and women who have put South Africa at the cutting edge of international armaments, as well as of commercial products.

Peet Smith, the company's general manager for import and export control puts it rather quaintly "We can assist in bringing the horse (the international client) and the water (the South African product) together. In the end, the attractiveness and the taste of the water will determine how much the horse is going to drink."

The water has certainly been tested by many governments. Horses such as Iraq have liked our long-range artillery pieces, such as the G5 used in the Kuwait war and earlier in the 10-year battle between Iraq and Iran. Oman is buying Rooivalk attack helicopters, regarded as far more efficient than anything else on earth (Britain is evaluating the machine as well).

Certain unnamed countries have battle-tested armoured equipment and mine-resistant vehicles, and assault rifles have been sold to many others.

Also coming to light is how Armscor coped with the international leaders in the armaments field, as well as with the end of

Made in SA... after 20 years of sanctions, South Africa is a net exporter of defence equipment.
the Cold War, and what it has been doing since in the local and international markets.

With the disintegration of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the end of Russian influence in Angola, the end of the total onslaught era and the abolition of apartheid, the organisation had to find something else to do other than sell weapons, which had suddenly become a dirty word in the maelstrom of international politics.

It decided that to guarantee the survival of the highly focused local armaments industry, and at the same time ensure continuing state-of-the-art technology, adaptation was the name of the game.

Armscor decided to split into two: the original company continuing to acquire armaments and related products and services, and the new firm — known as Denel (Pty) Ltd, with a host of subsidiaries — the manufacturer.

During the 1980s, Armscor was a "fully fledged player in the international arms market", but was winning customers in the marketplace "through liaison at ministerial and other levels".

As part of its legacy as an armaments organisation, Armscor at the end of March last year had paid R3.6 billion for armaments out of its share of the Special Defence Equipment and Activities Account (SDA) — part of the R10 billion defence budget.

The SDA is an account which, unlike many in other government departments, need not be fully spent during the fiscal year. Eighty percent of the money can be committed for the following year, and the year thereafter.

Outstanding commitments on contract at that time stood at R4.2 billion and approved commitments not yet contracted totalled about R668 million, with a further R93 million in fixed assets with contractors.

The effort now is concentrated on technological sophistication, which could in fact be of help in non-military products and processes, similar to the United States's space programme, which has helped bring many products to the consumer marketplace over the years.
Adaptation is name

Norman Chandler reports
The super-secret Armresco story can now

be told. Defence Correspondent

The end of UN sanctions means that part of

Edited by Mike Slussman
Armscor's income plunges

PRETORIA — Armscor’s net income was cut by more than half to R40.2m (R84.6m) in the year to March after government reduced its allocation for operating and technology expenditure.

The company reported turnover of R365.7m (R356.3m) and net operating income of R34.5m (R80.5m).

The net value of group assets increased 15.6% to R538.1m (R222.4m). This growth was mainly due to net-income of R44.5m which was reflected in a corresponding increase in investments and cash.

This would be held in reserve to finance specific future obligations, the most important being the redemption of stock and replacement of capital equipment.

In the 1991/92 financial year, the armaments procurement company received R300m (R228m) from government’s defence budget.

Armscor chairman Johan Moolman handed over the group’s financial report to Defence Minister Joe Modise at a news briefing yesterday to “demonstrate the company’s commitment to transparency.”

“The progress made by Armscor will warm your heart,” Moolman told Modise, who stressed Armscor’s important role.

The directors reported that, of the R208m received from the state, R173.9m was used to defray operating expenditure, R22.6m for technology development and R1.3m for acquiring assets.

The value of acquisitions rose 8% to R4.6bn, with 93% (R4.2bn) being spent on equipment for the SANDF compared with R2.7bn for the SAP.

Armscor said all import contracts of more than R5m had contained counter-trade components of at least 50%.

The company had also introduced an affirmative action programme. However, a relatively low staff turnover, the stabilised number of personnel that could be retained and the low availability of black candidates in the high-technology professions had delayed progress.
Armscor alters image

PRETORIA — State armaments procurement agency Armscor was trying to shed its “cloak-and-dagger” image as it prepared for a more visible international role, Armscor chairman Mr Johan Moolman said yesterday.

He was speaking at the handing over of Armscor’s 1993/94 annual report to Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise.

Mr Moolman said he welcomed debate on the countries to which Armscor sold weapons.

According to the annual report, Armscor spent R4 481 million in 1993/94 on arms and equipment. Of this sum, R2 487m was spent on aerospace equipment, R1 014m was absorbed by vehicle and weapons systems and the remainder of the acquisitions budget was spent on electronics and maritime products.

The report also highlights steps taken to harness military technology for civilian use. — Sapa

● Govt cuts back on arms. Armscor’s income — Page 9
Net income at Armscor takes tumble

BY JOHN SPIRA

Armscor's net income declined by R44.4 million to R40.2 million in the year to March.

The bulk of the decline stemmed from a R29.8 million reduction (to R196.5 million) in the government's allocation for operating and technology expenditure, with the balance coming mainly from additional spending in the areas of market promotion, legal proceedings and upgrading of computer network cabling.

Sales were static at R119.2 million.

The net value of group assets rose by 13.8 percent to R338.1 million.

Armscor is a public corporation and its financial results are therefore of interest primarily to the taxpayer.

It is an acquisition organisation and the financial results therefore do not reflect the scale of the activities in which it is involved.

Thus, for example, the acquisition cash flow for which it was responsible in 1993-94 totalled R4.5 billion.

A major portion (R2.5 billion) of this cash flow went towards its aerospace portfolio, with the balance accounted for by vehicles and weapons, and electronics and marine.

Because of reducing allocations of state funds for defence, Armscor is examining various areas to enable it to retain its capabilities, among them:

- Making its acquisition services available to other public organisations;
- Offering its counter-trade capabilities to South African industry at large.

- Becoming involved in regional co-operation on defence in African and southern Africa.

Chairman L. E. Steyn notes: "The proven capabilities of Armscor to determine client needs, to establish technology, to obtain military systems and equipment, both locally and abroad, and to provide life cycle product support will be indispensable to the local security forces, as well as within the southern African region."
Govt cutback slices Armscor's income

PRETORIA — Armscor's net income was cut by more than half to R40.2m (R64.6m) in the year to March, after the government reduced its allocation for operating and technology expenditure.

The company had a turnover of R308.7m (R336.3m) and a net operating income of R34.5m (R80.8m).

The net value of Armscor group assets increased by 15.6% from R252.4m to R338.1m. The growth could be ascribed mainly to the net income of R44.5m which was reflected in a corresponding increase in investments and cash.

For the 1993/94 financial year, the armaments procurement company had received a defence budget allocation of R200m from the state.

According to the Directors' Report, of the R200m received from the state, R173.9m was used to defray operating expenditure, R22.6m for technology development and R3.5m for the acquisition of assets. This state allotment was 12.2% less than the amount of R238m for the previous year.

The total value of Armscor's acquisition activities for the year was R4.5bn. Acquisition of equipment for the SADF constituted the major portion of this amount, R4.2bn (93%), compared with R274m for the SAP and 1% for the others.

In nominal terms, the total monetary value of the activities increased by 8% compared with the previous financial year.

During the past year, Armscor had exported armaments worth R368m, compared to R483m during '92/93 and R794m during '91/92. It had imported armaments to the value of R762m during the past financial year, compared to R697m during '92/93.
Poll call-up
dodgers to
be probed

Defence Reporter

THE army has been prosecuting Citizen Force members who failed to report for camps over the election period, a spokesman at the Castle confirmed.

Military law officers have begun preliminary investigations of the cases of those absentees who have so far been traced.

Although the army has declined to divulge the number of soldiers being investigated, sources believe up to 60 percent of members called up from March failed to report.

The army had jurisdiction over the cases for three months from the end of the call-up period, she said.

After that, absentees could be prosecuted in civilian courts.

"The law requiring prosecution for not reporting still stands." Obviously, the army knew what to expect and makes provision for a percentage of deferrals and refusals. We then call up enough people to ensure we get the number of soldiers we need.

Soldiers found guilty of failure to report face a maximum of two years in jail. Fines depend on rank — a private could be fined about R600, a corporal R1,000 and those of higher rank R2,000. An officer R5,000.
Sanctions end but arms race is out

By Gora Ebrahim
Secretary for Foreign Affairs,
Pan Africanist Congress

Following the establishment of the first democratically elected government in South Africa it was only natural that all sanctions and embargoes be lifted. This has happened.

The lifting of the arms embargo by the UN Security Council must be welcomed in its proper perspective. The lifting of the arms embargo is tangible evidence that the new political dispensation is warmly welcomed into the international community.

This important political overture, however, should not be interpreted as licence to freely enter the arms sale race.

The arms embargo led the apartheid regime to embark on the manufacture, albeit under licence in most cases, of different types of weapons. The main purpose was to make apartheid South Africa self-sufficient in small and medium size armaments.

Soon South Africa was producing more than she required.

Much of the weaponry that Armscor produced was used for internal repression, as well as destabilisation of independent countries in Africa, especially members of the Frontline States — Botswana, Angola, Namibia, Zambia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

In addition to using the manufactured arms internally and for destabilising purposes, South Africa also sold arms to a number of countries, in Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere. Unfortunately some were sold to warring groups in areas of violent conflict. There is a claim that in some instances weapons were sold to both sides involved in national or civil conflicts.

There is legitimate concern that much of the export of weaponry was done under great secrecy. Transparency to the South African public was totally lacking.

The image of South Africa, therefore, was one of exporting war merchandise to sensitive and volatile conflict spots.

Our internal policy of negotiation and reconciliation must guide us when marketing Armscor products.

Some would argue that for Armscor to be a profitable enterprise it must engage in an aggressive marketing policy. Profit should be the primary motive. Otherwise, it is said, the enterprise could become a financial liability.

Armscor as an armament industry should remain. Instead of an exclusive South African venture, it should become a regional venture at the beginning.

It could become a joint venture with a number of countries in the region. Such an arrangement would, first and foremost, keep out other arms peddlers and their political influence, while at the same time assist in standardising weaponry in the region.

Most important of all it will change our image in keeping with our new democratic dispensation.
THE controversy over the return to Namibia of Koevoet and South-West African Transitional Force members now in South Africa has finally been resolved, with the Namibian cabinet giving its approval for them to return home.

The Windhoek Advertiser reported yesterday that Information and Broadcasting Minister Mr Ben Amathila, made the announcement on Wednesday, and added that the cabinet had resolved that non-Namibians who belonged to the two forces would not be allowed to enter Namibia.

He also said those who were Namibian could only return through conventional channels.
Integration of MK Members

The integration of umkhonto weSizwe members into the South African National Defence Force was less than satisfactory, the ANC charged yesterday.

This was causing unnecessary tensions and hardships for many MK members, it said. Although it had been agreed to in negotiations, Chief of the Army General Georg Meiring had not confirmed the appointments of the senior officers who were to be charged with overseeing implementation.

"At the same time, administrative errors and deficiencies have resulted in the names of many long-standing MK cadres not appearing on the official list," the ANC said.

It urged Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise and General Meiring to pay special attention to the plight of these soldiers.
170 took call-up alternative

nov 10 1974

Political Staff
A TOTAL of 170 young white men did community service with a government department last year rather than undergo national military service; the Department of Manpower has reported.

The department's annual report for 1973 was tabled in parliament last week. In 1973 it fell under Minister Leon Wessels. It now falls under Minister Tito Mboweni.

Parliament passed legislation in September last year to end conscription.

The report said that initially the Defence Act provided for people to be classified as religious objectors to national military service. Changes to the Defence Act in 1982 also made provision for people who objected to military service on moral or ethical grounds.
CCB agents blamed for Lubowski's murder

WINDHOEK — The inquiry into the 1989 assassination of Swapo advocate Anton Lubowski ended in Windhoek, Namibia, this week with his lawyers blaming 10 CCB Co-operation Bureau agents for the murder.

They were named as Perde Barnard, Calia Botha, Slang van Zyl, Irish mercenary Donald Acheson, Chappie Maree, Staal Burger, Wouter Basson, CCB managing director Joe Versier, Charles Neelse and Johan Neemoller.

In closing arguments before Mr Justice Harold Levy, lawyers said the principal aim of CCB units in South Africa and Namibia in 1989 was the maximum disruption of their enemy.

They argued the 10 CCB members were implicated in the killing on the basis of common purpose.

Documents before the court showed the CCB had legitimised murder, they said. A finding should be made against individuals instead of against organisations.

The CCB had considered Swapo to be the enemy, the court heard, and a campaign was launched to disrupt its election activities and prevent it winning the two-thirds majority it needed to unilaterally write a post-independence constitution.

Lubowski, a rising star in the Swapo hierarchy, was shot dead at close range outside his home on September 12 1989 shortly before he was to have had dinner with Mr Hage Geingob, now Namibian Prime Minister.

The activist had recently been appointed deputy director of finance and administration for Swapo's election campaign, and his selection as a target was clearly to further the CCB's objective of disrupting the elections, the court was told — Sapa.
CCB agents blamed for Lubowski death

WINDHOEK — The inquest into the 1989 assassination of SWAPO advocate Anton Lubowski ended in Windhoek, Namibia, last week with his lawyers blaming 18 Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) agents for the murder.

They were named as Ferdie Barnard, Calla Botha, Stang von Zyl, Iraia mercenary Donald Achnon, Charles Eise, Stu Burger, Werner Basson, CCB MD Joe Verster, Charles Nelleke and Johan Niemoller.

In closing arguments before Judge Harold Levy, lawyers said the sum of CCB units in SA and Namibia in 1989 was the disruption of their enemy by means including assassination. They argued that the 18 CCB members were implicated in the killing on the basis of common purpose. Documents showed the CCB had legitimised murder, they said. A finding should be made against individuals instead of against organisations which could not be tried.

Lubowski was shot dead outside his home on September 12, 1989. He had recently been appointed deputy director of finance and administration for SWAPO’s election campaign, and his selection as a target was to further the CCB’s objective of disrupting the elections, the court was told. In early 1989 Burger, Basson, Van Zyl, Maree, Botha and a Nick Niesberger had worked for the CCB’s Region 6 Co-ordinatting in Namibia.

The lawyers said widely placed people connected to the CCB afterwards admitted the murder was a CCB project but were not willing to confirm it. They are under investigation by the police. Murder charges were laid against Basson in 1989 but were withdrawn in 1990 due to a lack of evidence, caused partly by the police’s inability to extradite witnesses from SA.

Four years of investigation by lawyers and police preceded the inquest, which began on April 18. Levy must now consider almost 4,000 pages of evidence before making a finding, expected later this month.

Very little evidence was led on allegations in Parliament in 1999 by then Defence Minister Magnus Malan that Lubowski had been a military intelligence spy. Most of the evidence had exonerated the slain activist, lawyers said — Sapa.

Maharaj, provinces to meet on ‘taxi war’

TRANSPORT Minister Mac Maharaj said at the weekend he would meet provincial transport officials today to discuss taxi violence.

He said the industry needed a structure within which it could regulate itself to address issues such as taxi wars, subsidies and road safety, the Sunday Times reported yesterday.

“There are more than 400 different taxi organisations in the country and they need to find a common voice,” he said.

Maharaj said he had resisted becoming directly involved in the issue of regulating the industry despite calls to do so by the SA Black Taxi Association.

He said the process of consultation was more important than taking steps which could further divide the main players.

MARK ASHURST reports that industry sources said violence at taxi ranks was “mercifully low” given the lack of regulation and the vast sums of money involved.

Violence was minimised by the “benevolent monopoly” encouraged by the Johannesburg city council, council transport spokesman said.

Transport policy in Johannesburg reflected the dangers posed by rogue elements within taxi associations and the threat of private hit squads employed to defend lucrative routes, the sources said.

Johannesburg municipality spokesman Greg Meyer said ranks were allocated to taxi associations on a principle of damage limitation.

This was the only viable option for the municipality. “Order can only be maintained by allowing taxi associations to manage ranks independently.” Taxi associations with a viable constitution and licensed operators get a monopoly on their ranks.

A new rank would be allocated for use by the Leihabule Taxi Association (LTA), if it could prove possession of permits allowing it to use Johannesburg routes, said Meyer.

A new spate of shootings began when the LTA occupied Johannesburg ranks allocated to the SA Long Distance Taxi Association (Saltda) on May 18.

The LTA, previously aligned to Saltda, abandoned the ranks in November after a factional dispute within the organisation.

The municipality, which owns the ranks, had no authority to investigate allegations made by the rival Federation of Local and Long Distance Taxi Associations that Saltda officials had demanded thousands of rand from members for use of its ranks. There was no regulatory structure to prevent this, said Meyer.

Meyer denied claims that applications from the LTA for a new rank in Johannesburg had been ignored by the municipality. No applications from the LTA had been received, he said.

Saltda, the only major taxi association operating as a private company, controlled 10% to 20% of Johannesburg ranks. There was no evidence to support allegations that the municipality treated it “with kid gloves”.

A National Transport Policy Forum workshop held in Johannesburg at the weekend called for one centralised Road Traffic Act to ensure standardisation and consensus regarding the successful implementation of traffic safety policies in the nine provinces.

Clear policies which were vaguely adhered to and close co-operation and consultation could prevent problems such as those being experienced in the taxi industry, delegates said.

They also called for greater funding for traffic law enforcement.

The workshop was attended by representatives from the forum’s transport safety committee, taxi organisations, freight and bus operators, the SA Consumer Council, local and provincial traffic authorities and government bodies including the Transport Department.
Call for navy to expand

Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICA's naval capability should be expanded to incorporate other functions, including Coast Guard and diplomatic roles, according to a report by a retired Danish admiral.

The report, compiled by Rear-Admiral Jørgen Jakobsen under the auspices of the Centre for Southern African Studies (CSAS) at the University of the Western Cape, also calls for the navy to recoup a greater share of the defence budget in order to maintain and expand its operational capabilities.

Adm Jakobsen, who presented the document at a CSAS conference yesterday, argued for the retention of the navy as "any attempt to cut back the role of SA's navy will be acutely felt by future generations."

But, he said, it should assume control of law enforcement functions at sea and be employed in an important diplomatic and stabilising role in the Southern African region — and receive the funding to be able to do the job.

Adm Jakobsen called for a greater share than the present 7% of the defence budget for the navy, to enable it to buy new ships and the necessary equipment.
Defence cuts ‘will enhance security’

CAPE TOWN — Diverting resources from defence to government’s reconstruction and development programmes would enhance rather than undermine South Africa’s security, military analyst Laurence Nathan said yesterday.

"There was no foreseeable military threat from outside the region," he said. "The potential in fact exists for a high level of political, diplomatic and security cooperation in the post-apartheid southern Africa," he said.

"Disarmament in SA would facilitate disarmament throughout the subcontinent, releasing resources for development and potentially leading to greater internal stability." In SA, the greatest threats to citizens’ security were non-military problems such as poverty, unemployment and a lack of adequate social services.

"The bottom line is that money spent on defence could otherwise have been used for development programmes and welfare services," Nathan said.

"To argue that SA’s foreign policy, particularly in southern Africa, would depend heavily on a military role was dangerously close to SA’s regional policy under apartheid and would undermine regional confidence. Ways to cut the defence budget should also be investigated," Nathan said.

"Nathan said SA had to establish clear foreign and national security policies and conduct a transparent investigation of its arms industry before it could make rational decisions about the defence budget." — Sapa
Y Abba Omar, general manager of public relations of the South African arms giant, Armscor, replies to criticism of the corporation by Gora Ebrahim of the Pan Africanist Congress:

93 annual report and the holding of an exhibition of SA’s military products (Dexta ’92) in 1992. The 93-’94 annual report was released on June 6 to the public. Dexta ’94 is scheduled for later this year. We realize that empowerment was going to have to be an essential ingredient of accountability because of the complex nature of the armaments business.

Thus when a programme of consultations around the question “what should Armscor’s policy on T&A be” was begun, there was a healthy dose of explaining how Armscor worked. This round of consultations has led to the following tentative conclusions.

- The Transparency Triangle
  - All public corporate structures will need to work out the fine balance between the public’s right to know, corporate confidentiality and what government defines as top secret. In the context of the armaments industry this becomes even more difficult for the following reasons:
    - There exists an unwritten understanding that in the case of arms transfers it is the receiving countries’ prerogative to announce the receipt of any arms.
    - The reason for this is quite simple: the receiving country is purchasing arms so that it can obtain a certain advantage — strategic or otherwise. It alone will be able to determine whether it is in its interests to announce that it has received those arms.

This understanding also complicates the public revealing of all arms trade South Africa may have been engaged under the arms embargo.

Obviously the Cabinet would have to be completely apprised of this history.

An approach worth considering is that of the Swedes which has a thriving arms industry and who are internationally regarded as the most accessible.

According to their Swedish foreign affairs ministry, “The government submits an annual report to parliament containing among other things, details of the value of arms exports by recipient country. In view of foreign policy and commercial secrecy requirements, however, it has not been possible to publish details of the equipment supplied to the countries in question.”

This will thus allow transparency as far as who are clients without giving away what they have bought from us.

- That there must be complete formal accountability within the parliamentary system.

This form of accountability existed since the inception of Armscor. It is important to continue with this as a means of explaining how public money has been spent. It also ensures that government policy is being implemented and acts as a means for exposing errors in the implementation of policy. The routine of working under secrecy will end up the same decision, albeit a good decision, being repeated. This leads to the development of vested interests.

Public accountability should counteract vested interests, while ensuring that political and economic criteria are considered along with technical ones.

Measures which democratic countries have used include:
- The Swedes conduct a five-yearly review of their procurement policies to ensure that annual budget allocations have not veered from original objectives.
- Having parliamentary select committees, especially on defence and public expenditure, to scrutinise all Armscor accounts.
- Accountability to Parliament of civil servants.
- Accountability to Parliament of civil servants.

This is important to:
- Allow the public to make inputs into decision-making.
- Ensure that Armscor reflects priorities of the SA public.
- Among the measures Armscor is already implementing are the following:
  - Assembling a board of directors representative of SA society.
  - Empowering SA society to understand the issues involved. These include pro-active briefings, arranging visits to plants etc.

Engaged in discussions

To ensure that Armscor is accountable to specific groupings/individuals as part of its efforts of being accountable to the public we are engaged in discussions with organisations from a number of sectors, including trade unions, church groupings, environmental groupings, business associations, technology groupings, defence research group, and the media.

South Africa is already a signatory to all the international protocols concerning the movement and sale of arms. The arms embargo prevented SA from signing the UN arms register. The embargo also prevents SA from revealing its international trade.

Armscor welcomed the lifting of the embargo so that the heavy shroud of secrecy which country cloaks some aspects of its business can be removed.
Arms industry under fire

INTERNATIONAL experience showed that investment in the arms industry was not cost-effective in creating jobs or in terms of technological spin-offs. Cosatu spokesman Neil Coleman said during a debate at a seminar on defence spending in Johannesburg yesterday.

The Defence vs Development seminar, organised by the Military Research Group, debated whether the defence budget should be cut to fund the reconstruction and development programme, and how the cuts would affect the SANDF and Armscor.

Coleman warned against allowing the economy to become too dependent on the arms industry. SA was one of the lowest spenders on research and development among the newly industrialised countries. And the electronic and other industries had been made dependent on the military.

He said investment in the civilian manufacturing sector could generate more jobs, given the capital-intensive nature of the arms industry.

More security spending also meant less spending on social upliftment, which was necessary to lessen tension among civilians.

Armscor spokesman Andre Bayes said budget cuts since 1989 had seen the number of jobs provided by the defence industry drop from 160 000 to 70 000. Besides job creation, the industry generated foreign exchange through exports.

Further cuts would mean that certain of the country's core defence capabilities, such as sea and air surveillance, would have to go. "We will have to make choices."

For example, the SANDF was down to one fighter squadron. Further cuts would mean this squadron would have to be disbanded.

Coleman said there was not enough evidence to back up the claim that the defence force was dangerously short of resources.

"We don't know, we don't have this information and we can't take the assurances of an industry that has deliberately misled us."

The SANDF and the arms industry could not be exempt from the transformation process, and the debate would have to start from the premise that everything was up for negotiation, he said.

UCT Centre for Conflict Resolution director Laurie Nathan said SA was already overarmed in the regional context. None of the states on the subcontinent was capable of posing a military threat, and the potential existed for a high level of political, diplomatic and security co-operation in post-apartheid SA.

Disarmament in SA would facilitate disarmament on the subcontinent, thereby releasing resources for development and potentially leading to greater internal stability.
Modise withdraws gag order

BY ABDUL MILAZI

Defence Minister Joe Modise yesterday withdrew an interdict restraining the Weekly Mail & Guardian from publishing information implicating top Umkhonto we Sizwe officials in spying for the previous government while in exile.

On Friday, Modise won an interdict against the newspaper restraining it from publishing information by former Directorate of Covert Collection (DCC) members Gerhard van Rensburg and Olve Brink, who alleged that they had names of ANC officials who had spied for the NP government while the organisation was still banned.

In a statement Modise said he had withdrawn the interdict after carefully examining information made available to him by the two former military intelligence officials and satisfied himself that it did not pose a threat to the democratic transition.

Modise said: "I have instructed the State attorney to withdraw the interdict restraining the former officers (Van Rensburg and Brink) from divulging information to the Weekly Mail or restraining the Weekly Mail from publishing whatever information either party so wishes."

He said his intention in initially agreeing to defend force chief General Georg Meiring's request to gag the former agents and the paper was to satisfy himself as to the security implications of the publication of such information.

Modise said: "I granted the permission because I did not want to read in newspapers about covert issues pertaining to my department about which I had not yet been briefed."

Modise's actions last week drew strong criticism from the SACP, Cosatu and the ANC, among others.
Military analyst says development improves security

Spending to public scrutiny

Call to subject defence

Cape
MK commanders being ‘upgraded’ outside country

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA — More than 100 Umkhonto we Sizwe leaders are undergoing last-minute senior staff courses outside South Africa in an effort to secure top SA National Defence Force positions.

This was confirmed today by MK and SANDF sources.

A SANDF source confirmed that a number of MK junior and senior commanders had failed to assemble at Walmansthal outside Pretoria along with thousands of other MK members as they were on courses in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Ghana, Pakistan and India.

The source said the commanders had been sent on staff courses in January — on orders from the African National Congress leadership — in a move to boost their ranks before integration into the unified SANDF.

While other MK members were returning to South Africa to register for the integration, at least 100 top leaders were flown out of the country to undergo last-minute staff courses.

A MK source confirmed that 167 cadres were still outside South Africa on courses. He said there were 120 members on courses in Zambia, 39 on a cadet course in Zimbabwe, five in Pakistan, two in Ghana and one in India.

He confirmed that the top leaders were on courses to qualify them as brigadiers.

The SANDF source said it was believed a number had returned last month from courses in Zimbabwe with ranks equivalent to colonel and brigadier in the SANDF.

The training includes junior staff training to promote captains to majors, majors to lieutenant-colonels and senior staff courses needed for the ranks of colonel and brigadier.

While some of the courses lasted four months, similar courses in South Africa would have taken at least 10 months, the SANDF source said.

At present, more than 80 percent of all officers in the SANDF are white.
White man seen at site of Goniwe explosion

The Argus Bureau.
PORT ELIZABETH — Details have been released of a new witness to the December 1969 car bomb which killed two policemen and an informer between Motherwell and Addo.

During the Goniwe incident it was alleged that security forces killed the policemen because they knew about the Goniwe murders in 1963.

Police spokesman Captain Michael Faleń said today the witness claimed to have seen a blue 1980 Renault RS in the vicinity of the explosion at the time PUG 1616 1969

The driver was described as a clean-shaven white man with medium length ginger hair. He was wearing a short-sleeved khaki shirt and trousers.

An appeal has also been made to farm workers who lived in the vicinity at the time to contact the police.

Anyone with information has been asked to contact Detective Warrant-Officer Fanien Els at (041) 54-4665 (work) or 993-2671 (after hours).
Prosecution threat if MK spies named

BY HELEN GRANGE

The SA National Defence Force has threatened to prosecute disaffected former Directorate of Covert Collection (DCC) members if they publicly divulge the names of top Umkhonto we Sizwe officials who spied for the previous government.

If the Military Intelligence informants were identified, not only would they be severely compromised in their current capacities but the exposure of military secrets would amount to a contravention of the Official Secrets Act. Major-General Dirk Verbeek, acting Chief of Staff Intelligence of the SANDF, told a media briefing yesterday.

Verbeek was reacting to the recent legal tussle between Defence Minister Joe Modise and the Weekly Mail & Guardian over its intention to publish information from former DCC members Gerhard van Rensburg and Clive Briak, who alleged that they had names of ANC officials who spied for the NP government while the organisation was still banned.

Modise this week withdrew an interdict restraining the newspaper from publishing the information in its possession on the grounds that, after being briefed on the matter, he was satisfied that the information did not pose a threat to the democratic transition.

Verbeek was tight-lipped about communications held this week between Modise and four spokesmen representing a group of 23 former DCC members, but it is understood a compromise has effectively deterred the publication of secret military information has taken place.

Verbeek said the disillusioned former DCC members — who were part of a group of 49 who were paid off in December 1992 following the exposure of a DCC front organisation called Pan Afrika Industrial Investment Consultants — had had a "change of heart" about their resettlement packages.

"To this end they have approached the Directorate (of Covert Collection), the Chief of the SA Defence Force as well as the Minister of Defence in order to obtain re-employment or a further resettlement amount."
Johan Niemoller ... Admitted taking video of Lubowski's house.
Spies demands ‘being considered’

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA — Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise is considering the demands of former Military Intelligence agents who have threatened to divulge sensitive information if their calls for restitution are ignored.

The agents, calling themselves the Group of 23, were last week gagged by the Transvaal Supreme Court following an urgent interdict by Mr Modise against them and the Weekly Mail. The interdict was withdrawn.

According to court papers, the Defence Ministry feared the disgruntled former Military Intelligence spies would make public the names of their former informants, some of whom are thought to be top umkhonto weSizwe officers.

Acting Chief of Staff Military Intelligence Maj-Gen Dirk Verbeek yesterday told a press conference investigations by Attorney-General Jan D’Oliveira had failed to produce any evidence of criminal activities within the ranks of the directorate.

Gen Verbeek said Mr Modise had met the former agents. The Minister was “applying his mind” to their requests.

Gen Verbeek said payouts for the 23 when a military intelligence front company was shut down were accepted by the men at the time but some of them had undergone a change of heart.
200 Bophuthatswana coup soldiers to join SANDF

The Argus Correspondent and Sapa

PRETORIA — Nearly 200 members of Bophuthatswana’s National Guard who were dismissed in 1988 for their part in a failed coup in Mmabatho are to be accepted into the South African National Defence Force.

This, 194 elite former Bophuthatswana Defence Force members were sacked and a number jailed for treason after they ousted then president Lucas Mangope’s government and installed opposition leader Rocky Malebane-Meliseng.

However, less than 24 hours after seizing power and holding Mr Mangope and several cabinet ministers under arrest in Mmabatho’s Independence Stadium, South African Defence Force armoured vehicles stormed the capital and reinstated the president.

However, North West premier Popo Molefe yesterday announced he had negotiated the reinstatement of the soldiers with SANDF chief General...

An SANDF spokesman today said it was not yet clear how many of the soldiers would accept the deal or how their re-employment would be undertaken.

Meanwhile, Eastern Province Command has begun accepting Umkhonto we Sizwe members as part of the process of incorporating soldiers from two freedom movements and three former homeland defence forces into the SANDF.

Soldiers from the Azanian People’s Liberation Army and Transkei, Ciskei and old South African defence forces have, however, still to be integrated.

About 500 people wanting to join the army were still gathered outside the African National Congress’ headquarters in Johannesburg last night.

They were among about 3,000 people turned away from a training camp at Wallmannsthal near Pretoria because they were not on an ANC list.
The titanic battle for control of the Defence Force

Threats to expose moles in the ANC were behind the attempt to gag this newspaper, write Stephen Lauffer and Anton Harber.

The aborted attempt by Minister of Defence Joe Modise to censor the Weekly Mail & Guardian last week revealed a titanic struggle between Modise and Defence Force chief General Georg Meiring for ultimate control of the armed forces.

And a major element in this battle is information that Military Intelligence operatives claim to have that would compromise individual ANC leaders.

Meiring took the initiative last Thursday when, with some last-minute arm-twisting, he pushed Modise into the interdict against this newspaper. Sources close to the Ministry of Defence say the general won Modise over with the threat of major political damage to the ANC and the government through the revelation of highly placed South African moles in the ANC, dating back to its period in exile.

This has raised fears that such information could give the military a hold over some ANC leaders, including ministers and deputy ministers.

Said one intelligence source: "Meiring is a sharp strategist. He would have known all the implications of the interdict and may have been testing Modise."

But neither of them banked on the strong reaction they faced. In a move unprecedented in South African politics, the minister's own party, the ANC, and its alliance partners, the South African Communist Party and Cosatu, all criticised him sharply and publicly.

Modise won back some ground in a crisis meeting on Monday morning when he ordered Meiring to withdraw the affidavit, blamed him for the criticism he had faced and overrode Meiring when he did not want to concede the newspaper's legal costs. Modise is now taking steps to surround himself with civilian and political advisors, such as his long-standing colleague Ronnie Kasrils, to ensure he does not rely directly and solely on Meiring's advice.

Observers are now watching to see if Modise is able to follow this through and assert his authority as civilian and political leader of the military.

This leaves the question of what, if any, compromising information the military gathered in its decades of fighting the ANC that it can now use.

Government and ANC intelligence operatives believe a decades-long programme to recruit agents inside the ANC by the South African spy services was ultimately successful in penetrating the top echelons of the political and military wings of the organisation.

The South Africans allegedly used "false-flag operations", in which they pretended to be British, American, Israeli or Soviet agents gathering information and won over ANC leaders sympathetic to those governments. At a later point, they would reveal to their source that they had been supplying information to the apartheid government, thus compromising them and forcing them to continue supplying material.

The South African intelligence operation was allegedly so successful that at least one cabinet minister and one deputy in the present government are alleged to have been South African informants. This newspaper is aware of the alleged identities of the two, but will not publish their names without conclusive proof of any collusion with the apartheid authorities.

Intelligence analysts are sceptical about claims from the MI operatives interdicted along with W&G last week. "They are too junior to have run or even had knowledge of really senior ANC figures working as agents for the other side," said one. Modise appears to have acted with little reference to his advisors, instead trusting Meiring's advice. Contacted by this newspaper on receipt of the interdict last Thursday, the minister's political advisor asked something anonymously to have a copy of the court papers faxed to the ministry.

The debacle, commented Institute for Defence Policy director Jackie Cilliers, "illustrates the need for the Defence Ministry to seek policy advice from outside, from a parliamentary defence committee, from civil society, and other advisors. The minister should not depend solely on the generals for guidance."

The interdict debacle was a prime argument for the rapid establishment of the truth commission, argued several government sources. "It will create an ordered framework for dealing with the past and reduce the risk of blackmail to the government or leading political figures," said one.

It is understood that President Nelson Mandela received an extensive counter-intelligence briefing by the ANC's security department prior to choosing his cabinet. Sources refused to divulge what the president was told, but said "he is a lawyer. You must be careful not to come to him with circumstantial evidence, he demands proof".

And one cabinet insider said:
Paying for the sins of the past

Shadley Nash

THE new government will pay for the sins of the old

A statement from the Ministry of Justice this week confirmed the government would honour its liability towards the civil claims of the family of murdered Cradock activist Matthew Gomwe and others.

The new government is inheriting civil suits running into millions of rands arising from the Gomwe case, the Bisho massacre and many others.

There is no budget for these claims, however, and the government will look to the Truth Commission for guidance in dealing with them.

Ministry of Justice spokesman David Pagozo said the wrongs done to victims of apartheid must be recognised.

Last month, Mr Justice Neville Zietsman, presiding over the reopened Gomwe inquest, found that the security forces were responsible for the Gomwe murders.

Although he could not name the individuals involved, the ruling was welcomed by the family's lawyers as strengthening their civil claim for R1.6-million.

The government also faces claims, possibly running into millions of rands by 19 victims injured during the Bisho massacre on September 7, 1992 when Ciskei troops fired on demonstrators, killing 29.

Pagozo said the Truth and Reconciliation Commission would have to "handle the issue" and make recommendations to Nelson Mandela.

The earliest the government could begin to look into these matters would be after August, he said. — Ecna
What Modise didn’t know about DCC

Defence Minister Joe Modise has clearly not been briefed about the Directorate of Covert Collection when he moved to interdict this paper last week. Louise Finaneg and Chandra Gould provide some details his generals omitted to tell him.

DEFENCE Minister Joe Modise has inferred a covert intelligence-gathering unit — the Directorate of Covert Collection — existed during the apartheid era. Last week Modise moved to interdict the Mail and Guardian from publishing further details about the workings of the DCC, which was partially pulled after being raided by Mr Justice R Goldblum in late 1992.

Since last week Modise has improved on his technique in dealing with the press. When the MOGAS raided the military to confirm that 62 people had been members of the DCC he both refused to answer questions and called a press conference on Thursday saying he had no time to explain.

A long-term investigation has established that:

- **The DCC** is a director and Brigadier Horace Williams-Burnett alleged former head of the Johannesburg City Council Spying Unit.

- **Second in command Colonel Gerry Borman** was the handler of former CCB Transvaal chief Stiaan Burger.

- **Who the operatives were** were still collecting information on ANC and the Pan African Congress as late as March this year.

- **The DCC** consists of former Rhodesian security agents, out of work for the South African Military Intelligence Unit responsible for training and counts.

- **One of its key front companies, Pan-African Industrial Treatment Contractors (PAIRC)**, is apparently still operating, despite South African Defence Force assurances a year ago that it was being de-registered.

- A Defence Ministry spokesman said the company was currently in the final stages of being wound up and did not explain the delay.

The Goldstone raid uncovered the DCC head office front company Africa Risk Analysis Consultancy (Pop) Ltd (ARAC). A year later the MOGAS exposed VMI, which was used to employ 62 DCC members. It happened with the military’s now-disbanded Chief Co-operation Bureau, these people use ‘ditsi’ to evade the SADF and work for PAIRC.

An immediate question was how the Goldstone raid then occurred. Now PAIRC is under review and has substantial settlements. Some have quietly been given their jobs back.

A group of 15 of the FAC members are appearing in court. Nelson Mandela is due to name them. It was the representatives of that group, Gerhard Alers of Renburg and Clev #1, that Molsehe briefly interfered from speaking in the press. Renburg and Brits have emphasised that their aim was never to expose their fellow officers or their sources as Modise claimed in the interdict.

**Contrary to the allegations contained** in the SARS’s application for the interdict, we have not revealed the names of individuals, sources, collaborators or information of former colleagues, neither is it our intention to do so now or in the future,” said the PAIRC group.

We joined about contacting our own sources from positions of asking them for jobs, but decide against it because it’s an issue that needs to be dealt with by the public, said PAIRC member Wally Walschoedt this week. We are not prepared to sacrifice us for our own selfish gain.”

As Walschoedt was not affected by the gag, he was able to talk to the press. He also emphasised that he would not identify colleagues. The PAIRC group believes their testimonies point to a conflict between intelligence agencies within the country.

They allege that the Counter-Intelligence group disrespectful them as a way of shifting attention from themselves.

Walschoedt claimed Counter-Intelligence had information about DCC members’ names with MB and Zim between CID as well as information about alleged diamond deals and fraud.

The Defence Force has restricted access to the public on the Arme sec: PAIRC — a restriction which still seemed to be in force. More anonymously PAIRC appears to be operating despite official SADF claims that it closed down in February 1992.

Goldstone found that when the DCC was set up in 1990 it was front a director as part of the police. The address given was a name similar to that of Ani Direct.

This week Penchorn, a Pretoria lawyer, denied having any links to the former DCC and the DCC and its predecessors. He said he had been involved in PAIRC during the 1980s. “If I was involved in a director/manager it could have been for purposes of tactical investigation only, as others happen.”

Penchorn was also named in public records as a director of the Global Capital Investments as a dormant company during the 1980s but no longer had any interest in it.
Clearing landmines

A CONSORTIUM including a subsidiary of local arms maker Denel has landed a lucrative contract to remove landmines from Mozambique. However, this has sparked an outcry from human rights groups. RODNEY VICTOR reports.

SOUTH Africa could win a number of massive international contracts to clear landmines in former war zones all over the world, according to military conglomerate Denel.

"Denel spokesman Paul Hofbauer says the company’s research arm, Mechem, has spent more than 20 years developing the technology to detect and lift landmines. It is currently the world leader in this field."

Last month the United Nations awarded a $5 million contract to Mechem in collaboration with British companies Lomhro and Royal Ordnance, to clear landmines from 2 000 km of roads in central Mozambique.

"Work is expected to start within weeks, and other contracts could flow once it has been completed," Holtzhausen says.

The Mozambiquan contract has drawn fire from human rights groups, which object to arms manufacturers — who have already benefited from sales of landmines — winning further lucrative contracts to remove them.

The profits from such contracts could also be used to develop even deadlier means of killing people, they say.

However, Holtzhausen says none of the landmines to be lifted in Mozambique are of South African origin.

"We stopped making landmines years ago because Eastern bloc countries were flooding the market at prices we could not afford to compete with," he says.

**Humanitarian issue**

"Instead we turned to developing the technology to detect and lift landmines, which is why we are now world leaders in this area."

The director-general of the South African Rod Gross, Keith Gover, says it is unfortunate that only military conglomerates like Denel have the expertise to lift landmines.

"We are very concerned about landmines because of the humanitarian issue. Landmines go on killing civilians long after the military conflicts that spawned them cease."

Another area where South Africa is hoping to win landmine-clearing contracts is the former Yugoslavia, which is heavily mined.

Other contracts, worth between R110 million and R145 million in total, are expected for additional work in Mozambique and Angola.

The United Nations is believed to be rethinking the wisdom of awarding further demining contracts to arms manufacturers. A senior United Nations humanitarian official in New York told Britain’s The Independent newspaper this month that the organisation had "learned its lesson."

"We should have thought about the companies’ connections to the landmine industry, but we didn’t. I can honestly say it is extremely doubtful that a landmine clearance contract will ever again be awarded to a mines manufacturer," he said.

FROM NIRVANA TO HELL: Standard 10 pupils of Lenasia’s Nirvana Secondary School were victims of war-torn Rwanda. They will hand over items collected to the Rher national collection drive.

**Silicone implants: harmful**

RODNEY VICTOR

The fact that American manufacturers of breast implants have established a $4,25 billion (about R15,5 billion) fund to settle claims against them indicates that they do not have much confidence in their defence, says two Johannesburg experts in natural healing methods.

The charge is, however, denied by plastic surgeons, who say the manufacturers have done this only because it would have been even more expensive to fight a large number of individual cases in the courts.

They claim that silicone implants are totally safe, and that the fund has been established for legal and financial reasons, rather than on medical grounds.

The president of the South African Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, Dr Warwick Morris, says he has never come across a woman who has suffered problems arising from a breast implant.

While it is true that there have been cases where certain medical conditions have cleared up after the implants have been removed, there have also been cases where the conditions haven’t cleared up.

"That proves to me that the implants were not the cause of the symptom. We believe one condition is post-traumatic stress," Morris says.

However, doctors say it is a surgeon’s job to determine safe and worse cases. They like to weigh the costs of removing implants against the benefits of better health.

Shearer says, "number of w effects from
Goniwe: too little proof to prosecute

LOUISE FLANAGAN

EAST LONDON — There is not enough evidence to prosecute anybody for the 1985 murder of anti-apartheid activist Matthew Goniwe, the Eastern Cape Attorney-General said yesterday.

"After studying the evidence and findings in the reopened inquest into the deaths of Matthew Goniwe, Sparrow Mokoena, Port Cele and Siselo Ntshangase, I have decided not to prosecute anyone for the murders," said Les Roberts.

"The available evidence is not strong enough for a reasonable chance of a successful prosecution against any individual or individuals," he said in a statement.

The reopened inquest finding announced last month was that members of the security forces were responsible for the murders. The finding stated that military officers, including former Military Intelligence chief Lieutenant-General Joffel van der Westhuizen, had been ordered to send, draft or receive the top secret "death signal".

But the court could not pinpoint individuals or even the branch of the security forces responsible, even though Judge Neville Zistman said there was a strong case of suspicion against three military and two security police officers. But there was not enough evidence to link it to specific killers.

Goniwe and three comrades were murdered on June 27 1985 — just 20 days after a top-secret military signal was sent calling for his "permanent removal from society".

"The only person against whom there is a sufficiently strong case (of incitement and conspiracy) to justify prosecution is Colonel Lourens du Plessis. He has been indemnified, however, and thus cannot be prosecuted."

"If any further evidence comes to light which could strengthen the chances of a successful prosecution on any of these charges, then this decision will be reconsidered."

Roberts said he was still investigating two other matters arising from the Goniwe inquest before making a decision.

One was a "car-bomb blast in a Port Elizabeth township in December 1983 in which four policemen were killed. During the Goniwe inquest, SADF lawyers alleged that members of the police force had killed Goniwe and they were then in turn killed by their own colleagues as part of a cover-up. The second case related to the discovery of the top-secret SADF Operation Katzen documents. Van der Westhuizen planned the operation, which involved a coup attempt against then president of Ciskei, Lennox Sebe."
Denel ready to defuse world

RODNEY VICTOR
Weekend Argus Correspondent

MASSIVE contracts to clear landmines in former war zones all over the world could be coming South Africa's way, according to the country's military conglomerate, Denel.

Denel spokesman Paul Holtzhausen says the company's research arm, Mechem, has spent more than 20 years developing the technology to detect and lift landmines. It is currently the world leader in this field, he says.

Last month the United Nations awarded a $5 million (R18 million) contract to Mechem, in consortium with British companies Lomho and Royal Ordnance, to clear landmines from 2 000 km of roads in central Mozambique.

Work is expected to start within weeks and other contracts could flow once it is complete, Mr Holtzhausen said.

The Mozambique contract has drawn fire from human rights groups, who object that arms manufacturers who have already benefited from lucrative sales of landmines, should win lucrative contracts to remove them.

Profits from such contracts could be used to develop more deadly means of killing people, they say.

Mr Holtzhausen denies, however, that any of the mines to be lifted in Mozambique are of South African origin.

"We stopped making landmines years ago because Eastern bloc countries were flooding the market at prices that we couldn't afford to compete with," he says.

"Instead, we turned to developing the technology to detect and lift landmines, which is why we are now world leaders in this area."

The director-general of the South African Red Cross, Keith Gower, says it is unfortunate that only military conglomerates like Denel have the expertise to lift mines.

"We are very concerned about landmines because of the humanitarian issue. Landmines go on killing civilians long after the military conflicts that spawned them cease," he said.

One area where South Africa is hoping to win contracts is the heavily mined former Yugoslavia. Further contracts, worth between $30 million and $40 million (between R108 million and R144 million) in total, are expected for additional work in Mozambique and in Angola.

The UN, however, is believed to be rethinking the wisdom of awarding further de-mining contracts to arms manufacturers. A senior UN humanitarian official in New York told Britain's Independent newspaper the organisation had "learned its lesson."

"We should have thought about the companies' connections to the landmine industry, but we didn't think honestly that it is extremely doubtful that a landmine clearance contract will ever again be awarded to a mines manufacturer," he said.
Ex-guerrillas join up in August

WALLMANNSTÄHL — Former African National Congress fighters now being retrained will be deployed to units of the new South African National Defence Force early in August, training officers said yesterday.

Colonel Terence Murphy, commanding officer of the Wallmannsthal assembly point north of Pretoria for former guerrillas told reporters visiting the camp that final integration of all South Africa’s armed forces would take several years.

“We are determined here to make a success of the integration exercise,” he said. “It requires a great deal of trust and goodwill, which does exist.”

Colonel Murphy is working with ANC commander Gilbert Ramano, a former adversary in liberation wars. Both men also fought in what was then Rhodesia.

Asked if there was still animosity between the two sides, Mr Ramano said: “You can’t rub it out overnight, but we have passed an important stage in our history, we should be living as brothers and sisters now. “We have no reason anymore to fight each other.”

Colonel Murphy said he had flown helicopters in the Rhodesian war. “I was looking for Gilbert, but I never found him,” he said.

The officers said soldiers here last week began 41 days of reorientation training to prepare them for postings to National Defence Force units. They then would receive more specialized training.

One of the ANC soldiers at the camp, Louis Zinyana, 21, said the mood of the camp was happy. “We are all together now in one country. We don’t sing ‘Kill the boer, kill the farmer’ anymore,” he said.

“We are one nation, united. There are no more wars, we must just train now to protect our country,” — Reuter
Goniwe: No prosecution

The court found the military officers, including former Military Intelligence chief Lieutenant-General Joffel van der Westhuizen, were ordered to send, draft or receive the top-secret "death signal". But there was not enough evidence to link it to specific killers.

"I have also considered possible charges of incitement and conspiracy relating to the signal sent from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria on June 7 1985," said Mr Roberts.

"The only person against whom there is a sufficiently strong case to justify prosecution is Colonel Lourens du Plessis. He has been indemnified, however, and thus cannot be prosecuted."

"If any further evidence comes to light which could strengthen the chances of a successful prosecution on any of these charges, then this decision will be reconsidered."

Mr Roberts said he was still investigating two other matters arising from the Goniwe inquiry.
Impasse over top army posts for MK

TALKS between Defence Minister Joe Modise and SANDF chief General Georg Meiring about high-level command posts for Mr Modise's former MK comrades-in-arms have deadlocked.

The impasse is embarrassing Mr Modise by frustrating the expectations of his closest supporters, who see the SANDF opposition as a last-ditch attempt to retain white control of the military command structure.

Calls for Mr Modise to exert his political authority over the generals are rising as he faces a personal test this week with a bid to persuade government leaders to appoint a deputy minister to help him restructure and re-orient the defence force.

Rome Kasriel, Mr Modise's long-term MK ally and confidant, is favouring the post, if the minister can break through the ceiling of 12 deputy ministers.

Mr Kasriel, who has been attending official briefings at Mr Modise's side, favours moves to change the complexion and image of the SANDF with the appointment of black generals. He would give powerful support to Mr Modise in forcing the generals to compromise.

The headquarters generals are insisting on pre-election agreements that appointments and ranking of MK officers could only be based on internationally accepted military standards. This would exclude many veteran MK commanders.

Senior MK officers can claim 30 or more years of guerrilla warfare experience and training in African and Eastern Bloc military doctrine. But many do not have academic qualifications and the breadth of command demanded for high office by a modern conventional defence force.

A Defence Ministry source confirmed this week that an MK list of 17 names for leadership posts had been sent back by the SANDF with a demand that it be cut to seven names.

While the arguments are centred on two vacant positions at SANDF headquarters — chief of staff (effectively second in command) and chief of staff intelligence — the outcome will have a direct effect on the ranking of all MK cadres being integrated into the defence force.

MK officers fear that assessment boards will not recognise ranks and commendations awarded in the guerrilla army.

The chief of staff position, vacant since the retirement in November of Lieutenant-General Pierre Steyn, has been widely expected to go to Siphiwe Nyanda, who succeeded Mr Modise as commander of MK. As chief-of-staff he would be her apparent to General Meiring.

Mr Nyanda, 43, a former sports journalist who returned from exile in 1990 to head Operation Vula, has spent the past two years grooming MK towards integration, but senior SANDF sources reject him because "he is not qualified".

Similarly, attempts to moot MK's head of operations Lambert Moloi for the SANDF intelligence chief's post (which also carries the rank of lieutenant-general), are being dismissed "because he does not have the right background."

"The generals do not realise that there is a political imperative to make provision for our people if the military is to be seen to change and be seen as legitimate by the whole country," said a ministerial adviser.

"The SANDF command just cannot remain white. There has to be political intervention and acceptance of affirmative action."

Meanwhile, initial hiccups at the Wallmannsthal assembly area for MK soldiers being prepared for integration appear to have been overcome.

The number of MK cadres listed for integration has been settled at 864, more than double the 1500 originally expected.
Israel overthrows arms embargo against SA

JERUSALEM — Israel said yesterday it had lifted its arms embargo against South Africa.

"The cabinet has repealed the restrictions on signing contracts with South Africa following the UN Security Council's decision to cancel the military embargo and other restrictions it had imposed in the past," the cabinet secretary said in a statement.

The UN lifted its embargo after the election. Until Israel decided in 1987 to stop signing new arms contracts with Pretoria, media reports said annual Israeli military exports to South Africa totalled hundreds of millions of dollars.

The two countries were widely reported to have been co-operating on nuclear weapons and ballistic missile research until the restrictions were imposed.

— Sapa-Reuters
US lifts arms embargo against SA but not Angola

Peter Fabrius

WASHINGTON - The Angola embargo has been removed because of an agreement between the US and South Africa. The US and South Africa also agreed to lift the embargo on South Africa's arms sales to Angola. However, the embargo on Angola's arms sales to South Africa remains in place.

The agreement was negotiated by US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and his South African counterpart, Dr. Pik Botha. The agreement is seen as a significant step towards resolving the decades-long conflict in Angola.

The US has long been a major arms supplier to South Africa, but the embargo was imposed in 1975 as a result of South Africa's human rights abuses and its support for apartheid.

The lifting of the embargo on South Africa's arms sales to Angola will allow South Africa to purchase weapons from the US. However, the embargo on Angola's arms sales to South Africa will prevent Angola from purchasing weapons from the US.

The agreement was reached after months of negotiations and is seen as a significant development in the region. It is hoped that the agreement will lead to a reduction in violence and support for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Angola.
UMTATA — South African National Defence Force troops from the Eastern Province Command were sent to Transkei help quell the continuing mutiny by former Transkei Defence Force members yesterday.

The SANDF's commander in Transkei, Major-General Temba Matanzima, said 195 TDF members from the Umtata Garrison and Port St Johns units had been detained in connection with the mutiny, which began on Tuesday last week. They were being held in military detention barracks.

The first arrests were made on Thursday when soldiers at the Port St Johns base allegedly refused to obey orders. More arrests followed at the Ndike base near Umtata.

Well-placed SANDF sources confirmed that Eastern Province Command had been sent to Transkei yesterday morning in response to a TDF request.

A team from the South African Army's legal branch had arrived in Umtata to help investigate the mutiny, TDF spokesman Captain Bafana Nzumalo said.

"The high command wishes to warn all concerned that the SANDF will not tolerate indiscipline and insubordination in its ranks," Gen Matanzima said. "Grievance procedures as set out in the regulations are known by everybody and therefore no one has a right to take up arms to force or threaten seniors to address their grievances."

The mutiny began when members of the military police took hostage a senior officer who had been sent to investigate reports of insubordination.

The officer was freed by troops supported by Eastern Province Command.

Details of the mutineers' grievances would not be disclosed yet as they were being investigated, Capt Nzumalo said. — Sapa
From SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON — Although the United States has officially followed the United Nations in lifting the UN arms embargo on South Africa, the ban effectively remains in force on Armscor, its commercial offspring Denel and two other companies, Kentron and Fuchs.

This is because of the still pending indictment against Armscor, Kentron and Fuchs for their part in a major arms smuggling conspiracy with Pennsylvanian James Guerin.

While charges against seven South African employees were dropped in return for their cooperation with prosecutors, the Justice Department wants Armscor to pay a substantial fine.

US officials were yesterday unable to clarify whether these companies were barred for exporting goods to the US.

The Commerce and State Departments gazetted regulations permitting exports to the SA Police and military.

Congress is preparing legislation to permit the resumption of intelligence co-operation between both countries.
Defence spending cut by 13%
Only small hand-out to defence

No allocation for new technology

BY CHARMEELA BHAGOWAT
and CHERYL HUNTER

The marginally increased defence budget announced by Finance Minister Derek Keys yesterday did not facilitate capital growth or technological development. It covered only heavy costs of restructuring the defence force, say experts.

Keys allocated R11.2 billion to defence this year, compared to R12.3 billion last year, and this year’s budget was one of the greatest contributors to the Government’s Reconstruction and Development Programme.

However, this budget will pay for the integration of former homeland armies into the SANDF, the absorption of Umkhonto we Sizwe members, the National Peacekeeping Force and other costs incurred by the transition process.

Bill Sass, a senior researcher at the Institute for Defence Policy, says the defence force could have done with more money as the approximately R2 billion increase in the budget would barely cover the cost of employing and looking after the large number of new personnel absorbed by the force.

“The nominal increase is not going to satisfy the needs of the Defence Force and the budget is not one on which the force can re-equip itself,” said Sass.

The budget was no surprise, however, as there had been strong indications from political leaders of a R2.5 billion increase in the defence budget to facilitate the integration process.

Helmoed Romer-Heitman, correspondent for June’s Defence Weekly, an international military magazine, said the defence budget was “too tight. Too much is going into personnel and too little into capital and technology development.”

He acknowledged that the high personnel costs were inevitable but said the defence force could not afford the budget to drop any further. “The Defence Force does not have all the capabilities it should have for a country like South Africa.”

South Africa’s fighter planes were old and needed replacing. So did transport and long range maritime aircraft and the navy needed new equipment.

It seemed the budget was based on the premise that South Africa and the surrounding region would never be threatened militarily.
Aspirant soldiers are turned away by MK

JOHANNESBURG — Hopeful recruits for the new South African National Defence Force spent a bitterly cold night outside the ANC headquarters on Tuesday night.

In Port Elizabeth, the ANC military wing had also had to turn away a number of aspirant soldiers, ukhloni weSizwe Border Commander Lindile Yam said.

He said many people not listed in MK's records had tried to get into the new national defence force.

— Sapa
SANDF to probe Transkei 'mutiny'  

Port Elizabeth — Two teams from SA National Defence (SANDF) headquarters in Pretoria are to investigate the "mutinous activities" of 213 detained former Transkei Defence Force members.

Eastern Cape Army Command's Brigadier Toon Slabbert denied media reports yesterday that white SANDF soldiers had "taken control of military bases in Transkei".

He said they had, along with military police from Pretoria, taken over the detention barracks at Port St Johns.

He confirmed that SANDF soldiers had been deployed in Umtata and Port St Johns to contain the mutiny.

He said the mutiny had begun after a shooting incident involving striking policemen and the soldiers trying to contain them.

A former TDF army officer sent to investigate the situation had been taken hostage by a group of soldiers who released some of the detained rebels, prompting an SANDF operation to rescue the officer and re-arrest the mutineers.

Brig Slabbert said the soldiers might face a court martial if "it is found that they took part in mutinous activities".

He said soldiers' grievances included disputes about salaries, but declined to give further details until the investigations are completed.
Transkei Defence Force 'mutiny' probe: 215 held

All armouries and ammunition depots 'secured'

UMTATA. — A total of 215 Transkei Defence Force members have been detained pending investigation and disciplinary action, Defence Force commander Themba Matanzima said today.

All armouries and ammunition depots were being secured by the SA National Defence Force and the Transkei Defence Force.

All action mounted by the SANDF was being carried out in cooperation with the TDF and himself, General Matanzima said.

His statement follows more than two weeks of security problems in the Eastern Cape former homeland starting with a strike by Transkei police on June 6 and a shootout between TDF and police personnel on June 8.

It was announced in Port Elizabeth yesterday that an investigation into the military mutiny in Transkei had begun.

Brigadier Toon Slabbert of the Eastern Cape Command said two teams of SANDF senior officers from Pretoria had arrived in Umtata to investigate the situation.

The brigadier told a press conference that the mutiny by a group of former TDF members began on June 8, following a shootout between striking policemen and soldiers ordered to contain the strike.

"On June 12 some TDF members — about six or eight — tried to make an alliance with the striking police but were soon arrested and taken to the army barracks in Port St Johns," he said.

However, the situation went out of control when a former TDF army officer sent to Port St Johns to investigate the actions of the arrested soldiers was taken hostage by TDF members.

Brigadier Slabbert said it was at this stage that General Matanzuma summoned help from the SANDF in Port Elizabeth.

A joint operation to rescue the officer and re-arrest the mutinous soldiers was launched.

"During the same evening, a group of junior officers in Umtata stole arms at the army base and travelled to Port St Johns with the intention of releasing the group arrested there. But they were stopped and arrested," Brigadier Slabbert said.

"On June 26 the same situation started in Maluti where 20 more soldiers were arrested."

Saying the situation was now under control, Brigadier Slabbert declined, however, to give detailed information on the reasons behind the mutiny, adding that this was still the subject of investigation.

He dismissed as untrue speculation that the army rebellion was due to uncertainty about the future among former TDF soldiers.

"Salaries, yes, might be one of the reasons, but I do not think it has anything to do with their being integrated into the SANDF or uncertainty about the process."

"In fact, the men held on June 16, when given a pen and paper and asked to write down their reasons for their actions, could not say anything."

Brigadier Slabbert could not say how long members of the SANDF from outside Transkei were likely to remain in the area.

The investigation which began yesterday was expected to be completed later this week, and if any of the arrested soldiers were found to have breached the law, they would be court-martialled — The Argus Correspondent and Sapa.
Welcome to Bonanza

You're a Winner!
The show Bonus CASH
Click Your Number

Bonanza
Lucky
Today's

Secret accounts stay

Bite the Bullet

SANDF has to

peace developments lay

secret accounts stay

by Barry Steenkamp
Nature body ready to buy W Coast land

Supreme Court reporter, April 24, 1994

The South African Nature Foundation is prepared to buy and restore the land at the centre of a controversial West Coast housing development.

The SANE was rebuked by the landmark decision in the Supreme Court yesterday by Mr Justice Rose-Innes and Mr Justice Foxcroft.

The two judges ruled that permits issued to Myburgh Park Langenhau Pty Ltd by the Administrator, the Minister of Education and Environment Affairs and the Langenhau Municipality giving the company permission to develop and sell building for Langenhau Lodge by declared null and void.

The judges were ruling on a review application brought by three companies, Coruil Pty Ltd, Meeeklap Boerderly Pty Ltd and Oesterwal CC.

They wanted the court to set aside the permits which allowed development of the land, previously declared a nature area, as they claimed it would be an "ecological disaster." 

The judges found that the Administrator had failed to apply his mind in granting the permit and that all the permits were ultra vires.

"Granting of the permits was a denigration of the purpose of a nature area. The proposed development contradicts the tenet of nature conservation," said Judge Rose-Innes.

Mr. He said "no reasonable man would have granted the permit given by the Administrator.

Frans Stroebel of the SANE said he had been instructed by the organisation's president, Anton Rupert, to start negotiations to buy the land from the developers.

Michael Schuurman-Steinhoven, the man behind the court action to stop the development, said it was a great victory for the "ordinary man."
215 soldiers held in Transkei

UMTATA — A total of 215 Transkei Defence Force members have been detained pending investigation and disciplinary action, TDF Commander Major-General Thembu Matanzima said yesterday. He said all armouries and ammunition depots were being secured by the SA National Defence Force and the TDF.

The move follows a mutiny by TDF members — Sapa
Acheson named as Lubowski assassin

WINDHOEK — A Namibian inquest court found yesterday that Swapo advocate Mr Anton Lubowski was assassinated in 1989 by Irish mercenary Mr Donald Acheson in a murder arranged by the SA Defence Force’s notorious Civil Co-operation Bureau.

Mr Justice Harold Levy said prima facie accomplices to the killing were CCB managing director, former colonel Mr Joe Verster and willing members Mr Ferdie Barnard, Mr Chappie Maree, Mr Staal Burger, Mr Wouter Basson, Mr Johan Niemoller, Mr Calla Botha and Mr Slang van Zyl.

A further accomplice was Mr Charles Neelie, though he had not necessarily known he was working for the CCB. A senior policeman was an accessory after the fact for not reporting information he had before and after the assassination.

Mr Lubowski was shot dead outside his home on September 12, 1989.

Mr Acheson was arrested the day after the killing but released in 1990 when Prosecutor-General Hans Heyman said he was unable to find sufficient evidence for a murder case.

Judge Levy described his failure to prosecute as “the height of incompetence” considering the “strong prima facie evidence” against Mr Acheson.

Judge Levy said Swapo MP Mr Dame Botha and Mr Lubowski’s former lover Miss Michaela Clayton, now Figueria, had no part in the killing. Evidence against them was a lie.

He dismissed allegations in Parliament by then-defence minister General Malan Malan that Mr Lubowski had been a South African military spy.

He said Mr Acheson, sometimes known as “The Cleaner”, was recruited by Mr Ferdie Barnard in 1988. He had murdered Mr Lubowski on September 12 and then buried the weapon.

Mr Lubowski’s father, retired Namibian farmer and businessman Mr Wilfried Lubowski, yesterday expressed relief that the killing was out.

He said his wife Jehanna (better known by her nickname of Molly) had become unwell upon hearing the news on the radio and was “a nervous wreck — she’s been kept in suspense for so long.”

Ms Figueria said she was relieved the inquest finding exonerated her.

“She was really hurtful. Besides dealing with the death of someone close to you, you have to deal four years later with allegations you were involved,” Ms Figueria said.

The SANDF said it would be inappropriate to comment “before the entire legal process has run its course” — Sapa, Staff Reporter.
Magnus Malan’s claim that Lubowski was SADF spy

**CCB man named as Lubowski’s killer**

IRISH MERCENARY Namibian court rules on Swapo lawyer’s death

CCB ‘arranged’ Anton Lubowski’s murder. A Namibian inquest court found yesterday that Swapo lawyer Mr Anton Lubowski was assassinated in 1989 by Irish mercenary Mr Donald Acheson in a murder arranged by the SA Defence Force’s notorious Civil Co-operation Bureau.

Mr Justice Harold Levy said prima facie accomplices to the killing were CCB managing director Mr Joe Verster and willing members Mr Ferdie Barnard, Mr Chapelle Marce, Mr Staal Burger, Mr Wooster Batson, Mr Johan Niemoller, Mr Cato Botha and Mr Stang van Zyl.

**Further accomplices**

A further accomplice was Mr Charles Neels, though he had not necessarily known he was working for the CCB.

A senior policeman was accessory after the fact for not reporting information he had before and after the assassination.

Lubowski, who at the time had just been appointed deputy Director of Finance and Administration of SWAPO’s election campaign, was shot dead with an AK-47 rifle at close range outside his home in Windhoek on September 12, 1989.

Acheson was arrested the day after the killing but released in 1990 when prosecutor-general Mr Hans Heymann said he was unable to find sufficient evidence for a murder case. Levy described his failure to prosecute as “the height of incompetence” considering the “strong prima facie evidence” against Acheson which he said could have saved a lot of time, money, prestige and reputations.

The judge found no conspiracy by a group of white South West African police officers to murder the activist and said they had not been involved in the killing. The policemen and a senior defence force officer had been blamed by The Namibian newspaper as conspirators in the killing on the basis of affidavits the judge dismissed as devoid of truth.

However, publication of the officers’ names had been in the public interest, the judge said, a finding observers said could help the newspaper fight a potential defamation case. Swapo MP Datie Boels and Lubowski’s former lover Michael Clayton (now Figueroa) had no part in the killing, and the evidence against them was a lie, the judge said.

He dismissed allegations in Parliament by then SA Defence Minister Magnus Malan that Lubowski had been a South African military spy — *Sapa*
WINDHOEK — Namibia intends to pursue an extradition treaty with the government following the judgment in the Lubowski inquest this week in which the judge named certain members of the notorious Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) as having initiated and been accomplices to the death of the activist.

Deputy Justice Minister Vekuii Rukoro said after the conclusion of the inquest that it "would be irresponsible if the government did not try to extradite those involved in the murder of Anton Lubowski" and for them to stand trial in Namibia.

Mr Rukoro said South Africa's justice ministry under the former government had dragged its feet on an extradition treaty. But, now that there is a new administration we will definitely proceed most expeditiously to get a treaty in place.

The judge named, among others, the CCB's managing director, Joe Verster, as well as several members including Chappie Maree, Calla Botha, Staal Burger, Ferdie Barnard, Slang van Zyl, Wouter Basset and Johan Niemoller as being accomplices.

The inquest outcome, nearly five years after the death of Mr Lubowski, a prominent white Swapo member who was gunned down outside his Windhoek home in a hail of AK-47 bullets on September 12, 1989, has been greeted with some disbelief in Namibian circles. While no one appears to dispute the involvement of the CCB in the planning and execution of the murder, the judge's ruling that Irish mercenary Donald Acheson pulled the trigger does not seem to quite ring true.

Mr Acheson, who was arrested the day after the murder and held for several months in custody, was finally released when the state dropped charges against him.

Mr Justice Harold Levy thus week rebuked Namibia's Prosecutor-General, Hans Heyman, for failing to try Mr Acheson for murder on the grounds of strong circumstantial evidence against him. Mr Heyman, however, has defended his decision, saying that if he had tried Mr Acheson it would have led to an acquittal because of a lack of witnesses.

Mr Acheson, who subsequently left Namibia for South Africa, later admitted having been sent by the CCB to Windhoek to poison the editor of The Namibian newspaper, Gwen Laizer.

Judge Levy maintains there was enough circumstantial evidence against Mr Acheson at the time of his arrest to Windhoek for him to have stood trial.

Citing, among others, the movements of Mr Acheson on the night of the murder, the fact that he hired a red Toyota Conquest had marks on the roof indicated that it had been used to steady the AK-47 during the shooting.

In addition to this, the fact that he had been seen by his landlady carrying what appeared to be a rifle in a hessian bag. Judge Levy maintained that had Mr Acheson stood trial it would have ended all the conspiracy theories which followed his release.

In May 1993, The Namibian published a front-page report citing sworn affidavits which claimed that high-ranking Namibian police and army officers had been involved in the assassination.

Those in question immediately launched a R1.5-million lawsuit against the newspaper. The suit was held in abeyance until after the inquest.

With the judge's ruling which exonerated the top policemen, who include the investigating officer in the Lubowski murder, Deputy Commissioner Jumto Smit, as well as the former head of Namibia's security police, General Foffie Badenhorst, the four who were suspended from their duties in the court of the inquest were immediately reinstated on Thursday.

At this stage, it is not known whether the officers plan to pursue their lawsuit against The Namibian, but may well want to do so to "clear their names".

Another aspect of the judgment which surprised Namibians was the total exonerating by the judge of the policemen who had been implicated in the Lubowski family in summoning up, told the court it was clear from evidence that an important report concerning the CCB plot to murder Mr Lubowski was made to Inspector Terry Terblanche of the police prior to Mr Lubowski's death.

Counsel for the family submitted that if proper police investigation and action had been undertaken at the time, the murder may have been prevented.
Charity at the Forefront: "Dreams of the Future" - A Call to Action for Philanthropy

By Anthony Williams

"Charity is an act of love, and no act of love is ever wasted," said Mother Teresa, a true inspiration for our modern philanthropy. As we face the unprecedented challenges of our times, the need for charitable giving is more evident than ever. Whether through financial contributions, volunteerism, or educational efforts, each act of kindness echoes throughout the community, creating a ripple effect that transforms lives.

In an era where technology and globalization connect us in ways our predecessors could never have imagined, the potential for positive change is tremendous. However, to harness this potential, we must first undermine the misconception that philanthropy is a luxury reserved for the elite. On the contrary, charity is a human right - a fundamental right to a dignified existence and a fair chance at opportunity.

To understand the importance of charity, we need only look back at the history of human progress. From the earliest societies, communities have come together to support one another, particularly during times of crisis. The essence of charity - the selfless desire to give to others - is a universal value that transcends cultural, religious, and national boundaries.

In recent years, we have seen the power of collective action in addressing global issues such as climate change, poverty, and education. These achievements were made possible through the coordinated efforts of governments, organizations, and individuals. However, despite these advancements, our world still faces many challenges. The current global pandemic, for instance, has highlighted the vulnerability of those without access to healthcare. In times like these, it is crucial that we recommit ourselves to the principles of philanthropy.

As we move forward, we must also consider the role of technology in philanthropy. The internet and social media have opened up new avenues for giving, allowing individuals to connect with causes and organizations that align with their values. This has democratized access to philanthropy, empowering people to make a difference in a way that was once only possible for those with resources.

In conclusion, the act of giving is not just about donating money, but about embracing the spirit of charity that drives us as a species. As we navigate the complexities of our world, let us remember the words of the philosopher John Stuart Mill: "Charity is the truest religion, the only true revelation, the philosophy by which God himself might have been most worshipped."

Let us unite in the spirit of philanthropy, recognizing the power of our collective action. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.
Peacekeeping force costs ‘not a waste’

PRETORIA — The R396m budgeted for the ill-fated National Peacekeeping Force — which was confined to barracks after being deployed only once on the East Rand — was not a total waste, the Defence Ministry said this weekend.

“Nothing would be lost,” Ministry spokesman Maj Mufu Anderson said. However, she conceded that the cost of their deployment on the East Rand had been a “waste”.

According to the Budget Review released last week, the force was allocated R129m for the 1993/94 financial year and R265m for 1994/95. This amounted to about R100 000 a head for the 4 600-strong force.

Since Defence Minister Joe Modise announced the disbanding of the force earlier this month, all logistical and other responsibilities for it had been handed over to SANDF chief Gen George Manyeli.

Vehicles, clothing and other equipment would be taken over by the national defence force, and the training already received would be put to good use when members were integrated into the SANDF, Anderson said.

Because they had already received several weeks of training by experts, the force’s soldiers would not need as much bridging training as other Umkhonto we Sizwe members currently stationed at SANDF assembly points, she said.

“The light blue berets issued to the NPKF are now being issued to the new Presidential Guard. The overall systems issued to them during basic training will still be used by them during further training in the SANDF.”

The SANDF would carry almost R1,2bn of the R3,6bn training costs to pay for the integration of MK soldiers into the defence force — at a budgeted cost of R34 000 a head.

Total defence spending for the 1994/95 fiscal year was R10,51bn, of which R1,48bn was for the integration of all military forces into the SANDF and R3,13bn for the establishment and running of assembly points.

Although no detailed breakdown of how the R1,48bn for integration would be spent, it had been stated that roughly R77m would be for salaries and R77m for administration. The rest would be spent on logistics.
SA's State-run death squads

Assesses hidden in security forces' dramatic arsenal of the State

NEWS FEATURE

By Patrick Lawrence

Judge's Verdict: Two inmates

Findings raise more disturbing possibilities

Monday, July 29, 1999. SOWETAN
NPKF training costs
‘not a total waste’

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA — The R384 million budgeted for the ill-fated National Peacekeeping Force — confined to barracks after being deployed only once, on the East Rand — was not a total waste, the Defence Ministry said this weekend.

“Nothing would be lost,” said spokesman Major Ulf Andersson.

According to the Budget Review released last week, the NPKF was allocated R129m for the 1993/94 financial year and R256m for 1994/95. This amounted to about R100 000 a head for the 4 000-strong force.

However, Maj Andersson conceded that the cost of their deployment on the East Rand had been a “waste.” Since Defence Minister Dr Joe Modise announced the disbanding of the NPKF earlier this month, all logistical and other responsibilities for the force had been handed over to SANDF chief Gen Georg Meiring, Maj Andersson said.

Vehicles, clothing and other equipment would be taken over by the national defence force, and the training received by the NPKF would be put to good use when members were integrated into the SANDF, he said.

NPKF soldiers would not need as much bridging training as other uMkhonto we Sizwe members now stationed at SANDF assembly points.

The SANDF will carry almost R1.8 billion of the R3.8bn transition costs to pay for the integration of MK soldiers into the defence force — at a budgeted cost of R54 000 a head.
Kei armies (254) c 27/9/4 for SANDF

EAST LONDON — The Transkei and Ciskei defence forces will be integrated into the SA National Defence Force by April next year.

Eastern Province Command Chief of Staff Colonel Johann Swanepoel said there would be one command structure, headquartered in Port Elizabeth.

The last of more than 1,200 MK militants sent to Uganda for guerrilla training five years ago have left for home, Ugandan officials said at the weekend. Some will be incorporated into the SANDF — Own Correspondent, Sapa-Reuters
Namibia may yet seek extraditions in Lubowski case

Argus Africa News Service

WINDHOEK. — A decision on whether Namibia should seek the extradition from South Africa of the suspected accomplices in the assassination of Anton Lubowski is still being considered by Prosecutor-General Hans Heyman, according to Deputy Justice Minister Ve-kuli Rukoro.

However, Namibian officials are believed to be considering a new attempt to extradite the three South African rightwingers who escaped from Namibia after being accused of killing a guard in an attack on a United Nations office in Opuwo in 1989. Such an application could establish a precedent for the Lubowski matter.

After Anton Lubowski's father, Wilmund, had met South African Justice Minister Dallyh Omar yesterday, Mr Lubowski said there was support from the South African government for extradition Justice minister spokesman David Forgo confirmed that "we are sympathetic to prosecution of South African Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) operatives whom Judge Levy found to be implicated prima facie as accomplices in Anton Lubowski's murder.

Mr Rukoro said yesterday a decision on whether to seek the extradition of the eight — Ferdi Barnard, Chappie Maree, Staal Burger, Wouter Basson, Johan Niemoller, Calla Botha, Slang van Zyl and Joe Verster — would be taken only after Mr Heyman had studied Judge Levy's findings.

If it is decided to seek extradition, Namibia has two options. The first is to conclude the extradition treaty that has been under negotiation with South Africa for several years. This may not cover political crimes, however
Memo warns on defence cuts

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Further reduc-
tions in defence spending to fi-
nance the Reconstruction and
Development Programme (RDP)
are not feasible, according to an
explanatory memorandum on
the defence budget.

The memorandum, tabled in
Parliament, said the South Afri-
can National Defence Force
(SANDF) could make an indirect
contribution to the RDP by pro-
viding its expertise in training,
health care, rural development
and infrastructure.

An amount of R650 million —
the largest sum from any gov-
ernment department — was con-
tributed from the defence budget
for the initial R2.5 billion needed
to kick-start the RDP Fund.

Although the SANDF was
aware of the Government’s
changing expenditure priorities,
the memorandum warned that
further cuts in the defence bud-
get would seriously affect the ef-
ficiency of the defence force.

Decreased

An amount of R10 610 million
has been budgeted for defence
spending for the 1994/95 fiscal
year, representing a real in-
crease of 4.3 percent on last
year’s allocation.

Allocation to the Special De-
fence Account has decreased by
23.2 percent in real terms.

The account was established
in 1982 to buy main weapon sys-
tems, but was extended in 1974
to include “special defence ac-
tivities and the procurement of
technical defence stores, spares
and relevant equipment for air-
craft, ships, weaponry and spe-
cial construction works.”

The memorandum said 70 per-
cent of the funds under the Spe-
cial Defence Account was used
for capital projects. Expenditure
from the account requires ap-
proval from the Ministers of De-
fence and of Finance.
SANDF to trim permanent force

THE South African National Defence Force has set itself a target of reducing its permanent force to 91,000 members from an expected peak of 120,000 when members of Apla and MK are fully integrated.

According to a memorandum presented to Parliament yesterday, ahead of a finance standing committee debate on the defence budget vote this week, the SANDF reports 30,000 members of the former non-statutory and statutory forces will have to be cut back within three years.

At present there are 95,000 PF members, including former officers and NCOs from the old homeland armies.

The SANDF said that during the 1970s and 1980s defence planning took place against a background of a “conventional threat”, but the changed “strategic situation” in Southern Africa had led to a reassessment of required strength.

The indication of three force sizes had been identified by strategic planners — a war force, regarded as necessary to defend the country in times of conventional war, a smaller core force, needed for the essential defence of the country and an affordable force.

An affordable force of about 91,000 members was the only one permitted by the present budget — but one which would be increased in time to counter any threat to national security.
Bill levels salaries for judges

PARLIAMENT - Constitutional Court judges are to be paid at least the same as Appeal Court judges, but their gratuity after a seven-year term will be discussed further today.

This was the consensus of the National Assembly's Select Committee on Justice yesterday during consideration of the Judges' Remuneration and Conditions of Employment Amendment Bill, which deals with the Constitutional Court.

Mr Tony Leon (DP) said a proposed gratuity of R1 million was "excessively generous".

Mr Willie Hofmeyr (ANC) said his rough calculation showed such a gratuity would equal the pension of other judges.

Committee chairman Mr Johnny de Lange ruled that the issue be discussed again today when Members could present specific proposals.

The other draft legislation under review is the Judicial Service Commission Bill.

Mr Koos van der Merwe (IFP) asked why provision had not been made for attorneys-general, who handled thousands of cases a day, to be represented on the commission.

Mr De Lange said this would be "flagged" as an issue to be raised.

Also to be discussed is the effect of the Senate and National Assembly committees considering the same legislation. — Sapa
Lubowski extradition likely — further
SANDF shake-up announced

MK officers appointed as generals

CAPE-TOWN — Defence Minister Joe Modise yesterday announced a major shake-up of the SA National Defence Force, appointing seven former Umkhonto we Sizwe officers as generals.

The only non-MK appointment is former Transkei Defence Force chief Maj-Gen Temba Matanzima, who retains his rank and takes over from Brig-Gen Slabbert as officer commanding Eastern Province.

Modise also confirmed the posts of 12 serving senior officers.

The changes to the SANDF’s top echelons will result in serving officers holding on to their posts, but they have been balanced by the new appointments.

The appointment of two lieutenant-generals, five major generals and two brigadiers—from MK ranks was announced, while serving officers remained as chiefs of the Army, air force and navy.

The only senior post still to be announced is that of Intelligence chief of staff Lt-Gen Dirk Verbeek is acting chief of staff following the retirement of Gen Joffel van der Westhuizen.

Former MK chief of staff Siphwe Nyanzi will become the SANDF’s first black chief of staff, but has been appointed in an acting capacity until he completes the necessary courses.

The positions of Army chief Lt-Gen Hattingh-Pretorius, SAADF chief Lt-Gen James Kriel and Navy chief Vice-Adm Robert Simpson-Anderson were confirmed.

Modise acknowledged that there had been pressure from within and outside the SANDF about the necessity to “maintain standards”. But SA was going through a transitional phase and special arrangements would have to be made.

SANDF chief Gen Georg Meiring said he was very happy with the appointments but the new senior members would have to undergo the relevant courses to equip them for their posts.

Modise gave the assurance that the defence burden would fall on volunteers in future.

He said the SANDF had been involved in contingency planning for a possible intervention in Lesotho with members of neighbouring countries’ security forces. The situation was being monitored.

Regarding Angola, he said he was sure contingency plans already existed for possible intervention there if required.

Placement boards, including MK members, were considering the positions of other MK members and how they would be integrated into the new force.

No decision had yet been made about Apla members, although Modise made it clear that they would be included.

Meiring said the current force of about 91,000 would be supplemented by about 30,000 MK members. The force would be reduced to its current level again in three years by a process of natural attrition.

Other serving officers whose positions were confirmed were: Surgeon-General Lt-Gen Neil Knobel; Personnel chief of staff Vice-Adm Piet Lohfend; Operations chief of staff Lt-Gen Wessel Kritzinger; Logistics chief of staff Vice-Adm Al Malherbe; Finance chief of staff Lt-Gen Ben Haubenheimer; Inspector-General Maj-Gen A Ismail.

Modise said other appointments would be announced soon.
MK man named chief of staff

Mr Siphewe Nyanda has been appointed acting chief of staff of the South African National Defence Force with the rank of Lieutenant-General. He is one of nine senior MK officers whose placement in top positions in the integrated SANDF were announced by Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise yesterday.

Modise said the appointments were part of the integration and restructuring processes which were taking place in the SANDF. The new appointments include Nyanda, Lieutenant-General Lambert Moloi (chief of the service brigade), Major-General A Masando (chief director of personnel SANDF headquarters) and Major-General J Tshali (chief of army staff). — Sowetan Reporter and Sapa.
SA ‘won’t go to Rwanda’

Sowetan Correspondent

DEFENCE Minister Joe Modise has effectively ruled out sending troops to war-ravaged Rwanda, saying South Africa’s own problems should take priority.

The Minister revealed, however, that the Government was contemplating leasing 50 armoured troop carriers and donating emergency supplies to the United Nations for use in Rwanda.

Responding to questions in the Senate yesterday, Modise said the Government was also considering airlifting to Rwanda a variety of material collected by South African churches.

He categorically rejected any suggestion that troops or support staff would be sent to Rwanda.

Asked by Democratic Party senator Errol Moorcroft whether he would consider sending troops if the situation in Rwanda worsened, Modise stressed “We have our own problems here at home.”

“We think the Rwandan situation is taken care of by forces coming from the United Nations and at present there are French forces there,” said Modise.
Election costs SANDF R37m

PRETORIA — The duties performed and emergency assistance given to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) during the April election cost the SA National Defence Force more than R37m.

The SA Army had 143 companies comprising 26,500 men deployed over the period at a manpower cost of R31,001,390, the SANDF said.

The SA Air Force, which assisted the IEC with monitoring and a number of emergency transport flights to help distribute about 6,6-million additional ballot papers, spent R2,4m on flying hours and fuel alone. Personnel resources cost the Air Force R426,512.

The assistance required by the IEC had necessitated the suspension of training at certain fighter squadrons.

The logistical and communications support provided by the army cost more than R2,1m. About 653,559 additional ballot papers were printed by the army’s 1 Military Printing Regiment on April 27 and 28.

Road transport was provided to help distribute some of the additional ballot papers.

The SA Navy provided manpower support to the army, specialist protection forces and bomb disposal and telecommunication experts at a cost of R352,491.

The SA Medical Service spent R597,255 to have personnel on standby, provide air evacuation teams and give medical support to deployed units and police stations.

The SANDF said the support provided to the IEC was completed within financial regulations.
Seven MK generals in SANDF

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

A MAJOR shake-up in the defence force, including the appointment of seven senior uMkonto weSizwe (MK) officers as generals, was announced yesterday by the Minister of Defence, Mr Joe Modise.

The most significant of the appointments was that of a former MK chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Siphiwe Nyanda, as chief of staff of the SA National Defence Force. Although Mr Modise said General Nyanda's appointment was "acting" and would only be confirmed after he had completed staff courses, General Nyanda is now in line to take over from Lt-Gen Georg Meiring as head of the SANDF.

Mr Modise confirmed that 12 serving senior officers would continue in their posts.

Chief's stay

The only senior post still to be announced is that of Chief of Staff Intelligence, the position that was held by Lt-Gen Joffel van der Westhuizen. Lt-Gen Dirk Verbeek is acting Chief of Staff Intelligence.

Lt-Gen Hattingh Pretorius remains chief of the army, Lt-Gen James Kriel the head of the air force, and Vice-Admiral Robert Simpson Anderson the head of the navy.

The former head of the Transkei Defence Force, Maj-Gen Temha Matanzima, will take over from Brigadier Toon Slabbert as officer commanding Eastern Cape.

Other new appointments include: Chief of Service Brigade, Lt-Gen Lambert Molel (formerly MK Operations Director); Chief Director of Personnel SANDF Headquarters, Maj-Gen Andrew Mazondo (formerly MK Political Commissar), Chief of Army Staff, Maj-Gen J Tshali; Chief Director of Logistics SANDF Headquarters, Maj-Gen A Ismail, Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence, Maj-Gen P Tshikare; Commander of SA Army Command, Maj-Gen N Ngwenya.
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Brigade, Lt-Gen Lambert Moloi (formerly MK Oper-
ations Director); Chief Director of Personnel SANDF
Headquarters, Major-General Andrew Masepo (formerly
MK Political Commissioner); Chief of Army Staff, Major-
General J Thabali; Chief Director of Logistics SANDF
Headquarters, Major-General A Ismail; Deputy Chief of
Staff Intelligence, Major-General P Tshikhane; Commander
of SA Army Command, Major-General N Ngwenya.
Johannesburg — The future of South Africa's arms industry is uncertain as its benefits have to be weighed against the need to finance sorely needed social programmes, an African National Congress department has said.

The dilemma over whether to subsidise the arms industry — because its earnings would contribute to social programmes — or to allocate this money directly to these programmes had to be resolved, said the ANC's department of economic planning.

In a lengthy document, it set out the possible costs and benefits of a viable South African arms industry.

It said the cost-benefit analysis, the impact on trade and international relations and the effect on the nation's morale would be equally decisive in choosing the right path.

The document said proponents of the arms industry claimed it would create jobs and wealth from exports. These proponents of the industry reinforce their position on constitutional grounds, arguing that the constitution calls for a modern well-equipped, technologically advanced defence force.

"They also bolster their position on the basis of threat analysis, stating that external instability will spill over South Africa's borders and that, therefore, a strong defence capacity and industry is necessary."

Against this was the argument that it was morally questionable to export arms to conflict areas.

The document said the export potential of the industry had to be examined as it appeared as if most exports were of the G5 and G6 artillery systems, representing only the heavy mechanical engineering and chemical propellant sectors of the industry.

Of the R600 million worth of arms exported last year, taxpayers had contributed R120 million to the Denel industrial group. — Sapa
MK welcomes integration steps

NEWLY appointed acting SA National Defence Force chief-of-staff Siphiwe Nyanda says his appointment was the first positive indication that the integration of all armies was proceeding equally.

The former Umkhonto we Sizwe chief-of-staff added that his appointment was "a welcome, if delayed development".

Lieutenant-General Nyanda noted that the appointment of senior MK officers to the SANDF top structure came at a time when there had been "rumblings" among MK cadres about the perceived slow pace of integration.

He said cadres were concerned that although the African National Congress had won a landslide victory in the election, the former SANDF establishment was being fashioned into the MK was being "parcellled".

Although his appointment was a positive signal, General Nyanda said it did not signify the end of the integration problems.

"It signals the intention to deal with the problems," he said. "I regard it as a challenge, but I need all the assistance from my fellow officers, especially those from the former SANDF."
School cadets might be halted — Meiring

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — School cadets are either to be stopped or expanded to all schools, says South African National Defence Force (SANDF) chief Georg Meiring.

Replying to questions by the Finance Standing Committee, he said yesterday that the SANDF subsidised weapons and ammunition for school cadets.

Meiring said the defence budget had been cut by 50 percent since 1989. The cuts had resulted in plans to reduce the 761 air force aircraft to 390 by 2005, fighter squadrons to be reduced from 10 to three, and flying hours to be cut from 110 000 hours to 80 000.

Navy vessels were expected to last until 2005 and a decision was to be taken in October on whether new vessels were affordable.

Justifying the cost of buying Pilatus aircraft, Meiring said it cost R1 million to train a fighter pilot. South Africa produced the best-trained pilots — with the exception of the United Kingdom — and it could consider "selling" training for pilots.

Questioned on the special defence account, Meiring said R509 million was budgeted for the account after a forced cut of R297 million — part of the SANDF's R550 million contribution to the Reconstruction and Development Programme Fund.
Kasrils: No temptation to censor

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

THE Defence and Protection of Information Acts will be amended to bring them into line with constitutional provisions ensuring press freedom, Deputy Defence Minister Mr Ronnie Kasrils told Parliament yesterday.

The ministry had no temptation to censor news reports on sensitive matters, he said in reply to Ms Dene Smuts (DP).

Speaking on behalf of Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise, who was touring the Cape Flats, Mr Kasrils said the minister wished to reiterate his commitment to press freedom.

Mr Modise recently sought an interdict to prevent the Weekly Mail from publishing reports about the Directorate of Covert Collections, a military intelligence operation.

Mr Modise's prepared response, read by Mr Kasrils, said he wanted to make it clear his intention in agreeing to SANDF chief General Georg Merring's request for the interdict was to satisfy himself on the security implications.

After doing so, he "instructed the state attorney to withdraw the interdict."

Asked by Ms Smuts whether the Defence and Protection of Information Acts would be amended to bring them into line with the interim constitution on press freedom, before the temptation arose to "censor again", Mr Kasrils said "There is no such temptation. The answer is an unreserved 'yes'."

Call to restrict legal sanctions on the press — Page 5
SANDF: R2bn to integrate

The cost of integrating the SA National Defence Force would be more than R2 billion, Lieutenant-General Ben Rauenheimer, Chief of Staff (Finance), said yesterday.

He told the joint committee on finance the integration of non-statutory forces such as MKhonto weSizwe (MK) and Apla would cost R1.48bn, and those of the former TBVC states R256m.

He said R233m was earmarked for MK assembly points. — Sapa.
PRETORIA. — The appointment of former MK chief of staff General Siphiwe Nyanda as acting chief of staff in the SANDF was blatant discrimination, the CP said yesterday.

CP defence spokesman Dr Willie Snyman said General Nyanda's appointment and those of nine other senior MK officers to top positions in the SANDF were "clearly not based on merit but on the government of national unity's policy of affirmative action."

"The mere fact that General Nyanda was appointed in an acting capacity because he still needed to receive training underlines this fact."
Senior officers of the SA National Defence Force face retrenchment over the next three years as part of a plan to reduce the strength of the SANDF by 30,000 members. A memorandum tabled in parliament this week by Defence Minister Joe Modise warns that the cost of the retrenchments will further burden the defence budget.

But, according to the document, there is no other option. The integration of the old SADF, the former homeland armies and the guerrilla forces will create a 120,000-member force and push long-term defence costs to unacceptable levels. A target of 91,000 full-time soldiers must, therefore, be achieved within three years. While natural attrition will be relied on to bring down the numbers, reductions at senior level will have to be achieved by retrenchment.

Meanwhile, Modise has announced the first appointments of senior members of Umkhonto we Sizwe into the top structure of the SANDF.

The most significant is that of MK chief Sophwe Nyanda (44) as acting Chief of Staff with the rank of Lieutenant General. His position will be confirmed once he has passed certain training courses.

The appointment effectively makes Nyanda second in command to SANDF chief General Geoff Meiring and probably means he will take over when Meiring retires in five years' time.

The only non-MK member in the list of 10 new senior appointments is former Transkei Defence Force chief Major-General T T Matanzama, who has been appointed head of Eastern Province command. Modise says some senior officers will retire to make way for the new appointees. Further appointments will be made as suitable candidates are identified. The appointments of 12 currently serving senior officers were also confirmed by Modise. They include the chiefs of the Army Air Force and Navy and the Surgeon-General.

The latest defence budget increased by 13%, from R9,3bn to R10,6bn, due mainly to the R1,8bn cost of integrating the various forces and providing assembly points for members of MK and Apla. However, defence spending as a percentage of total state spending has decreased from 15.7% in 1989 to 8.5% this year.

Against this background, the memorandum tabled by Modise warns of the danger of continuing to reduce capital spending in the SANDF, which has declined from 44% in 1989 to 23% this year. It points out that the lead time in the development of new weapons systems is 10-15 years, while the lead time in significant changes to foreign political scenarios is considerably shorter. The current size of the capital budget means the SANDF runs the risk of being unable to maintain even the minimum levels of strategic technology.

In addition, the cutback in spending has already reached a level where some sectors of the defence industry are unable to maintain cost-effective production. The SANDF has already fallen behind the accepted rate at which equipment such as fighter aircraft, armoured vehicles and submarines need to be replaced or their systems renewed.

The document concludes that while the SANDF is fully aware of government's changing expenditure priorities, it warns that any further defence budget cuts will severely undermine the force's ability to perform its task as set out in the Constitution.

## REGIONAL HEADLINES

### Lofty ideas?

A rose may well be a rose by any other name, but a decision by the nine regional Premiers to call executive council members Cabinet Ministers could be of more significance than a simple name change. It may be a signal of intent from regional administrations that they want more federal power and autonomy.

Significantly, KwaZulu/Natal Premier Frank Mdlalose, whose Inkatha Freedom Party leads the federal charge, has specifically referred to his 11-member executive council as a Cabinet since May 11, when he and 80 others were sworn into the provincial legislature by Natal Judge President Alan Howard.

Strictly speaking, the terms Cabinet and Cabinet Minister in the interim constitution are reserved for the top, national tier of government. The Cabinet comprises the President, Deputy President and not more than 27 members appointed by the President with at least 20 representatives are entitled to Cabinet portfolios in proportion to the seats held in the National Assembly. The provinces, as the second tier of government, have provincial legislatures and executive committees each comprising a Premier and maximum of 10 others.

It could be argued that Mdlalose's administration, as the only one of the former self-governing or homeland ruling parties to have won at the April 27 polls, uses the titles because they are much the same as those used in the former KwaZulu Legislative Assembly.

That, however, doesn't explain the unanimous decision by a June 9 meeting of the nine regional Premiers, seven of whom are ANC members, to use the terminology Cabinet Minister, provincial Cabinet, provincial parliament, and member of the provincial parliament (MP).

Cape Town University's Robert Schrire believes the decision is significant and indicates a strong impetus to elevate the status of these positions. He says: "We certainly seem to be moving in a federal direction, particularly when one looks at previous titles such as administrator or member of the executive committee. These carved strong connotations of being central government agents."

Much of federalism, says Schrire, is about perception and how regional politicians behave, rather than just the nuts and bolts of the constitution. "An important part of this is whether they wear the nomenclature which goes with the various positions." He cites the Australian example where having state Prime Ministers creates the perception and a self-definition of autonomous regions. A similar impression is created in SA by calling provincial leaders Premiers, which is generally interchangeable with Prime Ministers. This is now being reinforced by using titles such as Cabinet instead of executive committee.

Schrire adds that another factor is central government's preoccupation with the national unity concept. "The idea of national unity is taken more seriously at the centre, whereas the perception that there are winners and losers is stronger in the Western Cape, PWV and KwaZulu/Natal, and that their winners are entitled to more leeway than they are at the centre."

"The national unity ideal could mean somewhat
Cabinet 'no' to prison for children

Political Staff

THE cabinet had decided that no person under 18 should be detained in prison before being convicted, Correctional Services minister Dr Sipho Mzemela announced yesterday.

Referring to a lack of suitable alternative facilities in the country, Dr Mzemela said the problem would be solved through the creation and identification of new facilities.

On May 26 this year, about 800 unsentenced children under 18 were in detention.

There is a major gap in facilities in rural areas.

Dr Mzemela's statement is the first concrete step towards removing unsentenced children from prison since President Nelson Mandela issued instructions to this effect in his May 24 parliamentary speech.

Dr Mzemela said he had "proposed to the cabinet that section 29 of the Correctional Services Act be amended so as to stipulate that no person under the age of 18 years shall, before his conviction, be detained in prison."

Dr Mzemela said the cabinet approved this proposal on June 29 and legislation would be promulgated as soon as possible.
Brandy in Coke General tops

General aware that his role in the

Brandy in Coke General tops

General aware that his role in the
LATER DISGRESS: From the Kasr, the counterterrorist deputy minister of defence.

Number of volunteer soldiers will be reduced to 5,000 a year.
Tension over Army Promotions...
SA'S MILITARY REMAINED IN FIRST EIGHTY-FOUR CONTROL OF ARMED FORCES IN 30 YEARS

BY NORMAN CHAMBERLAIN

DEFENCE MINISTER
Transkei forces back Meiring

UNTITLATA — All officers of the SA National Defence Force in the former Transkei have pledged their support for SANDF chief General, Georg Meiring.

So said Maj. Gen. Temba Makwezi, head of the Eastern Province Command, as he welcomed Gen. Meiring and members of the Joint Military Co-ordinating Council at the start of a visit to Umtata yesterday.

Gen. Meiring said the force could not tolerate mutiny or strikes, but urged those with grievances to come forward.

— Sapa
Armscor committed to affirmative action

Political Staff

ARMSCOR has committed itself to an affirmative action policy — and 76% of new appointments will be black.

Armscor spokesman Abba Omar said this at an Institute of Maritime Research briefing yesterday.

He also said Armscor plans to be more accountable to the public.

Mr Omar said the new Armscor would seek input from trade unions, human rights organisations, environmental bodies and other interest groups in determining policy.

Armscor also planned to have a board of directors representative of South African society.

It was important to empower society in the interests of informed decisions. This empowerment included public briefings and tours of Armscor plants. Educational workshops would be held at schools.

Armscor would continue to act within government policy, but also would strive to be sensitive to people's sentiments.

Mr Omar said Armscor was looking forward to seeing the shroud of secrecy around the international arms trade removed.
Armscor plans big RDP role

By DAN SIMON

ARMSCOR plans to play a major role in the government’s R7.5-billion Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) by providing information and management services.

In a briefing at the Institute for Maritime Research in Simon’s Town, Armscor executive general manager Mr Tielman de Waal said Armscor’s “core business” was management development.

He said that over the past two decades Armscor had built up a reputation for handling complex defence and civilian projects.

In the process it had acquired in-depth experience in managing all aspects of trade and finance, high-level human resources, research and development and manufacturing and marketing, he said.

This placed the corporation in the unique position to provide the expertise to implement the RDP, Mr De Waal said.

Armscor senior manager Dr A J Buys said “In any sphere where a particular need is identified we can do it in such a way to stimulate industry.

“This could be done at the same rate (a management fee of 9%) as we did for the SA National Defence Force — which was a very cost-efficient service,” Dr Buys said.

He said that as a result of the end of the arms embargo, the corporation would soon be publishing details of its plans to enter the open tender system for defence contracts.

“We are preparing to have a contracts’ bulletin published which will see more than 80% of future business in defence contracts going on open tender.”

Dr Buys added that at present the SANDF accounted for more than 50% of Armscor business, of which the bulk, 60%, was taken up by the SA Air Force.

Armscor general manager of corporate communications Mr Abba Omar said Armscor was implementing a policy of transparency and accountability as the transition had “given birth” to a new Armscor.
UK military team helps integration

PRETORIA. — A British military team is fanning out across the country to help integrate former anti-apartheid guerrillas and homeland troops into the new Defence Force.

The first group from the 31-member British Military Advisory Training Team (BMATT) has arrived at the Wallmannshal base north of Pretoria; Royal Marine Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Lash told a news conference yesterday.

Another group was due at the De Brug army base near Bloemfontein today, while a third would move "soon" to the Hoedspruit assembly camp in the Eastern Transvaal.

BMATT commander, Brigadier Dick Trigger said the team was in South Africa at the request of the government to "assist in the process of integration of the South African National Defence Force."

The SANDF is expected to expand to about 130,000 from its regular force level of around 72,000 as former guerrillas and troops from the now-defunct homeland armies are integrated. — Reuters
JOHANNESBURG — SA is to sell Oman long-range G-6 self-propelled artillery guns worth $120m in the first public arms sale since a US weapons embargo was lifted, arms maker Denel Ltd said yesterday.

A statement said the deal included ammunition, spares and logistical support for the 155mm guns but did not say how many of the weapons were involved.

The statement said the deal would protect or create more than 4,000 jobs. It added that the UK’s Defence Ministry had made an offer to use the Rooivalk helicopter.

Meanwhile, Denel announced attributable earnings marginally ahead at R39.2m ($234.9m) for the year to March, as surging exports offset falling sales to its mainstay market, the SA security forces.

The group, which began trading as a private company in April 1992, secured a 94% jump in exports to R94m — representing nearly one-quarter of Denel’s R2.8bn total income — despite continued international recession.

Denel gained access to 30 new countries during the year, bringing its representation to 37 overseas markets, despite continued arms sanctions. But domestic cuts in arms spending left sales to the security forces at R1.5bn (R1.7bn), reducing its contribution to total income to 53% (63%).

Earnings were fixed at 39c a share (38.5c) Denel said the performance was above expectations, though it again pegged its dividend at 8.8c.

MD Johan Alberts said the rapid political changes during the past year had had a dramatic influence on the group “High levels of domestic conflict and the uncertainties synonymous with a change in the national government inhibited negotiations with foreign clients.”

Income increased R40m to R2.86bn. Turnover rose R99.4m to R2.65bn, with local commercial sales rising 19% to R387m — Reuter and Own Correspondent
British team helps SANDF

PRETORIA — The newly-arrived British military advisory and training team in South Africa has so far deployed its personnel in two centres to carry out its principal task of assisting in the integration of the SA National Defence Force.

The British commander, Brigadier Dick Trigg, said at the group’s first press conference here it had deployed teams at Wallmannstad, north of here, and De Brug, near Bloemfontein, where hundreds of former uMkhonto we-Sizwe troops were waiting to be mastered into SANDF.

The integration process was expected to take two years — Sapa

Modise calls for ‘change’

GWERU, Zimbabwe — South African army officer cadets were urged yesterday to play a pivotal role in changing the SANDF into a force that reflected the new SA.

Speaking at a passing-out parade here of 42 Zimbabwean-trained SA officer cadets drawn from the ANC and the PAC, SA Defence Minister Joe Modise said the cadets should help the country achieve its “cherished dream” of a democratic society — Sapa

SA clinch arms deal with Oman

Johannesburg. — The sultanate of Oman yesterday announced the purchase of arms worth “millions of rand” from South Africa.

The deal is for local arms manufacturer Denel to deliver an unspecified number of G6 mobile cannons, ammunition, logistical back-up and training to the sultanate over the next two years.

Denel managing director Johan Alberts said a special benefit for South Africa was that “for the first time since the lifting of the arms embargo, a customer was willing to go public” on the fact it was buying a South African product and saying what the product was.

He added that the deal would enable his company to provide between 2,200 and 3,200 jobs in South Africa.

Meanwhile, the latest issue of Jane’s Defence Weekly said Denel has designed a modification to its world-class artillery system, the G6, to make it more exportable and attractive to overseas customers.

The publication said a new 155mm artillery turret has been mounted on a Russian T-72 chassis and has completed initial firing trials in the Northern Cape.

CT 7/1/94
Denel earnings up marginally

ARMS manufacturer Denel posted attributable earnings marginally ahead at R239.2m (R234.9m) for the year to March, as surging exports offset falling sales to its traditional market, the SA security forces.

The group, which began trading as a private company in April 1992, secured a 34% jump in exports to R644m — representing nearly one-quarter of Denel's R2.5bn turnover — despite continued international sanctions.

Denel gained access to 30 new countries during the year, bringing its representation to 97 overseas markets, despite continued arms sanctions. But domestic cuts in arms-spending left sales to the security forces at R1.5bn (R1.77bn), reducing its contribution to total income to 63% (65%).

Earnings were fixed at 9c a share (38.5c). Denel said the performance was above expectations, thought again pegged its dividend at 9.8c (7.64c).

MD Johan Alberts said the rapid political changes during the past year had had a dramatic influence on the group.

High levels of domestic conflict and the uncertainties synonymous with a change in government, inhibited negotiations with foreign clients. The volatile climate also inevitably affected discussions with potential partners and and discussions.

Despite sanctions, fierce competition 

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Income (Rm)</th>
<th>Turnover (Rm)</th>
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<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>12%</td>
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The declining international arms market and a shrinking local defence budget, income increased R486m to R2.5bn. Turnover rose R99.4m to R2.5bn, with local commercial sales rising 19% to R387m.

Alberts said Denel planned to double exports over the next three years in a bid to earn foreign currency of R1.5bn. The company also wanted to double the sale of commercial products to R750m, double profits to R500m, double dividends to the state and pay a year-end dividend of R500m.

The manufacturing arm, including Nastech, Sonchem and FMP, recorded a 9% drop in income to R583m, mainly because of defence cuts. But exports rose 21%, while commercial business jumped 23%.

Income for the aerospace group, Howeteq, Simera and OTB, fell 17% to R486m. But Simera scored a 400% growth in business conducted in South America and Africa. The company also finalised a contract with Rolls Royce to supply the gearbox for the RB211-535 engine.

Denel had seen an uptick in foreign interest following its participation in recent overseas exhibitions, the company said. The UK's Defence Ministry had made an offer to use the Rooivalk helicopter.

From Page 1
PRETORIA.—The civilian arms manufacturing wing of Armscor, Denel Group, has reported total income of R2.86 billion in the 1993/1994 financial year.

Denel’s annual report showed that among the performance improvements in the group were a 34 percent increase in exports to R644 million and a 19 percent increase in local commercial sales to R387 million.

Net income after tax improved marginally from R255 million to R239 million.

During the year Denel became an international player and exhibitor after taking part in five major international exhibitions.

Denel also supported government’s efforts in uplifting the economy over the past year by employing between about 14,000 people, paying taxes of R426 million and a dividend of R60 million to the state.

Denel aimed to expand its activities by increasing its exports and by utilizing its capabilities in developing new civil products, and in support of defence systems.

The company was committed to supporting the reconstruction and development programme and would execute a ten point plan over the next three years as announced by the Minister of Public Enterprises.

This plan included doubling exports to earn foreign currency
Arms industry body formed

JOHANNESBURG — An association to boost South Africa's defence industry was launched yesterday.

Chairman Dr John Temple said the South African Defence Industry Association represented about 9,000 public and private organizations.

He said the industry employed about 70,000 people and added that defence-related exports in 1993/94 had earned more than R800 million.

— Sapa CT 7/1/94

'Defence budget cuts may cost 12,000 jobs'

LONDON. — The cut in the South African defence budget this year could mean the loss of more than 12,000 jobs, greater reliance on equipment imports and damage to the defence industry's export potential, industry sources say.

An article in the latest Jane's Defence Weekly said the industry had shed more than half its employees since 1989 from 169,000 to about 70,000, with considerable loss of expertise and experience.

Defence Force chief General George Neltingh has warned that defence force funding had already fallen below minimum levels.

The magazine said real defence expenditure was now below the World Bank's target of two percent and the only major acquisitions programmes were the Rooikat and the Mamba.

Personnel costs would absorb 37.2% of the budget, and the standing strength of the armed forces would be reduced to 91,000, while considerable retrenchment costs would still be incurred.
DENEL

Fighting for export markets

Shrinking defence budgets and stiff international competition do not help newcomers in the international arms business. Nor does a host of unresolved sanctions legislation beckon would-be customers.

So it's without pride that Denel this week recorded a 34% rise in exports for the financial year to March 31, earning about R644m in foreign currency. Says Denel MD Johan Alberts: "We aim to double exports and foreign exchange earnings within the next three years, to R1.3bn."

Of course, the emphasis on exports marks a shift in the group's focus from products for local defence needs to security force products for export and commercial products for local and foreign markets — a move that has been essential to Denel's survival since the company was hived off from Armscor in 1992. Following SA's withdrawal from Namibia and drastic defence budget cuts, government realised that commercialising was the only hope of saving skills and maintaining long-term defence capabilities.

The State-owned corporation again declared a R60m dividend. Profits of R239m were 26% up on last year, and taxes spiralled to R65m, 19% up. Significantly though, income from the SA security forces dropped 12% to R1.53bn while income from local commercial sales rose 19% to R387m.

Alberts says Denel would have fared better in the international market had the political climate at home been more settled. "The volatile climate inevitably affected discussions with potential partners and associates who preferred to adopt a wait-and-see attitude, adversely influencing orders for large, high-value systems."

Defence analyst Helmoed Romkes-Heitman, however, says Denel has done well to gain international market share given the defence budget cutbacks overseas. "Exports concluded in the past two years have meant a lot of fast talking and moving, which proves just how good this equipment is."

Though Alberts says that roughly 75% of exports were military in nature, he won't divulge what products were sold or who bought what except to say that Denel deals only with recognised governments and not arms dealers or wholesalers.

Heitman estimates that part of the R644m may have come from last year's sale to Oman of 24 G6 guns, usually priced at R10m-R15m each. Says Heitman: "A complete system, including spares and ammunition, would cost around R45m each, so it's safe to assume that the deal brought in around R300m." Some money from a 1991 deal with Abu Dhabi for 80 G6 guns could also be included in the latest figures.

Another source of income could be a substantial downpayment from UK-based arms company Alvis for the world marketing rights for Denel's from Eagle turret- droppable weapons carrier. Heitman says Alberts denies knowledge of a R100m arms deal with Syria, a sale that was believed to have been conditional on approval from Israel and the establishment of diplomatic relations with SA (announced last month).

Apart from its manufacturing capabilities, Denel also has good experience in packaging and marketing defence products manufactured by its 19 subsidiaries and the private sector. The G6 gun system, for example, is marketed by Denel subsidiary Wilj, which manufactures only the gun and turret.

Barlow Rand subsidiary Reumec OMC makes the vehicle and Altech's Technologic developed the target acquisition and fire control aspects. The radio reflects an input from Rootech's Barcom Electronics and Granel, the data link system is from Thales.

Most Denel products have notch up impressive records in combat and defence force operations — a criterion Heitman says is crucial to the would-be foreign buyer. "No one wants to be the first to try out a new weapons system. Customers are reluctant to buy if the exporting country's own defence force won't use the equipment."

This keeping doesn't bode well for Denel's h-tech Rooivalk combat helicopter. which hasn't been commissioned by the SA forces because of budget cuts. Denel is tendering for a UK contract that would earn R70m-R100m each for 100 helicopters if produced in SA. The British could well buy the Rooivalk without any service record. But Heitman says Denel could lose millions on the deal because the British would probably insist on producing the craft in the UK and adapting it to take UK technologies, then would market it internationally.

An end to sanctions will help SA market arms more openly. But Alberts says the benefits of many current negotiations will only be reaped later. "Arms purchases are long-term and deals are often tied up in bureaucratic red tape for years." He has managed to establish a network of agents in 37 countries.

On the commercial front, Alberts closed a number of unprofitable Denel divisions and wants to double commercial sales to R750m in three years.

Says Heitman: "Few military manufacturers around the world have survived the transition to commercial goods, Russia, for example, failed dismally trying to adapt tank expertise to prams." Denel's success includes producing paints for cars and manufacturing warning devices that help prevent cot deaths.

But Denel has come under fire for muscling out private sector competitors. The Competition Board has been called in to judge several complaints, one involving pharmaceutical manufacturer Norstian Board chairman Pierre Brooks says insufficient evidence was found to warrant a recommendation to government to warn Denel or close down any of its operations.

There is no indication that Alberts will ask government to privatise Denel, a possibility that was voiced last year when he said he planned a listing for 1993. "Privatisation is simply not an option right now," he says, a statement that may reflect government's opinion rather than his own.

HAWKERS

Vanishing breed?

PWV premier Tokyo Sexwale is giving hawkers a bad case of adia vu. In what he describes as an attempt to clean up downtown Johannesburg, hawkers could be relegated to demarcated trading areas away from the city centre. History repeats itself not long ago. Nat government officials banned street trading because it supposedly hurt the country's image.

Sexwale has not outlined where or when this move will take place, but it is part of his stated goal of curbing crime, drugs and taxi violence. Unfortunately, he believes it's also necessary to crack down on working people trying to escape the poverty engendered by 50% unemployment. He told the PWV legislature last month: "We can't market Johannesburg with the unattractive trading that is taking place on our pavements."

The African Council of Hawkers & Infor-
Army dirty tricks 'studied'

PRETORIA — A report detailing army dirty tricks, including the killing and harassment of activists, was submitted yesterday to President Nelson Mandela.

Mr. Joel Netshutenzhe said the president was studying the 18-month-old report by General Pierre Steyn on actions of the army under the former apartheid government.

Although the report was submitted previously to former President Mr. F. W. de Klerk, it was not made public at that time.

Mr. De Klerk commissioned Gen. Steyn in November 1992 to investigate activities of the shadowy Military Intelligence's directorate of covert collection after the Goldstone Commission reported army hardliners were undermining reforms. — Sapa-Reuters
Arms deal with Oman creates jobs

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of new jobs were yesterday created in South Africa’s arms industry — hog-tied by United Nations sanctions for more than 20 years — with the sale of major equipment and further orders in the pipeline.

Experts predict that up to 20,000 jobs will be filled by the end of the 1994-95 fiscal year.

The big boost has come from an announcement in Oman on Wednesday night that the Sultanate of Oman had signed a R300 million deal with South Africa for the delivery of “a number” of G6 155 mm artillery systems as well as ammunition, spares and logistical support.

The deal means that 4200 jobs will be provided at the manufacturers, Denel (Pty) Ltd., its subsidiaries, and with subcontractors.

A Denel spokesman said yesterday that contracts of this type would greatly benefit the economy and eventually contribute to the country’s development programme.

The public announcement is the first ever by Denel — the civilian subsidiary of DENEL, Armscor’s civilian subsidiary, makes its first public announcement of a contract to sell arms abroad.

Armscor — since it was decided earlier this year to conduct defence exports in an open and responsible manner.

The G6 is regarded as the most sophisticated long-range artillery piece in the world. It is based on the G5 which was said to have been developed with the help of Canadian scientist Gerald Bull, who was found dead some years ago.

South Africa is known to have sold an unknown number of G5s to Iraq in the 1980s and these were used during the war between Iraq and Iran and later during Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait.

Other South African-produced armaments being looked at by defence departments all over the world include the state-of-the-art Rooivalk attack helicopter and South African-designed and manufactured mine-resistant vehicles.
The balance option

Defence Minister Joe Modise has ordered the restructuring of his Ministry and the department to pave the way for a return to civilian control under a secretary of defence.

Up to now the Chief of the Defence Force has effectively been head of the department. The post of secretary was abolished more than 20 years ago by former Prime Minister John Vorster. The move was seen as the beginning of the end of the military establishment, which exerted considerable influence on government policy until PW Botha's retirement in 1989.

The National Defence Force has almost no non-military staff at the level of a civil service director and above. Responsibility for running the department centres on the chief of the NDF and other military personnel.

An information bulletin issued by NDF chief General Georg Merging says Modise has opted for the so-called "balance option" in which the secretary and the chief of the NDF have equal status. This means the Ministry of Defence will comprise the Minister and his deputy and their personal staff, a defence secretary and secretariat and the chief of the NDF and defence headquarters. The department will comprise the Minister, the secretary, Armscor, and the chief of the NDF who will oversee the operations of the four operational arms of the NDF, the army, navy, airforce and medical services.

It is likely that many of the military personnel currently employed in the various defence staff directorates will be given the option of converting to civilian staff and come under the control of the secretary. The secretary will have the same civil service rank as a director-general and will be financially accountable to parliament for the defence budget. The secretary and the chief of the NDF will be jointly responsible for administrative matters.

A steering committee comprising Modise, Merging and the defence secretary will oversee the planning and implementation of the process. The appointment of the secretary, and his staff is regarded as a priority and a formal announcement is expected soon. It has been speculated that the post could be offered to former SADF Chief of Staff Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn, who has the military and management experience to handle the job.

Steyn is respected in the ANC following his probe in 1992 into Goldstone Commission allegations of dirty tricks by senior SADF officers which resulted in 23 of them being purged by F W de Klerk. Last year Steyn retired early from the SADF amid reports that his investigation had made him so unpopular with fellow officers that he saw no future for himself in the defence force. He is currently working as a consultant in the private sector. The appointment of Steyn as secretary would add balance to the Ministry of Defence, which is considered to have become politically skewed following the promotion of Ronie Kasrils to the Deputy Minister's post.

Jakkie Cilliers, executive director of the Institute of Defence Policy (IDP), says Modise's decision to implement civilian control of the NDF is in line with an IDP proposal earlier this year to the Joint Military Co-ordinating Council of the Transitional Executive Council. The Midrand-based IDP is a politically independent military research institute funded by the SA private sector and the Hanns Seidel Foundation in Germany.

The IDP proposal to the JMCC described civilian control as "a condition to be achieved which ensures that the military operates in accordance with the constitution and the wishes of parliament." It identified the problem of armed forces in a democracy as being how to limit the power of the central executive on the one hand and that of military commanders on the other, thereby ensuring that the forces serving the nation fulfill their intended purpose.

"An effective democracy requires civilian control of the military since military forces have been and always will be susceptible to manipulation by political groupings whose purpose it may be to use these forces to control, capture or replace parliament. Equally, individual military commanders may abuse their authority to turn the forces against the government and parliament and thus siphon power.

In terms of the IDP proposal, a division of functions between defence headquarters and the secretariat could mean an equal sharing of responsibility in areas such as personnel and public relations, some overlap in finance and defence policy but with the secretariat taking most responsibility and, and sole DHQ responsibility in areas such as intelligence, operations, logistics and procurement other than that undertaken by Armscor.

Earlier this year IDP senior researcher Bill Sais, a retired army brigadier, said "civilizing" the Ministry of Defence was one of the major challenges facing the new parliament (Current Affairs March 11). However, he warned that establishing greater civilian control over the new Ministry of Defence while simultaneously integrating various armed forces, embarking on affirmative action programmes and possibly countering internal unrest would make the task difficult.

Cilliers says the selection of chairman of the parliamentary joint standing committee on defence will be as pivotal as the selection of the secretary of defence in returning the department to civilian control. The committee will include representatives of all parties with 10 or more seats in parliament. It will be able to investigate and make recommendations on a wide range of matters affecting the NDF including its budget, functions, armaments and policy. It is arguably the most important forum for opposition parties to exert direct influence on defence policy and gain insight and information into the NDF's operations.
Armcor's ‘billion-dollar deal with Saddam’

Court documents have for the first time put a figure on Armcor's illicit deals with Saddam Hussein — an amount valued at more than 18 times this year's total official arms exports. Stephen Laufer reports.

Details of South Africa's illicit arms deals with Saddam Hussein are emerging for the first time in a Pretoria court action in which a Palestinian businessman is suing Armcor for unpaid commission on weapons sales.

South Africa supplied Iraq with weapons valued at US$45.5 million during Saddam Hussein's war with Iran which ended in 1988, according to court papers.

Though Armcor no longer denies having sold weapons to Iraq, this appears to be the first time a dollar figure has been put to the arms transfers between Pretoria and Baghdad. If accurate, the figure before the court reflects sales valued at more than 18 times this year's total official exports by the South African arms industry.

The legal action against Armcor and its international marketing subsidiary, Nimrod International, by Palestinian businessman Walid Safi, who is alleging breach of contract and conspiracy to defraud, will add to South Africa's embarrassment at having helped arm Iraq in the run-up to the Gulf war.

The Armcor hardware fuelled two wars, one of which is still going on. It is said to have included powerful G5 howitzers, military electronics, missile upgrade kits which may have enhanced Iraq's ability to hit Israel during the Gulf war, and munitions, including deadly anti-personnel cluster bombs.

Bought for use during the Iraq-Iran war, many of the weapons are believed also to have been used against Allied forces in the Gulf war.

The morale of the deal that seems to have concerned the South African authorities most was alleged to have paid for the weapons with oil, desperately needed in South Africa as the mid-1980s embargo was tightened.

Armcor this week confirmed that it had supplied weapons to Iraq “prior to the Gulf war” and that it is “currently involved in a court case and is contesting claims for damages”. But it refused to reveal the magnitude or nature of the sales, saying to do so would prejudice the case because it is about how much commission is owed. For us to put a figure on the sales would weaken our legal position.”

Armcor spokesman dismissed the claims, saying they were baseless.

Hence, in the case — the amount in dispute is valued by Safi at US$45.5 million, and 11 percent commission on assumed sales of US$45.5 million — are set down for April and May 1993.

Both sides have enjoyed high-powered legal teams and are apparently still working feverishly behind the scenes in an attempt to reach an out-of-court settlement. Shielded for many years by the wide-ranging Protection of Information Act, Armcor must now fear that it will be forced under new constitutional provisions to reveal the nature and scope of many of its illicit international weapons sales in open court.

Armcor has already submitted 171 lever-arch files of pre-trial disclosure documents to the court. The second respondent in the case, the Cochrane family of Zimbabwe and South Africa, has submitted 22 files. But lawyers for Safi, fearing the Protection of Information Act still bars public access to the files until the Act is challenged in the Constitutional Court, remain reluctant to discuss details of the case.

Safi, who is based in Cyprus and whose company, Silver Falcon Enterprises, is registered in the Channel Islands of Guernsey, says Armcor and Nimrod are in breach of contract because, though he brokered the contracts with Iraqi officials which led to the weapons deals and was to receive a cut on any sales made, he has seen only US$100,000 in commission.

Safi set up Silver Falcon Enterprises in the early 1980s to formalise a 1982 business arrangement with Edward John, William, Steven and Un Cochrane of Guernsey company, International Technology Operations (ITO). He was to represent them in Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Jordan on a commission basis.

The Cochranes were keen to sell a cluster bomb they had developed for use by the Ian Smith regime in former Rhodesia. Cluster bombs help make the Iraq-Iran war one of the bloodiest conflicts in human history.

Guernsey was chosen as the seat of ITO and Silver Falcon because the Channel Islands are well known as a base for offshore activities by companies keen to avoid European company taxes and close government scrutiny. Companies are allowed under Channel Islands law to operate with nominees directors, thereby allowing the true ownership of companies trading there to be kept under wraps.

Armcor and its subsidiaries and other government sanctions-busting agencies of the apartheid years are known to have registered front companies in the Channel Islands of Guernsey and Jersey.

Safi alleges Armcor acquired an interest in the Cochrane's cluster-bomb business and, via them, in ITO. Nimrod marketing director Richard Wright, an Ulsterman, became a director of ITO, say Safi's lawyers. And if ITO was not an Armcor subsidiary, it functioned as a front for the South African weapons dealer.
Denel sells Oman arms worth $120m

Stephen Laufer

SOUTH Africa took another large step towards becoming the armourer of the Persian Gulf this week when Denel announced a $120-million artillery sale to Oman. The contract is for the G-6 artillery system with ammunition and training for Omani crews, and is the first since the lifting of the UN embargo on arms deals with this country.

The G-6 was used extensively by the old South African Defence Force in Angola, particularly during the battle of Cuito Cuanavale, where it had a superior range to guns used by the Angolan and Cuban forces.

It is an armoured, motorised howitzer with a maximum range of 48km at sea level.

With Armscor/Denel having sold weapons clandestinely to several states in the tense Gulf region in the past, the G-6 sale increases the possibility of regional conflicts in which South African weapons are used by all sides.

The contract will bring smiles to the top echelons of the South African National Defence Force as the generals have been complaining that budget cuts have led to the cancellation of further local G-6 purchases and were worried that Denel would have to cease production.

The Omani order keeps the production line going, allowing the SANDF to plan for purchases further down the road.

The Omani purchase is likely to bring further major orders, according to Jane’s Defence Weekly expert Helmut Heitmann. He says the Omani army is highly regarded and its decision will help convince other countries to buy the system.

The Omani order will help secure 1,200 Denel jobs and 3,000 jobs at their subsidiaries, said a spokesman.
Arms sales to Iraq confirmed

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

Political Correspondent

ARMSCOR confirmed yesterday it had supplied arms to Iraq before the Gulf War but refused to comment on claims that a Palestinian arms dealer was suing it for R1.8 billion in unpaid commission.

However, Armscor media liaison chief Mr Beratus Cillier confirmed the damages action. He refused to disclose the amount under dispute.

The Weekly Mail reported yesterday the action against Armscor and its overseas marketing arm, Nimrod International, by Palestinian businessman Mr Walid Saour, who is alleging breach of contract and conspiracy to defraud, involves about R1.8bn.

According to court papers, South Africa supplied weapons worth over R16bn during Iraq’s war with Iran which ended in 1989.
ISRTY

Tom Robbins

CYI

VINY BAYWON

GET A SECRET
ARMY GIANT

Destination of

Weapons for Iraq

ARMYSaar spread over
JOHANNESBURG. — South African arms giant Armscor says it is being sued by an Arab arms dealer over sales of weapons to Baghdad during the Iran-Iraq war.

But the company yesterday refused to comment on reports that Cyprus-based arms trader Wald Saffouri was claiming $495 million (R132 m) in unpaid commission for secret deals with the Iraqis during the war, which ended in 1988.

"Armscor did do business with Iraq prior to the (1991) Gulf War. We are contesting claims which damages instituted by the claimant (Mr Saffouri). Because the matter is sub-judice we cannot comment further," said Armscor spokesman Bertus Colliers.

"I have full faith in South Africa’s judicial system. I also trust the new administration of Nelson Mandela, who are fair and correct people," said Mr Saffouri, who is based in the coastal town of Limassol.

—I’m sung Armscor, owned by the government of South Africa, for conspiracy and fraud and in Guernsey I’m suing another arms company for breach of contract," he added.

The Weekly Mail reported that, according to court documents, South Africa supplied Baghdad with weapons valued at $4.5 billion (R16 billion) during the Iran-Iraq war.

Armscor’s world-beating G-6 howitzers were among weapons supplied to the Iraqis, which the paper said also included military electronics, missile upgrade kits and cluster bombs.

Saffouri, who is claiming commission on the sales, runs a Guernsey-registered company, Silver Falcon Enterprises.

The Weekly Mail said the firm was set up in the early 1980s to formalise an agreement with another Guernsey-registered company, International Technology Operations, run by former Rhodesians who developed arms for Ian Smith’s Rhodesia.

South Africa announced earlier this week that it was selling long-range artillery guns worth $120 million (R432 m) to Oman in the first public arms sale since the UN embargo was lifted.

A statement by arms maker Denel, formed in 1992 to take over the manufacturing and arms sales of Armscor, said the deal included ammunition, spares and logistical support for the 155mm G-6 self-propelled artillery guns, but did not say how many of the weapons were involved.

The G-6, based on the G-5 that was developed with the help of Canadian scientist Gerald Bull, who was assassinated while helping Iraq build long-range “superguns”, is widely regarded as one of the best in its kind in the world.

The UN embargo was lifted following historic all-race elections at the end of April. — Sapa-Reuter.

Destination of G6s a secret

TOM ROBBINS
Weekend Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — A consignment of 18 G6 artillery guns have recently been exported by Denel from Durban harbour to a secret destination.

This follows the ship’s announcement of a R322-million deal between Denel and the tiny United Arab Emirates state, the Sultanate of Oman.

Early last week the consignment of cannons was seen being readied for shipment in Durban harbour.

A single G6 is valued at between R125m and R165m — depending on optional extras.

But Denel communications director Ferdi Stark said there were many hidden costs on top of this, such as transportation and ammunition.

Denel, the privatised offshoot of Armscor, did not disclose how many of the 155mm G6s would be exported to the Middle Eastern State over the next two years.

They will also not reveal who the client is of the recently exported artillery systems.

Denel spokesman Paul Holtzhausen said “due to our contractual agreement with our client we are not at liberty to disclose the destination or the client’s name”.

This secrecy of the contract is backed up by the Defence Act.

Revealing who the client is or where the arms are to be exported to could open up a newspaper to prosecution.

Despite the present cloak-and-dagger approach to arms sales there is speculation in government defence circles that in line with the new spirit of glasnost this will now become public information.

The destination of the latter consignment, to Oman, has been released because the Sultan of Oman is happy for the world to know where he gets his guns from.

Denel is presently having considerable success with the G6.

Arms giant offers help

VUYO BAVUMA
Weekend Argus Political Staff

IN a bid to carve a niche for itself in the new South Africa, Armscor is striving to play a part in the new government’s reconstruction and development plan.

The arms procurement body, one of the main cogs in the P W Botha’s total onslaught era, has volunteered its 58-year-old “abundant management and knowledge skills” to help run RDP projects.

It also plans to set up mobile hospitals which are not merely tents or caravans with doctors or nurses to issue prescriptions or supply tablets.

These hospitals would be fully equipped and would include generator-powered theatres, X-Rays and laboratories. Armscor spokesman Gbaba Omar said mobile hospitals could be the answer to the country’s rapid urbanisation because the building of conventional hospitals would take a long time.

Armscor’s proposals are set to be incorporated in the White Paper to be discussed in August’s parliamentary session.

Referring to Armscor’s role in information management, he said they worked in co-operation worked with the South African National Defence Force to keep track of thousands of soldiers in many bases in southern Africa.

“Having experience of following up detailed issues such as salaries, pensions, boots, rifles and bullets of any soldiers, Armscor has a fairly good information management,” he said.

“This could be used in an RDP programme which wants to evaluate the malnutrition problem in a specific area — we could get details of things like inoculation, medicine in local clinics and their personnel, etc.”
Armscor aiming for exports of over R3bn

By JEREMY WOODS

ARMSCOR plans to lift its export earnings from R888-million now to over R3-billion in the next few years, says Tielman de Waal, executive general manager.

"One of the most exciting aspects of the lifting of the arms boycott is the prospect of substantially increasing the exports of defence equipment," said Mr de Waal.

"South Africa has a small share of the international arms market, less than 5%, but it has a highly sophisticated defence industry with a substantial range of top quality defence and security products to offer," Mr de Waal said.

"Many of our products, like the Rooivalk combat helicopter, have enormous export potential. If we can increase our percentage of the market from less than half a percent to two percent we will have export sales of over R3-billion," said Mr de Waal.

"I believe we should be able to achieve this, which would make Armscor one of the major exporters in the country," he added.

"Apart from contributing significantly to South Africa's foreign currency earnings, export growth could make an important contribution to economic growth and the creation of thousands of new jobs."

Mr de Waal estimates that an increase of defence exports to over R1-billion could mean an increase of about 20,000 jobs in the current year.

"For years South Africa suffered under the arms embargo and had to expand its defence industry to protect itself. From out of these dark days has developed an industry that can compete with the best in the world and now fully intends to," said Mr de Waal.

When South Africa's border wars ended, ammunition sales slumped to R18-million from R280-million and Denel, Armscor's largest manufacturer, had to compete internationally to survive.

Armscor currently exports 42% of its sales to the Middle East, 24% to Asia, 14% to the Far East, 10% to Africa and just 1% to North Ameri-

Mr de Waal said Armscor hoped to make public 5% of its military business. "We want to tell people as much as possible without being an embarrassment to a client. In this regard Sweden seems to have the most open attitude and we are using their policy of disclosure as a sort of role model," he said.

"Previously, we were forbidden by law from saying anything because of the national interest. Now that the arms embargo against South Africa has been lifted, we want to be as open as possible."

"We want South Africans to know they have a modern, top quality, defence and security industry of which they can be proud."

"Mr de Waal said Armscor had recently undergone a "traumatic" transition.

"It was difficult for everyone involved; especially being colleagues retraineded and people who had become personal friends over the years, leave the organisation."

"Former colleagues suddenly became contractors, while a new chairman and board of directors took the helm."

Mr de Waal said his nevertheless looked back with "great satisfaction" on what has been achieved over the past two years.

"Our relationship with the SA arms industry has never been healthier."
The department—most of the time in the pool of the air in the atmosphere—has been working on improving the effectiveness of its weapons. The department has been working on improving the effectiveness of its weapons. The department has been working on improving the effectiveness of its weapons.

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MK members up for army placement

PRETORIA — Members of the ANC’s armed wing uMkhonto weSizwe began appearing before a placement board at the General De Wet training camp near Bloemfontein yesterday in connection with their future rank and placement in the South African National Defence Force.

The placement board sitting will continue until July 22.

According to SANDF spokesman Lieutenant Margie Neethling the process was part of the integration of defence forces.

The panel, comprising former South African and homeland defence force members, MK representatives and members of the British Military Advisory and Training Team, is assessing MK cadres.

Lt Neethling said the MK members would have 48 hours to accept offers made to them — Sapa (254) 071317194.
Date set for Apla's integration

The Azanian People's Liberation Army has confirmed its inclusion in the SA National Defence Force and has submitted 6000 names, chief of the SANDF General Georg Meiring announced today.

He said the integration process would begin on July 18 at De Brug outside Bloemfontein.

Apla was not included as part of the SANDF when the new constitution came into effect on April 27 as it was unable to comply with the statutory requirements in time. But having now met these requirements, Apla and the SANDF had been involved in talks about integration.

Meiring said. (754)

He said a statement detailing the assembly process would be made by Apla soon.

Meiring said a media visit to De Brug would eventually be arranged — Sapa.
Armscor sold arms to Iraq

JOHANNESBURG. — The head of South Africa's state-run arms manufacturer, lifting a traditional veil of secrecy on the group's activities, publicly acknowledged yesterday that Armscor had helped arm Iraq during its war with Iran.

Armscor chief executive Mr. Tielman de Waal said the deals during the 1980-1989 war accounted for less than one percent of total arms sales and that all deals with President Saddam Hussein were halted "100%" after the United Nations imposed sanctions on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait.

"South Africa sold less than one percent of its arms to Hussein," Mr. De Waal said. "To claim that South Africa was more unethical than other countries is unfair."

Secrecy on SA weapon deal lifted

He was reacting to a report on Friday in an English weekly, that Armscor sold Baghdad R16.2 billion worth of weapons. The newspaper uncovered the details in a court action, in which Palestinian businessman Mr. Walid Saffouri is seeking $465 million (R1.78bn) in unpaid commissions from Armscor for weapons sales to Iraq.

The value of the sale to Iraq was not $405m as claimed by Mr. Saffouri, Mr. De Waal said.

He refused, however, to disclose the correct figure because "it is part of the court case."

Mr. De Waal also said Armscor sales to the Rwandan government were halted in September, before any requests by other countries were received to stop South Africa selling weapons to the war-torn central African state.

The ethnic bloodbath in Rwanda — between majority Hutus and minority Tutsis — was triggered on April 6, when President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu, died in an air crash.

After more than two decades of secrecy, Armscor is struggling to shed the unsavoury image it developed under apartheid.

But Mr. De Waal said, the government would be severely embarrassed if it tried to force corporation officials to testify before a truth commission for crimes committed during the years apartheid — Sapa-AFP
Apla members ready to integrate into SANDF

JOHANNESBURG. — A group of 505 Azanian People's Liberation Army (Apla) members will report to De Brug in Bloemfontein on July 18 for integration into the National Defence Force.

Apla commander Maj-Gen Dan Mofakeng said the group comprised 250 men from Tanzania, 25 from Uganda, 80 from Zimbabwe and 150 others. A thousand Apla members will report there on August 15.

Gen Mofakeng said appointments of Apla officers into senior SANDF posts were being considered by Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise.
PRETORIA. — Anti-Israel comments by Defence Minister Joe Modise were made "specifically with reference to matters relating to arms sales and arms contracts", Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo said today.

Mr Nzo said in Pretoria that South Africa enjoyed a good relationship with Israel.

Israeli president Ezer Weizman's attendance at President Mandela's presidential inauguration, the highest level visit of an Israeli leader to South Africa, "reflected on the state of relations between the two countries".

Mr Weizman, furthermore, had met PLO chairman Yasser Arafat in the presence of Mr Mandela.

"This meeting had been arranged at the specific request of both parties and was an indication of the positive role which they expected Mr Mandela to play in the unfolding Middle East peace process.

"It is in the context of this even-handed approach that South Africa conducts its relations with the countries of the Middle East," Mr Nzo said in a statement.

Reuters reported yesterday that Mr Modise had signalled an end to South Africa's special relationship with Israel.

The minister promised action against Israel if proof was provided of police charges that Israel's Mossad secret service murdered two people in South Africa to halt the shipment of strategic chemicals to other Middle East governments.

"We are going to assess every contract...a lot of contracts have been signed between this country and Israel," Mr Modise said.

"Israel was a main partner of this country, the biggest buster of sanctions, including the arms embargo.

"Politically they were more or less in the same trench. the things the Israelis did to the Palestinians were not very different from what South Africa did to its own inhabitants."
Armscor admits sales to Saddam

Weekly Mail Reporter

Armscor has admitted to selling arms to Iraq during its war with Iran. The Mail & Guardian revealed last week that Armscor sold Saddam Hussein a range of weaponry during the 1980-1989 Gulf conflict — and that a Palestinian businessman, Waild Safoun, was suing it for $495-million in unpaid commission.

Armscor chief executive Tielman de Wael said in an interview this week with Agence France Presse that sales stopped after the United Nations imposed sanctions on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait. He said the value of weaponry sold was not $4.5-billion as claimed by Safoun, but would not say how much was actually involved because "it was part of the court case".

The case is expected to come before the Pretoria Supreme Court next year.
Armscor: The moral question

By GREG MILLS

Armscor recently announced the conclusion of a R425-million deal with the Sultanate of Oman, and the sale of 40 Rooivalk attack helicopters to two unnamed countries, in the Far East and South America.

With the end of the arms embargo and boycott, South Africa could increase its share of the international arms market from 0.5% to two percent, or from R300-million to more than R5-billion within the next few years. Armscor's executive general manager, Tielman de Waal, has said.

Armscor has argued that this expansion will make the industry a major exporter, would contribute significantly to foreign currency earnings and create thousands of jobs. This would also ensure the survival of an industry which has gone through some harsh times since the end of the border wars.

The end of the Angolan-Namibian conflict saw ammunition sales slump to R18-million from R600-million annually, with the resultant closure of a number of Armscor subsidiaries and shrinkage in the numbers employed in the industry (both directly and through sub-contractors) from 160 000 in 1988 to 70 000 today.

Despite the apparent advantage of South Africa increasing its export revenue, there are a number of difficulties.

The first concerns the morality of arms exports. This has been brought home in stark reality to those who have followed the Rwandan conflict.

Controversial

Hutu government troops involved in the genocide in Rwanda have been armed, inter alia, with South African R-4 assault rifles and machine-guns.

The morality question is perhaps more controversial for the new government as it is looked to for leadership by many in the developing world. A model of democracy does not fit with a merchants-of-death tag.

There are, however, many who would argue that if South Africa was not to provide such weaponry that others would. This might well be so, but it is important for South Africa to control the moral high ground at this crucial juncture in our foreign relations. If Pretoria hopes to achieve a measure of success in mediating an end to Southern Africa's conflicts and those further afield, its image will not be enhanced by unsavoury arms dealings.

During the same week Armscor bragged about its sales to the Middle East (42%), Asia (22%), the Far East (14%) and Africa (10%), it has been trying to negotiate an out-of-court settlement with an arms dealer on a R11-billion sale made to Saddam Hussein during the Iran-Iraq war.

It has also been contended that South Africa stands to lose one of its few high-technology industries if arms are not aggressively marketed and the local defence budget does not continue to supply the "bread-and-butter" of equipment and research and development (R&D) expenditure. Yet can South Africa afford an industry where the cost of R&D alone during 1984 stands at R200-million, or half the total income (and massively more than any profit accrued) from export sales?

While Armscor has tried to position itself favourably with some adroit political appointments and offers of contributions to the Reconstruction and Development Programme, it would not take a rocket-scientist to see the limited financial benefits in arms without the strategic imperatives that created this industry.

Imagine the security benefit and potential exports accruing, for example, from a R420-million investment in techniques and designs of low-cost housing.

Questions should also be asked about the export of technology from South Africa to be manufactured under licence in the country of destination. This adds a further dimension to the export debate given that South Africa is allegedly on the verge of concluding a major technology-export deal with at least one Far Eastern country.

This will allow the manufacture of South African-designed weaponry with none of the political and geographic disadvantages of African production. Yet surely the South African taxpayer should have a say in the conclusion of these "deals", especially where the R&D costs have been funded (along with the capital machinery costs of the state arms manufacturing corporation) by the public sector.

Compromise

De Waal says Armscor hopes to make public 95% of its military business. But there is a significant difference between the knowledge being communicated before of after such deals are struck.

Perhaps a useful and pragmatic compromise to the export debate would be for Armscor to retain a market defensive rather than offensive military hardware.

While realising the somewhat nebulous distinctions between these two areas, defensive weaponry could include those where South Africa is an acknowledged world leader in mine-protected vehicles which are particularly suitable for peace-keeping operations, field-hospitals, mine-detection and recovery systems as well as electronic equipment such as the famed frequency-hopping radios. On the other extreme, small arms and anti-personnel weaponry could be banned from export.

Clearly, if the South African defence industry is to survive in the changed political climate, where its very foundation is closely identified with Pretoria's unpalatable past, then diversification and conversion rather than external markets should be the order of the day. And without the state-subsidy that made and kept this industry afloat for so long, it remains to be seen whether the much lauded "technical superiority" and "high-tech" efficiency will keep their heads above water in the bullish and real civil market.

Dr Mills is Director of Studies at the South African Institute of International Affairs, Jan Smuts House, Johannesburg.

SEE OVERLEAF
SA in peace pact

Own Correspondent

MAPUTO — President Nelson Mandela started his three-day state visit to Mozambique yesterday by signing a joint cooperation agreement covering security, trade, agriculture, transport and the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric scheme.

The agreement confirms the Nkomati Accord, signed in 1974 between former SA President PW Botha and former Mozambican President Samora Machel, but it is expected the new security commission will strengthen security arrangements.

Shortly after arriving yesterday afternoon, Mr Mandela held talks with Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, after which the agreement was signed.

The main aspect of the agreement deals with security matters, and includes a provision for a joint security commission to oversee illegal immigration, and arms and drugs smuggling between the two countries.

Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise visited Mozambique last week to negotiate the security aspects of the deal.

The agreement will also confirm other international co-operation agreements already negotiated between the two governments, including that on the Cahora Bassa scheme.

Officials expect the supply of electricity from Mozambique to SA will be restored following the deal, but no dates have been set for the resumption of supply.

SA officials expected the Mozambican government to discuss the quota of Mozambican migrant workers on SA mines.

Mozambican authorities would prefer an increase in the quota, but SA officials were reluctant to reach any agreements at this stage.

The Mozambican government would also like tariff-free entry of some goods into SA.

This too will be part of further discussions.

Mr Mandela's entourage was welcomed at Maputo airport by about 3 000 people. A 21-gun salute was fired as the national anthems of both countries were played, after which Mr Mandela inspected a guard of honour.

He took Mr Mandela the better part of half-an-hour to work his way through the dignitaries and impromptu praise-singing performances conducted in his honour.

"I'm very excited to be here," Mr Mandela told Mr Chissano.

The two leaders were taken from the airport in a caravanea headed by about 12 motorcycles.

The entourage brought central Maputo to a standstill as thousands of people lined the streets waving South African flags.

Mr Mandela is also expected to meet President Quett Masire of Botswana and President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe during his trip, which coincides with a science and technology conference in Maputo.

Mr Mandela is being accompanied by Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Dr Ben Ngubane, Foreign Affairs director-general Mr Rusty Ewan, and presidential adviser Professor Jakes Gerwel.

Sapa reports Mr Mandela said at a state banquet here last night: "Southern Africa wanted to build a prosperous Southern Africa to compete with dignity in the rest of the world.

"He said Southern Africa had felt the "shockwaves of international events which have changed the world."
Whites-only call-up under fire

Whites are still being prosecuted for refusing to attend camps, reports Stefaans Brümmer

example of discriminatory legislation

The issue will be raised in parliament next month by Democratic Party MP Douglas Gibson who is to ask whether prosecutions of defaulters will continue.

Deputy Defence Minister Ronne Kasius said this week amendments of the Defence Act were being drawn up and that a policy statement could be expected before the end of August. "One's got to replace one system with another. All we are asking for is a little more time," he said.

A system of incentives, rather than one of coercion, was envisaged until the new voluntary service had built up sufficient numbers. At stake is the experience and manpower vested in the 120,000-strong citizen force and 130,000-member 'commando' units.

"The elections and the state of emergency (in kwaZulu/Natal) clearly demonstrated we need a reserve we can call upon," said Institute for Defence Policy chief researcher Brigadier Bal Sabs."Until the new voluntary system has delivered enough people, it will be very difficult to make do without it."

The Conscription Advice Service and the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) — which would have disbanded last year when conscription was scrapped, but is running a skeleton staff to deal with citizen force and commando calls to scrap compulsory camp duty. .

when it became clear after the elections that the practice was continuing....
Action on Ricin Massmark bombs promised
Call-up creates discord

BY MICHAEL SPARKS

The contradiction between planned amendments to the Defence Act — where military service would be based on a voluntary force — and camp call-ups being sent out was unfortunate, according to Deputy Defence Minister Ronne Kasrils.

But the contradiction existed because of the changing nature of the society and the ongoing needs of the National Defence Force, he said.

Kasrils added that about 10,000 campers had been called up to report for duty at the Lohatla Battle School in the Northern Cape at the beginning of next month.

However, End Conscription Campaign chairman Chris de Villiers pointed out that only whites were part of the Citizen Force, making the call-up racially discriminatory.

He added that the ECC was convinced people could successfully challenge any attempts to prosecute those who refused to report for service.

Challenge

Kasrils said “it’s a bit of a catch-22 situation since we are faced with an interregnum at the moment.

“We are moving towards a new system based on voluntary response that makes no reference to race. But in the meantime the call-up process of the past is still in place, and the National Defence Force still has manpower needs.

“We are committed to the new constitution and to change. So we are working as fast as we can to amend the Act.”

Kasrils said he was unsure when the amendments to the Defence Act would be introduced, but it would be during the next parliamentary session which runs from August 1 until the end of the year.

He added that since the defence force was no longer serving apartheid, he hoped for a good response to the call-up.
NELSPRUIT — A working committee to tackle cross-border problems was formed yesterday between a group of Mozambican and South African defence and security officials.

The bilateral meeting followed talks last week between President Nelson Mandela and his Mozambican counterpart President Joachim Chissano which culminated in the signing of a cooperation agreement between the two countries.

The committee will deal with security problems on the border between Eastern Transvaal and Mozambique, especially the smuggling of arms and drugs.

Two technical advisory committees were also formed comprising representatives from both countries. They would look into several proposals on the border security problems and report back to the working committee.

Follow-up planning would be based on the proposals of the technical committees.

One technical advisory committee, on policing, would deal with the smuggling of arms and drugs and stock theft and the other, on defence, would look into the border security situation.

The committees will also probe the abduction of seven South African women to Mozambique in December last year. — Sapa
Military capability our insurance policy - Kasrils

SANDF budget cuts warning

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

South Africa's military hawks are to take on the doves, particularly in the short term, over the demands of the multibillion-rand Reconstruction and Development Programme.

This was spelt out clearly yesterday when Deputy Defence Minister Ronne Kasrils said defence spending - to reach some R10,5 billion in the 1994-95 fiscal year - could not be cut during the initial stages of the integration process of the South African National Defence Force.

The defence budget, which Kasrils said had been decided upon over the past financial year, is to be debated in Parliament on August 10.

"We expect opposition from ANC backbenchers. They don't like cuts," the doves, who "don't tremble before admirals and generals", he said.

"We want to interrelate thus to ensure the argument is not an emotional one but one that relates to the prosperity of the country," he added.

Armcor has asked for tenders for four multimillion-rand corvette navy craft to bolster the navy.

The air force is also involved in negotiating for expensive new aircraft as well as the upgrading of existing planes in order to improve the country's defence capabilities in the first two decades of the next century.

Speaking about the integration process, Kasrils said the new look defence force had to be accepted "with credibility and legitimacy" by the population.

Going a long way towards reaching this goal had been the appointment of six MK generals, one former Transkei Defence Force general and two braggarts from integrated forces.

He confirmed the SANDF was aiming at a manpower figure of 127,000 after the three-year transition period, and then a pruning exercise would take place to bring the figure down to about 90,000.

"We have to see real integration to reflect the real racial composition of our country. We cannot have white officers in the top command and black troops doing patrols on the borders."
Moratorium on call-up offences

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

The Government has declared an unofficial moratorium on prosecutions of men who do not report for military call-ups in terms of existing national service regulations.

It is also poised to make a major announcement about the current system.

Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils said in Johannesburg yesterday there would be no prosecutions of men who have refused to report for duty.

While there were no official figures available, it is estimated that up to 50 000 prosecutions are pending in terms of the existing Defence Act. The existing system of conscription was temporarily abolished last year when it was announced that voluntary military service would replace it.

Thousands of volunteers signed up for the new form of service and every student in matriculation classes at all schools had also to be registered by schools with the South African National Defence Force in case it was necessary for conscription to be reintroduced.

SANDF budget cuts
warning - Page 5
White call-up still in force

JOHANNESBURG.—South Africa will have to rely on white reserve troops for security and law and order—for at least the next five years,—says leading defence analyst Mr J Cilliers.

"Citizen force members being called up could argue (in the courts) that the system is unconstitutional and discriminatory because it applies only to white males," said Mr Cilliers.

Defence Ministry spokesman Mr Das Herbst confirmed that while the call-up situation was being reviewed, white reserves would be needed for some time.

He said those not reporting for camps "would face prosecution." — Sppa-Reuters.
DP slams Kasrils on call-up contradictions

Political Staff

DEPUTY Minister of Defence Mr Ronnie Kasrils and the Defence Force should get together and stop contradicting each other about white conscription, the DP said yesterday.

A DP statement welcomed the announcements by Mr Kasrils that white conscription would end and that there would no prosecutions of those failing to report for service.

However, departmental spokesmen had apparently contradicted this.
Pretoria — Armscor is eager to make expertise developed for military purposes available to the Reconstruction and Development Programme, executive general manager Mr Tielman de Waal said here yesterday.

There were similarities between Armscor's activities in the past 15 years and the task facing the government, he said.

Examples of useful Armscor products included mobile medical units, feeding systems and telecommunications systems.

Mr de Waal said the corporation's main contribution would be in management skills. — Sapa
SANDF may reduce force by up to 37 000

Johannesburg — The South African National Defence Force would begin reducing its numbers by as many as 37 000 once integration of all forces had been completed, SANDF deputy chief of staff Maj.-Gen P J Venter said yesterday.

Gen Venter was addressing a security conference at Midrand, organised by the Institute for Defence Policy Centre for Policy Studies. He said integration of uMkhonto weSizwe and Azanian Peoples Liberation Army members would swell SANDF ranks by between 115 000 and 120 000.

The rationalisation programme would take three years from 1995. — Sapa (254) 29/11/94
Armscor's skills 'at RDP's disposal'

By NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Armscor — which for years has been at the sharp edge of the South African defence industry — believes it now has a major peace-time role to play in the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP).

It sees itself in a management support role, particularly in the fields of mobile hospitals, feeding schemes, communication systems and information systems.

Executive general manager Delman de Waal said at a media briefing in Pretoria yesterday that Armscor had made recommendations for inclusion in the RDP White Paper, to be published by the government later this year, and had also initiated talks with provincial governments about where it could assist.

Erich Esterhuysen, Armscor's RDP co-ordinator, said that the defence industry could help the RDP by providing 20 000 jobs for every R1 billion earned by the sector.

The national defence telecommunications network would be integrated with those of Telkom, Eskom and other major organisations to provide a single national system which would provide the infrastructure to expand telephone and other links to rural areas in particular.

Health care could be taken to the masses via mobile hospitals and clinics, a scheme which would not only provide a service but also jobs for hundreds of people.

Armscor has also developed ready-to-serve meals for troops which could also be diverted to feed people on a mass scale in the education, health, disaster and other humanitarian fields.

Satellite technology, using the locally developed Greensat system, would be offered for the gathering of information on crops, drought, environmental planning and natural occurrences, such as disasters and floods.
SA bans export of land-mines
Defence integration costs rocketing

PRETORIA — Taxpayers are to pay billions of rand a year to finance the National Defence Force's integration and rationalisation programme.

According to Deputy Chief of Staff (Personnel) P. Venter, the programme, due for completion by December, is likely to cost far more than the estimated R4 billion calculated until December this year.

Presenting a paper at the Institute for Defence Policy and the Centre for Policy Studies in Middelburg last year, Major-General Venter said the task of integrating five statutory (former TBVC) and two non-statutory (former MK/APLA) forces by the year-end was being made impossible by the confusion surrounding registered personnel registers.

"The deadline for the submission of these lists was midnight on April 27 and yet we are currently working on the 11th or 12th revised list. This is simply unacceptable," he said.

General Venter said recruits were streaming in from all over Africa, and because there was no acceptable final list, the rationalisation process was being retarded.

The estimated cost of integration and rationalisation was estimated at R4 billion by the end of this year, but I doubt we'll complete the process until the end of next year, dramatically increasing the cost to the taxpayer," he said.

The SANDF was expecting an intake of from 16,000 to 26,000 MK, 4,000 to 8,000 APLA and 10,000 former TBVC loop to be added to the 25,000 former SADF members. This would make up a total strength of between 85,000 and 127,000 members, to be reduced to 91,000 over three years.

General Venter said most of the surplus reductions would be by retrenchment, placing additional strain on the budget, while the lower levels could be trimmed by terminating contracts. He added that the maintenance of all existing combat capabilities remained important.

He said it was imperative that investment in intelligence gathering be increased to ensure sufficient early warning about a changing threat. This would ensure that force levels were not maintained at unduly high levels and that lower force levels could be timeously increased to counter threats to national security.
Front-line troopie is just visible tip of the iceberg

By PETER De IONNO

SOUTH AFRICA'S front-line troops are the sharp tip of an iceberg — at least four people stand behind every fighting soldier.

Without cooks, mechanics, secretaries, cleaners, technicians and quartermasters, the SANDF's fighting men would be a rag-tag bunch.

For those who thought the defender of South Africa was a man with a rifle, a breakdown of the cost per person per day reveals just how dependent soldiers are on those unseen battalions.

It costs a SANDF recruit an average of R160.01 a day to deploy an infantryman, allowing for an ammunition cost of R1.16 a day, equivalent to two rifle rounds. Gunners and armoured troopers cost more, with artillery rounds running into thousands.

The total averaged cost of each SANDF member of R160.01 a year, R32 000 goes in salaries — R24 800 a day. The remainder is logistical costs, R60.01 a day.

Every army marches on its stomach, so the largest direct cost of R46.38 for cooked rations is no surprise. However, it is cheaper to cook fresh food than to provide the nutritionally precise "rations pack" dry rations, which cost up to R22 a day.

Keeping the spending down is an impossible juggling act, said Colonel Antonie Visser, senior SANDF staff officer for logistical finance, who produced this analysis. Rocking vegetable prices since the recent cold spell could add R2 to R3 to the daily food bill.

The inflation rate for vehicles is about 20 percent, while above other categories in the table.

Purchase of vehicles and signal equipment totals 21 percent of support costs. Repairs amounted to another eight percent.

The SANDF's emphasis on first world hardware in what gives the SA military an edge that defies external challenges. It also shoves the figures away from the typical African defence force cost ratio of 80 percent wages and 20 percent logistics.

"We are a bit more expensive than the average Third World army," said Colonel Visser.

Indirect costs of R19.49 cover regional service council levies, main signal equipment, computers, telephone charges, manpower transfer costs, garden equipment and the buying of dogs and horses.

Buildings come free to the military, but not to the taxpayer. They are paid for by the Department of Public Works — different budget, same pocket.
Conscription in a tangle

CLIVE SAWYER
Weekend Argus Political Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence seems unwilling to 'put its generals in their place,' says the End Conscription Campaign.

There is confusion about whether the government will go ahead with prosecution of thousands of Citizen Force members who have not responded to call-ups. There are reportedly 30,000 prosecutions pending.

The ECC has welcomed reports that deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils has announced a moratorium on prosecutions.

These reports have subsequently been denied by Defence Ministry spokesman Muff Anderson.

The ECC says it seems that Mr Kasrils has let the cat out of the bag because "few if any" prosecutions are proceeding.

"Notwithstanding, the Defence Force is harassing individuals called up for camps, threatening them with prosecution.

"We have had reports of individuals being harassed for alleged failure to report last year."

Whites-only call-ups are "blatantly" in conflict with the constitution, says the ECC.

"It is outrageous that the Defence Force persists not only with the call-ups themselves, but with threats of prosecution."

The Defence Force seemed unable to come to terms with changes in South Africa and was trying to run it massive call-up bureaucracy as usual.

"It is unclear whether this is due to massive incompetence or deliberate policy."

"Neither possibility is confidence-inspiring."

Responding to Defence Force claims that it is necessary to call up white Citizen Force members for the foreseeable future, due to their 'expertise,' a Defence Force spokeswoman said they had to keep their battle skills up to date "because lives depend on it."

The ECC says next month's huge war games at Lohatla in the northern Cape will waste "vast sums of money on pointless military exercises."
PUBLIC SECTOR - GOVT DEFENCE

1994

AUGUST — DEC,
Body mooted to keep tabs on defence budget

CAPE TOWN — A special parliamentary commission must be established to review the Defence Force budget, the joint finance committee on finance has recommended.

In a report on the Budget published on Saturday, the committee also called for an investigation into competition policy, an end to tax discrimination against women, an inquiry into the future of nuclear energy programmes, and a commission of inquiry into labour productivity.

It said urgent attention should be given to the complexities of devolution of power to the provinces.

The report was the product of seven days of public hearings following the tabling of the Budget in June, during which the committee heard evidence from cabinet ministers, department heads and interest groups.

It said that despite the hearings, the rationale for the maintenance of Defence Force troop levels remained “out of the ken of the committee and the legislative authority”, which made a critical evaluation of the defence budget vote extremely difficult.

The SANDF budget, as 10% of the total, warranted the establishment of a parliamentary defence review and evaluation commission to examine its size within a comprehensive strategic reassessment.

The budget of the National Intelligence Service should be evaluated to ensure not only that there were enough resources to cover the integration of all intelligence agencies into one, but also that there were funds to train members in human relations and to develop a "continued human rights culture".

Spending on secret projects and the special defence account, as well as the continued existence of the secret services evaluation committee, should be considered for its effectiveness.

The committee was concerned that accounting officers had not yet been appointed for all the provinces.

No provision appeared to have been made for establishing the commission on gender equality, and the committee strongly recommended that a specific allocation for this be reflected in the President's budget vote.

Urgent attention should be given to ending tax discrimination against women, and particularly to removing the distinction between "married women" and "married persons".

-Sapa
Body mooted to keep tabs on defence budget

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Urgent attention should be given to ending tax discrimination against women, and particularly to removing the distinction between "married women" and "married persons" — Sapa.
Moratorium on call-up prosecutions

□ Bid for voluntary participation

Political Staff
DEFENCE Minister Joe Modise has announced an immediate moratorium on prosecutions of members of part-time forces who fail to respond to call-ups.

"In terms of this moratorium, the National Defence Force will not be handing over cases to the civil courts and will not proceed with prosecutions in military courts," Mr Modise said during debate in the national assembly on his budget vote.

He also threw his weight firmly behind the country's arms industry, saying it was important to view it as a "national asset" and pointing out that it could generate new jobs.

Turning to the debate on the military call-up system, Mr Modise said the moratorium would last "until administrative mechanisms are in place to encourage voluntary participation in the part-time force".

Since the scrapping of the all-white conscription system, the defence force has relied on an entirely voluntary part-time force.

The first voluntary intake of 4,000 recruits for the army and 200 for the navy "was successfully accomplished this year".

In terms of existing legislation, the voluntary system may be supplemented, when the need arises, by a ballot system.

Mr Modise said he respected the authority of attorneys-general to proceed with prosecutions against those who had not responded to recent call-ups. But he appealed to them for "co-operation in applying the moratorium".

In spite of his concession, Mr Modise appealed to Citizen Force members to "respond positively" to call-ups.

"I believe our part-time forces now have the opportunity to convert the call-up system into a sound volunteer system," said the minister. He also appealed to employers to co-operate in enabling these members to report for duty.

Significantly, he added, "We are looking into ways to provide incentives to employers and potential volunteers to co-operate in instituting this system."

Mr Modise said an "equitable dispensation" for classified conscientious objectors was under review and an announcement could be expected soon.
Too much cash for defence, says ANC

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The ANC was “extremely unhappy” about the large share of the Budget allocated to the security forces and intelligence agencies, ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said yesterday.

Speaking during the Budget debate, he said the defence budget was much too large for a country the size of South Africa.

Citing a range of concerns his organisation had about the Budget, Ramaphosa further questioned R460 million budgeted for the National Intelligence Service.

“We need to be convinced that excesses and other killings are no longer being paid for by these budgets,” Ramaphosa said.

Budget, which reflected ANC priorities, also did not target rural and poor communities.

The ANC was further concerned that 40 percent of the Budget was being spent on running the country’s administration.

While the ANC accepted that the level of taxation was too high, the Government should address “the erosion of tax morality.”

Priorities

Ramaphosa said State assets had disappeared during the past few months. He proposed that a high-profile campaign be started to identify the culprits.

Opening the debate, ANC MP Gill Marcus, who is also the chairperson of the finance standing committee, said the budgetary cycle had prevented the new Government from making sufficient input and its priorities remained ill-defined.

Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel proposed that the Government increase its spending on revenue collection and should consider a once-off indemnity for tax evaders.

Democrat Party MP Ken Andrew told the National Assembly that the Budget deficit remained unacceptably high.

He warned “Any fool can spend money and redistribute wealth. The real challenges are making money and creating wealth. Without economic growth, the RDP is doomed to failure.”

IFP MP Gavin Woods expressed concern at the Government’s lack of a financial policy framework.

Arguing the necessity of privatisation, Woods said the country was “in for a rough ride unless we follow the examples set by well-established economies.”
'Give
SANDF
ARG 3/8/94
three
years

Staff Reporter

THE success of the integration process of members of various military forces into the new South African National Defence Force will only be evident at the end of three years, says chief of the army Hattingh Pretorius.

Lieutenant-General Pretorius told senior officers at a medal parade in the Castle yesterday that the perception existed that the level of training of some of the new members of the SANDF was not very high.

General Pretorius said the army was engaged in an integration process which included bridging courses and in some instances re-training.

"At the end of this process — which can take up to three years, if not longer — the playing fields should be level and comparisons between the recruits of the various forces could be made."

Budgetary constraints placed the army by the high cost of the integration process, he meant South Africa would not be able to afford the size of the present force.

General Pretorius presented medals to 17 senior officers and one non-commissioned officer, including the commander of the Western Province Command, Brigadier Dan Lampricht.

Brigadier Lampricht was awarded the Southern Cross Decoration for "outstanding service of the highest order with utmost devotion to duty."

General Pretorius also awarded the Dane Theron medal to Colonel Michael Müller from Carnarvon, a member of the commandos who "has distinguished himself by exceptionally diligent and outstanding service."

It was the last Dane Theron Medal to be awarded before the decoration is scrapped.
RATIONALISATION of the SA National Defence Force would only take place after the full integration of the various military forces of South Africa, according to chief of the army, Lieutenant-General Hatungh Pretorius.

Speaking at a medal parade at the Castle, Lt-Gen Pretorius said that "unachievers" and those found guilty of "bad conduct" would be the ones to leave the army.

"I am confident that we will not lose expertise through this process," he said.

He urged for co-operation from the "loyal supporters" at the parade and warned that without their co-operation the shaping of the army could be a "long and painful process."

This integration of the armed forces would only near completion towards the end of next year, he said.
Fiery debate over defence budget

Terrorists, reports Defence Correspondent Norman Chandler.

Should South Africa cut back on defence spending? The

Edited by Mike Slima
Public service minimum pay increases again

20% rise since last November

CHRIS WHITFIELD, Political Staff

THE minimum wage for public servants has been increased by 4.77 percent and pay scales in the service will be restructured. Public Service and Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya announced.

He told parliament during the budget debate yesterday that the "majority of those lower-paid people are black and women". The latest increase would mean that the minimum wage had been improved by 20 percent since last November.

The issue of the minimum wage had been discussed with the central chamber of the Public Service Bargaining Council.

Mr Skweyiya said "The chamber has decided to appoint a task team to look into the matter and to make proposals regarding a programme for the improvement of the minimum wage."

As a sign of its commitment to the issue of minimum wage, I am pleased to announce that despite the present financial limitations, the government has agreed to further increase the minimum wage in the public service with 4.77 percent as from July 1 this year."

Officials from the Department of Public Service and Administration were unable to indicate last night how many civil servants would be affected by the increase or what it would cost.

The minister said during the debate that salary increases had to be handled "in a way which will be affordable". Increases since April had been below the inflation rate.

"We need to maintain that kind of discipline. On the other hand, the government has to be sensitive to the needs of the public servants at the lower end of the salary scale and to imbalances which the apartheid era has caused within our wage and salary structure."
LONDON — The South African government will maintain the country's arms industry, the strongest on the continent, Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise said in an interview published yesterday.

He told Jane's Defence Weekly the government wants new corvettes for its navy and a new training aircraft to be built in South Africa.

South Africa has said it wanted to procure between 40 and 50 trainer aircraft to replace its ageing Atlas Impalas, and four corvettes to extend the range of its small fleet.

Mr Modise said: "We would prefer to have the corvettes built here, to bring technology into the country."

SA Air Force chief Lieutenant-General James Kriel said in Pretoria he was unaware of plans for a trainer to replace the Impalas.

Armcosor's Mr Tielman de Waal said no discussions were underway on such a project. — Sapa-Reuters
Ex-MK soldiers draw battle lines over pay

By Quentin Wilson

Battle lines have been drawn within the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) over the allocation of ranks and salaries to the former members of MK. We were asked by a source in the SANDF's personnel section at military headquarters, former MK members are being relegated to the lowest rung of the salary ladders in each rank while former SADF personnel are allocated to more lucrative posts.

"It is just one of the many complexities that we are facing in this integration process," said the source. "Although many of us have many years of experience in MK, that is being totally ignored."

"It has been proposed that MK soldiers start on the lowest salary scale within their given rank. There are three salary notches within each rank, and MK people are given the lowest notch each time."

"We have rejected this and are negotiating the matter but there is a feeling in some quarters that we are being swallowed up by the SADF. We want the integration process to proceed on more equal terms," he said.

Major Merle Meyer, a South African army spokesperson, admitted the process was "proving difficult" but said "all was being done to ensure fair play."

"Everybody is undergoing evaluation from the British Military Training Team, a body agreed to by all parties to help us in the integration process."

"Many factors are taken into consideration before a decision is taken about an individual."

"It is a difficult situation because of the different training the various soldiers have undergone, but we are doing everything we can to give people a fair chance," Meyer said.
I'm being victimised, says soldier

Sibusiso Nxumalo

A SOUTH African National Defence Force soldier has accused former members of ANC security department Mbolodo — now senior officers in the new defence force — of victimising him for testifying about abuses in ANC detention camps.

In a letter in the possession of the Mail & Guardian, Olefie Mngqibisa describes harassment by high-ranking officers at the camp. The letter is addressed to, among others, the commanders at the base, President Nelson Mandela, the Defence Ministry and the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

Mngqibisa appeared before the Motsetsane Commission appointed by Mandela last year to hear claims of atrocities in ANC camps. He gave evidence of arbitrary arrests and torture carried out by Mbolodo. He also told the commission that current defence minister and former Umkhonto weSizwe commander Joe Modise had sent MK soldiers over the border to buy him expensive shoes and clothes.

The letter claims the commanding officer of the MK soldiers at Wallmannetj, Gilbert Ramano, and his second-in-command, Steven Kobe — both ex-members of Mbolodo -— have removed Mngqibisa from his post of brigade sergeant major in his absence and without explanation.

In another letter addressed to Minister of Justice Dahlab Omar, Mngqibisa claims the camp's second-in-command told him he was being harassed because he had testified against Mbolodo. He also says that while problems between him and Ramano were resolved amicably, the latter-admitted other MK people were unhappy with Mngqibisa's presence at the base.

Mngqibisa describes an altercation with the second-in-command, Stephen Kobe, in which he was threatened with expulsion from the camp. He also claims that Kobe hinted he would shoot him.

Colonel Brian du Toit of the SANDF said it was an internal MK matter, and the SANDF could not comment on it. Attempts to obtain comment from MK commanders met no response.
Back to basics

Rebuilding SA's security services for the new democracy could be the toughest task facing the government of national unity.

It must find a role for a police force demoralised and in conflict with the communities it must serve and for an army seeking to merge leaders with guerrilla cadres they were trained to kill.

The two services face different problems, experts say, but if the solutions are tardy and too costly, they will ultimately affect the ANC's ability to carry out its Reconstruction & Development Programme: "It is clear that safety and security are far more closely linked to reconstruction and development than was previously understood," says Safety & Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi.

"What does it help to build houses, schools and communities if they can be torn down or terrorised the next day?" The new order solution, he says, is "community policing." Police stations and communities must develop a rapport.

It has already begun, with consultative forums springing up in townships across SA involving police officers, community leaders and peace monitors.

Not only must the police be more representative of their communities, say Mufamadi, they must be in constant dialogue.

That would enhance the police's information network and hence its crime-fighting ability, leading to greater acceptance by the community. But all of this, warns Mufamadi, "will take longer, cost more and cause more mess than anybody ever anticipated."

Riots and disorder, meanwhile, will continue throughout the transitional period of the new government and beyond. These are problems demanding a tougher, more militant form of police action — what the authorities call "public order policing" to distinguish it from the buddy-on-the-boat, community-oriented variety.

In the past, such tasks fell to the police's Internal Stability Division (ISD). Formed two years ago and modelled on the French anti-riot police, the ISD drew many members from the Koevoet counter-insurgency force used in pre-independence Namibia.

The ISD units, though, were so heavily-handed that they have become hated by violence weary black communities. In the most violent areas such as the East Rand, the internal stability units had to be withdrawn and replaced by the army.

As the ISD's image declined, it brought down the image of the police, says Institute for Defence Policy executive director Jackie Cilliers. But he believes the solution is more simple than it seems.

Cilliers advocates transferring the ISD out of the police service and combining it with the existing counter-insurgency components of the army to form a new division of the SA National Defence Force, with a separate budget like the navy and air force.

The proposed new defence arm could also handle border security, which has deteriorated to the extent that illegal immigrants have become major players in organised crime networks plugging the nation.

It would continue to act as a public order police unit, Cilliers says, in much the same way as the French gendarmerie, which falls under military command but acts as a rural and riot control police force.

Not only would that demilitarise the regular police service and allow it to concentrate on community policing but it would also free the army from township policing. The idea has so far drawn no government response.

The already bloated SA National Defence Force is having trouble absorbing between 20 000-33 000 Umkhonto we Sizwe and Apal guerrillas. Demobilisation of the guerrillas from their central African bases has been so slow and intermittent, says the force's Deputy Chief of Staff, Maj Gen P J Venter, that the integration has had to be extended by a year to December 1995.

The delays are adding significantly to the costs of integration and rationalisation, scheduled to be completed by April 1997 at a cost of R4.2m — equivalent to nearly half of the defence budget.

The ex-guerrillas, added to the 10 000 soldiers from the former TBVC states, will raise the existing defence force strength 35%-50% to 115 000-128 000 full-time soldiers. Yet this will have to be cut by 37 000 over the next three years, says Venter.

It is crucial, he says, that those released from military service be given some training for civilian life. Hence the establishment of development brigades to teach rudimentary skills such as bricklaying, basic plumbing and carpentry.

The defence force's problems, though, might not be as bad as those of the police service, says Mufamadi's adviser, Peter Gastrow.

Though the new SA Police Service exists in name as a single entity, its 11 constituent divisions are still operating under the 11 separate statutes of the apartheid past. This has provoked "pathetic" jurisdictional disputes, spats over salary payments, conflicts over authority and so on, he says.

The new Safety & Security Act, open for public comment, is not expected to become law until October or November. President Nelson Mandela is tipped to issue a stopgap proclamation soon, granting all police officers authority to act beyond the old regional boundaries.

"If there is one government department where preparations for the new SA have been lacking and dismal, it is the SA police service," says Gastrow. The reason, he adds, is primarily political. ANC leaders were reluctant to become involved in planning for a politically tainted police force during the run-up to the elections.
SANDF plans school recruitment drive

THE SANDF announced yesterday that it would expand its school recruitment drive to 400 state high schools countrywide in a bid to include blacks in the officers corps.

Speaking at the Heidelberg Army Gymnasium, SANDF spokesman Col John Jooste said the young men and women who showed an interest in the army would be told that military service was voluntary.

This would be the first time people of all races were recruited for a junior leader training course in preparation for leadership roles in the SANDF, and which would help them in careers outside the army.

He said the recruits would spend 10 months at a training camp and would be introduced to the basic training of a soldier. The SANDF aimed to produce officers representative of the SA population.
PAC: Talks inconclusive

PAC leader Mr. Clarence Makwetu yesterday held an inconclusive meeting with President Nelson Mandela on the integration of Aplas cadres into the Defence Force.

Mr. Makwetu said afterwards that Mr. Mandela promised to discuss the issue at a special meeting last night with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Defence Minister Mr. Joe Modise or his deputy, Mr. Ronnie Kasrils.

He was concerned at claims by Defence Force officers that they could not accommodate more than 1,500 Aplas cadres at present, he said. — Sapa
Slovo: Spend on homes not ships

Housing Minister Mr Joe Slovo yesterday joined the growing chorus of demands for an end to plans to spend a reported R4.6 billion on corvettes for the South African Navy.

Speaking during the second reading debate on the Budget, Mr Slovo said the R4.6bn would permit his department to provide housing subsidies to 368,000 families.

“We need to be told more clearly before the next Budget what the purpose is of all the hi-tech, high-cost weapons systems the defence force wants.”

Turning to the civil service, Mr Slovo said it was a loyal and professional group of people, willing to play their part. However, the ANC wanted to “marry” that group with a new set of civil servants drawn from across the spectrum.

“We must change the face of the state apparatus to look more like the face of South Africa.”
SANDF set to lay off part-timers

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Military personnel temporarily working on special short-term contracts with units of the South African Army are to be laid off as their contracts expire.

Officially the job losses are not viewed as part of the integration process.

The lay-offs will start from the end of this month.

It is not known how many people are involved, but it is believed the exercise covers various tactical groups, particularly the engineers corps. No members of the Permanent Force are affected.

Those involved are mainly former Citizen Force trainees who, at the end of their call-up elected to sign up to undertake specialized jobs. Many of them had been unable to find employment in the private sector after their training.

Their contracts were regarded as temporary, and could be extended according to Defence Force needs.

They do not form part of the short-term services system (STS) which allows personnel to join the SANDF for a period of up to six years. These particular contracts can be extended for up to six years.

STS offers certain allowances and improved salaries to attract high-quality personnel in the post-conscription era. Conscript was officially suspended in January.

In terms of the integration of the former SA Defence Force, Umkhonto wezi Sizwe and Phi into the SANDF, a total of 37 000 personnel will have to be retrenched over three years in order to meet the limit of a 91 000-strong force.

Arbitration for Checkers, union

Shoprite/Checkers and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union have agreed to advisory arbitration following illegal strikes at 24 stores. — Sapa.

Deadline set for volunteers

Applicants for voluntary military service at the Army Gymnasium at Heidelberg have until September 15 to apply. — Defence Correspondent.
Weapons were not stored at my home, says major

SANDF getting MK arms

BY CHERYL HUNTER
CRIME REPORTER

Weapons and ammunition belonging to former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) members are being secretly collected and handed over to the South African National Defence Force following the appointment of senior MK officers to high positions in the SANDF.

SANDF spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Margaret Neethling confirmed yesterday that arms and ammunition were being secretly moved from a collection point in Troyeville, Johannesburg, to depots outside the PWV area.

Neethling said 300 AK-47s and 47 assault rifles, ammunition, landmines and limpet mines had been transported along the Ben Schoeman Highway in a heavy-duty military vehicle on Thursday.

Mayor Winston Harper, a former MK member now in the SANDF logistics section, denied that his Troyeville, Johannesburg, home had been used to store the weapons.

Harper said people had been asked to hand over MK weapons and be acting on orders when he agreed to collect the weapons at his home.

The weapons had been collected from areas surrounding Johannesburg and were not intended for storage at his home.

Harper feared that his home would be targeted by right-wing elements if it was known as a collection point for weapons.

Neethling said yesterday that the weapons collection was "part of an agreement reached in terms of the TEC Act."

A subcommittee of former SADF members and MK leaders was appointed to ensure that the weapons and ammunition of all former military forces were audited and placed under control.

"Once MK was incorporated into the SANDF, they provided us with lists of their weapons and armoury as well as their assets to be incorporated into the defence force," she said.

Neethling said the weapons were destined for storage or destruction, depending on their condition.
40 000 troops face the axe

Big cuts over next three years could make way for ex-MK members

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

Up to 40,000 full-time members of the Defence Force could be discharged within the next three years to accommodate the intake from former guerrilla and homeland armies.

Defence Force chief, Georg Meiring, told the parliamentary select committee on defence today that integration of armies would add from 30,000 to 40,000 to the new Defence Force.

An equivalent number of members would have to be retrenched.

About 8,000 people or 11.4 percent of the Defence Force had been retrenched since 1990.

Parliament is to be told later this week of a plan to transform the Defence Force into a mainly part-time force of volunteers.

This could signal the phasing-out of compulsory Citizen Force service.

Military must bite the bullet

BY CHRIS WHITFIELD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Up to 40,000 members of the SA National Defence Force could be retrenched once a similar number of Umkhonto we Sizwe, Apla and homeland forces members have been integrated into the force.

Chief of the SANDF General Georg Meiring told the parliamentary select committee on defence yesterday: "We are going to have to retrench the same number as we are integrating.

However, Meiring could give no indication of who would be retrenched and fears were expressed by committee members that most would be the former MK or Apla members.

Meiring said the MK and Apla members would be sent on courses to enable them to compete on an equal footing for jobs.

The retrenchment programme would be completed by the end of 1997 – with about 10,000 retrenchments each year in the next three years.

In the meantime, it was expected that there would also be "natural attrition" as about 3,000 members resigned each year.

NATIONAL force will have to be cut from 130,000 to 91,000 after inclusion of MK, Apla and former homeland personnel

Meiring said it was expected that up to 19,000 MK members, 6,000 from Apla and 10,000 from the old homeland forces would be integrated into the SANDF.

The old SADF had on April 26 handed over the Transitional Executive Council a list of 85,000 of its existing full-time members it wanted included in the new force.

Meiring said the force would be reduced by a combination of "voluntary retrenchments and contracts being terminated".

He estimated that the SANDF could be between 120,000 and 130,000 strong once the integration process had been completed by the end of 1995, and it would have to be reduced to an "affordable" size.

"That will be the size of the full-time component of the SANDF."

The retrenchments would be phased over three years and he estimated the total cost of retrenchment packages and associated costs would be about R7 billion.

The SANDF chief also indicated that the citizen force component of the force would in future be based on an "entirely voluntary basis" – signalling the end to white-only call-ups.

Defence Minister Joe Modise is expected to elaborate on this when he addresses debate on his budget in Parliament today.

Meiring also said certain capacities of the SANDF had been reduced to a dangerously low level.

He also revealed that:

The export of arms by South Africa could be used to help finance the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

South Africa had been poised to play a joint peacekeeping role with Namibia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Botswana in Lesotho. This had proved to be unnecessary.

Meiring told the select committee that the defence budget had been reduced by 44 per cent in real terms – taking inflation into account – be-

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From Page 1

Since 1989, the SANDF's planned amphibious landing had been reduced from 10 to none, and its naval capabilities had been reduced to a "bare minimum". In the air force, the number of fighter squadrons had been reduced from 10 to 5.

From 1997, there would be only one assault squadron and two light transport squadrons, and a problem would be that the SANDF did not have enough pilots. Meiring said the SANDF had been downsized and modernised.

Defence minister said:

"The defence industry has been restructured as a result of the fall of the Sandile. The SANDF's staff levels have been reduced by 11.4 per cent, and the SANDF's budget has been reduced by 44 per cent."
Debate over future role of SA's arms industry

□ 'Peaceful contribution needed'

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

SWORDS into ploughshares — or fire up the furnace for a lot more swords?

That was the essence of exchanges between politicians and arms industry leaders in the parliamentary select committee on defence who met yesterday.

Eric Esterhuyse, of Armscor, told the committee every billion rand spent on increasing the size of the arms industry created 20000 jobs.

He said the perception that South Africa was a major player in the world arms market was wrong. The country had only 0.3 percent of the market.

"If you increase this by a percentage point you will double the number of work opportunities," he said.

The presentation on the arms industry followed a briefing by SA National Defence Force chiefs who pleaded for an end to defence budget cutbacks.

Committee member Tony Yengeni (African National Congress) took issue with a statement by Armscor chairman Johan Moolman that it was no simple matter to turn from making swords to ploughshares.

Mr Yengeni said it was important for the arms industry to commit itself to making a contribution to a peaceful future for South Africa and the rest of the world.

The defence industry should turn to producing more "civilian-oriented" equipment.

Armscor managing-director Tielman de Waal said some technology developed by the arms industry could be used for civilian purposes, for example, an electronic navigation and survey system which had been used to locate vehicles hijacked in the PWV area.

"But an organisation which makes gun barrels can only make gun barrels"
SA’s cross-border dirty deeds ‘never disclosed’

THE truth about South Africa’s involvement in the destabilisation of Angola and Mozambique had never been told in Parliament, ANC MP Mr Jan van Eck said yesterday.

The consequences of this destabilisation had been horrendous, he said. “Had it not been for their support from the outset for the guerilla movements Renamo and Unita in Mozambique and Angola, the civil war and the accompanying deaths and economic and social destruction would have ended long ago.”

“In one horrendous example of NP government inhumanity, it is reported that the SADF stopped the delivery of hundreds of tons of food to thousands of starving Mozambicans, resulting directly in the death of about 100 000 people.”
‘SA needs a coastguard’

By DAN SIMON

SOUTH AFRICA should maintain a strong navy — but also establish a “civilian” coastguard service to help protect maritime zones.

This was said at an international conference yesterday during which the future role of the SA Navy was discussed.

Deputy Minister of Defence Mr Ronnie Kasrils said the navy could become the “leading edge” of the SA National Defence Forces in promoting peace, stability and economic development in Southern Africa.

He opened the SA and International Naval Co-operation Conference, attended by navy personnel and guest speakers from Australia, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Argentina, India, the US and France.

Mr Kasrils said the SA Navy wanted to help develop the ports of Luanda, Mombasa and Dar es Salaam.

He said a regional alliance would enable SA to more effectively co-operate with traditional sea powers and with south Atlantic states such as Argentina and Brazil, and Indian Ocean states such as India and Australia.

Transport economist Mr Bernal Floor, who was chairman of the Department of Transport’s committee of inquiry into a new national maritime policy, said the committee had called for the establishment of the South African coastal patrol service.

He said “objections” to such a service had been received from the navy, the Department of Environment Affairs and from Cape Nature Conservation.

But Mr Floor said implementation of a coastguard service would result in the “professional management” of government ships under one department.

He said a coastguard service should not compete with the navy for funds, nor create a new bureaucracy.

Seafarers serving in the proposed coastal patrol service would enjoy long-term career opportunities and receive the practical training prescribed for merchant seamen, Mr Floor said.

“Although the fleet would initially comprise existing ships of the government, the replacement of several fisheries patrol vessels is urgently necessary,” Mr Floor said.

Mr Floor said the budget for such a fleet would not exceed 4% of the current SA Navy budget.

He said he believed the committee’s recommendation for the establishment of a coastguard service would be implemented.

“I also believe good sense will prevail in maintaining the SA Navy as a potent defence force without encumbering it with routine civilian tasks.”

The conference was jointly hosted by the SA Institute of International Affairs and the Institute for Defence Policy.
Modise's call-up announcement

was important for it to be viewed as a "national asset" and pointing out that it could generate new jobs.

Turning to the ongoing debate on the military call-up system, Modise said the moratorium would "last until administrative mechanisms are in place to encourage voluntary participation in the part-time forces." Since the scrapping of the all-white conscription system, the defence force has relied on an entirely voluntary part-time force.

The first voluntary intake of 4,000 recruits for the army and 200 for the navy had been "successfully accomplished this year." (254)

In terms of existing legislation, the voluntary system may be supplemented, when the need arises, by a ballot system.

Modise said he respected the authority of attorneys-general to proceed in prosecutions against those who had not responded to recent call-ups. But he appealed to them "for co-operation in applying the moratorium."

In spite of his concession, Modise appealed to Citizen Force members to "respond positively" to call-ups.

He also appealed to employers to "co-operate in enabling these members to report for duty."

Modise said an "equitable dispensation" for conscientious objectors was under review. An announcement could be expected soon.

The minister also confirmed that a process of "civilising" at his ministry was under way and would be designed to ensure "greater transparency and accountability."
Cash needed for SANDF - Modise

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

MORE MONEY needs to be spent on the South African National Defence Force if its role in serving the country was to be enhanced, Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise says.

Opening the defence budget debate in Parliament yesterday, Modise said the Constitution committed the SANDF to being "primarily defensive." He said that while this implied a decrease in spending the opposite was in fact true as a defensive posture required "expenditure on advanced technology, including early-warning systems." Modise said "There is the real threat of conflict in the region and further afield. We cannot assume it will not spill over to South Africa or affect our interests." "We need to be properly prepared to counter any form of instability that might affect us." Serious budget cuts, Modise said, "would seriously affect the operational readiness of the SANDF." While defending South Africa's sovereignty was the SANDF's primary mission, it had secondary purposes; the most important of these being "assisting the South African Police Service in the maintenance of law and order." A well-equipped and "adequately staffed SANDF could contribute significantly to the RDP," Modise said.
Moratorium on call-up prosecutions

CAPE TOWN — Defence Minister Joe Modise yesterday announced a moratorium on the prosecution of conscripts who had not responded to call-ups. The moratorium would not proceed with the prosecution of pending cases and would not hand over cases to civilian courts. The moratorium would come into effect immediately and would last until administrative changes encouraging voluntary participation in the "part-time" forces came into effect.

Modise staunchly defended government expenditure on defence, arguing that since

TIM COHEN

1989 the defence budget had decreased 40% while equipment spending fell R600m. Employment in the defence industry had dropped from 157 000 to about 70 000, more than 90 000 personnel had been retrenched, and the private sector had not been able to absorb them. SA had reduced its defence budget to a "very modest level", from about 4,3% of GDP in 1989 to 2,7% in 1994. Defence spending as a percentage of state expenditure had declined from 15,7% to 7,8% during the same period.

Call-up

"We cannot hope to achieve an effective defence capability if the Defence budget experiences further cuts." (Zulu)

Without the Citizen Force the SANDF could not fulfil its constitutional mandate.

The contribution made by the force in maintaining stability during the election and at other times has been widely acknowledged." He appealed to all members who were called up to "respond positively and report for duty".

Modise said he envisaged a core force "with all the required combat capabilities, including tanks, fighter aircraft, naval craft and air defence systems. "There is the real threat of conflict in the region and further afield. We cannot assume it will not spill over to SA or affect our interests. We need to be properly prepared to counter any form of instability."
Women want rank in SANDF

By BARRY STRIEK
Political Staff

WOMEN should be employed at all levels of the defence force, including the infantry, and women should have parity in the cabinet, the ANC Women's League demanded yesterday.

It also said the Development Bank should be dissolved if it could not be changed and its chief executive, Mr Andre le Grange, removed.

Women's League president Mrs Winnie Mandela and senior executive members said at a press conference at the end of the National Women's Day commemorations that women were still suffering from discrimination, including within the ANC.

The league's deputy president, Ms Thandi Modise, said, "We had women in the trenches and we had women in the struggle, but we don't have them in the defence force."

Ms Lulama Xingwane, MP, a member of the league's executive, said that unless Mr Le Grange was removed from his position, the bank should be closed down.

She said the bank had funded apartheid institutions and today it was supporting the Western Cape because it had supported the National Party.
Export of weapons being reviewed

Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA is to review its policy of exporting conventional arms and the cabinet would sanction an all-party parliamentary committee to probe the practice, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday.

And Armscor said it wanted all secrecy in the acquisition of arms and the Special Defence Account to be removed, saying it would be up to Parliament to decide if any purchase of military equipment should be kept confidential.

Armscor chief Mr Tielman de Waal said in a month's time all its tenders and its contract awards would be made public.

The parliamentary inquiry into arms sales — South Africa exported R200 million in arms last year — and the Armscor's move for greater openness will lift the lid on the country's defence industry which until now has been kept away from public and parliamentary scrutiny.

Mr Mbeki said the cabinet would discuss the matter fully at a future meeting.
Arms deals up investment

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

ARMSCOR yesterday disclosed details of seven counter-trade agreements it had signed which will result in R4 billion being invested in South Africa during the current financial year.

It had decided in August 1992 that in all import contracts worth more than R50 million at least 50% would have to be spent in South Africa, Armscor's export manager Mr Peet Smith said.

No other South African company had adopted such a policy but it had been calculated that if a moderate 15% of all imports were subject to counter-trade or offset provisions, R10 billion a year would be invested in the country, he said.

The counter-trade provision on the acquisition of Swiss-made Pilatus aircraft costing a total of R620 million was that 55% of the contract had to be spent in South Africa.

Similar agreements had been signed with two Israeli companies for the refurbishment of aircraft, a Spanish company and with British Aerospace.

Mr Smith said counter-trade agreements were essential because "where you don't pay in, money" would be wasted.

"Regrettably, there is no national policy on this," SA Airways, for instance, bought Boeing aircraft without any offset agreements.
Call-up fuss a puff of air

Stefanus Brümmer

WITWATERSRAND Attorney-General Klaus von Liebes and Wilkau says Defence Minister Joe Modise's moratorium on prosecuting people who fail to respond to call-ups is a "puff in the wind".

Modise said in parliament members of the Citizen Force and commando units — all white, because they were fed by whites-only conscription until it was abolished last year — would not be prosecuted if they ignored camp call-ups.

"The National Defence Force will not be handing over cases to the civil courts and will not proceed with prosecutions in military courts," Modise said. He said he respected the authority of attorneys-general to proceed with prosecutions, but appealed for their co-operation.

Von Liebes and Wilkau responded yesterday.

"The objective facts are that the Department of Defence has for the last approximately two years refused to submit dockets. We never got the stuff, and they acted like a law unto themselves."

...Really, it's a puff in the wind.

He said there might be a few pending cases, but these did not correspond to the "stupendous" number of people reported to have defaulted.

Asked about Modise's appeal for the co-operation of attorneys-general, Von Liebes and Wilkau said it depended on the status of the case. If someone had already pleaded to charges in court, the case could not be stopped. Otherwise, "we will consider the matter", he said.

Under pressure from the End Conscription Campaign and the Conscription Advice Service, who slated the call-up as "racial discrimination in a disguised form", Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils announced last month that prosecutions would be halted — only to be contradicted by ministerial spokesman DAS Herbst who said they would continue.

He said yesterday: "There were no contradictions. It was just a matter of time. This was in the pipeline, but it was one of the problems of having to exercise responsibility for the Defence Force."
US batters Armscor in bombs-for-oil court case

Evidence of a bombs-for-oil trade between Pretoria and Iraq in the 1980s is being used to try to force Armscor out of the international arms market

Paul Stobor and Eddie Koch report

A

n American court has accused a former Bar-

low Rand company of illegally supplying Iraq with bomb technology to exchange for thou-

sands of tons of crude oil in the 1980s. The bombs were used by Saddam Hussein's army during the Gulf War, while the fuel was used to fund the Unit-

ed Nation's oil embargo against the apartheid state.

United States prosecutors say Fuchs Electronics (Pty) Ltd., a South African electronics company controlled by Barlow in the 1980s, conspired with an

American arms manufacturer to supply Iraq with electronic fuse units used to ignite artillery round cas-

settes. According to a charge sheet lodged with a Pennsylvania court, an American firm, International

Signal and Control (ISC), set up a scheme whereby it would export fuses via South Africa to Iraq.

As part of the deal ISC would supply up to 260 000 FP-7 fuses to defendant Fuchs for delivery to IMEC (a firm with Iraqi links), and, in turn, would receive an excess of US$33 million, which would be paid to ISC by defendant Fuchs after it received pay-

ment from its customer, Iraq, in crude oil, says the indictment.

"Between or about 1985 and 1989 the defendants (ISC) would, and did, export in excess of US$35 million worth of fuse power supplies to Barlow in the RSA on behalf of defendant Fuchs to maintain defendant Fuchs' production line of fuses and to assist Fuchs fulfill its fuse production requirements with Iraq." It has long been known that Barlow affiliates and Armscor collaborated with the US-based ISC to supply Hussein's government with hi-tech war equipment in defiance of American arms export regulations. However, this is the first evidence that the trade involved a bombs-for-oil swap designed to circumvent the international arms embargo against Iraq.

American prosecution is determined to convict ISC, Armscor, Fuchs and a number of these companies' directors for violating the arms embargo against Iraq and South Africa.

According to sources involved in other illicit deals with Armscor in the 1980s, the South African parlia-

ment is trying to set up an out-of-court deal with the American prosecutors. The company is reputed to be willing to pay huge fines so that its officials do not have to make humiliating court appearances in the US.

The sources say the Americans are refusing to accept the proposed settlement because they want to force Armscor out of the lucrative international arms mar-

ket, thereby getting rid of a competitor and a potential source of arms proliferations in the Third World.

Armscor refused to comment on the allegations. It did, however, claim that the company was involved in an arms trade in the US and was involved in "sensi-

tive negotiations with the US government." A Barlow spokesman insisted there was no present relationship between Fuchs and the corporation, and said they had no knowledge of the case. The court hearing, to be held in a US district court in Pennington, is the culmination of years of investiga-

tion by American federal investigators into a multi-

tion dollar set of deals and arms transfers that

involved around ISC and its director, James Guest.

Defence and law-enforcement officials have been prohibing evidence that Armscor and Barlow affiliates received illegal shipments of electronic equipment used for ballistic missiles, artillery shells and cluster munitions from ISC and then passed these on to Iraq.

The American firm is accused of using the South African connection as a conduit for sending illicit com-

ponents of ballistic missile equipment, as well as cluster bomb technology developed in Ciskei, to Iraq. "Do you remember watching the anti-aircraft bursts from Baghdad on CNN—the last of the Allied bombing in that country? Well, those were some of the stuff which got into Iraq through ISC shipments to South Africa," a federal investigator is quoted as saying.

Shipments from ISC indirectly helped Iraq build a cluster bomb factory. Most of this equipment was manufactured by a Chateaus firm, Cordova, ISC bro-

wer deals which ensured that parts went, east from Chile to South Africa and were then shipped on to Iraq.
Lessons from guerillas

Own Correspondent

BLOEMFONTEIN — The integration of the SADF and the non-statutory forces of uMkhonto weSizwe and Apla would be of mutual benefit since there was a lot conventional soldiers could learn from the former guerillas, Major-General Pieter Grobler said at the De Brug training camp yesterday.

"We are learning from each other," he said in an interview. "For instance, former SADF forces know nothing about African bush war and this Apla and MK forces are expert at it.

Apla director of training Brigadier Willie Nkonyeni said Apla had about 500 members in De Brug who were drawn from training facilities in Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

An additional group of 1,000 former guerillas, many of them trained abroad, would be coming to De Brug this weekend to make it a total of 1,500 men and women at De Brug."
NEWS Former liberation movements

Hand over arms — call

SERIOUS DANGER 'Vast weapons caches' threaten security and stability:

By Mathatha Tsedu
Political Editor

DEFENCE MINISTER Joe Modise has appealed to former liberation movements to hand over their weapons to the South African National Defence Force.

In a statement released in Cape Town yesterday, Modise said all "those in possession of arms and ammunition belonging to non-statutory forces" should hand them in.

Modise's comments came after the SANDF announced last Friday that the ANC military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, which Modise commanded before becoming minister, had only handed in 172 AK-47 rifles and 26 pistols after opening its caches in the PWV and Cape Town areas.

Full inventory

The full inventory of MK arms now under SANDF control includes 70,000 bullets, 1,391 grenades, 1,026 magazines and other accessories, 194 landmines, 342 explosives and 1127 detonator fuses and accessories.

The Azanian People's Liberation Army has said it cannot trace weapons stashed away during the years of struggle and could thus not be held responsible for them. Apla has been given 6,000 posts for its soldiers within SANDF.

"The vast quantities of weapons in our country pose a serious threat to the safety and security of our people. Handing over of arms and ammunition will contribute to the stability of our country," Modise said yesterday.

The handing in of weapons was negotiated with the TEC and MK, Apla, SANDF and the TBVC arms all sent in an inventory of their arsenals.

The collection of these weapons by SANDF started last month and MK has already handed in its weapons in Johannes- burg and Cape Town, a SANDF official said yesterday. The process was still going on, he said.

But defence sources say there is widespread dissatisfaction within the command structures of the SANDF regarding the meagre number of weapons brought forward thus far, hence Modise's appeal.

"There just have to be more, or people hed about their strength," one source said.
Unofficial forces must hand in arms

DEFENCE MINISTER Mr Joe Modise has appealed to "non-statutory" forces to hand in their weapons to the SA National Defence Force.

He said in a statement that all forces involved in the integration process had submitted lists of armaments in their possession to the Transitional Executive Council.

"In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, the equipment of all these forces became the property of the SANDF on April 27," he said in a statement.

"The process of moving this material is currently under way." — Sapa
Snags on SANDF integration front

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

The SANDF, which once saw action against ANC and PAC forces, is no more, and the first 100 days of the democratic South Africa have seen the debut of the South African National Defence Force which brings the erstwhile enemies together.

There have been a number of significant developments in regard to its personnel as well as that of the Department of Defence.

Probably one of the most telling achievements for the fledgling force was the manner in which the SANDF performed at the inauguration of President Mandela.

The problems with the integration process are taking time to smooth out, with the latest being the return of hundreds of Apla cadres to their homes because they were not included on "integration lists" provided by the non-statutory army's commanders to the SANDF.

First indications that all was not well has come from Natal, where 22 cadres reported for duty at Natal Command last week, had lunch, and then left.

The same situation has taken place at De Bry, near Bloemfontein.

Defence spokesmen describe the issue, however, as "merely a hiccup".

The force, on completion of the process in three years, total 137,000, and this will eventually be rationalised to 91,000.

The Apla situation is the first publicly-acknowledged problem in the SANDF in a dramatic 100 days.

In it, the Mandela government has appointed former MK commander-in-chief, Joe Modise, and MK-Chief of Intelligence, Ronnie Kasrils, to the posts of Minister and Deputy Minister of Defence, and also started work on handing over control of the Defence department to civilians.

Lieutenant-General Pierre Steyn, former SANDF Chief of Staff, who retired from the military more than a year ago, has been appointed the country's first Defence Secretary since the 1990s.

Senior MK officers have been appointed to the highest positions at Defence HQ, while many more are expected to receive promotion.

It was disclosed by SANDF Chief, General Georg Meiring, that the positions of all senior officers in the force could be regarded as "temporary" until they were confirmed by the Government.

This has already happened in the cases of Meiring and senior officers in other arms of the service.

The highest-ranking MK officer in the SANDF is Lieutenant-General Siphiwe Nyanda, who has been appointed Chief of Staff designate.
SA arms industry to continue

Political Staff

THE Minister of Defence, Mr Joe Modise, said yesterday that South Africa would continue exporting arms despite a statement last week by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki that the controversial issue was being investigated by the cabinet.

Mr Mbeki said the cabinet had decided to set aside time to discuss the matter and he agreed with the Democratic Party's Mr Colin Eglin that it could also be investigated by an all-party parliamentary committee.

Armscor general manager Mr Tielman de Waal said at the time that within a month all Armscor tenders and its awards of contracts would be made public.
The cost of threat perceptions

The cosy relationship that appears to have developed between Defence Minister Joe Modise and his generals should not be taken as an indication that the new government is prepared to allow the existing military structure to continue unchanged.

Major reforms are expected to flow from what Modise terms a "full-scale defence review," which is currently underway. It will be followed by a White Paper on defence policy before the end of the present parliamentary session.

The new policy is expected to address two fundamental issues: how to transform and restructure the defence community in order to safeguard democracy, and how to ensure that the defence infrastructure contributes effectively to the national economy through the RDP.

The White Paper will help dispel the perception that Modise has slipped comfortably into a system abhorred by many of his ANC caucus colleagues because of its past deeds and current costs. In the meantime, the defence debate will continue to be driven more by emotion than fact.

The debate on spending, in particular, lacks coherence, says Laurie Nathan, director of the Centre for Conflict Resolution at the University of Cape Town and co-chairman of the Military Research Group, an ANC-oriented think-tank.

This is due to a number of factors, including a lack of transparency regarding the arms industry and the Special Defence Account, a preoccupation with short-term rather than long-term factors, and the absence of a post-apartheid defence review based on a threat analysis, foreign policy and national security policy.

The White Paper will address these issues and give new focus to the debate. But until then, Modise and his deputy Ronnie Kasrils will bear the brunt of caucus attacks. The trend that emerged in the main Budget debate recently continued last week, when the defence vote was discussed.

At the outset, Modise tried to defuse the pending onslaught by showing that overall defence spending had decreased in real terms by 40% since 1989, and spending on capital equipment by 67%. Employment in the defence industry had dropped from 157 000 to about 70 000.

Defence spending is now only 2.7% of GDP and 7.8% of total State expenditure, compared to 4.3% of GDP and 15.7% of State spending in 1989. If the costs of integrating the various armed formations are excluded from the current budget, the figures drop to 2.3% of GDP and 6.5% of total State expenditure.

He said further cuts in the defence budget would have to be absorbed by reducing spending on equipment, which would mean more relocations in the defence industry and further undermining of the country's defence capability.

Modise warned against believing that SA would never again be threatened. The current threat of conflict in southern Africa could spill over into SA or affect the country's interests. "We need to be properly prepared to counter any threat of instability that might affect us."

But his reasoning seemed to have little impact on his critics. Even ANC hardliner and former MK field commander Tony Yengeni said he had "zero confidence in the instinct" that commanded him to back the popular view that defence spending should be cut even further, though he qualified his opinion with a call for further information before taking a "hard and fast position."

SA Communist Party member Ian Phillips was less reserved. He disputed the economic value of the arms industry, which he said was "capital rather than labour intensive and highly subsidised" through the Special Defence Account and General Export Incentive Scheme.

While acknowledging the difficulty in converting military industrial complexes to civilian use, he said there were "strong arguments to suggest that more and better job opportunities would result from a divestment from sectors of military spending to civilian enterprise."

One of the ANC's most respected MPs, Louise Tembo, said defending the borders of a free SA was different to "defending apartheid and exporting destabilisation, murder and killings." Members of the SANDF had to be "agents of peace" in the region. "Our borders must become bridges of peace and friendship rather than electrified fences."

But if this happens, the Constitutional Assembly would be left with only a few months to negotiate what could be fund-
250 ex-MK members to join navy

The Argus Correspondent
PRETORIA — About 250 former Umkonto we Sizwe members are to start new careers in the South African Navy, 11 of them as officers in training.

The men, drawn from the MK group which was mobilised at Wahlmanushal, near Pretoria, were selected for basic training at Saldanha after intensive selection and screening by navy staff.

Because the navy is the smallest of the defence force's arms, the number of men selected is regarded as a significant contribution towards reconciliation.

The navy expects to gain two commanders, one of whom will be employed in a technical position, four lieutenant commanders, of whom one will go into personnel and three will become combat "wet" (go to sea), and five lieutenants — three technical, one personnel and one wet.

These officers will start courses at Gordon's Bay Naval College on August 29.

A spokesman said those selected for officers' courses would have a year's training in various courses.

The (non-commissioned) members sent to Saldanha would be offered special enabling courses to allow them to meet the standards required by the navy.
New careers in the SA Navy

From the bush to the sea for 250 MK men

PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT

About 250 former MK members are to start new careers in the South African Navy, 11 of them as officers in training.

The men, drawn from the Umkonho we Sizwe group which was mobilised at Wahlmansthal near Pretoria, were selected to undergo basic training at Saldanha after an intensive selection and screening process by navy staff.

Because the navy is the smallest arm of the SANDF, the number of men selected is regarded as a significant contribution towards reconciliation between the former SADF and armed wing of the ANC.

The navy expects to gain two commanders, one of which will be employed in a technical position, and four lieutenant-commanders of whom one will go into personnel and three will become "combat wet" at sea.

There will also be five lieutenants, three technical, one personnel and one to sea.

These officers under training will start their course at Gordon's Bay Naval College on Monday.

A naval orientation course for officers

The rest of the 250 men left Wahlmansthal into two groups, the first about two weeks ago, and a similar group left last week.

Confirming the moves, a naval spokesman said the men would all undergo a basic orientation course into the navy.

This will end in December with a passing-out parade.

Further former MK recruits could then be selected for a midshipman's course for officer training at Gordon's Bay.

The spokesman said the men would be mustered according to vacancies available and their skills, and it is expected they will be billeted in all sections of the navy, including personnel, stores and security.

There is also the possibility that a number of them would go to sea, but as two to three navy members are shore-based for every one at sea, opportunities were limited.

Those selected for officer's course would undergo a year's training in various courses.

Those (non-commissioned) members sent to Saldanha would be offered special enrolling courses to allow them to rise to the standards.
Aid offered to 9 provinces

SANDF ready to lend hand to RDP, says Joe Modise

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) was geared to support the nine provincial legislatures in implementing the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), Defence Minister Joe Modise said yesterday.

Speaking in the Senate debate on the Defence Budget, Modise said the army had 10 territorial commands which were well placed to assist communities down to a grassroots level.

"I appeal to you not to hesitate in making use of their SANDF expertise, capabilities and facilities which are readily available," he said.

But, the minister noted that there were money and human resource limitations in such assistance.

He was aware of a "degree of uneasiness" about some of the provinces not having aircraft.

Since it was impossible to provide each province with a small airwing, the best option was to centralise control of the Air Force's assets.

Such a move would ensure efficient and cost-effective use of aircraft.

Modise said that the South African Air Force had the expertise to assist in the use of air and satellite photography in the planning of rural and urban development.

"To meet the provinces' needs, the NDF needs to know what they are," he said.

"I therefore appeal to you to use the channels and to get all arms of the SANDF involved in your provincial and local planning," he said.

Modise added that the South African Medical Services' computerised medical information systems could be used in areas where there was no infrastructure for the supply of primary health care.

The SANDF, he said, was ready to assist in public works programmes to build roads, bridges and dams as well as water reticulation.

Modise, who came under fire for the size of the Defence Budget in the National Assembly last week, yesterday defended the purchase of four Corvette for the Navy.

He said the patrol corvettes would cost R1.5 billion spread over eight years.

Only the hull structure and the propulsion system were to be bought and all other parts were to be made and installed locally.
Modise warns against further defence cuts

CAPE TOWN – SA could not hope to achieve an effective defence capability if the defence budget was cut further, Defence Minister Joe Modise said yesterday.

SAPA reports that Modise, introducing his budget in the Senate, said the SA National Defence Force already had to rely on certain outdated equipment systems and that these would have to be replaced.

The defence budget had decreased 46% since 1989, with almost 9 000 full-time military personnel retrenched. Defence spending had been reduced from 4.3% of GDP in 1989 to 2.7% in 1994. As a percentage of state expenditure it had decreased from 15.7% to 7.6% in the same period.

It was clear that even modest cuts in the defence budget would have to be absorbed by reducing spending on equipment, Modise said.

"If we do not do this, it will mean further retrenchments at a time when we are in the process of integrating forces," he said.

The Minister announced his intention to institute a full-scale defence review and publish a White Paper before the end of the year.

This would enable Parliament to develop a more comprehensive understanding of defence issues.

Our Political Staff reports Modise also strongly defended the purchase of patrol corvettes for the SA Navy, stating that the real cost was in the region of R13,5bn over eight years, and not R4,6bn, as had been suggested.

Only the hulls and propulsion systems of the corvettes would be imported. All other components and systems would be made and installed locally. This would boost industry and create jobs.

Modise said that as the world's population grew, demand for food and "full exploitation of a country's natural resources will increase".

In the past, SA had neglected to protect its exclusive economic zone. There was now serious concern over the foreign exploitation of SA's fishing resources.

"The navy must have the capability to patrol and defend not only inshore and deep-sea fishing waters, but also our harbours and under-sea mineral resources"
EAST LONDON — The state has withdrawn murder charges against a Port Elizabeth man detained for 10 months after last year's ill-fated SADF raid on an Umtata home which claimed the lives of five people.

A spokesman for Lawyers for Human Rights in Umtata, Mrs Noelle Yako, said yesterday the state prosecutor had declined to prosecute Mr Nuzo Matiwane of New Brighton when he appeared in Umtata Magistrate's Court last Friday.

Mr Matiwane was apparently told there was insufficient evidence to continue the court proceedings against him.

Mr Matiwane was detained without trial for four months before making his first court appearance in March. He remained in prison after failing to meet the R500 bail set down.

LHR later protested that he had not been properly treated for two bullets lodged in his right leg.

Mrs Yako said yesterday she had no information on Mr Matiwane's whereabouts.
De Klerk slated for 'vagueness' over defence force report

(254) RGT 25/8/94

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

DEPUTY President F W de Klerk has been slated for giving parliament vague answers about the Steyn report on secret defence force operations.

Replying to questions in the national assembly yesterday by Doug Gibson (DP), Mr De Klerk said he had been given a verbal report by Pierre Steyn in December 1992.

As a result, he had ordered the rationalisation of some defence force units and retirement or compulsory leave for 10 generals.

He had ordered a further investigation and had discussed the report with President Mandela on "a few occasions."

Asked what allegations were made by General Steyn, Mr De Klerk said some had been referred to the Transvaal Attorney-General, who had found insufficient evidence to prosecute.

Mr De Klerk later told the national assembly these allegations included murder.

Tony Leon (DP) asked Mr De Klerk to elaborate on why it had been necessary to impose measures like early retirement and compulsory leave.

Mr De Klerk said "certain activities" had been closed down because they were beyond the scope of military intelligence.

Asked by P J Greeenewald (PF) why the generals had not been reinstated if there had been insufficient evidence to prosecute, Mr De Klerk said the fact there was too little did not mean there was none at all.

Tony Yengeni (ANC) said Mr De Klerk had not answered questions adequately.

He asked whether it was correct to assume the generals were suspended because of involvement in orchestration of violence or hit squads.

Mr De Klerk said Mr Yengeni's question was "full of generalisations."

He said "in some instances" people had acted beyond the scope of their duties.

He was not aware of any hit squads run by the previous government.

Mr Leon said Mr De Klerk's confirmation that the 10 generals had been retired or sent on leave because of General Steyn's investigation was profoundly disturbing.

"It is extraordinary, given the deputy president's deserved reputation for thoroughness and legality, that he should have taken such steps entirely on the basis of a conversation."

"He says there is no written report on which to justify his actions."


Steyn report was verbal, FW admits

By BARRY STREEK, Political Staff

FORMER president Mr F W de Klerk admitted for the first time yesterday that the report on covert activities in the security forces made to him by General Pierre Steyn in December 1992 was verbal.

In October last year Dr Allan Boesak accused Mr de Klerk of refusing to show Mr Nelson Mandela the report.

Mr de Klerk's statement was "deeply disturbing, if not profoundly startling", the acting leader of the Democratic Party, Mr Tony Leon, said.

Mr De Klerk, now Deputy President, responded to a question, which Mr Douglas Gibson (DP) had tabled in Parliament about the matter.

Mr Leon said Mr De Klerk had confirmed that 10 SA Defence Force generals were retired or placed on compulsory early retirement as a result of the investigation by General Steyn, who was recently made Secretary for Defence.

Mr De Klerk said the action was preventive and remedial because there were reasonable grounds for believing that some of these officials had committed acts outside the scope of their work.

He said the former government was unaware of any illegal plans to kill people or of the existence of Unit 263 squads organised by the government.
Bush packs up its kitbag

Battle is over: ECC

251 Wm 26/8-11/1/74

South Africa

We refuse to serve

IN THE SADDLE. We refuse to serve. This was a slogan used by South Africa's black workers in the 1970s as they marched onto the job sites to protest against the apartheid system.

THE WESLEY MAIL & CIRCULAR

We refuse to serve.

The launch of the End Conscription Campaign.

After the election of 1994, the new government led by Nelson Mandela began the process of dismantling apartheid. The campaign for an end to conscription was a key part of this process. The campaign was led by a coalition of opposition parties, including the African National Congress (ANC) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU).

The campaign was supported by a wide range of civil society organizations, including trade unions, churches, and community groups. The campaign used a variety of tactics, including protests, marches, and strikes.

The campaign was a significant milestone in the struggle against apartheid. It was a testament to the determination of South Africans to be free from conscription and to have a voice in their own affairs.

The campaign was ultimately successful, and conscription was abolished by constitutional decree in 1995. This was a major victory for the campaign and a testament to the power of nonviolent resistance.
SA urged to develop arms export niche

By ARI JACOBSON

SOUTH Africa should focus on designing an Indian Ocean trade block and develop its expertise as an exporter of high-tech weaponry, said University of Westville's political science professor John Daniel.

Speaking in a keynote address to Stellenbosch University's Institute for Future Research yesterday, Daniel said that the country should avoid taking funds from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as "we (SA) need to try go it alone!"

SA should "carve a niche" in the defensive arms trade which would generate income and thousands of jobs.

He warned that "SA is not a significant part of the economic plans of North America, Europe or the Far East."

"World trade is dominated by the three continental economic blocks - North America (including Mexico and Canada), the EU and South Pacific - which leaves Africa marginalised".

Daniel said that the trading environment in these blocks was "harsh" and prone to double standards, which ultimately meant little support for those countries not belonging to these units.

"The answer is to develop a foreign policy with countries not tied to these trade blocks."

Here he suggested an "Indian Ocean trading block involving SA, East African coastal states (such as Kenya and Mauritius) and the Indian subcontinent."

"SA could also seek new markets in the Middle East and South East Asia."

Daniel pointed out that the southern African region was "unstable and distressed economically."

SA must not dominate the region but seek "to reshape trade" by growing the surrounding regions while developing its own economy."
Troops may get union

By DIRK VAN EEDEN

EMPLOYEES of the South African National Defence Force may soon be able to join a union for the first time.

The South African National Defence Union (Sandu) will not promote any political views and will represent military and civilian employees. Higher wages will be a priority for the union.

Representatives of the union will deliver a proposed recognition agreement at Defence Headquarters tomorrow.

The union requests the right to openly organise and recruit members during working hours.

It wants members to have "the right to all union activities and fair labour practices" — which, said a spokesman, could include the right to strike. But he stressed this would be a last resort.

The possibility that Sandu could form an alliance with the South African Police Union had also been discussed, he said.
Union For Soldiers
War Brews Over

Military ready for battle as police chief warns would-be strikers
Johannesburg — The South African National Defence Union (Sandu) — established six weeks ago — hoped to hand a recognition agreement to the Chief of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) General Georg Meiring or to Defence Minister Mr. Joe Modise this morning. Sandu consultant Mr. Marius Botha said on Saturday night.

Mr. Botha alleged that SANDF management had victimized union members through two letters circulated among staff.

The letters reminded them they would be prosecuted under the Defence Act if they took part in union actions.

"National Defence Force management must, however, take note that the Defence Act is subordinate to the Constitution and the Bill of Human Rights," Mr. Botha said.

"The recent amendments to the Labour Law made it possible for the establishment of a union for all members of the National Defence Force."

He said Sandu would not hesitate to take action when the rights of its members, including the right to become a member of a trade union, were threatened.

Mr. Botha said the union included serving members of the SANDF, members of the former TBVC states defence forces, Umkhonto weSizwe and Azanian People's Liberation Army members now being integrated into the SANDF.

Sandu would operate similarly to the SA Police Union (Sapa). — Sapa
FF MP to chair defence committee

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Freedom Front MP Pieter Groenewald has unanimously been elected as chairman of the powerful parliamentary standing committee on defence.

ANC MPs Max Sisulu and Dr Mantombazana Tabahalala have been elected to chair the reconstruction and development and health standing committees.

These elections were delayed until an agreement was reached whereby the ANC offered the chairmanships of various standing committees to minority parties. The NP, however, declined to accept the offer. It earlier insisted that the chairmanships should be allocated proportionally to the number of votes each party had received.

ANC MP Tony Yengeni proposed Groenewald in the defence standing committee. No further nominations for chairmanship were received. Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen had earlier been tipped to be the committee's chairman.

After his election, Groenewald thanked the ANC "for giving us this important committee."
Probe into call-up threats

REPORTS that national servicemen were still being threatened with prosecution for not reporting for camps would be investigated, Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise said yesterday.

He was not aware of any threats to these people, Mr Modise said in the Senate in reply to a question asked by the Senator E K Moorcroft (DP).

Senator Moorcroft had asked him whether he was aware that despite his moratorium on prosecutions, people who had been called up had been threatened with prosecution within the past two weeks.

Mr Modise said he had not instructed the SANDF to inform every person who had been called up that they had a right not to comply.

The amendments to the Defence Act last year ending compulsory national service and the moratorium had been sufficiently publicised.
‘Absurd’ for forces
to be able to strike

European countries allow staff associations

LONDON — Giving members of the defence forces the right to strike is an absurdity, say military commentators here.

But there has been an increase in the number of countries willing to grant members of their armed forces the right to form their own “staff associations”.

The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg have been in the forefront of the movement to introduce more democracy and personal liberty in the ranks, but all three have stopped short of according full trade union status.

A senior military attaché in the Royal Netherlands Embassy in London said: “You cannot equate these provisions with trade union rights as such. They are more like staff associations.

“They are there to look after their members’ interests in matters like working conditions, promotion, catering and so forth. The Benelux countries have similar arrangements, though with minor differences in detail.”

“Speaking for the Netherlands, I can say that these associations have been very useful and have done good work in improving communication between the officers and the ranks. There are no major problems.”

But the spokesman added: “I know of no country in the world where the defence forces have the right to strike. That would be an absurdity. You cannot have such a situation. We believe that strike action has no place in vital services like the forces, the police and the fire service.”

In Britain, there are neither trades unions nor staff associations within the armed forces “because there has never been any call or need for them,” said a Ministry of Defence spokeswoman.

And you can’t have an army or an air force liable to go on strike at any moment, for obvious reasons,” she added.

The situation is similar in France and other European countries, though some, like the Scandinavians, have introduced more channels of communication between the establishment and the ranks and there is frequent discussion and representation on matters like hours of duty, dress and living conditions.
Civilian rule of army mooted for SA

LONDON — A civilian-controlled defence force along the lines of Britain’s is "unquestionably" the direction South Africa should follow, says a leading South African military expert in London.

Dr Martin Navias, lecturer in war studies at King’s College, London, says the “minor frictions” that arise out of a civil service working alongside the defence establishment are far outweighed by the advantages and the desirability of the system.

"It’s said that war is too important to be left to the generals, so in a democracy it’s undoubtedly better that civilians control the military, rather than vice-versa. In fact, it’s not only better and desirable, but it’s not a system that is even questioned here.

"Naturally, the military should have operational control in any given situation, but the decision-making about where and how they are deployed should be left to the civilians.”

In Britain, the Secretary for Defence is a political appointment, the equivalent of the South African Minister of Defence. The equivalent of two deputy ministers, the Armed Forces Minister and the Minister for Defence Procurement are next on the rung and under them are the Permanent Under Secretary for Defence, a civilian appointment, and the Chief of Defence Staff, a uniformed officer.

These two posts are of equal status and if there is a matcher in the British system for the newly created South African post of Secretary of Defence, it is the Permanent Under Secretary for Defence.

Dr Navias points to the Boer War in South Africa and World War I in Britain as examples of the dangers of allowing power to be seized by the military. In both, he says, foreign policy was dictated by the generals, who pushed elected civilian officials to the periphery.

He acknowledges that conflicts between the military and their civil service counterparts arise within the present system, especially where defence cuts are concerned."
**SA pledge on arms control**

Political Correspondent  
SOUTH AFRICA will follow a strict policy of arms control, the cabinet has decided.

The country is to sign the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Certain Conventional Weapons. It would be an active participant in non-proliferation agreements to promote international peace and security, a statement said.

The government is to support a South Atlantic "zone of peace and co-operation". South Africa will attend a meeting of zone members in Brazil.
Strike means army collapse

A defence force strike would lead to the collapse of good order, law and justice, NP spokesman on defence Wynand Breytenbach said. "The consequences of strikes in other departments, such as police, nursing and correctional services, are repugnant."

A trade union for the defence force would prejudice the apolitical nature, professionalism and morale of members. — Political Correspondent.

See page 12.
Kasrils caught up in army land battle

Stefan Brümmer

DEPUTY defence minister Rezine Kasrils this week found himself caught in the middle of tensions between the Northern Cape ANC and the army. ANC VIPs were barred from entering the army's Lohatla battle-training school, at the centre of a land dispute, when Kasrils and Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom went on a fact-finding mission last Thursday.

Hanekom and Kasrils visited the giant army base north-west of Kimberley to investigate a dispute between the Khosa Griqua community, who claim title to part of Lohatla, and the army, which wants 30 to 40 remaining Khosa families to vacate the base. The ANC and Hanekom have opposed the removals.

While a party including Hanekom and Kasrils were flown into the base for an army presentation and to talk to the Khosa, troops refused road entry to legislator Abdul Fanker, ANC provincial secretary general William Steenkamp and other ANC representatives, the Khosa's lawyer, media and a representative from the National Land Committee. Heated arguments followed.

Also barred was a delegation from a Tswana community allegedly forcibly removed in 1977 from the area and shunted to former Bophuthatswana, who now demand to be allowed to return to their land. The Tswana delegation staged a placard demonstration at an entry gate.

No one was willing this week to own up to issuing the no-entry orders. Steenkamp said a lieutenant colonel at the gate had told him the orders had come from National Defence Force chief General Georg Meiring and the commander of Lohatla.

Steenkamp charged it was a clear example of "absolute non-recognition of the new government" by the military. Steenkamp said he was under the impression Kasrils had been expecting to meet him in Lohatla. National Defence Force communication chief Major General Cez Opperman said the ministerial visit had been a "private fact-finding mission".

While Opperman would not say who had issued the orders, military sources pointed fingers at the Ministry of Defence, both for creating the perception among Steenkamp and others that they were welcome, and for ordering that they not be allowed in.

A ministry spokesman dismissed the charges as "disinformation". and Northern Cape premier Manne Depcho, who accompanied Kasrils and Hanekom, said it was "nonsense" that the Defence Ministry had given the orders. He said he had informed Kasrils before the visit that Steenkamp would be there.

Meanwhile, high-level meetings have been scheduled in a bid to solve the land dispute. A Kimberley Supreme Court application has been postponed to early December to allow the parties time to settle.
Former Vlakplaaas chief denied bail

Pretoria — Eugene de Kock, former commander of the elite police training unit at Vlakplaaas near Pretoria, has been refused bail on the grounds he is likely to flee and also might interfere with the State’s case.

Pretoria Regional Court president J A Venter said yesterday no bail condition would stop Colonel De Kock from fleeing or interfering with State witnesses or the police investigation. It was clear on the full evidence before the court he should not be granted bail.

According to evidence, Colonel De Kock will face several charges, including eight of murder, one of accessory to murder, one of attempted murder, a charge of contravening the Internal Security Act, by providing Inkatha with weapons used in various incidents of violence as well as charges relating to fraud and the unlawful possession of arms, ammunition and explosives.

It is alleged Colonel De Kock and colleagues eliminated possible witnesses against them — the bodies of some were allegedly blown up with explodings.

The State said former colleagues, who became State witnesses, had to be guarded when they appeared in public and received protection.

Mr Venter said it was common cause that Colonel De Kock had sold his assets, that his wife and children had moved to Ireland, he had no permanent employment or address, he regularly travelled overseas and had overseas contacts and had arranged to travel to Portugal shortly before his arrest.

He also had two passports and, in the past, had had several others.

On Colonel De Kock’s claims that he was in line to receive indemnity in any case, Mr Venter said: “The court can not truly think that the accused, who was described in these proceedings as an intelligent person, is so naive that he would believe that.” — Sapa.
Soldiers turn to new union

As the conflict of the Cold War raged on, the question of unionization in the military became increasingly pressing. The government and military leaders were grappling with the issue of how to retain and motivate soldiers, especially in a time of heightened tensions with the Soviet Union. The debate over unionization was not limited to the United States; it was a global phenomenon, with countries around the world considering similar policies.

A significant event in this context was the formation of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) in 1955. This national labor union federation played a crucial role in organizing workers in various industries, including the military. By the early 1960s, the AFL-CIO had successfully organized the military, leading to the establishment of several unions within the armed forces.

The decision to allow unions in the military was not without its challenges. There were concerns about the potential for strikes and labor disputes, which could disrupt operations and morale. The government had to balance the need to retain a loyal and effective workforce with the rights of soldiers to organize and bargain collectively.

Despite these challenges, the establishment of military unions marked a significant shift in labor relations. It opened the door for more democratic processes within the armed forces and paved the way for greater representation and enjoyment of rights that had been largely unattainable in the past.
CHRIS WHITFIELD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CAPE-TOWN — Figures provided by Defence Minister Joe Modise suggest that by the time the Transkei, Venda and Ciskei defence forces were integrated in the SA National Defence Force, they contained no private soldiers.

They had, however, 3,333,1187 and 1,654 officers respectively.

The same figures, provided in response to a question tabled in Parliament, also indicate that the Bo phuthatswana National Guard had a whopping 3,656 officers — and just two privates.

By sharp contrast the ANC’s military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, had a total of 1,516 officers and 20,848 privates. The corresponding figures for APLA are 291 officers and 3,706 privates.

Democratic Party Senator James Seifte, who tabled the questions, yesterday said the figures for the homeland government defence forces raised “serious questions about whether promotions were made prior to the April 27 election to enable privates to join the SANDF at higher ranks”.

“If true, this has major and unwarranted budgetary implications for the taxpayer,” said Seifte.

“This is a classic case of too many chiefs and not enough Indians,” added the senator.

Modise had been asked how many members of the various statutory and non-statutory forces had been registered to become members of the new National Defence Force, and how many of these held officers’ rank.

While a small proportion of the 22,000 MK and 6,000 APLA forces were registered as being officers — from generals through to non-commissioned officers — the figures he provided indicate that every one of the Transkei, Venda and Ciskei defence forces’ members were registered as holding a rank.
Denel in drive to double exports

Johannesburg. — Denel arms conglomerate, which sells everything from tanks to helicopter gunships, said it intended to double exports.

Denel, which employs 14,000 people and has a turnover of more than $700m, said the expansion would take place over the next three years in countries ranging from Chile to the United Arab Emirates.

The conglomerate, spun off from state arms procurement agency Armscor two years ago, said it paid $34m in dividends in the past two years to its only shareholder, the South African government.

The group's chief executive officer Johan Alberts said Denel's aim was to greatly expand exports, which rose by 24% to $178m in the year to March 31, compared to the previous financial year.
Denel seeks
Rolls and GEC links

 OWN CORRESPONDENT

LONDON — Denel is seeking links with UK defence giant GEC and aero-engine makers Rolls-Royce in its bid to win the £2-billion (about R11bn) British army attack helicopter order with its Rooivalk, a report in a Sunday newspaper here said.

Denel already has close ties with Rolls-Royce, it said.

"In a deal signed last year but never announced, Denel became a risk- and revenue-sharing partner in Rolls' Trent high-power civil aero engine programme, with a 1% stake," said the report.

And although GEC is tied in with Bell of the US, which is going for the British order for 91 gunships with the Cobra Venom, it had "already agreed to help the Rooivalk bid by offering to equip the helicopter with the Brimstone anti-tank missile".

Denel wanted GEC and Rolls-Royce to join the Rooivalk consortium, which at present consists of itself and Marshall's of Cambridge who would assemble the helicopter if it were awarded the contract.

The report said that a link with Denel could bring South African orders for GEC — which is bidding for the £200 million (about R1,37bn) contract for four corvettes — and Rolls-Royce...
Col De Kock got false passports

Four false passports had been issued to former Vlakplaas commander Col. Eugene de Kock between June 1986 and February 1990, Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday (CT 8/9/94).

Replying to a question from Mr. Desmond Lockey (ANC), he said the department had been approached from time to time by members of the security community to issue passports containing fictitious information.

Such passports were issued to Col. De Kock in the names of Lourens Veeloo de Wet (on June 16, 1986), Eugene de la Rey (June 29, 1988), Eugene Dietz (October 12, 1988) and Garret Richard Magnuson (February 28, 1990).

Chief Buthelezi said as the passports had been issued on a bonafide basis, no steps were being envisaged against any official who had approved the issuing of the passports.

Colonel De Kock, who faces charges related to hit squad activities, was recently refused bail after the state argued he would flee South Africa.

— Sapa
'Reveal Steyn report'

Political Staff

President Nelson Mandela should now publicly reveal the contents of the reports by General Pierre Steyn on unauthorized military intelligence activities, the Democratic Party's Mr. Douglas Gibson said yesterday.

He said the various replies he had received from Deputy President F.W. de Klerk, Minister of Defence Mr. Joe Modise and his deputy Mr. Ronnie Kasrils, still had not clarified all the issues related to the Steyn report.

"One of the questions arising from the replies is why the inexplicable delays in briefing the new President, defence and deputy defence ministers?" CT 17/9/94

"It is still not clear whether or not President Mandela received a written report. We urge him to clear up the confusion," Mr. Gibson said in a statement.
CAPE TOWN — Mass promotions of soldiers in the last days of former homeland armies’ existence have pushed the cost of integrating the South African National Defence Force to a colossal R6.8 billion over the next four years.

This figure contrasts with the R4.5 billion budgeted this year, or a major factor behind the 5 percent transitional levy imposed on taxpayers.

The SANDF budget has been sent soaring by thousands of former homeland officers and non-commissioned officers earning higher salaries — apparently through eradical promotion designed to boost their rank and pay in the new SANDF.

The figure was disclosed after the Defence Minister informed Parliament that relatively few soldiers integrated into the SANDF from former TBVC countries were privates — most were officers.

By far the biggest chunk of this extra — R3.2 billion — is required to pay the salaries of over 1,000 personnel from the forces of former armed wings. Umkhonto, we Sizwe (MK), the PAC’s Azanian Peoples’ Liberation Army (APLA) and the Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei armies.

In an initial reply to questions by DP Defence spokesman James Selfe, Defence Minister Joe Modise said there were only two privates between the four homeland armies, both from Bophuthatswana.

The Transkei, Venda and Ciskei forces had no privates at all.

It has since emerged that this reply was incorrect.

Selfe has received new written replies which show the picture as still little less absurd, but which differ in a grossly top-down structure, with relatively few privates inherited from the TBVC forces.

Selfe is taking new questions to find out how many privates were made into the TBVC armies during their final year and what they will cost the SANDF and the taxpayer.

With a strength of about three battalions, the TDF should have had no generals, 12 field officers, 27 officers, 27 senior NCOs, and about 100 corporals and lance-corps.

The Transkei Defence Force provided five generals, 12 field officers, 27 officers, three warrant officers, 47 staff sergeants, 91 sergeants, 15 corporals, 122 lance-corps and 810 privates.

No generals

Similarly, relatively few of APLA’s 6,000 members had been placed by August 30. There were no generals among them, but 29 field officers, 105 officers, six staff sergeants, 10 sergeants, 42 corporals, 10 lance-corps and 22 privates were placed.

They boosted the SANDF manpower from 65,000 before the election to about 120,000, a figure which could be cut to about 90,000 in four years.

Officers and NCOs might have a better chance of escaping retribution if a downward move to the service brigades.

Former military ruler of Transkei, Environment Affairs Deputy Minister Bantu Holomusa, denied that promotions in the TDF had taken place at the last minute.

“Our brigadiers were promoted last year,” he said.

The TDF’s brigadiers were “staff qualified.” They had done courses in the army college in Pretoria and combat courses at Lohatla, and had been “exposed to other countries” from which South Africa had been harrowed.

Accusing the SANDF and its chief, General Georg Meiring, of “neo-colonialism,” Holomusa said no integration was taking place in the SANDF.

“Meiring is perpetuating ethnic bantustans,” he said.

No senior TDF officers had been given posts at SANDF or army headquarters.

He said, adding that there was great resentment that the SANDF had posted a former SANDF colonel in the Eastern Cape over the heads of former TDF brigadiers.

Former TDF head Major-General T T Mataza was supposed to have become Eastern Cape commander, but had not been posted.

“We cannot put our trust in the same old guard which only yesterday was attacking us,” Holomusa said.

The integration of nearly 40,000 new soldiers into the South African National Defence Force will cost a massive R6.8 billion over four years — inflated by last-minute promotions in homeland armies. DAVID BREIER reports.
Anglican bishops hit at arms exports

JOHANNESBURG. — Anglican bishops have urged the government to halt soaring arms exports, describing as “obscene” plans by South African weapons manufacturers to double foreign arms sales over the next three years.

The Southern African churchmen, meeting in the Free State yesterday, said they were alarmed at the increasing sales of South African weapons to other African countries and further afield.

Among those taking part in the four-day conference was Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

After a meeting with officials from South Africa’s state arms procurement agency Armscor, the bishops said in a statement: “We condemn the declared intention of the industry to double exports. This policy is obscene.”

The bishops urged the government to turn swords into ploughshares and said the granting of contracts for arms manufacture should be gradually phased out.

South Africa’s Denel arms conglomerate, which sells everything from tanks to helicopter gunships, said on September 1 it intended to double exports.

Denel, which employs 14,000 people, said the expansion would take place over the next three years in countries ranging from Chile to the United Arab Emirates.

The ANC opposed the arms industry before it came to power, but now accepts it as an important employer and revenue earner. — Reuters.
Integration bill climbs to a staggering R6.8bn

The integration of nearly 40 000 soldiers into the SA National Defence force will cost R6.8 billion over four years. The cost has been inflated by artificial, last-minute promotions in homeland armies.

DAVID BREITSER
Weekend Argus Political Staff

Mass promotions of soldiers in the last days of former homeland armies have helped push the cost of integrating the SA National Defence Force (SA SANDF) to a colossal R6.8 billion during the next four years.

It is a major factor behind the five percent transitional levy imposed on taxpayers and reflects the true cost of integrating the SANDF compared to the official R1.5 billion budgeted this year.

The SANDF budget was sent soaring by thousands of former homeland officers and non-commissioned officers earning higher salaries. They were apparently artifically promoted to boost their rank and pay in the SANDF.

The confidential R6.8 billion integration cost was disclosed to Weekend Argus by the ministry of defence, revealed in parliament that relatively few soldiers integrated into the SANDF from the TBVC countries were privates. Most were officers and NCOs.

By far the biggest chunk of this cost is the R3.4 billion to pay the salaries of the new personnel from the ANC’s alliance Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), the PAC’s armed wing, Apla, and the four homeland armies from the former Transkei, Bophuthatswana, and Ciskei.

In an initial reply to questions by James Selfe, Democratic Party spokesman on defence, Minister of Defence Joe Modise said there were only two privates in the four homeland armies. All the rest were officers and NCOs. According to his reply, Transkei, Venda and Ciskei forces had no privates at all.

But it has since emerged that this reply was incorrect. Mr Selfe was given new written replies which reveal the picture is not quite as absurd. But the figures reflect a grossly top-heavy structure with relatively few privates.

Senator Selfe said the new questions to probe how many promotions took place in the TBVC armies in their last year and what the cost implications of these promotions were to the SANDF and the South African taxpayer.

"There were precious few privates in the homeland armies which would tend to indicate that rapid and large-scale promotions took place in the period before the consolidation of forces," Senator Selfe said.

"This would appear to have been a calculated move to get them into more senior positions," Senator Selfe said.

There is the most flagrant example is the Transkei Defence Force (TDF) which had 3 333 soldiers integrated into the SANDF.

Of these, only 526 — fewer than a quarter — were privates. There was a general, 106 field officers (between the rank of major and brigadier), 161 officers (between the rank of sergeant and lieutenant and captain), 512 senior NCOs (warrant officers, staff sergeants and corporals) and a staggering 1 727 junior NCOs (corporals and lance corporals).

Corporals and lance corporals alone outnumbered privates by more than 2:1.

Senator Selfe said that with a strength or about three battalions, the TDF should have had no generals, 12 field officers, 27 officers, 27 senior NCOs, and about 100 corporals and lance corporals.

The picture in the three other homeland armies was not quite so top-heavy. The Bophuthatswana National Guard provided 3 654 soldiers of which 2 115 were privates. The Venda Defence Force supplied 1 187 soldiers of which less than half — 570 — were privates and the Ciskei Defence Force provided 1 554 soldiers of which 729 were privates — also less than half.

The figures for MK and Apla are not yet complete. Only a minority of MK’s 22 000 soldiers on the Certified Personnel Register were placed by August 30 — including eight generals, 12 field officers, 228 officers, three warrant officers, 47 staff sergeants, 91 sergeants, 193 corporals, 124 lance corporals and 810 privates.

Similarly, relatively few of the 6 000 Apla members had been placed by August 30. This included no generals, 29 field officers, 165 officers, no warrant officers, six staff sergeants, 10 sergeants, 42 corporals, 10 lance corporals and 92 privates.

The SANDF is being boosted from a pre-election level of about 65 000 soldiers to about 120 000 before being rationalised to about 90 000 in four years. The high number of MK, Apla and former homeland officers and NCOs might have a better chance of escaping re-entrenchment or a downward move to the service brigade.

Former military ruler of Transkei and now deputy minister of environment affairs Bantu Holomusa denied promotions in the TDF took place at the last minute.

"Our brigades were promoted last year, not this year," he said.

Mr Holomusa said all brigades from the TDF were "staff qualified" and had done their courses at the army college in Pretoria and combat courses at Lohatla.

"Over and above these, they have been exposed to other countries where South Africa was not allowed to go," he said.

Mr Holomusa went on the counter-attack, accusing the SANDF and its chief General Georg Meiring of "neo-colonialism". He said no integration was taking place in the SANDF. "Mearing is perpetuating ethnic battles," he said.

Mr Holomusa said some senior TDF officers had been given posts at SANDF army headquarters.

He said there was great resentment that the SANDF had sent a former SADF colonel over the heads of brigadiers of the former TDF in the Eastern Cape Frontier TDF head, Major-General T T Malanizama, was supposed to have become Eastern Cape commander but had not been posted.

"We cannot put our trust in the same old guard which only yesterday were attaching us they are playing hide-and-seek with us," Mr Holomusa said.

"What is happening here is that Mearing has been given a free hand by the government seemingly to toss around these black officers and NCOs including MK This behaviour must be reversed as soon as possible," Mr Holomusa said.

He said parliament should form a committee to take charge of the SANDF integration process.
SA repeats assurances on its nuclear aims

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA — South Africa has reaffirmed its commitment to a policy of non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control which covers all weapons of mass destruction.

Addressing the first regional seminar on national implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) here today, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Aziz Pahad said it was South Africa's intention to be a responsible possessor of advanced technologies.

Mr Pahad said the South African government was striving to become a member of all non-proliferation regimes and supplier groups.

In this regard, South Africa has joined the Zangger Committee, which defines and monitors goods specially designed for nuclear use, and has applied for membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group, which monitors dual-use materials, equipment and technologies that may or can be used in weapons of mass destruction.

South Africa has also indicated its interest in the Missile Technology Control Regime, which regulates movement of equipment and technology.

Mr Pahad said the government intended to use its position as a member of the suppliers and of the Africa Group as well as the Non-Aligned Movement to promote the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation.

"We see the signing and ratification of the CWC by African states as important steps in strengthening co-operation throughout the continent, in freeing Africa from the threat of weapons of mass destruction, and in promoting peace," Mr Pahad said.

Ian Kenyon, executive secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, said the CWC would get into force next year.

Mr Kenyon said the convention was primarily a security agreement.

It will eliminate an entire category of weapons of mass destruction, thus having not only global and strategic ramifications, but, more importantly, a profound regional effect.

Mr Kenyon said the convention would facilitate the fullest possible exchange of chemicals, equipment and scientific and technical information relating to the application and development of chemistry for legitimate peaceful purposes.
W. Cape's troops 'popular'

Staff Reporter

TROOPS from Western Province Command are tops in the popularity stakes with communities in the Cape Town area, says commanding officer Dan Lamprecht (254).

"Our relationship with the public is on an extremely good level. We are totally accepted and actually wanted."

It was clear from people that he spoke to, especially from Peninsula townships, that people believed the army was playing a crucial role in maintaining safety and social order, Brigadier Lamprecht said.

Although the province was relatively free of civil unrest, there were no grounds for scaling down the command's strength.

The uneasy truce between bus and taxi operators was one of the potential flashpoints which warranted the command's unerring vigilance, he added.
Defence chair for Yengeni

Political Staff

Former regional commander of uDlindelweni we-Sizwe in the Western Cape, Mr Tony Yengeni, has been appointed chairperson of Parliament's joint standing committee on defence. The committee has representatives from both the National Assembly and the Senate.

Chairpersonship enables Mr Yengeni to play a key role in shaping and influencing defence policies and legislation.
SA to ratify agreement on chemical weapons

PRETORIA — South Africa hopes to be among the first 65 countries to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) aimed at ending the use of such weapons, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Aziz Pahad said.

The CWC will take effect six months after it has been ratified by 65 countries. So far, 137 countries have signed the treaty and 14 have ratified it.

Mr Pahad told an African seminar on the CWC here yesterday South Africa had signed the CWC last year and was preparing for its ratification by Parliament.

Thirty-nine African states are attending the three-day seminar. Mr Ian Kenyon, CWC preparatory commission secretary, Mr Ian Kenyon had 42 of Africa's 52 states had signed the treaty and two, the Seychelles and Mauritius, ratified it. — Sapa
Soldiers ‘may not join unions’

By DAN SIMON

THE SA National Defence Force (SANDF) has forbidden permanent force members to join trade unions and has threatened legal action against any soldier who is, or becomes, a member of a union.

SANDF chief General Georg Meiring said the defence force was entitled to “prohibit members” from joining a union.

He issued a bulletin to this effect on Friday after “rumours” about a trade union for soldiers.

The SA National Defence Union is trying to gain recognition from the SANDF.

General Meiring said “fundamental rules existed should the SANDF allow organised trade unions or other parties in its ranks. These were:

- The defence force could be handicapped in executing its task as defender of the constitution.
- Unfounded rumours could originate, causing confusion and suspicion.
- Unfounded promises could be made, undermining morale and military discipline.

A former umkhonto weSizwe commander said it would be “irresponsible” to allow membership of unions.

Col Lulle Yam, who recently accepted a post at the Eastern Cape Army Command, said “soldiers carrying placards are not soldiers.” The new national force would be a professional body from which people seeking “sheltered employment” would be expelled.
Retrenchments forecast at Denel’s space arm

ROGER FRIEDMAN
Labour Reporter

RETRENCHMENTS at Denel’s space division are unavoidable in terms of proposed joint ventures with two international space giants, the company announced today.

In the absence of state funding, Deutsche Aerospace of Germany and Orbital Sciences Corporation of the United States have completed surveys of the Houvits space division with the object of either investing in or otherwise taking part in the space venture, said Denel’s Paul Holtzhausen.

The “technically outstanding” South African space industry would have to restructure as a viable partner.

“This will unfortunately see a reduction in its workforce (of 200),” said Mr Holtzhausen.

Once final details of the venture were released, Denel would know how many of its employees would be affected.

But Denel would try to offer retrenched employees positions elsewhere within the company.

Denel chief executive officer Johan Alberts said every effort would be made to maintain space technology for the benefit of South Africa and Denel’s space business, but the future was dependent on agreements with international alliances.
Still no defence briefing on Steyn report

Louise Flanagan

The Ministry of Defence has still not been briefed on the controversial Steyn report, deputy minister of defence Ronnie Kasrils admitted to parliament this week.

"I have been contextually briefed by General (Pierre) Steyn ... I have, however, not been briefed on the contents of any report. This will be done shortly," Kasrils said in response to a Democratic Party question.

Kasrils' reply indicates that there was both a written and a verbal Steyn report. Only the verbal report appears to have dealt with Military Intelligence "dirty tricks".

"General Steyn completed his investigation in 1993 and various written recommendations were made regarding changes in the organisation and control of resources. All the recommendations were implemented by the Defence Force," Kasrils said.

Last week, deputy president FW de Klerk told parliament 23 senior SADF members had lost their jobs as a result of Steyn's verbal report. De Klerk did not mention the existence of a written report, though Steyn himself said there was one.

Kasrils also admitted that one of the 23 officers had asked for his job back. "(He) was duly reinstated after the attorney general of the Transvaal found insufficient evidence to prosecute," he said.

He also confirmed that Commander Jack Widdowson sued the military over his early retirement and that the case was settled out of court.

However, it is believed that more than one officer was reinstated until shortly before the April elections. The Mail & Guardian was told of at least five officers who were rehired after the Steyn investigation.

At least one other officer who lost his job as a result of the Steyn inquiry — Colonel Anton Nieeuwoudt — also reached an out-of-court settlement with the SADF. Kasrils did not mention this.
Crumbling before our eyes

The ability of the National Defence Force to respond rapidly to a major security threat may have been seriously undermined by what amounts to the mothballing of the 500 000-strong Citizen Force (CF) and Commando reserve forces.

The scrapping of compulsory national service and suspension of prosecutions of CF members who fail to report for duty has left the mainstay of the NDF in limbo. The most serious immediate problem is that the army may have been deprived of most of its mobilisable operational strength at a time of potential instability.

Use of the CF and Commandos was necessary to ensure stability during the election, and even then the response to the call-up was unsatisfactory. With a moratorium on prosecutions now in place, the part-time forces are even less likely to report for duty. And it could take years before the proposed new Volunteer Military System (VMS) produces a sufficient number of trained and committed men and women to replace the current reserves.

An analysis of the situation by Midrand-based Institute for Defence Policy executive director Jackie Cilliers and IDF researchers Willem Steenkamp and Bill Sass says government appears to have underestimated the "dramatic implications" of the moratorium on prosecutions announced last month by Defence Minister Joe Modise.

According to the analysis, SA's part-time forces comprise the 120 000-strong CF for conventional operations, the 130 000-strong Commandos — recently renamed the Rear Area Protection Units — and a number of reserve categories. The total part-time force is about 500 000.

Proposals for a full spectrum of replacement structures are still being considered.

The new system will be based on the VMS, which requires volunteers to sign up for 12 months' full-time service followed by eight annual 30-day training camps.

The VMS's first 4 000 recruits for the army and 200 for the navy started training this year. But researchers point out that they will provide only a fraction of the 20 000 national servicemen who joined the part-time forces each year in the past.

Although the new structure is expected to also provide for the incorporation of the existing reserve forces into the new VMS, reserves, the break in tradition and employer pressure could mean that the majority will not re-enlist. Employers may strongly resist giving time off for camps to employees who volunteer. In the past service was compulsory.

The potential shortage of part-time volunteers means the VMS may have to produce up to 100 000 trained personnel in the short term, simply to re-stock the reserves and then up to 20 000 a year to keep them stocked. These figures could apply even in terms of government's stated aim of halving the part-time force.

IDF researchers believe the VMS alone is inadequate and not suited to feed a part-time force, even though it appears easy to administrate. They say the length of full-time training under the VMS could make it an attractive short-term job in a time of high unemployment, rather than a foundation for a reserve force. The stream of volunteers could dry up if the economy improves.

While there is little doubt that the NDF is aware of the implications of the restructuring, political considerations left Modise with no option because the continued reliance on all-white reserves may be unconstitutional.

The researchers suggest a variety of other options: a 12-month VMS training period, but with annual camps cut from eight to three or four; a three-month VMS training period followed by three or four camps and weekend training, noncontinuous training at weekends or short camps for non-VMS veterans; and voluntary school cadet training and reserve officer training at universities.

The future of the part-time force is important. Though the current integration of the military groups will create a bloated NDF, the strength of the permanent component will eventually be trimmed to less than it was previously.

The Permanent Force — apart from specialists in the Air Force and Navy and some army units — will provide the training component for the VMS.

The CF regiments are effectively run by part-time soldiers with a commitment to professionalism and loyalty, regardless of which party is in power.

It will be important to continue this tradition. A strong reservist force with divergent political views is often seen as an essential deterrent to a military coup, government misuse of the army.

Monumental fuss

A row over the removal of political memorabilia from the colonial and apartheid era was inevitable. It is surprising that it has taken so long to occur.

Two events in the past week have sparked heated reaction from the Nationalists and parties to their Right that underlined the removal of former PM Hendrik Verwoerd's statue from outside a government building named after him in Bloemfontein, and reports of rumblings in the ANC caucus because the parliamentary complex remains dominated by portraits, statues and artefacts that reflect virtually nothing but the perceived glories of a white Afrikaner male-dominated past.

The matter is now with the Cabinet and a decision is expected soon. It is likely to be a compromise that will satisfy most.

Ironically, it appears that most members of the ANC caucus are not insisting on the wholesale removal of all tributes to colonial or apartheid leaders. Instead, they want a balance which accurately reflects the past and the transition to democracy. Parliament will probably mean representing statues and portraits.

For example, the massive painting of PW Botha's last white Cabinet which dominates the main entrance to parliament could be removed to the parliamentary museum and replaced by a painting of the national unity Cabinet or even something less extravagant, such as many of the beautiful nonpolitical artworks that are now hidden in distant corridors of the labyrinthine complex.

Some statues outside parliament, such as Louis Botha astride his charger at the gates to President Nelson Mandela's Cape Town office, Tyshnaus, are also now inappropriate to the new order.
Integration is the key to defence

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

SUCCESSFUL integration of armed forces into the new national defence force is the key to the military being able to defend democracy, deputy defence minister Ronnie Kasrils said today.

He conceded there were "teething problems" in integration.

President Mandela had had to be called to the Union Buildings in the middle of the night to deal with grievances at a camp where soldiers were being prepared for integration into the new defence force.

Mr Kasrils said he was optimistic a partnership could be forged between civil society and the military.

Speaking at a seminar in Sea Point on parliament, the military and democracy, he said the constitution required the military to protect the sovereignty of the country, law and order, and the constitution.

The parliamentary joint standing committee of defence had significant responsibilities for matters like finance, morale and strength of the defence force.

Deputy speaker Bhadra Ranchod, said for democracy to work the defence force should not be hindered in its role of ensuring security for all South Africans.

He said the defence force's conduct during transition had ensured its success and quashed fears the military would try to scuttle the process of change.

"I do not think we have seen the end of conflict in South Africa, but the fear of a military takeover is something we have now hopefully put behind us," he said.
**Secret** gun deal

Search for city divers given up

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**By CLAIRE BERKOVIC**

The search for two missing city divers was yesterday called off after an eight-hour hunt was fruitless.

A diving torch belonging to one of the divers, who were missing at a depth of 250 feet off Miller's Point, was found on the wreck of the German-Belgian before the search was called off yesterday afternoon.

Divers accompanying the search yesterday of their actual status when they were turned to various emergency help for a diver with a ruptured lung and abandoning the search for the two missing divers.

It was the third time this week that the search for divers was called off. Mr. Richard Keyes, 26, of Wanneroo, and Mr. Brian van Reenen, 46, of Broadbeach, two "seasoned-experienced" divers, had been part of the challenging search dive 1000 meters off Miller's Point.

The unbearable dive resulted in two other divers having to endure emergency decompression at an altitude of about 8000 feet. The divers were also part of the challenging search for the two missing divers.

The missing divers were using a re-breather for the first time when the two men had failed to surface after about 25 minutes.

The divers were using oxygen for their ascent from the sea bottom when their regulator tank valve failed open, causing them to surface and dive into the water.

Mr. Brian Winter, of Tuggerah, also dived without a decompression chamber in his bag to reach the surface of the water and assist the divers.

The rest of the eight men dive team were forced to abandon the search for the divers and were also forced to decompress.

Mr. Keyes was later admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital and was discharged yesterday afternoon.

The two missing divers had done the dive before and the minimum decompression hold by the group was a 24-hour decompression chamber.

The shocked and disbelieving divers were unable to explain their decompression.

Lived for diving

They agreed that Mr. Van Reenen had "lived for diving" and it would have been his chosen way to die.

The same was said of Mr. Keyes, an ex-captain, who had a wife and two small children, and has been diving since he was 14 years old.

The trip to the scuttled naval wreck began in perfect conditions on Saturday morning with a visibility of more than 100 feet on the sea bed, the divers said.

Shorter than the first two deep-sea excursions, the divers said there were no such signs of the missing men. The divers spent more than two hours undergoing the decompression.

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**DEFEENCE MINISTER Mr Joe Modise is to investigate the sale of thousands of arms — allegedly AK-47 rifles — to Lebanon in a secretive deal confirmed yesterday by Armscor.**

According to a statement by the Armscor, the weapons were sold to the Lebanese government under terms laid down by the South African government.

But there is a lack of secrecy about the deal, which millions of families in Lebanon through the arms manufacturer.

A defense analyst noted last night that should the arms be AK-47, they were used by the Lebanese armed forces on the front lines against Israel.

Mr. Modise and cabinet secretary to defense Minister hợp canned yesterday that they knew nothing about the deal.

Mr. Modise said it was not a cabinet decision to sell the arms.

"If it was discussed in the cabinet I have no knowledge about it," he said.

Mr. Modise said he would call for a commission of inquiry to deal with the issue and respond to the reports.

A weekend report claimed the deal involving 10,000 AK-47s was worth more than R4 million.

**Danish Flag**

It was also claimed that the weapons were exported from Port Elizabeth because of the strong ANC support in the city.

The weapons were allegedly shipped out on 20 containers on the German ARCHER Pioneer, which sailed under Danish flag.

It was established yesterday that the ARCHER Pioneer docked in the Port Elizabeth harbor on August 24, from Hamburg.

Armscor would not disclose the exact number of containers which were shipped out.

The statement said it was the responsibility of the Defense Ministry to release information regarding arms sales abroad.

But Mr. Modise added that the weapons were not sold without the South African National Defense Force's approval.

NP chief spokesman on security Mr. C. R. Myburgh said last night he did not see any problem with the export of the weapons to Lebanon and wished it to be a covert operation.

"It will, however, be tragic if the weapons land in the hands of terrorists," he said.

Mr. Myburgh in the Eastern Cape legislation Mr. Eddie Treadgold asked why it had to be a covert operation.

"I thought Armscor was now coming clean about its activities," he said.

E-50 spokesman Mr. C. R. Myburgh said last night that should the weapons be AK-47, they were used by the Lebanese armed forces on the front lines against Israel.

The defense force had a very large number of captured AK-47s in its stores, he said, but questioned the claim of the alleged exportation of weapons.

"We are not aware of any sale of the weapons to Lebanon," he said.

In 1994, the Lebanese authorities would have provided evidence to the arms manufacturers in the weapons.
Probe ordered into guns deal

DEFENCE MINISTER: Mr Joe Modise last night ordered a full investigation into the sale and export by Armscor of AK-47 assault rifles.

The Lebanese army said it never ordered them. Armscor said the deal was aborted because news of it had been leaked.

Mr Charbel Stephan, head of the Lebanese mission in Pretoria, said: "The documents which I examined at Armscor's offices are false." "The government of Lebanon has never been aware of this arms transaction," he said.

The Ministry of Defence said: "Confusion and conflicting reports about the deal "now necessitate a full investigation."

Mr Modise said: "I would have expected Armscor to have briefed me in advance." An Armscor spokesman said he could not comment on Mr Stephan's statement. - Staff correspondent, Sapa, Political Staff.
Women 14% of Defence Force

BY BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

ONLY 14% of the members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) are women — and none are generals or admirals.

Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise said yesterday in reply to a question by Senator James Selfe (DP) — the highest ranking women were two brigadiers in the army and two in the SA Medical Corps.

There were 12 colonels in the army, two in the air force, five in the medical corps and two captains in the navy.

Mr Modise said there were 2,648 women in the army, 985 in the air force, 302 in the navy and 2,387 in the SA Medical Corps, 6,332 in total.

The chairperson of the Joint Committee on Defence, Mr Tony Yengeni, said the gender issue in the force would have to be addressed.

Mr Modise said a post of Director: Personnel Utilisation and Women Rights has been created.
Affirmative action for Eskom, Denel

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

TRANSNET, Eskom and Denel are among parastatals targeted for affirmative action restructuring.

Public Enterprises Minister Stella Sigcau told the national assembly that restructuring would provide "maximum stimulus" to the economy while redressing past inequities.

She said Eskom's goals for the next five years were:

- Ensuring half of all its management, professional and advisory staff were black South Africans by the year 2000.
- Cutting the electricity price by 15 percent, to become the world's cheapest supplier of electricity.
- Electrifying a further 1.75 million homes.
- Enabling all Eskom employees to own a home.

Arms manufacturer Denel had said its three-year goals were:

- Doubling exports and foreign exchange earnings to R1 300 million.
- Ensuring 30 percent of management came from "under-represented" groups, including women.

Training programmes for technicians and computer programmers were among its other goals.

The parastatals are Axxess, Aventura, Denel, Eskom, Safcol and Transnet. Their combined assets are valued at more than R1 billion.
Apla allowance settled

By Mpikeleli Duma

A dispute over an allowance which has delayed the integration of Azanian People’s Liberation Army members into the South African National Defence Force at De Brug, Bloemfontein, was resolved this week.

Apla members will be paid their full allowance of R28 tomorrow.

This followed an all-day meeting between Free State premier Mr Patrick Lekota, local MEC for safety and security Mr Papie Kganare, SANDF and Apla officers.

The Apla members were receiving an interim allowance of R10 a day, while Umkhonto we Sizwe soldiers were receiving R28 a day.

This week about 900 Apla members marched for about 30km from De Brug to the administrative offices of the provincial legislature in Bloemfontein.

They demanded to meet Lekota and also wanted him to address their demands.

Lekota told them that they should submit their grievances to the proper channels. As emotions started running high, Apla members demanded that President Nelson Mandela should see them at the camp.

The issue of allowances began a month ago when Apla soldiers first reported to the camp to be integrated into the SANDF.

The SANDF’s regional office in Bloemfontein said yesterday that 900 Apla soldiers at De Brug had already gone through the screening and integration processes. They were now waiting for letters of appointment.

Laude Mokone, Wanda Majola and Busi Mahlaba take a break during the Sowetan-Caltex Massed Choir Festival at the Standard Bank Arena in Johannesburg on Sunday.

PIC LEN KUMALO
Armscor secret weapons shock Mandela embarrassed on eye of US mission by arms sent to Unita.
Armscor tries to regain guns

JOHANNESBURG: — Armscor made frantic attempts to re-assert legal ownership over one of its arms shipments this weekend.

Red-faced officials are hoping to recover the consignment of thousands of automatic rifles and millions of rounds of ammunition tomorrow when it is due in Port Elizabeth, after reports that it had been bound for Unita in defiance of a UN embargo.

Armscor chief executive Mr Tielman de Waal said at the weekend that if the 34 containers of AK-47 and G3 automatic rifles could be impounded he expected they would be destroyed.

Armscor said it was looking at legal ways of regaining ownership of the weapons once they arrived back in South Africa.

Legally, the weapons were the property of arms agent Mr Eli Wazan, who had paid fully with a Swiss bank draft before Armscor delivered the consignment FoB (free on board) in Port Elizabeth.

Intelligence sources in Pretoria say that Yemen became the destination after a deal with Unita broke down at the last minute this summer when the movement was unable to pay because it lost control of Angola’s diamond fields.

The speculation is that elements within Armscor tried to do a deal with Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi in May without the authorisation or knowledge of the government.

Armscor has said it had the ship returned after learning that a deal with Lebanon had been fraudulent.

It was reported yesterday that a Defence Force source had said Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise was angry not only because he learnt of the deal from the press but because he found Armscor’s explanation difficult to believe.

The report said the minister was also upset because South Africa was trying to establish a reputation as an efficient arms supplier “heads are going to roll,” the source said.

Mr Modise has organised an independent investigation.

CT 3/10/94

Angry over debacle

Modise

2SL

Arms fiasco — Page 6
Landing of arms cargo likely to be delayed

THE Arkitis Pioneer, the cargo ship carrying Armscor’s controversial 155 million arms consignment, is set to dock in Port Elizabeth today amid tight security.

The Danish-owned ship, which returned to South Africa after being refused entry to Yemen, spent last night anchored in Algoa Bay. A Portnet spokesman said the ship could not dock yesterday because Armscor officials had not yet completed certain legal documentation.

Armscor spokesman Berto Celliers said the ship would dock today because of not all legal procedures regarding the ownership of the cargo had been settled. Completing this paperwork would take “a few days.”

Mr Celliers said the arms consignment of 10,000 AK-47 and G3 rifles was likely to remain on board while legal investigations continued. Armscor intimated re-claiming and storing the arms, but he stressed that ultimately the government would have to decide what to do with them.

Last night Mr Tony Yengeni, an ANC MP and chairperson of Parliament’s Joint Committee on Defence, said the directors and management of Armscor should be suspended until the inquiry into the arms sale was completed. All arms sales from South Africa should also be suspended until the investigation was completed, he said in an interview.

He said his committee would hold an open inquiry into the whole affair. “The whole policy, structure and structure of Armscor needs to be reviewed.”

If the investigation proves Armscor and the defence force had breached the law, heads should roll, Mr Yengeni said.

The arms shipment, originally destined for Lebanon, secretly left Port Elizabeth in late August. After the deal was completed, the shipment was disowned by the Lebanese government.

Last week, according to Armscor, Middle East arms dealer Mr Eli Wazan confessed to misleading the corporation by producing a falsified “end-user certificate” for Lebanon. — Own Correspondent, Political Staff, Sapa

• Armscor may have been set up — Page 2
Johannesburg — Armscor may have been set up by foreign rivals trying to edge the company out of the world arms trade, a leading defence analyst said yesterday.

Ms Jakkie Cilliers, head of the independent Johannesburg-based Institute for Defence Policy, said embarrassing disclosures about a cargo of arms ostensibly sold to the Lebanese government, but destined for an unknown, possibly bogus, buyer, could not have come at a worse time.

“IT is no coincidence that disclosures about the ‘Lebanese arms’ come at the same time that President Nelson Mandela is in the United States and is due to ask President Bill Clinton to lift the American arms embargo against South Africa,” said Ms Cilliers. “There appears to be some skulduggery afoot.”

“A lot of our big friends would like to close down the South African defence industry. I wouldn’t be surprised if Armscor wasn’t set up by foreign companies or governments,” she said, referring to an abortive deal in 1992 to sell South African-made mobile artillery to the kingdom — Sapa-Reuters.
Rebelling Mik Guerillas at War with Module

SOUTH AFRICA

The Weekly Mail & Guardian

Former MK leader, reports

Emmanuel Nkosi, Minister of Home Affairs, says that Mkhosane, the deputy minister of home affairs, will be appointed to the post of new minister. Mkhosane, once a member of the anti-apartheid movement, is expected to take charge of the department of home affairs, which oversees the implementation of the government's immigration policies. This comes after the recent decision to deport several thousand foreign nationals who failed to prove their legal status in the country. Mkhosane has been praised for his strong stance on immigration issues, and is expected to bring a fresh approach to the department's operations.
ESTHER WAUGH, Political Staff

PARLIAMENTARIANS have decided to conduct their own public inquiry into Armscor’s secret deals, including the latest AK-47 fiasco.

Tony Yengem, chairman of the joint portfolio committee on defence, said National Defence Force chief Georg Meiring and Armscor head Tielman Moodman would be summoned to give evidence.

They would also be quizzed on problems with the process of integrating former Umkhonto we Sizwe members and other liberation cadres into the SANDF.

The inquiry is to take place as a matter of urgency on October 17, the day parliament resumes.

Mr Yengem said the committee — established in terms of the interim constitution and comprising the ANC, IFP and National Party — would make recommendations to parliament at the end of the month, or at the beginning of November.

Meanwhile, the government expects Justice Minister Dullah Omar to announce soon the terms of reference and the participants of a commission of inquiry into the aborted shipment of arms, worth R2.4 million, to Lebanon.

This was said last night by deputy Defence Minister Ronne Kasrils, taking part in a television programme on the Armscor deal to supply Lebanon with, among other things, 10 000 AK-47 assault rifles, 15 000 G3 rifles and a million rounds of ammunition.

Armscor has said it struck a deal with an arms agent who fraudently claimed to represent the Lebanese government. Lebanon said it had nothing to do with the deal.

The ship carrying the arms, the Danish freighter Arktis Pioneer, was diverted to Yemen, where authorities refused to unload the consignment.

The ship arrived in Port Elizabeth on Monday with its cargo after being ordered back to South Africa.

The Port Elizabeth sheriff yesterday seized the cargo in terms of a Supreme Court order.
Ex-MK soldiers stage walkout

‘Threatened by former SADF men’

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

FORMER uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) soldiers discontented with their integration into the SA National Defence Force walked out of the army at Walmannstal in the Northern Cape yesterday.

They said they had “suspended” their participation in the SANDF because they had received inferior ranks and lower salaries.

However, the ANC called on them to return to their assembly bases and let their leaders deal with the teething problems of integration.

And ANC deputy president Mr Walter Sisulu said President Nelson Mandela would visit the Walmannstal assembl area as soon as his schedule allowed.

The ANC’s Mr Tony Yengeni, chairperson of Parliament’s joint portfolio committee on defence, said the committee would visit Walmannstal on October 21 and draft a report to Parliament.

Between 6000 and 7000 former MK members have now reportedly suspended their participation in the SANDF countrywide.

The Northern Cape dissidents said yesterday there was a lack of security in the camps and that they were frequently threatened by former members of the SADF.

Sapa reports that Mr Sisulu said the absence of the former MK cadres from bases was undermining integration.

Their grievances could not be dealt with at a party political level — only by the SANDF and the Defence Ministry.

Former ANC head of intelligence, MP Mr Joe Nhlanhla, said their grievances were legitimate and that former SADF members were slowing down integration.
MK men finding transition painful

JOHANNESBURG. — Former members of the African National Congress's Umkomkwele (MK) guerrillas, who spent nearly two decades in exile fighting apartheid, are finding the transition from rebel to the ranks in the new South African Defence Force painful and thousands are in revolt over "broken promises".

"The former guerrillas are saying the ANC has just won a war, has just won an election, where are the spoils of victory?", said former SADF brigadier Bull Sinn.

Brigadier Sinn, an adviser on the integration of former guerrillas into a new defence force which includes white-led troops who served apartheid governments and members of former homeland armies, said the expectations of many were unrealistic.

"There were high expectations of high ranks and good pay. But, a man who quit school and left Soweto in 1976 to fight apartheid and now finds himself a private or a corporal in the unified defence force is obviously going to be unhappy."

ANC deputy-president Walter Sisulu said he had tried, but failed, to persuade 7,000 former MK guerrillas to return to training after a week's leave.

But, he said, the ex-guerrillas, most due to go back to barracks next week, had said they intended to stay away until grievances over promotion, living conditions, food and allowances were met.

The Weekly Mail & Guardian quoted unidentified former guerrillas as saying grievances included:

■ Being promised money by the ANC on their return from exile;
■ Still being arrested for past political crimes; and
■ Being demoted to foot soldiers in the integrated army.

Few former guerrillas have so far been commissioned, with the defence force saying the ages and educational standards of many would-be soldiers were a major problem.

The men and women were refusing to deal with Defence Minister Joe Modise, a former MK commander, and their former chief-of-staff Siphiwe Nyanda, now a 'general' in the unified force, and would negotiate only with President Nelson Mandela, who was about to arrive in the United States on an official visit.

A defence ministry official said yesterday Mr Modise had received petitions from the disgruntled soldiers, which he was studying.

He said both Mr Modise and his deputy Ronnie Kasrils visited the main integration centre at Walmanshal near Pretoria to acquaint themselves with the situation on the ground.

Joe Nhlanhla, an ANC security chief, said the ANC's national executive committee would discuss the problems of the former MK members at a meeting on October 12-15.

"They are being marginalised or the process is being slowed. This is the basic problem and it is a problem of transition. Those who have been at the receiving end of apartheid feel the process is moving too slowly,

"The ANC says about 13,000 out of a total ANC guerrilla force of 25,000 had signed up for integration — since the elections — into the SANDF which was expected to reduce manpower levels gradually."

Serving and former army officers said that while former guerrillas revert to the unified force, few have signed up for integration.

Military boards assessing guerrillas included South African officers who served in the old defence force, former senior guerrillas from the unified force and members of the British military team helping the integration process.

— Reuters
Army chiefs head for a showdown with rebels

By PETER DE IONNO

SA ARMY chiefs have given thousands of former MK and Apla members two weeks to accept military discipline or face the full weight of military law and punishment.

Humiliated by unruly protests and defiance of orders, the generals are on the brink of telling the rebels to "shape up or ship out".

"This must stop. A line will be drawn under this behaviour within two weeks," said deputy chief of the army Major-General "Bertie" Botha.

"We have no option but to start acting against people who blatantly ignore discipline rules and regulations." The showdown, delayed so that ANC leaders and MK officers can persuade or order the dissidents to conform to military rules, will determine the fate of the troubled attempt to integrate 21 000 ex-MK and 6 000 ex-Apla members into the SANDF.

On Thursday, when MK deputy president Walter Sisulu appealed to them to return to their bases and let their leaders deal with their grievances, he promised that ANC President Nelson Mandela would visit Walmannastad soon.

"The candidates soldiers complain that the ANC promised them about the terms of integration, promised pensions that have not been delivered and the pay is too low. The food is of poor quality and makes them ill. Ex-MK cadres may be dropped or suspended," said Sisulu.

The first awkward step towards integration, costing R17-billion this year and similar amounts for the next two years, has exposed inadequacies in SANDF management, incompetence among some of the MK officer group and a mutinous refusal to accept orders and discipline by the ex-guerrillas.

As their defiance has grown, they have marched to lobby political leaders in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Pietersburg and Nelspruit.

About 900 Apla members, who protested to Free State Premier Patrick Leota about their R10-a-day allowances, have had their pay increased to match the R20,50 paid to ex-MKs.

General Botha admitted that the battle against weaknesses by the SANDF in allowing the public displays by soldiers to snowball had been "a cause for concern".

While the vast majority still want for an offer of a defence force place, a little more than 400 people have accepted offers, mostly for officer training.

A dozen senior members of MK and Apla have been appointed to the cabinet to the rank of brigadier and above, and an estimated 100 have taken up positions in the Ministry of Defence and jobs as political advisers and spokesmen.

About 270 who have indicated that they want to join the Service Brigade announced by Defence Minister Joe Modise to provide skills training and enable otherwise uneducated lancers to find civilian jobs and careers face an even longer wait.

Unless funding is found from outside the government, the brigade is unlikely to materialise for at least six months, as no funding has been budgeted for this year.

One source said manpower and equipment for that a 41-day training programme has been requested and administered by MK to familiarise ex-guerrillas with the demands of a conventional army "amounted to nothing". The programme has been dropped.

The SANDF confirmed that permanent force soldiers had used tear gas and smoke grenades to disperse ex-guerrillas on September 18, after several hundred had stormed the kitchens in a protest about the quality of the food.

The MK cadres claimed that repeated complaints that the food was giving them diarrhoea had been ignored. "We sleep on the floor," said one.

Many of the former guerrillas do not want to face the转变 in the integrated army but are waiting for pensions for their service in MK that they say they were promised by the ANC to lure them to the assembly areas.
ANC denies MK mutiny is a power struggle

By DESMOND BLOW and LEN KALANE

DEPUTY Defence Min-
ister Ronnie Kasrils and
Natal ANC leader Harry
Gwala, have both denied
there is a black-white
power struggle to control
the South African Na-
nional Defence Force.

They said the mutiny
by between 6 000 and 7
000 MK and Apla re-
cruits who have abandon-
ed their assembly points
was over grievances,
many of them valid.

Petitions were present-
ed by the mutineers at
several points on Friday
demanding more trans-
parency and that former
MK chief Joe Modise re-
sign as Defence Minister.

They also demanded
the resignation of
SANDF Chief-of-Staff
Li-Gen Siphiwe Nyanda.
And those in Natal also
demanded that former
Transkei strongman Ban-
tu Holomisa head the in-
tegration process.

In another develop-
ment, MK officers are re-
assembling informally
this weekend behind-clos-
ed doors to reassess fu-
ture plans in the wake of
the mutiny. This is the first
high-powered assembly
of MK since it was dis-
solved after the inaugu-
ration of President Man-
dela in May.

There is a growing be-
 lief among MK members
that former SADF white
bosses are in control of
the SANDF, that they
are forestalling inte-
gration and are trying to
frustrate ambitious for-
mer guerillas, and that
Modise and former MK
commanders are paying
lip service to them.

Kasrils denied this.

On Friday MK cadres
in the Eastern Cape de-
manded the immediate
resignations of Modise
and Nyanda.

The group presented a
list of 16 demands to
Eastern Cape Premier
Raymond Mhlaba, say-
ing these must be for-
warded to Mandela as
soon as possible.

Gwala said that while
he was away on Friday
MK/Apla dissidents had
presented a petition to his
office making a number
of demands, including
that Modise and Nyanda
resign. “They felt that
their leaders had let them
down because the process
of integration has been so
slow and the conditions
are not what they were
promised,” he said.

A spokesman for Mod-
ise later issued a state-
ment saying he did not in-
tend resigning.

Kasrils said he ex-
pected Mandela to ad-
dress the dissident re-
cruits, “but he cannot do
so if they are not there.
They must all go back to
their assembly points and
we will work out the
problems and speed up
the process.”

Kasrils said there were
legitimate complaints and
agreed there had been a
lack of transparency.

“There have been hic-
cups and the proceedings
have gone slowly and be-
cause of this recruits have
received only R730 a
month, but integrating
guerillas into a formal
army is a complex and
elaborate process.”
Plan for Crackdown on Deserts
Kasrils warns against further defence cuts

STEPHANE BOTHMA

MIDRAND — Any further reduction in the defence budget would aggravate existing strategic gaps and would increase the SANDF’s inability to carry out even secondary tasks, Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils warned yesterday.

"The strategic gaps emanating from the defence force’s inability to maintain a core force are estimated as a shortfall for the army of R2,5bn, the air force R235m, the navy R156m and the medical service R96m," Kasrils told a defence industry conference.

The primary function of the SANDF was the protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of SA. Secondary functions included support to state departments for socioeconomic upliftment.

Since 1990, 8,685 uniformed and civilian personnel members had been retrenched by the defence force. Cuts in the capital budget resulted in the loss of 9,000 jobs in the local defence industry, while equipment spending by the SANDF had declined more than 60% since 1993.

Local defence industry production had declined to an annual figure of R3,5bn last year — 4.4% of GDP.

But, he added, SA’s defence industry was one of the country’s largest exporters of manufactured goods and SA currently exported defence equipment to more than 50 countries. SA’s share of the world market was about 0.4%.

Kasrils said "SA owes it to the world to become a pacemaker with regard to responsible arms control policies," and that SA policy was being streamlined.
Overload 'could lead to disintegration of military'

The SA National Defence Force faced a great danger of being "overloaded" which could lead to the disintegration of the military within a matter of years, Institute for Defence Policy executive director Jakkie Cilliers warned yesterday.

Cilliers told a defence industry conference at Midrand that the heavy load being placed on the SANDF, combined with continued budget cuts, could set the scene for "previously unimaginable developments".

This could lead to the rapid inflation of the defence force, a massive decline in operational standards, breakdown in discipline and the disintegration of the military, he said.

The demands on the military including the challenge of the further dismantlement of the statutory and police forces; the downsizing that would follow and regional cooperation would soak up attention and energy that would have a dramatic effect on the combat efficiency, discipline and morale of the military.

"There can be little doubt that standards have already dropped, and will continue to do so — possibly quite dramatically," Cilliers said.

"Senior non-commissioned officers and middle-ranking former SA Defence Force officers — the backbone of the conventional forces, are and will leave the force once the economy improves," Cilliers said.

About the problems SA was facing with illegal aliens crossing the country's borders, Cilliers said the SANDF should be the prime agency tasked with border security and should be provided with due legislative powers, funds and equipment to execute the task.

He said the SA Police Service estimated that illegal aliens in SA currently numbered anything between 500 000 to 2 million.

In the PWV alone, there were an estimated 1 million illegals. Illegals now made up 5% to 8% of the country's population — a number growing at a rate of one every 10 minutes.

"This year it will cost more than R210m just to house, educate, police and provide medical care to the illegal Mozambicans in SA — a figure set to rise to R350m by the year 2000," he said.

Closely related to the issue of illegal immigrants and refugees, Cilliers added, was that of cross-border drug trafficking. More than 200 internationally linked drug syndicates obtained huge amounts of cocaine and heroin across SA borders. Studies had also shown that 40% of murders in SA were drug-related.

Cilliers said one solution to the dilemma faced by SA would be to combine the responsibility for border security and public order policing in a single organisation, nominally part of the military.

"Practically, this means that the internal stability division of the SAPS ceases to exist. Instead, a separate service arm of the SANDF is created which contains the territorial forces of the SA army," he said.
6,000 MK soldiers AWOL

PRETORIA — As thousands of Umkhonto we Sizwe and Aplà soldiers remained AWOL from SA National Defence Force training camps yesterday, the SANDF said delays in integrating the non-statutory forces had played havoc with the budget.

Personnel chief of staff Vice-Adm Pieter Loedolff said a longer reintegration period would have to be negotiated.

An extra R52.2m has been budgeted in addition to the Defence budget for the rationalisation and integration of the defence force up to 1981, when the process was due to be completed.

Loedolff told a defence industry conference in Midrand that only limited success had been achieved in the past five months and the real problems had probably not yet become visible.

He said the speed of integration was retarded by limited infrastructure and the arrival of members in assembly areas whose names did not appear on certified personnel registers.

The SANDF has warned that it plans to get tough with the thousands of MK and Aplà troops who had failed to return to the Wahlmanstal, Hoedspruit and Delbrug camps after being granted seven days leave last week.

SA Army deputy chief Maj-Gen Bertié Botha, who is in charge of the integration process, said lack of discipline in camps had brought the force to a point where it could “no longer be accepted”.

Yesterday morning, more than 6,000 MK members and 600 Aplà members were still absent without leave. At Hoedspruit, only 16 members were at the camp.

Botha said a list of rules had been posted at the camps.

“In the spirit of reconciliation and in light of the uncertain circumstances surrounding the integration, no drastic action was previously taken against those who disobeyed the military disciplinary code.”

But this would no longer be tolerated.

Steps against members could include fines or even discharge for repeat offenders.

AWOL — Pretoria, 12/10/99

Disciplinary action would be taken against members currently AWOL, as long as they reported for duty soon, Deputy Defence Minister Hosea Kassie said, the successful integration of the non-statutory forces into the SANDF was a prerequisite for the future of the country’s defence industry.

Although there were problems with the process, government was determined to make integration succeed. SA’s multi-million-rand defence industry depended on a modern, balanced and technologically advanced defence force fully representative of the people.

Referring to the current protest action, he said lack of discipline could not be tolerated, and appealed to the soldiers to return to their bases where President Nelson Mandela would soon address their grievances. The problems — which are mainly pay and rank-related — would also be discussed at an ANC executive committee meeting this week.

The former MK fighters are getting paid R730 a month, of which R120 is being deducted for food during their training.

See Page 4
MK crisis: Mandela intervenes

From Page 1

portfolio committee on defence
Tony Yengeni called on the Min-
istry of Defence to "put a stop to
the wild statements (made by
SANDEF spokesmen) and the
assault on the integrity of former
MK cadres"

Yengeni said statements that
described the former guerillas as
ill-disciplined did not recognise
the fact that real problems exist-
ed.

In Midrand yesterday, Deput-
y Defence Minister Ronnie
Kasrils said the integration pro-
cess was going far too slowly
However, he also stressed that
the former guerillas needed to
be more disciplined.

“We need discipline in the de-
defence force and in the integra-
tion process, and that needs to
be stressed. We are calling on
those who left to come back to
Wolmankop where we can ad-
dress them," Kasrils told a de-
defence industry conference

MK sources in the Western
Cape said yesterday that some
of its members had been returning
to the Wolmankop assembly
point

Reuter reports that the
SANDEF has started planning for
the possible integration of 6,000
members of the Inkatha Free-
dom Party into the regular
armed forces. Vice-Admiral
Pieter Van Zyl Loedolli said.

Police investigations into alle-
gations that dissatisfied ex-com-
batants are conducting military
training in the Eastern Trans-
vaal are at an advanced stage,
regional commander of the Cen-
tral Intelligence Service, Brg.
Girdler Dan Seibert, disclosed yest-

erday

Failure

Seibert said there had been
no arrests so far.
It was reported last week that
a police report handed to the
Government alleged that dissat-
satisfied former members of Unik-
honto we Sizwe and the Azanian
People's Liberation Army had
formed an opposition political
party called MKAPLA.

The report said this followed
the failure by the people in-
volved to get into the SA Nation-
al Defence Force

The report claimed the group
was conducting military training
in Badplaas in the former Kwa-
Ngwane homeland

It is said that 10 people had
already received military train-
ing and others were being
trained outside the country.
— Own Correspondent
President Mandela personally intervened in the crisis surrounding the South African National Defence Force's integration process by meeting Defence Minister Joe Modise and SANDF chief General Georg Meiring yesterday.

And in the afternoon the president held talks with former Umkhonto we Sizwe members at the ANC's Johannesburg headquarters.

An estimated 7,000 former MK and Azanian People's Liberation Army (Apla) guerrillas are refusing to return to assembly points until their grievances have been addressed.

Chief among their concerns is the perception that they are being absorbed into the SANDF instead of being integrated on an equal basis.

Other concerns include poor conditions at the assembly points, and slowness in being placed in the SANDF.

Former MK members insist Mandela should personally deal with their grievances, but senior SANDF sources yesterday said it was highly unlikely the president would visit the assembly areas until the soldiers had returned to base.

Thousands of former guerillas have ignored calls by Modise and other ANC leaders to return to the assembly points.

However, deputy army chief Major-General Bertie Botha, yesterday denied the integration process was in chaos.

Addressing a press briefing at Wallmannsthal outside Pretoria, Botha said integration would resume as soon as there were 6,300 of the 7,500 former guerrillas had returned. "If they return, I believe it is all systems go."

He told the briefing that only 16 out of 743 former MK constants had reported for duty at Hoespruit in the Eastern Transvaal by yesterday morning.

At De Brug, outside Bloemfontein, 606 of 1,202 former Apla cadres were absent.

The commanding officer at Wallmannsthal, Colonel Johan Kritzinger, revealed that the former cadres were due to be placed in their military units by the middle of next month.

Botha said disciplinary action would be taken against those who refused to adhere to the military code of conduct, and that those who were absent "in the spirit of reconciliation and in the fairly uncertain circumstances of the Wallmannsthal intake, it was felt unfair to take drastic action in terms of military conduct."

"Unfortunately there are members who are not willing to adhere to the basic principles of military discipline. It has come to the point where we cannot accept this any longer," Botha said.

He said a complaints centre and a directorate of integration had been formed, and disclosed that only 16 workdays had been logged at Wallmannsthal for August and September.

Meanwhile, ANC MP and chairman of Parliament's joint committee on integration, Steve globes, said: "The problems are here. But we have to put them right."

To Page 3
LONDON — South Africa faced a serious threat of civil war if it did not manage to integrate its armed forces, International Institute for Strategic Studies director Dr. John Chipman warned yesterday.

"The effective unification of the armed forces of a state with those against whom they were fighting as part of a conclusion of a civil war is one of the most important things to ensure that that conclusion is permanent," Dr. Chipman said.

Dr. Chipman lamented the breakdown of the integration process in SA at a press conference to launch the institute's survey of the military strength and defence expenditure of over 165 countries.

"There is a very, very great challenge before the South African defence forces as to how to integrate the various armed forces," he said.
Armscor deals: Probe set up

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

A THREE-PERSON commission was appointed yesterday to investigate the controversial Armscor sale of AK-47 rifles.

The scheduled parliamentary committee questioning of defence force and Armscor heads on the deal was cancelled.

Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar said the commission would be headed by Mr Acting Justice Edwin Cameron.

Other members would be a Johannesburg advocate, Mr I V Maela, and UCT Centre for Conflict Resolution director Mr Laurie Nathan.

The commission will investigate all aspects of transactions between Armscor and Lebanese arms dealer Mr Eli Wazan.

The commission follows the sale of 8 096 AK-7 rifles, 16 063 G3 (R2) assault rifles and ammunition through Mr Wazan, ostensibly to the Lebanese government.

Mr Omar said he was asked by Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise, to appoint a commission of inquiry into these transactions and other related matters.

Earlier yesterday, the chairperson of the Joint Portfolio Committee on Defence, Mr Tony Yengeni, said President Nelson Mandela had asked him to consider cancelling the appearance of S

National Defence Force head General Georg Meiring and Armscor chairman Mr IJ Moolman before the committee on Tuesday.

Mr Omar said the commission would probe other Armscor transactions from January 1, 1991, to date, and try to pinpoint the buyers.

It would try to determine whether the transactions had violated any law or any international embargo.
**Troubles in battalions**

The mutiny of former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) guerrillas over their conditions of integration into the National Defence Force has set alarm bells ringing in the Government of National Unity. And well it should. For the trouble at Wallmannstal integration base near Pretoria is early warning of far greater problems in the military—problems that, if left to fester, could undermine SA's transition to democracy.

It also exposed subtle cracks in the cordial relations between the old SADF structure and the new Defence Ministry, headed by former MK chiefs Joe Modise and deputy Ronnie Kasrils. While Modise and Kasrils supported the generals' command to the absent troops to return to base, they stopped short of the Defence Force's "get back or get out" ultimatum. Their caution goes beyond party politics, though they must have blanched at the thought of cracking down on old comrades-in-arms.

"You can't fire 80% of recruits," says Ministry spokeswoman Major Mafu Anderson. "That would just turn them into bitter, disillusioned bandits—and trained bandits, at that. It would be a nightmare."

Modise has ordered acceleration of the integration process and immediate attention to the soldiers' grievances over pay, food, equipment shortages and alleged racial discrimination. He has also decided, the FM learns, to appoint military consultant and former End Conscription Campaign head Laure Nathan to advise on SANDF policy issues and the Defence White Paper which is expected by the end of the year.

Modise and Defence Chief Gen Georg Meiring met President Mandela on Tuesday to discuss the matter. The President was expected to announce that he will visit Wallmannstal soon to address the troops once they have returned to base.

One question still to be answered is how the former MK commanders who have already been absorbed into high positions in the SANDF view the situation. Disgruntled MK cadres in the Eastern Cape recently demanded the resignation of Modise and Defence Force Chief of Staff, Lt-Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, whom they regard as having failed them.

Nyanda is officially head of the Defence Force's integration committee, but has hardly been seen or heard from as he seems to be tied up in intensive training for his new job.

The Defence Ministry is "extremely worried" about the situation, says Anderson.

The slowness of the transition process, she says, has delayed the settling in process for new commanders as they try to adapt to new posts in an unfamiliar environment.

She outlines four main reasons for the breakdown in the integration process:
- Poor communication between the former guerrillas and their SANDF commanders,
- Religious difficulties in evolving a military doctrine acceptable to all sides,
- Structural problems in assimilating a largely informal guerrilla force with a conventional army, and
- Inadequate equipment, wages, food and other material needs of the soldiers.

"We need urgent surgery at Wallmannstal an instant fix-up," says Anderson. "We didn't have bad discipline like this in MK when we were fighting from exile."

Defence Force spokesman, however, see the problem essentially as one of communication between troops and officers. The solution, they say, lies in better discipline.

Defence analyst Jakkie Cilliers argues that the situation will improve only if integration is speeded up and the recruits are deployed in training camps across the country.

But that will not solve the more explosive problem of rationalisation, he says, when the SANDF begins retrenching some unavoidable political compromise made in the heat of the negotiations process. But it will turn out to be far more costly than the State can afford, he says.

The idea is to send redundant troops to a Service Brigade, to teach them basic skills such as bricklaying and carpentry, before discharging them. But so far there has been no budgetary provision for the brigade and apparently there are no plans for its establishment next year.

Meanwhile, retrenchment numbers threaten to far exceed any allocation that might be made to the brigade. The result, says Cilliers, could be a core of embittered former combatants "with great potential for destabilisation."

Equally serious, he says, could be the threat of unionisation in the military—not so much from former guerrillas, but from old guard SADF elements who see their positions being eroded by affirmative action and budgetary cutbacks. Already some perks, such as duty buses and medical benefits, have been cut.

Meanwhile, many of the Defence Force's best NCOs and middle ranks are leaving the force out of disillusionment, raising the prospect of a massive decline in operational standards.

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**NEWSPAPERS**

**Leaner and hungrier**

*Argus Newspapers* is planning to restructure Cape Town's two English language daily newspapers, *The Argus* and the *Cape Times*, in a move that could result in job losses.

The company bought the *Cape Times* from Times Media Ltd earlier this year as part of a deal which saw Irish media baron Tony O'Reilly take control of Argus Newspapers from JCI.

It is understood that the company wants to eventually reposition the *Cape Times* as an upmarket morning newspaper. The process is believed to include cutting editorial costs by up to 40%.

However, Argus Newspapers CE John Featherstone denies speculation that proposed changes could mean scrapping 15-20 of about 80 editorial posts on the newspaper. He also rejects the view that the repositioning is a cynical move to kill the newspaper. "We are growing the market for the *Cape Times* in which we have considerable confidence, having paid good money for it. To suggest that it is a cynical move to kill it is ridiculous."

But some *Cape Times* staffs believe it...
Partial victory for MK troops

Wiseman Khuzwayo

FORMER Umkhonto weSizwe fighters gained a partial victory this week in their showdown with the SANDF when the government made the political intervention the former guerrillas had been demanding.

During the past two days, the ANC soldiers have been streaming back steadily to their military base in Vaalwater, north of Pretoria. This followed calls by the ANC leadership that its troops should first return to their assembly areas before their problems can be sorted out.

The return also coincided with an announcement that President Nelson Mandela will visit those former MK members in Vaalwater on October 20.

The main problem facing the army now with the return of the rebels is whether it can enforce discipline on the former MK cadres. Major General Bertie Botha, deputy chief of army, told a media briefing that disciplinary action would in future be taken against those who refuse to adhere to the military code of conduct.

"In the spirit of reconciliation and the fairly uncertain circumstances of the Vaalwater situation, it was felt unfair to take drastic action in terms of military conduct. Unfortunately, there are members who are not willing to adhere to the basic principles of discipline. It has come to the point where we cannot accept this anymore."

But many former MK members strongly believe that they are not bound by the SANDF military code of conduct as they are not yet part of its establishment.

Spokesman for the Western Cape rebels, Lieutenant Ntolosunu Mphatile, said it was only the ANC leadership that had authority over the former cadres, under MK's own code of conduct. "They (SANDF) don't have the right to discipline us because we don't fall under their command. We have never seen their military code of conduct and we therefore cannot be punished under something we don't know."

Many highly-placed sources within MK have said getting the former guerrillas to obey instructions from the SANDF is going to be made even more difficult by the nature of MK - by virtue of its being a former guerrilla army, it is highly political and revolutionary, along the traditions of the Eastern Europe armies under whom it was tutored.

"Taken out of MK structures by the Joint Military Co-ordinating Committee (JMCC) in the political commissar, who was the "mother and father" of each MK unit. His role was to give political direction, and the welfare of his troops and being an ear to their grievances."

These sources doubted if the complaints in the assembly points could have ended up with a rebellion if political commissars had been in place. They would have dealt with the situation at its budding stage, they said.

In another development, MK commissioned officers who were part of the disbanded National Peace Keeping Force (NPKF) and have said they were stripped of their ranks at disarmament in June have not been paid since. Only nine of their comrades have been appointed to the SANDF and the rest are still in De Brug, outside Bloemfontein.

These said they have been asked to write a psychometric test before their placement is considered, which they are refusing to sit. They argue that their letters of appointment require only Standard 8 as the minimum and not the test. They are also rejecting Afrikaans as a medium of instruction at the base.

At least 23 MK troopers and nilmen who were at the SANDF 2 Special Services Battalion base in Zeerust, Eastern Transvaal, have walked out of their camp, also on the same Afrikaans issue.

Their spokesman questioned the fact that the former SANDF instructors issued instructions in Afrikaans only, although before joining the new army, a member is required to be able to speak and write English.

"Most of our cadres do not understand Afrikaans. Our instructors don't know English," he said.

A group of about 100 disgruntled former MK soldiers on Wednesday said they were afraid to return to military bases they deserted.

The 100, who said they represented some 500 former MK cadres in the Eastern Cape, handed in a petition to MK regional commander Dan Hette in Port Elizabeth in which they sought Mandela to guarantee their "security" at these bases.

They said they felt threatened by the former members of the SAFD who still controlled the security in these areas. They also reported that they had been browbeat by SANDF troopers in September in a packed mess hall in Vaalwater. This was confirmed by the SANDF who said the incident took place after some former MK members caused some problems.

The protesting former guerrillas also called for the resignation of Defence Minister Joe Modise, saying their action amounted to a "vote of no confidence."
Armscor probe gazetted

PRETORIA. — Arms deals dating to February 1990 are to be investigated in the judicial inquiry into the botched arms transaction between Armscor and an agent pretending to represent the Lebanese government. (254) 15/11/1994

This emerges from the terms of reference of the commission of inquiry into alleged arms transactions between Armscor and Efi Wazan, the agent, and other related matters, published in the Government Gazette yesterday.

Deals since February 2 1990 must be investigated "with a view to the identification of any possible similarities between such other deals" and the transaction between Armscor and Mr Wazan, the notice says. — Sapa.
top press commands
Fall in, get in step,
Parliamentary committee forces the military leaders to act in the open
AFRIKANER: A helicopter lowers a tracked front-end loader on to Chiton

Which is expected to cost nearly R20 million and dispose of part of the oil spill. Aided by a new device to be

disruption, it was discovered yesterday that the pollution had spread to
to the north of the area where the oil spill was first detected. At least

five people have been injured in the area around Chiton. The pollution was first detected on

Monday, with reports suggesting that the oil might have originated from a former oil refinery in the area. Theref

is concern that the pollution could spread further if not contained. There are currently no plans to evacuate

residents from the affected area.

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FLOODED: The area around Chiton has been declared a disaster area due to heavy rain in the region. Residents have been

 advised to stay indoors and keep away from flooded areas. Emergency services are on standby to assist

with rescue operations.

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WEATHER: The weather is expected to remain unchanged for the next few days, with rain predicted in the

area around Chiton. Residents are advised to stay vigilant and avoid flooded areas.

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ECOLOGY: The pollution has affected a variety of wildlife in the area, including fish and birds. Local

environmental groups are calling for action to prevent similar incidents in the future.

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PUBLIC HEALTH: There is no immediate threat to public health, but residents are advised to stay indoors and

avoid contact with the oil. Medical services are on standby to assist with any incidents.

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TRANSPORT: Roads in the area around Chiton have been closed due to flooding. Residents are advised to avoid

these areas and use alternative routes. Public transport is suspended until further notice.

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SUSTAINABILITY: The incident highlights the need for better environmental practices and stricter regulations

on oil spills. Local and national governments are urged to take immediate action to prevent similar incidents in the future.
MK ‘deserters’ holding SA to ransom

DAVID BREIER
Weekend Argus Political Staff

THE harsh truth behind the "mutiny" of former guerrillas in SA National Defence Force camps is that many have become superfluous and have few long-term prospects in the SANDF.

This is the view of military experts in light of on-going discipline among thousands of former members of the African National Congress’ armed wing, Umkhonto we-Sizwe (MK) who regularly go AWOL — except on payday — in a replay of the debacle that hit the National Peacekeeping Force earlier this year.

This week, President Nelson Mandela warned mutinous troops the government would enforce discipline if they continued to defy authorities.

Analysts attribute this to anger and frustration among lower-echelon MK members who had been led by the ANC to believe they would receive high SANDF ranks.

They believed they would be merged as equal partners with the former SA Defence Force. But, lack of education and qualifications has left them languishing at the bottom of the pile.

Instead, they now see their former MK superiors sitting pretty in top government and SANDF positions — such as SANDF chief-of-staff Siphiwe Nyanda, Minister of Defence Joe Modise and his deputy Ronnie Kasrils. Some of the MK cream also have been snapped up by the private sector in affirmative-action appointments.

MK “deserters” face an uncertain future in the SANDF as many are over-age and under-educated. But, they hold the country to ransom as they could turn to armed crime if they are not accommodated.

The fact of the matter is that you can take all sorts of people and make good soldiers of them provided they have good morale and agree with the training. But, if they are dissatisfied to start with, they can’t make good soldiers,” said Brigadier Sass.

He added there was a possibility that disgruntled former MK men could turn to crime. Although they had handed in their weapons, “in this country it is easy to get weapons” He predicted, however, that any attempt at insurrection would be put down quickly.

He said the issue was a political rather than a military problem as the former MK members were not the result of a recruiting campaign, but of a political decision to disarm them by bringing them under single military control.

“The SANDF would have preferred to wait until 1991, and recruit from matric who were young and able-bodied, and not middle-aged men of age without school qualifications with no rank or experience. This is not the sort of men they want.

But, warnings have now been issued that frustrated former MK members who have access to arms, could turn to banditry, crime — and even rebellion.

Laure Nathan, head of the Centre for Conflict Resolution, this week cautioned that former guerrillas who felt “betrayed”, could resort to banditry and the illegal arms trade unless they were retrained.

John Chipman, director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, warned of civil war unless South Africa effectively integrated the guerrilla armies.

Senior researcher of the Institute for Defence Policy Bill Sass said many former MK guerrillas were not really needed in the new SANDF as they had received little education and were no longer young.

He said that, ideally, the SANDF wanted to recruit from young matriculants who would leave school at the end of the year and who would be prepared to make a long-term career choice and fit into the SANDF. They could be selected on the basis of criteria such as age and health.

“The SANDF would have preferred to wait until 1991 and recruit from matric who were young and able-bodied and not middle-aged men of age without school qualifications with no rank or experience. This is not the sort of men they want.”

The government had to implement the proposed Service Brigade to demobilise the lower-rank MK echelons by training them for civilian life and giving them a start. But, the Service Brigade had not been set up yet, due to lack of funds.

“Without money, you can’t do these things,” he said.

In Mozambique, former soldiers had been helped to start farming and, in Namibia, demobbed soldiers had been taught civilian job skills in a development brigade.

Demobilised South African soldiers had been helped to reintegrate similarly into civilian life after World War 2. A similar effort was essential now for former guerrillas.

Brigadier Sass doubted the new ANC-led government foresaw a long-term role for the unruly SANDF, deserters. The ANC had learned the importance of a dependable defence force which provided security and logistics for the elections and had stabilised the situation in the bantustans and KwaZulu/Natal.

“Many of MK’s best-qualiﬁ ed people have gone either into politics or into the SANDF as a sort of a safety net,” he added.

“MK was a guerrilla army controlled by political commissioners. Now, they are to a certain extent, key leaders,” said Brigadier Sass.

He said many of the ANC rank-and-ﬁle came from the generation that were told there would be no education before liberation. They had been led to believe they would be automatically promoted in the new SANDF by virtue of the spending power of the ANC.

“Now, they are finding that education matters after all. They say the ANC promised them pensions and reimbursements for their years in exile. But, the ANC doesn’t have that sort of money to dish out to these people.”

When they do reach placement boards, they find senior members of MK sitting on them as generals, saying: “We take you as a private or corporal and their 20 years in MK don’t count as a qualiﬁ cation.”

Brigadier Sass said that with on-going defence cuts, the SANDF could not afford to retain these ex-guerrillas.

There were plans to cut the force from the current 120,000 to 90,000. The five percent transitional levy slapped onto taxpayers was meant as a temporary tax until the SANDF was rationalised.

Brigadier Sass said former members of the homeland armies fared better as they had been trained by the former SANDF.

He said it was normal for armies to grow or shrink as wars began or ended.
No military threat to SA

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA did not face any conventional military threat, but it had to be prepared for a regional defence role and for spillover effects from regional conflicts, SA National Defence Force (SANDF) strategists warned yesterday.

The SANDF would also have to support the police and provide protection against threats from the "radical left" and "reactionary right", they told Parliament’s Joint Portfolio Committee on Defence.

The senior officers also outlined plans to restructure the SANDF with less staff.

Although they welcomed civilian control of the SANDF, Brigadier Marcus Oleschig, SANDF director of strategy, apologised for refusing to answer a question from ANC MP Ms Lindi Sisulu and for saying her question should be ignored.

Ms Sisulu had asked what the cost of military intelligence front companies had been and what financial benefits their closure held for the defence budget.

Committee chairperson Mr Tony Yengeni said committee members had expressed concern about Brigadier Oleschig’s response.

Brigadier Oleschig said the information would be supplied to Ms Sisulu.

The Director of Interpretation and Production at the Intelligence Division, Brigadier Melt van Niekerk, said South Africa had no aggressive intentions nor did it face a conventional threat, but there were conflicts in the region, such as in Angola, Mozambique and Lesotho, and major powers were becoming increasingly involved in these.

There was also increasing pressure on South Africa to join international peacekeeping forces.

South Africa would seek alliances in the regions and "our intelligence is that all countries in the region were looking to us for military protection in the future".

"It is imperative for South Africa to maintain a credible deterrent capability."

Brigadier Van Niekerk said South Africa had to be prepared for military opportunism inside and outside Africa, arms smuggling and the actions of the radical left and reactionary right, which he explained as being those people who were still prepared to use violence against the government.
Superfluous sol
UMKHONTO we Sizwe ‘deserters’ face an uncertain future in the SANDF: many are over-age and under-educated. They hold the country to ransom as they could turn to armed crime if they are not accommodated.

DAVID BREIER reports.

The harsh truth behind the mutiny of former guerrillas in South African National Defence Force camps is that many have become superfluous and have few long-term prospects in the force.

This is the view of military experts in the light of continuing discipline among thousands of former members of the ANC armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), who are regularly absent without leave — except on paydays — in a replay of the debacle that hit the National Peacekeeping Force earlier this year.

Languishing

Analysts attribute this to anger and frustration among lower-rank MK members who had been led by the ANC to believe they would receive high ranks in the SANDF on the strength of their years in the "bush.

They believed they would be merged as equal partners with the former SA Defence Force. But the lack of education and qualifications among cadres has left them languishing at the bottom of the pile.

They now see their former MK superiors — such as SANDF chief of staff Siphiwe Nyanda, and Minister of Defence Joe Modise and his deputy Ronnie Kasrils — sitting pretty in top government and SANDF positions. Other top MK members have been snapped up by the private sector in affirmative action appointments.

Warned

Frustrated former MK members who have access to arms could turn to banditry, crime — and even rebellion.

Laourse Nathan, head of the Centre for Conflict Resolution, cautioned this week that former guerillas who felt betrayed could resort to banditry and arms-trading if they were not integrated.

If integration did not happen, there would be civil war, warned John Chipman, director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

Institute for Defence Policy senior researcher Bill Sass said many former MK guerillas were not really needed in the new SANDF as they had received little education and were no longer young.

The SANDF wanted to recruit young matric pupils who would leave school at the end of the year, would be prepared to make a long-term career choice and would fit into the SANDF. They could be selected on the basis of criteria such as age and health.

"The SANDF would have preferred to wait until January and recruit from matrics who are young and able-bodied, not middle-aged men of 35 without school qualifications, and with no rank or experience. These are not the sort of men they want."

Disarm

"The fact of the matter is that you can take all sorts of people and make good soldiers of them if they have good morale and agree with the training. But if they are dissatisfied to start off with, they can’t make good soldiers," Sass said.

There was a possibility that disgruntled former MK men could turn to crime. Although they had handed in their weapons, "in this country it is easy to get weapons". But he predicted that any attempt at insurrection would quickly be put down.

Sass said the issue was political rather than a military problem. The former MK members were there, not because of a recruiting campaign, but a political decision to disarm them by bringing them under command control. "We don’t need 40 000 additional soldiers," he added.

The solution had to be a political one, part of a well-planned national security policy.

The Government had to set up a proposed service brigade and demobilise the lower MK cadres, training them for civilian life. However, the service brigade had not yet been set up because of a lack of funds.
IFP 'ready to join army'

Thousands of Inkatha Freedom Party warriors, illegally given training in KwaZulu in the run-up to the elections want to be integrated into the SANDF alongside their former MK enemies and Apla cadres.

IFP senator Philip Powell said negotiations to pave the way into the defence force for 6,000 members of self-protection units were well advanced.

An SANDF spokesman confirmed discussions with Defence Minister Joe Modise were continuing.

Senator Powell said meetings between Mr Modise and IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi had been "promising".

The latest had been held three weeks ago and Senator Powell said he expected an answer from Mr Modise this week.

"We firmly believe that if our participation in the government of national unity is to be serious, we need to bring our para-military forces into the legitimate structures of the state," said Senator Powell. "We are impressed with Mr Modise and his commitment to building a defence force which cuts across party lines."

SANDF sources said the integration of non-statutory armed forces, in addition to the 22,000 ex-MK cadres and 6,000 Apla members, had been the subject of broad planning since before the elections.

The estimated R200-million cost of integrating another 6,000 troops would have to be balanced against potential political benefits, sources said.

IFP forces were not included in the integration plans after the party rejected participation in the National Peace-Keeping Force and would not recognise Transitional Executive Council authority.

The return of MK and Apla cadres who have been absent without leave for more than a week has slowed to a trickle.

Despite an appeal from President Nelson Mandela for the former guerrillas to return and accept military discipline, army figures show 5,183 of the total 9,500 are still absent.

At Walmannstal only 3,209 out of 7,500 had returned, at Hoedspruit only 50 out of 785 were on the base. However, at De Brug, where there were 1,209 cadres, mostly from Apla, only 108 were absent.

It is thought the bulk of the Walmannstal rebels will return by Thursday, when Mr Mandela is to address them.
Defence force secrets told

Top brass testify to committee

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

SECRET of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) were revealed for the first time at the weekend when senior army officers testified before a parliamentary committee.

These included details about buying weapons, training colleges and bases.

They also disclosed the SANDF had estimated the cost of integrating the former SADF, uMkhonto weSizwe (MK), Apla and the former homeland armies into the SANDF would be R6,8 billion over the next five years.

This figure was based on estimates of 30 000 to 34 000 MK members, 10 000 TBVC force members and 6 000 Apla members.

The officers gave evidence to

Parliament's Joint Portfolio Committee on Defence on Saturday.

Logistics chief Major-General Philip du Preez said the force had spent R4,8 billion of a planned R6,5bn on acquiring 36 Cheetah fighter aircraft.

Twenty-one had been delivered so far.

A further R1,5bn had been spent on the 148 Rooket armoured cars delivered so far.

The total order is R2,9bn for 242.

Other equipment bought so far included:

- R1,9bn of R2,3bn spent on Oryx medium transport helicopters,
- R265 million of R1,7bn spent on short-range air-to-air missiles,
- R1,1bn of R1,7bn spent on medium-range air-to-air missiles,
- R1,1bn of R1,2bn spent on Rooivalk helicopters.

He said the SANDF had 8 349 Samil trucks, 2 112 Buffels, 470 Caspurs and 318 Mambas.

There were 22 "larger" training terrains, 162 shooting ranges and 104 training schools.

General Du Preez said to feed the SANDF - now 89 000-strong - but expected to rise to 125 000 with integration - it needed 6 000 cattle, 60 000 sheep, 1 300 tons of fish and chicken, 10tn loaves of bread, 58 000 10kg bags of potatoes, 68 000 10kg bags of mealie meal and 19,2m eggs a year.
Military objectors let off

Staff Reporter

An era came to an end at the weekend, when the last military conscientious objectors to perform alternative service had their terms dramatically slashed and they cleared out.

The move resolved one of the last outstanding conscription issues inherited from the old SADF, as the SA National Defence Force moves toward an anticipated all-volunteer system of recruitment.

Volunteers

Following talks recently between the Department of Manpower and the Ministry of Defence, the service periods of about 120 Citizen Force members still performing alternative service were last Friday reduced to one day — and they cleared out on Saturday.

Mr. Laurie Nathan, former national organiser of the now-disbanded End Conscription Campaign, said the new SANDF would most likely recruit only volunteers in future, but warned that the fight to conscientious objection had to be safeguarded.
Soldiers' return slows to a trickle

Political Staff

PRETORIA — More than 4,000 former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) soldiers have still not returned to the Wallmannsthal assembly point north of Pretoria — with only three days to go before President Mandela's visit to the base on Thursday.

In spite of the president's appeal for the troops to get back to duty and his stern warnings against ill-discipline, the number of returning soldiers has slowed down to a trickle.

Another 50 of the troops, absent without leave since October, arrived at the base over the weekend, but more than half of the 7,800 are still unaccounted for.

It appears that many of the missing troops are refusing to return until Mr. Mandela has addressed their grievances.

Minister of Defence Joe Modise — facing calls by the former MK guerrillas for his resignation — has moved to restore their confidence in the integration process.

He disclosed yesterday that a special mechanism to deal with the complaints would be set up.

Sources in the ministry said it was still unclear who would deal with the complaints and how long it would take to set up such a mechanism.

The SANDF has experienced difficulty in handling salary grievances and has handed them over to the ministry — which has, in turn, passed them on to the Public Service Commission.

One of the major complaints has been that all former MK members are automatically put on the lowest salary notch within each rank, earning up to R2,500 less than their SANDF counterparts of the same rank.

Mr. Modise also wants the integration process — already running more than a year behind schedule — to be streamlined.

There have been suggestions that the British Military Advisory and Training Team's mandate be extended to allow them to play a more direct role — but Mr. Modise has not commented on this.
25% of navy employees lost their jobs since 1990

By BARRY STREEK

THE number of people employed by the South African Navy had been slashed by 25% since 1990, it was revealed over the weekend.

The naval retrenchments cost R48.2 million between 1990 and 1992, the director of Programming and Budgeting at SA National Defence Force headquarters, Brigadier Pieter van der Merwe, said.

He was giving evidence to Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Defence.

The cut in navy staff was higher than in any other arm of the defence force.

The army had been reduced by 10.5%, the air force by 12.6%, the medical service by 8.3% and staff divisions by 0.9%.

Brig Van der Merwe said 8 685 members of the defence force had lost their jobs. This included 1 070 uniform members and 2 093 civilian members of the navy.

During the same period, 80 000 people in the defence industry — 50% of those employed — had lost their jobs.
Bill will aim to clip wings of revamped Military Intelligence

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The South African National Defence Force's Joint Military Command Council has issued instructions for the restructuring of Military Intelligence.

And the Cabinet is discussing MI's new mandate, which will be contained in draft legislation expected to be tabled in Parliament soon, Brigadier Melt van Niekerk told the parliamentary joint portfolio committee on defence at the weekend.

He told a briefing session on Saturday that details of MI's future role would be contained in the draft legislation.

Asked whether MI would operate inside the country, Van Niekerk said three specific situations for such a role would be spelled out in the draft Bill.

Firstly, should there be no possibility of the military being deployed in the country, MI would not need to gather information domestically.

However, should the possibility arise where the national defence force could be deployed internally in the future, Parliament would have to give MI permission to operate inside the country. Only under such conditions would MI have permission to collect information internally.

Speaking at the same briefing, Major-General Phillip du Preez said Armscor no longer had any front companies to procure weapons, but it still had marketing offices abroad.

Replying to a question on the need for Armscor, Du Preez said the arms procurement agency managed the SANDF's contracts, did technical quality assurances and acted as a marketing mechanism.

Explaining the point, Du Preez said weapons were purchased for "resistance movements", such as Unita, but after the former SADF cut ties with the Angolan rebel army, the weapons were "dead capital". Armscor was then asked to sell the weapons.
Former MK cadres in Durban protest

DURBAN — About 200 former members of uMkhonto weSizwe who yesterday occupied the ANC's offices here have agreed to return to the Wallmannastal military base near Pretoria today.

The agreement was reached after hours of talks with ANC provincial leaders.

A committee has been set up to consider their complaints about integration in the South African National Defence Force.

President Nelson Mandela is due to address disgruntled recruits at Wallmannastal on Thursday.

Hundreds of angry former MK soldiers earlier occupied the ANC's headquarters in protest against the slow integration process.

Police task teams and reaction units rushed to the offices and the area was quickly cordoned off.

According to ANC spokesman Mr Dumisani Makhaye the protesters were “frustrated by the slow pace of the process of integration.”

In Johannesburg former MK cadres yesterday gathered in front of the SABC offices to demand that their grievances be broadcast. A spokesman said they came from various bases — Own Correspondent, Sapa.
Deadline for MK

‘Govt will not be blackmailed’

The government yesterday issued an ultimatum to rebellious umkhonto weSizwe (MK) cadres — report to bases by tomorrow or face legal action.

This was the tough line taken yesterday by Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise — the former MK commander — and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

President Nelson Mandela is to meet with MK members tomorrow in a bid to defuse the crisis surrounding the integration of MK into the SA National Defence Force (SANDF).

"The government will not allow the constitution to be subverted — or held to blackmail," Mr Mbeki said in the Senate yesterday.

He said MK cadres involved in disputes with the SANDF would have to follow established procedures.

Mr Modise urged MK members on AWOL to return to their bases immediately.

He said their loyalty to the SANDF would be tested by their presence at Mr Mandela’s address at Wallmannstal.

Isolated threats to resort to arms by some of the 7000 MK soldiers who deserted Wallmannstal, near Pretoria, last month, have been seen as a threat to the stability of the government.

The deserters vowed not to return until their grievances were addressed.

They said they had been living in squalor for five months, pay was too low and the SANDF was "racist."

Mr Modise and Mr Mbeki’s statements indicate growing impatience in the government with the methods being employed by the dissident MK members — even though there is considerable sympathy within the ANC for their complaints.

But ANC MP Mr Tony Yengeni, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on defence, said yesterday the problems with integration had resulted from the hostile reception ex-guerrillas received at military bases.

DAN EPGON reports that about 120 MK cadres marched to Parliament yesterday, demanding transport to Wallmannstal for Mr Mandela’s meeting tomorrow.

They claimed the SANDF had reneged on a deal to ferry them back to Wallmannstal.

Following a day of negotiation, the Defence Ministry undertook to transport them to Wallmannstal in time for the meeting, but said the transportation costs would be deducted from their salaries.

A National Party Defence spokesman Mr Wynn Breedenbach said the government should give serious attention to the admission by "mutinous" MK soldiers that they had been equipped with weapons and ammunition when they entered the country.

This was flagrant violation of the ANC’s pre-election agreements, he said. — Political Staff, Sapa

ASSEMBLY POINT. About 120 dissatisfied MK soldiers assembled outside Parliament yesterday afternoon to demand a meeting with President Nelson Mandela after they were allegedly denied transport back to the Wallmannstal base by the SANDF yesterday morning.
Better monitoring of weapons exports sought

Cape Town - South Africa's arms export earnings exceeded R300 million in the 1993/94 financial year, Defence Minister Joe Modise said yesterday.

Denel's earnings made up R870 million of this, he said in an interpellation debate.

In addition, Denel had paid R64 million in corporate tax and declared dividends of R60 million to the State as sole shareholder.

The Government did not intend taking any action to end the export of defence equipment, but it did want to ensure that more adequate controls were set up.

The question had been raised whether South Africa should continue selling arms, and whether this did not violate national policy to promote peace at home and abroad.

Senator James Selby (DP) said the recent attempted export of about 8 500 AK-47s and 15 000 G-3s and ammunition had been a chaotic situation.

It pointed to a failure by the Minister to control Armscor's activities and, more seriously, to a lack of a coherent government policy on arms exports.

In the past, South African arms had been used by both sides in the Iran-Iraq conflict of the late 1980s, and reportedly landed up in Rwanda, Selby said.

Foreign policy would be gravely compromised unless policy and adequate controls were set up for exports.

Senator Gerhard Koornhof (NP) said the Government should facilitate arms sales because they earned foreign exchange and created job opportunities. — Sapa.
Regional security plan

SOUTHERN AFRICAN nations should negotiate a common regional security system to ensure they do not pose a threat to one another, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said. 

The question of any uneasiness there might be among South Africa's neighbours about a threat from the Republic could partly be addressed by such an arrangement, he said in an interview in the latest issue of the government publication RSA Review.

Such a system would not be solely military, but would also relate to economic co-operation. — Sapa
Denel test scares fishermen

By EUNICE RIDER

A Trawler crew got the fright of their lives when a missile fired from Denel's Overberg test range suddenly exploded about 2km away from their boat off Arniston, causing a massive splash.

Mr James Muirz, skipper of the eight-metre Ou Grote, and crewman Mr Timmy Mathinus said they were fishing off Skipskop with about eight crew on Tuesday when the explosion occurred.

"We were about three miles outside the area prohibited to vessels during testing, when the explosion suddenly rocked the sea," said Mr Mathinus.

"The explosion was about 2km away and sent huge plumes of water into the sky. We got the fright of our lives."

Mr Mathinus said they contacted the Arniston harbour master to complain.

Harbour master Mr Robbie Hogg said he had immediately called the testing range to warn them.

Denel spokesman Mr Paul Holtzhausen confirmed long-distance projectiles were tested in land-to-sea exercises on Tuesday. However, he insisted the fishermen were in no danger as the projectiles fired were "inert and not explosive". The fishermen must have seen a piece of metal which fell off a projectile.

Mr Holtzhausen said Denel would investigate why test warnings failed to reach the fishermen.

He said would try to rectify the situation in future if Denel was responsible for the breakdown in communications.
Former MK pilots receive their rank

Four former MK pilots were among the first to receive their commissions in the SA Air Force, in a ceremony at Air Force Base Ysterplaat yesterday afternoon.

Major Zakes Msimang, 34, Captain Oscar Mkhize, 29, Lieutenant Blessing Musarurwa, 27 and Lieutenant Joel Mazibinda were presented with their rank by Colonel Faan de Villiers, head of training at Ysterplaat.

Col de Villiers said this was the first visible sign of the integration process coming to reality.

"We can look on this occasion as the birthing of the new South African Air Force within the SANDF."

"For the Ugandan and Soviet trained pilots it was an emotional event. "We never thought the day would come," said Major Msimang.


The officers said the integration process was making progress and that they did feel part of the country's new defence force.

"If you are a soldier your main function is the defence of your country. The government of the day is the one we serve," Major Msimang said.

The four men are the first of six former MK pilots who will receive training at Ysterplaat.
Integration crisis: Mandela visits troops

The Argus Correspondent and Political Staff

PRETORIA — President Mandela visited the Wallmannshal assembly area outside Pretoria today in what is seen as a crucial turning point in the integration crisis.

Mr. Mandela spent most of the morning being briefed by the joint commanders of the integration on the changes made to streamline the process and on other efforts to address the grievances of the thousands of MK members based at Wallmannshal.

He was scheduled to meet MK veterans and then to meet the MK troops.

Media coverage of Mr. Mandela's visit was not allowed at the request of his office.

In parliament yesterday, Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils said the integration crisis would have to be handled with tact.

He was speaking in an interpollation debate requested by National Party defence spokesman Wynand Breytenbach.

Mr. Kasrils warned that discipline would prevail in the future defence force. Once members were integrated, those who violated the disciplinary code would pay the penalty.

Mr. Breytenbach said the whole country had been shocked by the "antics" of thousands of MK members during the protests about the integration process.
Soldiers Return

5000 out of 7000 already back

Picture: AMERICAN MAGAZINE

Issued to 1500 MK members yesterday.

All smiling, wearing the new boots, part of the SANDLI uniforms.

"It was a fun day," reported MK volunteer JaneSmith.

"We all had a great time," she added.

The boots come with a one-year warranty and are made of high-quality leather.

MK members were pleased with the new uniform, which they said made them feel more comfortable and confident.

"I feel like a professional," said MK member John Doe.

MK members are excited to return to their base to hear President Mandela's speech.
Armscor in bid to settle US charges

WASHINGTON — An Armscor team has arrived here in a determined bid to settle three-year-old arms smuggling charges that continue to bedevil relations between the US and South Africa.

The team intends to stay here until the case — which is preventing South Africa from purchasing US military equipment and hampering Denel’s bid to supply the Rooivalk helicopter to the British army — is resolved, officials said.

The charges stem from a probe into Pennsylvania businessman Mr James Guerin and his company, International Signal and Control, whose value he was convicted of fraudulently inflating when he sold it to British defence contractor Ferranti.

The inquiry turned up evidence of a massive conspiracy between Armscor and ISC to obtain missile guidance systems and other technology for the SA arms industry and to market SA weapons to countries like Iraq. Indictments were handed down by a Philadelphia grand jury in 1991.

President Mandela placed such importance on resolving the issue it was one of the first items he raised in his meetings with President Bill Clinton earlier this month. He said 8,500 jobs were at stake in the Rooivalk deal alone.
Umkhonto: Toyi-toyiing their way to trouble

Wismeun Khuzwayo

A smattering of former members of Umkhonto weSizwe were returning to their military base in Walmaanstal, north of Pretoria, to listen to President Nelson Mandela addressing their grievances, some of the former guerrillas' behaviour was getting on the nerves of the officials of the Ministry of Defence and those of the MK command.

By Wednesday, some of the demands made by a number of the former MK members were verging on the ridiculous.

In the Western Cape, a co-ordinating committee claiming to be representing about 200 former MK soldiers, said they would only return to Walmaanstal if transport was provided for them. The Ministry of Defence agreed to do this provided the troops paid for the transport out of their pockets.

Major Muff Anderson, representative for the ministry, said the former guerrillas wanted to be bussed to their base on Tuesday night, the same day as they had made their demand. The reason, they said, was they wanted to have a long enough rest before they assembled to hear Mandela.

It was pointed out to them that that did not give enough time to the ministry officials to organise the buses. The troops were, however, told that four buses would leave at nine on Wednesday morning to take them to Walmaanstal.

But on Wednesday morning, only 22 people turned up to board the four buses that had been hired. A spokesman for the rest turned up later to say that most of his comrades had missed the buses because of a taxi strike in Cape Town.

She wanted transport to be hired again for the late arrivals, and was given a thumbs down by the ministry officials who had worked into the night organising the original transport.

About 45 of the late arrivals were eventually able to get lifts from army trucks.

It turned out later that the woman was not even based in Walmaanstal or any other military base. Subsequent checks by the regional command of MK in the Western Cape also established that a number of those on the committee also had nothing to do with the defence force.

A member of the regional command said some people had hijacked the grievances of former MK soldiers for their own agenda. Most of the people on the co-ordinating committee were students at the universities of Cape Town and Western Cape.

They had long ceased to be members of MK but were now using the grievances against the military establishment to get it to support them financially at the institutions.

He said the group had tried to canvass for support at the recent regional conference of the ANC and had failed to get any support.

“What they are really after is to replace and restructure the regional command and the national command at Shell House,” he said.

In Durban, on Monday, about 150 former members of MK toyi-toyiing outside the ANC office. They wanted to be addressed by Mandela despite the fact that he had already announced that he would address the former guerrillas at Walmaanstal.

They also demanded that they be deployed in bases around Durban, instead of Walmaanstal, presumably to be nearer their homes.
Poor response cause for concern

Offenders who failed to take advantage of illegal firearms amnesty will be dealt with severely.
SANDF banned from spying in SA

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

The government has spiked the guns of South Africa's secretive military intelligence and banned it from spying inside the country CT22/0/94.

"The South African National Defence Force will not have a covert collection capacity internally."

President Nelson Mandela's legal adviser, Professor Frans Haysom, said yesterday.

The SANDF would, however, retain its line function need for military intelligence.

The ban on it being involved in internal covert collection will severely restrict its operations.

However, last weekend, Brigadier Melt van Niekerk, Director of Interpretation and Production at Military Intelligence, told Parliament's Joint Committee on Defence that Military Intelligence could be involved in internal covert activities, particularly when it was directly involved in activities such as supporting the police.
Poor communication 'root of SANDF crisis'

From LINDA ENSOR

LONDON — Poor communication between the upper echelons of the SA National Defence Force and incoming recruits is mainly to blame for the widespread dissatisfaction within the army over the integration process, a British military expert believes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sandy McCormack, the desk officer responsible for the British Military Advisory and Training Team's (BMATT) activities in SA, said in an interview that the people on the ground needed to know what was happening and why.

They also needed to be made aware that they were joining a conventional military force and would have to accommodate themselves to all the constraints that that implied.

While there was a high level of trust and understanding at the upper ranks of the different armies, this was not the case at the lower levels.

Delays in the integration process had meant that larger numbers of BMATT staff would have to stay longer in SA than initially anticipated. The team was deployed at the end of June with the task of validating standards, in accordance with international norms, monitoring bridging programmes and adjudicating disputes.
Women now equal to men in SANDF

PRETORIA – Women in the SA National Defence Force would be trained and employed on the same basis as their male counterparts with immediate effect, SANDF chief Gen George Meiring has announced.

The move followed an instruction by the Defence Command Council after an investigation into the guidelines for employment of women in the SANDF.

But to ensure optimal employment of men and women in the SANDF the principle of “beneficial discrimination” between male and female was permitted and fully supported by the law.

This included examples such as “women may only be searched by women” and “separate ablution facilities for women”, Meiring said.

To give effect to the decision, the Arms of Service and the Intelligence Division would ensure that the following guidelines be implemented:

☐ Standards in respect of training and employment of all SANDF members would be maintained.

☐ The requirements for each job would apply equally to any member of the SANDF.

☐ Training and employment would be cost-effective, safe and executed in a fair and disciplined manner without lowering the required standard.

The SANDF’s combat ability and the operational preparedness would be maintained at all times, Meiring said.

In future, “taking improper advantage of an individual’s sex is not permitted”.

Although the principle of equal opportunities was accepted, Meiring said, the application of training methods would at all times be gender sensitive.

“Change and steps to rectify any imbalance must be taken progressively — a step at a time and should not be a forced issue,” he added.

The inspector-general would monitor the implementation of the guidelines to ensure proper and fair employment of women in the SANDF.

Progress reports would be presented to the Defence Command Council.

Wits negotiations fall apart as administration withdraws

NEGOTIATIONS on the “transformation” of Wits University collapsed on Friday when the administration announced it was withdrawing from the forum because of the conduct of SA Student’s Congress (Sasco) and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers’ Union (Nehawu).

Vice-chancellor Robert Charlton said the recent conduct of the two organisations, with which the administration had been negotiating, had forced the university to suspend its participation.

He said he was outraged by the behaviour of Nehawu and Sasco members who had hosted hostage two members of staff.

“The university has always placed the highest value possible on personal freedom, which it regards as indispensable to academic freedom.”

Two of the university’s representatives in the negotiations — professors

June Sinclair and Carole Lewus — were, as candidates for appointment to the Constitutional Court, subjected by Sasco and Nehawu to a campaign of personal vilification.

The attacks on them were dishonest, defamatory and venomous, Charlton said.

Good faith negotiations were not compatible with witch hunts and hostage taking.

Police were at the university on Friday, but all was quiet except for about 20 students who stayed around the campus.

Student representative council member Ebrahim Hassan said the SRC was willing to continue negotiations, but was concerned that the administration called in police while the SRC was trying to broker a solution between parties.
Denel to end space race work

WILLEM STEENKAMP
Staff Reporter

IN a major blow for the local space industry Denel has announced it is to close its space industry activities at Howtew in the Western Cape.

Scientists at Howtew had successfully developed a low-orbiting satellite seen by experts as a world leader in its field, but because Denel has been unable to find international partners to help fund the project, the company has been forced to drop its space programme.

Following earlier redundancies another 178 people will now lose their jobs.

But, Denel chairman John Maree said some of these will be employed in other positions.

Denel has established an after-care centre in Somerset West to help people who have lost their jobs.

About two years ago South Africa stunned the world when it first disclosed its advanced space capabilities.

The company had successfully launched several rockets into space and was well advanced in developing its own state-of-the-art low-orbiting satellite.

The expensive rocket programme was shelved because of pressure from the US and also because cheaper launch vehicles were available.

But Denel continued its satellite programme which was in some instances more advanced than overseas products.

The company had hoped to make available its Overberg launch facilities to international consortiums and to market its satellites worldwide.

If successful, hundreds of jobs would have been created in the region with obvious financial spin-offs.
3'000 ex-MK cadres still absent from camp near Pretoria

Political Staff

PRETORIA — About 3,000 former Umkhonto we Sizwe members are still absent without leave from the Wallmannsthal assembly point.

But a large group of former MK cadres will gather tomorrow at Natal Command in Durban to be transported back to the base.

President Mandela warned last week that those who did not return by Friday morning would be removed from the integration process. He also gave the assurance that the soldiers' grievances would be investigated.

The dissenting soldiers had complained of racism, poor pay and a slow integration process in the new army.

An ex-MK commander said some soldiers from southern KwaZulu-Natal had already returned to Wallmannsthal while others who showed up at Natal Command would be transported tomorrow.

He said he had been trying desperately to inform all absent soldiers that transport had been arranged.

It still appears that many of the new national defence force troops do not believe their grievances have been adequately addressed — and there are indications that the integration process is not back on track yet.

Yesterday, a large group of the missing ex-MK soldiers marched on Natal Command army headquarters and handed a memorandum listing their complaints to senior officers.

The protest was incident-free, according to a Natal SANDF spokesman.

The contents of the memorandum were not disclosed, but it is believed that it dealt with complaints about racism on the part of white officers, poor living conditions at the assembly points and the allowances paid to the new SANDF members.

The letter was forwarded to army headquarters in Pretoria.

After his visit last week, President Mandela said many of the grievances he had heard were reasonable, but he also slated ill-discipline and issued dissenting troops with a seven-day deadline.
Denel plans to double profits

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.
— South Africa's R3 billion state-owned arms industry planned to double its profits to R500 million in three years as part of its contribution to the Reconstruction and Development Programme, the Select Committee on Public Enterprises heard yesterday. CT 25/10/94

Denel managing director Mr Johan Alberts said the corporation's 10-point RDP plan included doubling earnings to R130bn and the sale of commercial products to R75bn.

Denel had not been involved with the recent attempted sale of AK-47 rifles to Yemen by Armscor. Nor did Denel trade with countries subject to United Nations embargoes. — Sapa 25/10/94
'Military hospitals will cost R181,1m'

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA's three military hospitals, which had occupancy rates of between 44 and 53%, would cost R181,1 million during the current financial year, the Minister of Defence, Mr Joe Modise said yesterday.

But he added that the number of potential patients presently in the defence force was about 184,000 men, women and children.

"The expected potential patients after the integration of MK, the TBVC Defence Forces and Apia will be about 320,000. The bed-occupancy rate is expected to rise to 90%," Mr Modise said.

The costs of 1, 2 and 3 Military Hospitals were expected to be R108,3m, R80,1m and R22,7m respectively.
Gun amnesty statistics

By Themba Sepotekele

The South African Police Services yesterday released the final national statistics of weapons and ammunition handed in before the indemnity expired at midnight last Friday.

According to police liaison officer Colonel Ruben Bloomner, the total number of weapons and ammunition surrendered to the police was 10,100.

The arms and ammunition handed in came from nine provinces, with the PWV topping the list with a total of 3,486.

Police received 84 AK-47 rifles, 31 revolvers, 57 rifles, 76 pistols, 638 guns of various calibres, 140 explosives including 40mm mortars, stun grenades, mortar launchers, propellant launchers and tearsmoke, among others.

Bloomner said other weapons and ammunition were handed in after the indemnity had expired. They were brought in on Saturday by members of self-defence and self-protection units on the East Rand.

He said people still in possession of illegal arms and ammunition will have to face the legal consequences if caught. He appealed to them to contact Crime Stop on 0800 11 12 13.
Honesty at last

The embarrassing disparity in strengths among SA’s former enemies could find no more vivid illustration than the military integration base at Wallmanstal north of Pretoria. Vast parks of Defence Force hardware — trucks, armoured cars, troop carriers, battle tanks and artillery of all shapes and calibres, with their attendant workshops — beset the verdant Jurassic inquisitors overlooking the khaki-tented camp where several thousand ex-Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) soldiers have been billeted for the past seven months.

The evidence of scale, as much as anything, that the rebellious soldiers have said and done during their mutiny this month, explodes the big lie fostered by Defence Minister Joe Modise and other ANC or ex-MK leaders that their force was being integrated as an equal partner into the new National Defence Force. “It is not integration so much as the absorption of MK and other groups into the SANDF,” admitted President Nelson Mandela with refreshing honesty on the eve of his visit to the base two weeks ago.

He was the first ANC figure with the guts to speak the truth, though belatedly. But the MK troops themselves had been painfully aware of it for months. It has been one of their most persistent grievances since the merger began in March that they are not treated on a par with Defence Force soldiers or the former TBVC homeland forces. All of which is true. Their widely divergent and irregular guerrilla backgrounds necessitate careful evaluation before they can be placed in a conventional army.

But truth, coupled with betrayal, quickly breeds bitterness. There can be no doubt that in this sense the MK cadres were betrayed, and they know it. That is why they have been demanding the sacking of Modise and former MK commander Siphiwe Nyanda, now Chief of Staff-designate of the SANDF. Some Defence Force officers believe many of the troops’ complaints over pay, rations, living conditions and retraining could have been settled, or lessened, had MK maintained an effective command and control system. The fact is, though, that MK itself has collapsed as a force, and its rank and file are now mostly no more than refugees.

The command and control problem at Wallmanstal has been exacerbated by the fact that MK insisted from the start on staying, eating and dressing apart from the main base, and operating under its own command. The MK officers’ corps, meanwhile, fraught with hierarchical and tribal divisions, remains aloof from the troops.

But the MK betrayal goes somewhat deeper than simply keeping troops in the dark. On a recent visit to the base, the FM heard several soldiers complain that they were being denied demobilisation packages promised by their commanders when they were still in exile. One young MK lieutenant, resplendent in leafy camouflage fatigues, said that before leaving Tanzania he and other members of his unit were told that they would receive settlements of “R40 000 to R52 000 and a house” when they returned to SA.

“I don’t believe they lied to us,” said the officer, who would give his name only as Steven. “They thought the country would be led by only one party — ours.” He refused to name the commanders concerned but said that he still hoped for a financial settlement as he intended leaving the army once the integration was over.

Defence Force officers involved in the integration believe that at least a third of the 23 000 listed MK soldiers will drop out over the next few years — either because they are sick of military life or never were fully fledged soldiers but simply drafted on to the list from township self-defence units to boost the MK complement.

Mandela’s address to the troops last week, in which he promised to attend to their legitimate grievances but warned all absent troops to return to camp in seven days (the deadline was yesterday) or face summary dismissal from the service, seems to have settled the mutiny, at least for now.

There are still another four intakes of MK scheduled for Wallmanstal over the next two years (as well as three intakes of Apal at Bleemfontein’s De Brug), with bridging training programmes set to last until at least January 1997.

But there is cause for hope that there will be no reprise of recent undisciplined behaviour, at least not on such a scale.

While the former guerrillas were protesting in the streets of Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban this month, the joint military command was busy with steps to speed up the saul’s pace integration process and install a new structure of command and control at bases like Wallmanstal.

For the first time, recruits have been issued with army brown uniforms and where they were previously under exclusive command of their own officers, they have now been placed under joint SANDF/MK command, right down to battalion and company level.

At the same time the caterers have drawn up a more “ethnic” menu (including, for example, tripe and onions) which they hope, with some scepticism, will find broader appeal among the troops.

Initial reports have been good though Defence Force spokesmen say there are still some grumbles over pay and severance packages.
SANDF
union
at war

OWN CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR' TENSIONS are mounting as the SA National Defence Force and the SA National Defence Union continue to march out of step.

At the centre of the battle is the SANDF's refusal to recognise the union and threats to prosecute staff who sign up.

Now a war of words has broken out over an internal communication bulletin distributed by the SANDF in which it outlines why it will not recognise or support the union.

In the bulletin the SANDF says it has sufficient channels through which SANDF members can address their grievances, while adding it is an internationally accepted practice for defence forces not to accept trade unions or organisations. The SANDF also says the union could pose a threat to the military establishment.

Contrast

In direct contrast, the SANDU says it could in fact improve the efficiency of the defence force by ensuring better channels, procedures and working conditions for members.

The SANDU called the present channels for addressing grievances ridiculous and said members were afraid to use them for fear of victimisation.

The union said it could overcome the situation by being a go-between.

SANDU spokesman Cor van Niekerk said the SANDF by threatening prosecution, was using strong-arm tactics to bully soldiers into not joining the union. However, "it's just a matter of time before this SANDF top structure sees that it has to recognise us and allow its staff to sign up".
Ex-MK men desert base after pay

JOHANNESBURG — About 3,500 former members of MK left the Wallmannsdal military base outside Pretoria without official leave yesterday afternoon shortly after receiving their pay.

The ex-MK — among those awaiting integration into the South African National Defence Force — left on foot and in vehicles, ignoring a warning not to leave.

SANDF spokesman Colonel Connie van Rensburg said the MK members indicated they wanted to go shopping and deposit their money. He said soldiers used to be allowed a few days off after they were paid, but this was stopped to hasten the integration.

Sapa
Cream of ex-MK crop keep step as many desert

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA — As the army paraded the cream of the integration crop in front of the media, hundreds of former Umkhonto we Sizwe troops continued to stream out the Wallmannsthal base — many threatening never to return.

The heavily-guarded entrance to the assembly area outside Pretoria yesterday looked more like a taxi rank than a military base, with about 20 taxis waiting to transport the troops to destinations around the country.

“Are we leaving this bull army?” one man shouted over the shoulder of a camouflage-clad guard.

He, and many others, were wearing civilian clothes, but had their army uniforms in duffel bags slung over their shoulders.

“I’m not going to come back. I’ve had enough of this place. I’m not interested in joining this army,” said another before boarding a taxi.

But the scene inside the base was in complete contrast, with 400 neatly uniformed soldiers on parade, each responding with a sharp “Yes, sir!” when their name and number was called out.

The group was the first transfer of non-statutory forces from Wallmannsthal to army units for the start of bridging training, Wallmannsthal spokesman Connie van Rensburg said.

The troops — finally finishing with the administration process after six months — left yesterday for training units around the country.

Colonel Van Rensburg said it was hoped 2,000 troops would have left the assembly area by the end of the week. He said they would begin with bridging training, which could take anything from eight to 42 weeks, depending on the skills of the individual.

But he said the number of troops leaving to undergo bridging training was being severely hampered by the desertion of almost 50 percent of the camp on Monday.

About 350 troops disobeyed direct orders and walked out of the base after receiving their pay packets. Only 600 had arrived back by late yesterday.

Colonel Van Rensburg said prosecution of those who had returned for being absent without leave had already started. They have not, however, been placed under arrest.

The others face disciplinary action if and when they return.

Under military law, the troops face up to one year in prison for the offence.

But both acting President Thabo Mbeki and Defence Minister Joe Modise — who visited the base yesterday for the second consecutive day — have delayed a crackdown on the troops.

Neither had taken a decision on how to handle the crisis by late yesterday.

Mr Modise is scheduled to hold a press conference in Cape Town today to address what steps are to be taken.

But a senior army source said harsh disciplinary action against those who returned was unlikely.

Reacting to the stream of troops leaving base yesterday, Colonel Van Rensburg said they had been granted leave until 9pm yesterday to go shopping.

He said if those who left on Monday had remained in camp, they would also have been granted leave, instead of facing AWOL charges.

Reacting to the fact that many had taken their army uniforms with them when leaving, he said the troops were scared their “browns” would be stolen if they left them in camp.

They were allowed to take their browns with them out of camp like any other soldier in the National Defence Force.
French drive to renew SA defence contacts

FORMER French defence minister Mr Yvon Bourges arrived in South Africa yesterday for an eight-day visit that includes meetings with senior politicians, the French embassy said.

Mr Bourges, who is vice-president of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Armed Forces of the French senate, will hold talks with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Defence Minister Lt Gen Mosiuoa Lekota.

The talks are aimed at renewing contact with South African defence and foreign affairs officials, the embassy said. — Sapa-APP
ANC hits out at MK deserters

Political Correspondent

THE African National Congress has added its voice to the mounting criticism of the "sustained indiscipline" among some Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) soldiers who have gone absent without leave from their Wallmannstal base.

In a strongly worded statement, the party's national working committee said it considered this behaviour "totally unacceptable."

But it also urged the Ministry of Defence and the Defence Council "as a matter of urgency to solve all the problems that have led to the unstable situation."

The ANC said "Those who wilfully absent themselves from the South African National Defence Force without permission must bear the full consequences of their illegal action."

"The SANDF must take firm disciplinary action against all those who abandoned their units without authorisation and prefer charges against anybody who might have violated the military code."
PARLIAMENT — A parliamentary committee has painted a grim picture of discontent, appalling living conditions, poor communication and allegations of sexual harassment at the Wallmannstal military assembly area north of Pretoria.

The Joint Standing Committee on Defence, in a preliminary report discussed yesterday, proposes that its members, the Defence Ministry and SA National Defence Force take joint responsibility for resolving problems that have bedevilled military integration.

Presenting the committee's findings on its visit to Wallmannstal on October 21, committee chairman Mr Tony Yengeni said living conditions were appalling, food was poor and sexual harassment rife.

"Racial discrimination, particularly against women, must come to an abrupt end. Physical and sexual abuse of women in the camps should be stamped out."

There had been complaints that former SADF soldiers had pointed rifles at the (non-statutory) troops and beaten them up, said the report — Sapa.
Million dollar bounty for SA secret arms man

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A bounty of a million dollars (R3.49 million) has been placed on the head of one of the South African army dealers involved in the aborted Armscor sale of a shipment of AK-47s through Lebanese middlemen Eli Wazan earlier this year.

This has been alleged in the affidavit of a senior Armscor official which was presented yesterday to a preliminary hearing of the Cameron commission, appointed in October to investigate Armscor's weapons transactions since 1991, in particular, the Wazan deal.

The affidavit, the author of which may not be named pending the commission's decision on Monday on whether the inquiry should be held in camera, says some of the individuals involved in the Wazan transaction are now in danger.

"One party has been threatened and told there is $1 million on his head if he fails to sort out the problems with Armscor. He has made special plans to protect himself and his family."

The botched arms transaction involved the sale by Armscor of 34 containers of AK-47s and G3 rifles to Wazan for R2.4 million. The shipment almost reached Yemen before being turned back to Port Elizabeth harbour.
MPs back tough stand on Awol

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

The ANC's 311-member caucus yesterday endorsed the tough stand taken by Defence Minister Mr. Joe Modise and the ANC's national working committee on umkhonto weSizwe (MK) dissidents.

After receiving a briefing from the Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr. Ronnie Kasrils, on the situation at Wallmannstal base, the caucus agreed with the NWC that MK members absent without leave should "bear the full consequences of their illegal action".

Earlier, Mr. Modise warned that MK deserters who became armed renegades would face the full might of the state.

Should those excluded from the SA National Defence Force integration process as a result of their undisciplined attempt to stir up trouble, the might of state would be "mobilised" against them, the minister said.

The 5,004 troops who left the base without leave at the weekend have been given until midnight on Sunday to return or face expulsion from the SANDF.

Saps reports that former cadres of now disbanded political militias and former prisoners who are aged or disabled can claim from the R13.7 billion allocated in the 1994/95 Budget for the Department of Social Welfare, the department said in a statement yesterday.
Armscor seeks closed inquiry

JOHANNESBURG — Armscor yesterday asked that the Cameron commission of inquiry be held in camera, to save partners from embarrassment.

The commission's brief includes a controversial Middle East arms deal.

Armscor's representative at the commission, Mr. Stefan van Nieuwenhuizen, said supporters of the arms embargo against South Africa would be embarrassed if it became known they had done arms deals with South Africa.

He said the decision whether this information be disclosed should be taken by the government and not the commission — Sapa.
Tension between veterans and 'softy city slickers'

Deserters face deadline

Tension has developed in the desertion-plagued SANDF between veteran MK guerrillas and undisciplined young "city slickers" who joined MK recently.

DAVID BREIER
Weekend Argus Political Staff

MOST deserters from the SA National Defence Force are reported to be untrained "softies" who only recently joined African National Congress's armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

Former MK members say there has been serious tension between these chronically undisciplined newcomers and MK veterans trained in exile who are relatively disciplined.

Top former MK sources now in government insist that MK exile veterans are not responsible for mass desertions.

Defence Minister Joe Modise has given more than 5 600 AWOL ex-MK members until midnight tomorrow to return to their Wallmannstein base where they are supposed to be undergoing integration into the SA National Defence Force. Those who fail to report face dismissal.

The desertions by MK newcomers have been a sore point among MK veterans trained in exile who had not deserted, the sources disclosed.

They said there was a "lot of tension" between returned MK exiles and raw recruits who had recently joined MK from township self-defence units (SDUs).

There is said to be contempt among bush-trained MK veterans for "upstart city slicker softies" who only recently joined MK—such as one soldier who confessed on TV1's Agenda to disliking sleeping in a tent because he was afraid of snakes. The soldiers sleep on beds in large, barrack-like tents.

MK exile veterans used to eat snakes in Angola and regarded them as a protein supplement. Any former MK member confessing to fear of snakes is regarded as being a softy and beyond the pale.

SANDF chief director of communications Gert Opperman says soldiers and tents are "synonymous."

Jakie Cilliers, head of the Institute for Defence Policy, said MK's numbers had "swelled dramatically" in the past few years from among the ranks of township "city slickers."

He said they had very little military training or experience, leading to differences with MK veterans trained in exile.

Dr Cilliers said these "city slickers" now in the SANDF had the same culture of entitlement as township residents who demanded four-bedroomed houses rather than self-help site-and-service schemes.

"They have massive expectations," he said.

He said many of these MK members had expected to be treated as "conquering heroes." but instead of being seen as victors, they were part of a negotiated settlement.

With many of the former MK leadership now in top SANDF positions, there was a leader-

ship vacuum among these former MK cadres, he said.

Defence ministry spokes-woman Muff Alien, herself a trained former MK member, said MK members trained in exile had been through "very gruelling conditions" and had often been subjected to food shortages.

In Angola they had eaten snakes to supplement their diet while in the forests of Tanzania had learnt to co-exist with snakes.

She said fear of snakes was clearly a "city kind of response" and was not typical of former MK exiles.

The government, meanwhile, is finalising plans for its proposed service brigade to provide training and employment for members of the "lost generation" and SANDF trainees who did not make the grade.

While this could give a second chance to deserters, analysts believe they may be even less likely to accept the spartan conditions of a service brigade.

Government sources warned that the deserters could turn to crime.
Deserters embark on crime spree

VENILLA YOGANATHAN
and DAVID BREIER
Weekend Argus Political Staff

RENEGADE Umkhotso we Sizwe members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) are running amok perpetrating crime in Natal and the Transvaal.

Police are aware of more cases elsewhere in South Africa.

In Durban, police are investigating a charge by a taxi driver who was allegedly assaulted and robbed on Monday night by four SANDF soldiers.

Earlier that day an estimated 1 500 soldiers were reported to have arrived in Durban by train after going AWOL.

A Press release issued by defence minister Joe Modise confirmed that a total of 5 612 soldiers were absent from the Wallmannstal camp near Pretoria.

Only 518 of them had permission to be away.

The deserters are believed to be former self-defence unit (SDU) members who only recently joined MK, according to Jackie Cuillers of the Institute for Defence Policy.

They are upstart city slickers who have very little military training or experience, which leads to differences with MK veterans trained in exile," he said.

Yesterday Colonel Ray Harrold of police headquarters in Pretoria said three SANDF members were arrested for robbery and assault in Pietersburg on Thursday.

"We are aware of instances elsewhere in the country where SANDF soldiers who have deserted from their camps have been involved in criminal activities, mainly robbery," said Col Harrold.

A Durban taxi driver, Richard Dlamini, was approached outside the main Umgeni Road station by four SANDF soldiers who showed him their Umkhotso we Sizwe identity cards.

"They wanted to go to C-section in KwaMashu and, because they were soldiers, I agreed even though I was waiting for other people.

"They told me they had left Wallmannstal because of the bad conditions there," Mr Dlamini said.

When they arrived in KwaMashu, the soldiers refused to pay their fare, he said.

Disgruntled former Umkhotso we Sizwe soldiers who are absent without leave from the army are turning to crime, police say.

They grabbed me from the back and dug into my eyes and then demanded I hand over my gun and the money I had."

Defence ministry spokesperson Margaret Nheadling said her department was concerned about the incidents.

"Such action is rejected by the ministry of defence and the strongest action will be taken against the alleged offenders."

"The offences also fall within the ambit of the police services and the law must prevail," she said.

SANDF media officer Merle Meyer said some renegade soldiers had since returned to the camp, but the rest had held until Sunday midnight to do so or face expulsion.

Last month thousands of soldiers deserted SANDF camps and were given until October 27 to return.

Major Meyer said the names of the 278 soldiers who had not returned by then were submitted to Mr Modise who dismissed them.

"These people had until November 3 to appeal their dismissals. Those who did not are no longer part of the SANDF."

See Page 13.
Mandela threatens deserters

JOHANNESBURG — Former uMkhonto weSizwe soldiers who did not return to base by midnight last night will face President Nelson Mandela's anger.

Speaking at the PWV ANC's fifth provincial conference, Mr Mandela said: "We cannot command an army of criminals, of bandits. People who go away from their base and defy an order from a commanding officer are not soldiers."

Last night hundreds of former MK members were returning to the Wallmannsthal base following the ultimatum.

Colonel Connie van Rensburg said a roll-call would be taken late last night.

Mr Mandela said he was determined to bring order to the defence force and MK.

The strongest disciplinary action would be taken against MK cadres who did not return to base by last night. Those who did return would also be disciplined: "They must know that my patience has been exhausted, and I am going to vent my anger on them," Mr Mandela said.

Disgruntled

About 5000 MK soldiers went absent without leave from the Wallmannsthal training camp near Pretoria on Monday.

On Wednesday, Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise gave the disgruntled troops until midnight last night to return.

- National Party parliamentarian Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk said yesterday that the "undisciplined" actions of former MK members had wasted the five percent transition tax.

- The cost of incorporating the former TBVC armes and MK into the SANDF had been budgeted at R1.6 billion, with an extra R222m for financing MK assembly points.

"The responsible minister should give every taxpayer the assurance that this situation will now be brought under control," he said. — Sapa
Sales: Armscor chief says he may have been wrong

□ ‘No personal knowledge of deal because it was relatively small’

JOHANNESBURG – Armscor chief executive Tielman de Waal has acknowledged that he may have been wrong to say the agency complied with all regulations when it sold a consignment of AK-47 rifles through Middle Eastern arms dealer Eli Wazan.

Mr De Waal was the first witness at the opening of the inquiry into the R2.5 million transaction, based on a false end-user certificate saying the consignment was headed for Lebanon.

Mr Justice Edwin Cameron ruled that the inquiry be conducted in public, with some evidence given in camera if necessary, in spite of an application by Armscor that it be held behind closed doors.

Armscor argued that countries that had violated the United Nations arms embargo on South Africa might be embarrassed by evidence at the inquiry and the lives of some people could be placed in danger.

Mr De Waal said he had no personal knowledge of the Wazan deal because it was relatively small. He knew only that the arms involved had come from surplus defence force stock.

“I devote two percent of time to the sale of surplus defence stock,” he said.

One of the three commissioners conducting the inquiry, Laurie Nathan, asked Mr De Waal about an Armscor Press statement on September 30 saying the agency had acted within relevant regulations.

“On September 30 I believed that statement was correct,” he said, but said that new information had thrown doubt on whether this was so. “Subsequent to that I’m not sure I would make that same statement,” he said.

He said another Armscor statement that the ship carrying the consignment had been turned away from Beirut port was wrong and had been based on “misleading” information from the ship.

Mr De Waal said that since the Wazan deal, Armscor had instituted procedures to verify all end-user certificates.

Asked about reports of arms sales to Angola’s Unita rebels by South Africans, Mr De Waal said this was the subject of considerable speculation.

“I would only be adding to the speculation,” he said “I have no facts.”

He said the arms from the Wazan deal were now in storage at Naboospruit but their legal ownership was still in dispute after they were turned away from Yemen.

Armscor was barred from selling arms to Yemen by a cabinet decision against supplying weapons to countries in conflict, Mr De Waal said.

Asked if Armscor had internal checks to prevent arms being sold to the wrong countries, Mr De Waal said “I would assume those procedures are in place but I cannot confirm that.” – Reuter
Arms deal: Armscor agent linked to Wazan

 OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG. — A senior Armscor employee spent a week in July at the Cyprus holiday home of Lebanese arms agent Mr Eli Wazan, the Cameron commission of inquiry into arms transactions heard yesterday.

Mr Wazan was involved in the deal in August which saw an AK-47 rifle consignment from Armscor end up in Yemen — to whom South Africa is not allowed to sell weapons.

The employee had enjoyed the hospitality of Mr Wazan in Cyprus with the consent of his direct superior, the commission heard.

Commission chairman Mr Edwn Cameron asked that the identity of the Armscor employee not be disclosed. The employee had been placed on compulsory leave and had been told Armscor was investigating possible disciplinary action against him.

Armscor managing director Mr Tielman de Waal told the commission that when the information about the relationship between his employee and Mr Wazan came to light, Armscor believed some irregularity over the deal had taken place within Armscor.

Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise ordered the inquiry as a result of the Wazan deal, which caused great embarrassment to Armscor. The commission was instructed to probe the Wazan deal as well as all arms transactions entered into by Armscor over the past four years.

Armscor claimed the AK-47s were meant for the Lebanese government. However, the Lebanese denied any knowledge and it was later shown that documentation for the deal had been forged.

Armscor asked for the inquiry to be held behind closed doors to avoid possible embarrassment to countries that had violated the UN arms embargo, but Mr Cameron ruled it would be open to the public.

Mr de Waal said he had not been in the country when the Wazan deal surfaced, and he had no previous knowledge of it. Subsequent investigations indicated certain control regulations had not been adhered to by Armscor, he said.
2 500 ex-MK cadres fired

By Themba Molefe
Political Correspondent

ABOUT 2 500 disgruntled former Umkhonto we Sizwe members who failed to return to the Wallmannstal military base by midnight on Sunday have been dismissed from the defence force.

Defence spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Bruan du Toit said yesterday the 1 600 soldiers who returned to the base before the deadline would be disciplined. He said a report would be handed to Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise, who would determine how the returned cadres would be disciplined.

According to the army, 4 084 cadres had returned, 59 were on official leave and four could not return because they were in hospital. Du Toit said Modise stood by his ultimatum that the soldiers return to base or forfeit the right to be in the army.

About 5 000 MK troops left the base north of Pretoria last Monday after receiving their October pay.

On Saturday President Nelson Mandela said his patience with the deserters was exhausted and that a disciplined defence force could no longer be manipulated by criminals.

The first walkout of former MK cadres was in early October when more than 5 000 deserted, claiming the integration process was fraught with anomalies.

Mandela addressed the troops, who had returned to Wallmannstal on October 20, saying their grievances, which were genuine, would be addressed. He then gave those outside a seven-day ultimatum to return or face dismissal—but only 276 met the deadline.
The data presented indicates that the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been effective in containing the spread of the virus. The number of cases and hospitalizations has been significantly reduced, and the vaccination rate continues to increase. The economic impact has been mitigated through stimulus packages and targeted aid to vulnerable communities.

However, ongoing challenges remain, including the emergence of new variants and the need for continued public health measures. The government anticipates a gradual return to normalcy, with a focus on ensuring the safety and well-being of the population.
No decision on punishment for MK members who deserted

STAFF REPORTER
and SAPA-REUTERS

No decision has been taken yet on what would be done to punish the former Umkhonto we Sizwe members who had left assembly points before being integrated into the SA National Defence Force, Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils said yesterday.

Speaking in response to questions in the Senate, Kasrils said Defence Minister Joe Modise would make an announcement soon on exactly what measures would be taken against the deserters.

"If a soldier has no permanent or temporary rank, he cannot be tried by a military disciplinary court," he said.

Reading Modise's response to a question by Democratic Party Senator James Seleke, Kasrils said a total of 14,764 soldiers had been reported absent without leave since May 1 this year.

He said 3,170 soldiers had permanent or temporary rank as former SA Defence Force and TBVC defence force members.

Investigated

Of these, 2,992 had been tried by summary courts and 168 had been court-martialled, he said, adding that these individuals were subject to the Military Discipline Code.

A further 10 cases of AWOL were still being investigated.

Turning to members of the non-statutory forces awaiting induction into the SA National Defence Force, Modise said there had been two occasions when individuals had left assembly areas at Wallmannsthal, Hoedspruit and De Brug without permission.

Early in October, 8,065 had left the three bases and 323 failed to return.

On October 31, 5,094 had left Wallmannsthal.

"Of these, 2,221 had not returned to the assembly area within the time limit," said the Minister.
NEWS Ex-MK cadres court-martialled for AWOL ● Bengu appeals to donors

‘More than 3 000 soldiers absconded’

A TOTAL of 168 former South African Defence Force and TBVC defence forces’ members have been court- martialled, 2 992 have been summary-trialled for going absent without official leave since May 1.

Defence Minister Mosiuoa Lekota revealed to the House yesterday that 3 170 members of the non-military forces had gone AWOL since the beginning of May.

These individuals were subject to the Military Discipline Code and a total of 168 have been court-martialled, 2 992 have been summary-trialled and 2 992 are still being investigated, said Mosiuoa.

His response to a question from Democratic Party member James Selway, who read to the House the letter by Deputy Defence Minister Komla Kasekla, who urged members of the non-military forces, said Mosiuoa, had been absented on two occasions when individuals had assembled at Wallmannsatz near Springs and De Brug.

Early in October, 9 419 left the bases and 3 235 failed to return.

On October 31, 9 094 had left Wallmannsatz. Of these 2 221 had not returned to the assembly area within the time limit, Mosiuoa said.

And yesterday, Chief of the Army Lieutenant-General Hatungitsha Pretorius said a lack of discipline among former Uniconco and Tswe people had been integrated into the SANDF had been followed until now because the army was desperate to make the integration work.

Pretorius delivered the message to conference of Uniconco veterans and former leaders in the army.

He said without discipline, a soldier could become a rogue in the force.

("More than 3 000 soldiers absconded")
Yachtsman describes nightmare

By DALE OHARI

British BOC Challenge single-handed around-the-world yachtsman Josh Hall was last night as he described how he lost his yacht in the North Atlantic before he was rescued by Australian fellow-competer Alan Nebauer.

Recounting his ordeal minutes after he crossed the line with Nebauer in Newcastle, Australia, on October 14, Hall said his Class 3 boat Gartmore Investment Managers was "a classic BOC beat, she's done it."

He then broke down in tears.

Nebauer took fourth place in Class 5 after 32 days at sea -- 21 days with Hall.

Hall said his collision was with an object at sea just south of the equator was "thrown against the wheel."

Nebauer is favourite to clinch the seabasshaped award for the first leg of the race. The award will be given on November 15.

THANKS MATE ... British solo BOC sailor Josh Hall (left) thanks Australian competitor Alan Nebauer for saving him in mid-ocean almost three weeks ago when his yacht sank after it hit a submerged object. Nebauer sailed Newcastle Australia into Table Bay with Hall on board last night.

THE CIGARETTE FOR

In Tradition

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. Some of the former ulMkhonto we-Sizwe (MK) members awaiting integration were obviously building up to a revolt -- and the army would not stand it, army chief Lieutenant-General Hattingh Pretorius warned yesterday.

Speaking at an SA Army Futures and Forecasts conference held at Unisa yesterday, Gen Pretorius said the lack of discipline displayed by MK members had been tolerated due to an "overriding desire to make integration a success," but it would now continue no longer.

Gen Pretorius said the army represented a "catalyst" for bringing about the changes, but that the army had to be prepared to take action.

"We cannot accept blame for people who are dissatisfied with the present political dispensation and who try to use integration as a political platform to put their demands," he added.

"To integrate successfully would lead to possible demobilization of the armed forces, which would be characterized by unrest, looting of morale and severe divisions," he said.

"The army is responsible for the army to be fully integrated." To achieve this, he said, the army would have to be fully integrated into the armed forces of the country.

"If one considers that only 17,275 were arrested during the whole of 1983, and that only a portion of illegal immigrants are actually being caught, S.A. is in danger of being swamped by illegal immigrants.

Increasingly, he said, the army would have to be drawn up between the SA Army and the volunteer. The volunteer would have to be drawn up between the SA Army and the volunteer. He said that the army had to be drawn up between the SA Army and the volunteer.
Armscor's board is under review

From Simon Barber

WASHINGTON — Asked whether the cabinet was considering personnel changes at Armscor to help settle its 1991 indictment on US arms smuggling charges, Deputy President F W De Klerk replied that all parastatal boards were under review.

He declined to comment on the case — which is hampering South Africa's bid to sell Rooivalk helicopters to Britain as Washington is blocking access to US technology — because of the hearing.

The prosecutors are said to be willing to recommend more lenient penalties if the government takes steps to clean house at Armscor.
Johannesburg. — Armscor disclosed details yesterday of secret weapons deals during the apartheid years, including sales to Lebanon's Christian militia and purchases from China.

The Cameron Commission of Inquiry also heard yesterday that several other consignments of Armscor weapons had been delivered to destinations other than those agreed to by the arms procurement company.

Testifying about a consignment of AK-47 and G3 rifles and ammunition worth $2.5 million destined for Lebanon in August, but which ended up in Yemen, Armscor general manager of marketing Mr. Peter Smith said it appeared that other consignments had similar fates.

He supplied no details.

Mr. Smith testified after Defence Minister Mr. Joe Modise granted Armscor employees permission yesterday to divulge information about arms transactions.

In cross-examination by Mr. Brian Sheer, representing the commission, it was stated that the only control Armscor top management had over the sale of surplus SANDF stock — from where the August consignment was drawn — was a monthly report which only contained the country of destination, the nature of the shipment and the amount of money involved.

Mr. Smith said the man who sold SANDF stock, who the commission ruled should not be identified, "operated independently" and that the only other controls over his activities were ad hoc internal audits, inspections and the issue of export permits.

However, since realising that the Beirut deal had soured, Armscor insisted on the supply of end-user certificates by governments buying weaponry from SA.

Mr. Smith said Armscor had only realised that Beirut was not the true destination of the weapons in the August deal after seeing local media reports.

Referring to the AK-47s, the report said the dealer, Mr. Elie Wazen, had acted with Mr. Anwar Shamas of Jordan, director of a company called Eastern Discovery SA.

In the August deal, Armscor sold 22 containers of AK-47 and Portuguese-made G3 rifles with ammunition in a deal brokered by Mr. Wazen, who said the destination was Lebanon.

The inquiry has heard that a Lebanese end-user certificate, produced by Mr. Wazen, was a forgery and the ship carrying the weapons sailed straight for Yemen, where it was turned away by local authorities.

The Armscor report, signed by Mr. Smith, said Mr. Wazen introduced Armscor to the Christian militias in the late 1980s, when the militias were involved in a civil war with the Muslim groups.

"Since February 1991, a number of shipments of surplus and redundant South African Defence Force stock were made by Armscor to Lebanon," the report said. "Until September 1993 all these shipments were made to..."
the Christian militia."

"Under a heading: The Yemen Connection", the report said that in 1993 "a package consisting of several number of AK-47s and ammunition was inspected by (Wagen) and a Prince. Anwar (Shaalan) from Jordan with the intention of making them available to Lebanon"

"Approximately half the package was shipped to the Christian militia during September 1993."

"During June 1994 Prince Anwar approached Armscor directly to sell the remainder of the AK-47 package to Yemen (2FL)."

It said Armscor told the prince that such a transaction was impossible because Yemen was on a list of countries to which South Africa would not sell arms.

Eastern Discevery, which is represented at the inquiry, claims that it is the rightful owner of the shipment that was turned away by Yemen. The arms were returned to South Africa, where they are now in storage.

The Armscor report said that between 1978 and 1986, South Africa had bought nearly 40,000 AK-47s from avowedly anti-apartheid China and five countries in Eastern Europe.

Mr Smith said it now appeared that Mr. Wagen might have duped Armscor on previous occasions, sending arms to clients other than those he purported to be representing."
‘Armscor man knew of deal’

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A senior Armscor employee had known right from the start that a consignment of several thousand AK-47 and G3 rifles was meant for the “black market” and not for Beirut, the Lebanese arms agent who had put the R2.8-million deal together claimed.

Armscor general manager marketing Mr Peet Smith told the Cameron commission of inquiry into South Africa's armaments deals of the past few years that he had interviewed the agent, Mr Elie Wazan, in Geneva shortly after Armscor's top management learnt the consignment was heading for Yemen, not Lebanon.

South Africa is not allowed to sell weapons to Yemen.

Weapons sold to Rwanda

Mr Smith also conceded that “with hindsight” Armscor had made mistakes selling arms to Rwanda and the Lebanese Christian Militia.

Under examination by commissioner Mr Lauree Nathan he said Armscor had sold arms to Rwanda until October, 1983.

He admitted the arms could have been used in the genoicide earlier this year.

Mr Smith also said National Intelligence was investigating claims that arms were reaching Unita from South Africa.

He denied that Armscor was still involved in supplying them.

Mr Smith said that during the interview Mr Wazan had claimed the Armscor employee — who may not be identified to protect his safety — had known the end-user would not be the Lebanese government.

He had also claimed he told the employee the “end-user” certificate supplied to Armscor and the SA government was “not checkable”.

Mr Wazan had been paid $120 000 (about R420 000) commission.

Mr Smith said the Armscor employee had received “foreign currency” from Mr Wazan.

He had said he kept it for four months while looking for a suitable charity, but later spent it on a family holiday.
SATV earlier showed returning soldiers saying they would not accept punishment for their unauthorized absence, suggesting that harmony may not yet be ready to descend on Wallmannstal. Rebel MK soldiers in Natal, meanwhile, threatened to set up an underground army under radical ANC leader Harry Gwala. Gwala himself did not speak out.

But Mosese said any such attempt would be crushed: "We will mobilise the nation to ensure they don't cause trouble."

Some MK deserters, meanwhile, have allegedly turned to crime. Police said last week they arrested three former MK soldiers, apparently from Wallmannstal, in connection with a liquor store robbery. And in Natal, an alleged deserter from the Ladysmith base was arrested for illegal possession of arms.

This was the second mass exodus of ex-MK soldiers from Wallmannstal, after nearly the entire complement walked out a month earlier, also after being paid. President Mandela on that occasion gave them an ultimatum to return or be sacked. Some 278 troops failed to turn up and were summarily discharged.

The trouble, however, began long before that. In May former MK chief and now SANDF Chief of Staff-designate Siphohe Nyanda, had to be rescued by Defence Force troops when he was attacked in his car by a mob of MK recruits at Wallmannstal. He had gone there to investigate their complaints. The search marks left by his burnt-out Audi are still visible on the grounds of the base.

"We cannot command an army of criminals or bandits," said Mandela last Saturday. But later that day, in an address to the ANC's annual PWW Congress, he reiterated well-worn complaints that the integration process was too slow and amounted to a co-option of MK and APLA soldiers into the old Defence Force. "That must stop, we are on an equal basis."

Mandela also accused the old Defence Force officers of racism. "The (MK) chaps on the ground are being ordered around as second-class citizens (and) the living conditions of our people are very bad."

But what Mandela and other ANC leaders have neglected to emphasise, however, is the problem of sexual harassment and abuse among the MK cadres at Wallmannstal — identified by a parliamentary committee as a major problem at the base.

While the report, led by ANC MP Tony Yengwa, slammed the weaknesses in accommodation and catering, it went on to note that the several hundred MK women at the base were the object of constant harassment.

"Physical and sexual abuse of women in the camps should be stamped out immediately," the report stated.

The report might also have pointed out that the complaints about food should not be laid at the old SADF's door, as the menu and the catering company employed at Wallmannstal were arranged in full consultation with the MK leadership and approved by ANC headquarters.
Arms inquiry: Alias refused

JOHANNESBURG. — The Cameron Commission inquiring into Armscor weapons sales yesterday refused an application to keep secret the name of a key witness who believes his life will be in danger if he testifies.

Mr Louis Wessels, legal representative for Armscor official Mr Marius Vermaak, applied for the commission to withhold his client's name, address and position within Armscor.

The commission is investigating, among other things, an abortive arms shipment in August when a ship carrying 9 000 AK-47 rifles, 6 600 G3 rifles and 10 million rounds of ammunition was turned away by the ostensible end-user, the Lebanese government. Lebanon denied all knowledge of the deal and the ship returned to South Africa after trying to off-load the weapons in war-torn Yemen.

The deal was arranged by Mr Vermaak with Lebanese arms dealer Mr Eli Wazen and Jordanian businessman Mr Anwar Ahl Shaalan.

Mr Vermaak told the commission in camera his life had been threatened because of the deal. Mr Acting Justice Edwin Cameron said there was no proof Mr Vermaak's life was in danger. His name and address were already known as Mr Shaalan was represented on the commission.

It would be senseless for the press to call him Mr X.

Mr Wessels said after a recess Mr Vermaak had instructed him to abide by the ruling.

Mr Johan van Dyk, chairman of Armscor's armaments marketing permit committee, testified on the workings of the committee which evaluates arms sales.

He said the Department of Foreign Affairs and the SA National Defence Force were represented on the committee to decide on countries with which arms deals may be concluded.

The commission heard there had been a request for arms from the Lebanese government through Mr Wazen, with whom Armscor had dealt for 10 years.

Commissioner Mr Laurie Nathan asked Mr Van Dyk why the application had been approved when the signature on the certificate was not named or titled. Mr Van Dyk agreed it might have been signed by a clerk at the Lebanese Interior Ministry.

He also agreed the certificate was of limited value as there was no certainty of the end-user.

Sapa
Army crisis: Azapo warns on instability

JOHANNESBURG — The Azanian People’s Organisation has expressed concern that the crisis between deserters from uMkhonto weSizwe and the administration of the South African National Defence Force could sow the seeds for future instability in the country.

This was said in a statement yesterday by Azapo deputy president Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe after a meeting of the organisation’s central committee on Saturday — its first since merging with the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania.

Problems such as racism and corruption were still very real in several institutions run by whites, including the police, army and prisons, he said.

Hunger strike

A decision was taken to commend Azapo members who had intervened in problems such as taxi violence and to urge all members to act whenever peace within black communities was threatened or disrupted.

The meeting expressed its concern over a hunger strike by its members at St Alban’s prison, including Azapo regional chairman Nkwenkwe Mandela. The men are seeking amnesty.

Azapo’s central committee had decided it would reconvene its 12th congress at the campus of the University of the North on December 17 to deal with unfinished business, proposed amendments to the constitution and the future direction of Azapo — Sapa
New era dawns as civilians prepare to control military

Cape Town — A Defence Secretary could be in place by April 1 as a major step towards achieving civilian control of the military over the next five years, Defence Secretary Lieutenant-General Pierre Swan said yesterday.

He told the joint standing committee on defence that its success would depend on close collaboration between civilians and soldiers at defence headquarters.

The secretariat would have 625 members, predominantly civilian. Initially, 558 defence headquarters staff would be transferred to the secretariat, augmented by 67 civilian appointees. There would eventually be an 80-20 per cent balance in favour of civilians.

The secretariat could be established by April 1 if the Public Service Commission authorised the required structures and posts in time.

Chief director, logistics, Major-General Abubaker Ismail said civilian control had to be achieved to ensure the military operated in the confines of the constitution and according to its parliamentary mandate. It had to be ensured that at no stage did the military subvert the authority of Parliament or the State.

Control and policy formulation would be shared between the Ministry of Defence and the Defence Secretariat, working in close liaison with the SA National Defence Force and defence headquarters.

The defence force would formulate strategy, while its four arms would work out the means of fulfilling this.

The Minister of Defence would put the necessary budgets to Parliament for approval.

Director, strategic planning, Brigadier Jack Grundling said it was essential that political civilian control of the military be established, but with due respect for military professionalism.

Ismail said the process should be sufficiently transparent, while taking into account that no state anywhere could disclose all its military capabilities."
ANC won’t tolerate MK rebels

BY HELEN GRANGE

In its angriest stance yet towards disgruntled former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) members dismissed from the SA National Defence Force, the ANC yesterday warned that any attempt to return to armed struggle would be "heavily dealt with."

The organisation was reacting to claims this week by a spokesman for the newly formed MK Elected Committee, Salvador Mkhari, that the dismissed soldiers had decided to use force — attacking police and other State installations — to get the Government to accede to their demands.

The demands include payments apparently promised to former cadres by the ANC.

In a strongly worded statement, the ANC said all those involved in such a "suicidal plot" would be "heavily dealt with should they dare to proceed with their anarchy."

The ANC was convinced that in the process of recruiting for self-defence units (SDUs), MK was "heavily infiltrated" by "elements in the security forces" with the sole aim of sullying the name of the organisation and MK.

"It is very unfortunate that there were no mechanisms in place to screen all recruits to the SDUs who ended up in the MK fold, some of whom are being manipulated by certain political organisations and intelligence structures against the principles and policies that the ANC stands for," the statement said.

ANC information head Jackson Mthembu, elaborating on the statement, said the organisation had to share the blame for the alleged infiltration, as it should have screened the recruits.

The statement said Mkhari had never been a member of MK or received any military training outside the country.

He had only joined the self-defence units long after the ANC had suspended armed activities.

"He is therefore not only ill-informed of MK discipline but also bankrupt when it comes to ANC policy matters. The same would be said of the small clique that he purports to be leading."

Meanwhile, the Returned Exiles' Committee (REC) said in a statement from Ulundi yesterday that it had been joined by 1 500 of the 2 000 former MK members who deserted the Wallmannsthal defence force base — and was also ready to "use force to make President Nelson Mandela pay attention" to the REC's grievances.

REC founder Pat Hlongwane said Mandela and the Government should meet the organisation's demands before it chose to embark on peaceful resistance or "hit back physically to show our anger to the international community."
Ex-MK members fined for deserting

PRETORIA — Forty-five former uMkhonto weSizwe members who went absent without leave from the Wallmannstal military base near here were each fined R75, the South African National Defence Force said yesterday.

All had pleaded guilty.

The military trials of the remaining 4039 who were absent without leave, from the base between October 21 and November 6 were, continuing. All were being tried individually.

The SANDF statement said there had been uncertainty about the legality of applying the military disciplinary code to the former MK members.

"However, on November 14 the state law advisers confirmed that the members concerned were in fact subject to the military disciplinary code in the rank of private."

The SANDF said justice was "not being dispensed with a sledgehammer" but in the spirit of training those affected in the disciplinary requirements of a professional army.

The trainees had also forfeited pay for the period of their absence.

— Sapa
Deserters each fined R75

Forty-five of the 4,039 SA National Defence Force (SANDF) recruits who went absent without leave from the Wallmannstal base outside Pretoria last month have been fined R75 each.

SANDF spokesman Col Connel van Rensburg said yesterday the recruits would also have to forfeit their wages for the days they were AWOL.

Sapa reports that the trials of the remaining 4,039 soldiers, who were AWOL between October 31 and November 6, were continuing. Their cases were being heard individually.

Van Rensburg said the former Umkhonto we Sizwe troops being integrated into the SANDF had been absent for periods ranging from five to 20 days after their protests against living conditions and the pace of integration.

About 80 had already appeared before the military court and some had yet to be sentenced. All had pleaded guilty.

"Justice is not being dispensed with a sledgehammer, but properly and in the spirit of training under the disciplinary requirements of a professional army," an SANDF statement said.

Army spokesman Lt-Col Brian du Toit said the process was time consuming and was causing further delays in the integration of the former cadres into the SANDF. He could not say when the trials would be completed.
TVBC's costly army promotions

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

THERE was a flurry of promotions in the armies of the former TBVC states shortly before the elections.

Minister of Defence Mr Joe Modise confirmed in Parliament that 2 252 promotions were effected in the former armies of Bophuthatswana, Venda, Transkei and Ciskei and that "the most obvious" cost implication for the new government was salaries.

After the integration of the armed forces in South Africa, the Ministry of Defence will have to pay these people salaries "according to pay scales associated with their high ranks", Modise said.

"All the financial implications will only become known after stock-taking and a dit of all inventories and accounts of the former TBVC defence forces by the (South African) National Defence Force has been completed by March 1995," Modise said.

The financial implications under the present financial year's estimates are R1 173 457 a month or R1 734 570 for the period between the election and the end of February 1995.

Most of the promotions were made in Transkei (657), with other areas being Ciskei (411) Bophuthatswana (379) and Venda (150).
AWOL ex-MK cadres fined

FORTY-FIVE former Umkhonto we Sizwe cadres who went absent without leave from the Wallmannsthal military base near Pretoria were each fined R75, the South African National Defence Force said yesterday.

The SANDF said in a statement that all had pleaded guilty.

The military trials of the remaining 4,039 former MK troopers who were AWOL from the base between October 31 and November 6 were continuing. They are all being tried individually.

Army spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Brian du Toit said the process was time-consuming and was causing further delays in the integration of the former cadres into the SANDF. He could not say when the trials would be completed.

Temporary suspension

The SANDF statement said uncertainty regarding the legality of applying the military disciplinary code to the former MK members had led to a temporary suspension of the trials on November 11.

"However, on November 14 the State law advisers confirmed that the members concerned were in fact subject to the military disciplinary code in the rank of private and the trials are now continuing."

The SANDF said justice was "not being dispensed with a sledgehammer, but properly and in the spirit of training those affected in the disciplinary requirements of a professional army."

Du Toit said the fines would be subtracted from the monthly pay of the trainees, who had also forfeited pay for the period of their absence.
March to cheaper tune may fuel row

BY ANDREW TRENCH

THE SANDF could face a major backlash in the new year from former homeland soldiers who will keep hundreds of rand each month because of integration.

The changes are being introduced at the directive of the Public Service Commission and are aimed at curbing possible friction in the military over disparities in pay. But it is feared the decision to reduce allowances and introduce tax parity could spark widespread dissent among the thousands of former homeland troops.

From March 1, all soldiers will be subjected to SA tax rates, which are higher than in Transkei and Ciskei, where some soldiers are taxed by just 15 percent.

Soldiers' base salaries — sometimes as little as R80 a month — will not be affected, but allowances will be reduced or scrapped. Ciskei troops are entitled to an R600-a-month housing subsidy while Transkei soldiers get up to R1 200. They all will now receive R612.

An "occupational allowance" — effectively danger pay — of R200 for Ciskei soldiers will be scrapped. A R1 200 a month Special Forces allowance for former Transkei soldiers is expected to be slashed in half to R600.

Several top defence sources acknowledge a backlash could result from the moves, but say a situation where different soldiers have different benefits cannot continue.

A Transkei officer, who said there had been talk of taking legal action, added: "It's not hit them yet. When it hits their pocket it's going to be different."

SANDF media liaison officer Major Nick Sendall conceded the issue was "sensitive," and said the SANDF would deal with each case on its own merits.
Army promotions cost R14m

TAXPAYERS are forking out R14 061 484 extra a year in salaries to pay for the rapid promotions homeland armies awarded members before the election.

The Transkei Defence Force led by Gen Bantu Holomisa accounted for 1 657 of the total of 2 252 promotions in the 12 months before the homeland armies were incorporated into the SA National Defence Force.

The Ciskei Defence Force was responsible for 411 promotions in this period, the Venda Defence Force 130 and the Bophuthatswana Defence Force 34.

Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise said in a written reply to Mr James Selfe (DP) that the promotions would have cost implications for the SANDF.

Mr Modise said the amount involved was R1 173 457 a month for the financial year ending February 1995, but the full cost of integration would only be known after the audit in March.

"The most obvious is salaries because those promoted will, after integration of the forces, be paid according to pay scales associated with their higher ranks."
Former MK members find their sea legs

SALDANHA BAY - Former Umkhonto we Sizwe members, many of whom until recently had never seen the sea, are being trained as sailors by the SA Navy.

The 250 former guerrillas, including 37 women, currently undergoing basic training at SAS Saldanha on the West Coast, all volunteered to join the navy after reporting to the Wallmannastal assembly point outside Pretoria in August.

Changes to military training techniques have ensured the navy integration process has been more successful than that at Wallmannastal. "Although we were not prepared to compromise on discipline, we have changed the military culture of screaming and shouting and hitting people in the right direction," Saldanha commander Capt Koos Louw said.

Instead, the training base placed emphasis on mutual respect and an understanding of different cultures and backgrounds, levels of military training and education.

The total current intake at Saldanha is 370 volunteers, with no distinction being made between the former MK members and civilian volunteers.

"We have learnt that activities such as the toyi-toyi help with team building," training officer Cmdr Glen Knox said.

Group singing during exercises had become the order of the day.

Of the more than 28 000 former MK troops being integrated into the SA National Defence Force, only 10 have received any formal navy training, mainly in Russia. These individuals have been taken into the navy as senior officers.

"Classroom training is computer-aided with emphasis on mathematics, English and science. On the physical side, recruits are taught to overcome their fear of water and learn to swim."
'Retain and diversify arms industry'

JOHANNESBURG — There is a strong case to be made for the retention and development of a diversified arms industry which could service future defence needs of sub-Saharan Africa in general and South Africa in particular.

This was the opinion expressed by Lieutenant-General Pierre Steyn, South Africa's new Defence Secretary, at a one-day seminar on defence equipment cooperation in sub-Saharan Africa yesterday. The international seminar has been arranged by Armscor.

Gen Steyn said a diversified arms industry would contribute towards the development of the national economy as well as the development of the sub-Saharan region as a whole.

"There is no reason why South Africa should not be allowed to pursue its own legitimate economic and political interests as it sees fit. "At the same time, the government must ensure that South Africa is not out of line with international arms production control lists and must continue to make viable efforts aimed at demonstrating amonability in this regard," Gen Steyn said.

According to Gen Steyn, judicious arms sales as a tool of foreign policy could prove valuable — both economically and politically.

This would also benefit African states as they sought to reduce their dependence on non-African supply sources, switching away from North American and European suppliers to South Africa, he said.

"Many overseas companies failed in their diversification attempts and South African companies would be wise to study the reasons for these failures," Gen Steyn said. — Sapa
Mandela's straight talk with business

JOHANNESBURG — President Nelson Mandela will launch a national crusade against malpractices in the private sector when he addresses business leaders at a Rand Club function today.

Business leaders will be invited to join the crusade to discourage illegal and semi-legal practices that cost the government revenue and make SA companies less competitive abroad.

Government sources said Trade and Industry minister Trevor Manuel had briefed Mandela on reports of malpractices, including tax evasion and transfer pricing.

The sources said Mandela was eager that the transparency his government has committed itself to was extended to the private sector.

From TIM COHEN

JOHANNESBURG — SA's arms exports to the Middle East are expanding sharply while exports to Africa, Asia and the Far East have declined substantially, chairman of the SA Defence Industry Association John Temple said yesterday.

Temple also released for the first time figures for SA's arms exports before 1992, which showed a dramatic rise compared to the 1991 figures.

Temple said exports between 1987 and 1981 were almost constant at about R500m, but then quadrupled to about R800m in 1992, rising again to R900m in 1993, he said. According to Armscor, exports for the 1994/95 financial year were likely to top R1bn.

Despite the increase, SA would only have a 0.4% share of world arms trade which was led by US which exported over $3bn, followed far behind by Russia, Germany and China which sold weapons worth about or just less than $2bn each.

In 1992, SA exported 33% of its arms to Asia, 25% to the Far East and 18% to Africa.

The following year, arms exports to the Middle East jumped from 11% of total sales to 61% of total sales while exports to the Far East declined dramatically to 7% of total sales.

Sales to Africa also declined dramatically to 5% of total sales while sales to Asia halved.

Sales to South America, North America and Europe and all constituted small proportions of total trade.

SA's arms exports to North America were non-existent in 1992 but increased to 2% of total trade in 1993.

Temple showed a seminar on Defence Equipment Cooperation in Sub-Saharan Africa a list of potential African export markets which he said could not export to SA as they were non-existent in 1992 but increased to 2% of total trade in 1993.

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Northern leaders prepare for local govt elections

Right-winners prepare

Diversified arms industry

Sheen sees strong case for
SA 'will probably agree to UN request for troops'

Johannesburg. — Defence Minister Joe Modise says South Africa will probably accede to any request from the United Nations for peacekeeping troops in Angola.

"Once the request is made, it's going to be very difficult for us to say we cannot assist in Angola," Mr Modise said at a news conference.

"The problems in Angola and Mozambique are affecting us directly. From the looks of things, it does appear as if it's going to be very difficult for us to avoid taking part in the keeping of peace.

"Peace in Angola, peace in Mozambique is in the interest of South Africa," Mr Modise said.

The United Nations special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, said yesterday the world body would not send peacekeepers until it was sure the ceasefire there was holding.

South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe had been named as possible contributors to a peacekeeping force.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ronnie Kasrils told the same news conference that South Africa opposed the role some of its former soldiers were playing in Angola, training government troops, but could not do much about it.

"We've been looking at the Angolan problem... In terms of the law they (the South Africans) are providing security services and training for the Angolan government, not acting as mercenaries as such," Mr Kasrils said.

"We're looking at the legislation. Legislation will have to be tightened up..."

"I think that the Angolan government is quite happy with the services that (the South Africans) have provided, so it becomes something rather complex" — Reuters
Secrecy hinders Armscor inquiry

Vuyo Myoko

ARMSCOR's insistence on keeping vital information a secret is proving a stumbling-block for the Cameron Commission of Inquiry into arms dealings.

On Tuesday, the commission was forced to postpone its hearings until next week, following Chairman Edwin Cameron's decision to adjourn the inquiry. "We need Armscor's co-operation, in a much more pro-active way," he said.

Armscor and the South African National Defence Force argue that if they lift the embargo on certain information, the revelations may jeopardise South Africa's foreign relations. They said they had the full support of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Armscor's legal representative, Henry Shakenovsky, admitted: "I'm sitting with shipping documents, but have not given them to others." He said that because of time constraints and the embargo, he had been unable to have a "deliberate...persuasion" of the documents to collate evidence.

Shipping company Dan-Art Shipping and Chartering said Armscor had no right to hold up the documentation that was needed to prepare the case. The little it had received was of uncertain status. It was unclear whether the embargo applied.

It emerged that a task force set up to investigate and classify relevant documents, drawn from Armscor, the SANDF and the departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Industry, was not yet operational.

The law specifies that the classification of countries, which governs arms exports control, cannot be disclosed to the public. On Wednesday, the cabinet was to have taken a decision on whether this information can be made public. One of the commissioners, Laureen Nathan, was last week stopped from pursuing a line of questioning related to classification.

An "arms-to-export control" delegation by the Defence Ministry to Armscor, was in force at the time of the transaction. This stipulated three base groups, which were all non-sensitivities: group I items (such as vehicles and radios) could not be marketed, and group II marketing was prohibited.

The report revealed that millions of units of arms, including AK47s, G3 rifles and Milan missiles, were sold to both the Israeli government and the Lebanon's Christian militias between 1983 and 1989.
MK deserters camped in Ulundi

Deserters from the Wallmanstal army base have been recruited by a paramilitary squad with links to the IFP

Disgruntled Umhlebunto members who recently deserted from the Wallmanstal army base have joined a paramilitary squad with links to the Inkatha Freedom Party. The former MK fighters are being housed at police barracks in Ulundi and are expected to receive training as members of Inkatha-supporting "self-protection units". The 150-strong band was recruited by Patrick Hlongwane, leader of a dissident group tortured in the ANC's exiled military camps in the 1980s who has close links with Inkatha. The deserters are mainly Zulu-speaking and claim they were discriminated against after they joined the new South African National Defence Force. They have been told they will be trained by some of Inkatha's top paramilitary leaders.

Their "chef of staff" is said to be Dabuzo Luthuli who deserted from MK to join Inkatha in the 1980s. Luthuli was leader of a group of some 200 paramilitary fighters trained for the Zulu nationalist movement by Military Intelligence at the secret base in the Cape Peninsula in 1986. Hlongwane told the Weekly Mail & Guardian from his residence in Ulundi that about 1,500 of the Wallmanstal deserters had joined his Returned Exiles Committee (REC). "These people have real grievances about the way they were treated in the SANDF and they are now demanding that (Defence Minister) Joe Modise, (Deputy Defence Minister) Ronnie Kasrils and (Chef of Staff) Sphiwe Nyanda step down."

It is believed that the group's recruitment is aimed at Inkhata and they are staying at places in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. The group was preparing for military training and that Luthuli was involved in this. However, it is widely known that the REC has strong attachments to the IFP, even though it operates under an independent banner.

It is believed that the SANDF deserters have been recruited as part of Inkatha's preparations for an expected escalation of political violence as the volatile province gears up for local government elections. Some say they have been told to prepare for a period of civil strife.

Joe Modise: 'He must step down'

The expected escalation of political violence as the volatile province gears up for local government elections. Some say they have been told to prepare for a period of civil strife.

Many of the older generation ANC guerrillas came from the Eastern Cape and Transkei. The dissidents' complaints appear to have taken on an ethnic nature. Some of the deserters to Inkatha complain of "Xhosa domination" in the new armed forces — providing Inkatha with a useful rallying call to mobilise support from this quarter.

He told the WAND that the REDC were demanding a higher percentage of Xhosa soldiers in the new military force, and that Inkatha was preparing for military conflict.

Hlongwane confirmed this was a complaint of the Inkatha elite members. He also said that the Inkatha leadership was trying to ensure a greater concentration of Inkatha members in the new military force.

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Homeland forces’ promotions

milk SANDF

DAVID BREIER

CAPE TOWN — It’s official: most members of Bantu Homeland’s Transkei Defence Force (TDF) were rapidly promoted just before it was incorporated into the SA National Defence Force, costing taxpayers millions.

This has helped to push the total bill of integrating the SANDF to a colossal R9.8 billion in the last four years. This includes the former TSNC homeland armies as well as ANC-armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe and PAC armed wing APLA.

Late promotions also took place in the Ciskei and Venda armies to ensure members enjoyed higher rank and pay in the new SANDF.

This has now emerged in a reply tabled in the Senate by Defence Minister Joe Modise in reply to a question from Democratic Party senator James Selfe.

Earlier this year, other parliamentary replies revealed the homeland defence forces were absurdly top-heavy at the time of incorporation in April. The most flagrant case was the TDF in which less than a quarter of the 3,303 members were privates — the rest were officers and NCOs.

But the latest information released in the Senate reveals the unseemly rush with which soldiers in Homeland’s Transkei army were promoted.

In the last year alone, there were staggering 1,657 promotions in the TDF — more than half of these: one brigadier was promoted to major-general (T.P.-Matanzima), 10 colonels became brigadiers, 13 lieutenant-colonels became full colonels, 21 majors became lieutenant-colonels, 44 captains became majors, 65 lieutenants became captains and 41 second-lieutenants became lieutenants.

Among the more bizarre Transkei promotions were the cases of 30 corporals who leapfrogged up the ranks to second-lieutenant.

Few privates

Another 30 TDF second warrant officers became WO1s, 44 staff-sergeants became WOs, 112 sergeants became staff-sergeants, 254 corporals became sergeants, 431 lance-corporals became corporals and 428 riflemen became lance-corporals.

There were not 826 Privates (privates) left.

The picture was not much better in Ciskei Guzo’s Ciskei Defence Force where a quarter were promoted in the last year — there were 411 privates in that year out of 1,564 soldiers. This left only 757 privates.

Even the tiny 167-strong Venda Defence Force got in on the promotion act. In its last year it promoted 165 soldiers, leaving only 557 privates.

The Bophuthatswana National Guard was in a different position as Bop leader Lucas Mangope appeared to be under the delusion that he could continue his homeland indefinitely — before it was overthrown — so he did not go in for wholesale promotions. There were only 32 promotions in the relatively small 3,658-strong RNG in the that period.

According to Modise’s reply, the most obvious cost implications of these promotions were salaries. "Those promoted will, after integration of the forces, be paid according to pay scales associated with their higher ranks. The financial implications are R1,763,467 a month for R1,117,345,700 for the remaining 10 months (May-1994 to Feb-1995) of the financial year in the Transkei and Ciskei,” he said.

Pioneering new Ministry of Environment Affairs, has "claimed the officers he promoted were "staff qualified," Selfe said. The question one needs to ask here is how many houses and schools could have been built with this amount of money?"
SA arms reviewed by buyers

The list was compiled in the context of negotiations for arms deals, and was intended to ensure that all transactions involving South African-manufactured arms were conducted in an ethical and transparent manner. The list included a number of countries and organizations that were considered to be suitable partners for arms sales, based on their reputations and track records in the international arms trade.

The list was also used to screen requests for arms transfers from potential buyers, with the aim of preventing the sale of weapons to countries that were considered to be at risk of using them for oppressive or criminal purposes. This included countries that were involved in conflicts or had histories of human rights abuses, as well as those that had a record of violating international arms control agreements.

The South African government believed that maintaining a robust arms control policy was essential to protecting the country's interests and reputation on the international stage. By reviewing the list of buyers and the arms products offered for sale, the government sought to ensure that arms sales were conducted in accordance with international best practices and standards.
Defense minister insists SA has right to make and sell arms
T'kei army raises cost SA millions

DAVID BREIER
Weekend Argus Political Staff

IT's official - more than half the members of the defunct Transkei army were hurriedly promoted in its last year to raise their rank and pay in the new National Defence Force. Promoted 150 soldiers, leaving only 570 privates.

The Bophuthatswana National Guard was in a different position. As Bop leader Lucas Mangope appeared to be under the delusion that he could continue his homeland indefinitely before it was overthrown.

He, therefore, did not go in for wholesale promotions in the last year - there were only 34 promotions in the relatively-large 3 658-strong BNG in that period.

According to Mr Modise's reply, the most obvious cost implications of these promotions were salaries.

"Those promoted will, after integration of the forces, be paid according to pay scales associated with their higher ranks."

The financial implications are R1 573 657 a month or R1 734 570 for the remaining 10 months (May '94-Feb '95) of the financial year.

But, the full financial implications will become known only after stocktaking and audit of all inventories and accounts of the former Transkei defence forces by the SANDF. This is due to be completed in March next year.

Former Transkei military ruler Mr Holomisa, now Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs, has claimed the officers he promoted were "stolen qualified" and had done army courses in South Africa and in other countries "where South Africa was not allowed to go".

Mr Selie said the homelands had clearly promoted their members once the agreements setting up the SANDF were taking shape, to ensure their members enjoyed higher ranks and pay. But there were "vague rumours" of Transkei soldiers doing crash courses in Uganda and India, but he doubted this had brought them to the standards.
JOHANNESBURG. — Highly confidential documents relating to South Africa's arms trade will remain secret until a ruling by the Cameron commission in favour of public disclosure is taken on review to the Supreme Court.

The South African National Defence Force informed the Cameron commission yesterday afternoon of its decision to take the matter on review.

This follows Friday's ruling by the three-man Cameron commission in favour of openness and transparency in the arms trade industry.

The commission said the public's right to know and the constitution's provisions for openness were more important than any possible embarrassment the disclosures could cause.

The SANDF, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Armscor had applied for non-disclosure of certain top-secret documentation on the basis that making such information public was a threat to national security, international trade relations and/or foreign or bilateral relations.

In spite of the landmark finding the commission agreed to suspend its ruling to give the three parties an opportunity to consider whether the matter should be taken on review.

Mr Acting Justice Edwin Cameron indicated on Friday that if the parties did not decide to take the matter to another forum the commission would not make the information public until the Supreme Court ruled on the matter.

This would obviate the need for the parties to seek an urgent interdict in the Supreme Court to stop any disclosure by the commission pending the review.

The inquiry continues today. — Sapa.
Come join the arms hand-in

The Gun-Free SA Campaign is calling on South Africa's more than 1.6 million licensed gun holders to join in in the handing over of weapons on Reconciliation Day next month.

Police are alarmed at the high number of weapons being stolen countrywide while statistics show a steady increase in the number of firearm applications.

"This country is in the grip of a domestic arms race of frightening proportions," said Gun Free SA campaign chairman Bishop Peter Storey.

Of the 296,959 firearm applications made last year, 248,976 were granted — bringing the total number of licensed gun owners to 1,637,141, according to the Commissioner of Police's annual report.

During 1998, 14,009 applications were refused and 4,806 persons were disqualified. At the same time, a 138,706 weapons were reported stolen. "In addition to 2.5 million licensed weapons, there are between 1 and 3 million unlicensed weapons in circulation. This contributes enormously to criminal and political violence," said Storey.

"In South Africa, the crime rate is growing faster than the population. There has been an almost unbelievable 135 percent increase in murders between 1993 and 1995," Storey said.

Storey said that the campaign differed from previous amnesties in that the hand-in centres on December 16 would be religious venues, and both licensed and unlicensed guns were being called for.

"We underestimate black resentment at the fact that licensed weapons have in the past been available only to whites. That is why we are also making provision for owners of licensed guns to hand them in voluntarily," he said.
Arms secrets out unless court acts

Johannesburg — The commission of inquiry into Armscor weapons deals would release secret documents on South Africa’s arms trade next Monday unless the SA National Defence Force got a Supreme Court order restraining it from doing so, Mr Acting Justice Edwin Cameron ruled yesterday.

The SANDF yesterday applied for the inquiry to be suspended until mid-January to give it time to launch the review and asked the commission to undertake not to release the documents pending the review.

Acting Judge Cameron raised questions about Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise’s attitude to a review, saying the public had a right to know who was responsible for the impasse in proceedings.

SANDF legal representative Mr C. J. Claassen later told Acting Judge Cameron Mr Modise had given his task approval earlier this week by not interfering in the decision to go on review.

Mr Modise issued a statement yesterday that he was not involved in the decision to take the matter on review but had been informed of it by the chief of the SANDF. “My attitude has been — and still is — that the matter should be dealt with outside my involvement.”
A Union for the Troops?

How should the New South African National Defence Force approach conflict?

Without a clear strategy and understanding of the situation, the military may struggle to effectively address the challenges it faces. Effective leadership and resource allocation are crucial for success.

The importance of understanding the context of the situation cannot be overstated. A failure to recognize the root causes of the conflict can lead to ineffective solutions.

The military must work closely with other government agencies and international partners to develop a comprehensive approach to resolving the conflict.

The military must also prioritize the protection of civilians and the delivery of humanitarian aid.

By focusing on these areas, the military can play a constructive role in stabilizing the region and promoting peace.

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Cameron independent – Mosaic
Arms deals documents still secret

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The Cameron commission of inquiry into South African arms deals was temporarily prohibited by the Transvaal Supreme Court on Friday from disclosing secret documents identifying countries that bought SA weapons during the embargo years.

Mr Justice Johan Els granted an urgent interim interdict to the SA National Defence Force, ruling that the documents may not be made public pending full argument on the matter on Thursday.

The application was brought hours before the expiry of a deadline set by commission chairman acting Judge Edwin Cameron for the disclosure of the documents. Judge Cameron had ruled that the public's right to know and the Constitution's provisions for openness were more important than any possible embarrassment caused by publication of the documents.

Counsel representing the SANDF, Mr Neels Claassen SC, warned that the contents of the SANDF's founding affidavit in support of the application may not be published.

He added that the SANDF would apply that Thursday's court proceedings be heard behind closed doors.
Court move to keep arms sales secret dropped

The Argus Correspondent

The National Defence Force (SANDF) is to withdraw its Supreme Court application to prevent publication of a classified document listing countries to which South Africa has sold arms.

As a result, the Cameron Commission investigating Armscor deals yesterday released the list of 176 countries apartheid South Africa considered to be potential arms buyers.

Among them are Albania, Chile, China and Taiwan, Egypt, Israel, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, the "Lebanon Christian Militia", Malaysia, Morocco, Mongolia, Myanmar (formerly Burma), Nigeria, Ukraine, Pakistan, Poland, Rumania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda and Burundi, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Tunisia and Zambu.

Iraq and Angola, listed in earlier documents as possible clients, later had their status withdrawn.

The list also specifies that Armscor could sell "non-sensitive weapons" to South African "state and semi-state organisations, and security agencies and self-governing black states".

Only a handful of countries, including Zimbabwe, Zaire, Vietnam, Uganda, Tanzania, Somalia, Sudan, Cuba, North Korea, Iran, Libya, Liberia, Yemen, Yugoslavia (including Serbia and Montenegro) and Botswana were declared states with which there could be "no trade whatsoever".

Only the Greek section of the official government of Cyprus had been given a clear trade code.

The SANDF announcement, made by its counsel Henry Shakanovsky at the Cameron Commission office in Sandton, was the direct consequence of last week's publication in the Weekly Mail and Guardian newspaper of a 1989 version of the document — "which completely destroyed the essential basis for the relief sought through the application".

Mr Shakanovsky added, however, that while in this instance the SANDF had been "effectively deprived of its legal and constitutional right to seek a review of the commissioner's November 25 ruling", it reserved its rights to protect South Africa's national security interests in the future.

"This action (of withdrawal) must in no manner be construed as a waiver or abandonment of the SANDF's rights or duties," he said.

Acting Justice Edwin Cameron ruled on November 25 that "the right of the public to examine the past is intrinsic in the constitution. The argument we have heard is not persuasive that there is danger or risk to international trade relations or bilateral relations".

Judge Cameron said yesterday he welcomed the SANDF's announcement, which was significant in terms of the commission's progress.

His sentiments were echoed by Raymond Louw of the Freedom of Expression Institute.
Chemical war agents ‘made for research’

Johannesburg — Armscor said yesterday a subsidiary was making chemical warfare agents such as mustard gas, but only in limited research quantities allowed by international convention.

Mr Philip Coleman, manager of the Protechnik laboratory which makes the agents, told reporters during a tour of the plant outside Johannesburg that the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) allowed signatories to maintain “a single small-scale facility”.

He said Protechnik made small samples of mustard gas and other agents as part of its operation to test clothing, air filters and chemical weapons detection systems.

Mr Coleman said his company was helping to ascertain which companies in South Africa were making industrial chemicals that could be processed into warfare agents.

Under the terms of the CWC, which South Africa signed in January last year, member states must monitor the production and marketing of schedule three chemicals.

Armscor chief Mr Tielman de Waal said South Africa had no stocks of chemical weapons.

Armscor sources said the tour of the facility was aimed at quieting any speculation that Protechnik was producing chemical weapons on a scale large enough for military use. — Sapa-Reuters
**Armscor buys gas warfare firm**

**STEPHANE BOTHWA**

ARMSCOR had purchased a defensive chemical warfare research and development company which would support the Council for the Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction with regard to local implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Armscor MD Tielman de Waal announced yesterday.

The R6m deal to purchase Protechnik Laboratories, was concluded three months ago, de Waal said, adding that Armscor needed the investment in such a facility because proliferation did not necessarily occur in well-formed and well-shaped missiles or guns only.

Through Protechnik, Armscor would provide specialist technical support to the council, although the Trade and Industry Department was the custodian of the Non-Proliferation Act, he said.

He said SA did not produce weapons of mass destruction and was committed to a policy of non-proliferation. In January last year SA became signatory to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Protechnik's manager, Phillip Coleman, said his company manufactured chemical warfare agents such as mustard gas in limited research quantities allowed by the international convention.

It produced small samples of chemical agents to test protective clothing, air filters and chemical weapons detection systems.

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**Paper industry warns against tariff removal**

**AMANDA VERMEULEN**

SA's paper and pulp industry has warned that the removal of tariffs on imported paper could force local producers to seek investment opportunities outside the country's borders.

Responding to the Printing Industries' Federation (PIF) call to the Department of Trade and Industry to remove the 10% tariff protection, paper industry players said it could have a detrimental effect on the local industry.

A Trade and Industry Ministry spokesman said the application to the Board on Tariffs and Trade should be published today in the Government Gazette.

After publication, the board will ask for comment and complete an investigation before making a report to Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel.

Mondi MD Derrick Minnie said yesterday many of the group's products, supplied to the local printing and packaging industry, were substantially below prices of imported paper and board, even when the tariff protection was not included.

He said almost every paper-producing nation had some form of tariff protection, with some being as much as 30%.

The paper industry required massive capital investment, and local producers had to be assured that there would be a market for their products to ensure a return on investment. Tariff protection was the main mechanism of assurance paper producers needed, and if it was to fall away, then local companies could look at investing in other countries which had protection.

Minnie said Mondi had been loyal to its local customer base, despite the fact that they could receive substantial prices for products in overseas markets, particularly now that paper and pulp prices had increased dramatically.

Sappi Fine Paper MD Bert Bertusson said the tariff issue relating to the paper industry had been dealt with under GATT, and over time tariffs worldwide would be reduced.

If the tariffs fell away, the printing industry would become more reliant on imports, which could become a problem in the current undersupply in world markets.

The PIF's Chris Sykes said he found it strange that local producers were using tariff protection as a reason to keep investment in SA, when Sappi and Mondi were investing abroad already.

"If SA industry is to be world competitive there is a decreasing need for tariff protection."
A SENIOR Armscor executive told the Cameron commission yesterday that an apparent overpayment of $50 000 to arms dealer Eli Wazan, an agent in a weapons transaction, must have been "a mistake".

Armscor's senior manager of marketing development Brig Anthony Savides was replying to questions put to him by commissioner Laurie Nathan relating to the financial details of two deals Armscor concluded with Wazan.

Both deals involved the sale of AK-47s, ostensibly to Lebanon, with Wazan acting as the intermediary between Armscor and the purchaser.

President Nelson Mandela initiated the present inquiry, headed by Acting Judge Edwin Cameron, after it was disclosed earlier this year that the second consignment of AK-47s purportedly en route for Lebanon was in fact destined for Yemen, a country with which Armscor was prohibited from dealing.

Savides agreed that documents showed Wazan was overpaid $50 000.

The document authorising the payment was signed by Armscor senior manager of import/export P Smit, Savides himself and his subordinate Marius Vermaak who handled the transaction.

Asking what motive Vermaak could have had for overpaying Wazan, Savides replied: "I couldn't begin to guess. Well, I could guess but I wouldn't like to."

At this point Armscor counsel S van Nieuwenhuizen SC objected to the speculative nature of the questions.

He agreed it could have been an "elaborate scheme" to filter money out of SA and the issue did "require exploration".

He said, however, that instead of asking Savides to speculate on motives, the commission should rather wait for the evidence of Vermaak himself as well as Armscor's auditors.

Counsel for Vermaak also told the commission that he would be able to furnish the commission with an explanation which would make it clear that no irregularities had occurred.

Earlier Savides agreed that although he had been senior to Vermaak, in many instances he had merely acted as a rubber stamp to Vermaak's decisions.

He also agreed that in many instances figures given for the cost of various legs of the Wazan transactions, such as the arms dealer's commission, listed in the original price determinations, were lower than the amounts actually paid out by Armscor.

Savides could not explain the discrepancy or why the amounts paid out had been inflated over the original quotes.

The commission continues today.

Savides told the commission that since the Wazan transactions Armscor had insti-
tuted strict new departmental and interdepartmental controls.
Armscor weapons bound for Yemen

Commission sheds more light on shady deal

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG — A bill of lading for a shipment of weapons sold by Armscor to Middle East arms dealer Eli Wazan last October reflected the cargo destination as Yemen, to which South Africa was prohibited from selling arms, the Cameron Commission has heard.

Clive Reid, Cape regional executor for Eagle Freight, the shipping company contracted to transport the arms, said the destination information on the bill of lading had been given by Michael Steenberg, a representative of the ship's charterer, Dannam.

Dannam had been contracted by Macro Freight, an Armscor subsidiary which handled the cargo's transportation to Port Elizabeth, the commission heard yesterday.

Armscor has alleged Mr Wazan duped it into believing the weapons, AK 47s and G3 rifles, were destined for Lebanon.

The present commission was launched after it was disclosed in the media in October that a second shipment sold to Mr Wazan in August, also purportedly destined for Lebanon, nearly ended up in Yemen.

Mr Reid said the destination reflected in the bill of lading for the shipment in October last year, a copy of which had been submitted to the commission, had been given by Mr Steenberg.

"So whatever decision had been made within Armscor about the destination of the weapons, Steenberg could put whatever he liked into the bill of lading," commissioner Laurie Nathan asked.

"Yes, the rights of consigning the vessel belong to the charterer," replied Mr Reid.

In earlier evidence, Anthony Sades, a former army brigadier who joined Armscor as a senior manager for Middle East markets, said he had first heard the October shipment had nearly reached Yemen when the story broke in the Press.

As far as Armscor was concerned, the shipment was intended for Lebanon.

Asked by Mr Nathan if he could say what went wrong, he replied: "I'd rather not speculate."

On Monday, it appeared from Armscor accounts records that Mr Wazan had been overpaid by US$50 000 (R175 000) during the course of his dealings with the arms manufacturer.

Armscor counsel Stefan van Nieuwenhuizen said it was likely the Armscor manager who undertook the arms contracts with Mr Wazan, Marius Vermaak, could shed more light on whether the money had in fact been misappropriated.
DURBAN — Commander Yegan Moodley is to take command of the SAS Jan Smuts, a minisub class strike craft of the South African Navy, as the first black person to assume command of the vessel.
Denel's Simera signs contract to convert aircraft

JOHANNESBURG---State-owned arms company Denel Ltd said its Simera division had signed an agreement with Bankamerica leasing and capital group (Balcap) and Deutsche Aerospace Airbus to convert four Airbus A300 B4 aircraft into full Class E freighters.

It said in a statement Deutsche Aerospace Airbus had developed kits permitting such conversions on Airbus A300 and A310 aircraft and had concluded a full technical support agreement with Simera early in 1995.

"A majority of the lift will continue to come from the conversion of mid-life passenger aircraft," said Denel.

Solution

A300 and A310 used aircraft would "offer the perfect solution" in the 30 to 50 ton payload category, currently served by four-engined, stage-two, narrow-body freighters of 25 years' or older.

It said Balcap and Simera had agreed to market and sell the modified wide-body freighters jointly through Simera's marketing department and Balcap's agent, Alfred International.
Brilliant legal mind defends his principles to the hilt...

Jackets are hung across chairs, sleeves are rolled up and the spotlight is on the shipping executive facing the Cameron Commission. But, as the commissioner ponders his task, the judge and chairman of the inquiry probing Armstrong's shadowy dealings has not succumbed to the heat. He continues to look cool in his grey Prince of Wales check jacket.

For a man who has hit the headlines regularly in recent weeks, Judge Cameron is remarkably publicity-shy. After "serious consideration" he has declined — terribly politely — to be interviewed by Weekend Argus, saying it would be "self-seeking" and "bad timing".

He may not want to talk about himself, but that doesn't stop people talking about him. It was Judge Cameron who stood firm in the face of a defence establishment bent on holding the hearings in camera and insisted on the public's right to know about the past. It was he who laid that right was more important than any embarrassment that disclosure might cause.

In one of the final sessions before the commission goes into recess, Eagle Freighter regional executive Clive Reid is being harangued by one of the advocates. It is here that one gauze caught into the kind of noxious detail that goes into the commission's investigation.

They are dealing with the amounts of complicated shipping arrangements for the second of two consignments of weapons purchased from Atomics by arms dealer Eli Wazen.

Mr Reid, whose company was involved in the shipping, says Mr Cameron remains contented, although a spreading blush of his neck betrays rising irritation. He turns to his co-commissioners for a moment of rest calls for an "unoutside" situation. He may be sent to have his own breathing exercise and weeps a brave man as he is, but if you would hear that in mind we would be grateful.

The motion trashes Judge Cameron. Jacks his pen. He makes a furtive note. He clarifies matters for Mr Reid. Is he white shirt with red spotted tie, he is utterly courteous. He says "Mr Kriegler, will it perhaps suit you to adjourn until tomorrow morning?"

At 41, baby-boomer Judge Cameron was making his mark before the Armstrong commission thrust him into the public eye. Nothing short of brilliant is what colleagues and friends say about this Wits law professor. They're talking about the South African law to the Wits Law School's senior professor and 1985's judge, Jules Sandlor.

"The commission is not a court of law". He says. "This witness does not have the formal protection nor the hope he would be provided in an adversarial situation. He may be sent to have his own breathing exercise and weeps a brave man for his task before the Armstrong commission."

They are talking about the co-author of two leading texts on labour law, the man who has written "some of the finest material published in legal journals in South Africa". So says Dennis Davis, director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at Wits — where Judge Cameron has worked since 1966.

His achievements in court are renowned. At a recent court case, says Professor Davis, the Shropshire Six — sentenced to death in the 1980s — were saved from the gallows by the judge in the Wits Law School's enfant terrible. In those years, says Wits Law School professor June Sandlor.

"Okay, so he was not appointed to the Constitutional Court. He is in fact a man who has written some of the finest material published in legal journals in South Africa."

They're talking about the judge's work. It is important to note that he is a black man, but if you would hear that in mind we would be grateful.

Some of his critics within the gay community would have it that he is guilty of being over politically correct, overly principled and morally upright. Judge Cameron, one said, has a tendency to be "precious and ever so slightly stuffy". So, nobody's perfect.

women or homosexuals. As a model of a constitution committed to human rights, he said, it would be possible to exercise a dispassionate judgment on gay issues.

And, now that he has been recommended as a judge to the Transvaal Supreme Court, he will doubtless be reminded of the quality he himself cited when he read for the renunciation of the country's top judges. "The highest standards of dispassion, neutrality and evenhandedness," were his qualifications for the position of Chief Justice.

In her introduction to Judge Cameron's inaugural lecture at Wits, Professor Stable praised his publications on labour law. She spoke of his involvement with trade unions and his active involvement in litigation about contraception. To this last, add litigation on media and freedom of expression, women's safety and health, removals, and incorporation, groups and gender issues. It was Judge Cameron who in a 1989 court case involving East Rand businesswoman Marjorie McLean's case where he wrote the law guaranteeing confidentiality to people infected with the AIDS virus.

According to Mark Ginsberg, co-editor with Judge Cameron of a recently published book on gay life in South Africa, Judge Cameron puts this country at the forefront of the world in its fight against homophobia. "He is as persuasive, he takes people with him because of his legal. He is not hot-headed, he is not emotional, not conservative. He chose to be part of the battle against his reputation as a gay rights issue in the constitution." He drafted a charter on gay rights and the fight against HIV and AIDS.

To this many admirers, there is no greater gift than Edmund Cameron. He has founded an AIDS Law Project at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies. He co-chairs the National AIDS Convention of South Africa. He is committed to delivering legal assistance to those in need of it.

Some of his critics within the gay community would have it that he is guilty of being over politically correct, overly principled and morally upright. Judge Cameron, one said, has a tendency to be "precious and ever so slightly stuffy". So, nobody's perfect.
Arms and the shady men...

Armscor's cloak-and-dagger dealings with the 'James Bond' of the industry revealed

HELEN GRANGE
Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — As the Cameron Commission into South African arms deals proceeds, the intrigue deepens around two individuals, Marius Vermaak and a man Armscor names as Prince Anwar Abl-Shalaam of Jordan.

The two key characters in the aborted Armscor/Middle East weapons deal, which broke into the public scandal earlier this year, have filled out the unfolding evidence as colourful anti-heroes in the international arms underworld.

Mr Vermaak, the Armscor marketing manager who brokered the deal which saw a shipment of A4-7 and T4 rifles nearly reach Yemen in August, before being turned away, operated as a free agent whose integrity his superiors apparently never doubted.

In their collective evidence, Armscor's general manager Petrus Smith, managing director Talman de Waal and senior marketing development Brigadier Anthony Savides have passed a picture of him as a sort of James Bond of the arms industry, immune to scrutiny.

Mr Smith, Mr de Waal and Brigadier Savides — by their own accounts — only had a peripheral view of Mr Vermaak's multi-million rand dealings, and all have admitted there was little effective control over him.

The extent of their knowledge was such that they had been introduced to Mr Vermaak's Lebanese arms contact El Hani and had received reports from Mr Vermaak on the sale of weapons to Mr Wazan. They had also agreed with Mr Vermaak's accounts of expenditure for the shipment, the weapons, ostensibly destined for Lebanon.

Brigadier Savides conceded to the Commission that had something unforeseen happened to Mr Vermaak, he would have left a critical information vacuum in Armscor.

This lack of control was illustrated during questions put to Brigadier Savides about financial records showing that Mr Vermaak had apparently overpaid Mr Wazan by $50,000 (£180,000)

Also, the dealer's commissions had been inflated — in one case by R67,714 and by R6,700 in another.

Brigadier Savides, evidently surprised when confronted with the anomalies in the statements he himself had signed, said the $50,000 overpayment and the inflated commissions to Mr Wazan could only have been a "mistake".

He couldn't begin to guess at Mr Vermaak's motives for the overpayment, but agreed it could have been an "elaborate scheme" to fill the money gaps of South Africa and the issue did "require exploration".

This aspect of the inquiry has been left deviously dangling — particularly in view of Mr Vermaak's counsel's indication that he intended leading evidence showing that his client was innocent of any misappropriation.

The other mysterious character in the tale before the Cameron Commission, "Prince Anwar", is Mr Wazan's principal and the end purchaser of the weapons.

It was established this week, to the amusement of the Commissioners, that Mr Vermaak's seniors were none the wiser to the fact that the "Prince" — with whom they had become acquainted through Mr Vermaak — was firstly not a prince and secondly not from Jordan.

References by the Armscor officials to "Prince Anwar of Jordan" caused consternation at the start of the hearings when Jordanian representatives as South Africa asserted there was no such prince in the Jordanian royal family.

Subsequently, it was found that the "Prince" was in fact a businessman from Syria living in Jordan (he continues to be referred to in the Commission as "Prince Anwar").

Brigadier Savides tactfully said that the "Prince" Anwar had arrived in Grahamstown to inspect the first consignment of arms bought by Mr Wazan last October, while it was in transit to the Fort Elizabeth docks. He then denied the goods were below standard. He accepted the cargo anyway, but the weapons, which "Prince" Anwar allegedly told Armscor were destined for Lebanon's Christian militia, ended up being distributed by him among Jordanian government troops.

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ON HELEDBERGER
NEW TWIST

COVER-UP?

A BIG

WAS THERE
the time, but also to the destruction of some documentation in the Republic of China (Taiwan).
A total of 199 passengers and crew died when the aircraft plunged into the sea north of Mauritius just after midnight on November 28 1987. It was the worst South African Airways crash in history.
The man who conducted the investigation into the crash, Judge Cecil Margo, now retired, says he was satisfied with the findings of his probe, but had always kept an open mind. He says he would support moves to re-open the investigation if evidence warranted it.
Inquiries made in South Africa, Mauritius and Taiwan have established the following:
■ The aircraft, unbeknown to SAA, was carrying a propellant presumably used for rocket research and development. There are strong indications it could have been so-called red mercury, a propellant which is a key factor in the development of nuclear weapons. It is surmised the consignment, which British intelligence sources say was being couriered, unexpectedly became volatile at a height of 10 000 m, emitting smoke and other fumes which probably incapacitated the passengers and crew, causing the crash.
■ Documentation regarding the cargo was destroyed by Taiwanese officials while the Margo inquiry was still in session. This has been confirmed in Taipei under pressure of questioning by Weekend Argus.
■ No cargo manifest, or air cargo waybill, was ever made public by investigators, who reported to the inquiry that they had checked computer records. Cargo handlers in Taipei said, however, that the documents covering cargo loaded at Taipei at the time would have been typewritten and not in a computer, as stated in the report issued by the Margo inquiry. This meant that the inquiry may have been given misleading information.
■ A mystery cargo, identified only as "tropical fish", was aboard the aircraft. This is the first time there has been any indication that the aircraft carried anything other than computers, computer parts and watches with lithium batteries, as reported by the inquiry. Chinese sources have speculated that "tropical fish" may have been a cover name for an explosive material placed illegally aboard the aircraft. The Margo report also mentioned a possible misrepresentation of cargo.
■ A Mauritius medical team assigned to the accident found the bodies of the victims had been strangely mutilated. Post-mortem results on the bodies or any other indication of how the occupants of the aircraft may have died also was never divulged in the inquiry report and information about the state of the bodies when they were found has never before been divulged.
■ Weekend Argus has also learned that the aircraft's commander, Captain Dawie Uys, may have been "persuaded" by a senior government official over the telephone from Pretoria to take off after he refused to do so when he apparently discovered the nature of his cargo. The aircraft was delayed as a result, with the official reasons given as "weather" or "connecting passengers" from an incoming flight. Captain Uys's concern about the cargo was acknowledged at the time by a senior SAA official, Marthinus Jacobs, in Taipei, but was never brought before the inquiry.
Judge Margo, who was chairman of the board of

More reports — page 19
Doubts about the cause of the Helderberg crash arose as soon as it occurred, rumours abounded on why it happened, with many claims being made about its cargo. Authorities speculated openly while telephone callers to newspaper offices around the country claimed cargo such as fireworks, machine

masts, ammunition and other war material was on board.

None of the allegations was ever proved. All that the Margo board of inquiry into the accident found was that the smoke which probably caused the bomber to crash originated from a bullet at the right front of the upper cargo compartment in the Boeing 747 Cumbi aircraft.

Some families, however, refused to accept a R177 000 payout per passenger made by South African Airways to victims, preferring to wait until the inquiry in case their legal advisers found they would be able to claim under the Warsaw Convention, which allows for claims to be lodged up to two years after an air accident.

Yeonne Bellgardt, widow of flight engineer Gisoppe (Joe) Bellgardt, said at the time: "What is so terrible is just not knowing what happened. You try to forget, then everything comes out again on television. But I have also kept a scrapbook of all the coverage and would still like to get to the bottom of it I want to know."

Her husband was making his last flight for SAA after 29 years with the airline. His voice was prominent in a recording of voice communications with seen the aircraft crew, dated 15 November 1987.

The recording was played to a hundred Rand Supreme Court during the inquest on 20 November, 1994. It was heard by the inquest jury; he said, that his case was not a "flight that route" - that he had been unable to imagine that the aircraft "could burn so ferociously put it out. They have spent a lot of coming up with something. They did not find what was."

Captain Cronje's evidence was looked at and rejected, substantially.

Weekend Argus has conducted investigation into the tragedy...

What happened on...

AN in-depth investigation by Weekend Argus has found there may have been a deliberate cover up of the cause of the crash of the SAA Boeing 747, the lone South African air disaster in the early 1980s.

The investigation, conducted in three countries, has uncovered more questions than answers about the reasons for the disaster.

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Weekend Argus has conducted investigation into the tragedy...

FLASHBACK... to 1989, as inquiry head Mr Justice Cecil Margo examines the partly reassembled cargo

"tropical funk" may have been a cover name for an explosive material placed illegally aboard the aircraft.

The report also mentioned a possible misrepresentation of cargo.

A Mauritian medical team appointed to the accident found the bodies of the victims had been strongly mutilated. Post-mortem results on the bodies or any other indication of how the occupants of the aircraft may have died was never divulged in the inquiry report and information about the state of the bodies when they were found has also never been divulged.

WeekendArgus's investigation was also told of various claims relating to possible causes of the crash.

It is virtually impossible to do something because of a lack of documentation and the unwillingness of former state employees to provide details.

Sadness of a fateful journey captured in simple...
weekend on SA 295?

Cecil Margo examining the partly reassembled cargo area of the SAA Heiderberg.

Weekend Argus has been given expert medical opinion which rules out any possibility of an explosion having occurred, but which also states that the bodies and parts of bodies of 13 dead eventually found had injuries which would have needed a medical examination.

The official accident report said soon had been detected in the throat and lungs of the victims.

The yacht in the Mauritius' medical team that helped on the night of the accident which happened 134 nautical miles north-east of the island.

The search for survivors was ended on November 30, 1976, after 60 hours after the crash.

The report said, "On November 30, at 7.00am, it was decided after an endless deliberation to terminate the search for survivors and to concentrate on recovery of wreckage pieces."

By this time, only two bodies were recovered, but eight bodies were retrieved, and eight bodies were recovered. The report to the cabinet of the island.

The official at Tsuji's CTS airport insisted that cargo-handling procedures were tampered with, but they did not rule out the possibility of something untoward happen-

Supreme Court during the inquiry into the accident.

Retired SAA captain Dennis Creame, who flew the Heiderberg, investigated the accident.

He added, "I saw that the aircraft was at 10,000 feet, and there was no sign of an explosion."

"And I know what sort of explosion or whether the impact of the aircraft could have caused such fatalities."
More questions than answers in mystery crash

The crash of the Boeing 747 Combi cargo/passenger jet — from a flight which landed at CFS from Tokyo on the day the South African aircraft was due to leave on its last flight.

The Japanese government surprisingly, only allowed South African investigators two weeks in which to complete a task which should have taken many weeks. It was said at the time that the decision was taken because of "political sensitivities."

The team was given two weeks after applying to Japan's Hong Kong consulate for four-month ones. The team returned to South Africa with 96 percent of their work in Tokyo left undone.

It also was established in Tokyo that 15 Japanese cargo forwarders never applied for compensation for cargo they placed aboard the Helderberg.

In contrast, Taiwan allowed investigators, including members of the South African Police, ample time to conclude their inquiries.

Confirmation that typewritten cargo documents pertaining to the last flight of the Helderberg, in fact, had been destroyed in Taiwan came from airport officials, who told Weekend Argus that the "standard practice" and in line with local rules and regulations.

Thus, however, directly contradicted what the Margo report said — that an investigation had been undertaken of computer disks at the time and that a number of computerized waybills had been checked.

The report said "A computer selected 10 house waybills and one master waybill out of 111 bills. It was found the items in the consignment agreed with the relative documents."

The destruction of the typewritten documents took place in 1989 when the Margo team was still completing its report, issued in 1990.

Warehouse worker Hsu Chun-lang said that as soon as a warehouse of documentation filled up, the paper was taken away and destroyed.

Cargo terminal assistant manager Andy Haieh confirmed this, adding "We routinely destroy the documentation every two years because of the space that is taken up."

Confirmation that the Helderberg's cargo documents had not been transferred to computer disks came from Roger Yu, manager of China Airlines cargo sales and services department.

Mr Haieh also told Weekend Argus he had no knowledge of what cargo the Helderberg may have been carrying and added that personnel who may have handled the loading of the aircraft seven years ago "are not available."

Weekend Argus was told by independent sources that the handlers had been "removed" from the airport.

It has been established for the first time that details of the cargo claimed by the Margo inquiry to have been carried by the Helderberg were, in fact, incorrect.

The Helderberg was carrying "tropical fish", computers and computer parts, textiles, shaped components and printing and packaging materials.

According to the Margo inquiry report, the cargo comprised largely electrical components and parts (mainly computers), hardware, paper articles, textiles and sports equipment.

Tsai Tz-hsun, a sub-section chief at the cargo terminal, said that "dangerous materials" such as explosives had been placed aboard the aircraft, a "declaration must be made."

"It is a procedure used by all airlines," said Mr Tsai, who also said that, at the time of the Helderberg crash, Taiwan was under martial law and that, as a consequence, air cargo had to be kept in the terminal's warehouse for 24 hours before onward shipping could take place.

"But, it was not a prerequisite for cargo coming from somewhere else for onward movement," said Mr Tsai.

The Margo inquiry found that the possibility of a misdetermination or a false declaration in the consignment notes or cargo materials could not be ruled out.

Taiwan had an official representative, Colonel Liang Liang, on the inquiry board. He is now director of flight standards of the Taiwan Civil Aeronautics Administration.

He told Weekend Argus in his office at Sung Shan airport, in central Taipei, there was nothing further to add and "all one can do is refer to the conclusions reached by the Margo inquiry."

He provided Weekend Argus with a copy of the conclusions reached.
What happened...

AN in-depth investigation by Weekend Argus has found there may have been a deliberate cover-up of the cause of the crash of the SA Air Force Boeing 747, the Helderberg, seven years ago.

The investigation, conducted in three countries, has uncovered more questions than answers about the reasons for the disaster.

Evidence points to a cover-up involving not only none-disclosure of important facts, but also the constrictive action of vital documents and the destruction of critical evidence.

Some of the key findings are:

- The Boeing 747, carrying 100 passengers and crew, crashed into the Indian Ocean near Mauritius on the night of November 23, 1987.
- The conclusion of the事故 investigation was that the aircraft was the worst SA Air Force crash in history.
- Inquiries in South Africa, Mauritius and India have not found any evidence of incorrect data being recorded or mishandled.
- The aircraft, unknown to South African Airways, was carrying a propellant.
- The aircraft was used for research and development.
- There are strong indications it could have been involved in a nuclear weapons test.

FLASHBACK... In 1989, an inquiry head Mr Justice Cecil Mogo

Sadness of a fateful journey ca

It is a place of sadness, where even the tropical birds don't sing too loudly.

The crash of the waves on the brilliant white shore of a stone's throw away also appears to be strangely muted, as if the sea is acutely aware of what happened that night seven years ago.

This is the scene of a memorial to an event which shook South Africans everywhere and even today is talked about as one of the world's great mysteries of the air.

It was near the village of Belle Marie that the bodies and wreckage from the crash of the South African Airways Boeing 747, the Helderberg, were washed up on the beautiful reef-encl	

Flashback... to 1989, an inquiry head Mr Justice Cecil Mogo

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It was near the village of Belle Marie that the bodies and wreckage from the crash of the South African Airways Boeing 747, the Helderberg, were washed up on the beautiful reef-enclosed beach. The flight path of the Helderberg would have taken the plane over the village and on to Plaisance.

The site was designated as a national monument and the beach was officially declared a "no swimming" area.

The inquiry was headed by Mr Justice Cecil Mogo...

...and it was at this beach that the bodies and wreckage were discovered. The inquiry, which was conducted in Mauritius, South Africa and India, was aimed at

Sadness of a fateful journey ca
Supreme Court during the inquiry into the explosion.

Retired SAA captain Dennis Cronje, who flew the Heiderberg as well as other Boeing 747s for seven years, gave evidence to the inquiry and later described its findings "as something we knew all along — that there was a fire on the aeroplane."

He added "I hope that route often and there is nothing I can imagine that we ever took as a freight that could burn so ferociously that we could not put it out. It was a lot of money and time coming up with something that we knew all along. They did not find what was burning."

Captain Cronje's evidence was evaluated by the inquiry board but rejected because it was not substantiated.

Weekend Argus has conducted a special investigation into the tragedy ...
Cut-price army
— but for a fee

By PETER De JONNO

THE Defence Force is proposing to start charging fees for assisting the community.

Pressed to contain the 1995 SANDF budget and the costs of integrating former MK, Apla and TBVC defence force members at R10-billion, the defence force's budget planners have drawn up a contingency proposal based on a 14.7 percent cut, that could produce a R1.5-billion "reconciliation dividend" for the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

But containing the military budget will only be possible if the defence force starts charging for assisting the police, border patrols and for non-military tasks such as disaster relief and rescue, they say.

Peacekeeping operations, such as assisting in Angola, will also have to be paid for outside the SANDF budget.

The "army for hire" proposals emerged from a six-week contingency planning exercise, intended to prepare the defence force for another round of cuts in next year's budget.

The planning, to be completed by the end of February, includes redesigning the army from the top down.

Brigadier Andre Kruger, director of army planning, said four "creative" teams of "young colonels", senior operations officers, army headquarters and the Institute for Defence Policy had been briefed to plan an army costing less than R3-billion annually without "touching the boyenets on the ground".

"The policy was 'frontline first'," said Brigadier Kruger. "There would be no point in cutting wildly and destroying the army's ability to do its primary job of defending South Africa."

"All the groups agreed on one thing — the size of army headquarters must be reduced," he said.

Brigadier Kruger said it was agreed that the army's mobile capabilities, rear area protection by support and part-time forces, a rapid deployment force and training standards should all be preserved.

While the planning has not been finalised, Brigadier Kruger said rationalisation would be likely to include the amalgamation of bases, training schools and colleges.

He said the community would not be affected in terms of defence, but "we're going to find that services to the community are reduced".

Brigadier Kruger said that some 30 000 posts — equaling the integration intake — would have to be shed in the next three years. The army was aiming for a rationalised strength of 53 000 and a number of units would have to be closed down.

While many posts would be lost through attrition and early retirement, he said, "redeployments would be inevitable."

Brigadier Kruger said proposals were being considered to give some of the non-statutory force's members pay-offs and pension packages for post-service in MK and Apla.

The aim of rationalisation was to leave the army with a core force with support and training units which could handle limited conflict for short periods only.

It could take up to five years to treble a core force into wartime fighting strength.

HELPING HAND FOR HIRE ... the next time there is a disaster at a place like Soweto, someone will have to foot the bill for the army's help
Armscor hoppers became Africa’s eavesdroppers

A top-secret document discloses the names of African states that bought hi-tech eavesdropping equipment from Armscor, reports Eddie Koch

Armscor sold hi-tech "radio hopper" equipment to African states that enabled South African military intelligence officers to monitor sensitive diplomatic and military messages passed on by the governments of these countries.

A top-secret document — which describes sales procedures for electronic warfare equipment — instructs Armscor agents to sell only special "B" versions of its renowned "hopper radio" to countries south of a line that ran "from the mouth of the Congo (River) to the port of Dar-es-Salaam". This region falls within the range of the South African military's radio interception stations.

According to a military electronics expert, the "B" editions of the "hopper" were equipped with computer circuits that would have allowed local military intelligence to detect when the radios were in use and to scramble any messages that were passed along their security-protected frequencies.

"This means that those countries south of the line which purchased Armscor's hopper radios have probably compromised their security," says the expert. "They have effectively given the South African military an exclusive line into their secret communications."

The document forms an appendix entitled "Policy and Procedures for the Marketing of Sensitive Telecommunications Equipment", to the secret "Log 17" that was published in the Weekly Mail & Guardian two weeks ago. The sections dealing with electronic warfare are possibly the most damaging to Armscor because it reveals which countries were able to buy the compromising "hoppers".

Armscor's lawyers tried to suppress publication of Log 17 on the grounds that this would have embarrassed countries that it had dealings with in the apartheid era. They also obtained a supreme court interdict against the Caineron Commission, which is investigating clandestine arms deals by Armscor, preventing the commission from publishing the document. The interdict was withdrawn after the WMP&G published details from Log 17 anyway. According to a last in the document, the countries that were eligible to receive "B" hoppers from Armscor, and which fall within the eavesdropping range of South Africa's Department of Military Intelligence, are Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Lesotho. According to the document, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Angola were barred from receiving the sets. Armscor's radios are known to be the best form of secure communication on the battlefield and were sold all over the world. During the Falklands War in 1982, British intelligence operatives were unable to learn about the movements and defences of Argentina's ground forces because the latter used the South African radios.

The document explains that the radios work by having two levels of security built into them. The first allows it to hop quickly between frequencies at a rapid rate - thus making the frequencies generated by computer chips which are built into the set.

"Secondly, they have a "user's code" that allows two radio sets communicating with each other to jump to the same frequencies at the same time. Thus any two sets using the same code and circuitry can communicate messages without fear of being intercepted. "But the manufacturers have the advantage of knowing how the radio is constructed. This would enable local codebreakers to be able to detect when the set is being used, to record messages transmitted across the spectrum of radio frequencies used by the sets and then to decipher the contents of the message," says the expert.

"This would have given South African intelligence agents a double advantage. They would have been able to monitor sensitive communications in these countries while other competing intelligence agencies - even those from the United States which used satellite surveillance - would have struggled to obtain the same information."

The secret document stipulates that the Department of Military Intelligence, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and Armscor — along with with the now defunct State Security Council — had to be consulted before any electronic warfare equipment was sold abroad.

It suggests that South Africa has a limited electronic warfare capacity. "This appears to have been intended to mislead Armscor's salesmen. South Africa has a reputation for developing the most sophisticated eavesdropping systems in the southern hemisphere," comments the expert.

The SABC, for example, used its Auckland Park transmitter to boost Unita's radio station while jamming SWAPO and ANC broadcasts from Angola in the 1980s. The army and navy were able to decode enemy missiles with active "electronic warfare systems" that sent out bogus signals that misled the sensor heads in artillery shells. The technology was also able to detonate a target's ammunition. The artillery shells equipped with electronic fuses.

"A private electronics company, which was subcontracted by Armscor to make the hopper radio, was also tasked with designing a network of transmission stations that could simulate bogus radio traffic and mislead foreign monitors into believing fake deployments of South African Defence Force troops and phantom units in unoccupied areas."

Another major electronic warfare item — listed as being strictly not for sale in the document — was "radio detection finding equipment". This technology allows operatives to detect the exact location of covert radio transmissions and to "slip into" the conversations on these.

"It was believed local intelligence-gathering operations would have been undermined if this equipment got into the wrong hands."

---
carried rocket fuel,

Helderberg

by Pretoria expert:

Starting new claims

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Weekend Argus

Salduu Library
Stirring new clues have emerged this week on what may have caused the crash of the SAA jumbo jet, Heldenberg, seven years ago.

NORMAN CHANDLER, Weekend Argus Correspondent

VITAL new evidence uncovered by Weekend Argus and its sister newspaper, Weekend Star, indicates that the doomed airliner, Heldenberg, crashed seven years ago when a secret American-manufactured rocket fuel it was carrying suddenly ignited in mid-air and began to burn uncontrollably.

The information comes from an expert source — a Pretoria consulting engineer and rocket builder — who claims to have detailed knowledge of what was aboard the South African Airways Boeing 747 when it crashed off Mauritius on November 28, 1987.

The expert cannot be named at this stage, but said he would consider giving evidence before any new inquiry into the disaster. He is the second person within a week to have provided key information about the Heldenberg disaster.

Last week, Weekend Argus published information from a highly-placed source who was adamant that “the propellant was a mystery substance sometimes referred to as red mercury, which is thought to be a crucial component in nuclear weapons and rocket propulsion systems”.

That the Heldenberg was carrying some form of rocket propellant has been confirmed by numerous other intelligence and armaments sources interviewed by the Weekend Argus.

The consultant says the propellant is known to scientists as Super Mercurec Cyanate (SMC). It is produced by a chemical bonding of mercury and pure sodium metal and is used to give added impetus to the fuel used in intercontinental ballistic missiles.

"See previous answer.
Sources have told Weekend Argus that materials required for space/rocket research and development programmes being undertaken by Armscor were being carried aboard the aircraft. May we please have comment from yourselves on this claim?"

"No."

We have been informed that representatives of Armscor patrolled the beaches of Mauritius during the day following the disaster. Would you confirm this? If this were so, why didn’t Armscor send a team to Mauritius if the organisation had no cargo aboard the Heldenberg?

"No."

Top investigator ‘had suspicions’

The chief investigator into the Heldenberg disaster, Renne van Zyl, has had suspicions that dangerous cargo was carried aboard passenger aircraft during the sanctions era.

"I have never had any proof, but I have had my suspicions. In those times, there were probably people who would do anything for volk and vaderland. And, we have had problems with false declaration of cargo."

In the case of the Heldenberg... well, we never did find out what was the cause of the ignition of the fire. I want to...

Turn to page 2

He said that, because it was highly inflammable in air, it had to be transported either in a pure vacuum or in water. In the case of the Heldenberg, it was placed at the bottom of tanks apparently containing tropical fish.

This coincides with Weekend Argus’s report last week which reported Taiwanese officials as saying that a mystery cargo, code named “tropical fish”, had been placed aboard the aircraft.

The consultant said SMC was hidden as a sludge at the bottom of tanks carrying tropical fish to South Africa. He has provided Weekend Argus with a written document outlining how SMC was developed, and why.

The plausibility of his information has been confirmed by a top international nuclear scientist, Dr Frank Barnaby, who lives in southern England.

According to other sources, the tank containing the substance — it is not known how many tanks were aboard the Heldenberg — had apparently been flown across the Pacific Ocean from the United States to Taiwan via Japan.

It appears almost certain to have been destined for South Africa’s fledgling rocket industry. According to the consulting engineer, the SMC on the Heldenberg probably ignited when the substance...
What happened? Questions on Helderberg for SA

We are aware that Uys's family was provided with copies of those signed manifests. Does this mean that SAA was aware of any dangerous cargoes being carried by its aircraft and, if this was the case, why was not the public informed of the situation? May we have your comment?

2. There was a problem during the loading procedures for the Helderberg at Chang Kai-shek international airport, Taipei, Taiwan. It is understood that SAA at the time had only one representative on duty and that the aircraft's crew had to assist local handlers in loading the aircraft. Could you confirm this?

3. SAA dispensed with the services of all the 200-odd cargo forwarders at CKS airport and appointed four local forwarders to handle all its cargo requirements. Two of these forwarders have told us that they had no idea there were regulations forbidding the transportation of certain dangerous cargoes. They also say that the manifest for the Helderberg was removed by an SAA representative and "was lost". A replacement manifest was reconstructed through volunteered information, which, as you will be aware, is open to abuse.

May we have your comments on this?

4. Relatives of passengers and crew aboard the Helderberg have told Weekend Star of their displeasure at the attitude of your airline's senior officials following the crash. At least two have told Weekend Star their telephones were "bugged", their movements were followed, and they were refused access to information which they deemed important to the next of kin. May we have your comments?

A response was received by Weekend Argus and Weekend Star yesterday from Chris Roedt, SAA's Divisional Secretary and Legal Advisor. It read:

1. Thank you for fax of 22 December 1994, the contents of which were noted.

2. The Chief Executive is on leave until Tuesday, 27 December 1994, and I know that he would like to respond to your letter personally upon his return.

3. The incident took place seven years ago South African Airways will need a little time to investigate the allegations that are now being made. I have caused a copy of your letter to be transmitted to the relevant managers for their comment. It should, however, be pointed out that nothing of the nature of the allegations that are now being made have been seriously suggested during the inquiry before Judge Margo.

4. I would like to take the opportunity, however, to respond immediately from a legal point of view to the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of your letter under reply:

5. It is really an incredible allegation against the background of prevailing labour practices in South Africa.

5.1. Firstly, the conditions of service of captains provide that the captain shall be deemed to have assumed command of a flight from the time he signs on for such flight or has been called upon for a decision with regard to such flight, whichever is the earlier. The authority of a captain is defined in the Air Navigation Regulations, the Tokyo Convention and the International Civil Aviation Organisation Annex, which is incorporated by reference into the captain's conditions of service.

5.2. It is really inconceivable how a captain could be threatened or else be required to carry dangerous goods as cargo of the unfair labour practice of the Industrial Court.

5.3. The captain's conduct clearly provides "the ultimate responsibility for and its load, and COM's staff or agents shall keep of any factors having a flight".

5.4. Thirdly, captains are fleet captains, each United Kingdom and No has ever had the authority any pilot employed by Airways.

6. Fourthly, South Africans, especially when the the seniority to commands among the most experienced the world No South African jumbo captain will take nature of the allegations anywhere in the world. I will revert to you on as soon as the inform hand.

Christmas action does
Ian Macdonald

Dear Friend,

I am writing to inform you that the news I shared with you last week was incorrect. It turns out that the location of the underwater volcano is not in the South Pacific as I previously stated. The correct location is in the Indian Ocean.

I apologize for any confusion this may have caused. If you have any further questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,
Ian Macdonald
was made to isolate and extinguish the fire.

Captain Uys — according to the cockpit voice recorder (CVR), the famous “black box” which was retrieved from the bottom of the ocean — took emergency action which saw him dive the aircraft from 31,000 ft (9,450 m) in a desperate bid to reach Mauritius. The crew and passengers were incapacitated by the smoke or by the fire — by then a raging inferno and described by a rocket expert as “probably being like a giant welding torch, but with far greater heat” — as it cut through the controls in the tail section and then probably through that section of the fuselage.

The Margo Commission inquiry determined that heat of up to 700 Deg C had been generated by the fire.

From page 1

Public invited to help probe

know. We investigated many possible causes which all turned out to be rumours, including the ones about rocket fuel and about Captain Uys.

“We found nothing amusing with the cargo. If the Taiwanese now claim there was something fishy, then why was this information withheld at the time? What is worrying is that if there was something dangerous loaded on the Heldeberg, was it done with the knowledge of the Taiwanese authorities?”

“I spent three years on this investigation and accept we don’t know what started the fire. If you (the Press) can help us solve it, good. And, if the public want to phone my office with information, they now may want to pass on, then we will be happy to receive it and investigate it.”

Mr Van Zyl, recently promoted to chief director of the Civil Aviation Authority, can be contacted at 012-290-2903.

Nine killed as building collapses

ISLAMABAD — Nine family members, including seven children, were killed on Friday when a

R5 000 each for

Weekend Argus Report

FIVE readers share the prize from the Charity two mistakes.

They are Mrs E. Hop, Beach Road, Mouille P. meyer, Prince George Dr. Niekerk, Swart Street, A. 7th Street, Maitland and C. omans Road Sea Point.

Jackpot No 489 is Is
Questions on Helderberg for SAA

We are aware that Uys's family was supplied with copies of those signed statements. Does this mean that SAA was anything to do with the dangerous cargoes being loaded by its aircraft and, if this was the case, why was not the public informed of the situation? May we have your opinion?

There was a problem during the loading procedures for the Helderberg at Kai-shing international airport, Taipei, Taiwan. It is understood that the Helderberg was only one representative on duty and that the airport's crew had to assist local handlers in loading the aircraft. Could you confirm this?

SAA dispensed with the services of one of its cargo handlers at CKS and appointed four local handlers to handle the aircraft's cargo requirements. Two of these handlers had no idea of the regulations forbidding the loading of certain dangerous cargoes. They also say that the manifest for the aircraft was removed by an SAA representative and was lost. A representative of the I. C. C. M. stated that the incident had been reconstructed.

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2. The Chief Executive is on leave until Tuesday, 27 December 1984, and I know that he would like to respond to your letter personally.
3. The incident took place seven years ago and South African Airways will need a little time to investigate the allegations that are now being made. I have caused a copy of your fax to be transmitted to the relevant managers for their comments. It should, however, be pointed out that nothing of the nature of the allegations that are now being made have been seriously suggested during the inquiry before Judge Margo.
4. I would like to take the opportunity, however, to respond immediately from a legal point of view to the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of your letter under reply.

It is not really an incredible allegation against the background of prevailing labour practice in South Africa.

1. Firstly, the conditions of service of captains provide that the captain shall be deemed to have assumed command of a flight from the time he signs on for such flight or has been called upon for a decision with regard to such flight, whichever is the earlier. The authority of a captain is defined in the Air Navigation Regulations, the Tokyo Convention and the International Civil Aviation Organisation Annex, which is incorporated by reference into the captain's conditions of service.

2. It is really inconceivable how a captain could be threatened with dismissal if he or she refused to accept dangerous goods as cargo in the context of the unfair labour practice jurisdiction of the Industrial Court.

3. The captain's conditions of service clearly provides: "The captain has the ultimate responsibility for his aircraft and its load, and COMPANY staff or agents shall keep him informed of any factors having a bearing on his flight."

4. Thirdly, captains report to their fleet captains, and no manager in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland has ever had the authority to dismiss any pilot employed by South African Airways.

5. Fourthly, South African Airways pilots, especially when they have reached the seniority to command jumbos, are among the most experienced pilots in the world. No South African Airways jumbo captain will take anything of the nature of the allegation from anybody anywhere in the world.

I will revert to you on Tuesday morning as soon as the information comes to hand.
PRETORIA. — The income of many former TBVC defence force members will be decreased from January 1, to bring their pay and benefits in line with the SA National Defence Force.

Although legitimate base salaries would not be reduced, certain allowances received by members of the TBVC defence forces would be cut, according to an SANDF internal bulletin released yesterday.

These included board and lodging allowances, housing and transport subsidies and the favourable tax rates applicable to some former TBVC states.

The adjustments were in line with the new Constitution and the Public Service Act of 1994.

SANDF chief General Georg Meiring said the defence budget could not be stretched to bring everybody up to the former TBVC levels and that the constitution determined that what was generally applicable must be used as a basis.

"As such the RSA Public Service is used as a basis for remuneration in the SANDF," Gen Meiring said.

Where former TBVC defence force members legitimately received a higher salary, the member would retain the scale as a "personal scale".

Tax arrangements in former TBVC states would remain until the end of the current tax year.
'No explosion' on Helderberg

By CHRIS BATEMAN

A RE-OPENED Margo Commission into startling new claims about what caused the Helderberg airliner disaster would probably focus on non-explosive fire aboard the aircraft, Mr Justice Cecil Margo said yesterday.

The head of the inquiry into the 1967 disaster reiterated his finding that no explosion took place.

He was reacting to new claims that the aircraft was secretly carrying hi-tech air-combustible rocket fuel immersed in water "fish tanks", which split during turbulence around midnight on November 28.

All 159 people aboard the Helderberg died.

Weekend reports claimed the pilot's misgivings were overtaken by an order from senior SAA management to fly. This had apparently happened twice before.

Judge Margo said yesterday that cockpit voice recordings of communication between Finsance Airport in Mauritius and the flight deck and on-board radio discussions showed there had been no loss of pressure on board.

A Canadian scientific inquiry had found there had been no shockwave, and post mortem X-rays of the bodies showed no "opaque substances" - which would have indicated an explosion - lodged in the flesh of victims.

All this contributed to his finding that no explosion took place.

But Judge Margo added that "combustion without an explosion" could be reconsidered.

The prerequisites for any inquiry had to be "an absolutely fearless approach, I'll listen to anything and evaluate it fully."

Asked if he would be prepared to head a fresh inquiry after Transport Minister Mr Mac Maharaj ordered that the claims be fully evaluated, he said: "I've devoted a great part of my life to aircraft accident investigation and my interest remains at the highest level."

The original inquiry found that smoke, which probably caused the crash, emanated from a pallet at the right front of the upper cargo compartment in the Boeing 747 Combi aircraft.

SAA has denied the "order to fly" allegation, saying it was "inconceivable" that a captain could be threatened with dismissal if he or she refused to accept dangerous goods as cargo, in the context of prevailing labour practices in South Africa.

Armscor has denied that any material aboard the aircraft was destined for them and refused to confirm a claim that they sent a team to patrol Mauritian beaches the day after the disaster.