

PUBLIC SECTOR — GOVERNMENT
MISCELLANEOUS DEPT.

~~21 FEB. 1979 — 21 MAY 1979~~

JAN — ~~MARCH~~
~~MAY~~
MARCH

Ons onderhandel in Pr

RHOODIE GEV

Rapport 7/1/79

(259)



DR. ESCHEL RHOODIE

Deur THINUS PRINSLOO

DIE Regering het 'n houvas gekry op al dr. Eschel Rhoodie se vaste eiendomme in Suid-Afrika — en daar word op hoë vlak in Pretoria met dr. Rhoodie se prokureur onderhandel.

Dié inligting is hierdie naweek eksklusief aan RAPPORT verstrek deur mnr. Jimmy Kruger, Minister van Justisie en Polisie.

Min. Kruger, wat vir die eerste keer gepraat het oor die polisie-onderzoek na dr. Rhoodie se sake, het gesê dat daar beslis geen vrywaring teen moontlike vervolging aan dr. Rhoodie verleen is nie.

a combination of increased supply (mine capacity) and up demand (peaking in the Korean War boom; manganese is so world steel industry). This 1953 employment figure was in 1975.

10.2.2 It is difficult to subdivide the years after 1953 in a rough sort of way it would be possible to consider them a flat trend with a good deal of mild cyclical variation the sharp downturn of 1954-55 and upswing of 1956-60)

10.2.3 However there is also a case for seeing a slight trend in the 1960s and early 1970s (after the regaining level in 1960 and 1962) and a reversal of that trend since 1962. This view is compatible with the behaviour of the 5-year averages of employment. The 5-year averages in the series 1959-63 to 1968-72 show a declining trend (from 8 793 to 8 111 to 8 940).

10.3 Across the 30 years output has increased by more than 20-roughly, a 1/4 million metric tons to 5 1/2 million). There was an initial rapid expansion, a 1950s level of capacity, and then a higher level in the first half of the 1960s (Hotazel

P.T.O

Onderhandelinge is wel aan die gang tussen die Staatsprokureur, mnr. L. Martin, en mnr. Merwyn Gross, die prokureur wat dr. Rhoodie onlangs in die buiteland gaan besoek het, het hy gesê.

Die onderhandelinge het o.m. daartoe gelei dat die transportaktes van al dr. Rhoodie se eiendomme aan die staat oorhandig is. Sels die woonhuis in Menlopark, Pretoria, waar dr. Rhoodie se vrou en kinders also lank op sy terugkoms wag, mag nou nie sonder die staat se verlof verkoop word nie.

Speurders

Min. Kruger het ook bekend gemaak dat 'n span van ses speurders besig is om al die getuienswaardige die Erasmus-kommissie beskik deur te werk met die oog op moontlike verdere ondersoek.

Die Staatsprokureur is besig met 'n ondersoek om te bepaal in hoe 'n mate die staat se bates moontlik onregmatig vervreem of aangelegas is deur dr. Eschel en Denys Rhoodie en mnr. Louis Luyt, J. van Zyl, Alberts, Les de Villiers en André Pieterse. So het die Sekretaris van Justisie, adv. J. P. J. Coetzer, aan RAPPORT gesê.

Hy sê dit is "klaarblyklik 'n baie gekompliseerde ondersoek, en daar sal noodwendig heelwat tyd verloop voordat finaliteit bereik kan word".

Nadat hy in verbinding was met sy senior personeel, het Kruger uit sy strandhuis in Mhlaba Rocks aan RAPPORT gesê dr. Rhoodie

Rhodie

* VERVOLG VAN 'BL. EEN. *

Die eiendomme wat geraak word, is dr. Rhodie se huis in Menlopark, 'n erf in Nature's Valley en 'n vakansiehuis in Bantrybaai, Kaapstad.

Min. Kruger sê die Staatsprokureur „het 'n caveat teen die eiendomme laat registreer”, wat beteken dat geen transaksie, sonder die staats toestemming kan plaasvind nie.

„Met ander woorde, dit wat na ons verwys is, het ons heeltemal vir die staat bevestig. Ander aspekte en die verskillende projekte van die gewese Departement van Inligting word deur die Pretorius-komitee gehanteer, om die staat se belange te beskerm. Dit is reeds op groot skaal gedoen.

„Aangesien dit 'n komitee is wat registreer deur die Eerste Minister aangestel is, wil ek uteraard nie oor sy bedrywighede praat nie.”

Mnr. Kruger sê die polisie is nie besig om dr. Rhodie op te spoor nie. „Dit sou moontlik by ander departemente berus.”

Dreig

'n Span van ses speurders is wel besig om getuies wat aan die Erasmus-kommissie voorgelê is, deur te werk met die oog op moontlike verdere ondersoeke.

Die ondervraging van moontlike getuies kan eers begin nadat die Erasmus-kommissie se taak afgehandel is. Anders kan dit probleme skep, sê min. Kruger.

Afgesien hiervan is twee lede van die polisie se handels-tak besig om die Erasmus-kommissie met hul kundigheid by te staan.

Gevra of dr. Rhodie onmiddellik ná sy aankoms in Suid-Afrika in hegtenis geneem sal word, het min. Kruger gesê:

„Uit die aard van die feit dat die polisie nog besig is om deur die getuies te werk en die ondersoek derhalwe in 'n vroeë stadium is, is dit nie moontlik om aan te dui of sodanige oortredings begaan is dat onmiddellike inhegtenisneming geregverdig word nie.”

RAPPORT: Volgens betroubare bronne het dr. Rhodie in die buiteland 'n volledige manuskrip oor die hele Inligting-debakel opgestel en dreig hy om dit openbaar te maak indien hy by sy terugkeer in Suid-Afrika

verhoor sou word. Dra u daarvan kennis?

Min. Kruger: Dit is 'n saak wat jy met dr. Rhodie moet bespreek. Ek is nie bereid om daarop kommentaar te lewer nie.

RAPPORT: Om watter rede is mev. Rhodie se paspoort ingetrek? Is dit om te voorkom dat sy en haar kinders die land verlaat?

Min. Kruger: Die Departement van Binnelandse Sake het haar paspoort ingetrek. Dit is 'n vraag wat u min. Schiebusch moet stel.

* Gistermiddag laat was daar nog geen aanduiding dat dr. Rhodie in Suid-Afrika terug is nie. Hy het die land op 19 November verlaat ná 'n lang sessie voor die Erasmus-kommissie.

Sedert sy paspoort vroeg in Desember ingetrek is, is Suid-Afrikaanse ambassades oorsee op die uitkyk na hom om sy paspoort terug te neem en hom noodreisdokumente te gee wat net geldig is vir 'n feitlik onmiddellike terugreis na Suid-Afrika.

GRAPH 9: MINING EMPLOYMENT AND OUTPUT

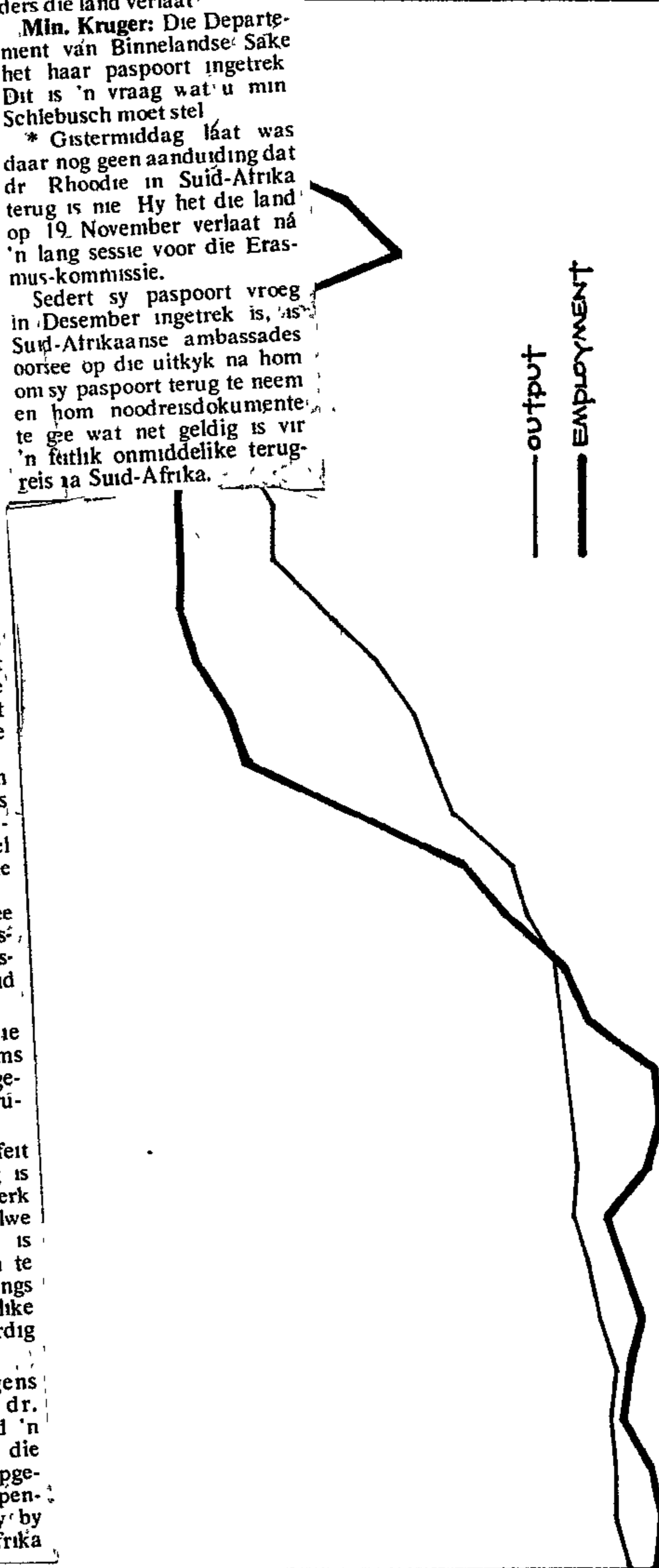
IRON ORE

EMPLOYMENT IN '000'S

OUTPUT IN '000 METRE

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— EMPLOYMENT

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Star 9/1/79 (259)

De Villiers says he will tell the 'full info story'

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — "I am willing to tell the full and total story to the Erasmus Commission," Mr L E S de Villiers, former head of the Department of Information's clandestine "special projects section," said in Cape Town yesterday.

At a Press conference he had called at the Heerengracht Hotel, Mr de Villiers said if he had not intended being frank with the commission he would not be appearing before it.

In an initial statement he told the Press he would refuse to answer any questions that had bearing on the evidence he would give to Mr Justice R P B Erasmus, and on his personal life — the break-up of his marriage to Mrs Patsy de Villiers and his relationship with

Mrs Ruth Hatter, an air hostess

He said he would consider telling his story to the Press once he had testified, and then only with the permission of the commission.

ICEBERG

Denying that he knew the full story behind the information scandal, Mr de Villiers said it would be arrogant for him to assume he knew all the facts

"Who in South Africa knows it all? I don't," he said

He refused to disclose whether only a tip of the iceberg had so far been uncovered.

"It would be wrong of me to speak of dimensions, iceberg or no iceberg I know a part of the story that has as yet not been published in the Press," he said.

titude to the Government's secret funds, Mr de Villiers said reporters should draw their own conclusions.

If he had worked in the department for four years, then he could not be against the idea of using unorthodox methods.

More than once, Mr de Villiers emphasised his willingness to appear before the Erasmus Commission, which reconvenes on January 16

"Nobody paid for my air ticket," he said.

IMPROPER

Asked whether he was afraid of the consequences his evidence might have for him personally, he instructed reporters to scrap his initial reply, saying it was improper to make any reference to the commission.

In a mild attack on the reporting of the information scandal, Mr de Villiers said journalists should think before they "play around with stories simply for their sensational value" Especially when they concerned the future and the interests of South Africa, he said,

Qualifying this, however, he said he believed it was the "right and the duty" of the Press to reveal any signs of what they thought to be corruption in the Government

So far the Press had "portrayed only a lot of unrelated parts of the story"

"The correct perspective would be to give face and flesh to the skeleton in the cupboard It will give more of a totality. That is the story I hope to put across eventually," he said.

L E S settles wife's damages claim

Mr L E S de Villiers, the former Deputy Secretary of Information, who returned to South Africa at the weekend with American air hostess Mrs Ruth Hatter, said he made a settlement with his wife following a R25 000 damages claim brought against Mrs Hatter.

At a Press conference to "set the record straight," Mr de Villiers refused to comment on his role in the now defunct Department of In-

formation or on his private life.

Mrs Hatter was recently at the centre of a legal action and a R25 000 claim brought by Mrs Anna "Patsy" de Villiers. The claim was for alleged adultery with Mr de Villiers.

Mr de Villiers said he had made a settlement with his wife but refused to discuss his married life.

"That is private and the codes and ethics of marriage still apply," he said.

expenditures. Since 1972/73 Bo to her young and disparities and rural development

The Task Before

programme formula alliance with the economically str

tation remains de reform. The pre Some overlapping especially over

of the Tribal Aut Botswana does app

current ad hoc pr to local government

policy making and should be possible

Once a clearer app capacities.

It is doing the latter under difficult circumstances: The Centre, finding its own way in terms of policy and programmes and operating in an open manner, is also charged with the husbanding of local democratic institutions. It is doing the latter under difficult circumstances:

Info scandal hit US dealings says De Villiers

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19/1/79
259

JOHANNESBURG — The former deputy Secretary for Information who controlled the secret "special projects" section said yesterday the Information scandal had affected dealings with the United States and other countries

Interviewed on the programme Radio Today, Mr L de Villiers said it was believed secret funds were behind just about every project

Asked if he had any fears for his safety by offering to testify before the Erasmus commission, he said. "Personally I can't boast about any personal threats of any kind.

He had information which he felt the Erasmus commission should have.

"I think I should give straight-forward evidence without any frills"

Asked about South Africa's position in the United States, Mr De Villiers said "I think we have got a lot of leverage as far as our minerals are concerned. If South Africa did not sell the United

States chrome and steel, they would not be able to fly jet planes"

He did not think the United States would be able to pay exorbitant prices for steel and chrome from the Soviet Union

He said he had not been asked to return. He had had to return on business partially, and would be staying "for quite a few weeks"

He had no papers to prepare for his appearance before the Erasmus commission

While he had been offered a job with Sydney S Baron in the United States in December, 1976, he had only accepted the offer in June, 1977, on the understanding, however, that he would stay on in the Department of Information for a few months so that there could be a smooth transition

Asked if he would be accessible to the press after testifying, Mr De Villiers said that would depend on what the commission thought appropriate for him to say

at the time

Mr De Villiers arrived unexpectedly in South Africa on Saturday. With him was Mrs Ruth Hatter, an American air hostess recently the centre of legal action and a R250 000 claim by Mrs Anna de Villiers.

Mr De Villiers has asked to be left alone until he testifies next Tuesday. At a press conference he refused to say where Mrs Hatter was or discuss his married life.

"That is private and the codes and ethics of marriage still apply"

He said he had made a settlement with his wife following the claim brought by her against Mrs Hatter for allegedly committing adultery with her husband

Mr De Villiers plans to return to the United States after the inquiry where he says he will still have a job with Sydney S Baron, even if the huge contract between the firm and the South African Government is not renewed when it expires next year — SAPA-DDC.

country. When Botswana kely case for an economic rid and arid tableland;

in the Okavango delta; on skills and with little (lion); and abundant ist industry if that

Botswana would be able to Southern African ex-British mining, a bread-basket case

reliance on migrant discovery in the late

brana, copper-nickel at tswana's economic position.

special moral stature political conditions of exhibited in the recent Botswana with the chance

to forge new economic policy instruments and programmes, particularly on rural development, that could provide valuable lessons for the region.

The First Decade

Botswana's first decade of independence has been well used to realise the discoveries of mineral wealth and to begin developing democratic institutions and government capacities. Official statements, in particular the National Development Plan 1976-81, stress the need to turn attention to the large disparities within the countryside and between the countryside and the towns.

Mineral development, the growth of government, the initial provision of physical and social infrastructure, and a run of fair to good weather has expanded the economy considerably. Between 1966 and 1973/74 GDP rose from P37 million to P192 million and per capita GDP from P68 to P305. The

Liaison and Works Committees

Instead of simply providing for the of the pyramid, a dual system of work. A liaison committee in any establishment the employer and others elected from least half the members of a liaison employees but the chairman may be de a member of the liaison committee, o by the

liaison **UNION CORP**
commit **Eyeing Hortors**

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24/11/74

define employ concer affect of a l consti

As some of the dust settles around the Info scandal, the FM learns that Union Corporation is prepared to investigate the possibility of taking over Hortors — the printing and publishing company bought by David Abramson and Stuart Pegg against government guarantees to Swiss bankers.

The wor

Union Corp's Basil Landau confirms that Abramson offered certain of the Hortors' interests to his group about a year ago. Because Unicorp could see no synergy in such a move — no deal

establi committ

A deal involving the whole group, however, appears to be more attractive. "There may be a natural affinity in some areas, and conflict in others. But if Hortors as a whole is up for sale, and offered to us, we would naturally be interested. It's a fine company with a fine reputation. And we're always looking at opportunities for rationalisation," says Landau.

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Key executives at Hortors would clearly back a bid from Unicorp, provided the price was right. The problem would be establishing a reasonable value for the group. One director dismisses Pegg's expressed hope that he and Abramson would glean between R9m and R12m as "more than optimistic" And since the board has no way in which to assess the real standing of the holding company, Hortors (Pty), which has various commitments abroad, the directors cannot even begin to guess at the right figure

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Complicating matters further is the Reserve Bank's instruction to Hortors' management that no shares may be transferred without the bank's permission. In addition, no duplicate share certificates may be issued. And in what appears to be a classic "belt and braces" operation, the Pretorius Committee, headed by Secretary to the Treasury, A.J.

Pretorius, is believed to have taken possession of all the shares in the holding company.

Government moves on Hortors have therefore confused negotiating procedures more than a little. In fact, they may have put paid to at least one concrete bid from an undisclosed but hopeful buyer.

In this regard, the authorities have put Pegg and Abramson's noses out. On the one hand Abramson has told his executives that any deal must be done through him. On the other, government has made such negotiations extremely difficult.

What apparently motivated the government to take action is the threat that Swiss banks which financed the purchase of Hortors may call on Volkskas to honour guarantees provided at the time of the original deal. These banks are understood to be concerned because the government has blocked the payment abroad of Hortors' dividends. Should they call on Volkskas in the event of problems, the SA bank would in turn have to seek recompense from the Reserve Bank, which underwrote the guarantees.

Hugh Murray

and, is a wholly elected body. In any twenty African workers, where no liaison select a works committee consisting of no persons. However, representation is number of African workers in the establishment the time of the election. The Bill extended allowed for more than one works committee firms, therefore, sections of the African works committees. committee is held under the chairmanship authorised representative. Obviously where joy a reasonably harmonious relationship. However, where relations are cool or on one or both sides, this particular ving what may be a fundamental conflict of ition of a labour dispute is far wider slation, and a Bantu Labour Officer and/or stance of the Regional Bantu Labour ie in an attempt to effect settlement there ming in this connection. The Act

259

Sy spoor 13000 km gevolg

RHOODIE IN WRELDREIS OP GESPOR

DR. ESCHEL RHOODIE is in Brasilië, die gewilde Suid-Amerikaanse toevlugsoord van die wêreld se voortvlugtes.

'n Senior Suid-Afrikaanse amptenaar het vandeeweek sy spoor tot in 'n spoggerige huis in die stad Sao Paulo gevolg, het ek in die buiteland vasgestel.

Toe die amptenaar aanklop om dr. Rhoadie se paspoort af te neem, het 'n vrou die deur oopgemaak. Sy het ontken dat Suid-Afrika se gewese Sekretaris van Inligting in die huis is.

Die huis kon nie deurga-
soek word nie omdat 'n las-
brief nie daarvoor verkry is
nie. Sederdien word op hoe
vlak tussens Suid-Afrika en
Brasilië onderhandel.
Die situasie was die naweek
bêre vloeibaar. Die groot

Brasilië waarskynlik op 23
Desember onder 'n vals naam
binnegegaan het

Ná onderhandeling op hoe
vlak is 'n Suid-Afrikaanse
amptenaar in Brasilië ná 'n
adres in Sao Paulo gestuur.
Hy het opdrag uit Suid-Afrika

gekem

Twee dae later het mev.
Rhoadie na Suid-Afrika ver-
trek, waar haar paspoort en
dié van haar man se broer,
dr. Deneys Rhoadie, ingetrek
is.
Ek het gorseë bevestiging



DR. ESCHEL RHOODIE

prokureur, mnr. E. A. Mar-
tin en dr. en mev. Rhoadie
se regsvertegenwoordiger in
Pretoria, mnr. Merwyn Gross.

te belooft dat hy 'n behoorlike
sertifikaat in verband met die
aanwending van geheime
fondse aan Verdediging sou
verstrek
* Hy valslik te kenne
gegees het dat die rekeninge-
ter "die nodige interne
oudit" van die geheime
fondse sou versorg. Die serth-
fikaat wat hy verstrek het,
was 'n skyndokument

259

14/1/79

vraag is of dr. Rhodie ongesiens uit Brasilië kan glijp

Brasilië is 'n gewilde toevlugsoord vir voortvlugtiges. Die berugte Britse treinrower Ronald Biggs leef al vyftien jaar as 'n vry man in Brasilië ondanks pogings van die Britse polisie om hom uitgelewer te kry

Dr. Rhodie het Suid-Afrika op 19 November verlaat as een van die hooffigure in die Inligtingskandaal. Sedertdien is sy paspoort ingetrek en word hy wêreldwyd deur die Suid-Afrikaanse regering gesoek.

Ek het vandeeweek by Amerikaanse inligtingsbronne vasgestel dat dr. Rhodie

gehad om dr. Rhodie se Suid-Afrikaanse paspoort af te neem en hom van noodreis-dokumente te voorsien.

Omdat dr. Rhodie nie 'n misdad in Brasilië gepleeg het nie, kon 'n lasbrief nie verkry word om die huis te deursoek nie

Nadat dr. Rhodie uit Suid-Afrika weg is, het sy spoor aanvanklik deur Switserland en Frankryk geloop. Dr. en mev. Rhodie het op 29 November in Zurich aan-

gekry dat dr. Rhodie toe na Cannes in Frankryk is. Daar het sy spoor doodgeloop — tot nou

Toe mnr. Alwyn Schlabusch, Minister van Binnelandse Sake, om kommentaar genader word oor die jongste ontwikkelinge in die Rhodie-drama, het hy gesê „Ek wil nie ontken of erken dat RAP-PORT se inligting korrek is nie”

Intussen word die onderhandelinge tussen die Staats-

voortgesit.

Die Erasmus-kommissie het o.m. bevind dat

* Dr. Rhodie se opdrag om dokumente te vernietig en nie aan ander te toon nie, 'n poging was om onreëlmatighede te verdoesel wat dui op bedrog en diefstal

* Dr. Rhodie hom as Sekretaris van Inligting skuldig gemaak het aan growwe nalatigheid

* Hy die Departement van Verdediging mislei het deur

Rebel Connie

14/11/79

Sunday Times

By IVOR WILKINS

a party nightmare

(259)

THE apparent determination of Dr Connie Mulder, disgraced former Minister of Information, to take his seat in the National Party caucus before the coming session of Parliament, is taking on nightmare proportions for the party.

He has become the skeleton that refuses to stay in his cupboard

Despite overwhelming pressure from his party colleagues and the National Party Press, Dr Mulder this week packed his bags and defiantly headed for Cape Town

There are suggestions in party circles, I was told, that he is in direct contact with former Information Secretary Eschel Rhoodie, currently evading efforts to have him return to South Africa where possible criminal proceedings await him.

Fear

Although two Afrikaans newspapers yesterday reported that Dr Mulder intended to resign before the session, a fear persists that he is in possession of damaging information about a number of his colleagues and may use parliamentary privilege to reveal all.

In a blunt statement this week, Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, Free State leader of the National Party, said he had strong feelings about Dr Mulder remaining in the caucus. He left no doubt that he was hostile to the idea.

Informed party sources said yesterday that Mr Schlebusch's view in this matter represented the overwhelming feeling of the caucus

Even his Randfontein



DR MULDER
An embarrassment

branch executive — up to now steadfastly loyal — is divided on the issue. It is reported that, while his personal standing is good, there is a strong feeling in Randfontein that he should resign for his own sake, for the sake of his family and the party in Randfontein

With the Government's acceptance of the Erasmus Commission report — which damns the former Minister — there is virtually no room for manoeuvre.

Dr Mulder is apparently holding the caucus to a condition he stipulated before the special session of Parliament on the Information scandal last year

In a letter to the party leadership at the time, he said he would not take part in the debate, as long as he could have an opportunity to address the caucus at a later stage

It is understood there was considerable dissatisfaction

at the way the leadership handled this.

But the leadership did not respond to that stipulation, leaving an opening, which Dr Mulder may now be able to exploit.

Constitutionally, there is nothing that the party can do to prevent Dr Mulder from addressing the caucus

But, if he takes up his seat in Parliament, he will have virtually no allies. In that eventuality, the Progressive Federal Party will almost certainly call for a Select Committee to establish whether Dr Mulder lied to Parliament last year when he unequivocally denied that there was Government money in the Citizen newspaper

Positively

Nationalist sources in the caucus point out that the Speaker, Mr Loots, indicated during the special session that he would positively entertain a request for a Select Committee

"There is a prima facie case. We will not be able to vote against that," a Nationalist MP said

This holds wider implications for the party. When Dr Mulder made his statement about the Citizen funding, Mr Vorster, then Prime Minister now State President, was sitting in the House and did nothing to contradict it.

Table 17. Engineering technicians by type -

Table 16. Total shortage of technicians -

Table 15. Total number of technicians -

Table 14. Total number of technicians - 1970
Census figure as presented by the
Department of Information

Rhodie:

C.T. 15/1/79 (259)

SA sends message to Brazil

By STEPHEN WROTTESELEY

THE MINISTER of Foreign Affairs, Mr R F "Pik" Botha said last night that the Brazilian authorities had been informed that South Africa believed the missing former Secretary of the now defunct Department of Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, was in Brazil.

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R

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Speaking from his home, Mr Botha said "In accordance with instructions, the South African mission in Brazil informed the Brazilian authorities that we had reason to believe Dr Rhodie was in Brazil.

The Brazilian authorities were also informed that Dr Rhodie's passport had been withdrawn.

Mr Botha's statement followed a report published in the Sunday newspaper, *Rapport*, in which it was claimed that Dr Rhodie had been traced in Brazil.

The newspaper said Dr Rhodie had been found amid the hustle and bustle of Sao Paulo, one of Brazil's fastest-growing cities.

When a senior South African official went to the mansion to which Dr Rhodie had been traced, a woman who opened the door denied that South Africa's most sought after man was there, according to the newspaper.

Yesterday's report said negotiations might be taking place at a high level to obtain a search warrant for the house.

Last night Mr Botha said no negotiations were being made for a search warrant. All that could be done was to inform the Brazilian authorities.

Dr Rhodie left South Africa on November 19 after giving evidence before the Erasmus Commission, but before the findings were disclosed in Parliament.

His passport, as well as that of his brother Deneys, former Deputy Secretary for Information, was withdrawn and on December 6 Parliament was told that Dr Rhodie was guilty of neglect of his duty as Secretary of Information and of gross negligence.

However, South African officials discovered that Dr Eschel Rhodie had apparently gone to Brazil, the home of fugitives, under a false name on December 23, according to *Rapport*.

After discussions at high levels, a South African official was sent to Brazil to an address in Sao Paulo, a city a few hours' drive from one of Brazil's leading ports, Santos.

His instructions were to take away Dr Rhodie's passport and to issue him with emergency travel documents, according to the Sunday newspaper.

The woman who answered the door denied the South African was "in the house" and because Dr Rhodie has not committed an offence there, a search warrant could not be obtained.

Mr Botha said that once there were confirmed reports, motions could start for extradition and the Department of Foreign Affairs was the channel for this process.

"However extradition is not an easy matter. It is a very complicated matter," he said.

He said a charge would have to be formulated and prima facie evidence would have to be produced.

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In the past some 35 000 Botswana annually have sought work in South Africa as migrants. In other words, one-quarter of the male labour force underwrote the fluctuations in rural incomes, as weather varied, by work outside the country. Today it is known thanks to the Rural Income Distribution Survey, that many in fact seek work outside the rural areas because of rural poverty. The Survey discovered that 40% of the rural households, containing 35% of the rural population, live below the rural poverty datum line (household annual income of P507 in cash and kind). There appears to be a strong correlation between the maldistribution of income, similar maldistribution in the ownership of cattle and the present low productivity of arable farming.

The high capital:employment ratio of recent years has held back the general growth of employment opportunities. Between 1972-75 employment in the Government sector, mostly in education, grew 40%; in mining, manufacturing and construction it grew 27%; and in large scale farming it grew by only 4%. The completion of much of the construction and the fixed capital formation

PRETORIA — Dr Eschel Rhoodie was not in Brazil on a South African passport, a spokesman for the Brazilian embassy said here yesterday.

Asked whether a visa had been issued to the former Information Secretary before he left South Africa after giving evidence before the Erasmus Commission, she said a visa had "definitely not been issued in Dr Rhoodie's name".

"This embassy had not granted a visa on a South African passport to Dr Eschel Rhoodie, and neither had — as far as this embassy is concerned — any other Brazilian embassy anywhere in the world," she said.

Had any other Brazilian embassy issued a visa to Dr Rhoodie, the embassy here would have been notified.

The spokesman indicated that if Dr Rhoodie was in Brazil, he must be travelling either on a foreign passport issued in another name or by unauthorised means.

"All South Africans wanting to enter Brazil must apply for a visa through the normal channels Dr Rhoodie did definitely not do so."

There are two types of Brazilian visas for visitors — a 10-day transit visa and a 90-day tourist visa.

No visa for Rhoodie

As far as this embassy is concerned, neither of the two visas was issued to Dr Rhoodie.

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Info probe evidence to stay secret

CAPE TOWN — The Erasmus Commission into alleged irregularities in the defunct Department of Information will not release the evidence given before it.

The commission's secretary, Mr Johan Geyser, said the commission had been considering releasing evidence for the past two days and had decided against it as it would be an obstacle in getting the commission's recommendations implemented.

"At the instance of various bodies and individuals during the special session of Parliament last December, the commission undertook to consider before the coming parliamentary session whether it should not release the evidence given before it which did not affect the security of the state

"The commission seriously considered the question and came to the conclusion no evidence should be released," he said.

"This was decided

because circumstances have changes radically since the special session. It appears that persons involved in the irregularities have refused to return to South Africa after having seen the released report and others have left the country since

"The result is that it will become difficult to get the commission's recommendations implemented if the evidence is released.

"Furthermore, witnesses refused to testify or testify frankly if they are not afforded the protection of secret testimony and the commission's work will therefore be extremely impeded if the evidence is released.

"The State President will at a later stage when the report is submitted to him decide whether evidence or part thereof

should be released."

The acting leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Ray Swart, said the commission's decision would seriously impede the opposition in evaluating the commission's findings.

Mr Swart said the opposition had no option but to accept the decision which came as one of a series of disappointments.

"It now also becomes almost impossible to refute the allegations made against the commission by Gen Van den Bergh

"The public now has a right to know what the government's attitude is with regard to these allegations and to the position of Gen Van den Bergh himself," he said.

The leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, said it was his clear

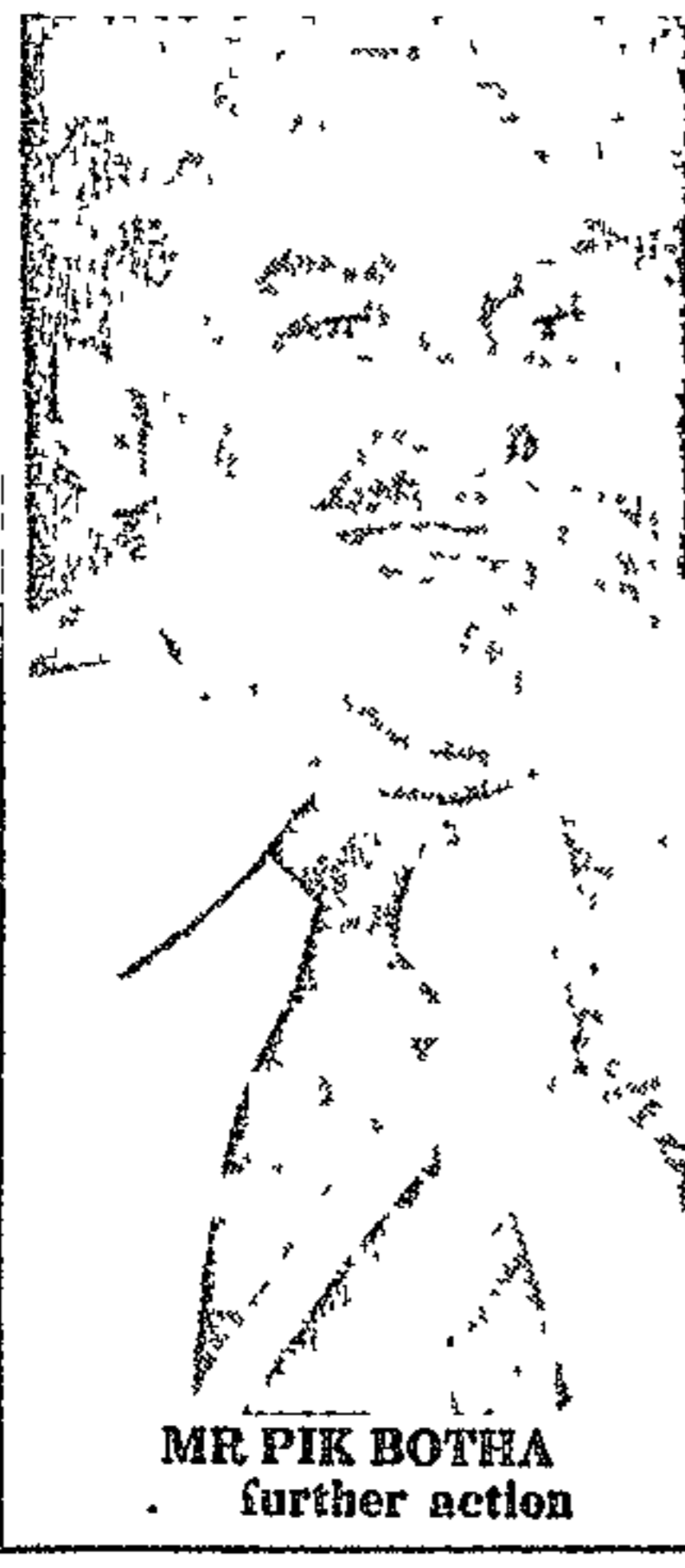
understanding of discussions between the Erasmus Commission and opposition leaders during the special parliamentary session last December that the commission had firmly agreed to make the evidence available before the new session of Parliament

"The evidence has been available to the government for a long time and has, according to the Prime Minister, been referred to the Attorney-General," he said.

"It is therefore the government's responsibility to ensure that action is taken to prevent anyone who may be incriminated from fleeing the country.

"If it is incapable of taking the necessary action to prevent this, it reveals an incredible and unacceptable state of affairs" — SAPA

or the recent phase of economic growth means that employment growth in the first two categories will slump. In 1975 only 20% of those whose education qualified them for employment in the formal sector had a job. The National Development Plan 1976-81 predicts that by the year 2000, and given high rates of employment growth, the proportion of those qualified in jobs will rise to



MR. PIK BOTHA
further action

Rhodie: Pik tells of Brazil move

RDM 17/1/79 (259)

CAPE TOWN — South Africa's representatives in Brazil were yesterday instructed to take further steps to repossess Dr Eshel Rhodie's passport, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha said last night.

In a statement released in Cape Town he said if Dr Rhodie was in Brazil, it was trusted the Brazilian authorities would co-operate in retrieving the passport and would see that he

was issued with emergency travel documents to return to South Africa.

The Government had received information on January 10 from a confidential source that Dr Rhodie was possibly living at an address in Sao Paulo.

The Consul-General was on the same day instructed to inform the Brazilian authorities of the facts relating to Dr Rhodie's passport and to go personally to the address concerned with

a written communication for delivery to Dr Rhodie, informing him of the decision relating to the withdrawal of his passport.

"The South African Consul-General reported that he had informed the police in Sao Paulo about the matter and emphasised that the Government's interest in him was not politically motivated, but was connected with an investigation in South Africa regarding the handling of public funds."

The Consul-General, accompanied by the vice-Consul and local police went to the address to be met by Mrs Bianca Jakobi.

"When the Consul-General asked to speak to Dr Rhodie, she denied any knowledge whatsoever of such a man." The statement said.

A man, claiming to be Mr Rudolph Jakob, her husband, emerged from the house and after a short conversation in English switched to Afrikaans. He said he was of Dutch descent, possessed a German passport and had lived in South Africa and SWA where he had been employed as a mining engineer by the Anglo American corporation. He said he had never heard of Dr Rhodie.

Mrs Jakobi was requested to contact the South African Consulate-General if Dr Rhodie appeared at her house.

Mr Botha's statement went on to explain the problems of extraditing a person from a foreign country.

A deportation decision however could be taken in the case of a person who is not a citizen of the state. The required travel document is thus a relatively simple procedure and it is the negative of the state which admitted such a person to be considered a threat to the state.

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Court finds anticipated findings

Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICAN Associated Newspapers (Pty) Ltd, the Editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Alister Sparks, and Mr Hannis Frasier, Deputy Finance Editor of the "Mail," were yesterday found guilty in the Johannesburg Regional Court of having anticipated the findings and proceedings of the Erasmus Commission.

The company was fined R50, Mr Sparks R50 or 25 days, and Mr Frasier was cautioned and discharged.

All three had pleaded not guilty before the Chief Magistrate of Johannesburg, Mr L.P. Franses, who said in sentencing them he accepted they had not deliberately flouted the law.

At the start of his judgment Mr Franses read the charges in which he had been framed in terms of regulations published in the Government Gazette in the "Mail" of November 13, headed "Citizen R27-million shock," he said. It was alleged the report was published at a time when the Commission of Inquiry into Alleged Malpractices in the Department of Information had not yet been reported to the State President.

Mr Sydney Kentridge, SC, who appeared for them — had made certain admissions. Mr Franses said he admitted that SAAN was a corporate body and the proprietor and printer of the "Mail," that Mr Sparks was the Chief Editor of the "Mail," and a servant of SAAN, that Mr Frasier was a reporter of the "Mail," and a servant of SAAN, that the Commission of Inquiry had not yet terminated its proceedings when the report was published and that Dr Conradie was Minister of Information and Dr Eschele Rhoades Secretary of Information at the relevant time.

Mr Kentridge had also informed the court that the defence would not contest publishing the article in question, Mr Franses said.

He then briefly outlined the evidence led at the hearing. The only witness for the State was Major M. Nel, who gave evidence about his visit to the offices of the "Mail" where he had confronted Mr Sparks and Mr Frasier with two copies of the "Mail." They had confessed the article which was the bone of contention, Mr Franses said.

Major Nel testified that Mr Frasier had admitted he was the author of the article and had accepted responsibility for it. Mr Sparks had mentioned the Mostert Commission and

had said the findings released by that commission had been on the basis of the report. Major Nel said he had not checked whether in fact the report had been based on the findings but assumed that was so.

Witnesses had then been called for the defence to show there was nothing in the article referring to the Department of Information but rather to other departments and to show there was nothing in the report that anticipated the findings of the Erasmus Commission, Mr Franses said.

Mr J. Spier had analysed the balance sheet and said he was of the opinion any auditor would have come to the same conclusion as he did. A journalist, Mr K. van der Merwe had testified about an interview with Mr Justice Erasmus, chairman of the Commission of Inquiry.

Two further witnesses called by the defence had objected to giving evidence before they had had a chance to consult their legal advisers. The opportunity had been granted.

At the resumed hearing Mr Van Zyl Alberts had said he had been managing director of SA Today which had had a banking account with Volkskas. He had explained how the losses of The Citizen had been made good by the Government and also explained that money made available had been used for losses after the department became defunct.

Mr Van Zyl Alberts had said maintained a General Van den Berg was a person who could furnish precise details on these aspects, Mr Franses said.

The terms of reference of the Erasmus Commission were to inquire into any irregularities, misappropriation of public funds by the Department of Information and malpractices which it might find. The commission also had to recommend on actions against any people involved in such practices.

Mr Franses said it had also been admitted by the defence that the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry had at the time of the article not yet terminated its activities and that at that time Dr Conne Mulder was Minister and Dr Eschele Rhoades Secretary of Information. The State contended that by publishing the article before the Erasmus Commission had reported, the accused had anticipated the findings and proceedings of the commission.

The defence contended that the terms of reference of the Erasmus Commission did in no way prevent a newspaper from publishing the article before the Erasmus Commission had reported, the accused had anticipated the findings and proceedings of the commission. The defence contended that by publishing the article before the Erasmus Commission had reported, the accused had anticipated the findings and proceedings of the commission.

The State's contention was that the accused had anticipated the findings by forming conclusions upon information relating to a subject falling within the terms of reference of the Erasmus Commission. The State appeared to place an extremely wide meaning on the word "anticipated," Mr Franses said.

The defence said that "anticipated," primarily meant "stating in advance what his findings would actually be." They argued that the word "anticipated" in the regulations was aimed at the leaking of the findings before they were made public.

The intention of the legislation had to be sought, Mr Franses said. Referring to decided cases he said the primary rule was that the words of the legislation should be read in their ordinary sense. The function of a court of law was to apply the law as it found it and not to extend or subtract.

He also quoted from Afrikaans dictionaries saying that the word "voortloop" meant "haasting optree," "on me te wag dat sake hulle gang gaan."

To his mind there was no difference in meaning between "anticipate" and "voortloop," he said. Again referring to dictionaries Mr Franses said the word "finding" meant "decisions upon questions of fact." The State contended that by publishing the article before the Erasmus Commission had reported, the accused had anticipated the findings and proceedings of the commission.

The defence contended that the word "proceedings" meant "the course of a procedure in an action of law," "any action of law instituted in a court," and "steps taken in a course of law by either party." Mr Franses said bearing these definitions and fundamental rules of interpretation in mind, he was turning to the intention of the legislature.

The defence argued that the word "anticipated" was aimed at the premature leakings of the findings of the Commission before they were actually published.

Mr Franses then referred to another regulation which read "no person shall publish any information until the State President has released the finding or until it is placed on the tables of the Senate." If the defence's argument was correct this regulation had no purpose, he said. This was the regulation which made it an offence to publish the findings of a commission before the State President had released it.

Mr Franses said the defence argued that "the findings" referred to in the regulation were the actual findings. Reading the regulation in its entirety it seemed that it was designed to ensure that there should be no speculation about the findings in that case the word "findings" would not mean only actual findings.

He again referred to decided cases and said that in establishing the meaning of a word a court should refer to dictionaries and statutes. He quoted a saying that dictionaries should not be taken as being authoritative.

Mr Franses then read the meanings of the word "anticipated" as given in several dictionaries and said it meant "to deal with before a previous time," "to have a previous view or impression," "to foresee."

The contention of the defence was that it could not be an offence merely to publish matters of public interest which had come to light before the appointment of the Erasmus Commission. They said that where the article went further than this there was nothing to show it related specifically to the Department of Information.

Mr Franses said an analysis of the article showed it was not merely a reproduction of facts obtained by consulting an accountant. Certain parts of the article referred to Dr Rhoades, Mr Franses said.

He read portions of the article, including the reference to R27-million which had apparently been lost and the phrases "unless there is a secret Nationalist financier of enormous wealth and a list for loss." It is difficult to see how a hank in the absence of an assurance of a big daddy waiting in the wings, could have allowed anybody such an overdrive.

The article dealt with an analysis of The Citizen's accounts. Surely The Citizen's financing was a matter relating to the Department of Information. This had been disclosed without a shadow of a doubt.

Mr Franses said that, bearing in mind its terms of reference, the Erasmus Commission would have to examine the books and statements of account of The Citizen, Mr Franses said.

The reference to the accounts released by Judge Mostert and their analysis in the "Mail" article dealt specifically with the proceedings of the Erasmus Commission. Mr Franses said.

The article dealt specifically with the Department of Information and the part played by Dr Rhoades, Mr Franses said.

The defence argued that the terms of reference did not prohibit the publication of matters of public interest which were already public knowledge. The answer to that was that a newspaper might well be able to do so provided that in doing so it did not infringe the regulations, Mr Franses said.

He then found all three accused guilty. Mr B. Geach, for the State, addressed the court on sentence. A maximum fine was rarely imposed on a first offender but the offence in this case was so serious that a very substantial

fine should be imposed, he said. The fact that contraventions of these regulations were prevalent was not a mitigating factor. For the wide publication which these anthropomorphic remarks had received had to be considered. The "Mail" was one of the widest circulating newspapers in the country, Mr Geach said.

In sensitive matters such as this, one would expect a certain reticence but the accused attacked this matter with the dogged determination of a bull. Mr Geach said.

Although the company had acted out of a desire for financial gain one could only speculate about the intentions of Mr Sparks and Mr Frasier. One could not dispute that they acted in the way they considered morally right. Their interests terminated with that of the company.

He asked that a substantial fine "in the region of R150" be considered. Mr Kentridge then called Mr Sparks said that as Editor of the Rand Daily Mail he accepted full responsibility for the report. "In this instance I would go farther than is normal I accept total responsibility for it," he told the court.

He had in fact initiated the report and had been responsible for seeing it into the paper. Mr Franses's responsibility should be regarded as minimal, he said.

Mr Sparks said he had passed the documents released by the Mostert Commission to the management of his company in case there was anything of interest in them. The company's financial manager later drew his attention to the significance of the balance sheet of SA Today.

The financial manager pointed out that an analysis had shown that at least R27-million of Government money had been paid to The Citizen.

"It struck me as being of great public interest," Mr Sparks said. He instructed Mr Frasier to speak to the financial manager, to go through the balance sheet with him and to prepare a report for publication.

They wished to be doubly sure on this, particularly because the financial manager was an officer of the company. They wished to guard against any remote possibility of subterfuge. Mr Sparks said. So he instructed Mr Frasier to contact an outside source. Mr Frasier contacted a highly reputable firm of accountants and went

through the balance sheet with them. The same conclusions as the financial manager "it seemed to me that any competent accountant would come to the same conclusion and I instructed Mr Frasier to prepare the report for publication."

Mr Sparks said he was aware of the terms of reference governing both the Mostert and Erasmus Commissions. "I had no intention of acting in contempt of the Erasmus Commission. In fact I went to considerable lengths to safeguard against such an action," Mr Sparks said.

He told the court that on November 9 last year he had received a telephone call from Mr J. G. Geysers, secretary of the Erasmus Commission, asking him if he would see the commission the following morning. Mr Geysers said the commission wished to discuss with him a certain report which had appeared in the "Mail." This report dealt with post-dated cheques totalling about R14-million which Mr Louis Luyt had paid into the bank account of Homertus Finance Corporation.

Mr Sparks said he went to Pretoria with his legal adviser, Mr Kelsey Shart. On the way they read a report in The Citizen indicating that the Erasmus Commission was particularly concerned about a report which had appeared in the "Mail," a report quoting a British barrister: "I was most surprised and concerned," Mr Sparks said.

He appeared before the Erasmus Commission and they had a discussion which indeed concerned the report quoting the British barrister.

"I expressed my surprise that I had been given incorrect information and that correct information had apparently been supplied to another newspaper," Mr Sparks said. He received an apology and the secretary of the Erasmus Commission explained it had arisen from a misunderstanding. Mr Justice Erasmus intervened between himself and Mr Sparks.

Mr Justice Erasmus explained to him several of his fellow commissioners had in fact raised the question of the report of the Luyt cheque. He said he had told them he was not concerned about anything which his "brother Mostert" had released. The essence of what he said was that the information released by Mr Justice Mostert was public property.

"I concluded from that, that as far as the Erasmus Commission was concerned, it believed that newspapers were free to publish the evidence released by the Mostert Commission," Mr Sparks said.

Mr Shart had agreed with his conclusion. The day after the article was published Major Nel came to his office and he received a summons the next day. Mr Sparks said Major Nel made a remark indicating he was surprised at the speed with which proceedings had taken the 48 hours of the article appearing and Mr Frasier had been summoned to appear in court.

Mr Sparks said several aspects of the case seemed relevant to sentence. He was not referring to the manner in which the case was conducted. Firstly there was the dramatic and exaggerated haste with which the case was brought within 48 hours of the article being published. "This contrasts strangely with the tardiness of the State in bringing any kind of action against the principals," Mr Sparks said. His experience had been that for years — and he had been a newspaperman in South Africa for 27 years — it had been normal practice for newspapers to continue publishing facts relating to events on which a commission of inquiry had been appointed and indeed to comment on them. The case instance was the Chile Commission, he said.

It had also been the practice followed in this case of the Information Department scandal where all the papers contained to publish, Mr Sparks said.

"Why was the case brought against me? Why was I prosecuted in this case after the clear indication was given to me in this case that I was not to be prosecuted? Why this exaggerated haste in bringing the case? These are the questions which I would like the court to consider," Mr Sparks said.

"The irresistible conclusion I have come to is that the State took these actions to harass and intimidate the newspapers which have played a leading role in exposing the Government scandal which the Government had thought to cover up for a long time," Mr Sparks told the court.

He knew of no other newspapers being charged except for the instance where Mr Kit Katzen, Assistant Editor of the Sunday Express, was brought before the court although he was perfectly willing to give the information required.

The "Mail" and the Sunday Express were the only newspapers prosecuted and they were the newspapers most active in exposing the scandal which the Government had been so anxious to conceal, Mr Sparks said.

He agreed entirely with the prosecutor. "We did expose the scandal and cling to it with the tenacity of a bull terrier," he told the court. He had believed that was their duty and they had performed a service to their country, Mr Sparks said. Mr Geach in cross-examination you seemed to say that your newspaper was singled out and that it is a little unfair that you were singled out. How does the haste of the proceedings affect your moral guilt? Mr Sparks I am not saying that it does affect my moral guilt.

Mr Geach It does seem unfortunate that you have been twice misled by the Erasmus Commission.

We don't say that Mr Justice Erasmus misled you. He was expressing his own view.

Do you not think in retrospect that you went too far in your interpretation of what Mr Justice Erasmus said? Mr Sparks I believe I understood him accurately.

Did Mr Frasier prepare a draft? Mr Sparks He did I instructed him to consult our legal advisers and I consulted personally with our legal advisers.

Mr Frasier never objected to the publication of the article, Mr Sparks said. Addressing the court in Kentridge said the court had found that the publication of this article amounted to an anticipation of the findings and proceedings of the Erasmus Commission. He thought he could safely say this was the first regulation in any court on this regulation. He was saying that by way of explanation and support for the attitude taken by Mr Sparks in publishing the article.

Mr Sparks said he had not intended anticipating the findings and had not thought that he had done so. He had also thought he was supported by Judge Erasmus. It was clear Judge Erasmus had not been saying what the law was and had not given advice on the law. What he had said was that he did not regard his own work as having been embarrassed or impeded by the re-publication of the matter referred to by Judge Mostert. This was relevant in considering whether the publication of the article did any harm or was a technical offence, Mr Kentridge said. Another aspect relevant to the question of punishment was the consequences of the infringement. It was in the highest degree significant that the State did not produce any evidence from any member or official of the Erasmus Commission and did not submit that the article in any way hindered the commission.

Editor fined for Info cash report

DD 18/1/79

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JOHANNESBURG — South African Associated Newspapers, the editor of the **Rand Daily Mail**, Mr Allister Sparks, and a financial reporter, Mr Hamish Fraser, were found guilty here yesterday of contravening the Commissions Act.

Saan was fined R50, Mr Sparks was fined R50 or 25 days and Mr Fraser was cautioned and discharged.

The chief magistrate, Mr L. Francis, found that by publishing an article on November 15 1978 about The Citizen, Saan had anticipated the findings of the Erasmus Commission when the commission had not reported its findings to the State President.

Mr Francis found that the article, which contained an analysis of balance sheets of SA Today (Pty) Ltd, the former owners of The Citizen, fell within the terms of reference of the commission.

The Erasmus Commission was appointed to inquire into and recommend on the misappropriation of public funds by the former Department of Information and any person connected with it.

He said the article contained comment and analysis of specific accounts in an endeavour to establish what had become of certain funds. It referred specifically to Dr Eschel Rhoodie and to the department.

"These were some of the very issues contained within the terms of reference of the Erasmus Commission," he said.

Before being sentenced, Mr Sparks said his newspaper had "clung onto

the Information Department scandal with the tenacity of a bull terrier."

He said he believed it was the paper's duty to the public to expose the scandal which the government itself had tried to cover up for a very long time.

In publishing facts released by the Mostert Commission, he believed the Mail had performed a service to the country.

He accepted full responsibility for the November 15 article.

Summing up the evidence, Mr Francis said the managing director of SA Today, Mr J van Zyl Alberts, told the court how the losses of The Citizen were made good by the government and how money was transferred into SA Today's account with Volkskas.

Mr Van Zyl Alberts had referred the court to Gen H van den Bergh, former chief of the now defunct Bureau of State Security, for details about the funding of The Citizen.

Evidence by the Braamfontein branch manager of Volkskas, Mr A. Pretorius, confirmed that about R7 million had been transferred from the Reserve Bank in Pretoria to SA Today's account.

In mitigation, Mr Sparks told the court the article had been published after close examination of cer-

tain documents released to the press by Mr Justice Mostert.

"After studying accounts relating to the funding of The Citizen with the financial manager of Saan, our analysis showed that at least R27 million appeared to have been paid to The Citizen by the government.

"This struck me as an important news item of great public interest.

"On my instructions, Mr Fraser wrote the article entitled Citizen — R27 million shock, and I accept full responsibility for it. At no time did I intend to anticipate the findings or proceedings of the Erasmus Commission."

Mr Sparks said he had been called by the secretary of the Erasmus Commission to interview its members in Pretoria on November 10 last year.

"At the interview, Mr Erasmus said he was not concerned with anything which 'my brother Mostert' had released. He intimated that the information released by Judge Mostert was public property.

"I came to the conclusion that as far as the Erasmus Commission was concerned, newspapers were free to publish information disclosed by the Mostert Commission.

"Within 48 hours of the

article's appearance in the Rand Daily Mail, I was served with a summons to appear in court.

"This hastiness contrasts strangely with the tardiness that the state has shown in bringing any kind of legal action against the principal figures involved in the Information scandal."

Mr Sparks said no legal action had been taken against other newspapers, except that Mr Kitt Katzin of the Sunday Express had been summoned before a magistrate to give information required by the police.

"I come to the conclusion that the state has attempted to use the process of the law to harass and intimidate newspapers which have played a leading role in exposing the Information scandal which the government itself has tried to cover up for a very long time."

In his experience, it had been normal practice for South African newspapers to publish information, comment and speculation, on events of public importance even though a commission of inquiry had been appointed.

Mr Sydney Kentridge, SC, defending, said this was the first time a newspaper had been convicted under the regulations governing commissions of inquiry — SAPA.

PD Police Probe Rhodie

85 18/1/79 (259)

JOHANNESBURG — Police have begun official investigations of irregularities in the spending of secret information Department funds by the Rhodie brothers.

This was confirmed yesterday by Gen Jan Kleinhaus, chief of the CID here.

The investigation is a direct result of recommendations of the Erasmus Commission in its report to Parliament early in December last year.

The investigation is being conducted by the police commercial branch headed by Coliffhêo Scherman who also conducted inquiries into alleged contempt of the commission by the former head of the Bureau for

State Security, Gen Hendrik van den Bergh.

The commission recommended that irregularities by the defunct department's former secretary, Dr Eschel Rhodie, and its former deputy secretary, Dr Deneys Rhodie, be referred to the Attorney-General with a view to possible criminal proceedings.

The report referred to "irrefutable indications of large-scale irregularities" and exploitation of the department's R46 million fund, including possible theft and fraud, through which the state suffered great loss.

It said that the actions of the former secretary — who is reported to be hiding in Brazil — in ordering the destruction of documents were an attempt to conceal irregularities and pointed

to theft and fraud

Gen Kleinhaus said he was unable to say whether the police investigation would be confined to South Africa or extend beyond its borders.

He indicated the investigation would include other possible matters raised in the course of continuing inquiries by the Erasmus Commission.

Dr Deneys Rhodie, whose passport like that of his brother, was withdrawn on instruction by the Minister of the Interior, Mr Schlebusch, is still in South Africa.

The Department of the Interior remained silent yesterday on whether Dr Eschel Rhodie had received permission to obtain foreign passports in addition to his South African one. There have been reports that Dr Rhodie might be travelling on as

many as six passports issued in different names.

It has been suggested he might be travelling as an honorary consul for the South American state of Ecuador and using a passport from that country.

In London yesterday a spokesman for the Ecuadorian embassy said this was "virtually impossible," but he would notify his Foreign Ministry that it had been suggested.

In response to questions about whether Dr Rhodie had received permission to obtain a foreign passport and, if he had, whether it had been revoked, a spokesman for Mr Schlebusch said the minister would not comment.

The Secretary for the Interior, Mr T.J. Booyens, also would not comment. A Brazilian police

spokesman said this week that if Dr Rhodie were in Brazil on a passport issued under a false name, he would be deported to South Africa.

The London Ecuadorian embassy spokesman said a suggestion that it was possible to buy an Ecuadorian passport was outrageous.

Only Ecuadorians or people who have achieved five years' residence in our country qualify for passports.

"I myself would like an explanation of this claim. If by any chance this man did use one of our passports to cross an international frontier, it would be possible to trace him almost immediately."

A more likely suggestion, but almost impossible to prove, is that Dr Rhodie could have obtained a Lebanese passport — DDC

30 "Minerals and Manpower", Journal of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Vol.75 No.3 (October 1974), pp. 49-62.

31 These employment figures are average numbers of persons at work. The main employment series used in this paper are of persons in service. Both sets of figures are available (Tables 1,2) in the annual Mining Statistics publication (see note 14).

259

EDITORIAL OPINION

Withholding the evidence

Mr Justice Erasmus's decision not to release the evidence about the defunct Department of Information is unfortunate because it means that the South African public will not be able to evaluate it.

As the acting Leader of the Opposition, Mr Ray Swart, put it "There should be maximum public ventilation and exposure of the facts."

Assuming, however, that the Erasmus Commission is justified in withholding some of the evidence, we believe its decision still cannot be supported in the case relating to the former head of the Bureau of State Security (BOSS), General Hendrik van den Bergh.

For years, the general was one of the most powerful people in South Africa. Before he founded Boss, he was head of the Security Police. He was one of the former Prime Minister's closest advisers.

In December, South Africa was shocked to learn about a different person, a man who appeared from the Erasmus Report to be a manipulator of people and events and who, according to the report, at times made decisions for the Prime Minister. The commission also discussed his "arrogance" when he told it that if he wanted to do something, nobody would stop him — and he would stop

at nothing

Immediately after the commission reported, Gen Van den Bergh held a press conference at which he called it a "big farce", one-sided and full of insinuations. He also called for the release of evidence concerning him.

Shortly afterwards, Mr Justice Erasmus announced that all the evidence would be released to MPs and said he had no control over "what they decide to do with it". The only proviso was that it should not affect state security.

The country was left with the impression that at least as far as Gen Van den Bergh was concerned it would be able to judge for itself. And it is extremely important that the country should be able to assess the evidence.

The General may be charged for contempt for his remarks, but that is not the most important issue. Was he really so powerful? Was he really a manipulator? How did the cabinet and the then Prime Minister allow him to get into such a position?

Until the evidence is released, those questions will not be adequately answered.

We hope, therefore, that the Erasmus Commission will change its mind in this regard.

Police begin investigating irregularities

RAM
18/1/79

259

By TONY STIRLING

POLICE have officially started investigations into alleged irregularities involving expenditure of secret funds of the now defunct Department of Information by its former Secretary, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, and his brother, the former Deputy Secretary, Dr Denys Rhoodie

This was confirmed yesterday by General Jan Kleinhaus, chief of the CID

The investigation is a direct result of the recommendations of the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry contained in its report to Parliament early in December last year

The investigation is being conducted by the Commercial Branch, headed by Colonel Theo Scherman, who also conducted inquiries

into alleged contempt of the commission by the former head of the Bureau for State Security (BOSS), General Hendrik van den Bergh

The specific recommendation of the commission was that irregularities perpetrated by Dr Rhoodie and his brother be referred to the Attorney General with a view to possible criminal proceedings.

The report of the commission referred to what it called "irrefutable indications of large-scale irregularities and exploitation" of the Department's huge R64-million secret fund, including possible theft and fraud, "through which the State suffered great losses"

It said that the actions of the former secretary, who is reported to be in hiding in

Brazil, in ordering the destruction of documents, were an attempt to conceal irregularities and pointed to theft and fraud

In answers to questions put to him by the Rand Daily Mail yesterday, Gen Kleinhaus said that at this stage he was unable to state whether the police investigation will be confined to South Africa or extend beyond its borders

"At this stage we are still investigating and do not know what proportions it may eventually assume, or if overseas investigations will be needed"

Gen Kleinhaus also indicated that the police investigation would include other possible matters raised in the course of continuing inquiries by the Erasmus Commission itself

"I think it is fair enough to assume that if there is reason to believe any subsequent evidence led at the commission justifies investigation, we will naturally investigate it if it is referred to us," he said

LIAN HOBBS reports from London that a spokesman for the Ecuadorian embassy in London said yesterday it was virtually impossible that Dr Eschel Rhoodie was travelling on an Ecuadorian passport

He said the suggestion that it was possible to buy an Ecuadorian passport was outrageous

Only Ecuadorians or people who have achieved five years' residence in our country qualify for passports

"I would like an explanation of this claim," he said. "If by any chance this man did use one of our passports to cross an international frontier, it would be possible to trace him almost immediately"

A more likely suggestion, but almost impossible to prove, is that Dr Rhoodie could have obtained a Lebanese passport

GRAPH 12: TOTAL EMPLOYMENT IN ALL MAIN SECTORS

700 680 660 640 620 600 580 560
2,000

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

Let's have all the Erasmus evidence

THE Erasmus Commission's announcement that it will not release the full evidence taken by it has caused widespread dismay and shock. That is understandable. After the commission reported last month, Mr Justice Erasmus promised that the evidence would be made available to MPs — and hence, clearly, to the public — a few days before Parliament reopened on February 2.

There must be overriding reasons for going back on this pledge. But the explanation offered by the commission's secretary, Mr Johan Geysler, hardly comes up to the necessary mark. Circumstances have changed radically, he says, and it appears that "persons involved in the irregularities have refused to return to South Africa after having seen the released report and others have left the country since". Releasing the evidence, he goes on, will make it difficult to implement the commission's recommendations.

That is surely closing the door after the horses have bolted. Dr Eschel Rhoodie had left South Africa by the time the report appeared. Messrs Abramson and Pegg have gone since, and publication of greater detail at this stage about their involvement in the Info wrongdoings is not going to affect their decision whether they stay abroad or return home. At least Dr Deneys Rhoodie's passport has been impounded and he is penned in.

Are there others who might decide to flee in the light of the evidence? Then let the Government act swiftly against them!

That is one aspect. There is another which arises with the demand by General Hendrik van den Bergh for disclosure. Rightly or wrongly, he contests the commission's harsh judgment of him and he calls for all the evidence to be released so that a public assessment can be made of him. That is an eminently fair request.

In addition, there is the significant point made by the Progreds' Mr Harry Schwarz. "We do not agree with a number of findings by the commission," he says. "We believe the evidence will show that we are correct. But without the evidence it will not be possible to prove this."

Withholding some of the evidence which affects security, or which could compromise informants, might perhaps be justified. But there is no justification, on what is known, for holding back the bulk of the evidence.

A basic element of the Info scandal was the attempt at cover-up by the offenders. The Erasmus Commission has done sterling work in exposing the rottenness. In its own interests, and for the sake of justice, it must continue to show that it is determined to reveal all.

National Level

Technical

Local Government

Field Level

Regular Works

National Assembly

District Council

Communal Grazing Companies
Leasehold Ranches

Village Development Committee

Employment Guarantee Works

259

The former Department of Information had at least 138 secret projects most of which are still secret.

The Government, which in this matter is its own judge, intends to keep the veil of secrecy over most of them.

Of the 125 projects known to have been evaluated by the Pretorius Committee, 57 are to be wound-up, eight are to be financed openly and 56 will continue as secret projects.

Many of the known projects are riddled with abuses. There is no way of telling if similar abuses occurred in the projects still secret.

The facts are:

The SAAN

takeover attempt:

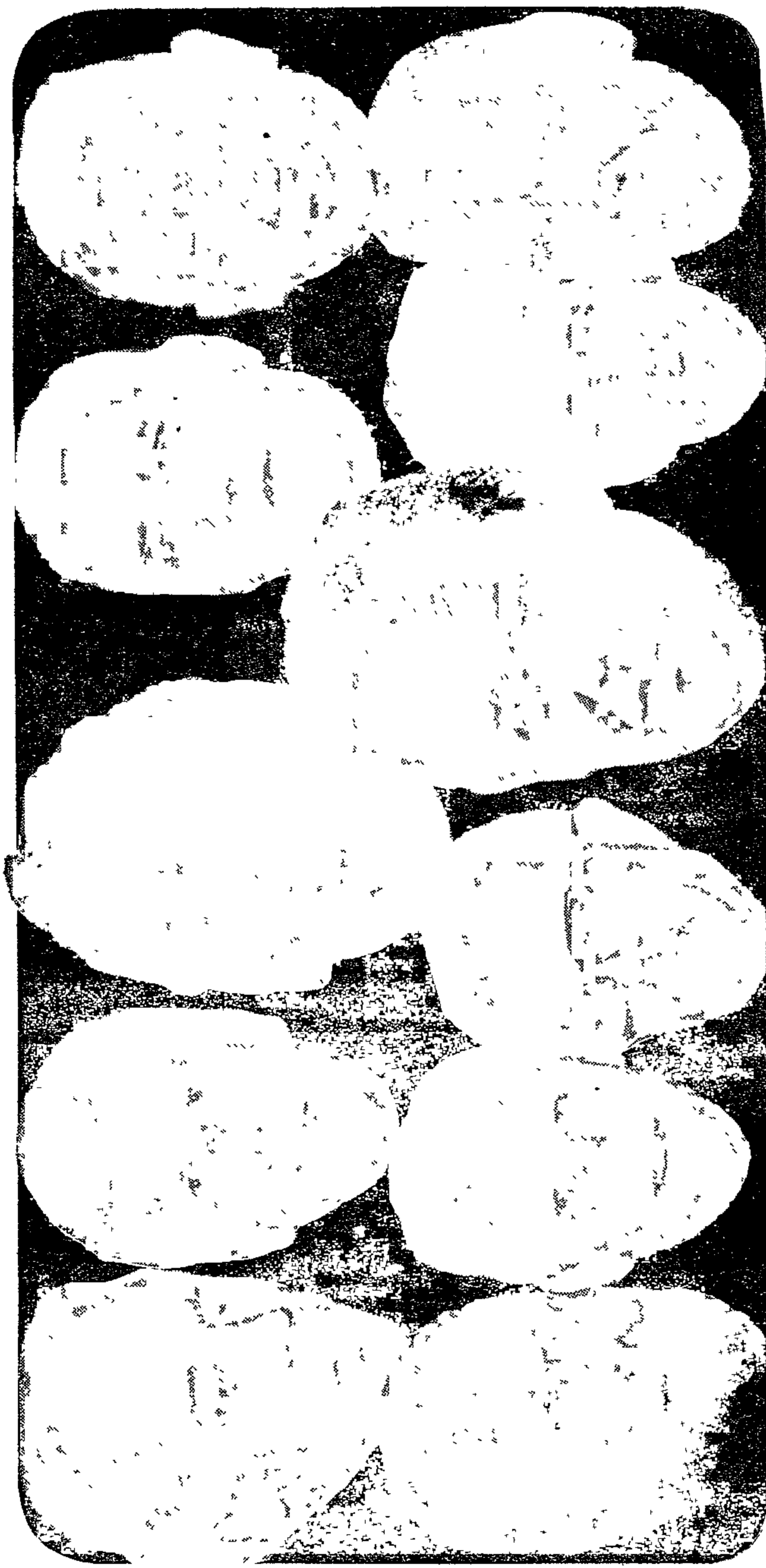
The takeover attempt was financed by secret funds with fertiliser magnate Mr Louis Luyt as the front-man. Mr Luyt directly, and everyone else involved by intent and implication, lied to the country and misled it into believing this was Mr Luyt's personal project and was financed with his own

The Commissions Act prevents anyone from speculating about evidence before the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry into the former Department of Information or of anticipating the commission's findings. The commission resumed its hearing this week.

This limits newspaper investigations because it becomes difficult to publish articles where fact A is added to fact B to arrive at the logical (but unproven) conclusion C.

Known facts are another matter — and even on known facts both the internal and international ramifications of the Information scandal are staggering.

In this article KEVIN STOCKS rounds-up the known facts — and makes known a few more.



From left to right (top row first) Retief van Rooyan, Andre Pieterse, Eschel Rhoodie, Louis Luyt, John McGoff, Red Metrowich, John Heinrich, Jan van Zyl Alberts, Connie Mulder, Les de Villiers and Denys Rhoodie.

The scandal thus far...

259

19/1/1979

The Citizen:

This project, which is being started by a Government supporting English language newspaper, is more than R31-million of taxpayers' money. Former Minister of Information, Dr. Connie Mulder, lied to Parliament when he denied Government involvement. Former Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, listened to him but said nothing. The Citizen, with circulation built-up with Government funds, has now been sold to the Afrikaans Press group, perskor. Some money drawn from secret funds for The Citizen was used by the former Secretary of Information, Dr. Eschel Rhoadie, to buy a holiday flat in his own name. The flat was later sold, at a profit, to the prominent Israeli businessman Mr. Arnon Milner.

The Washington Star:

Ten-million Rands in

tended that Morgan Grampian would eventually be taken over by the Information front men and would form the foundation of a world-wide publishing empire that would support South Africa. However, with the Information scandal beginning to spring leaks an opportunity occurred to sell the Morgan Grampian shares at a profit and was taken. The department made a profit of R2-million while Mr. Abramson and Mr. Pegg made R1-million each.

Hortors:

Mr. Abramson and Mr. Pegg, still acting as front-men for the department, took over the big South African printing group Hortors. The deal was financed partly from profits on the Morgan Grampian project and partly with another interest free loan (this time of R3.5-million) from the Department of Information. The Hortors takeover was planned before the Mor-

to be run by the department in conjunction with Mr. David Abramson and Mr. Stuart Pegg. The magazines fall under the umbrella of the two men's private company, Business Press International (Pty) Ltd.

Swaziland (Ltd) Louis Luyt Group

This was the holding company for Mr. Louis Luyt's BAC III aeroplane. The department bought a half interest in the company through its front organisation, Thor Communicators. The sale was eventually cancelled and the plane was sold to a Bermuda-based broking company. Thereafter an executive jet owned by Hortors was often used on information projects - particularly by Dr. Eschel Rhoadie.

To the Point Magazine:

This project also involved Mr. J. van Zyl Alberts who was also used as a front-man in The Citizen, Washington Star and various other projects. To The Point,

was funded largely by secret information funds.

SA Freedom Foundation

A purportedly independent foundation engaged in publishing books, in research and bringing influential visitors to South Africa. It was funded by the Department of Information and its director, Mr. Red Metrowich, was secretly paid a Government salary.

Valiant Publishers:

A publishing company supposedly belonging to Mr. Metrowich. It too was funded by the Department of Information.

Visiorama (Pty) Ltd:

This company, specialising in film and television production, was run

Committee for Fairness in Sport:

This committee, which published advertisements overseas claiming that South Africa was unfairly discriminated against in sporting relations, was supposed to have been financed by Mr. Louis Luyt. The Star can now confirm long-held suspicions that it was funded by the Government.

Foreign Affairs Association:

A purportedly independent association involved in research, publishing and seminars in the foreign affairs field. It

289

19/1/1979

by Mr David Oosthuizen who, until his translation into a magazine, news-paper, film and printing mogul was an employee of a large South African company. There is no evidence that the Department of Information was involved in Mr Alberts buying into Heyns Film, but the company is linked to the Department of Information because it is owned by Mr Alberts. Mr Alberts is a director and 30 percent shareholder in Visiorama despite the fact that Visiorama handled work for the department. Visiorama has a contract to handle closed circuit television systems for the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance in SWA/Namibia. Chairman of Visiorama is Mr J van Zyl Alberts.

Heyns Film and Television Ltd:
Chairman of this well-known company is Mr J van Zyl Alberts

It is mentioned only because of its links with Heyns Film and because it used to belong to Mr David Oosthuizen when it was known as David Charles Film Produksie (Edms) Bpk.

Film Trust (Pty) Ltd:
Mr Andre Pieterse, who received more than R800 000 in Government money to finance the film "Golden Rendezvous" controls this company. Film Trust was to have been the main vehicle for his involvement in the abortive plan to set up a partly Government-financed black film industry.

Robinson Heyns (Pty) Ltd:
This is a highly regarded company engaged largely in the production of television commercials.

Mr David Abrahamson and the Johannesburg restaurateur, Mr John Heinrich Mr Heinrich is reported to have said he was asked to become involved by General Hendrik van den Bergh who was then head of the Bureau for State Security. The Erasmus Commission revealed that on March 31, 1978, Homerus was in possession of R200 000 in secret funds. Homerus was also to have been the channel through which Mr Louis Luyt was to have repaid about R14 million in secret funds used for the Citizen.

Homerus Finance Corporation (Pty) Ltd:
This was an information front-company and channel for secret funds. The directors

Many other people and companies who played a role in the information scandal are known names of security officials of companies like Bourswins (Pty) Ltd, people like Mr Bernard Leyeune who edited a secretly financed magazine Courier Austral but their roles were not major.

Others played what is known to be major roles although the extent and reason for their involvements remain to be revealed.

Communicators (Pty) Ltd:
Among them are the Swiss company, Thesaurus Continental, Securities Corporation through which millions of rands flowed for the department and which sent Dr Eschel Rhoodie letters

Other abuses included lending more than R800 000 to Mr Andre Pieterse for his commercial interests, payment of unauthorised amounts to various civil servants, and the submission and payment of huge expense accounts.

Other abuses included lending more than R800 000 to Mr Andre Pieterse for his commercial interests, payment of unauthorised amounts to various civil servants, and the submission and payment of huge expense accounts.

exhorting him to burn previous letters.

In addition no simple recital of the information projects which occurred abuses like Dr Rhoodie buying and selling a flat in his own name; abuses like Dr Rhoodie receiving more than R76 000 in secret funds but filing no vouchers to show the money was paid to what the Erasmus Commission stigmatised as "so-called anonymous collaborators" for whom he said it was intended. This money, incidentally, was drawn over a six-month period and the commission said it represented only "examples" of the large sums regularly drawn by Dr Rhoodie.

Other abuses included lending more than R800 000 to Mr Andre Pieterse for his commercial interests, payment of unauthorised amounts to various civil servants, and the submission and payment of huge expense accounts.

Film Trust, Pretoria advocate Mr Retief van Rooyen and the late Mr Oscar Hurwitz. The Erasmus Commission revealed that on March 31, 1978, Homerus was in possession of R33 674,21 of secret funds.

Film Trust, Pretoria advocate Mr Retief van Rooyen and the late Mr Oscar Hurwitz. The Erasmus Commission revealed that on March 31, 1978, Homerus was in possession of R33 674,21 of secret funds.

259

19/1/1979

Government money was lent to American publisher Mr John McGoff to help his attempt to take over the American newspaper, The Washington Star Omnipresent information front-man, Mr J van Zyl Alberts, joined the main board of Mr McGoff's Panax Corporation as the Department of Information's nominee. When the takeover failed, Mr McGoff retained the money for a considerable period and used it in his own business.

Morgan Grampian:

More than a million rands in Government money was lent (interest free) to businessmen Mr David Abramson and Mr Stuart Pegg to enable them to buy a major shareholding in the British publishing house Morgan Grampian. The Department of Information also arranged guarantees for foreign loans for the same purpose. Simultaneously, a Swiss bank started buying shares for a mystery client. Although the shares were in the names of Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg, the Department of Information was, in any reasonable view, a full partner in the project as it was entitled to 50 percent of any profits made. Mr Abramson is in possession of written agreements with the Department of Information but has not seen fit to make them public. It was in-

gan Grampian shares were sold and it was intended that Morgan Grampian would take over Hortors.

Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg would, at that stage, be in control of Hortors and through the exchange of shares necessitated by the takeover, would end-up in absolute control of Morgan Grampian and in control of Hortors through Morgan Grampian. As before the Department of Information had a 50 percent participation, although all shares were held in the names of Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg.

The Hortors takeover was financed through the blocked-rand market although much of the money for it originated in South Africa. The country lost several million rands in foreign exchange as a result. The Reserve Bank is still busy investigating the Hortors deal and both Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg have left the country.

West Africa:

This magazine, printed in London, was to have been taken over with Israeli businessman Mr Arnon Milchan fronting for the Department of Information. It is not clear whether the takeover ever took place, but about R115 000 was made available for the project from secret funds and money to about that amount is

a very pro-South Africa news magazine, has never admitted to being involved with the Department of Information. It was, however, subsidised in various ways by the department although its founding pre-dated Dr Eschel Rhoodie's appointment as Secretary of Information — in fact Dr Rhoodie briefly worked for the magazine as assistant editor.

According to evidence before the Mostert Commission of Inquiry, Dr Rhoodie, in complaining of the expense of The Citizen, once commented that To The Point always met its budget and The Star is aware that the former Deputy Secretary of Information, Mr Les de Villiers, once told a friend that the magazine was subsidised to the tune of several hundred thousand rands a year. Managing director of To The Point was Mr van Zyl Alberts with Dutch Publisher, Mr Hubert Jussen, as chairman. After Mr Louis Luyt withdrew from The Citizen project, the two men became respectively managing director and chairman of The Citizen's holding company, SA Today (Pty) Ltd.

Vacances and Marie Nouvelles:

Two French magazines that were to have formed part of the planned worldwide publishing empire that was

New fields of inquiry for commission

NM 20/1/79

259

- NO. AUT
- 1. Fran
 - 2. OUT
 - 3. Dudl
 - 4. OUT
 - 5. Dudl Alid
 - 6. D.G.
 - 7. J.B.
 - 8. Mike
 - 9. Nige.
 - 10. Davic
 - 11. Shell Charl
 - 12. Johan Janet
 - 13. Normar
 - 14. Johann Maree
Judith Cornell
 - 15. Norman Bromberger
(FORTHCOMING)
 - 16. Gordon Young
(FORTHCOMING)
 - 17. Johann Maree
 - 18. Giles Hobson
 - 19. Lieb J. Loots

CAPE TOWN — Witnesses who had already appeared before the Mostert Commission, the Pretorius Committee or the Erasmus Commission might be required to reappear to give evidence before the Van der Walt Commission, the latter announced here yesterday.

The chairman of the commission of inquiry into contravention of foreign exchange regulations, Mr. H. J. D. van der Walt, yesterday announced the commission had concluded its second session in Cape Town.

The commission had, among other things, given attention to the evidence submitted to the Mostert Commission, the statement said.

It had made progress in examining whether areas referred to by the other investigating commissions had been partially or fully covered or not dealt with at all.

"This was necessary in order to establish what additional evidence should be obtained. It may become necessary to request some of the witnesses who appeared before the Mostert Commission or other commissions or investigatory committees to reappear before this commission."

Discussion

The statement says

"In the discussion during this (second) session particular attention was given to a work programme for the commission."

In this regard it was decided that in its future activities the commission would give attention to subjects such as the following

- Consideration of the

more general malpractices under the exchange control provisions,

- Establishing the areas in which the major illegal leakages of foreign exchange occur,

- Examining such irregularities involving foreign exchange as may have occurred in connection with the operation of the State's activities, in particular in the former Department of Information and making recommendations to safeguard the State against any abuses in this regard;

- Combating malpractices relating to the movement of goods,

- Steps to prevent the smuggling of currency and assets,

- Combating foreign exchange malpractices connected with persons who depart from the Republic,

- Reviewing certain of the provisions relating to the legitimate export of capital, and

- The revision of exchange control statutes, regulations and rulings.

Mr van der Walt said the commission also considered what priority should be given to the various subjects and in this respect the commission took into account certain practical problems arising from and created by the activities of other parties such as the Erasmus Commission and the Pretorius

Committee as well as the investigations being conducted by the South African Reserve Bank and the Commercial Branch of the South African Police

Bearing

"In addition the findings of the Dr Kock Commission could have a considerable bearing on the deliberations of this commission and the workload already being imposed on the limited number of specialised officials in the area of concentration had to be kept in mind."

The commission had also given attention to the evidence submitted to the Mostert Commission and had made progress in examining the extent of which the various areas referred to above had already been fully or partially covered or not dealt with at all.

This was necessary to establish what additional evidence should be obtained.

Mr. van der Walt added that it might become necessary to request some of the witnesses who appeared before the Mostert Commission or other commissions or investigatory committees to reappear before his commission.

He made a special appeal for anyone or any institution possessing information of value to the commission to contact the commission. — (Sapa)

- Sample Survey of Squa
- Mining Employment in 2000
- Labour in Transvaal agril farms,
- Sample Survey of Squa
- A Survey of Fish Farm
- A Profile of Black Un Africa

Rhodie nou in Europa, sê Pik 259

Deur JOHAN VOSLOO

VOLGENS berigte wat hom bereik het, is dr. Eschel Rhodie nie meer in Brasilië nie, maar in 'n Europese land, het mnr. Pik Botha, Minister van Buitelandse Sake, gisteraand op navraag gesê.

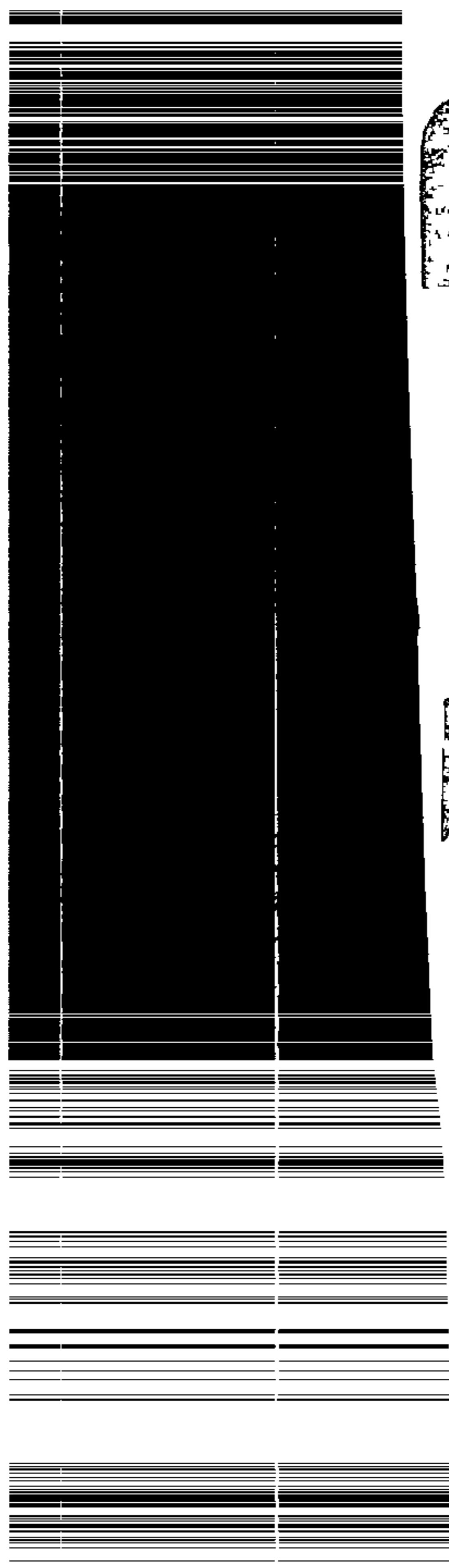
Op die basis van die berigte is die nodige aksie reeds geneem, het hy gesê.

Alles dui daarop dat dr. Rhodie Brasilië in die omgewing van 11 Januarie verlaat het verneem ek.

Oor mnr. Rudolph Jakobie se beskuldiging dat Suid-Afrika hom in 'n verleentheid geplaas het deur te sê dat dr. Rhodie in sy huis in Sao Paulo geskuil het, en dat alles 'n groot blabs is, het die Minister gesê. „Ek kan nie verstaan waarom hy so tekere wil gaan oor 'n aangeleentheid waarvoor hy op sy eie stelling nie mee gemoed was nie.

Hy het bygevoeg dat Suid-Afrika se konsul-generaal in Brasilië, mnr. Nicolaas Nel, niks verkeerd gedoen het nie. Na berigte in Suid-Afrika het hy onder opdrag gaan vasstel of dr. Rhodie by die Jakobies is.

Hy het gevra of dr. Rhodie daar is en 'n vir 'n antwoord gekry, het mnr. Botha gesê.



257 Rapport

30c + 1c belasting
* Suidwes (opvraag) 45c + 2c belasting

SONDAG, 21 JANUARIE 1977
Jaargang 9, Nr. 8

TELEFOON 225191
SATURDAE 413181

Erasmus: ondersoek kan wyer uitkring

VRAAE OOR

DIE GEFHEME SIN

385
386
387

...aangeklee het.
...in ge... die... as dit van... aspehang het.
...verslag... in... dat... ander...
...plaa... der... se...
...vrees... der...
...vergr...
...der Berg...
...Hierdie...
...perspektief...
...aanmatigende...
...doer...
...Dit is nie...
...de...
...DIE gedeelte van die Erasmus-verslag waarin 'n klaar-
blyklik weggelaat is

Gheime sin

* VERVOLG VAN BL. EEN *

mnr. Brian Bannister-Jones,

Hierdie sloertery word wys-
gekritiseer, veral omdat die
Rand Daily Mail so sonder
tydsversuim voor die hot ge-
daag en skuldig bevind is
omdat hy die Kommissies
voortree het.

Intussen het regter Eras-
mus ook 'n afskrif aangeva-
n prof. Hennie Goetzee se
artikel in die Calvinistiese
Sondagskoerant.

Die sin het voorgekom
in genl. Van den Bergh

se oorspronklike getuie-
nis voor die kommissie

en is van so 'n aard dat
dit glo in landsbelang

geag is om dit nie bekend
te maak nie, verneem

RAPPORT.

Die sin bly tot vandag toe
geheim en sal waarskynlik vir
ewig geheim bly noudat regter
Erasmus aangekondig het dat
hy nie meer, soos beloof, die
volle transkripsie van die ge-
tuents bekend gaan maak

genl. Van den Bergh se agente
Wat doen hierdie
agente en watter sinistere
dinge het hulle inderdaad ge-
doen wat van die mense van
Suid-Afrika weerhou moet
word

Regter Erasmus wou op
navraag geen kommentaar
lewer op die strëkking van
die weggelate sin of waarom
dit wegelaat is nie Oor die
hoofartikel in die Kaapse
oggendblad sê hy die koerant

lei net af wat daar in die
'lee ruimte' gestaan het

* Intussen is adv J. E.

Nothing, Prokureur-generaal

van Transvaal, „besig“ met

politiedokumente wat handel

oor genl. Van den Bergh se

beweerde minagting van die

Erasmus-kommissie

Daar is nog nie besluit of

die Generaal in die hof moet

verskyn nie, het sy hoofklerk.

* VERVOLG OP BL. 6 *

the regular budget of local
authorities require strict
control in order to be
useful things to do in the
way in which the
21/1/79

Deur EDD... BO.../HA

DIE een enkele sin wat uit die oorspronklike Erasmus-
verslag geskrap is voordat dit begin verlede maand aan
parlementslede beskikbaar gestel is, is die spil waarom
die ondersoek teen genl. Langhendrik van den Bergh,
gewese hoof van die Buro vir Staatsveiligheid, nou draai.
„Al die dinge gaan daarom. Dit kan nog wyer uitkring. Alles,
die ondersoek teen genl. Van den Bergh, draai daarom.“ het regter
Rudolf Erasmus hierdie naweek met verwysing na die weggelate
sin aan my gesê.

Regter Erasmus se dis-
like goed en hulle het nie
afskrif vir spek en boontjies
aangeva nie

blad. Word en Laad. Daarin
word sekere beweringe oor
die Inligting-ondersoek en die
toegavalle van dr. Connie
Mulder gemaak

that
my major
department
and main
to partici-
are
the pra

Die sin het klaarblyklik
voorgekom in: paragraaf
11 386 van die oorspronklike
verslag Die paragraaf eindig
„Op aanmatigende wyse het
hy (die Generaal) die kommis-
sie vertel dat as hy iets wil
doen, niemand hom sal keer
nie en dat hy vir niks stuit
nie.“

the regular budget of local
authorities require strict
control in order to be
useful things to do in the
way in which the
21/1/79



21/1/29

289

Daar word bespiegel dat die sinmoontlik uitgebrei oor hoe ver genl. Van den Bergh en sy gedugte netwerk van agente bereid was om te gaan — 'n netwerk wie se eenskappe die Generaal volgens die verslag „op sinistere wyse beskryf het”

Dis juis die kommissie se verwysing na die Generaal se sinistere beskrywing van die agente in paragraaf 12 437 van die verslag wat dui op die plek waar die sin wegge-laat is. Vir die Generaal se beskrywing moet paragraaf 11 386 gelees word; se die kommissie. Maar in laasge-noemde paragraaf kom geen so 'n beskrywing voor nie.

Minagting

Na aanleiding van die klaarblyklike weglating van die Cape Times die week in 'n hoofartikel. Wat is hier die vermiste woorde wat soos dit voorkom 'n verwysing was na die sinistere kwaliteite van

RAM 22/1/79

259

Erasmus urged: Clear this up

Staff Reporter

PROPOSITION spokesman Mr Harry Schwarz last night called on Judge Rudolph Erasmus to clarify whether or not any deletions had been made in the report of his commission into the former Department of Information presented to Parliament on December 7 last year.

He was referring to yesterday's lead story in the Afrikaans Sunday paper, Rapport, which alleged that "the one sentence deleted from the original Erasmus Commission report before it was made available to Members of Parliament at the beginning of December is the pivot around which the present investigation into General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau of State Security, now revolves". Judge Erasmus denied last night that he had ever confirmed or denied that there had been deletions, and he refused to comment on whether there had been any.

Mr Schwarz said: "It would be very simple for Judge Erasmus to say that nothing has been deleted or that something has been deleted. The matter can't be left as it is now, especially in view of the parliamen-

Judge called to clarify 'cuts' reports

Commission wishes to recommend that its report be released in its entirety and asked the Prime Minister Mr P. W. Botha whether he had done so.

The Prime Minister said "No". Mr Van Rensburg then said Mr Botha's statement at once because of an ambiguity in that statement. He said he had read it and could not understand that General Van den Bergh's name had been mentioned. He said he had already put in a request to the Commission for a copy of its report and would be waiting for it in the next few days.

Mr Van Rensburg continued: "The Commission has not been treated with all the transparency and honesty that it deserves. It is a pity that the Commission has not been given the same treatment as it deserves."

that censorship has in fact been imposed on the report. I have read the report and I have seen the deletions. I have seen the deletions in one of the reports. The deletions are not deletions of the report. The deletions are not deletions of the report.

The blank space in the Erasmus Report of quite clear to the Commission whether Dr. Mulder deliberately collaborated to exert this pressure. It is clear that Dr. Mulder and Van den Bergh were at virtually the same time, both knowing of the Commission's investigation into the Commission and that he would stop at nothing (921).

The blank space in the Erasmus Report

ROM

259

22/1/79

tary debate a month ago during which the Prime Minister said nothing had been deleted by the Govern-

ment. If Rapport is inaccurate then obviously the matter can be left as it is. If it is accurate then a serious situation has arisen. It is in the public interest that the matter be clarified at the earliest opportunity. If it is not clarified it will be raised in Parliament.

According to Rapport, Judge Erasmus said in reference to the alleged mission sentence: "Everything is about that. It can have wider ripples. Everything the investigation into General Van den Bergh, turns on that."

The sentence, said Rapport, came up in General Van den Bergh's original evidence before the commission and was of such a nature that it was decided in the interests of the country not to make it known. The Cape Times also commented on the matter in a leading article on Friday. The newspaper said the commission's decision a number of critical questions unanswered.

One such question, the newspaper said, arose from the text itself. In paragraph 11.437 it is said of General Van den Bergh: "He was in charge of a formidable network of agents whose qualities he described in sinister terms (see para 11.386, however, paragraph 11.386, however, BOSS agents. The paragraph refers to the evidence of Mr Loot Reynders, and goes on: 'He (General Van den Bergh) told the Commission arrogantly that if he wanted to do something nobody would stop him and that he would stop at nothing.'"

Then follows a blank space which, according to the Cape Times, suggests a last-minute excision. An examination of the report shows what appears to be a larger space after paragraph 11.386 than there is after other paragraphs.

In a lengthy conversation with a Rand Daily Mail reporter last night, Judge Erasmus would not confirm or deny that anything had been deleted from his report. Nor would he say whether the Rapport article was correct.

All you can say is that you were in touch with me, that I denied having told Rapport that anything was left out, and further that I have no comment to make."

On December 8, Mr H E J van Rensburg, PFP member for Bryanston, referred Parliament to paragraph 14.491 on page 100 of the English version of the report, which reads:

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The Cape Times

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1979

The missing words

THE MYSTERY of the missing words in the Erasmus report dealing with the "formidable network of agents" of the Bureau for State Security, is becoming more obscure than ever. A Nationalist newspaper has alleged that the deleted words are the "pivot around which the present investigation into General Hendrik van den Bergh now revolves". Mr Justice Erasmus himself has declined to comment on whether or not the report was abridged. But the prime minister, Mr P W Botha, cannot remain silent. Attention was drawn to the mystery deletion last week in an editorial on this page which noted that the decision not to publish the transcript of evidence left a number of critical questions unanswered. It is now clearer than ever that questions of the utmost gravity remain which must be fully and frankly answered in the public interest. Public anxiety about the role of the Bureau for State Security under General Van den Bergh is growing, principally as a result of disclosures in the Erasmus report, and has been compounded by the latest developments.

In last week's editorial, the Cape Times drew attention to a curious anomaly in the text of the report. Referring to General Van den Bergh's evidence, the report said "he was in charge of a formidable network of agents whose qualities he described in sinister terms (See para 11 386)". When the reader turns to the paragraph in question, as directed, he finds that it contains no reference whatsoever to the Bureau's agents or their qualities, "sinister" or otherwise. So it seems clear that something was hastily cut out. The paragraph refers to the evidence of Mr Loot Reynders, who said he feared that Van den Bergh would "crush" him if he (Reynders) opposed the General, and goes on to say that General Van den Bergh told the commission arrogantly that if he (Van den Bergh) wanted to do something, nobody would stop him and he would "stop at nothing". Then follows a blank space, reinforcing the impression of a last-minute deletion. The matter cannot be left there. The public must be told what is going on. It will not be good enough to

declare that the censored matter relates to the security of the state. The suppressed matter can hardly concern legitimate actions to protect the security of the state, there is nothing "sinister" about such actions. So what was it that General Van den Bergh told the commission to cause them to draw attention to his "sinister" remarks about his agents and to refer to the General as "arrogant"? If the question is not clarified by the prime minister without delay it will need to be raised in the privileged circumstances of Parliament — and fully thrashed out.

What are the missing words? Why were they deleted? By whom were they deleted? Why did the prime minister indicate in the Assembly on December 8 that nothing had been deleted, leaving the public to deduce that the Erasmus report had been published in its entirety? Why did the Transvaaler, a well-informed Nationalist newspaper, report on December 8 that part of General Van den Berg's evidence had been deleted from the report by the cabinet — "in the interests of the country"? Is there an investigation in progress into the activities of General Van den Bergh as head of the Bureau for State Security? Why has General Van den Bergh not been charged in court for speaking contemptuously at a press conference about the Erasmus commission? It is heartening to note that it is not only the English-language press that is raising these questions as matters of urgent public concern. The leading organs of the Nationalist press, to their great credit, are asking the same questions, reflecting a growing disquiet throughout the South African community.

People are now wondering, in some trepidation, whether the shocking maladministration and misappropriation of public funds by the department of information is only part of the story — and whether it is the activities of General Van den Bergh's Bureau for State Security which should be cause for even greater concern among South Africans who are anxious to uphold traditional standards of parliamentary government.

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"vergruis' him, because "min mense besef in hierdie land oor watter mag Van den Bergh beskik" (528)

11 386 The Commission only really saw this statement by Reynders in perspective when Van den Bergh himself testified before us. He told the Commission arrogantly that if he wanted to do something nobody would stop him and that he would stop at nothing (921)

11 387 It is not quite clear to the Commission whether Dr. Mulder and Van den Bergh deliberately collaborated to exert this pressure on Reynders. But what is clear is that Dr. Mulder and Van den Bergh insisted on the report at virtually the same time, both knowing full well that it would not reflect the truth. It was also clear that, at that critical stage, everybody around Mr. Vorster knew that he was a sick man and was to resign as Prime Minister within a few days. It was also clear that Dr. Mulder would be a candidate for the vacant post of Prime Minister, and that it would clearly be in his interest, to be exonerated by Reynders from any irregularities.

11 388 As will be observed, there is a subtle proviso in paragraph 3, of the certificate which, at the insistence of Reynders as a last compromise with his conscience, was to the effect that he could not express an opinion on the merits and evaluation of policy decisions.

An alleged deletion in the report by the Erasmus commission into the former Department of Information is suggested by a blank space in the report. Opposition members have called on Mr Justice R B P Erasmus to clarify whether deletions which apparently revolve around General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security, had been made. Commenting last week on the matter, a Cape Times editorial said the space suggested a last-minute excision.

Erasmus report was released fully as received, says PM

Political Staff

THE Prime Minister Mr P W Botha, yesterday gave the assurance that the Erasmus Commission's report had been released in full, in the form in which it was received from the judge.

Mr Botha was commenting on reports that a crucial sentence referring to General Van den Bergh's role in the Information affair had been deleted from Judge Erasmus's report because this would not be in the interests of the country.

The deleted sentence is said to have followed the statement "He told the commission arrogantly that if he wanted to do something, nobody would stop him and that he would stop at nothing."

Mr Botha was asked to comment on the alleged deletion

because he had told Parliament on December 8 last year that the report of the commission had been released in full.

After consulting the exact wording of his reply to a question by Mr Horace van Rensburg (PFM Bryanston), Mr Botha said last night "Mr Van Rensburg asked me whether I had released the Erasmus Commission's report in its entirety. I said yes."

"This reflected the facts of the situation. The report of Judge Erasmus was released in its entirety in the form in which it was received by me," the Prime Minister said.

The sentence reportedly deleted is understood to cast an important light on aspects of General Van den Bergh's involvement in the Information affair.

In Johannesburg Mr Justice Erasmus denied he had ever told anyone a sentence of General Van den Bergh's evidence had been deleted from the report; an SABC news report said yesterday.

A Johannesburg correspondent reported that Transvaal's Attorney-General, Mr J E Nothing, had yesterday still made no decision on whether to prosecute General Van den Bergh for remarks he made about the Erasmus Commission.

This had been confirmed by a spokesman at Mr Nothing's Pretoria office.

General Van den Bergh, the retired chief of the former Bureau for State Security, made the comments early in December after the Erasmus Commission published its report.

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Protests over Van den Bergh

24/1/79
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By Mike Cohen

The decision not to prosecute General Hendrik van den Bergh for his criticism of the Erasmus Commission would lead to a major constitutional crisis in South-Africa, Mr Harry Schwarz, chief Opposition spokesman on Information, said today.

Mr Schwarz said by phone from Switzerland that the decision created a major constitutional issue in South Africa as equality before the law was a fundamental principle of justice.

"The question must now be asked how far General van den Bergh or anyone else in his position can go before there is a prosecution."

BEST POSITION

"In my view a prosecution could take place and the national interest could still be protected despite the possession of sensitive information by an accused," he said.

Mr Schwarz said the decision "may well plunge the country into a new constitutional crisis."

The Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand,

Professor D T Zeffert, said the Attorney-General, who was aware of the evidence, would be in the best position to judge whether or not it would endanger the security of the State.

In terms of Section 29 (1) of the General Law Amendment Act of 1969, as amended, no one could be compelled or permitted to give evidence before a court or a commission if an affidavit was produced from the responsible Minister to the effect that in his opinion the disclosure of the evidence prejudiced the security of the State.

Mr Brian Bamford, chief Opposition whip, said the non-prosecution left the overwhelming impression that the law was not taking its course.

Mr Bamford, a senior counsel, said in Cape Town "I am astounded at the Attorney-General's decision General van den Bergh's attack on the Erasmus Commission was made in unbridled terms and it was no surprise that Mr Justice Erasmus himself referred the matter to the Attorney-

General for a decision as to whether the attack constituted an offence under the Commissions Act.

"In the light of the Act there was more than sufficient evidence to sustain a prosecution.

"If matters of national interest were raised during the trial the proceedings could continue in camera.

"I believe the Attorney-General has gone far beyond his powers in concerning himself with what he subjectively believes is the national interest."

EVIDENCE

Mr Ray Swart, acting leader of the Opposition Progressive Federal Party, said the whole situation involving Information had become "totally unsatisfactory."

"This decision emphasises again the vital need for evidence given to the Erasmus Commission to be released for evaluation."

"We have wondered from the start of the Information debacle about the danger of a Government cover-up," he said.

Mr John Malcomess, New Republic Party spokesman on Justice, said the Opposition parties in Parliament should be given the opportunity to study the evidence given to the Erasmus commission to see whether the Attorney-General's decision was justified.

"One can only wonder if Mr Nothing is acting in the interests of the country or in those of the National Party," he said.

Mr Vause Raw, MP, national leader of the New Republic Party, said the decision had far-reaching implications which went beyond the question of General van den Berg's comments on the commission.

"Is one now to presume that if Dr Rhodie (the missing former Secretary of Information) were brought back to South Africa he would be above prosecution because he might reveal facts the Government wishes to suppress?"

Up, by on

mission which has the standing of a Supreme Court, and get away with

Mr. Raw said: However sincere the Attorney-General's motivation may be, the decision has such far-reaching implications that I call on the Minister of Justice, Mr. Jimmy Kruger, to exercise powers to intervene

It is his duty to demonstrate clearly that no person is above the law

Rhodie

Does this also mean Dr. Rhodie would be safe from prosecution if he has similar knowledge? Only immediate action to disprove this can prevent the public believing that the Government is covering up

Announcing that he would not prosecute the general, Mr. Nothing said it was in the national interest to prosecute offenders against the law.

The national interest which will be endangered by the institution of a prosecution is, however, in my opinion, greater than the national interest which will be served by the institution of a prosecution. I have accordingly decided not to institute a prosecution in this case

Eglin: 'Opening a can of worms'

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — If prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh carried the danger of opening a can of worms prosecution of Dr Eschel Rhoodie would incur the risk of opening three cans of worms, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said yesterday

Mr Eglin, who had just returned from a 25-day overseas visit to Britain, the United States and five African countries, said the decision not to

prosecute General Van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security, on a charge of contempt of the Erasmus Commission after remarks about it last month was "unforgivable"

A private prosecution against the general would be "right and proper"

Speaking at a press conference at Jan Smuts Airport after a visit to Britain, the United States and five African countries Mr Eglin said of the In-

formation affair "I am very concerned at the total development"

Developments during his absence included the decision not to release the evidence heard by the Erasmus Commission, not to prosecute General Van den Bergh, failure to locate the missing former secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, and the resignation from Parliament of the former minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder

Expressing concern at the decision not to make the commission's evidence available to MPs, Mr Eglin said "When I left I was given the understanding that the evidence of the Erasmus Commission would be made available to me as Leader of the Opposition I see no reason why it should not be released"

Of Dr Mulder's resignation, he said "It is a desperate attempt by the National Party to close ranks"



General Van den Bergh

Law expert: Erasmus could do it

By LEON BEKKER

AN expert in law, Professor K Schwietering of Stellenbosch University, said last night that the Erasmus Commission had "an open and shut case" if it decided to request the prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh

In terms of the Commissions Act the Erasmus Commission would have to get a certificate of nolle prosequi from the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, Mr J E Nothing, who refused this week to prosecute General Van den Bergh Mr Nothing would have to supply the certificate, Professor Schwietering said

The commission could then go to court with the certificate and request a prosecution

Professor Schwietering said there was an excellent chance of such a request being granted as the commission was "a particularly important one" and General Van den Bergh's remarks were "particularly insulting"

Van den Bergh: New bid today

Political Staff

TWO MEMBERS of the Erasmus Commission will discuss the possibility of a private prosecution against General Hendrik van den Bergh this morning.

This was confirmed in an interview yesterday with Mr C F Smalberger, chief government law adviser and a member of the commission

Mr Smalberger said he would contact Mr Braam Lategan, SC, Attorney-General of the Cape and fellow-commissioner, this morning to discuss the matter He would make attempts to contact the chairman of the

possible prosecution of the general could be made by tonight, he added

His statement followed the decision of the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, Mr J E Nothing, not to prosecute the general for contempt of commission, despite his description of the commission's report as a 'farce'

Mr Lategan said he would be

Refusing to accept the explanation that the "national interest" would be jeopardized by a prosecution spokesmen for both parties challenged Mr Nothing to say why a hearing could not be held in camera if the security of the state could be endangered by a public hearing

The principle that all were equal before the law could not

259
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CT 26/1/77

The chances of private attempts to prosecute instituted by the Progressive Federal Party, the New Republic Party or any private body were much weaker, he said

commission Mr Justice R P B Erasmus, who, he believed, was due to return to his Bloemfontein office this afternoon

There is a likelihood -- but no certainty -- that a decision on a

prepared to discuss the matter but emphasized that he had no intention of instituting a private prosecution in his personal capacity "If anything is done it will be a decision of the commission as a whole The full commission will have to discuss the matter and reach a conclusion on it," he said

Legal academics have pointed out that in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act only the three commissioners could apply for a prosecution

The act stipulates that anyone applying for a private prosecution "must prove some substantial and peculiar interest in the issue of the trial arising out of some injury which he individually suffered in consequence of the commission of the alleged offence"

As legal academics, politicians and the press severely criticized Mr Nothling's announcement, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said he would not interfere with the decision taken by the Attorney-General "whether to prosecute or not in regard to any matter"

However, both the Progressive Federal Party and the New Republic Party announced yesterday that their legal advisers were investigating the possibility of bringing a private action against General Van den Bergh

be abandoned

Mr Warwick Webber, an NRP spokesman, also rejected the reason given by Mr Nothling that a prosecution of General Van den Bergh could place the correctness of the Erasmus Commission's findings in issue

"If this is the case, it is even more imperative that such a trial takes place and that the findings be published in the public interest

"If the statement of General Van den Bergh brought doubts on the findings of the Erasmus Commission, the decision of the Attorney-General together with other developments can only result in the commission being brought into contempt Such doubt and contempt can only be removed by a prosecution of General Van den Bergh and other parties named in the report

Mr Ray Swart, acting Leader of the Opposition, said last night that, although the stipulations of the criminal procedure act were narrow, the party would consider instituting a private prosecution

"In the meantime we will continue to press the government to carry out its original undertaking to the country that there would be no cover up

"Is the prime minister afraid of General Van den Bergh? If so, why?" Mr Swart asked

On page 2:

- Afrikaans academics dissatisfied
- Denial as AG man resigns
- Public reluctance to discuss Van den Bergh

Denial as AG man resigns

26/1/79
27/1/79

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG — The Office of the Attorney-General of the Transvaal yesterday confirmed that a member of his legal staff had resigned but denied it was over the Van den Bergh controversy.

The Attorney-General, Mr J E Nothling, announced on Wednesday that he had decided not to prosecute General Hendrik van den Bergh for his remarks about the Erasmus Commission.

It was reported yesterday that a member of Mr Nothling's staff had resigned in protest over the decision. The staff member, who declined to be identified, said he was unhappy with the decision.

A spokesman at Mr Nothling's Pretoria office said someone had resigned but had given different reasons for leaving in two separate statements — one to Mr Nothling and one to another member of his staff.

The spokesman would not disclose the person's name or the reason for his resignation.

Vd Bergh: Afrikaans academics dissatisfied

THERE is increasing evidence of intense dissatisfaction in the Afrikaans academic community with the decision of the Transvaal Attorney-General not to prosecute the former head of the Bureau for State Security General Hendrik van den Bergh.

In interviews with the Cape Times yesterday four prominent Stellenbosch professors — S J (Sampe) Terteblanche, Julius Jeppe, Andreas van Wyk and K Schwietering — spoke out against Mr J E Nothling's decision and a fifth — Professor Wilhe Esterhuyse — expanded substantially on remarks he made on Wednesday.

Three of them discounted Mr Nothling's declared reason for not instituting a prosecution, saying that the national interest could have been adequately protected by holding a hearing in camera.

Professor Jeppe, who heads Stellenbosch University's Department of Bantu Law and Administration, said he was amazed and shocked at General Van den Bergh's criticisms of the Erasmus Commission.

He had hoped that a decision by Mr Nothling would set matters right but the decision that was in fact made showed that things were not right yet.

Professor Terteblanche, an economics academic who was an executive member of Sabta and has spoken out before on political matters, said he could not agree with or accept Mr Nothling's decision.

The hearing could have been held in camera which would surely have adequately protect-

ed the national interest, he said.

The dean of the Faculty of Law Professor Andreas van Wyk told the Cape Times he was shocked by the decision.

It was a bad mistake and most unfortunate.

Professor Van Wyk said the extent of the discretion allowed an attorney-general was the subject of much argument in legal circles.

Professor Wilhe Esterhuyse who lectures in philosophy said public confidence in the authorities already badly shaken by the Information scandal would be further affected by the decision not to prosecute General Van den Bergh.

Uncomfortable

His impression was that even platteland Afrikaners — traditionally stalwart government supporters and unmoved by political currents — were uncomfortable and restless about the Information issue.

He added that the fact that a court could sit in camera to hear whatever needed to be heard 'cancelled out' Mr Nothling's reasons for not prosecuting the general.

Professor K Schwietering, an expert in the field of law involved in this issue, said a hearing in camera would have been the answer to Mr Nothling's dilemma.

During the hearing there would have been nothing to stop the prosecutor informing the court that particular evidence was prejudicial to the national interest and therefore inadmissible.

Question 4: asked firms for the reasons why they did not want to employ more African technicians than they indicated in Question 3. Six firms said that they had no need for more technicians than they had indicated in Question 3. The following table shows the relative frequency with which various reasons were ad

than they had indicated. Note that they were asked to indicate considered prevented them from employment from employing more Africans. Factor was one of the three mentioned in Question 4.

Table 23. Frequency with which firms in

Trade Union/	11	Factor was indicated
Fear of reac	9	
Apprenticesh	8	
Job reservat	7	
Assumed ille	3	
Africans	2	
Red tape ass	2	
Africans not	2	
Africans orientated	2	
Prefer to emp	2	
Separate offi	1	

Question 5:

asked firms how urgently they thought a course was necessary. The answers are table.

Table 24. Number of times which firms in D position on a scale ranging from 5 being 'not urgent'.

Scale	Number of firms
Urgent 1.	18
2	6
3	4
4	3
5	2

Public reluctance to discuss Van den Bergh

By JOHN VAN DER LINDEN
FEAR of the former head of the Bureau for State Security (BSS), General H Van den Bergh, became apparent during a public opinion poll conducted by the Cape Times yesterday

Of more than 40 people who were approached for comment on the Transvaal Attorney-General's decision not to prosecute the former BSS head, only 12 people were willing to speak to the Cape Times, and even then only on the

condition they could remain anonymous

The consensus was that a cover-up of some kind had taken place and that if General Van den Bergh appeared in court he would have to answer embarrassing questions which would implicate other government officials

A traffic policeman claimed to have never heard of the general, while a man, interrupted while reading the newspaper, said he was not in the least interested in politics

Three people thought there was not enough evidence available to the public for them to comment on the matter.

While a City shopkeeper felt there was more to the Attorney-General's decision than met the eye, and he was interested to know what the members of the commission thought about it

One woman said the general should be prosecuted in the same way as she would have been, and said the matter had by no means been finalized

A middle-aged man felt the Attorney-

General had had reasons for his actions, but had, in his opinion, not really tried hard at all

"There must be some form of cover-up somewhere," he added

An immigrant said that although General Van den Bergh's actions had been in the interest of South Africa, the objectionable part was the arrogant way in which he carried them out

"The least he can do now is to apologize for his behaviour and admit that he was wrong"

26/1/79
BSS

The Cape Times

The cover-up

26/1/79
284

ATTEMPTS to cover up misappropriation, irregularity and dishonesty in state administration have been going on for years. In 1976 the first suspicions began to be expressed, something to do with the handsome profits being made by a Rhodie-favoured publisher. These reports come under the head of what Mr P W Botha calls "rumour-mongering". The mongering of rumours continued: trips to the Seychelles, lavish journeys abroad, property deals, mysterious foreign exchange transactions involving millions. The auditor-general was instructed to keep his nose out of "secret" matters. "Secret" was an all-purpose cover-up device, as little defined and as arbitrarily used as the current "national interest". At all times requests for a judicial inquiry were indignantly rejected.

Mr Vorster reacted to the rumour-mongering by formally assuming responsibility for the allocation of secret funds. For nine months he knew that the Citizen was funded by state money. The net cost to the public was half a million a month. Confronted in Parliament by a rumour-monger, Dr Mulder told a blatant lie. This was in the presence of the former prime minister. The eminent General Van den Bergh was appointed to reassure the public about what was going on. He was himself a prime mover in the Citizen and allied manoeuvres. He construed his function to include a move to "save" Messrs Mulder and Rhodie by dragging out his investigations for years. Also (no doubt in the national interest) he categorically lied to a member of Parliament, if Mr Harry Schwarz is to be believed. Mr Reynders, another eminent official, was appointed to reassure the public. His arm was twisted to cook up a report that many people knew to be false. It appeared at a moment calculated to influence the choice of a prime minister.

Most of the time the rest of the cabinet hadn't an idea of what was happening, certainly shared no joint responsibility and apparently did not read the newspapers. This could have gone on for ever, with Dr Mulder as prime minister valiantly supported by such sturdy champions of the national interest as Dr Rhodie and General Van den Bergh. The joker in the pack was Mr Justice Mostert. An attempt was made to suppress his evidence because it had not been "evaluated", an attempt that convinced

only the SABC. Some minister or ministers unknown tried to get an interdict against him. The Erasmus commission was not instructed to take evidence in public. It now seems certain that the national interest, as defined by those involved, will see to it that the commission evidence and exhibits will not see the light of day. An allegation in a Nationalist newspaper that a part of the Erasmus report has been suppressed in the national interest has not been disposed of in detail. A cross-reference to the sinister qualities of Van den Bergh agents turns out to be a reference to nothing at all.

Dr Conne Mulder was put out of the cabinet and is now eliminated from Parliament. His version of what went on, the reasons for the clarity of his conscience, his views on the responsibility of others, are doomed to be interred with the details of the Erasmus testimony.

General Van den Bergh has been given a licence to disparage, insult and belittle judicial commissions. The licence is clearly wide enough to cover up all the activities in which he has been involved. These go far beyond the Citizen deal, "saving" the conspirators, arrogance, double-dealing, improper exercise of influence. He was head of the security police and of BSS and during his term of office vast damage was done to the national interest by bannings, imprisonment without trial, closing down a newspaper, banning editors, the Biko case, inadequately investigated deaths in detention. Was the then prime minister's knowledge of what went on as remote as his knowledge of the information department? Is Mr Kruger the responsible minister and if so is he concerned only with policy, leaving the "details" to his trusted officials? Does the cabinet share joint responsibility? Are there cabinet ministers who will ask how the devil they were to know what goes on if no one tells them? Is there to be a decision not to prosecute Dr Rhodie because the national interest will be damaged?

The national interest can still be well served. It would be by appointing another Erasmus commission to look into what General Van den Bergh was doing in his various capacities, which ministers share the political responsibility for this officer's activities, how far "national interest" is an excuse and not a reason for covering up a ghastly record of arrogance and maladministration.

Sun. Trib.

Brazil hunt ⁽²⁵⁹⁾ goes on but Eschel may be on new papers

Tribune Reporter

DR-ESCHEL Rhodie, the missing former Secretary for Information, may be traveling on a passport from Ecuador.

Dr. Walembere Victorina Barbosa, the head of Interpol in Brazil, who last week accused the South African Government of bungling the hunt for Dr. Rhodie, said this week he had information that Dr. Rhodie was using an Ecuadoran passport.

Dr. Barbosa said his men were still hunting Dr. Rhodie in Brazil — in spite of reports in South Africa that the



Rhodie

hunt had been called off.

"But we have still not received an official request from the South African Government to look for this man," he said.

Last week he claimed that actions by the South African Consul-General in Sao Paulo where Dr. Rhodie was reported to have been staying had "caused the bird to fly."

Dr. Rhodie — one of the central figures in the Information scandal, left South Africa last November just before his passport was withdrawn. He is believed to have access to several million rands in foreign bank accounts.

Twis in Paleis van Justisie

259

Maffert 28/1/79

DIE besluit om genl. Hendrik van den Bergh nie oor sy opmerkinge oor die Erasmus-kommissie te vervolg nie, het 'n opskudding onder regsmanne van die staat in die Paleis van Justisie veroorsaak.

By 'n informele bespreking die week in die Paleis van Justisie het net twee uit meer as 'n dosyn staatsadvokate die besluit van die Prokureur-generaal van Transvaal adv J. E. Nothling, verdedig. Ander staatsadvokate sê hulle kan dit nie doen nie.

Adv Nothling, wat die bespreking bygewoon het, het tydens die argument uit die vertrek gestap, verneem RAP-PORT.

In 'n RAPPORT-onderzoek na die lang paadjie wat die Van den Bergh-dossier gevolg het, blyk dit voorts:

* Enkele ure nadat die Erasmus-kommissie amptelik gevra het dat genl. Van den Bergh vervolg word, het die waarnemende Prokureur-generaal van Transvaal opdrag gekry om geen besluit oor die Generaal te neem sonder mnr Jimmy Kruger, Minister van Justisie en Polisie, se wete nie.

* Op dieselfde dag dat adv Braam Lategan namens die Erasmus-kommissie gevra het dat genl. Van den Bergh se uitlatinge ondersoek word, het die Sekretaris van Justisie, adv J. P. G. Coetzer, die waarnemende Prokureur-generaal van Transvaal opgebel

en gesê geen beslissing moet sonder min. Kruger se wete geneem word nie.

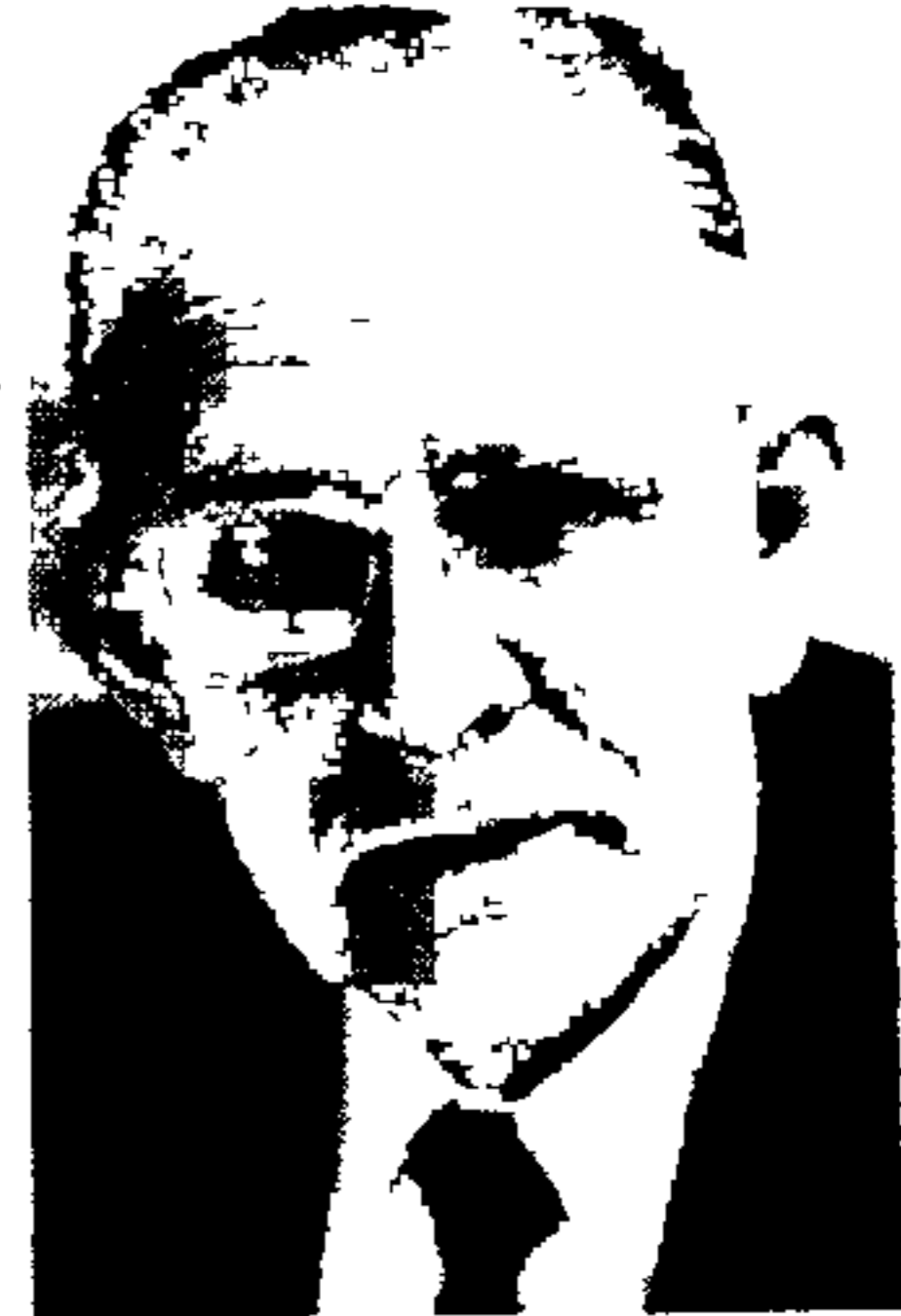
* Adv Nothling het min. Kruger in Pretoria oor sy besluit gespreek. Sy beslissing, asook 'n skriftelike motivering, is aan die Minister gestuur.

Adv Lategan, Prokureur-generaal van Kaapland, het by navraag aan RAPPORT gesê hy kan nie kommentaar lewer nie omdat hy nie daarvan bewus is dat adv. Coetzer so 'n opdrag aan die waarnemende Prokureur-generaal van Transvaal, adv Sieg Engelbrecht, gegee het nie.

„Ek weet niks daarvan af nie. Aan my is die versekering gegee dat daar hoegenaamd geen druk op mnr Nothling geplaas is nie.”

Adv Lategan sê hy kom al 'n ver pad met Ministers van Justisie en hy weet daar is baie keer uit verskeie oorde al gepoog om druk op 'n Minister van Justisie uit te oefen om 'n Prokureur-generaal se beslissing te laat verander.

„Ek kan u verseker in geen geval waarvan ek bewus is, het 'n Minister hom ooit met 'n Prokureur-generaal se beslissing ingemeng nie, ten



GENL. HENDRIK VAN DEN BERGH

spte van daardie druk op hom.

„Daar is 'n trotse rekord, al staan dit in die wetboek dat 'n Minister die reg het om 'n Prokureur-generaal se beslissing te verander.”

Toe min. Kruger oor adv. Coetzer se oproep om kommentaar genader word, het hy gesê hy kan nie kommentaar

* VERVOLG OP BL. 6 *

Twis

* VERVOLG VAN BL. EEN *

taar daarop lewer nie en RAPPORT moet adv Coetzer nader.

Die Minister het gesê hy kan in elk geval niks sinisters

of verkeerd daarin sien nie. Al sou dit, so wees, sou dit heeltemal gebruiklik wees. Geen belangrike beslissings mag sonder sy wete geneem word nie.

Min. Kruger het beklemtoon dat hy adv Nothling hoegenaamd nie met sy beslissing gehelp het nie. Adv Nothling het 'n verslag en

'n motivering vir sy beslissing aan hom gestuur.

Toe RAPPORT adv Engelbrecht om kommentaar nader, het hy alle navrae na adv. Nothling verwys. Adv Nothling het gesê hy weet nie van adv Coetzer se oproep nie en hy was daardie tyd met verlof.

Adv Nothling het gesê hy

het mnr. Kruger in Pretoria gespreek en hom sy beslissing meegedeel. Mnr. Kruger het geen aandeel in die besluit gehad nie.

In Kaapstad is aan RAPPORT gesê adv Coetzer is nie beskikbaar nie omdat hy in 'n strandhuis sonder 'n telefoon vakansie hou.

Inligting se vlug van R40 000 na Montreal

Rapport 28/1/79 (259)

Deur FRIK BADENHORST

DIE besoek wat die hoofkarakters in die Inligting-debakel in mnr. Louis Luyt en die Departement van Inligting se luukse-straalvliegtuig aan die Olimpiese Spele in Montreal gebring het, het Suid-Afrika se sportbase die week regop laat sit.

Volgens lugvaart-kenners kon die vlug-koste tot R40 000 beloop het en die totale koste tot R80 000 — en dit terwyl sportadministrateurs mor oor te min geld vir sport

Die Spele was in die tweede helfte van Julie 1977 en volgens getuienis voor die Mostert-kommissie het Inligting op 9 Augustus 'n halwe aandeel in die straler gekoop

In die geselskap was:

- Dr. Eschel Rhoodie, destydse Sekretaris van Inligting;
- Dr. Connie Mulder en sy seun Pieter;
- Mnr en mev. Les de Villiers, gewese Adjunk-sekretaris van Inligting
- Genl Hendrik van den Bergh, afgetrede hoof van die Buro vir Staatsveiligheid, en sy vrou en dogter;
- Mnr Van Zyl Alberts, gewese baas van The Citizen, sy vrou en 'n lid van sy personeel,
- Mnr. Dawie de Villiers, LV vir Johannesburg-Wes; en
- Mev Luyt.

Die besoek was duur omdat die straler op pad masjienmoelikhed ondervind het en herstel moes word. Die geselskap is verder met 'n handelsvlug na Amerika en daarvan dan per vliegtuig na Montreal

Landingsgeld moes betaal word, asook huurgeriewe vir twee weke vir die vliegtuig

Mnr Luyt was gister nie

beskikbaar vir kommentaar nie. Hy het deur sy sekretaresse laat weet dat die geselskap sy gaste op die vliegtuig was, maar hulle het vir hul eie verblyf betaal

RAPPORT het vasgestel dat individuele betalings wel gedoen is maar groot bedrae is ook uit een bron betaal

Suid-Afrika se swembaas, mnr Issy Kramer, het die week op die vergadering van die Suid-Afrikaanse Olimpiese en Nasionale Spelevereniging na die Montreal-besoek verwys. Op die vergadering is o m kritiek gelewer op die geld wat vir sport beskikbaar gestel word

Mense soos mnr As Burger (moderne vyfkamp), Dudley Zagnoev (sokker) en Kramer, is ongelukkig omdat die Grand Prix drie jaar agtereenvolgens met staatsgeld deur die staatskoerant The Citizen geborg is. In beginsel het hulle nie beswaar nie, maar waarom word daar van die ander sportsoorte stiefkinders gemaak? vra hulle.

Die sportamptenare moes eerder in Montreal gewees het om die sportadministrateurs van raad te bedien en by te staan. Nie dat hulle self moes onderhandel nie, maar sulke mense in die agtergrond sou nuttig wees, meen mnr Kramer.

Teen die borg van die Grand Prix is hy nie in beginsel gekant nie. Dan moet darem na die ander sportsoorte ook gekyk word sê hy

Mnr Burger sê hy wil nie

oor Inligting se dinge praat nie. Hy het bloot 'n pleidooi gelewer vir die fisieke dinge wat vir Suid-Afrika se atlete broodnodig is. Dit is stadions, afrigting en ander voordele soos mediese ondersoeke en bystand.

Waarom het die S A Spele van 1977 deur die mat geval as die Grand Prix wesenlik uit die staatskas geborg is? Hy is nie teen die Grand Prix nie, maar 'n S A. Spele kon 'n toonvenster vir die wêreld gewees het om te wys daar is geen diskriminasie in sport nie

Die komitee wat nou saamgestel is, sal 'n memorandum oor die behoeftes voorstel en dan aan mnr F W de Klerk, nuwe Minister van Sport en Ontspanning, voorlê, sê hy

Mnr Zagnoev sê dit sou beter wees as amptenare van die Departement Sport en Ontspanning die geleentheid gehad het om die Spele by te woon

Op die agtergrond kon hulle die sportadministrateurs waardevolle raad gegee het en hulle kon goeie ondervinding opgedoen het. Deur die ondervinding in Suid-Afrika toe te pas, kon hulle sport in die algemeen hier bevorder het

As die voorgestelde S A Spele in 1977 geborg gewees het, sou meer as sewentig sportsoorte daar verteenwoordig gewees het. Waarom word die Grand Prix dan uitgesonder vir borgskap deur staatsbelange? vra hy



AS BURGER



ISSY KRAMER

THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT SCANDAL

LOOD REYNDERS, a Bureau for State Security official appointed by Mr Vorster, as Prime Minister, to probe the Department of Information. Issued a false report clearing Dr Connie Mulder shortly before the election of a new Prime Minister last year — and so almost helped Dr Mulder to the premiership.

Burst into tears before the Erasmus Commission and confessed he had done so under orders from General Van den Bergh.

He said he had acted under "tremendous pressure, even in fear of his own life". He feared being crushed if he opposed the general.

Described afterwards by General Van den Bergh as "a broken reed".

Unexplained mysteries: Did — or does — Mr Reynders have valid cause to fear the former Boss chief?

What, in his knowledge of the workings of the Bureau, made him feel his life might be in danger?

ANDRE PIETERSE, a movie mogul and Information Department beneficiary. Was paid a R10 000 honorarium as a director of Thor Communications and R825 000 from the secret funds for the development of a Black movie industry — but diverted the money to save his film "Golden Rendezvous".

The money has not been paid back. Mr Pieterse told the Mostert Commission there was no prospect of early repayment.

The Erasmus Commission recommended that the State Attorney investigate to what extent State funds were "unlawfully alienated" by Mr Pieterse and how they could be recovered.

Unexplained mysteries: What justification did Mr Pieterse have for using money advanced to him for one project (however irregular that might prove to have been) for something totally different?

Why was he paid R10 000 simply for being a director of a front company?

GENERAL H J "LANG HENDRIK" VAN DEN BERGH, former head of the powerful Bureau for State Security. Another member of the Mulder power triumvirate. According to the Erasmus Commission a most sinister, arrogant figure who saw himself as the power behind the throne when Mr Vorster was Prime Minister and who tried to manipulate events.

"He told the Commission arrogantly that if he wanted to do something nobody would stop him and he would stop at nothing."

Unexplained mysteries: What power does the General still wield over the Government?

Why is he not being charged with contempt over what he said about the Commission — though Judge Erasmus himself has insisted that this be done?

A sentence of what he told the Erasmus Commission was deleted from the report at the last minute. Why?



LES DE VILLIERS, Dr Rhodie's right-hand man who controlled the Department's special projects section. Now with the American PR firm of Sydney Baron and Company.

It was at Mr De Villiers' house that Connie Mulder, General Van den Bergh, Louis Luyt, and Eschel Rhodie met to discuss the launching of The Citizen.

Evidence before the Mostert Commission was that Mr De Villiers once complained to Pretoria advocate Mr Riet van Rooyen, SC, that "they are stealing money left and right around me from the secret fund".

Mr De Villiers returned from America to give evidence before the Erasmus Commission. The commission recommended that the State Attorney investigate how far State funds had been alienated by him and others.

Unexplained mysteries: What details of "stealing left and right" is Mr De Villiers able to give?

JOHN BALTHAZAR VORSTER, Prime Minister at the time of the Information Scandal. Cleared by the Erasmus Commission of complicity. The commission found, however, that Mr Vorster had been responsible for the arrangement for secret funds being available to the Department of Information from the special defence account — and that this was an irregularity.

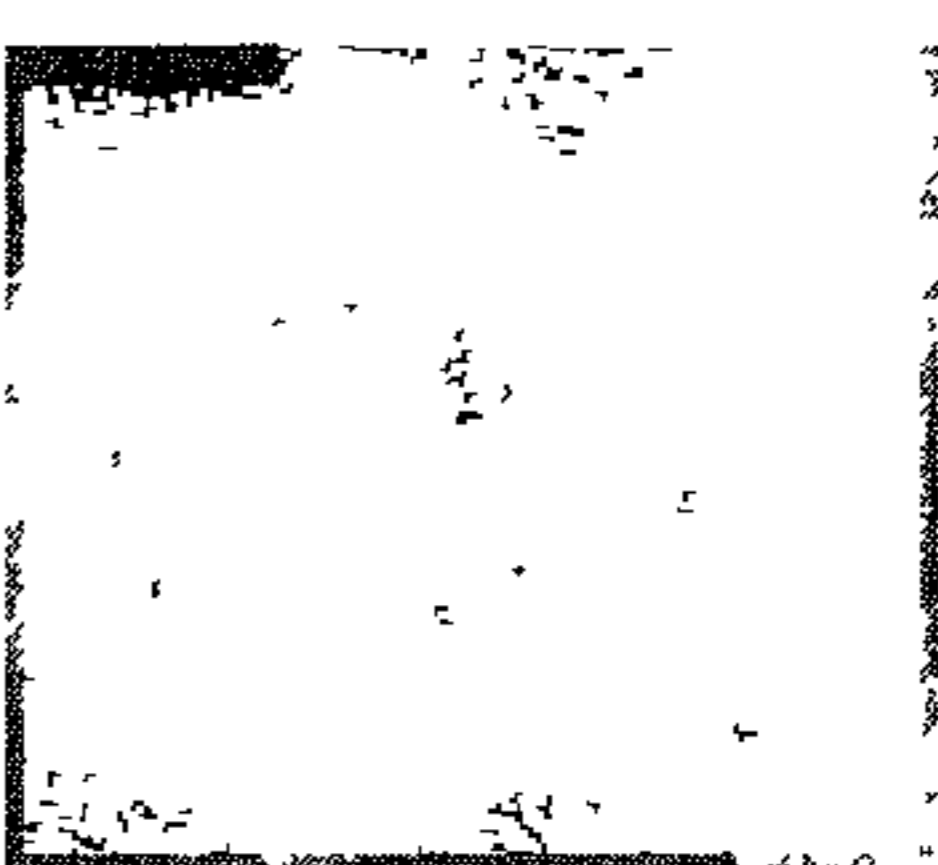
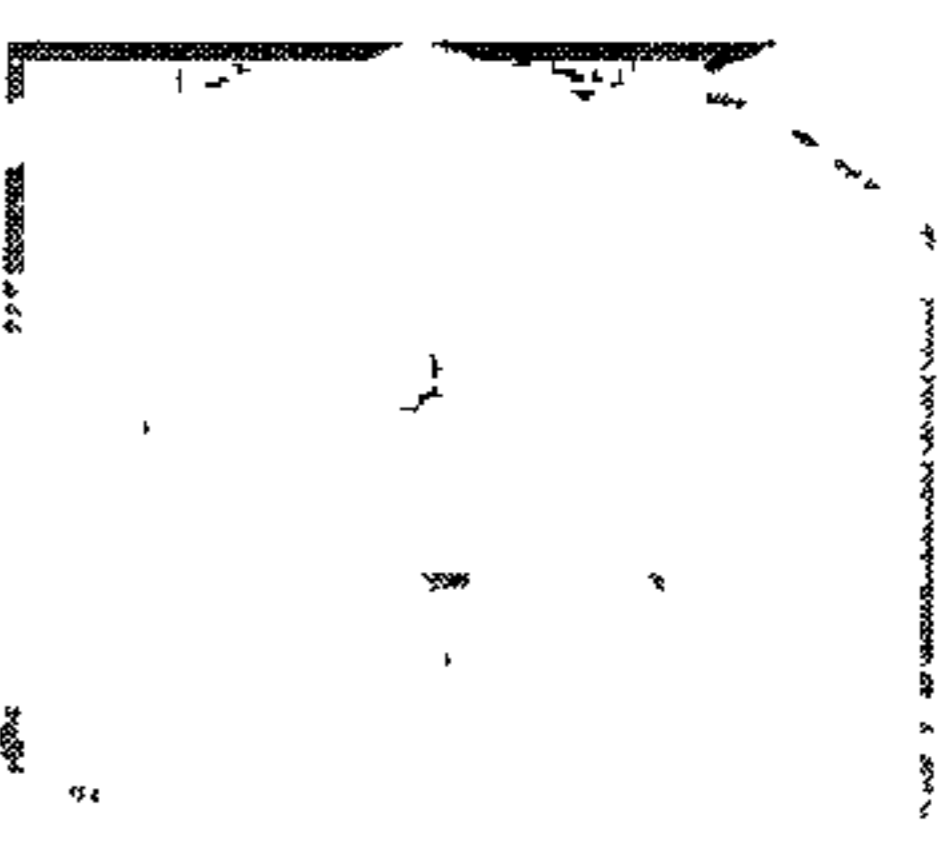
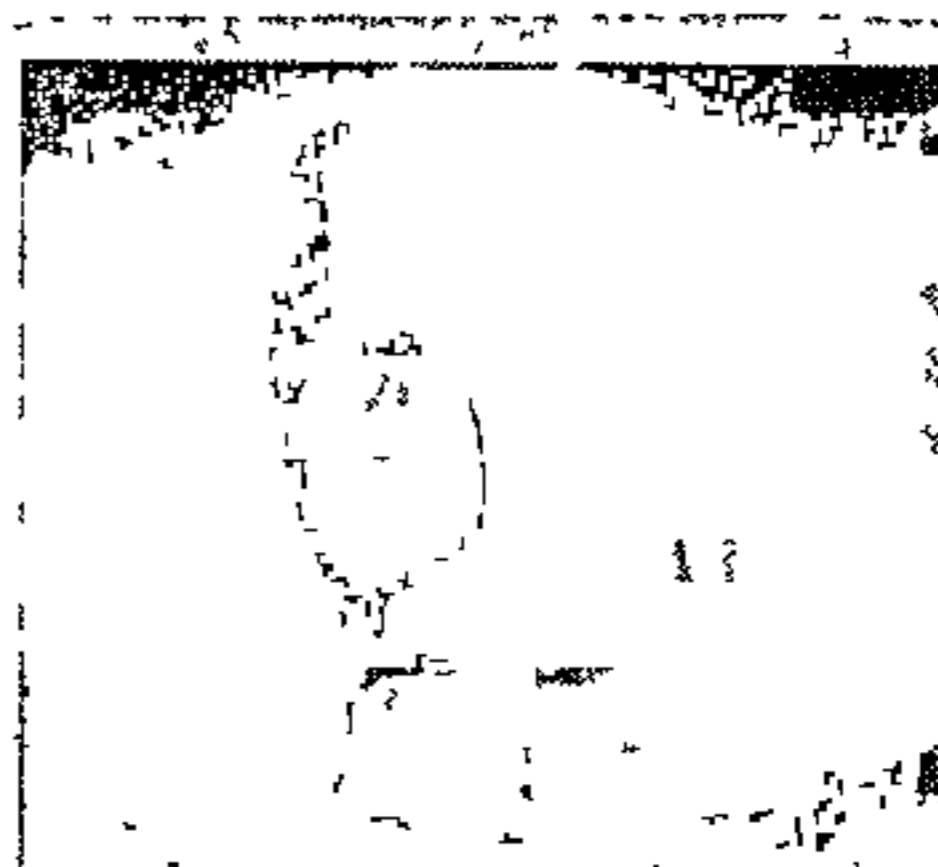
It criticised Mr Vorster for not acting when it became known that The Citizen used State money.

Unexplained mysteries: Why did Dr Mulder and General Van den Bergh give evidence that Mr Vorster knew about The Citizen?

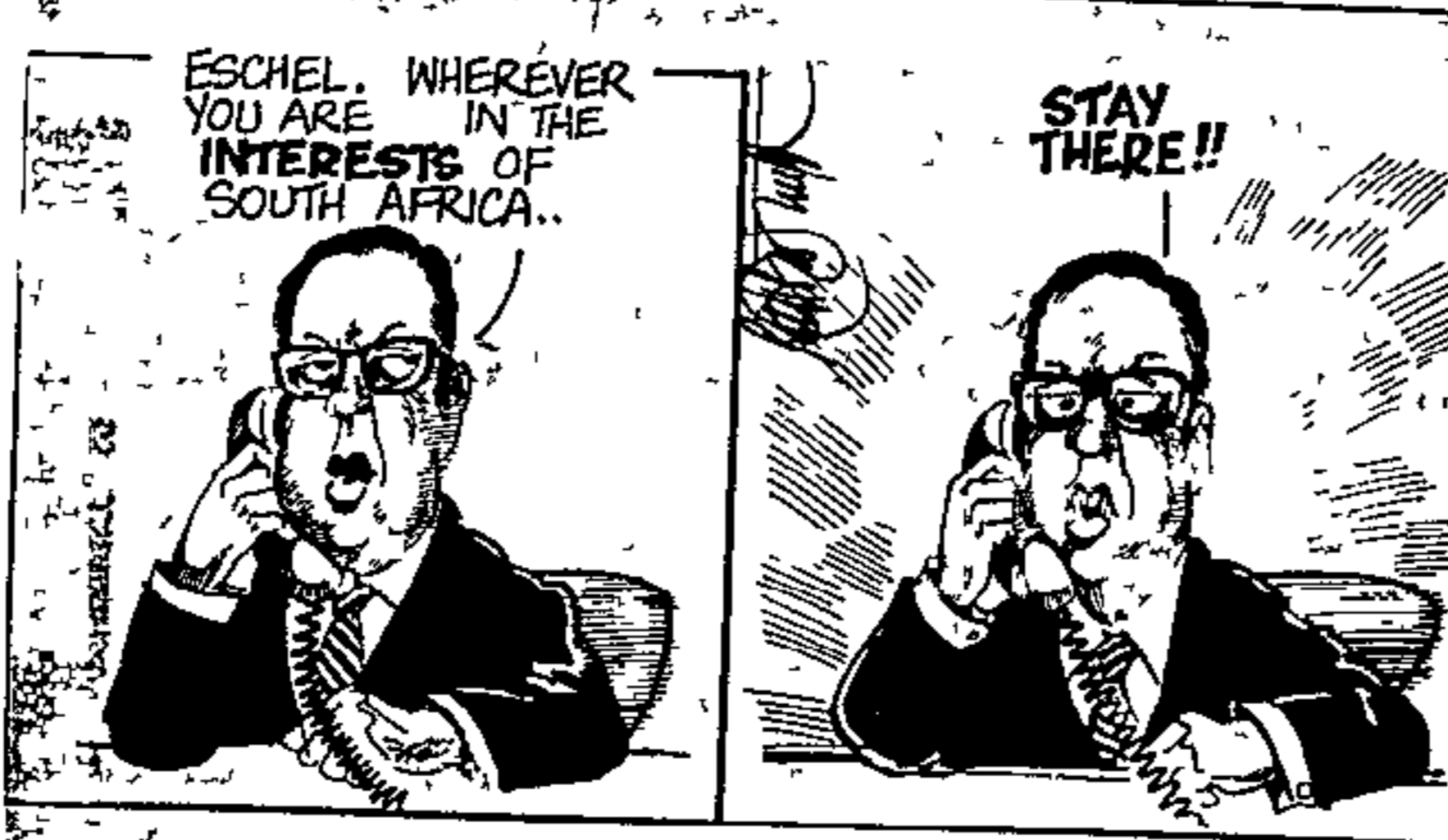
Why did Mr Vorster remain silent in Parliament when Dr Mulder denied government funding for the paper?

Why did Mr Vorster retain Dr Mulder in his Cabinet?

Why did he appoint General Van den Bergh to investigate the matter?



decision country



not be in the national interest to disclose it," Mr Nothing said

Public speculation began to mount

And only 12 hours later came shock number two when Dr Connie Mulder, the disgraced former Information Minister, announced that he had been forced by the Prime Minister to resign his parliamentary seat (Randfontein)

Was this development, coming so quickly after the Nothing announcement, a mere coincidence?

Then, in a flurry of developments over the next three days

● The Opposition Progressive Federal Party announced it had instructed its legal advisers to investigate the possibility of a private prosecution against General Van den Bergh. Yesterday national chairman Mr Ray Swart said a decision would be made today or tomorrow)

● Mr Harry Schwarz, the PFP spokesman on Finance and Justice, warned that Mr Nothing's decision could create a "serious constitutional position" because, as Mr Schwarz put it, "all men must be treated equally by the law"

● Leading politicians, academics, lawyers, politicians, as well as members

of the public, began to speculate about the significance of a mystery sentence referring to General Van den Bergh's role in the Information Affair.

The sentence was deleted from the Erasmus report on the grounds that it was "not in the interests of the country"

The question on everybody's mind was "What did the sentence say? What did it refer to?"

Was this — the deletion of the sentence, which existed at the last minute before the commission's report went through to the Prime Minister — one of the reasons why Mr Nothing decided not to prosecute the former head of Boss?

Mr Schwarz called on Judge Erasmus to clarify whether or not any deletion had been made

And last week the Nationalist Sunday newspaper, Rapport, alleged that this sentence — deleted from the original Erasmus Commission report before it was made available to Members of Parliament in December — "is the pivot around which the present investigation into General Hendrik van den Bergh revolves"

Judge Erasmus, however, has denied that he had ever confirmed or denied that there had been deletions

In other developments on the Van den Bergh issue

● Mr Justice Erasmus announced yesterday that he considered the institution of a private prosecution against General Van den Bergh to be outside the mandate of his commission. However, the commission would make a statement shortly on the issue of a private prosecution

● The Nothing decision also took a dramatic turn on Friday when Mr Lategan expressed serious misgivings about the decision

Mr Lategan referred to Mr Nothing's comments that he (Mr Nothing) had good reason to believe that if a prosecution against General Van den Bergh was instituted, the "correctness of certain findings of the Erasmus Commission would be placed in issue"

Mr Lategan said that if Mr Nothing was insinuating that the commission's evidence could not withstand the test of public scrutiny, "I personally take the strongest exception, and I really trust that it was not Mr Nothing's intention to convey this idea"

● The leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, called on the Minister of Justice to prosecute General Van den Bergh to show that "no person is above the law"

And late this week even the Nationalist Press speculated that if General Van den Bergh was not to be prosecuted, then Dr Eschel Rhodie, the former Information Secretary, who is still lying low abroad with unauthorised travel documents, and who was also closely connected with secret projects, could also be expected to be exempt from prosecution if ever he returned to South Africa



DAVID ABRAMSON, finance whizzkid from the NGF days and prominent Johannesburg businessman. One of the surprise cards in the Information Scandal pack He and Stuart Pegg used R1-million-plus loan from Department of Information, plus guaranteed British loans, to buy major shareholding in British publishing house Morgan Grampian

Sold it when Information scandal started springing leaks and made R1-million profit each plus R2-million for the department

Information front men then took over Hortors printing group The Reserve Bank is investigating the Hortors deal. Mr Abramson has left the country.

Unexplained mysteries:

Will Mr Abramson return? What money will the State recover from the Hortors deal? What other connections, if any, are there between Mr Abramson and Dr Rhoadie?

JAN VAN ZYL ALBERTS, who pops up in many of the Information Department's secret projects Involved in the attempted takeover of SAAN Managing director of The Point magazine, which has been revealed as a Government front. Information's new Citizen front man when Louis Luyt wanted out Information's nominee on board of John McGoff's Panax Corporation

The Erasmus Commission recommended that the State Attorney investigate the extent to which the State's assets were "unlawfully alienated" by Mr Van Zyl Alberts

Unexplained mysteries:

Why were Mr Van Zyl Alberts and Mr Hubert Jussen given The Citizen to run for their own profit? Did they profit personally through the "sale" of the newspaper to Perskor?

Has Mr Van Zyl Alberts gained any benefit from being the Department's front man in so many projects?



PIETER WILLEM BOTHA, who as Minister of Defence footed the bill for most of Information's secret extravagancies from his budget. Now Prime Minister. The Erasmus Commission found "it went against his grain to have to pretend to Parliament that all funds in the Special Defence Account were spent on Defence Activities, while part of these funds went to the secret fund"

Unexplained mysteries:

The commission cleared him of complicity. Mr Botha allowed Information Department front men Van Zyl Alberts and Jussen to keep The Citizen newspaper after exposure

He did not intervene when they sold the newspaper to Perskor Nor when the Citizen Press was sold to Perskor at a fraction of the price other publishers offered for it.

Unexplained mysteries:

Why did Mr Botha allow defence funds to be used for secret projects? Why did he permit The Citizen deals?

LOUIS LUYT, fertiliser magnate and at first happy front man for Dr Eschel Rhoodie's schemes to control newspapers Used by Dr Rhoodie to spearhead the unsuccessful bid for South African Associated Newspapers, then to establish The Citizen newspaper — described by the Erasmus Commission as a National Party paper

Sums totalling R12-million were made available to Mr Luyt He invested it in his firm, Triomf Kunsmis Financial problems and arguments caused Mr Luyt and the others to fall out

The Erasmus Commission recommended that the Attorney General investigate to what extent the State's assets had been "unlawfully alienated" by Mr Luyt

Unexplained mysteries:

Will action be taken against Mr Luyt? Can taxpayers hope to recover any of the R32-million involved in The Citizen debacle?



STUART PEGG, former Springbok rallyist Made R1-million profit, as did Mr David Abramson, out of the Morgan Grampian deal sponsored by the Department of Information

It was intended that Morgan Grampian would form the foundation of a worldwide publishing empire favourable to South Africa Also that through clever manipulation the two men would end up in complete control of both Morgan Grampian and Hortors

However, when the Information scandal started boiling over, the men took an opportunity to sell their Morgan Grampian shareholding at a substantial profit

Like Mr Abramson, Mr Pegg has left the country

Unexplained mysteries:

Has the full State share of the Morgan Grampian profits been returned to South Africa from the foreign accounts where it was appalledly deposited? Will Mr Pegg come back?



DR CORNELIUS MULDER, former Crown Prince of the National Party, former Minister of Information, now ex-MP for Randfontein. Only four months ago he came within a hair's breadth of being Prime Minister

The Information scandal dashed this hope and this week finally destroyed his political career

Dr Mulder lied to Parliament about Government money going to The Citizen

The Erasmus Commission described Dr Mulder in his job as Minister of Information as "lax, negligent, incompetent" It said he had exercised improper pressure on others

Unexplained mysteries:

Why has he suddenly been forced out now — in a strange and frantic way — shortly before being able to put his side of the affair to Parliament?

Can he implicate other top Nationalists? Will he still do so?

V D Bergh stuns the

Richard Smith

A WAVE of speculation swept the country this week in the wake of the decision by the State not to bring charges against General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau of State Security and at one time the most powerful man in South Africa.

Many South Africans, still reeling from the shockwaves of continuing revelations linked to the Information Scandal, were again stunned when the Attorney-General of the Transvaal announced that he had decided not to prosecute General Van den Bergh on charges of insulting, disparaging and belittling the Erasmus Commission.

The General was the life-long confidant and security adviser of former Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster.

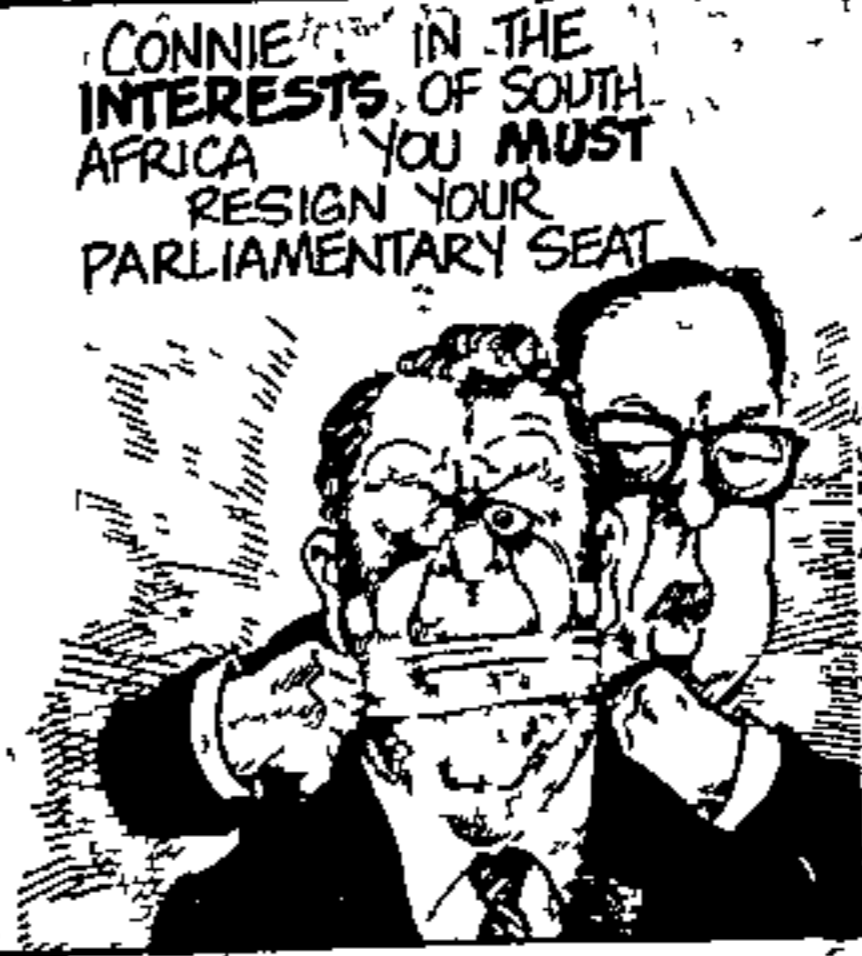
The Commission, under Mr Justice Rudolph Erasmus, is investigating alleged irregularities in the former Department of Information. The Minister of Information at the time, Dr Connie Mulder, this week quit public life totally. Former Information Secretary Dr Eschel Rhoodie retired prematurely last year, and is still abroad.

In its report tabled last year, the commission said General Van den Bergh saw himself as the "power behind the throne".

General Van den Bergh reacted by calling the commission a "farce" and saying he rejected its findings "with the contempt it deserved".

He also referred to Mr Justice Anton Mostert, who burst open the Information Scandal, by releasing evidence last year in defiance of the Prime Minister, as that "windbag Mostert".

At a Press conference at his home in Pretoria, he severely criticised the com-



By KITT KATZIN

mission for rejecting his evidence in favour of Dr Mulder and Dr Rhoodie.

And at one stage he went so far as to describe the findings of the commission as the "biggest character assassination ever seen in South Africa".

His comments caused a storm of public indignation. Mr Justice Erasmus immediately referred General Van den Bergh's remarks to the Transvaal Attorney-General, Mr J E Nothing, for possible prosecution on the grounds that the General had committed contempt of the Commission.

In fact, Judge Erasmus said at the time he would even request the Prime Minister or the Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, to assist him to act against General Van den Bergh, "should the Attorney-General not see his way clear to do it".

He added "Let me state, however, that I have no reason to believe that the Attorney-General will not assist my commission".

The country sat back and waited anxiously for the Government's decision, particularly in the light of

the action taken against the Rand Daily Mail, which was summarily charged and found guilty of anticipating the findings of the Erasmus Commission after it had published an article (which it believed to be in the public interest) on the extent to which the State had funded The Citizen newspaper.

The bombshell came on Wednesday.

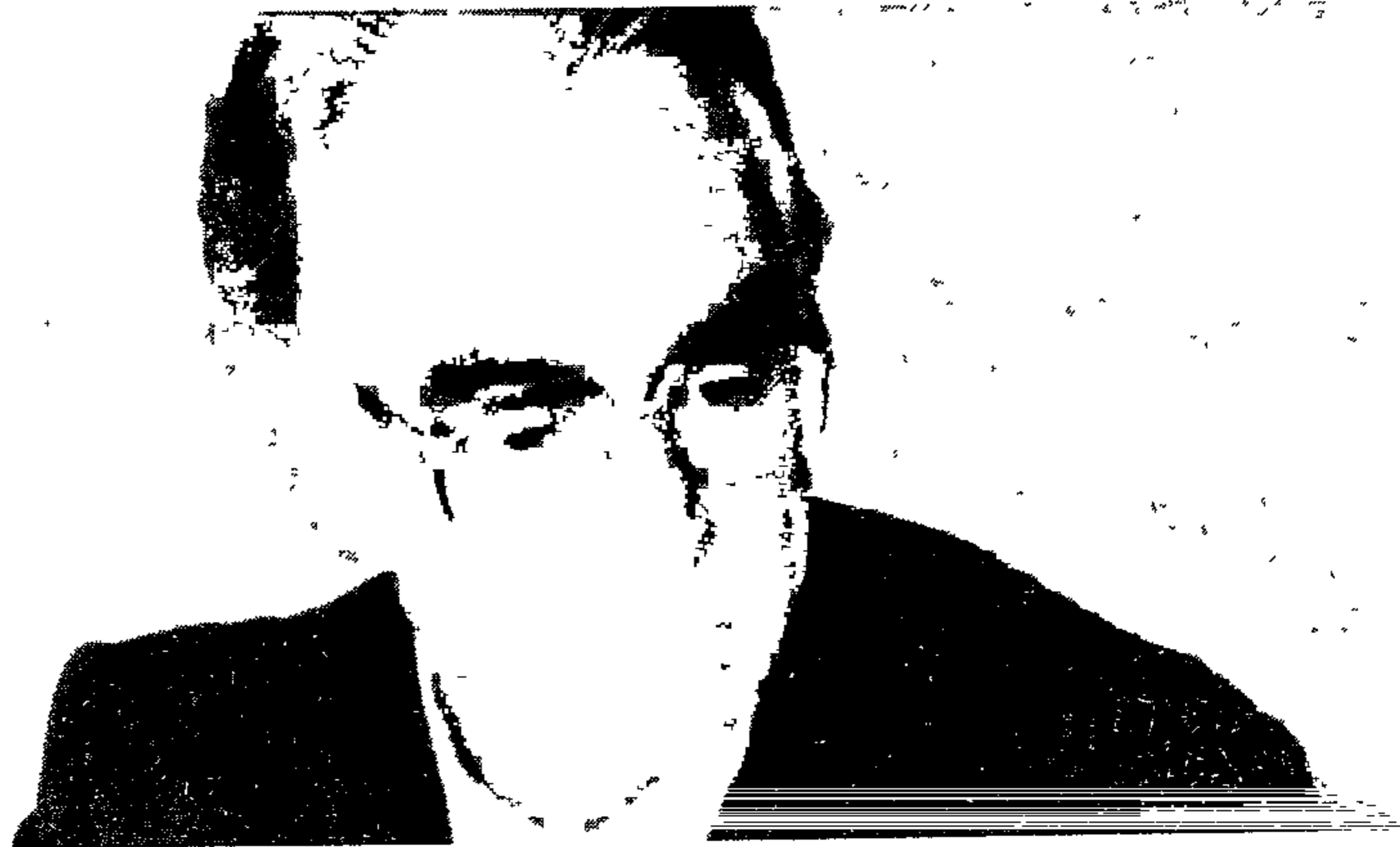
A strained-looking Mr Nothing announced that he had decided NOT to prosecute General Van den Bergh — on the grounds that it would be against the "national interest" for him to do so.

Leading academics, lawyers and politicians, including prominent Nationalists, reacted with shock and dismay.

Mr Nothing, later supported tacitly by the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, who said it would be wrong and not traditional for him to interfere with the decision, said he believed that a prosecution was instituted, the correctness of certain findings of the Erasmus Commission would be placed in issue.

"This will probably bring about the disclosure of certain evidence given to the Erasmus Commission, and which is of such a nature that, in my opinion, it would

BITTER OOR



ADV J E NOTHLING, Prokureur-generaal van Transvaal Regslui is geskok oor sy besluit

het om genl Van den Bergh se stelling te laat ondersoek

Die regter het nie gedink die ondersoek sou reflekteer op getuies of die belange van die staat skaad nie. Tog het die Prokureur-generaal anders gereageer — en sit jy onmiddellik met 'n oenskynlike konflik tussen die twee besluite, sê hy.

Die ander groot vraag is waarom die Prokureur-generaal nie die vervolging agter geslote deure laat geskied het nie. Hy kon geredeneer het dat selfs 'n *in camera*-verhoor nie veilig genoeg sou wees nie. Maar dan moet die hele Erasmus-ondersoek wat lekkasies betref tog net so onveilig wees.

Hy het die hoogste agting vir die integriteit van die Erasmus-kommissie. As juris is die resultate van die besluit so 'n skok vir sy regsgevoel dat dit reggestel moet word.

Dit kan net deur die parlement gedoen word, deur 'n politieke besluit.

Daar sal in die parlement gedebatteer moet word waarom 'n verhoor *in camera* nie voldoende is nie. Dalk sal die wet so gewysig moet word dat 'n man wat verhoor word op aanklag dat hy 'n kommissie geminag het, nie die korrektheid van die kommissie se bevinding in 'n hof mag bevraagteken nie.

Maar dan ontnem jy weer regte van die individu, sê mnr Symington.

Hy was een van die min praktiserende regsgeleerdes wat vandeeweek bereid was om onder eie naam kommentaar te lewer oor adv Nothling se besluit. Uit vertroulike gesprekke met regsgeleerdes in ander provinsies het die

egter duidelik geblyk dat die besluit meer kommer as tevredenheid in regskring veroorsaak het.

In Durban het mnr Doug Douille, voorsitter van die Natalse Prokureursorde, gesê dit lyk vir hom of daar *prima facie* 'n saak teen genl Van den Bergh bestaan.

Waar daar sulke sake bestaan, behoort daar vervolgt te word. „Ons het òf wette wat gehoorsaam moet word, òf ons maak 'n klug van wetstoepassing,” het hy gesê.

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259

28/1/79

REGLUI BESLUIT

Deur ANDRIES VAN WYK

SY regsgevoel is geskok deur die besluit van die Prokureur-generaal van Transvaal om nie vir genl. Hendrik van den Bergh ingevolge die Kommissiewet te vervolg nie, sê mnr. Jan Symington, voorsitter van die Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging van Prokureursordes.

Mnr. Symington, wat ook voorsitter van die Vrystaatse Prokureursorde is, sê hy het met baie van sy kollegas gesels en hulle is „op verre na nie gelukkig” met adv. J. E. Nöthling se omstrede besluit nie.

Een van die gevolge van adv. Nöthling se besluit is dat mense soos dr. Eschel Rhoodie vir alle praktiese doeleindes nie vervolg kan word nie uit vrees dat geheime inligting bekend sal word, sê hy.

Genl. Van den Bergh het die hele bevinding van die Erasmus-kommissie bevraagteken en te kenne gegee die parlement het op 'n klug gereageer. Die besluit om nie te vervolg nie, kom daarop neer dat die kommissie straffeloos geminag kan word deur mense wat oor geheime inligting beskik, sê hy.

Dis ielike dinge wat druk bespreek word. Daar is skeptimisme. Hoe is dit moontlik? vra die publiek.

Die publiek moet aanvaar dat regter Erasmus alle inligting tot sy beskikking oorweeg het voordat hy besluit

(254)
Argus 1/2/79

Three Info accounts uncovered

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Vast sums of money for secret Information projects flowed through the bank accounts of three front organisations — the Alfeskor Trust, Konsortium Vandag and Daggeld.

The details of the accounts and some idea of the functions of the organisations have been established in the Star's continuing investigation into the Information scandal.

The former managing director of the Citizen and of To The Point magazine, Mr J van Zyl Alberts, is involved in all three organisations as is another

former director of the Citizen, Mr Gerhardus Petrus Nel

In addition the Alfeskor Trust is connected with a wide-ranging business empire controlled by Mr van Zyl Alberts, parts of which are known to have received secret Information funds.

The three organisations with established details of their accounts and activities are:

ALFESKOR TRUST: Account No. 100 063 789 at Barclays Bank, Church Square, Pretoria. The account was given an 'excellent' rating in a credit check carried out by the Star and the Star was told it was more than good for R25 000 — an arbitrary figure chosen for the purposes of the credit check.

The Alfeskor Trust was recently in possession of about R1-million in secret funds but this amount was transferred to the account of Konsortium Vandag

Konsortium Vandag has an account at Volkskas, De

(Continued on Page 3, col. 1)

lage

The damage bill is expected to run to thousands of rands, and there are fears that last night's storm may set back the R180-million lead mine project.

The official said there were about 2'500 people living at the mine. Aggeneis is on the road from Springbok to Pofadder.

The holding company is Goldfields of South Africa, based in Johannesburg.

Fronts

(Continued from Page 1)

Villiers Street branch. The account number is 120 450 840. During a credit check run by The Star the bank refused to comment on whether the account was good for R100 000.

The name of Konsortium Vandag has occurred before in the Information scandal when it was disclosed that R600 000 in secret Information funds were lent to the Citizen in its name by both the Alfeskor Trust and the Konsortium Vandag.

ACCOUNTS

Accounts are handled by Mr G P Nel who was a director of the Citizen's holding company, SA Today (Pty) Ltd, and who handled the transfer of R2-million in secret funds from a front company called Beurswins (Edms) Bpk to Mr Louis Luyt when the Citizen was started.

Daggeld (not a registered company) also has its bank account at Volkskas, De Villiers Street, but no information is available on its account number or on the total funds that flowed through it.

A TRUSTEE

The Star has established that Mr Nel is a trustee of the Alfeskor Trust and is the fully authorised (volmagtigde) representative of Konsortium Vandag.

When interviewed by The Star this week he first said 'So?' when told of the Star's information.

He then denied he was the authorised representative of Konsortium Vandag and finally refused to answer questions saying he worked for Alfeskor Finansiering and that his chairman, Mr van Zyl Alberts, had told him not to speak to the Press.

FLATS AT CLIFTON

The Alfeskor Trust was the main vehicle for the transfer of secret funds for the purchase of flats at the luxury block called 'Valhalla' at Clifton.

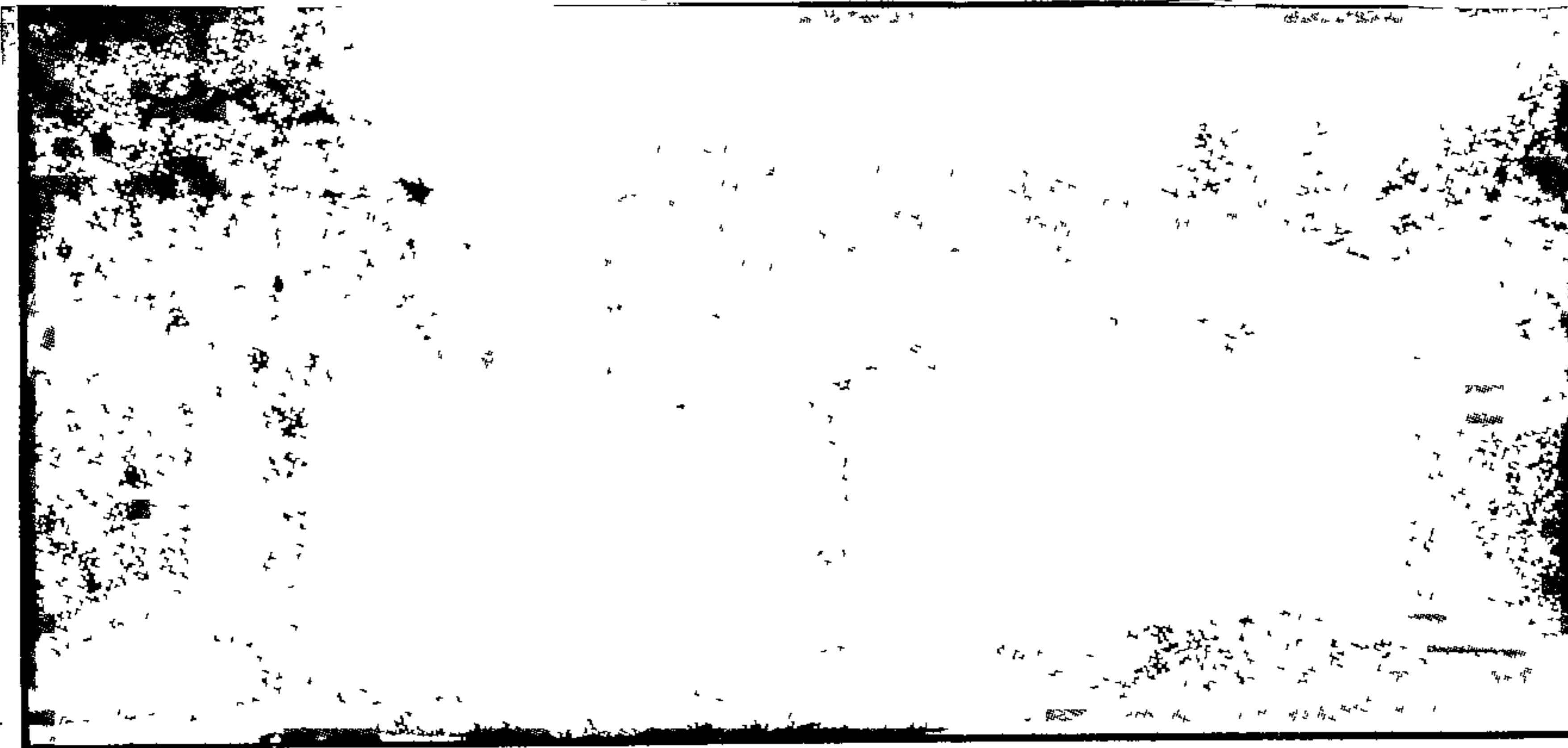
An amount of R237 825 was first guaranteed by the trust and then transferred to Cape Town to pay for eight flats.

Two of the flats (numbers 13 and 14 Valhalla) were registered in the name of Mr van Zyl Alberts one (number 26) in the name of Mr Alberts's son, Anton Louis Alberts and one (number 16) in the name of Mr Alberts's daughter Mrs Anne-Marie Geysler.

The other four numbers (8, 9, 22 and 25) were registered in the name of Lotonyanda (Pty) Ltd, a company controlled by Mr Alberts.

259

2/2/79



D14 . . . the house intended for Dr Mulder

ERICA PLATTER

THE very name hardly conjures up a picture of lush living.

Nothing, after all, could be sparer than a thorn tree.

Taxpayers and voters can rest assured that life a la Rhodie is certainly not the norm for the civil servants and MPs who inhabit the converted barracks, hospitals and prefabs on the Cape Flats that constitute Acacia Park.

It is a far cry from the poverty line. But it is even further from living in style. Even its devotees — like the MP's wife who sobbed for days when her husband was promoted to the Cabinet and a luxury residence — admit that "one has to make do in Acacia Park". And that people generally "come down with a thump here".

The droves of Mercedes parked in the lean-tos of the pre-fab boxes that characterise Acacia Park tell the whole story. Home was never like this.

There are officials at the gates who take down foreign registration numbers in a book with a special space for "remarks".

A visitor just before me had the remark "Bantoe" next to his particulars. The houses are numbered and lettered (we were told D14 was due to be assigned to Dr Connie Mulder) and grouped in blocks, each named after a bushveld tree, like mopane.

There is little or no privacy. None of the gardens are fenced and in some of the prefab semis the walls are so thin "you can hear the neighbours sleeping", one resident remarked, somewhat cryptically.

Dimensions range from bachelor flats for typists and teachers — to the comparative spaciousness of a three-

bedroomed house with the unusual feature of a separate dining room.

There are only about five of these in the compound.

They are all furnished in typical Public Works style — with the bare minimum.

Four chairs for the lounge, one carpet — which nowhere near covers the dreary grey linoleum tiles, an occasional table, a dining table and six chairs (fewer in the smaller houses).

Bedroom carpets are the size of bath mats, in strange colour schemes like virulent purple. Curtains are supplied but no linings.

Every house is painted grey outside and cream inside — which sounds drab, until we visit Barbara Raw, wife of the leader of the NRP, who every year swops a rambling home in Durban North for a three-bedroomed semi, once part of a military hospital.

"When I arrived it was all painted the most hideous green.

"There was only one window in the lounge. I said to father (husband Vause) 'I simply can't live in this place. I just can't live in complete darkness'."

She complained and was told nothing could be done.

"But the next year when we came back they'd given us a glass door and a new double window and painted it cream."

She has added individual touches like their own massive armchairs and an impressive wooden TV trolley with turned legs — made herself after a course in carpentry at the Cape Town Tech.

"With a house so small and no garden to speak of — and no cake sales to organise — you do get time to follow your own interests."

Only one other NRP Parliamentarian

lives in Acacia Park and no-one from the PFP.

Moving twice a year is a perennial horror for Barbara Raw — but she prefers the upheaval to staying on her own in Durban, as she did for the first 15 years of Mr Raw's political career.

She brought up five children there but when two more arrived decided they would have to be Acacia Park babies.

The compound has a special "Transvaal school" with teachers imported for the six month session and a three-termed Transvaal syllabus, so there is minimal disruption when the Governmental herd treks back to Pretoria.

For the Raw children it is more difficult — they go back to a different syllabus at a four-termed Natal school.

"But they love it here."

Which was a sentiment fervently echoed by copper-haired Mrs Lina Nel, wife of the National Party MP for Pretoria Central, Louis Nel.

They live in A25, one of the most spacious homes in the complex — the house Dr Connie Mulder lived in when he was but an MP.

With five children they need the space. "It's a paradise for children here," Mrs Nel says.

"After Pretoria, it's like a small village and they love it. They know everyone at their school." The school has 192 children from 100 different schools.

The facilities undoubtedly form the debit side of life at Acacia Park. There's a pool, tennis courts, bowling green, badminton and dances in the hall, a coffee room for meetings like that of the women's club — Die Lappiesklub, a gymnasium and sauna.

There are keep-fit classes, music lessons, coaching in all sports and Voortrekkers for the children — all in

259

2/2/79

The recent revelations about high living in high places has the average man visualising a life of luxury for everyone connected with the running of the country. But this is far from the truth. The opening of Parliament today means the start of months of living in converted barracks, hospitals and prefabs for the MPs and their wives.

People are living there

crime-free and almost traffic free surroundings

There is a post office and a shop — "it's only meat that we must buy outside"

Mrs Nel, who sews, does embroidery, bakes (delicious scones for tea) and is passionately keen on politics, is enthusiastic about Acacia Park as her children

She goes to keep fit classes twice a week, belongs to The Lappiesklub and admits to only one draw-back in nine years here — this year the Nels had to leave their 13-year-old son in Pretoria at boarding school as Acacia Park provides only primary schooling.

However, it is not like home — a six-bedroomed house in Brooklyn and "one keeps busy to compensate"

The Nels do most of their entertaining in Parliament. Acacia Park is perfect for a braaivleis but not really the place for an elegant soiree, although the Nels have added homely touches like a piano and tasteful paintings

And they have completely redecorated the poky, rather dark bedroom, now an airy haven of mod black and white. "People are happy here," she says. "We don't pay that much, so we really can't expect luxury."

They pay about R70 a month with an extra R12 to finance the regular bus service to Cape Town

Dorothea Krige, wife of the Prime Minister's press secretary, Neville Krige, is a comparative newcomer to Acacia Park. This is her second year here, although a life dictated by Parliament is nothing new to her, with a husband who was for 10 year Parliamentary correspondent for the SABC

A former journalist, Dorothea says her profession now is "moving" For

example, since June 1977, when they returned from a posting in London, the Kriges have moved six times

Last year they were in a flat, this year they have a two-bedroomed house with the usual bare necessities

In Pretoria they have a four-bedroomed home with study, TV room and a pool

The view, as with most of Acacia Park, is of other prefabs (About 1000 people live in the complex)

She can just see Table Mountain if she goes out onto the strip of grass known euphemistically as "the back garden"

She has added personal carpets to the small square provided in the lounge/diningroom in an attempt to make the place more cosy

But it is amazing how overpowering even the smallest strip of grey lino can be.

"One just has to make the best of it," she says

"Some people have been coming here for 25 years, in the days when they ate in a communal diningroom run by the Railways. Some use it, outside the session, as a holiday home. I'm afraid we try and stay in Pretoria as long as possible

"But it's important the kids have a normal life and they certainly love it here. Mr Vorster once told my husband this was the ideal place to bring up children, unlike his official residences"

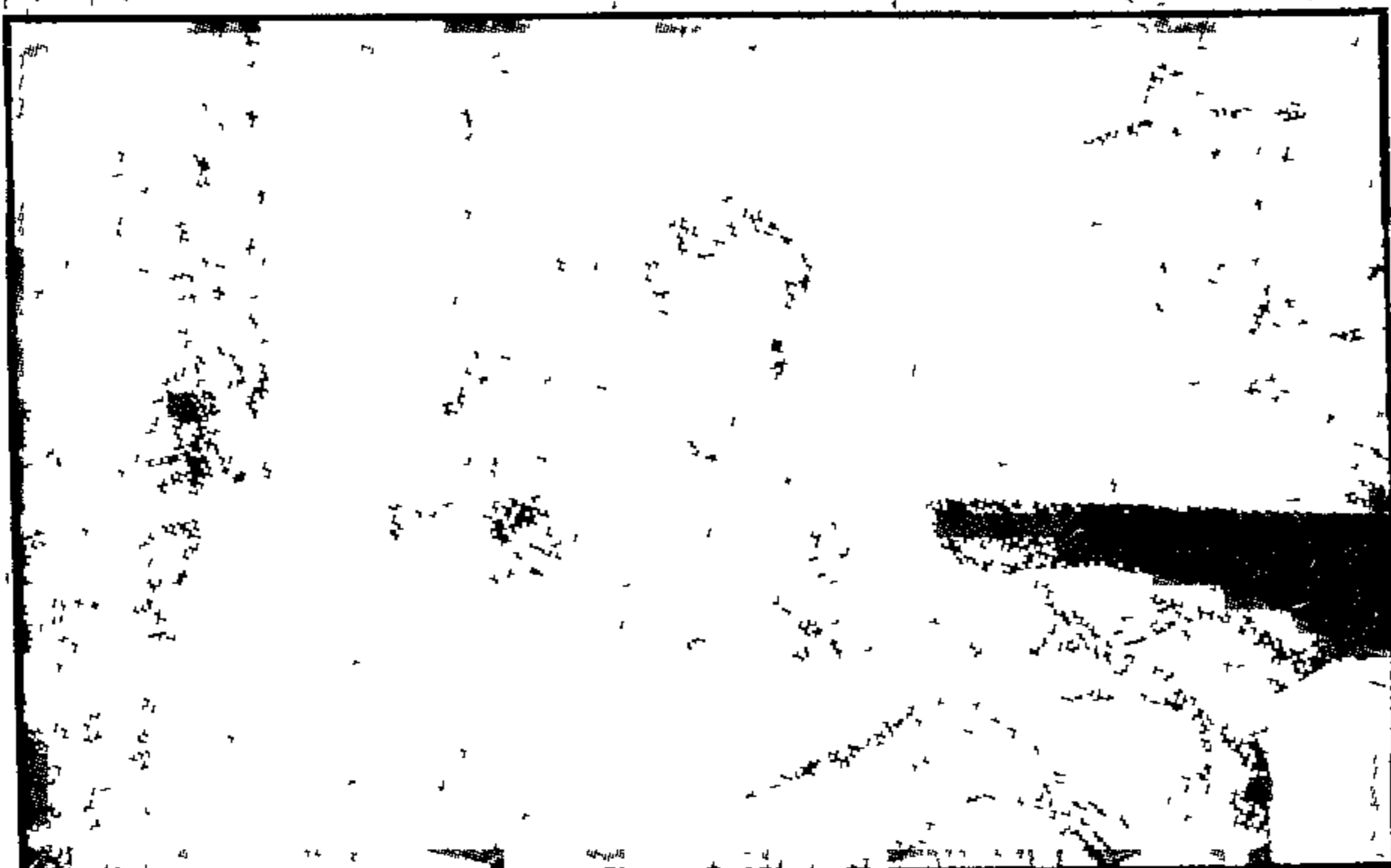
Acacia Park was originally part of the Graaff family farm and was given to the Government by Sir de Villiers' father to add to the area of next-door Wingfield airbase

It is basically a complex for civil servants, with MPs having to put their names on a waiting list for a house

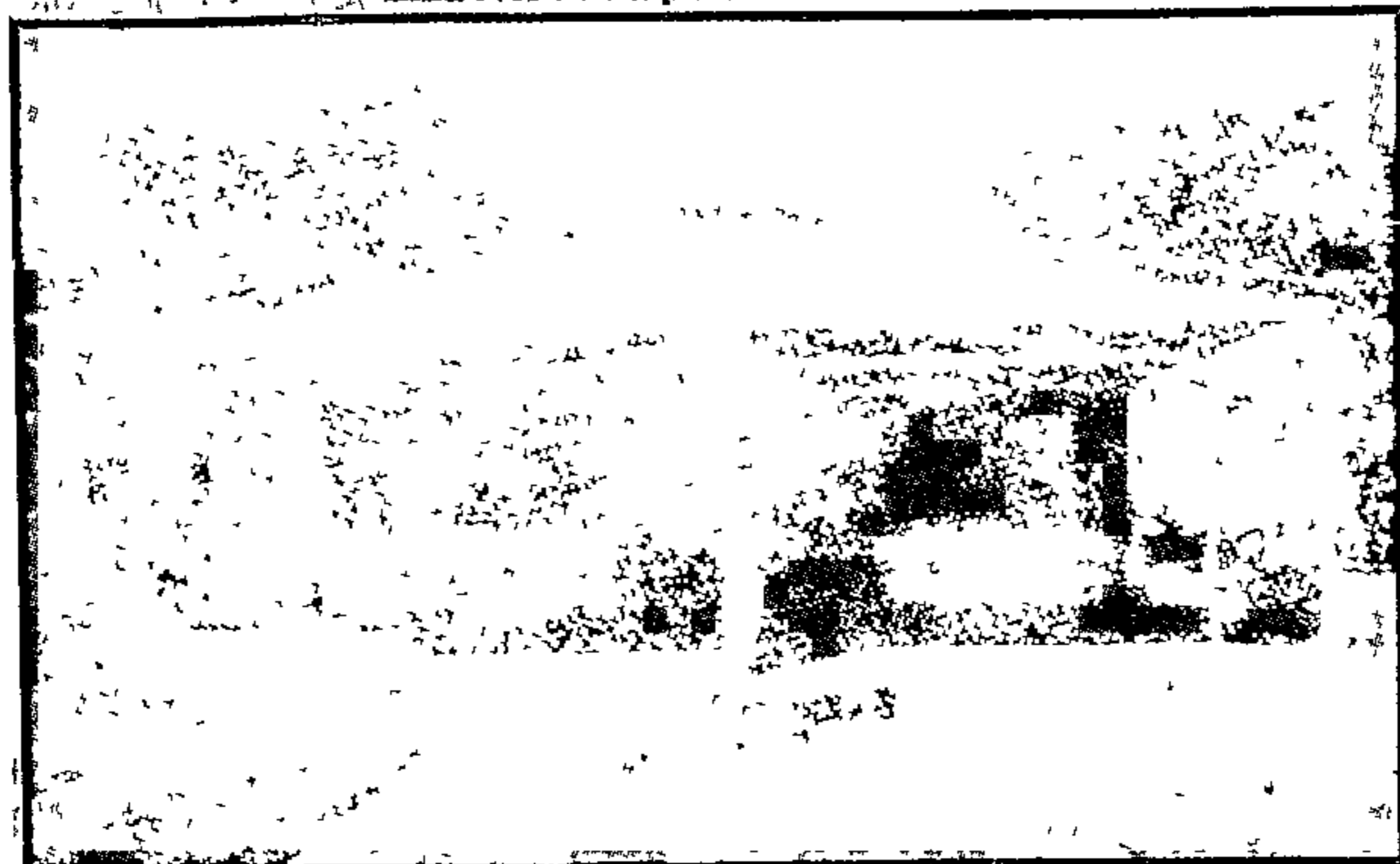
259



Barbara Raw outside her home



Lina Nel . . . a paradise for children



Droves of Mercedes are parked in lean-tos.

12 months of political upheaval reflected in today's new session of Parliament

Cape Town 2/2/77

259

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

THE STATE PRESIDENT, Mr Vorster, opens a session of Parliament today in which changes in personalities and issues illustrate the political upheavals of the past 12 months.

When the late State President, Dr Diederichs, opened Parliament last January there was no indication of the rapid changes which would be started by the information disclosures and brought to a head by his own death.

A year ago Mr Vorster himself was in the Prime Minister's bench, leading a party bursting with confidence after emerging from a general election with the biggest parliamentary majority in South African history.

Among his senior ministers was Dr Connie Mulder, Minister of Information and newly-appointed Minister of Plural Relations — a portfolio which was to bring him fulsome opposition praise in the no-confidence debate after he promised a five-year plan for urban blacks.

Dr Mulder was the man most likely to succeed Mr Vorster as Prime Minister but Mr Vorster was not expected to retire until he had seen the governments' new constitutional proposals through Parliament.

Mr P W Botha was then Min-



Dr N J Diederichs opened the last session

ister of Defence and leader of the House of Assembly in spite of his seniority his Cape leadership was thought likely to deny him an office traditionally commanded by the powerful Transvaal National Party.

Mr Vorster, however, was in full command of his party and government and gave the new Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin E Im, a torrid time in the



Mr B J Vorster not expected to retire

no-confidence debate. With no breath of scandal touching the National Party Mr Vorster was able to criticize the Progressive Federal Party's meagre 17 seats and compare it to the massive 135 seats — some of them former opposition strongholds — won by the National Party.

Conferring regularly with Mr Vorster was the then head of



Dr Mulder thought most likely to succeed Mr Vorster

the Bureau for National Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh — a tall, quiet man wielding enormous power behind the scenes.

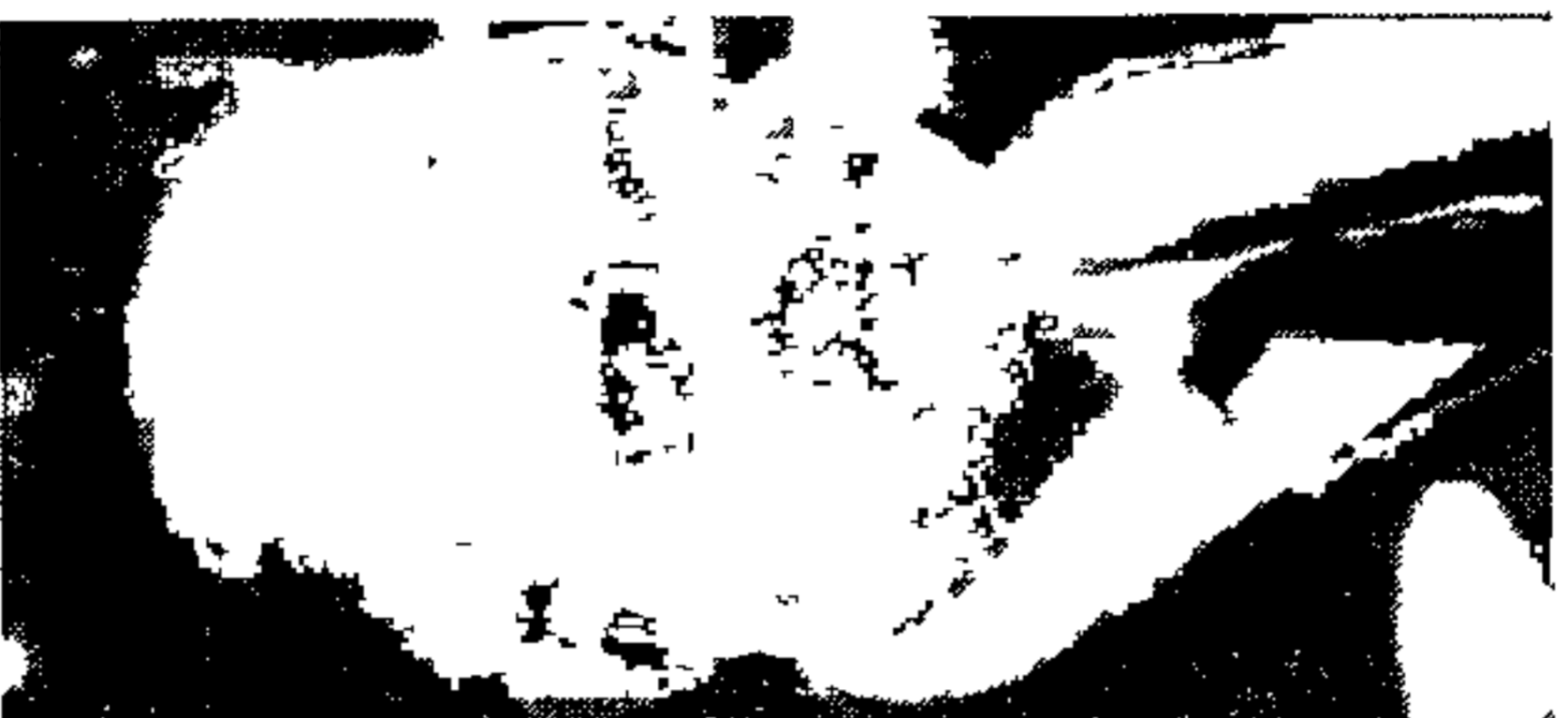
The situation changed within weeks when the Auditor-General reported in February that there had been "unauthorized expenditure" by the Department of Information. This was the first indication of turbulence



Mr P W Botha won the premiership race

ous events which were to shock the country, rock the government and change the face of South African politics.

By the end of the session formerly ebullient government members were on the defensive after further reports by the Auditor-General and a select committee to investigate them had uncovered indications of extensive lack of control in the



General H J van den Bergh retired suddenly

department Dr Mulder, however, remained unmoved. With his Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoadie, sitting near him in the officials' bay, he stated categorically that there was no government money in the Citizen newspaper.

He went further in August, telling the Transvaal National Party congress that the Infor-



Dr Eschel Rhoadie discredited, abroad

mation scandal was "a storm in a teacup" and that confidential reports showed no public money had been lost.

Dr Diederichs had died two weeks previously and there was speculation that the Minister of Transport, Mr Louwrens Muller, would succeed him as State President on October 10.

It was Mr Vorster, however, who re-

and became State President after suffering a serious illness which prevented him from attending his own Transvaal congress.

Dr Mulder and Mr P W Botha contested the premiership, which went to Mr Botha after the Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, split the Transvaal vote — on the basis of information about Dr Mulder not then made public.

The bomb burst in November when Mr Justice Anton Mostert released evidence about the funding of the Citizen given before his commission investigating exchange control malpractices.

General Van den Bergh had already retired suddenly. Dr Mulder was asked to resign within a week and the new Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, also subsequently called for his resignation as MP which took effect yesterday.

Parliament assembles today without Dr Mulder, with a discredited Dr Rhoadie some where abroad on an unknown passport, with opposition speakers calling for the prosecution of General Van den Bergh and still demanding answers about the R32 million spent on the Citizen, of which R19 million is unrecovered.

Mr Vorster will open a session vastly different from the over which he presided a year

Cape Town
3/10/79
259

Charge general petition on streets

PRETORIA — More than 1,200 petitions calling on the government to charge General Hendrik van den Bergh and others involved in the Information scandal would be on the streets throughout South Africa today, according to a spokesman for the Committee for Equality before the Law.

Mr E Bertelsmann, liaison officer for the committee, said yesterday the first 500 signatures had been gathered in Cape Town yesterday.

There was also great activity in Durban. Since Wednesday, branch committees had been formed in Johannesburg, Maritzburg, Potchefstroom, Bloemfontein, Mafeking, Kempton Park, Pietersburg, and on the East Rand.

Action meeting

An action meeting was held on Thursday at the home of the committee's chairman, Mr John Maree, a former ambassador to Spain and Australia.

At a press conference after the meeting, Mr Bertelsmann announced the committee would seek a personal audience with the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, once the petition campaign was over.

Meanwhile, a former top official of the defunct Department of Information has joined the campaign to bring General Van den Bergh and others in the scandal to trial.

Mr J F Waldeck, a former administrative chief of the department, who was retired prematurely last year, attended Thursday's meeting of the committee.

Mr Waldeck, seen by many as the first scapegoat in the Information affair, said last night he would not have attended the meeting had it been party political.

But as a private citizen he supported the principles of equality before the law. — Sapa

Now PFP invites the General to speak

By HELEN ZILLE,
Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN. — Mr. Harry Schwarz, a member of the Van der Walt Commission of Inquiry, yesterday invited General Hendrik van den Bergh to give evidence before the Commission.

If the General accepted the invitation, his evidence would be made public, Mr Schwarz said.

Mr Schwarz, PFP MP for Yeoville, made this announcement after a meeting yesterday with the Commission's chairman, Mr Hennie van der Walt, to discuss the calling of Gen van den Bergh as a witness. Mr Schwarz said he found Mr van der Walt's reaction "extremely disappointing."

Mr van der Walt indicated that he could see no reason why Gen van den

Bergh should be called, but said it would be a matter for the Commission as a whole to decide.

Mr Schwarz pointed out that the Commission's chairman had the power to call witnesses in his own right. Mr van der Walt refused to comment on the matter. He said the Commission had agreed to take all decisions on the calling of witnesses as a body.

Mr Schwarz said last night he was most surprised that Mr Van der Walt could see no reason why Gen van den Bergh should be called to give evidence before the Commission, which is investigating exchange control contraventions.

"The General was deeply involved in the Citizen project under which a large amount of foreign exchange

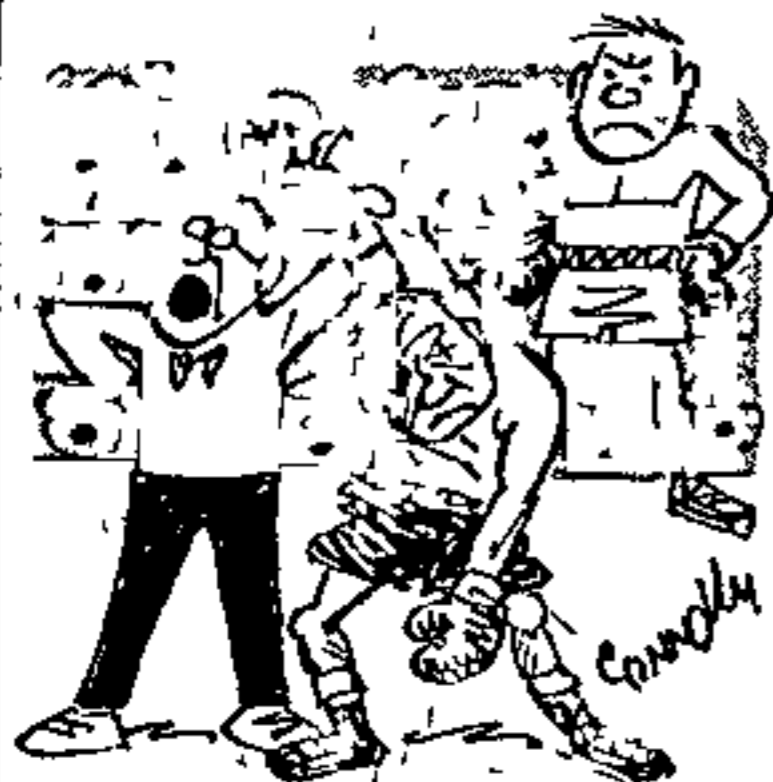
left the country and then came back. The General's evidence is clearly relevant to a commission investigating exchange control matters," Mr Schwarz said.

If the Commission turned down the PFP's request to call Gen van den Bergh, it would be contrary to assurances he had been given, Mr Schwarz said.

"If the Commission decides not to call the General, I believe that in any case he would wish to give evidence and I formally invite him to do so."

"I trust the General will take advantage of such an opportunity to clear up any matters which he would like to have clarified, and which pertain to the Commission's work which, of course, includes the Department of Information."

Breakfast Quip



"It is not in the national interest to reverse my decision."

Petitions hit streets

Pretoria Bureau

THOUSANDS of Pretoria people are expected to sign petitions organised by the Committee for Equality before the Law today, urging the prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh.

The liaison spokesman for the committee, Mr E. Bertelsmann, said he expected overwhelming support at the launching of the campaign and even greater response in Johannesburg

where the Progressive Federal Party and South Africa Party will also petition.

In all, more than 1 200 lists are expected to be on the streets throughout the country this morning.

They are the first shot in what is hoped to be a concerted effort to convince the Minister of Justice, Mr Jimmy Kruger, to overrule the Transvaal Attorney-General and institute criminal proceedings against Gen Van den Bergh.

Sun. Exp 4/2/79
 To the Point net
 out for ministers

NEW Cabinet Ministers could become embroiled when the question of the secret Government funding of To the Point magazine is raised in Parliament this session.

The fact that the magazine, founded in 1972, is another front publication aided by public money was revealed by the Sunday Express last month and a major confrontation is likely when the Opposition raises the issue. New names may come to the fore when the question of subsidised publications is probed.

The money for To the Point very likely came from Government departments other than Information, which funded The Citizen. It is not known which, but it is clear Ministers other than Dr Mulder may be called to account for the money.

The Sunday Express claim, published three weeks ago, is unchallenged and drew no response from the Government.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, who resumed responsibility for the bureau which replaced the Information Department, was unable to deny that the Government had funded To the Point.

Its Editor, Dr John Poorter, who once worked for the Information Department, was also unable to say that the Government had not supported the magazine.

He told the Sunday Express the question could be

seems that Dr Mulder alone should not have been made the scapegoat"

Mr Schwarz demanded to know

- Which Department funded the magazine?
- How much public money was used?
- Its source
- Which Ministers authorised the payments?
- Which Ministers were aware at the time that the magazine was State-funded?

● What was being done to recover the money?

Mr Schwarz said there was no mention of To the Point in the first report of the Erasmus Commission.

"I must now ask whether, in view of the Sunday Express revelation, the commission is investigating and, if not, whether it intends to do so."

Parliament, he said, would also need to know if any foreign exchange was involved (the magazine's international edition, published in Antwerp, Belgium, was closed down last year).

If this was found to be the case, it would be a matter for the Van der Walt Commission.

● The Sunday Express has been reliably informed that Government spending on To the Point could be as high as R5-million.

Political observers firmly expect the magazine — according to certain sources it has become financially independent — to be sold on

shares) and an issued capital of 100 shares.

One of the directors of its former Information Department front-man Mr J van Zyl Alberts, former managing director of The Citizen and To the Point

Mr Van Zyl took over The Citizen from Mr Louis Luyt, who obtained a loan of R13-million from former Infor-

mation Secretary Dr Eschel Rhodie to get it off the ground

According to reports this week, Alfeskor Trust is connected with a wide business empire controlled by Mr Van Zyl Alberts. Some of these inter-connected companies are known to have received secret Government funds

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Factor was indicated

Factor was one of them from employment in question

Table 23. Frequency with

African technicians said that they had indicated in question 3 with which various Note that they were considered prevented than they had indicated

Question 4: asked firms for the reasons why they did not want to employ more

HOW PM'S OFFICE STOPPED MGM FROM DISTRIBUTING

Film-maker reveals his runnning war with Rhoodie

VETERAN movie-maker Sven Persson this week revealed for the first time how he had fought a running war with Dr Eschel Rhoodie over the independent South African documentary 'Land Apart' — and how its distribution was finally stopped by an approach from the Prime Minister's office to MGM in America.

Mr Persson blamed Dr Rhoodie's "driving need to control all information about South Africa both inside and outside the country" for the astonishing difficulties



THE SOUTH AFRICANS

● (Right) Movie-maker Sven Persson in action "I told Dr Rhoodie that if he thought the film was distorted, it was his duty to make it less distorted."

● (Left) An advertising collage prepared after 'Land Apart', re-titled 'The South Africans', was finally passed by the Publications Control Board.



259

4/2/79

and which finally cost him and his backers a quarter of a million-rands

The film had the support of even the Afrikaans Press. After the ban was lifted, the National Party newspaper, Die Vaderland, wrote: "This is a documentary film which gives an objective account of the different political standpoints in this country — without taking a stance itself"

As a result of Dr Rhodie's curious opposition to the 92-minute documentary on the people and policies of South Africa, which was scripted by Mr Allister Sparks, now editor of the Rand Daily Mail, the work took from 1973 to 1976 to get on to cinema screens.

Mr Persson's story gives a remarkable insight into the all-pervading influence of Dr Rhodie

"The ironies of what happened still strike me as immense," Mr Persson said

"Firstly, while on the one hand Dr Rhodie was handing out secret funds for all sorts of projects, he set out to destroy my independently financed project, which was planned to show South Africans aspects of their country they'd never seen.

"Secondly, there I was, trying to make a balanced film about South Africa, which made it imperative that I get the views of government, and he was denying me access to all the people in government — including Ministers — who could present those views

"Thirdly, if you consider that the Mulder-Rhodie axis controlled the Departments of Information and Interior, then you realise I had absolutely nowhere to appeal to"

A letter from Dr Rhodie described the film script as "extremely distorted" and expressed dissatisfaction that MGM were involved

Immediately after this, representations were made, via the Prime Minister's Office, to MGM head office officials in Culver City, California, informing them that Mr Persson's film was not

SUNDAY EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE

By JEREMY GORDIN

in the best interests of South Africa and MGM!

The result was that MGM's then local managing director, Mr Chris Opperman, was instructed to withdraw his offer to distribute the film.

Mr Persson says he was told by reliable sources that Mr Andre Pieterse, who was once vice-president of

of Nasionale Pers, Mr D P "Lang Dawid" de Villiers — Dr Rhodie still refused to have anything to do with the film

Finally, as a result of the representations, Dr Rhodie's assistant, Mr L E S de Villiers, was detailed to outline the department's objections to the film.

"In contrast to Dr Rhodie, Mr L E S de Villiers seemed genuinely concerned about the movie," said Mr Persson.

"I also gained the impression that in fact Dr Mulder was largely unaware of the extremes to which Dr Rhodie went to prevent the film making it on to South African screens"

The film was first banned by the Publications Control Board in March 1974. Mr Persson took note of the objections to the film, changed it at considerable expense and re-submitted it in August 1974. It was again banned.

An appeal was made to Dr Mulder in October 1974. He upheld the banning.

With the help of Mr D P de Villiers, Mr Persson approached the Department again and discussed the film with Mr L E S de Villiers. In March 1976, the film was submitted to the Publications Control Board under the name "The South Africans" and was passed — two years after "Land Apart" was first banned

QUOTE
"If you consider that the Mulder-Rhodie axis controlled the Departments of Information and Interior, then you realise I had absolutely nowhere to appeal to."

MGM International, helped "pave the way" for the representations.

Dr Rhodie insisted Mr Persson write a letter of apology in the Sunday Times after the newspaper reported on the harassment to which Mr Persson was subjected while making the film. Dr Rhodie said there was no connection between himself and Mr Persson's problems.

In spite of the support of the Afrikaans Press and representations to Dr Connie Mulder by prominent Nationalists — like the present MP for Pinetown, Dr Jan S Marais, and the chairman

Police watched me — Sven

AFTER Mr Persson decided to continue with the film in spite of resistance from Dr Rhodie he ran into almost constant opposition and harassment. He told the Sunday Express this week that in the course of producing the film.

● Security police or BOSS agents kept the team under surveillance, scaring away some of the people they hoped to interview

● Film rushes airfreighted from England to Jan Smuts airport mysteriously disappeared.

● Another consignment "ended up at John Vorster Square", and Mr Persson was obliged to screen all the film for the police, which took two and a half hours

● Permission to film scenes in Soweto was refused although Mr Persson had made a documentary on Soweto for the Johannesburg City Council only 18 months before.

● The Postmaster General refused to allow shots of the Post Office Tower restaurant in Johannesburg, although scenes had been filmed in that restaurant both before and after Mr Persson's request.

● Permission to attend the Vandaland elections was refused by the Department of Bantu Administration and Development, although the film team made it clear they would not mind officials accompanying them throughout the trip.

PW discussed Vd Bergh's alleged boast with caucus

AS LONG ago as December 6 the Prime Minister discussed with the full caucus of the National Party the tenor of the alleged boast by General Hendrik van den Bergh which was excluded from the Erasmus Commission report.

This information has been given to the Sunday Express by a very reliable source. It has not been denied by the Prime Minister.

The discussion with the caucus took place the day before Parliament sat in special session to debate the report.

Reference to this specific boast did not appear in the final published report of the commission.

An impeccable source has told the Sunday Express that Mr P W Botha briefed the party's 172-member caucus behind closed doors on the meaning and import of the words spoken in secret testimony. He did not, however, quote the words specifically.

Mr Botha refused to comment when the Sunday Express put this information to him through his Press secretary.

INFORMATION WAS DENIED OTHER MPs

By KITT KATZIN

body would stop him and he would stop at nothing.

The Erasmus Commission decided it was "not in the national interest" to include the paragraph in its report to Parliament, released on December 5, and excised it at the last minute.

Last week Mr Botha advised the Sunday Express that it should not publish anything not contained in the Erasmus Commission report.

The Sunday Express has what it believes to be the content of Mr Botha's reference in caucus to the missing paragraph. Although he did not reveal the actual words, his version still captured the full impact of the crucial paragraph.

When Mr Botha was approached by the Sunday Express to comment on the caucus briefing, he said, "I

have nothing to say to Mr Katzin, except to reiterate that if he has any evidence not contained in the report he should submit it to Judge Erasmus."

The Sunday Express tried to get independent verification of its reliable information from other Nationalist caucus members.

Mr J T Albertyn, a whip in the Assembly, declined to comment on whether the omission of a paragraph from the Erasmus Commission report had been discussed in the caucus.

He denied the allegation that the Prime Minister had told the Nationalist caucus anything about General Van den Bergh referring to possible killing.

"It's absolute nonsense," he said. "I cannot comment on anything that happened in the caucus, but that allegation is nonsense."

The two senior Nationalist whips, Mr A van Breda and Mr Nic Treurnicht, could not be contacted.

Dr Jan Marais, MP for Pinetown, said: "One thing that is a very important principle for any party is that nobody is supposed to say what goes on in the caucus."

Asked if he denied the truth of the report, he said he would not say anything further than "no comment".



'CHARGE

V D BERGH'

● General Hendrik van den Bergh

Bergh 'boast'

From Page 1

Van den Bergh written by Associated Press' Johannes

Thousands have signed

259

4/2/79

BY JEREMY GORDIN

By 1pm yesterday thousands of Pretorians, including General Van den Bergh himself, had signed a petition calling for him to be brought to court.

Copies of the petition, organised by the Committee for Equality Before the Law, was set out on tables at all the entrances to Church Square and at all the major shopping centres and suburbs in the Pretoria area.

At just one table in Church Square, after 400 people had signed, organiser Advocate G Bertelsmann said: "We hope to have 18 000 signatures by Friday which is not bad going for an organisation which started four days ago. There seems to have been a need in Pretoria for this kind of thing."

Before noon at Sunnyside Centre, organisers ran out of petitions and foolscap paper had to be used. About 90% of those who signed at Church Square during the two hour period from 11am were Afrikaans-speaking.

Most went directly to the tables and seemed happy to sign. A pastor of a church in Hercules, Mr E S de Beer came especially to Pretoria to sign.

"General Van den Bergh is no better than I am - there's got to be equality

before the law," he said.

There were a few strange scenes as husbands who wanted to sign were pulled away by their wives, and vice versa.

"You're not going to sign," one woman said as she dragged her husband away. One man who refused to sign said "No thank you, I am a Broederbonder myself. People who hesitated to sign generally did so after the petition was explained to them."

Notably, no Blacks passing through Church Square were interested in signing. Over 500 people signed petitions organised by the PFP in Durban, Phetown and Amanzimtoti yesterday urging the general's prosecution. Seven petition tables were set up at shopping centres - five in Durban and one each in the other towns.

The regional organiser of the PFP in Natal, Mr Derek Rudolph, told the Sunday Express he was pleased with the response. "We've had no unpleasant incidents at all - in fact people have been asking where they can sign the petitions." He added that the initial response was very good, especially as the PFP had not advertised the petitions.

Natal liaison officer for the Committee for Equality Before the Law, Mr Peter McKenzie said he considered the result "very satisfying".

said: "It's a lot of rubbish. Someone has sucked that out of his thumb. Nothing was said in the caucus about any such statement by General Van den Bergh. It's ridiculous."

Meanwhile, in Pretoria yesterday General Van den Bergh stunned members of the committee when he signed a petition calling for his own prosecution.

He arrived at Church Square at 8 am, and signed a petition form presented to him by Mrs Jackie Chapman.

Next to his name he wrote this message. "With compliments to you and in support of Die Transvaler."

Late yesterday the committee's liaison officer, Advocate Eberhard Bertelsmann, said there had been a "fantastic public response" to the campaign.

He expected at least 7 000 signatures and already more than 300 petition lists were in circulation

country as a whole is entitled to be informed

● So far, the Prime Minister has failed to reply publicly to a disturbing question put directly to him during the special parliamentary debate last December by one of his own Cabinet Ministers. The Minister was Mr Schlebusch. His question could indicate knowledge of the mysterious missing sentence.

He asked: "It is clear that the former Secretary for Security Information possessed tremendous powers. Should such powers not be controlled in some way?"

The Prime Minister did not reply during the debate - or afterwards

● Rumours relating to what the General said - sparked by the commission when it reported that the General had spoken in similar terms - have become so widespread that the public interest is best served by dealing with the issue, not dodging it.

As I understand it, General Van den Bergh allegedly used the contentious words as a means of trying generally to impress the commission and create the impression that he had great personal power.

But the General is believed to tell a very different version. In fact, his contemptuous remarks about the commission are interpreted by people close to him as indicating that he wants to be charged so that he will have the chance - in a court of law - to show that he said something quite different.

This week, in a background feature on General

comment was made.

"South African newspapers are not allowed to publish the deleted material from Van den Bergh's evidence.

"However, it is common knowledge among some newspapers, National Party sources, and some lawyers that the General told the Erasmus Commission it was in his brief, as head of Boss, even to murder under instructions. It is believed the reference to murder was part of the deleted evidence."

The foreign editor of The Observer, London, read the despatch to the Sunday Express as distributed by AP in Britain.

The Sunday Express has made numerous efforts to obtain comment from official sources.

The Prime Minister's office said the Prime Minister had nothing to add to a statement he made last week, except to say that if this newspaper had evidence not contained in the Erasmus Report it must submit this evidence to the commission.

The Prime Minister last week told the Sunday Express in response to similar inquiries: "You should not publish anything that is not contained in the Erasmus Report. I want to reiterate that I released the report as I received it. You must discuss the matter with Mr Justice Erasmus. It is not a matter for the Prime Minister."

No member of the Erasmus Commission was prepared to discuss any aspect of the matter with the Sunday Express. Inquiries met a blank wall.

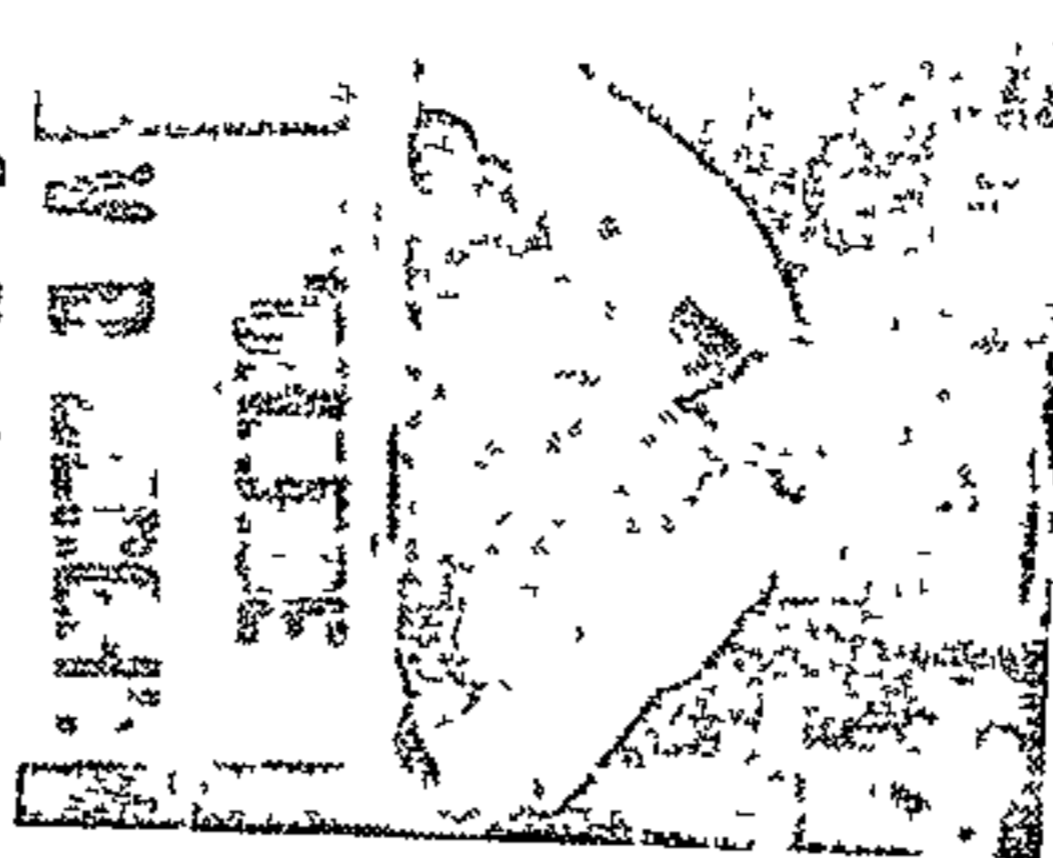
AVD BERGH AND

SUN. EXPRESS

4/2/79

259

THE SKILL'S BOAST



Statement goes around the world — and Express decides to publish

Gen Van den Bergh signed petition

The Sunday Express has decided to publish today words allegedly taken in secret testimony by General Hendrik van den Bergh when he recounted to the Erasmus Commission the role played by agents of the Bureau for State Security. After probing the issue for more than 10 days, it is satisfied with the accuracy of its information and that it is acting in the national interest at it records that General Van den Bergh, given the opportunity, would hotly dispute made such a boast. General Van den Bergh is believed to have used the words — about which the country has been in a turmoil — in the elaborated to the Commission on what he had said by saying that if he would do something, no-one would stop him and he would stop at nothing.

BY KITTY KATZMAN

The commission reported that he had spoken of the role of Boss agents in a "sinister" way. At the last minute some words were eliminated by the commission from the final Erasmus Report that went to Parliament. The substance of the general's unpublished comment was: If somebody had to be murdered he (General Van den Bergh) said "kill" then they (presumably the agents) would do so, irrespective of how important the victims were. The words were spoken in Afrikaans and went something like this: As jemand vermoor moes word, ek se: Maak dood, dan maak hulle so, afgesien van hoe belangrik hulle is. The claim, I understand, did not specify further. One theory is that it was made in a generalised and boastful way. The Sunday Express does not know if it was a false boast or not. The Sunday Express arrived at its decision to publish the missing words for a number of cogent reasons. It is satisfied with the accuracy of its information, and that the public interest is best served by disclosure. Despite repeated attempts, this newspaper was unable to obtain for publication one argument on why suppression would benefit the country. The Prime Minister refused to comment at all.

The international news agency Associated Press this week sent a similar report round the world. South Africans should be told what the world can now learn. The AP report claimed specifically that it was "common knowledge" that the General said it was in his brief even to murder under instructions. The Prime Minister discussed this controversial statement with his party caucus some time ago. If politicians are entitled to such information for no reason other than that they belong to the inner circle of the National Party, then the

To Page 2

COMMER

Sunday Feb 4/2/79

259

AND

INQUIRY!

**The general signs
petition for own trial**

BY EUGENE HUGO FLEUR
DE VILLIERS AND
NEIL HOOPER

**THE Government's
efforts to contain
the information
scandal are disinte-
grating.**

Number of Afri
sample which

GIANT



General Van den Bergh signing a petition in Pretoria yesterday demanding his own prosecution

28

4/2/79

Try Lang Hendrik, move grows

The campaign to prosecute General Hendrik van den Bergh gained massive momentum yesterday as a storm of protest gathered over the Government's refusal to bring the former head of BOSS to trial.

Thousands of people came forward to support a petition demanding the general's prosecution.

In five hours an estimated 7 000 people signed in Pretoria, base of the burgeoning Committee for

Equality before the Law.

Even Lang Hendrik himself signed and when he was thanked he replied: "I understand more than anyone what it means."

The public response delighted the committee.

"This is only the start. South Africans are issuing a challenge to the Minister of Justice that he cannot ignore," said a jubilant Mr. Eberhard Bertelsmann, the committee's liaison officer.

In Pretoria yesterday morning, there were 100 tables taking signatures.

In the busy city centre people were signing at a rate of between 80 to 100 an hour.

There was only one incident — when Mrs. Vera McGaffin, 71, and Mrs. Margerita Grindstad, 48, were detained for about 25 minutes by Railways police

when they collected signatures at the railway station.

Meanwhile, the Government faced a confrontation on the issue with the legal profession as the president of the Association of Law Societies met in Bloemfontein with the three provincial presidents.

The meeting was originally scheduled to last one day but it dragged into Friday night and was resumed yesterday. A statement is expected tomorrow.

"All I can say is that they are looking — from a legal point of view — very, very carefully at the whole issue," said Mr. Pieter Erasmus, secretary of the Transvaal Law Society.

It is believed they are examining the wider implications of the Information scandal and not just the Transvaal Attorney-General's refusal to prosecute Gen. Van den Bergh for his alleged contempt of the Erasmus Commission.

But he made it clear that despite Mr. Nothing's refusal to prosecute Gen Van den Bergh, he would ensure that justice was seen to be done.

He would not tolerate people such as former Cabinet Minister Dr. Connie Mulder, making any statements before the commission had completed its work on May 31.

Nevertheless, Dr Mulder — who resigned as a MP 10 days ago at the insistence of the Prime Minister — says he will hold a Press conference to "state his case."

He told the Sunday Times this week that he had

● To page 2

Responsible

"There is nothing more we can do about it. I think justice must take its course because I feel that when the recommendations of a responsible commission have been accepted by Parliament, utterances like that are not really acceptable. Suppose we want Gen Van den Bergh next to give evidence and he ignores our subpoena? - I don't want to prophesy that we are that far yet, but this is a problem that I don't like at all. However, he said, statements by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice - "before I could do anything - had forestalled his efforts to pursue the matter. He denied that Mr Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Justice, had tried to influence his decision. Mr Justice Erasmus revealed that testimony by Mr L. E. S. de Vilhiers, former deputy to Dr Eschel Rhoodie, uncovered an "alarming" new aspect of the information debacle. "Les de Vilhiers did not put matters right. "It (his evidence) uncovered something of which I did not know before - something which was to my mind alarming," the judge said.

257

4/2/79

● General Hendrik van den Bergh has once again flung down the gauntlet by signing a petition demanding that he be brought to trial.

● Former Information Minister Connie Mulder has told the Sunday Times he plans to call a Press conference to tell his side of the story.

● Public outrage at the Government's tactics of trying to silence the key figures in the scandal has swelled into a nationwide campaign for court action.

● Mr Justice Erasmus has added his own criticism to the handful of Gen Van den Bergh's scornful comments about his commission of inquiry.

● Gen Van den Bergh may also offer to testify to the Van der Walt commission of inquiry into exchange control violations. The Opposition wants him to do so while the chairman, Mr Hennie van der Walt, says he sees no reason for it.

'A farce'

The latest uproar in the Information saga follows the refusal by the Transvaal Attorney-General, Mr J. E. Nothing, to prosecute the general on charges of contempt of the Erasmus commission.

Gen Van den Bergh had called the commission's work a farce and character assassination. The organisers of the nationwide petition calling for prosecution of Gen Van den Bergh, the Committee for Equality before the Law, were flabbergasted when the general himself turned up unexpectedly at a table in Church Square, Pretoria, to sign his name.

He gave his address, 241 Pleiades Avenue, Waterkloof Ridge, Pretoria, adding a note in Afrikaans support of Die Transvaler.

Meanwhile, Mr Justice Erasmus reiterated his dissatisfaction with the decision not to prosecute. "You know my commission and myself, we feel sore about the remarks of Gen Van den Bergh," he said in an interview.



Mulder expected to stir hornet's nest

By HELEN ZILLE

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — While General Hendrik van den Bergh is heading the Information counter-attack at present, Dr Connie Mulder, a fellow "scapegoat", is waiting in the wings for the right moment to launch a strategy of his own

There is speculation in political circles that Dr Mulder's campaign could stir up a hornet's nest that would leave as many people in high places stung as has General Van den Bergh

The first hint that Dr Mulder had not disappeared from the scene despite his resignation from Parliament was a report that he intended to hold a Press conference on an undisclosed date

Dr Mulder could not be contacted to elaborate on the matter yesterday. But the chairman of his former Randfontein constituency, Mr Nic Smuts, has repeatedly said that Dr Mulder



Dr Connie Mulder ... waiting

would one day tell his side of the story

The tactic of the National Party leadership has been to attempt to discredit Dr Mulder to the point where any "revelations" can be dismissed as the bitterness of a disgraced politician.

However, there is much speculation in political circles as to why Dr Mulder has accepted the attempts

of the party leadership to force him to resign his Randfontein seat before he had a chance of starting his case in Parliament

It is widely believed that the full ramifications of Dr Mulder's activities have not yet become known, and that people are using this as a lever to keep Dr Mulder quiet

Asked to comment on the possibility of Dr Mulder calling a Press conference, Mr Justice Rudolph Erasmus, chairman of the commission of inquiry investigating the former Department of Information, said yesterday "I know nothing about the Press conference. Dr Mulder can do whatever he pleases. I only hope he waits until the publication of the second report on the commission's findings because this will put the matter in perspective"

Judge Erasmus denied he had had any contact with Dr Mulder since he gave evidence before the commission last year

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Jaarvergadering

Kotie van den Bergh is bitter . . .

By DI ALMON
Staff Reporter

MRS Kotie van den Bergh, wife of General Hendrik van den Bergh, yesterday demanded to know why her husband should now be used as a scapegoat to be crucified for all that had happened

"It is beginning to look as if the whole nation must be cleansed in his blood," she said bitterly

In an interview with the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Rapport at the weekend, Mrs. Van den Bergh spoke frankly about

her husband, the former head of the Bureau for State Security

Mrs Van den Bergh said she and her children would always stand by her husband.

"We will fight until his name is reinstated honourably, even if we have to sell our last Friesland cow," she said

"I am now fed up with these double standards and hypocrisy," she said

Mrs Van den Bergh said she had become close friends with Mrs Kate Rhodie

"We found ourselves in the same boat," she said

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, U.C.T.

. . . and Kate is a 'woman of steel'

Staff Reporter

"I AM a woman of steel. . . but the hinges are a bit rusted"

Those were the words used by Mrs Kate Rhodie to describe her feelings since the Information scandal broke and her husband, the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, jumped the country last year

In an exclusive interview with an Afrikaans Sunday paper Rapport at the weekend, Mrs Rhodie spoke evasively about the situation she found herself in, and how

she was coping without her husband

"Our marriage and our feelings are in deep-freeze. When we get together again, we will take them out and start living again," Mrs Rhodie said

The article said Mrs Rhodie did not show the strain she had obviously been living under and talked as if she was proud to be the wife of Dr Rhodie

"You ask how I feel? How do all these matters irk me? How can I still smile in spite of all this? The answer is simple. I am a woman of steel. . . but the hinges are a bit rusted," she said

259

5/2/79

Still silence by Erasmus

By HELEN ZILLE

Political Correspondent

MR. JUSTICE Rudolph Erasmus, chairman of the Erasmus Commission, is still refusing to comment on allegations that words were deleted from his commission's report.

He said this attitude would persist.

The Sunday Express yesterday published what it believes is the substance of a sentence spoken by General Van Den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for

State Security, to the commission but allegedly deleted from the commission's first report.

Asked to comment on the report yesterday, Judge Erasmus said: "I have said that the commission has decided not to release any evidence, so what is the point of asking about alleged deletions of evidence?"

"The commission has never confirmed or denied that a sentence was omitted. We refused to comment on the matter and that is how it will remain.

"We could have reconstructed or interpreted evidence. That is the right of the commission, and that is what we did.

"If people want to know what took place before we signed the report, I say we have no comment.

"I have seen the wording that has been published and I have no comment.

The Judge said that when the final report was published he would probably recommend that the Government could release certain evidence without endangering the security of the State.

"There is certain evidence that does not affect the security of the State. There is a possibility that the commission would classify its information into two categories and that it would recommend the release of that evidence that did not endanger State security."

Info Spectre Over jobs

CS 12/74

(254)

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

THE INFORMATION SCANDAL returns to haunt the government today with the opening of the no-confidence debate and an almost certain row over a motion of congratulation to Mr Vorster as State President.

Words: NO

comment

from judge

The massive Nationalist parliamentary majority is in its most defensive mood for years, aware of the damage the Information disclosures have done the government and the National Party.

They will face a concerted Opposition attack on an issue which could have been readily made for a no-confidence debate. Answers will be demanded to a number of questions still being asked by the public.

This will be Mr P W Botha's first full parliamentary session as Prime Minister and his first



Watched by Mr Jackie Chapman, General, H. J. Van den Bergh signs the petition calling for his own prosecution.

INSIDE

- It won't go away, Mr Botha—page 6
- De Klerk calls for all-party investigation—page 2
- No comment on possible Cabinet reshuffle—page 2

PTO



From page 4

ger and add vituperation to the subsequent no-confidence debate

There are as yet no indications that other Opposition parties will join the Progressive Federal Party in opposing the traditional address of honour from Parliament to the State President

The New Republic Party and the South African Party are to consider their attitudes today, but both have resisted moves which could be interpreted as reflecting on the office of the State President

The PFP is likely to move an amendment to the motion and explain their reluctance to congratulate and pledge support to Mr Vorster whom they regard as involved in controversy because the Information scandal developed under his premiership

The motion is in line with other PFP action which indi-

cates they will oppose anything involving the former Prime Minister

It follows their opposition to Mr Vorster being granted the freedom of the city of Johannesburg and the party's Chief Whip, Mr Brian Bamford, said yesterday that PFP provincial councillors would probably not attend a garden party to be given in Mr Vorster's honour by the Administrator of the Cape, Dr L A P A Munnik.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, is to move a no-confidence motion based on Information and three other factors — government failures in the fields of race relations, the economy and a just constitutional dispensation for all

Government speakers are expected to counter-attack strongly on the PFP's new constitutional policy and Mr P W Botha is likely to make major statements on homeland consolidation and the government's constitutional proposals.

(32)

technicians by category, and number of grand sample which would employ these they (i) immediately available; 1981 assuming full economic recovery.

	Africans employed if available			
	i) immediately		ii) in 1981 assuming full economic recovery	
	Technicians	Firms	Technicians	Firms
Telecommunication	1	1	4	2
TV and Electronics	6	2	16	3
Mechanical Engineering	2	1	3	2
Production Engineering	-	-	2	1
Structural Engineering	5	1	15	2
Structural Draughtsmanship	3	2	11	4
Mechanical Draughtsmanship	8	2	30	6
Physical Metallurgy	-	-	8	2
Chemical Technicians	2	1	10	4
Analytical Chemistry	7	3	20	7
Chemical Plant Operation	2	1	5	1
Chemical Technology (Plastics)	7	2	11	3
Paint Science	4	3	6	2
T O T A L	83		198	
NATIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR TECHNICIANS OR NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN :				
Electrical Engineering (Heavy Current)	1	1	2	1
Electrical Engineering (Light Current)	4	2	10	4
Mechanical Engineering	2	1	14	3
Mechanical Draughtsmanship	3	1	9	2
T O T A L	10		35	

Political Staff
THE MISSING-SENTENCE allegations surrounding the Erasmus Commission report had always been met with a "no comment" and this would continue to be the case, Mr Justice Rudolf Erasmus, the commission's chairman, said yesterday.

He was commenting on the publication in the Sunday Express of the words which the newspaper believed formed the substance of a sentence spoken by General Hendrik van den Bergh and reportedly deleted from the commission's first report.

Recording that General Van den Bergh would hotly dispute that he made such a statement, the Sunday Express said the substance of the general's unpublished comment was that if somebody had to be murdered, he (General Van den Bergh) said "kill" then they (presumably the agents) would do so, irrespective of how important the victims were.

Asked to comment on the report yesterday, Judge Erasmus said: "I have said that the commission has decided not to release any evidence, so what is the point of asking about alleged deletions of evidence?"

"The commission has never confirmed or denied there was a sentence omitted. We refused to comment on the matter and that is how it will remain. We could have reconstructed or interpreted evidence. That is the right of the commission, and that is what we did.

"If people want to know what took place before we signed the

report I say that we have no comment. I have seen the wording that has been published and I have no comment on the matter," he said.

Judge Erasmus said that when the final report was published, he would probably recommend that the government could release certain evidence without "endangering the security of the state."

"There is certain evidence that does affect the security of the state. There is a possibility that the commission would classify its information into two categories and that it would recommend the release of that evidence that did not endanger state security," he said.

He could not say if General Van den Bergh's evidence would fall into this category.

General Van den Bergh told Rapport yesterday that he was being "crucified" and that he had never used the words attributed to him.

He could not now remember his exact words but denied using the word "kill".

"The possible tenor of my words was that we were in a war. Then we would do what had to be done and would stop at nothing.

"That is the tenor, that is the basis, that is the background of all my evidence... because I said that, South Africa is now throwing me to the wolves."

The general said he was being "betrayed" by a country he had tried to make secure. He, however, could not be taunted into betraying the country by telling things he should not tell

indication of the policy direction he will follow.

However, he is still hamstrung by the Information affair and will be unable to focus attention on other major issues until it has been dealt with.

The debate takes place against the background of an article in Rapport yesterday by the respected Afrikaans commentator and editor of the Transvaler, Dr. Willem de Klerk, which indicates serious Nationalist concern about the continuing effects of the Information affair.

Dr De Klerk called for openness, honesty and humility about the Information affair and a purging general election.

Opposition speakers are also likely to seize on the decision not to prosecute General Hendrik van den Bergh and to allege that it is part of a continuing cover-up of the Information issue.

The former head of the Bureau for State Security has claimed he is being vilified unjustly. His remarks about the Erasmus Commission have been seen as courting prosecution for contempt in order to state his side of the affair, and his signing of the petition calling for his own prosecution is seen in the same light.

The government is likely to be asked whether, as reported by a Sunday newspaper, General van den Bergh has secret tapes of conversations proving that his role in the Information scandal was prompted by "higher authority".

Other aspects of the Information affair are the absence abroad of the former departmental secretary, Dr. Eschel Rhodie, and the resignation from Parliament of Dr. Connie Mulder.

Dr. Mulder, having been denied the opportunity of stating his case in the no confidence debate, is reportedly planning a press conference.

The Information scandal, main issue in a four-pronged Opposition attack, is expected to dominate a stormy five-day debate.

It will be preceded by another row — the Progressive Federal Party opposition to a traditional motion of congratulation to Mr Vorster as new State President.

The unprecedented move on the State President, linked to the Information disclosures, is likely to provoke Nationalist an-

CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION

WES

All members are urged to attend the meeting held on Wednesday 4th (114), University Avenue. This will be followed at 7.30 pm by a lecture by Professor Neville

Professor Dubow originally of the School where he won the title of Director of the School. The school is vibrant with new activities.

AGENDA for the meeting

1. Personalia
 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 7 September
 3. Chairman's report
 4. Matters arising from the meeting of 7 September
 5. Financial statement
 6. Motion: The Classical Association should contribute to the local fund from 50 cents
 7. Election of officers
- Huidige lede

By TONY STIRLING

GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh, ex-head of the Bureau for State Security, is driving the Government into a corner which will sooner or later force into the open what he told the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry — or land him in court.

This is the belief of Mr Harry Schwarz, national chairman of the Progressive Federal Party, who will be leading parliamentary attacks on the Government over the Information scandal.

Mr Schwarz was commenting yesterday on General Van den Bergh signing an Equality Before the Law Committee petition to bring him to trial.

Mr Schwarz, who was a member of the Select Committee on Finance which last year delved into the irregular expenditure of funds by the defunct Department of Information, is also a member of the Van der Walt Commission investigating Exchange Control matters, including certain aspects of the expenditure of the secret funds of the defunct department.

He has issued a personal invitation to General Van den Bergh to give evidence before the Van der Walt Commission.

Although commission chairman Mr Hennie van der Walt is reported to have said that he sees no reason why General Van den Bergh should give evidence, reports have suggested that General Van den Bergh may offer to testify — further embarrassing the Government.

The weekend brought fresh strain on the Government's efforts to contain the widening Info crisis.

Former Minister of Information Dr Mulder — denied a platform to put his case to Parliament through his resignation — was said to be

Info: 5/2/79
259

Govt's new 'tight spot'

planning to call a Press conference.

Mr Justice Erasmus, Erasmus Commission chairman, responded by saying he hoped Dr Mulder would leave his conference until after the conclusion of the commission's work.

It was at a Press conference in December last year that General Van den Bergh described the commission's work as a farce and a character assassination.

After an investigation by the Commercial Branch of the Police, Transvaal Attorney-General Mr Nothling declined to prosecute "in the national interest".

The campaign to bring General Van den Bergh to court through the Committee for Equality before the Law got off to a resounding start with the news that about 7 000 people signed petitions in Pretoria on Saturday for charges to be brought.

SUID AFRIKA

will be held in Room 114 (Room meeting)

Fine Art, U.C.T. (presented by slides)

Dr Michaelis and became has been

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of the meeting, remitted increased

J. Sang.

J. Sang (le Roux)

Sekretarisse vir die Skole/Schools' Secretary: Miss B. Keelson (not available for reelection)

Committee members: Dr. S. Bruwer, Mrs. M. Mezzabotta, Mr. Thom, Mr. P. Collins, Miss S. Armstrong, Dr. R. van Stekelenberg.

Coopted members: Mej. D.J. Blokbergen, and student representatives from U.S., U.W.C. and U.C.T., namely Messrs. M. Sahd and C. Yon and Miss J. Frater.

8. Any other business/Algemeen.

J. Sang.
Department of Classics, U.C.T.
Phone: 698531 Extn. 213.

Van den Bergh petition not available in EL

52479
259

EAST LONDON — While thousands of people around the country — including Gen Hendrik van den Bergh himself — signed petitions to prosecute the general, copies of the petition were not available here.

Besides Gen Van den Bergh causing a stir when he pitched up to sign in Pretoria, the only other incident was when Railway Police briefly detained two women in connection with the petition.

Mrs Vera McGeffin, 71, and Mrs Margerita Grindstad, 48, were detained for about half an hour after they tried to collect signatures for the petition at the Pretoria station.

The petitions, organised by the Committee for Equality before the Law, were distributed at about 100 points throughout Pretoria, at the start of a national campaign against the government's refusal to bring the former head of the Bureau for State Security to court following remarks he made about the Erasmus Commission.

Soon after the general had signed the petition on Church Square, the petition was whipped away, photostated and copies given to other tables to encourage the public to sign. It is believed to have had some effect.

According to one of the committee members, Mr Dan Nesor, one of the general's neighbours signed after initially declining when she heard of his move.

The general's appearance did not exactly catch the committee off balance as some felt it was the type of thing he would do.

Explaining possible motives, Mr Nesor said it was obvious he had wanted to be taken to court and the petition presented an ideal opportunity for him to

emphasise the point.

Other petition lists were available in Durban and Johannesburg.

In East London, Beacon Bay and Gonubie members of the PFP were organising the registration of voters.

At their registration tables, they had copies of telegrams available to send to the Prime Minister.

The telegrams read: "Please stop the cover up". Hundreds were sent off.

On Saturday night the PFP launched their Contact 3 000 campaign in East London, a telephone campaign whereby they hope to contact 3 000 missing voters in each of the Border constituencies to ensure they register in time for the next election.

— DDR-DDC

De Klerk calls for all-party investigation

254
CS/2/74

Staff Reporter

GOSSIPING over the Information issue would cease if a representative parliamentary committee was formed to examine the evidence and final report of the Erasmus Commission, says the editor of an Afrikaans newspaper, Dr Willem de Klerk

Writing in yesterday's Rapport, Dr De Klerk, a respected columnist, called for a parliamentary committee which would include members of opposition parties, so that clarity on the Information matter could be reached "once and for all"

He emphasized that unruly gossiping would also be curbed if people stopped lying

"There are too many lies," he said.

Gossiping was flourishing in Nationalist circles — and those being talked about seemed to participate in the gossiping. This would inevitably harm the National Party

Many people are unhappy over the manner in which the Information scandal has been handled till now, he said. There was open talk of cover-up attempts which placed the entire legal process which had been followed under suspicion

Dr De Klerk suggested that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, call a general election in

the near future. This would give him a mandate for his own policy-planning which would repair trust and engender greater optimism among the public

Trust had been undermined and uncertainty encouraged. Even if it went against all rules of political strategy, an attitude of humility and an admission of corporate responsibility for the whole matter would clear the air, he said

"It must become visible to all that the government and the National Party were getting their house in order," he concluded

An editorial in Rapport said the shock of the Information disclosures had not been diminished by the decision not to publish the evidence. It was in fact, aggravated by the fact that General Hendrik van der Bergh's provocative actions and open taunting of the commission had been left unpunished

The formulation of the Committee for Equality before Law was only one indication of public dissatisfaction on the matter

The editorial warned against demeaning the committee. It was significant how many people in positions where one would least expect to find them were sympathetic toward the aims of the committee

The answers to questions would employ... are

D. Witwatersrand

B. NATIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR TECHNICIANS				TOTAL
Electrical Engineering (Heavy Current)	1	1	1	3
Electrical Engineering (Light Current)	1	1	1	3
Mechanical Draughtsmanship	1	1	1	3
Building Foreman	1	1	1	3
Works Inspection	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	6	6	6	18
A. NATIONAL DIPLOMA FOR TECHNICIANS				TOTAL
Sugar Technology	1	1	1	3
Meat Technology	1	1	1	3
Water Purification Technology	1	1	1	3
Health Inspectors	1	1	1	3
Medical Laboratory Technology	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	6	6	6	18
Number of Africans required				1980

Table 25 (cont)

Now I'll talk, says Van den Bergh

RAM
6/2/77

257

From Page 1

John Vorster's decisions for him

"But you didn't check it. You didn't ask anybody. You didn't ask John Vorster and you didn't ask Van den Bergh."

Gen Van den Bergh — once the country's top policeman — was adamant that he would discuss the information affair only when he wanted to and that he would not let anyone tell him what to do.

He said he had not consulted any Cabinet Minister when he talked David Protter, the security agent who held up the Israeli Consulate in Johannesburg in 1975, into surrender.

"I didn't ask any Minister. I went and got him out. I saved his life. The first Christmas he was in jail he sent me a card, although he is Jewish. It was written in perfect Afrikaans and thanked me."

"I gave him the chance to

prove to the world that he was not a skunk."

He then said "When I want to get my Protter I will get him."

Gen Van den Bergh would not comment on a report in Beeld yesterday saying he was in contact with former Secretary for Information Dr Eschel Rhoodie.

The "Mail" asked Gen Van den Bergh why the Government was scared of him (as was suggested by Mr Colin Eglin, Leader of the Opposition, in Parliament yesterday).

He replied "Why should they be scared of me? I have worked for the Government in the public service for 44 years. Why should anybody be scared of me? I have never harmed anybody."

"Can you think of anybody I have harmed?"

Gen Van den Bergh would not comment on the decision by the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, Mr Nothling, not to prosecute

him for his remarks about the Erasmus Commission.

Mr Nothling said he made the decision because a prosecution would not be in the national interest.

At the weekend Gen Van den Bergh signed a petition, organised by the Committee for Equality Before the Law, calling for his prosecution. The committee was formed after Mr Nothling's refusal to prosecute.

Gen Van den Bergh said yesterday he had shocked the Press and caught newspapers "with their pants down" by signing the petition for his own prosecution in Pretoria at the weekend.

The "Mail" yesterday approached the Office of the Attorney-General to get Mr Nothling's reaction to Gen Van den Bergh's action.

A spokesman said Mr Nothling had told her "he has nothing to say in connection with Gen Van den Bergh or the Information Department whatsoever."

Government blasted on Info cover-up

From Page 1

Colin Eglin, said the Government had forfeited the trust of millions of South Africans because of its responsibility for the information scandal and its patent attempts at a cover-up.

"It has destroyed the faith of ordinary South Africans in the integrity of the Government and its leaders," Mr Eglin said.

The Government's two main speakers, the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, and Mr F W de Klerk, Minister of Sport, denied the cover-up charges and defended the Government's refusal to intervene in the decision of the Transvaal Attorney General not to prosecute General Van den Bergh for his remarks about the Erasmus commission.

Mr Kruger also assured Parliament that whatever might be said about collective responsibility, he personally had nothing to do with the information affair. In a scathing attack on Senator Horwood, Mr Eglin said he had been guilty of

that The Citizen was being financed by public money.

"I know nothing about The Citizen and I have said so in public," Senator Horwood interjected.

The Rhoodie saga also formed a pivot of the Opposition attack, with Mr Eglin asking if the Government had done a deal with Dr Rhoodie.

"Only after he was safely out of the country did the Government swing into action asking him to surrender his passport and return home."

Mr Eglin asked what steps were being taken to track him down and whether he was still receiving his pension.

Mr Eglin also accused the Government of using Dr Connie Mulder as a convenient scapegoat. As part of the cover-up, the Prime Minister had made sure that he had no opportunity to state his case to the National Party caucus or to Parliament.

If Dr Mulder had to be condemned for lying to Parliament, "then we must condemn all those who

accessory in undermining confidence in a fundamental principle of democracy by not instructing Mr Kruger to overrule the decision not to prosecute General Van den Bergh.

Mr Raw also attacked the Prime Minister for trying to prevent the release of the Mostert evidence and dismissing Mr Justice Mostert when this failed.

Mr Botha had known that money budgeted under the special defence account was being used for other purposes to the extent that the head of his own department refused to have him lie to Parliament.

That Mr Vorster knew of the situation and failed to rectify it was a matter of undisputed record.

The PFP, in opposing the address of honour to Mr Vorster, introduced an amendment reaffirming respect for the office and constitutional duties of the State President but deleting congratulations and a message of support to Mr Vorster personally. The amendment was defeated.

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He could not believe that Senator Horwood, having introduced the 1976, 1977 and 1978 budgets, did not know

that The Citizen was being financed by public money

"I know nothing about The Citizen and I have said so in public," Senator Horwood interjected.

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If Dr Mulder had to be condemned for lying to Parliament, "then we must condemn all those who sat in silence knowing that he was lying and in doing so gave credence to the lie"

In accusing the Government of a cover-up, the NRP leader, Mr Vause Raw, accused Mr P W Botha of making himself an

accessory in undermining confidence in a fundamental principle of democracy by not instructing Mr Kruger to overrule the decision not to prosecute General Van den Bergh

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Handwritten notes and stamps on the right margin, including "259" circled and "6/21/79".

Handwritten initials "RDM" in the bottom right corner.

He concluded that ninety per cent of the Africans there lived in dwellings 'that are unfit for human habitation'. 102 But the Council would spend no money on a location it wished to close as soon as its residents had gone to Langa. Even the Nissen huts would not be taken down while the inhabitants refused to move.

When the Council figured this opposition and galled the new arrivals on 22 February 1922 the Ndbezi Advisory Board refused the Mayor's Vigilance Association then drew up comprehensive memoranda to the Council, which spoke both of a complete lack of confidence in the administration of the Location and the arbitrary actions of the Superintendent in openly flaunting the wishes of the people and its accredited representatives. The residents, it continued, 'state that the conditions of the Location are such that other matters complained of by the up to thirty men to a hut streets and street-light April, Oliphant told Cool African members the lines however, refused to see

Police are not seeking Rhodie

By Hugh Leggatt
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Commissioner of Police, General Mike Geldenhuys, said yesterday that the police were not searching for Dr Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information at this stage, because "they cannot look for a man who is overseas". It is understood from other sources, however, that if sufficient reason is uncovered by police investigations for a prosecution against Dr Rhodie, a docket will be referred to the Attorney-General. If he decides to prosecute and Dr Rhodie is still out of the country, the Department of Foreign Affairs will be asked to arrange extradition.

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, said in Parliament yesterday that Dr Rhodie had not been released from possible prosecution. The police were investigating his case and if an offence was thought to have been committed witnesses would be called by the police.

The former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh, has claimed that he is in contact with Dr Rhodie overseas and that he believes Dr Rhodie will return to South Africa.

General Geldenhuys said the police were still investigating possible criminal offences flowing from the interim report of the Erasmus Commission, but would not take any action until the commission had completed its final report in May.

That produced deadlock, for the protesters would not lay their complaints before the Committee. Ollifan explained: 'The same Committee that makes the law the law', and James Mafu elaborated: 'What Ollifan means is that the Advisory Board has from time to time been ignored by the Native Affairs Commission, and he is therefore not prepared to hear the Committee, but only the Mayor himself. That conditions at Ndabeni were indeed deplorable was confirmed by the Town Medical Officer of Health in mid 1929. The site is an almost level tract of loose sand, and the houses are arranged in a series of straight streets intersecting each other at right angles. There has apparently been no attempt at road making, and the surroundings of the houses are composed of soft sand in the dry weather, and in the lower and flatter parts of the location the ground is muddy in the winter and puddles abound. There is no grass or other vegetation in the area on which the houses stand and the place is practically devoid of gardens. The buildings are really all huts of corrugated iron, many of them rusty, and there are many unsightly outbuildings and fences. The general appearance of the location is squalid and dreary.

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mid-1929 notices were issued that 100 of the most huts for married people and the Nissen huts housing men without wives should be vacated prior to their demolition. Their occupants were offered accommodation at Langa, but refused to move, and when one was taken to court in early 1930, the Council lost the case, on the grounds that the Superintendent had no authority to order people to move from one location to another. At this time there were still only 1,340 people at Langa, 4,463 still at Ndabeni. Thwarted once again, the Council spoke of 'a carefully worked up agitation' by 'irresponsible native agitators' who sought to 'seize any opportunity of resisting law and order and of harassing the Council'. 108 When Sir Walter Stanford led a reputation from the Cape Peninsula Joint Council to wait on the

Ndabeni, the Board said, was an old location. There were no grounds for an increase in rents there. 98

Frage: Was wurde Antwort: Im Sommer bekanntesten

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KDM 6/2/74 (221)

I'm going to talk — Van den Bergh

By BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh is to hold a Press conference to give his side of the story in the Information scandal.

But the general — retired chief of the Bureau for State Security who signed a petition for his own prosecution at the weekend — would not reveal when, and was tight-lipped about his next move in his confrontation with the Government.

Asked if the "truth" about the Information scandal would come out at the conference, he said: "I have never lied to anybody in my life ... I was head of security for 20 years; when I reported to the Government I gave them the facts, nothing else."

Info blitz on Govt

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent
THE ASSEMBLY —
Charges of an Information scandal cover-up formed the spearhead of a combined Opposition attack on the first day of the no-confidence debate yesterday. It placed the Government on the defensive as never before since it came to power. The debate began after an unprecedented move by the Progressive Federal Party in opposing the traditional address of honour from Parliament to the State President, Mr Vor-

Gen Van den Bergh was amiable when the Rand Daily Mail approached him at his farm at Tweefontein about 10 km outside the Transvaal resort town of Bapsfontein.

A professor and a student from the University of Pretoria had just left the farm after examining a dead cow.

Gen Van den Bergh told the "Mail" there was no reason for the Government or anybody to be scared of him. "I have never harmed anybody. I challenge you to find someone I have harmed."

"I have never killed anything. The only thing I would kill are flies because I don't like them. I can't even kill my animals. I had sheep here but I gave them away because I couldn't kill them."

"I have had chickens and I asked my wife to give them away because I couldn't kill them."

Asked about his Press conference he said "News-



RPM & 2/79 (259)



General Van den Bergh... "I have never harmed anybody".

Why we charged the Mail: Kruger tells House

Political Correspondent
THE ASSEMBLY — The Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, yesterday explained why the Rand Daily Mail had been charged under the Commission's Act, while General Hendrik van den Bergh had escaped prosecution.
 The general had made his

statement calling the commission a farce, during a three day period last December when the commission had been dissolved, Mr Kruger told the House.
 The commission had been dissolved on December 5 last year — the eve of the special parliamentary session called to discuss its

findings. It was not reconstituted until December 8 and Gen Van den Bergh had made his statement on December 7.
 But the article for which the 'Mail' had been charged had appeared before December 5, while the commission was still sitting.
 The 'Mail' had taken evi-

dence released by the Mostert Commission of Inquiry, evaluated it and tried to influence the findings of the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry.
 The court had found the 'Mail' guilty of publishing an article which could influence the findings of the commission

papers are not interested in the truth — just sensation." He said if he announced that one of his cows had given birth to an elephant it would be published without being checked because it would be sensational.
 He knew newspapers, having worked with them for 44 years, particularly in the past two decades in his position as head of security and intelligence.
 The Press was making him out to be "a skunk who stinks so terrible you can't come within a mile of him".

He referred to a picture and caption published in the 'Mail' in December after the report of the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry into the activities of the former Information Department was released.
 The caption read Gen Van den Bergh — "made the Prime Minister's decisions for him".
 The Erasmus report said the general exercised considerable influence over the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and at times made decisions for him.
 Gen Van den Bergh saw himself as the power behind the throne and, through the person of Mr Vorster, tried to manipulate events in the direction he wanted them to go.
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To Page 2

because of the unanswered questions about his role in the scandal.
 The Government's arguments to justify its actions were dismissed by the leaders of both the PFP and the New Republic Party as they homed in on other Cabinet ministers, accusing them of joint responsibility for the scandal.
 Mr Vorster, the present Prime Minister, Mr P Botha, and the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, were the prime targets.

The Opposition also fired questions on the failure to prosecute General Hendrik van den Bergh and the decision not to release the evidence given to the Erasmus commission of inquiry. It said this combination of circumstances had increased the public view that a cover-up was in progress.
 Proposing a motion of no confidence in the Government, the PFP leader, Mr

Political Correspondent
THE ASSEMBLY — The Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, yesterday spoke for the first time on the "missing words" controversy surrounding the report of the Erasmus Commission.
 As the Government's first speaker in the no-confidence debate, Mr Kruger read out to a hushed House the words which the Sunday Express published as the "substance" deleted from the Erasmus report. "If somebody had to be murdered, he (General Van den Bergh) said 'kill', then they (presumably the agents) would do so irrespective of

To Page 2

Kruger speaks out on report's 'missing words'

how important the victims were".
 Mr Kruger did not confirm nor deny that words were deleted, nor the accuracy of the reported words. He said that if they were true it was preferable that they had been brought out by what he said was "one of the dirtiest newspapers in South Africa", than by "decent people like the Attorney General or myself".
 If those words were true, they were the strongest proof that the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute General Van den Bergh was correct.
 Mr Kruger also repeated

his reasons for his failure to override the decision of the Transvaal Attorney General, Mr J E Nothing, not to prosecute the General for contempt of the Erasmus Commission.
 It was in the highest tradition of South African law that the Minister of Justice did not interfere with decisions taken by the Attorney General. If he was to do so, the Opposition would be the first to raise a hue and cry.
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 The decision had been taken in the interest of the country "and that goes far further than the interests of the National Party".

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Not only Info involved—Schwarz

BY HELEN ZILLE

CAPE TOWN

MR HARRY SCHWARZ, chief Opposition spokesman on the Information scandal, told Parliament yesterday that R4,5-million of Government money had been spent on the magazine *To The Point* — and this money had not come from the Department of Information.

Asked afterwards to name the Government department from which the money had come, Mr Schwarz said: "I cannot tell you because I may commit an offence if I do."

But he could reveal that the money had been channelled through a front company known as the *Al Fresco Trust*. Mr Jan van Zyl Alberts was the director of the company, which was still in existence, Mr Schwarz said.

Mr Van Zyl Alberts was also the managing director of *SA Today* (Pty) Ltd, the company that fronted for the Government as the owner of *The Citizen*.

The *Al Fresco Trust* had also been a channel for Government funds, but these had not come from the Department of Information. They had come from another Government department, Mr Schwarz said.

Mr Schwarz also revealed that a student newspaper on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand had received Government funds.

He named the newspaper as *Campus Independent* and said two students involved with it were Mr Geoff Hemm and Mr Frank Winder.

Mr Schwarz said he had been told by the current editor in a letter.

"This setup is different to that of 1977 when the paper was published by two ex-students, Mr Geoff Hemm and Mr Frank Winder. The finances were undisclosed at the request of the lawyers and businessmen who contributed to the newspaper."

7/2/79

259

Mr Schwarz asked how it could be in the interest of national security for the Government to give funds to a student newspaper on a university campus.

Dealing with To The Point Mr Schwarz said that R4.5-million of Government money had been used to finance it, but there had been nothing about it in the Erasmus Commission report.

Why because the money came from another department?

If this was so, then Dr Connie Mulder, the former Minister of Information, could not be blamed alone.

There were roars of laughter from the Opposition benches when the Minister of the Interior, Mr Alwyn Schlabusch, asked if it was fair to involve a non-political paper.

He said if Mr Schwarz had any information he should give evidence before the Erasmus Commission.

During the second day of the No-Confidence debate yesterday, Mr Schwarz drove the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, into a corner over his handling of the taxpayers' money.

As Minister responsible for this money, he had allowed it to be spent on projects that were so secret that he was not told anything about them, Mr Schwarz said.

Senator Horwood sat silent as Mr Schwarz asked him these additional questions.

● How was it possible that Volkskas Bank had granted an overdraft of millions of rand simply on the word of Dr Eschel Rhodie without checking up with the Minister of Finance?

● How could Dr Rhodie have raised a multi-million rand loan overseas without the knowledge of the Minister of Finance?

Senator Horwood: "I will answer you. I have my notes here."

Mr Schwarz: "Your notes are a bit far away for me to read them."

Mr Schwarz said he also intended questioning Dr Piet Koornhof, the Minister of Plural Relations, about his involvement with the attempted purchase by the Government of the Natal Mercury newspaper in 1973.

7/2/79 (289) 11 (259)

Police probe coast resort

From BARRY STREEK

CAPE TOWN — The police commercial branch is investigating the establishment of the controversial Wavecrest coastal resort near Jeffrey's Bay.

This was confirmed yesterday by the head of the commercial branch in Cape Town, Maj Mike Saayman.

The police investigation was instituted after an internal inquiry ordered by the new head of the Trust Bank, Dr Fred du Plessis, who is also managing director of Sanlam.

Wavecrest was the subject of a major controversy in the Cape Provincial Council in 1973 and 1974 when the opposition demanded a judicial inquiry into its establishment.

At the time, the leader of the opposition in the council, Mr Brian Bamford, described the actions of the provincial administration as "a cover-up" and the MPC for Walmer, Mr Theo Aronson, said Wavecrest was "the worst scandal that has happened to the National Party since they assumed power in 1948".

After replies were given to a 156-part question on Wavecrest in the council, a five-member committee of inquiry was appointed, but the administrator of the Cape, Mr A. H. Vosloo, refused to release the 144-page minority report which has remained a secret.

Yesterday, one of the key members of the opposition in its attack on the provincial administration for its handling of the Wavecrest affair, Mr Harland Bell, of East London, who was the opposition's Chief Whip, called for a full inquiry.

"The matter cannot be left to a police investigation only. The whole question of the operation of the provincial administra-

tion must be thoroughly examined.

"There has been a grave suspicion cast on the whole matter. It must be cleared up, particularly in light of recent events," Mr Bell said.

Maj Saayman said the Trust Bank report was voluminous and involved a mass of documents.

His section was investigating allegations of unreasonable advantage (onredelik bevoordeling) in the Wavecrest inquiry. He could not say whether there would be any charges.

The Wavecrest matter was referred to the police after Dr Du Plessis had sent the results of the Trust Bank inquiry to the Registrar for Financial Institutions.

Wavecrest was developed by the Trust Bank and a Cape Town businessman and nearly all the 4 000 plots were sold in record time. At the time, the developers donated R800 000 to the Jeffrey's Bay Municipality and the township was proclaimed faster than usual.

Mr Bell said that since the issue had been referred to the Registrar for Financial Institutions and the police, a proper inquiry into Wavecrest and into the Cape Provincial Administration's action should be instituted.

"I would also like to ask Mr P. W. Botha and Mr Chris Heunis, whether they were aware of what was debated in the Provincial Council in 1973-74, and whether they took any steps about the matter. And if not, why not," Mr Bell said.

He added that both Mr Heunis and Mr Botha had advised the governing party in the council about the matter and that they should explain their roles.

MR HARLAND BELL...
grave suspicion.

State has got back R4,6-m

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259

SEPTEMBER, 1978.

Political Staff

The Assembly

Steps had been taken to secure vast amounts of money as well as properties and shares involved in the Information scandal, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, told Parliament this afternoon.

Speaking on the third day of the no confidence debate, Mr Botha said R3,4-million had been recovered in cash by the State and R1,2-million worth of bank drafts involved in the dealings of the Department of Information had been seized.

He said the Opposition was carrying on as if the old Department of Information was still in existence and as if it was continuing to commit irregularities.

Mr Botha said the Department of Information had been seized.

area and interfering with the enjoyment and use of the must be removed.

at some people have gone to a lot of trouble and expense on or the common area. Thus where enclosures have been the least possible than all, plants. the board, will be ing this, and ve lants should contact

Mr Botha said he would not be agitated into taking improper action

The Government would release any information that might jeopardise the continuing work of the Pretorius Committee

enclosures, barriers, they must take the steps to open up enclosures regulations and policies will consider applications of private enterprises of any private erf.

Referring to the Opposition calls to punish the wrongdoers, Mr Botha said it had always been the practice when further action was required following a commission investigation that the police would follow their own investigations

At one stage a motion was asked when the Speaker asked the Opposition to give to non-opposition members of the enjoyment

Interjections

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The wrong impression was being created that the Government had acted improperly with regard to what Mr Botha called the "unfortunate events" surrounding the old department. In reality, practical steps had been taken to ensure that the State did not suffer further losses and to protect the interests of the State.

Mr Botha said the Pretorius Committee of officials had been appointed for the task of securing the State's interest and this had been done.

The Prime Minister said the question was repeatedly asked why wrongdoers had not been punished.

"If you put action in train, to establish the facts, is not the first task to bring irregular actions under proper control?"

It had been agreed with the police that while the

all other or other... The common area must be kept open for the use and enjoyment of all members. No full enclosures of any sort can be permitted, and all which have been made must be completely opened up. Barriers or obstructions

2 /

7. EXTERIOR LIGHTS

For a glorious few weeks after the repair work on the lights had been completed

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PM vows to quit if Info link proved

RAM
8/2/79
259

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

THE PRIME Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday promised to resign if it were found that he or other Cabinet Ministers knew of, or were involved in, the Information scandal.

He also undertook to make the evidence before the Erasmus Commission available to the leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, "because I trust him absolutely".

He would consider making a similar undertaking to the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha made the two announcements during his speech in the No Confidence Debate. However, opposition members attacked him for having avoided the major questions in the Information debacle "because he would not have been able to find answers that satisfy the public".

The Opposition spokesman on Information, Mr Harry Schwarz, pointed out that the Prime Minister had failed to mention the R4 500 000 in Government money spent on the magazine *To the Point*.

This money had not come from the Department of Information but from another Government Department.

Facing a barrage of opposition questions, Mr Botha said he would resign and "go to the country" if it were found that he or any Cabinet members knew about State money in *The Citizen*, about the irregular use of State money, or if "they had the same knowledge as Dr Connie Mulder or Dr Eschel Rhoodie".

Discussing the decision not to release the evidence before the Erasmus Commission, Mr Botha offered to make the evidence available to Mr Raw "Once the Erasmus Commission has completed its work I will be prepared to let you see it because I trust you fully and on condition that what you discuss with the commission will be in strict confidence," Mr Botha told Mr Raw.

Asked by Dr Alex Boraine, (PFP Pinelands), if the official Opposition would be given the same privilege, Mr Botha said he would decide on that at a latter stage.

Mr Botha then turned to the "higher authority" mentioned by Mr Justice Erasmus in connection with the reversal of the undertaking to release the evidence.

The judge must have been referring to legal authority, Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha said one of the reasons he had given for asking Dr Mulder to resign was his failure to inform his Cabinet colleagues on certain matters.

He repeated his assurance that the Government would do everything possible to make clean administration possible.

State property both in South Africa and overseas had been brought under control and, apart from the money owed by Mr Louis Luyt and Mr Andre Pieterse, an amount of R3 462 513 had been recovered.

"Less than 10%" interjected opposition members.

Mr Botha said he had repeatedly asked why the police had not taken action against possible offenders. It was the normal practice that a police investigation began only after a judicial commission into the same matter had completed its work Mr Botha said.

INFO FUNDS *tm 9/2/79*
 Will others flee? *(25A)*

A central figure in the Information scandal, David Abramson, is in such hot water with the Reserve Bank that senior officials do not expect him or his business partner, Stuart Pegg, to return to SA.

According to Bank sources, Abramson misrepresented himself to the Bank as a government nominee in Info's large foreign deals. The basis of his "contract" with the government - as presented to the Bank - was that he would not benefit personally from the special permission granted him.

As a result, Abramson and Pegg traded in securities rands (a market from which SA residents are precluded) and negotiated the purchase and subsequent sale of shares in the British publishing company, Morgan Grampian. That deal netted Abramson and Pegg R1m each. The government eventually received R2m (50% of the profit) which was deposited in various Swiss bank accounts nominated by former information secretary Fschel Rhoodie.

The Bank claims it was completely unaware of the 50/50 arrangement between Rhoodie and Abramson. Had it known of the financial gains made by the Pegg-Abramson duo, it would have acted immediately.

Up to Erasmus

The Bank is powerless to take steps beyond securing the assets of Pegg and Abramson which can be traced to actual exchange control infringements. For example, while it has been able to freeze Empisal shares, as well as R4,8m of Escom stock, the Bank cannot touch their fixed property.

According to a spokesman, it would be up to Judge Rudolph Erasmus, or the Secretary to the Treasury, A J Pretorius, to act against their estates.

Meanwhile, the Bank has serious doubts about the claim of Pegg (*FM* January 19) that Royal Holdings, whose R4,8m in Escom loan stock has been frozen, is not controlled by him and Abramson. Pegg contends that they simply acted as agents for the offshore investors, but he was not prepared to disclose to the *FM* who the owners are.

"We'd like to know where the money came from," one Bank official says. "We don't know for sure, but we certainly have our suspicions."

Judge Erasmus tells the *FM* his investigation shows that Abramson has "really put his foot in it." Erasmus says he would like to question the pair at some time in the future. "Do you think they'd come back if we paid their fares?" he quips.

It appears that Judge Erasmus has taken a new line in his investigation.

City of Cape Town

ISSUE OF R12 000 000 LOCAL REGISTERED STOCK — LOANS NOS 415 AND 416

Summary of Terms

R10 000 000 of the R12 000 000 issue has been underwritten by Central Merchant Bank Limited. Applications from the public are invited for the following loans in units of R100, or multiples thereof.

Amount	R12 000 000 (of which R2 000 000 will be obtained by Cape Town, leaving a balance of R10 000 000 for subscription by the public)	
	Loan No 415	Loan No 416
Issue price	R100,00%	R95,82%
Rate of interest	9,30%	8,85%
Yield to redemption on	30 6 2002	30 6 2002
At issue price	9,30%	9,29%
Cum commission of 0,125%	9,31%	9,30%
Cum brokerage of 0,25%	9,32%	9,32%
Cum commission and brokerage of 0,375%	9,34%	9,33%

*Commission and/or brokerage will be paid under certain circumstances, as fully set out in the prospectus.

Interest payable Half-yearly in arrear on 30 June and 31 December with the first payment on 30 June 1979.

Dates of the issue Application lists will open at 09h00 on Tuesday 13 February 1979, and will close at 12h00 on Thursday, 15 February 1979, or earlier, at the discretion of Cape Town in the event of a full subscription before that date.

Payment Not less than R10 per cent of the nominal value on application and the balance, if any, by not later than 12h00 on Monday, 30 April 1979.

Copies of the prospectus and application form may be obtained from

Central Merchant Bank Limited at any of the following addresses:

- 30th Floor, Sanlamisentrum, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg, 2001
- 17th Floor, Cartwright's Corner, Adderley Street, Cape Town, 8001
- 6th Floor, Southern Life Building, 31st Smith Street, Durban, 4001
- 8th Floor, Ford House, 127 Main Street, Port Elizabeth, 6001
- 9th Floor, Transvaal House, 135 Vander Walt Street, Pretoria, 0002

The City Treasurer, Room 709 Electricity House, Strand Street, Cape Town and The Trust Bank of Africa Limited, at the Head Office of any of the following centres: Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria, Bloemfontein, East London.

Underwriter and Merchant Bank to the issue



Senbank

Central Merchant Bank Limited
 (Registered Merchant Bank)

P. T. O.

Garden City Association was formed and ultimately to build a garden

registered and in 1903 the first fifty five kalbures from London success and led to the establish world.

In 1918 the influenza epidemic in Stuttaford, a city councillor of Associated Chambers of Commerce housing might have saved many lives city was the answer. His ideas are best explained in his own work in the final years of the Great War rents were to create hardship for the poor and middle classes and the high level of prices for building materials prevented the erection of houses in a rented at a reasonable rate. In this crisis the Government passed a Rent Act preventing exploitation of the public but whilst this helped those already in occupation of houses it failed to help those who were homeless. I recognised that the Rent Act was only a palliative and that the only real remedy was the building of houses sufficient to meet the demand. I also recognised that in the hurry to get houses built, it was only too possible that inferior houses would be run up by speculative builders in ugly blocks and in congested areas which would soon deteriorate and result in an increase of the slum problem, which was then and still is a disgrace to Cape Town, in comparison with the large cities of the Empire. I hoped that in the new look at the end of the war it might be possible to inaugurate a new policy in providing homes for the people.

deep into the affairs of a number of prominent businessmen He declines to disclose any names, however, on the grounds that "if I do, some other people will probably also leave the country" Asked when the matter of the magazine *To the Point*, alleged by Mr Harry Schwarz to have been funded by government to the tune of R4,5m, would be dealt with, the judge replied. "We're now dealing with far more important matters than *To the Point*. This will take some time, because I have to examine lots of people. *To the Point* will come later"

Mineral	Copper	Iron	Chromium	Manganese	Coal	Asbestos	Sub-total	Others	Gold	Diamonds	Platinum	Total	Growth rate
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Introduction
 The development of Pinelands is not only unique in the progress of urban planning in South Africa, but its historical significance is also lies in being an experiment in local government within a metropolitan framework. In this paper, which begins with a brief discussion of the origins of the concept of a garden city, I have traced the chronological history of the founding (1919) and subsequent expansion (1948) of a New Town within Cape Town. The creation of Pinelands had an effect upon the housing conditions prevailing in South Africa after World War I. The institutional aspects of the township have been emphasised because their influence upon the community. The role of local government in Pinelands has been complex and not fully understood. I have tried to clarify the part played by each of the various organisations involved in the evolution of this first garden city scheme in South Africa, namely, Garden Cities Trust, the Pinelands Local Board, the Pinelands Development Company, and the Civic Association. In the earlier years between 1919 and 1939 the residents of Pinelands proved to be zealous civic affairs and actively participated in the government of the town through their Civic Association.

TABLE 24: LABOUR REQUIREMENTS OF THE MINERALS OF THE PINELANDS (Assuming no change in prices)

A NEW TOWN AT PINELANDS: THE GARDEN CITY DEVELOPMENT OF PINELANDS 1919-1948

G. C. Outberrison

LABOUR REQUIREMENTS OF THE MINERALS OF THE PINELANDS

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The seed of the garden city idea had, however, germinated in Stuttaford's mind as far back as 1907 when he first became aware of the work of Ebenezer Howard and the embryonic Garden City Association. Stuttaford was a strong supporter of the principles outlined in Howard's *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*, and in 1917 he took the opportunity of visiting the garden city of Letchworth and discussing the project with Howard. His determination to establish a

'Ignorance is a good reason to resign'

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9/2/79
259

THE ASSEMBLY. — The Cabinet had proved its utter incompetence by not knowing of the irregularities that occurred in the use of the former Department of Information's secret funds, Mrs Helen Suzman said yesterday.

The Prime Minister had offered to resign and hold an election if it could be proved he or any Cabinet Ministers had known of or had been involved in the Information scandal, the Progressive Federal Party MP For Houghton said during the No Confidence debate.

"But he and the Cabinet should resign for not knowing what was going on, she said.

"It shows utter incompetence that things like that could go on without the Cabinet knowing what was happening"

Mrs Suzman said the Government needed secret projects run by the Information Department only because its policies were thoroughly offensive and completely unacceptable to the rest of the world

"I don't believe there is another single Western country that has to employ shifty front men to explain away the policies of their Government"

The Government's present policies would remain completely unacceptable to the rest of the world despite any secret projects to promote them

"Neither the Information scandal nor the Biko case will go away. They have left a black mark on the reputation of this Government"

Referring to the non-prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh for allegedly

holding the Erasmus Commission in contempt, Mrs Suzman said she thought the contempt of Commissions Act was "a nonsense law" anyway

"I don't think anybody should be prosecuted for criticising a commission, but while the Act is on the statute book there should be no exemptions from prosecution.

"The principle is that of equality before the law."

There was also a prima facie case that General Van den Bergh and Dr Connie Mulder were guilty of incitement to commit fraud. The Erasmus Report said they had tried to influence Mr Hennie Reynders to submit a false report of his investigation into the irregularities in the Information Department to the former Prime Minister. Sapa

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Armanche (Coll. "G.F.", no. 137, Garnier-Flammarton).
La Roche et le noir, ed. Gastex (Classiques Garnier).

9. Stendhal, with a special study of:-

Jacques le Fataliste et son maître (Coll. "Folio", no. 430, Gallimard).
Le Neveu de Kameau, ed. Fabre (TLF, no. 37, Droz).
Supplément au Voyage de Bougainville. Pensées philosophiques. Lettre sur les aveugles (Coll. "G.F.", no. 252, Garnier-Flammarton).
Entretien entre d'Alembert et Diderot. Le Rêve de d'Alembert. Suite de l'entretien (Coll. "G.F.", no. 53, Garnier-Flammarton).

8. Diderot, with a special study of:-

La Vie de Marianne, ed. Deloffre (Classiques Garnier).
Le Paysan parvenu (Coll. "G.F.", no. 73, Garnier-Flammarton).
Arlequin poli par l'amour, La double inconstance, and L'île des esclaves (all included in Marivaux: Théâtre complet, ed. Dort (Coll. "L'Intégrale", Seuil), or Marivaux: Théâtre, 2 vols. (Livre de Poche Classique, nos 1989 and 2120).

7. Marivaux, with a special study of:-

Pascal: Oeuvres complètes, ed. L. Lafuma (Coll. "L'Intégrale", Seuil).
La Fontaine: Fables, ed. G. Couton (Classiques Garnier), or ed. Clarac (Livre de Poche Classique, no. 1198).
La Rochefoucauld: Réflexions ou Sentences et maximes morales. Réflexions diverses, ed. Secrétan (TLF, no. 141, Droz).
La Bruyère: Les Caractères, ed. Garapon (Classiques Garnier).

6. Seventeenth century moralists, with special reference to Pascal, La Fontaine, La Rochefoucauld and La Bruyère. Prescribed editions:-

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Rhodie's wife has passport returned

Political Staff
Mrs Katie Rhodie, who has got her passport back, said today she would visit her husband overseas.
The return of her passport was announced in the Assembly by the Minister of the Interior, Mr Alwyn Schlebusch.
He gave no reasons.
Mrs Rhodie's passport was withdrawn on December 9. Her husband's passport and that of his brother, Dr Deneys Rhodie, were withdrawn on December 1.
Mr Schlebusch said Mr David Abramson and Mrs Glenda Abramson had had their passports withdrawn on December 20.
Mrs Abramson's passport was returned to her on January 31.
Mr Schlebusch's reply came after Mr John Malcomess, MP for East London North, this week described the withdrawal of Mrs Rhodie's passport as "a despicable thing".
He said her sole fault was that she was married to Dr Eschel Rhodie.
Mrs Rhodie said she had no immediate plans to go overseas. "If I do, it will not be for a while. There is too much to do here at the moment."
She confirmed that she would visit her husband, the former Secretary of Information who left South Africa in December and has been missing ever since.
Mrs Rhodie said she would also visit her son, Eschel Jnr, at school in Europe.
She did not say where her husband was or whether she was in regular touch with him.

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Smit murders shock action

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259

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN

POLICE, investigating the mysterious murder of Dr Robert Smit and his wife, yesterday questioned about 40 parliamentary journalists and editors.

Senior CID officers questioned the newspapermen individually on whether they had any information which might help them solve the murders of Dr Robert Smit, the former Treasury official, and his wife, Cora, before the Springs parliamentary election in 1977.

There has been speculation that the murders may have been connected with foreign currency dealings and the information scandal. There have also been reports that the murders may have been committed by a hired assassin.

Frage: It is thought that between 30 and 40 journalists were questioned and their replies tape-recorded

Antwort: They were asked if they had any information about the murders, whether they knew if any of their newspaper colleagues had any information or if any newspapers were compiling a file on the murders Dr Smit was the National Party parliamentary candidate for Springs

Frage: Mr J T Kruger, the Minister of Justice and of Police, explained in an interview that the questioning had taken place because the police had been told that some Pressmen may be able to help them in their inquiries. The police had no leads in the case.

Antwort: Asked why the questioning had been confined to political correspondents and editors and if there was any political connotation attached to the murders he said: "There is no political connotation as far as I know. We are looking for any thread of evidence which can help us."

Abschr: "We heard that the Press is why we are asking. We have no leads and we are following any rumour."

Bilder: The issue of the interrogation was raised in the Assembly at the close of the No Confidence Debate by the Leader of the Opposi-

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"While we are sitting here a considerable number of Pressmen accredited to this House have been interrogated by the police in connection with the Smit murder," he said

The Speaker of the House, Mr J J Loots, then ruled that the matter could not be raised by Mr Eghn because it was receiving the attention of Mr Speaker.

The political correspondents of the Rand Daily Mail, Cape Times, Eastern Province Herald and Daily Dispatch were questioned as well as the editor of the Natal Mercury, Mr J O McMillan, and Mr Gerald Shaw, deputy editor of the Cape Times

It is believed that senior police have also made appointments to meet Mr Harry O'Connor, editor of the Eastern Province Herald, in Port Elizabeth on Monday. Another appointment has been made with Mr McMillan

Mr Allister Sparks, Editor of the 'Mail' and Mr George Farr, editor of the Daily Dispatch, were not questioned, although a senior officer said he would like to see them

Brigadier Arthur Ellingworth, Divisional Criminal Investigation officer for the Western Cape, called at the Cape Times offices yesterday and asked a senior editorial representative whether the newspaper had any information which could be useful to the police in their investigation of the Smit murders. He was told that the newspaper had no such information

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Eglin: public still suspects Info cover-up

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THE ASSEMBLY — The government had failed to allay public suspicion that it was covering up the Information scandal, Mr Colin Eglin, Leader of the Opposition, said yesterday.

Replying to the five-day debate on his motion of no confidence in the government, Mr Eglin said the public was just as much in the dark as it had been before the debate because the government had failed to answer any of the major questions posed by the opposition.

The government was shielding itself behind the various commissions, it had appointed, Mr Eglin said.

In a speech constantly interrupted by challenges and heckling from government benches, Mr Eglin said the main unanswered questions were the non-prosecution of Gen Van den Bergh, the R4,5 million of public funds allegedly involved in To The Point, and the withdrawal of Dr Eschel Rhoodie's passport only after he had left South Africa.

The Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, constantly challenged Mr Eglin to give evidence before the Erasmus Commission if he had any additional information on any matter concerning the Department of Information.

"It is not for us to give evidence. It is for you to release the evidence," replied Mr Eglin.

Mr Botha accused Mr Eglin of being afraid to give evidence before the commission.

Mr Eglin accused the Prime Minister of failing to deal with questions about the alleged deletion of certain evidence.

The words allegedly removed were so serious the Prime Minister should have checked them with the commission and informed Parliament on the matter, Mr Eglin said.

Government speakers had not dealt satisfactorily with the charge that Cabinet members should be held collectively responsible for the Information scandal.

"There would be no Information scandal at all if there had been no corruption of the system of parliamentary control of funds," he said.

After a point of order, Mr Eglin withdrew the term "corruption".

The Minister of Labour, Mr Fanie Botha, said Mr Eglin had a duty to give evidence before the Erasmus Commission or else he had to apologise to the Cabinet.

He said Mr Eglin had questioned the honour of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet by implying they knew of government funding of The Citizen when Dr Connie Mulder lied to the House.

Mr Eglin was committed to tell the House whether he accepted the Prime Minister's challenge to testify before the commission. If he did testify and he was found to be wrong, then he would have to resign. — DDC-SAPA.

DIVIDED NATS FAIL TO DRAW ATTENTION AWAY FROM SCANDAL

PRIME Minister P W Botha failed this week to unite the party behind him and drag public attention away from the Information scandal. And the hoped-for new political vision in race relations — perhaps the one way in which the Government could have drawn the teeth of the scandal — failed to materialise.

Info left a deep mark on Parliament. Last year the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, was new to the job, and old hand Mr John Vorster kept him on the run. But this week, in the No Confidence debate, things were different.

This time the "new boy" — Prime Minister Botha — was on the Government side. Mr Botha and Mr Eglin, who are both from the Cape, have known each other for many years, and Mr Botha could not faze Mr Eglin.

Indeed, Mr Eglin has never been finer than he was in closing the debate.

Mr Botha is still plagued by his scratchy temperament. Most observers agreed that the Prime Minister would have become unhelpfully heated had the Speaker not asked members to listen to his speech without interjections, after Mr Botha took the unusual step of asking the Speaker for his "protection".

Mr Eglin faced heavy interjections in closing the debate, but took them with confidence and came out of the debate well.

The Prime Minister kept the personal attacks to a lower level than was the case in the special Info session in December, but seemed unable to resist describing Dr Alex Boraine, of whom he seems not particularly fond, as the "Holy Apostle."

The slogan, "You knew nothing", which came to be chorused by the Opposition every time a Minister avoided responding to the main Info questions, epitomised the debate.

There were no answers to the main questions left hanging by the Info scandal.

Some minor questions were elevated to great importance by Nationalist speakers, then only partly answered.

An example was the Prime Minister's response to questions about Dr Rhoadie's reference to a committee of three Ministers, which discussed secret Info projects.

Mr Botha explained that he and other "independent" people had carefully gone through all the Cabinet mem-

The ghost still walks

By JOHN MATISONN, Political Correspondent

and clean administration. Government funding of To The Point, disclosed in the Sunday Express, was not explained either.

A host of other major issues, regarding millions of rands which have not been recovered by the State, were left unexplained.

There are at least eleven reasons why Information will continue to hang over the parliamentary session. They are:

- The Van der Walt Commission,
- The Erasmus Commission,

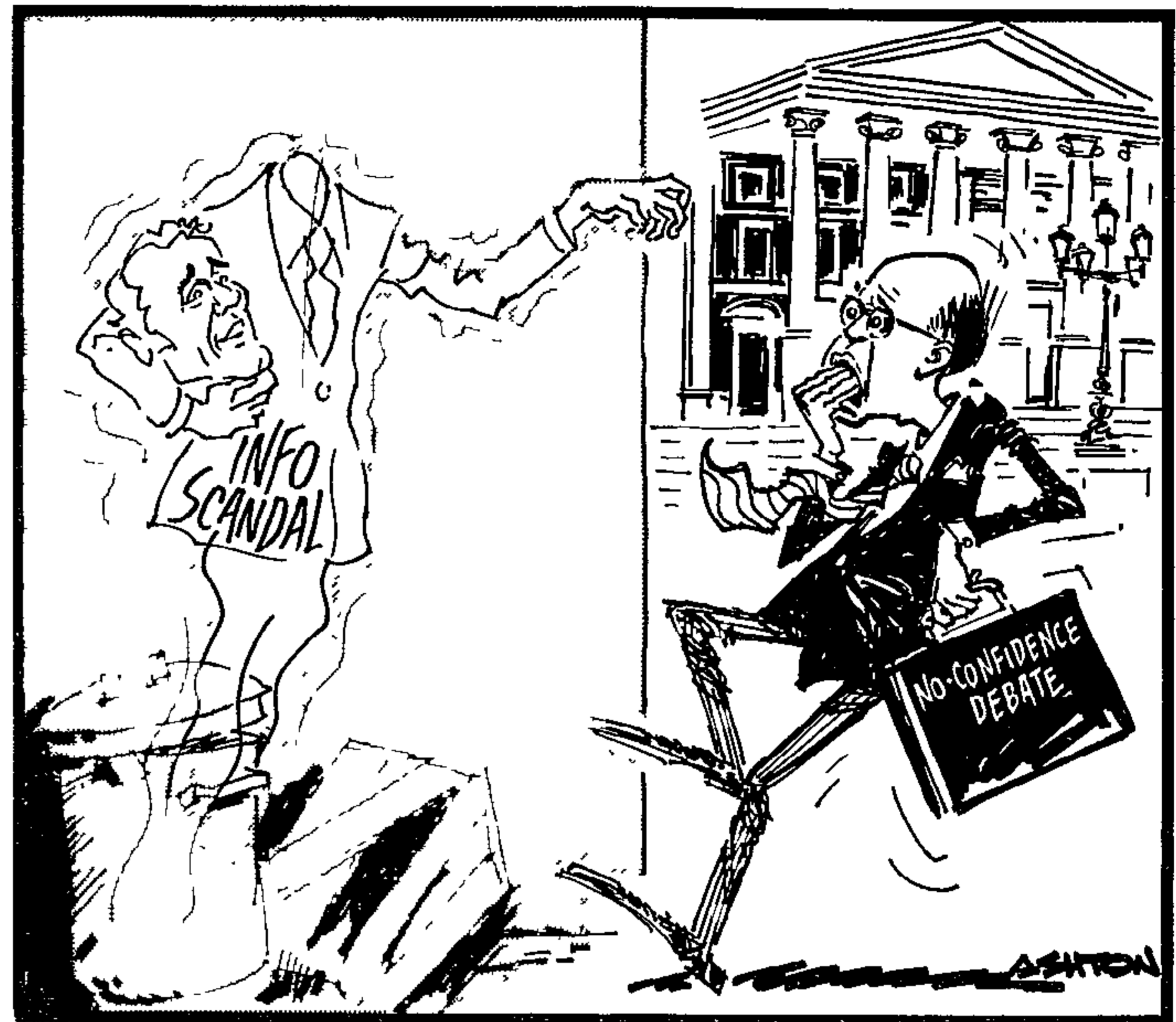
- The Auditor-General's next report on the Information Department,

- The Select Committee on Public Accounts which investigates matters raised by the Auditor-General,

- The Pretorius Commission, which is still looking into secret projects,

- A private member's motion from Dr Zach de Beer calling for the release of the Erasmus evidence,

- The fate of General Hendrik van den Bergh;
- The fate of Dr Eschel Rhoadie,



GHOST OF '78

as it turned out — the Sunday Express

Minister of Justice Jimmy Kruger opened the debate with his blistering attack on the Express.

Mrs Helen Suzman was able to show inaccuracies at the base of the attacks.

The Minister of Health, Dr Schalk van der Merwe, issued a statement showing that the Sunday Express picture of a handcuffed mental patient was genuine. Mr Kruger had said he suspected the picture was faked.

But that did not stop verligte hope Mr P.W. Botha from joining the assault on the Sunday Express by repeating Mr Kruger's claims that the picture was inaccurate.

None of this altered the racial situation, or retrieved lost Info money.

Bold steps from the Government may still be in the wings, but they must be brought out on to the stage if any real progress is to be made.

come, but came across as minor compared with the major constitutional and political questions requiring urgent attention.

Hopes of a bold political step on race relations, as the only possible means of drawing the teeth of the Info scandal, were shattered.

Clearly there was nothing which could have more effectively put Info behind the Government than a bold, imaginative political initiative.

Lack of footwork and lack of substance left the Government only one thing,

- The fate of Dr Connie Mulder,

- The fate of The Citizen and its "assets",

- The tricky constitutional question of the State Presidency.

There is no doubt that if they could have done so, the Government would have presented a new vision. But party quarreling has clearly rendered this impossible up to now.

The Prime Minister's announcements — notably, that R3.5-million would be spent on closing the wage gap for civil servants — were wel-

Sun. Express

11/2/79

259

utes since 1975, and had found no reference to such a committee.

But people who had asked about this committee had not expected it to be a formal one which would have been in the minutes.

The Opposition wanted to know how the Government could explain selling The Citizen privately to a Nationalist Press group long after its State backing had been disclosed.

That has never been explained, and it indicates that the normal procedures for the sale of Government assets by tender were not complied with in this case, even under Mr Botha's new

Guess who!



**IT'S NEW-LOOK ESCHEL,
COMMUTING AROUND
EUROPE BY TRAIN
ON A TOURIST TICKET**

BY KITT KATZIN

ELUSIVE former Information Secretary Dr Eschel Rhodie, still not pinned down abroad since leaving South Africa three months ago, has undergone a sudden face-change.

The handsome, clean-shaven 47-year-old father of two, still travelling with unauthorised documents, including his South African passport, withdrawn last year, has.

- Grown a moustache,
- Grown his hair long;
- Acquired a pair of tinted glasses, which he wears wherever he goes

He dresses casually-most of the time.

And to match his 'new-look' appearance the flamboyant and sprightly Dr

Rhodie, as charming and friendly as ever, has also switched his method of travelling.

Now, instead of moving about Europe and Britain in scheduled jet airiners and hired cars, he goes almost everywhere by train.

He has bought a six-month Euro-Rail pass, which cost him about R900, and with it has rolled around several countries in the past few weeks, including Spain (where he called on friends in the publishing business), Holland, Belgium, France and West Germany.

Two weeks ago he visited London, where he had talks with Hortons directors David Abramson and Stuart Pegg, he has also visited Cannes

Dr Rhodie's passport was withdrawn by the Department of the Interior last November and technically he is obliged to surrender it to the nearest South African diplomatic mission abroad.

But he is also said to have at least three additional unauthorised passports.

I can also disclose that Dr Rhodie has made frequent visits to Zurich, Switzerland, where he has called at the Union Bank at least three times.

The bank figured prominently in the books of Thor Communicators, the Pretoria-based 'TV and public relations' company used extensively as a front by the defunct Department of Information



Photographic artwork
by KATHRYN RHUMER

investment managers twice in December and once in January.

- In Cape Town this week the Commissioner of Police, General Mike Geldenhuys, said the police were not searching for Dr Rhodie at this stage as they could not look for a man who was overseas

Private secretaries at the bank who had met him before and knew him personally recalled Dr Rhodie's 'new appearance' — a freshly-grown moustache, long hair, casual clothing and tinted spectacles.

He called on some of the bank's directors and foreign

But I understand that the Department of Foreign Affairs would arrange to have Dr Rhodie extradited should he be prosecuted for allegations arising from the Erasmus Commission report, and if a docket was handed to the Transvaal Attorney-General.

R2-m profit the State can't find

By KITT KATZIN

THE Government has been unable to trace R2-million made by two Johannesburg businessmen in an overseas business deal that was backed to the hilt by the former Department of Information.

The Department itself made R2-million in the same deal, through a joint agreement in which businessmen David Abramson, chairman of Hortors, and his senior executive Stuart Pegg, agreed to a 50-50 share in profits with Dr Eschel Rhoodie, then Secretary for Information.

In the deal, a 28% stake by the Abramson-Pegg combine in the British publishing house, Morgan Gramplan — acquired with an interest-free Information loan of R1 180 000 and guarantees by Volkas Bank, arranged by the Information Department — was sold to another British publishing concern, Trafalgar House, at a R4-million profit.

Dr Rhoodie, on behalf of the Information Department, made R2-million and Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg pocketed R1-million each.

But then the Abramson-Pegg combine, again backed by the Information Department, went on to buy control of the giant Hortors Group, paying R8-million for the two million shares.

When the details of this amazing chain of financial deals, arranged by Dr Rhoodie, became known the Reserve Bank stepped in and was able to recover the Government's share (R2-million). The Bank also froze the shares of the holding company, Hortors.

However, in the light of the Prime Minister's announcement in Parliament this week that the State had recovered R3 400 000 in cash and R1 200 000 in bank drafts involved in Information Department dealings, the Sunday Express can disclose



● Mr Stuart Pegg
... assets blocked



● Mr David Abramson
... living in Chelsea

that the authorities have been unable to trace the R2-million made by Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg in the Morgan-Gramplan deal.

The money, I was told this week, had definitely not been repatriated or located, with investigations being further aggravated by the absence of Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg.

Both are still in London and, according to present indications, neither intends returning to South Africa.

However, it is possible that the R2-million could

still be in South Africa — having ended up in Hortors after Mr Pegg and Mr Abramson gained control of the R80-million-a-year company last year.

If it is, then at least there is no possibility of the unlocated money leaving South Africa — because of the Government's decision to block the sale of Hortors.

The Reserve Bank has instructed the group's share transfer secretaries to ensure that the shares in Hortors not be transferred under the Exchange Control regulations.

In terms of these regulations, the State is empowered to block the sale of the company and the transfer of its shares until all investigations are complete.

Meanwhile, investigations into the whereabouts of the money — there are strong indications that it may have been laundered through several foreign bank accounts — are continuing.

Steps have also been taken to ensure that neither Mr Abramson nor Mr Pegg be permitted to remove any of their assets, held either in their personal capacities or assets they may control through interests in numerous companies, from South Africa.

● Dr Rhoodie, who is still travelling abroad on unauthorised documents, had talks with Mr Abramson and Mr Pegg in London two weeks ago. Mr Abramson is living in a cottage in the expensive borough of Chelsea and is a neighbour of Conservative Party leader Margaret Thatcher.

RHOODIE'S US PLANS ARE HALTED

11/2/79
259

DR ESCHEL RHOODIE'S grandiose and controversial future plans for backdoor diplomacy in the United States have been halted.

This is what South Africa's accredited lobbyist in the United States, attorney Mr Donald de Keiffer, told the Sunday Express this week

In his heyday, Mr De Keiffer earned up to R150 000 a year for his undercover work in Washington

"All our activities and operations on behalf of the Department of Information are under review at the moment. We are not engaging in any new projects which we would ordinarily be mounting at this time of the year.

"A complete reorganisation in Pretoria is underway," he said

The Sunday Express also understands that a decision has been taken in principle to dispense with Mr De Keiffer's services. If this is so, he has not been notified

Mr De Keiffer was recruited by Dr Eschel Rhodie former Information Secretary, in 1973 to lead a huge American "back-door" diplomatic campaign on behalf of South Africa

Donald de Keiffer, friendly, affable Mr De Keiffer, married to a Japanese woman, earned at least

R350 000 in legal fees and expenses in the five years he acted as an agent for Dr Rhodie.

Although Mr De Keiffer accounted fully for payments and expenditure, he was paid by the hour for his services. Payment came from the Information Department's secret funds

The Sunday Express information is that a decision to scrap Mr De Keiffer's contract — it was a verbal contract that he and Dr Rhodie concluded — came in the wake of investigations by the Pretorius Committee, which succeeded the Kemp Committee, headed originally by General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security.

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By KITT KATZIN

The Pretorius Committee, chaired by Mr A J Pretorius, Secretary to the Treasury, is evaluating 134 clandestine projects of the former Department of Information.

It is investigating which of these projects should be continued — and by whom — and which should be terminated. I understand several decisions have been taken and at least three reports have been submitted to the Prime Minister

Mr De Keiffer's task, basically, was to initiate certain secret projects and to lobby for support for South Africa on Capitol Hill, promoting and safeguarding the country's interests — a kind of "high profile" operation conducted on a subtle and "low profile" basis

Among his successes was to obtain an American visa for Admiral H H Biermann, former head of the South African Defence Force, who visited Washington three years ago

However, his unorthodox methods, backed fully by Dr Rhodie and the then Minister of Information Dr Connie Mulder, caused resentment in the Department of Foreign Affairs, and incurred the wrath of the Minister, Mr Piik Botha

Dr Rhodie told me last year it was known that Mr De Keiffer and Mr Botha did not see eye to eye, although Mr De Keiffer was regarded generally as a competent and enthusiastic lobbyist

In October last year, Mr De Keiffer visited Pretoria and called on the original Kemp Committee

Speaking from Washington yesterday, Mr De Keiffer said that although he had not been officially informed of the decision to scrap his contract he knew the entire programme was under review

Talking about payments made to him by the Information Department he said he had filed a complete record of expenditure and income with the American Department of Justice in terms of the Foreign Agents Registration Act

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Botha, was not available for comment yesterday. Approached some weeks ago, he refused to comment

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ldmining employment

the claims of a government, but there are well-placed critics who say that the success of the government's policies is due to the hard work of the people of South Africa. However, the government's policies have led to the loss of jobs and the widening of the income gap. The government must take steps to address these problems.

Loosening up before the
Wemmer Pan yesterday — Kat
who can not only run, but look

ewhere on Back Page.

RIE

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**Guess
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Page 2



Club Méditerranée where everybody lives like a Greek Tycoon

MANY PEOPLE who have seen "The Greek Tycoon" have commented on the similarity between scenes from the movie and the life style of Club Med.

Well, these comments are not too far from the truth. When one considers how the Greek Tycoon flew in French chefs for special occasions, the Club have their gastronomic specialists full time.

Another similarity is the abundance of beautiful people seen in the movie. At Club Med one can also rub shoulders with the most unusual people. For example, it wouldn't be impossible to find Omar Sharif partnering you in a game of bridge. Or Sydney Rome, the famous American/

**A MONTHLY ADVERTISING NEWS
BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS OF
CLUB MEDITERRANEE**

Continental movie star and her husband Emilio Lari dancing at the disco 'til all hours of the morning at the Club in Sardinia. After all it was at Club Med in Martinique that Pierre Trudeau met his controversial first lady, Margaret. And getting back to movies, Jackie Onassis was seen at one of the Clubs in the Caribbean.

Like a Greek Tycoon, your yacht will be waiting for you with a private instructor to show you the ropes. Or you can spend your days on an

island basking in the sun, waterskiing or playing tennis etc. And in a style, you will be entertained every minute of the day.

And for all this you don't pay a cent. The Club is a cashless society, meaningless and tipping is not permitted.

Go and see "The Greek Tycoon" the lifestyles. Or better still phone J 21-5340 or contact your friendly travel book your next holiday at one of the situated in the Mediterranean Caribbean or Indian Ocean. And you too Greek Tycoon after all, life is so sal

EXPRESS APOLOGISES TO THE PM

Caucus report was wrong

A REPORT in the Sunday Express last week said that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, addressed the caucus of the National Party on December 6 on the matter of the missing sentence in the Erasmus Commission report.

This week Mr Botha vehemently denied addressing the caucus on the subject. He told Parliament the report was "a lie".

A letter to the Sunday Express this week from Mr Neville Krige, director of the Press Secretariat, said "The Prime Minister denies that such a discussion had taken place".

The Sunday Express — while it believed its report to be accurate at the time — naturally accepts the Prime Minister's word that there was no truth in it.

Accordingly, it acknowledges that the report was incorrect, and must have been based on misinformation

It readily apologises to the Prime Minister for doing him an injustice, and for any embarrassment the report may have caused him.

The Sunday Express, however, is disturbed by the implication of the use of the word "lie" by the Prime Minister. This newspaper would not knowingly publish something it believed to be wrong.

This report was published in good faith. Our information came from what we believed to be a good source.

In keeping with the policy of the Sunday Express, vigorous efforts were made to

double-check the claim with persons who might be able to substantiate it.

An outline of the proposed report — together with certain questions arising from it — was passed on to the Prime Minister himself on the Friday before publication with the request that he comment on it. He declined to do so.

So did the Minister of the Interior, Mr Alwyn Schabusch.

Where the Sunday Express erred was in assuming that its inquiries would be met with a firm denial — on or off the record — if its information was inaccurate. This proved to be an unwarranted assumption.

In Parliament this week the Prime Minister issued an ultimatum to this newspaper.

He said "The Sunday Express has the opportunity this Sunday to put right what it got wrong and if it does not, it will be acted against." The action threatened was to close the paper down.

The Editor of the Sunday Express said earlier this week "It is not necessary to threaten a newspaper to ensure that it corrects a wrong report. Journalistic ethics require a correction — therefore we will publish one".

UNCHALLENGED

By KITT KATZIN

LAST week's Sunday Express report, spelling out the secret words alleged to have been said by General Hendrik van den Bergh to the Erasmus Commission, was essentially unchallenged during the No Confidence debate this week although the subject was raised several times.

The chairman of the Erasmus Commission did not challenge the report either when asked to comment on it by another newspaper.

He was quoted by the Rand Daily Mail as saying "The commission has never confirmed or denied that a sentence was omitted. We refused to comment on the matter and that is how it will remain."

"I have seen the wording that was published and I have no comment."

The Sunday Express quoted its version of the words after the international news agency Associated Press sent out a report saying it was "common knowledge" that the General had said it was in his brief even to murder.

General Van den Bergh hotly denies making any such claim.

The Sunday Express believes that this conflict over such a vital matter involves matters of national interest that ought to be resolved to allay public uneasiness.

Opposition spokesmen asked the Government several times during the parliamentary debate to deal with the matter.

First Government Member to do so was the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger.

He read out to the House these words "If somebody had to be murdered he (General Van den Bergh) said 'kill', then they (presumably his agents) would do so irrespective of how

That report on the missing sentence

important the victims were."

The Minister added "If this story is true, then if ever there was an indication that the Attorney-General was right in his decision (not to prosecute the General) then this revelation is one."

It would not be in the national interest to reveal such words. The question arose whether such words should be brought out by the Government or the Press. He preferred them to come out in a "smear" paper like the Sunday Express.

"Let them rather come out with it than respectable people like the Attorney-General, the commission and myself."

Later the Prime Minister Mr P W Botha touched on the matter after an Opposition MP interjected across the House "What about the words?"

Mr Botha said that the reporter must have sucked the words out of his thumb because the Erasmus Commission report that he received did not contain those words.

The Sunday Express made it clear last week, however, that the quoted words were removed before the report got to the Prime Minister.



Mr E Milner was one of the first to sign the petition to charge General Hendrik van den Bergh when the Committee for Equality Before the Law put up tables outside the Johannesburg City Hall yesterday.

'Charge General' drive goes on

By JEAN LE MAY

MORE THAN 7 000 people signed petitions for the prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh in Johannesburg, Pretoria and the East Rand yesterday.

Many people who signed declared they were Nationalists, said Dr Johan Prins, Johannesburg organiser for the Committee for Equality before the Law.

Up to yesterday almost 20 000 people had signed the petition since the start of the nationwide drive, which will continue throughout the week.

More than 70 tables were set up by the committee in the city and suburbs, Pretoria and on the East Rand.

There were no incidents, although several helpers were told "You're wasting your time — they'll never touch him."

The committee, headed by South Africa's former ambassador to Spain, Mr John Maree, of Pretoria, was established to collect signatures for a petition urging that General Van den Bergh should be charged with contempt of the Erasmus Commission.

The general, who last week signed the petition himself, said at a Press conference in December that the commission was a "farce" and made other derogatory remarks about it.

My experience of District Councils in the North is that the Chiefs were so tired of trying to get someone that they turned to the Native Association.

Nat paper salutes Katzin

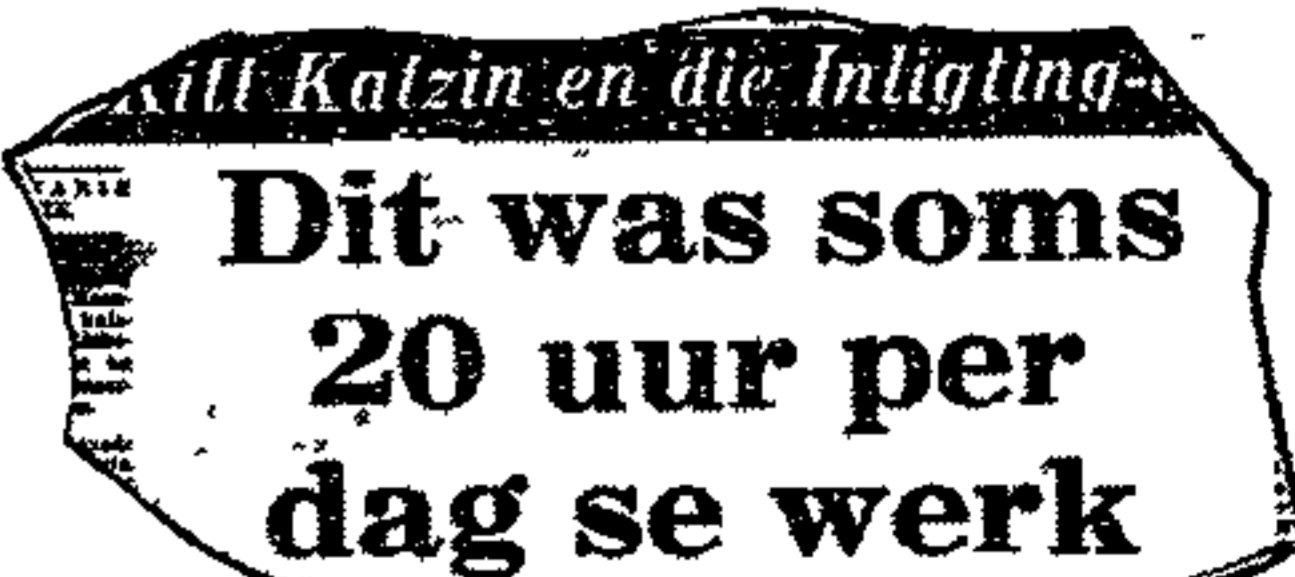
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The profile appeared on Wednesday, occupying more than half the page opposite the leader page.

It described how he led the field in exposing the continuing Department of Information scandal.

The headline read: "Kitt Katzin and the Information revelations. It was sometimes 20 hours' work a day."

The caption to a picture of Mr Katzin featured prominently the prestigious Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery award his work won for him this year.



This week's headline in Die Transvaler

The article quotes Katzin as saying there were things he did not publish because it would not have been in the national interest.

He had no political objectives during his investigation, and was interested in one basic thing: the simple truth of the matter.

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Kitt Katzin . . . praised

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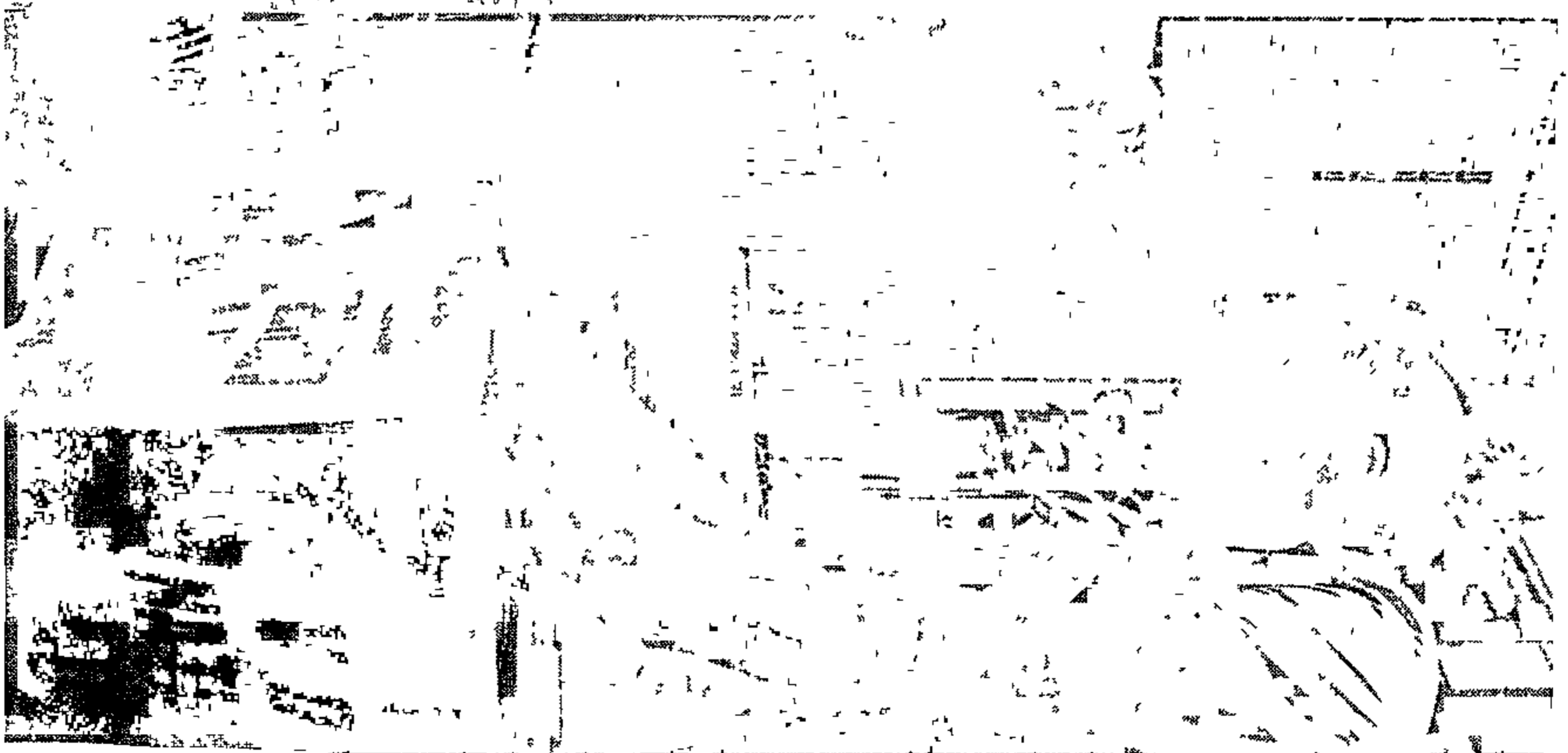
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11/2/73

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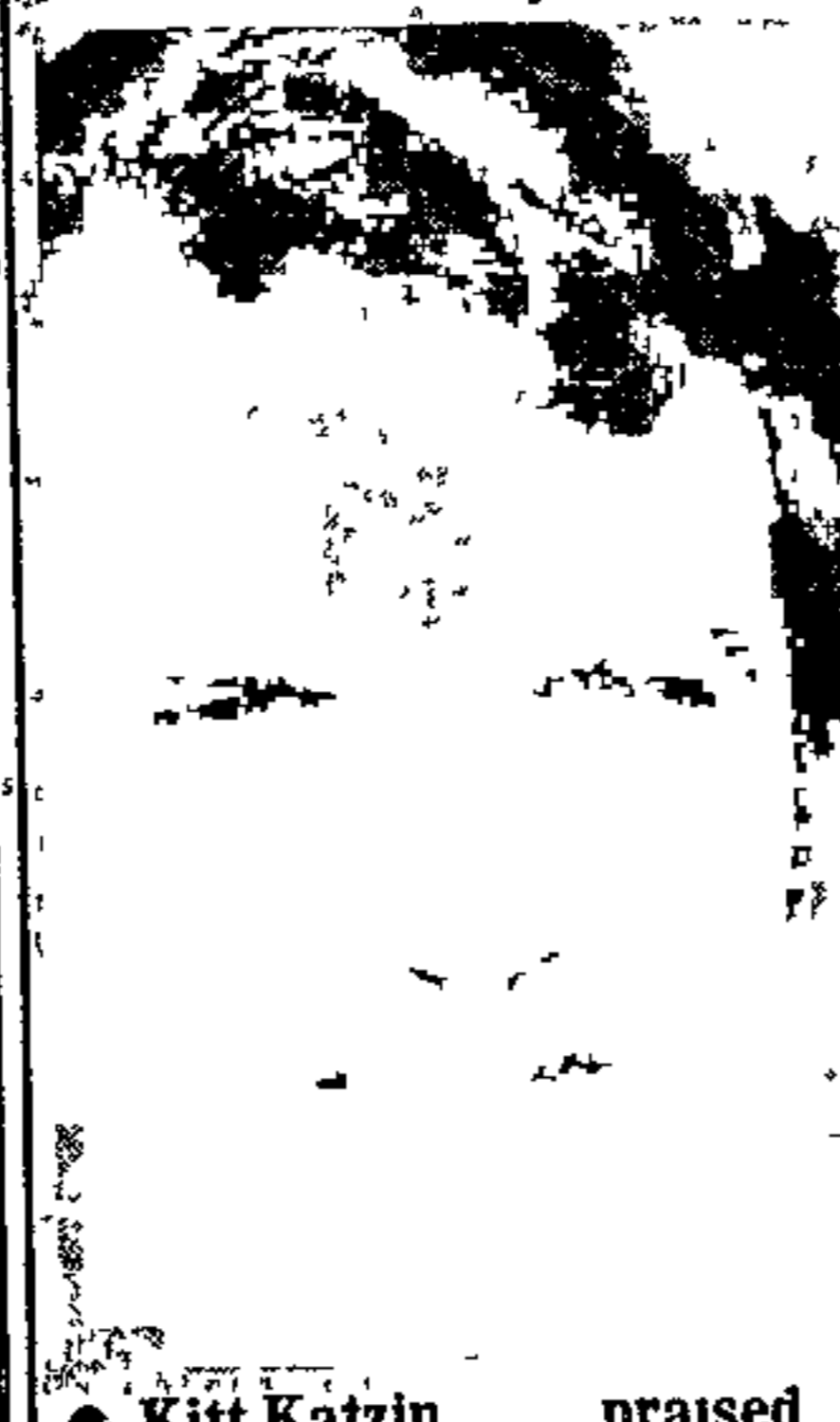
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AFTER THE RAIN...

IT IS 35 kilometres, as the crow flies, from Libertas, Pretoria, to 121 Mopanie Street, Randfontein.

For Dr Cornelius Petrus ("Comne") Mulder it was just one short, slippery step.

Barely four months ago, only a handful of votes prevented him from moving into Libertas, the Prime Minister's residence.

This week Dr Mulder was a lonely man, preparing for his new life in his suburban Randfontein home, while a bitter Parliamentary debate took place over the biggest scandal in South African history.

In one of the most spectacular falls from grace, Dr Mulder, who came within a whisker of the Prime Ministership in September, found himself a political outcast in February.

Suicide

Not even his closest allies dare defend him in public, because it can mean political suicide. His trusted right-hand man, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, is in hiding somewhere overseas.

The answer to Comne Mulder's downfall probably lies in his driving ambition



ter, Mr P W Botha, was given the inside story by Mr Van Rooyen, he reappointed Dr Mulder to the Cabinet.

It was only when Mr Justice Anton Mostert revealed evidence that Government money was used to start the Citizen, that Dr Mulder quit the Cabinet on November 7 on the insistence of Mr Botha.

But he still clung to the Transvaal leadership until it became clear to him four days later that he could not stay on in that position.

Even at that late stage, he refused to resign as MP and threatened to attend the special Parliamentary session called in December to discuss the Information scandal.

Devastating

Not even the devastating Erasmus report, which accused him of not exercising proper control in his department, negligence and laxity, could force him out of Parliament.

He wanted an opportunity and a platform to state his case. He obviously felt there were others in the Government who should take part of the blame and that he was not solely responsible.

As Mr Arnold Greeff, chairman of one of the par-

11/2/79

259

African politics. His whole life evolved around it, he worked hard at it — and he made some fatal mistakes in the process.

In some ways he had everything going for him: A strong speaker, pleasant personality, conservative image, yet pragmatic approach, and a dynamism fired by his ambition in which most of his Cabinet colleagues paled.

He learnt the political tricks of the trade at an early age.

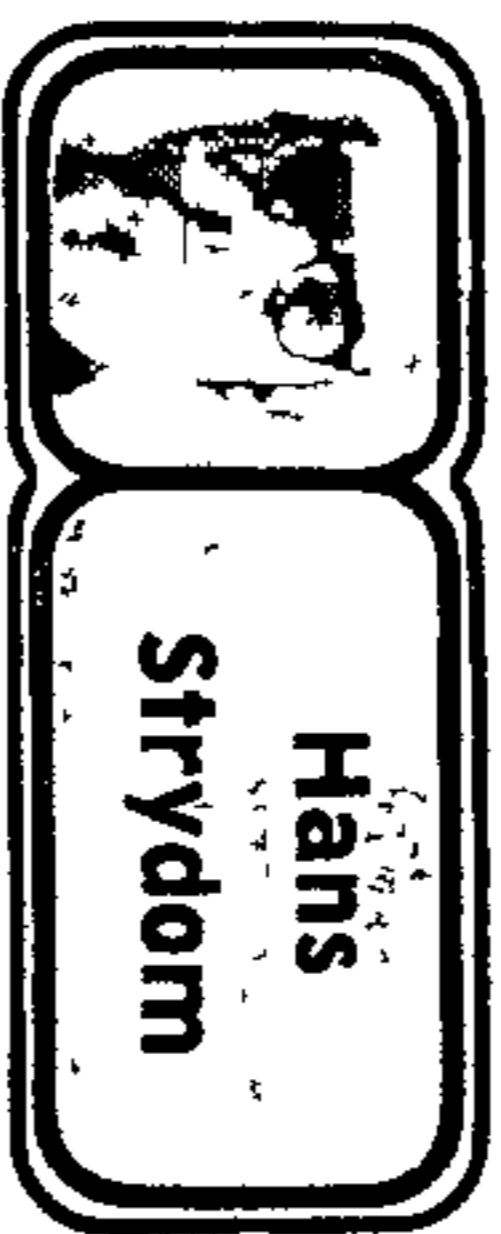
Suave

At 26, the young Randfontein schoolteacher became Deputy Mayor of the town; at 28 — Mayor; at 33 — member of Parliament, at 41 — executive member of the Broederbond, at 43 — a Cabinet Minister; at 48 — Transvaal leader of the National Party; and at 53, a candidate for the Premiership.

He became a suave operator who knew how to play to his audience, and how to slip into any company with ease — pushveld, braai, or Boston brunch, he performed his social trefke-draai act with equal success.

What then, went wrong?

As Connie Mulder's driving ambition propelled him to the top, he became bolder, riskier and hungrier for success. In every de-



the odd things is that still thinks he was

partment he handled, he wanted to do something new that would grab the public's imagination.

But he lacked the follow-through and the tight administrative control to make a success of it. He regarded the execution of policy as "detail", as the Erasmus Commission pointed out.

And then came the fatal Connie Mulder-Eschel Rhooide linkup in 1972 that contained the germ of destruction.

By then, Dr Mulder had been Minister of Information for four years. He had achieved a few things, like

Hans Strydom

persuading the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, that he should be more accessible to the Press, give them background briefings and take them on his official visits.

It eased relations and created a slightly better Press for the Government.

Frustrated

But it was not the kind of breakthrough Connie Mulder had hoped for. He was frustrated. World antagonism towards South Africa was increasing, not decreasing. To reverse the trend would not only be of

benefit to the country, but would make him unstoppable on the way to take over from Mr Vorster.

In Eschel Rhooide, then an Information official in The Hague, he found a soul-mate. Both felt red tape was constraining the department's operations, the Government was not thinking big enough and unorthodox methods had to be adopted to swing the scales in South Africa's favour.

So strongly did Mulder feel about having Rhooide as the secretary of his department, that he virtually bulldozed the Cabinet into overriding the Public Service Commission's objections.

Together, they planned their "grand strategy" to change South Africa's international image. Once they obtained secret funds, there was no stopping them and

their plans grew bigger and wilder every day.

Eventually, it included the establishment of front companies, publishing empires in South Africa, Britain, Europe and the United States.

Millions were available and when money was short, Mulder, without Cabinet permission, wrote to the Union Bank of Switzerland that Dr Rhooide was authorised to raise funds.

Fantasy

It was like a fantasy world, operating a department with virtually unlimited Government funds, but with no Government control.

Overseas trips became as easy as popping over to Johannesburg. The lavishness of receptions in the capitals

of the world would have made Arab oil sheiks envious.

The department owned a half share in a jet aircraft — Dr Rhooide was talking of the need of buying an Indian Ocean island for really "top secret" conferences.

He instructed architects to draw up plans for a multimillion rand international centre for Pretoria without even discussing it with Treasury.

An attempt was made to buy the Washington Star and, when they failed to take over SAAN with Government funds, they started the Citizen, with a "loan" of R12-million from Dr Rhooide. It eventually cost the taxpayer R31-million.

Properties and huge companies were bought here and overseas in the name of individuals — the empire

and the feeling of power was growing all the time.

But the bigger it grew, the less control was exercised and the greater the chances of being caught out, became.

In fact, Dr Mulder's tenacity and ability to survive are underscored by the fact that he only resigned from Parliament 18 months after the Government became aware of the scandal.

Warranted

Towards the middle of 1977, the Auditor-General, Mr F. G. Barrie, informed the then Prime Minister that the Department of Information warranted investigation.

Mr Vorster called the country to the polls without the public knowing of the scandal.

259

11/2/79

Connie RIGHT

In spite of being told privately by Advocate Retief van Rooyen about the magnitude of the situation, he reappointed Dr Mulder to the Cabinet.

Although he had to sacrifice Dr Rhodie, Dr Mulder survived the criticism of the Parliamentary Select Committee by a display of fast footwork in Parliament.

On September 13, only

last year, remember — more than 1 000 Nationalist delegates enthusiastically jumped to their feet in the Pretoria City Hall to unanimously re-elect him as Transvaal leader.

When Mr Vorster retired, Dr Mulder was running strongly, but the Information affair cost him the few vital votes he needed to take over.

And in spite of the fact that the new Prime Minis-

ty's branches in Randfontein, said:

"I feel hurt and disappointed that Dr Mulder has been pushed out — he has become the 'Black Sheep' of the National Party. This is not a milestone to be proud of"

Pressure

But the pressure from the party hierarchy, including Mr Botha, and the Afrikaans Press, was so strong that he finally threw in the towel on January 24

Or did he? As he was unpacking in Mopanie Street, he told the Sunday Times he would call a Press conference to state his case

For, unbelievable as it may sound, Connie Mulder is still convinced that he was right and that everything he had done, or allowed Dr Rhodie to do, was in the interests of the country.

R. CONNIE W TERUGKEER

rapport 11/2/79

259

*Nou praat ek,
sê sy vrou*

Deur THINUS PRINSLOO

DR. CONNIE MULDER, 53, se kop staan terug politiek toe. Hy wil weer bo uitkom — en as Nasionalis. Daarom wil hy nie nou sy kant van die Inligtingsaak stel nie: hy wil niks sê wat die party kan omkrap nie. Die pad moet oop bly vir sy terugkeer.

Hierdie afleiding maak ek ná gesprekke met vriende van dr. Mulder — en 'n lang onderhoud met sy vrou, mev. Suzanne Mulder, wat haar hart teenoor RAPPORT uitgestort het oor die kwelinge van die laaste dae en maande.

Mense na aan dr. Mulder sê hy kan ander politieke figure by die Inligtingdebakel insleep as hy sy kant van die saak sou stel.

Mev. Mulder sê haar man sou nooit op sy eie al die projekte van Inligting aangepak het nie. Dr. Mulder self wil geen kommentaar lewer nie. Vir publikasie wil hy niks bevstig of ontken nie.

Ondergang

departement word nou getoets aan die normale voorskrifte van die Tesourie en die Staatsdiensregulasies

„Onkonvensioneel beteken tog nie net geheim nie. Maar ook anders as die gewone, en meer speling word dus toegelaat.”

Mev. Mulder sê kleinere

bekendste persoonlikhede in Suid-Afrika na oorleg tussen dr. Mulder en dr. Eschel Rhoodie genader is

* VERVOLG OP BL. 9 *



MEV. SUZANNE MULDER by die ruikers wat sy en dr. Connie Mulder vandeeweek van vriende, en ondersteuners ontvang het.

11/2/79

Maar sy vrou het reguit gepraat toe ek haar die week op Randfontein besoek het. Ek kan nie langer stilbly en toelaat dat hy man verder afgetakel word nie. Terwyl van die waarheid wil ek nou praat, het sy gesê.

My man se ondergang is dat hy te lojaal en onwrikbaar aan die Nasionale Party glo. Daarom bly hy stil en sal hy waarskynlik altyd stilbly oor die dinge.

Maar kan ek as die vrou wat die hele pad met hom saamgeloop het, langer stilbly? Hoe kan ek langer stilsit en toesien dat sy beeld verder afgetakel word terwyl hy alles vir sy party, sy land en sy volk opgeoffer het?

Hy sal altyd 'n Nasionalis bly. So ken ek hom.

Te veel

Vandeeweek in die huis waar hulle tydelik woon in Tambotiestraat in Randfontein, raak die immerteenwoordige Inligtings-las op haar man se skouers vir die stilbedaarde mev. Mulder te veel.

Die afgelope tien jaar as Ministersvrou was nie maklik nie, en sy het alles stil en uterlik kalm aan haar man se sy beleef. Vandeeweek raak die dinge van die laaste paar maande egter te veel.

My man het maar omtrent 'n halfdag by die Erasmus-kommissie deurgebring. In daardie tyd het hulle van hom 'n opsomming gemaak, en wanneer ek hul verslag lees, word 'n beeld voorgehou van 'n man wat hemelsbreed verskil van die man wat ek meer as dertig jaar ken en intiem mee saamleef.

Mnr. Vorster het op 10 Mei verlede jaar gesê die Regering het in 1972 besluit om geheime fondse aan die Departement van Inligting beskikbaar te stel om op onkonvensionele wyse die propaganda-aanslag teen Suid-Afrika te probeer afweer.

Speling

Maar lyk daardie onkonvensioneel is nooit deur iemand gedefinieer en daar is nooit gespesifiseer wat mag en wat mag nie. Boonop het ons vyande onbeperkte geld en hulle is aan geen regulasies of reëls gebonde nie.

My man en sy voormalige

projekte is sekerlik deur my man alleen gehanteer, maar ingrypende sake is uiteraard wyer bespreek en gesamentlike besluite is in baie gevalle geneem.

Hoekom word alles nou op my man se skouers afgeleë en hoekom word die beeld nou geskep dat net hy van die Inligting-projekte bewus was?

(Die Eerste Minister, mnr. P. W. Botha, het Woensdag in die Parlement gesê. As die opposisie kan bewys dat enige lid van die huidige Kabinet bewus was van die finansiering van The Citizen of onbehoorlike staatsbesteding, sal hy bedank en 'n verkiesing uitskryf.)

Biljoene

Mev. Mulder het verder gesê: "As ek maar kon praat van die talle deurbrake en suksesse wat my man in die geheim aan my toevertrou het, dan sal 'n totaal ander prentjie voor die publiek wees. Daar is letterlik biljoene rande vir Suid-Afrika gespaar!"

Sy aarsel: "Jy lyk skepties. Kom ek vertel jou net dié ene en dan sal jy self sien hoekom my man se mond oor sy eie suksesse gesnoer is."

Dan vertel sy 'n byna ongelooftlike verhaal wat sulke verreikende implikasies kan hê dat RAPPORTEL dit nie publiseer nie. Wat wel gesê kan word is dat een van die

11/2/79

259

Connie se vrou pak uit

* VERVOLG VAN BL. EEN *

Deur dié persoon se samewerking en met Inligting se geld is 'n situasie in die buiteland ontloot wat Suid-Afrika se in- en uitvoerhandel kon verlam.

Nog 'n verhaal ontvou oor hoe met Inligting-geld en die hulp van „buitemense“ Suid-Afrika se saak in die hoogste raadsale in die wêreld gestel is.

Dan sê mev. Mulder: „Dis bitter om elke dag te weet dat jou man hierdie dinge vir sy land gedoen het. Soos jy self sien, kan daar nie in hierdie stadium oor dié sake gepraat word nie.

„As dit moet uitkom kan Suid-Afrika onherstelbare skade berokken word. Jy kan verstaan dat dit tog aan 'n mens vat as ek sien hoe my man dit alles stilswyend moet aanvaar?“

KOMMER

Ná 'n lang stilte praat die gewese Ministersvrou verder: „Ek het baie kommervolle nagte deurgebring terwyl my man êrens op sendings in Afrika was.

„Net ek en enkele vertrouelinge was bewus daarvan dat hy op die sendings is. Natuur-

lik wonder 'n vrou en moeder: Is hy veilig, wat gaan gebeur as iets skeefloop?

„Al wat op die oppervlak van die geheime reise deur die publiek gesien is, was sy amptelike en openlike besoek aan die Ivoorkus en die besoek wat die destydse Minister van Inligting van die Ivoorkus, Dona-Fologo, as my man se gas aan Suid-Afrika gebring het

ROEREND

„Maar my man is nie toegelaat om sy kant van die saak te stel nie. Elke storie het tog ten minste twee kante. Dis tog net billik dat hy die kans moet kry om sy kant ook te stel — alles te sê en nie net op sekere vrae te antwoord nie.

„My man aanvaar nog steeds die volle verantwoordelikheid vir elke beleidsbesluit wat hy in sy departement geneem het en hy is bereid om dit op enige forum te verdedig.

„Hoeveel keer is my man in die laaste tyd aangeval oor sy standpunt dat as die voortbestaan van die land op die spel is, dan geld geen reëls nie? Roerende toesprake is in die laaste tyd oor dié tema gehou.

„Gerieflikheidshalwe is sy standpunt net gedeeltelik weergegee”

Mev. Mulder staan op en gaan krap in 'n laai. Sy kom terug met 'n afskrif uit Hansard van Woensdag, 10 Mei 1978. Haar vinger wys na kolom 6485.

Dr. Mulder word so aangehaal op 'n vraag uit opposisiegeleedere

„Ek wil voortgaan en praat oor my standpunt dat geen reëls geld nie. Natuurlik is die reëls wat te alle tye geld, daardie basiese en fundamentele reëls waaraan my party se beginsels gebonde is.

„Dit is die reëls van menswaardigheid, van morele standdaarde, van sekere Christelike begrippe en sekere basiese begrippe wat ons in ons land aanvaar. Dit is my uitgangspunt.”

„Waarom word dié deel verswyg?“ vra mev. Mulder.

NIE SKAAM

Dit raak weer 'n oomblik stil daar in die (kleinerige) sitkamer in Tambotiestraat: „Ons as gesin het sekerlik 'n moeilike tyd agter die rug.

„Dit het ons egter net nouer saamgebind en ons godsdienstbegrip verder verinnig. Ons is nie in sak en as nie, want ons gesin het

niks om oor skaam te wees nie.

„As daar iewers foute ingesluip het, dan moet dit nog bewys word. Sekere mense of instansies mag my man se oordeel betwis. Maar sy eerlike bedoelings durf niemand bevraagteken nie.

„Ek weet met hoeveel entoesiasme en ywer hy die propagandaveldtog teen Suid-Afrika probeer afweer het. Daarvoor sal ek hom altyd huldig, ongeag wat ander mag sê,” sê mev. Mulder.

* RAPPORT het vasgestel dat dr. Mulder nog ampte in die Nasionale Party beklee wat kan dien as basis vir 'n terugkeer na die groot politiek: hy is bestuurslid van die tak Volmoed, lid van die Afdelingsbestuur, en is Randfontein se verteenwoordiger in die Transvaalse Hoofbestuur.

Rapport 11/2/79 (259)

Smit-vrae aan pers: 'n groot blaps ná Kruger se opdrag

Van JOHAN VOSLOO

DIE polisie het Vrydag 'n groot blaps gemaak deurdat hulle politieke beriggewers en 'n paar redakteurs in die Parlementsgebou oor die Smit-moorde ondervra het. Mnr. Jimmy Kruger, Minister van Polisie en Justisie, wat die opdrag vir die ondervraging gegee het, sal verantwoording moet doen.

Die vraag word wyd gestel of min Kruger en die polisie die Speaker, mnr. Jannie Loots, en die Sekretaris van die Departement, mnr. Joggie Victor, in die aangeleentheid geken het

Indien nie sal 'n verduideliking van min. Kruger vereis word. Daar word verwag dat die Speaker hom nog dié week oor die aangeleentheid sal uitspreek.

1963	1 435	12
1964	1 665	16
1965	1 912	20
1966	2 159	24
1967	2 933	28
1968	3 770	38
1969	4 523	55
1970	5 379	57
1971	5 172	51
1972	3 966	39
1973	5 116	67
1974	6 194	80
1975	5 479	62
1976	4 339	67
1977		

Die persgalery maak deel uit van die Parlement en staan onder sy beskerming. Dit kan beteken dat die privaatheid en regte van die Parlement aangetas word as lede van die persgalery in die Parlementsgebou sonder verlof ondervra word.

Die verwagting is dat die Speaker hom dié week oor die aangeleentheid sal uitspreek.

Intussen oorweeg die PFP dit om die beweerde aantasting van die Parlement môre in die Volksraad te opper as 'n saak van dringende openbare belang. Die kous sal Maandagoggend daaroor besluit, sê die Hoofswep, mnr. Brian Bamford.

Toe mnr. Colin Eglin, leier van die Opposisie, Vrydagmiddag ná die polisie-ondervragings in vertrekke van die Parlementsgebou wou verwy, het die Speaker beslis hy moet nie daaroor praat nie. Hy het laat blyk dat die aangeleentheid sy aandag geniet.

Die ondervraging van die persmanne is deur vier senior polisie-offisiere in aparte kamers behartig. Nie almal is ondervra nie, en dit kan wees dat 'n hoer gesag 'n einde daaraan gemaak het.

Die persmanne is aangesê om hulle by die ondervragers aan te meld, is nie gevra of hulle bereid is om vrywillig te praat nie en moes hulle voor 'n bandmasjien identifiseer. Toe eers het die offisier gesê wat die doel van die ondervraging is.

Terwyl 'n bandmasjien geloop het, is gevra of hulle kennis dra van die Smit-moorde, of hul koerante leggers oor die moorde het, of hulle weet van iemand wat iets weet, of van dokumente wat lig op die saak kan werp.

Ter verduideliking het min. Kruger aan persmanne gesê dat die polisie inligting het dat sekere persmanne oor besonderhede beskik wat die polisie moontlik met die

ondersoek kan help. Die ondervraging het nie gevolg op nuwe leidrade nie. Die polisie is net begerig om die moorde op te los.

* Dr. Robert Smit en sy vrou, Cora, is kort voor die 1977-verkieping in hul huis in Springs vermoor. Dr. Smit was die Nasionale Party se kandidaat in Springs.

Daarna het baie gerugte die rondte gedoen dat daar moontlik 'n verbintenis bestaan tussen die moorde en valuta-oortredings. Die Inligtingskandaal is ook bygesleep. Albei beweringe is ontken.

Die Persgalery-Vereniging van die Parlement sal waarskynlik môre vergader om die aangeleentheid te bespreek.

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346	23 892	26 401
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525	56 544	62 454
442	51 007	56 633
349	39 479	43 799
536	67 154	72 810
414	80 282	86 892
438	62 282	68 202
316	67 342	71 999
		75 632



This man cleaned the car



This woman has a key to the house

Keeping an eye on pryers

© From Page 1

tions being what they are) and managing to move into a home valued at more than R100 000

And the position down the road from Maggie Thatcher and just two doors away from Rhodie/Pegg/Abramson

The private detective business must be booming

They were lucky, he said, that a "friend" had given them the home at a nominal rent

However, they hadn't introduced themselves to the other South Africans at No 51 although Mrs Askew had met Mrs Pegg at the hairdressers once where Mrs Pegg spoke of flying to London in their private plane

Mr Askew's business in London — Edward Askew Associates — involves, according to a pamphlet "an unique international consultancy qualified to advise and assist in all areas of civil or business research,

intelligence and security

This includes "defensive electronic counter-measures electronic sweeping services and supply of equipment specialist intruder and perimeter detection systems executive protection and design of anti-kidnap procedures

Mr Askew said I wasn't the only person who had visited Flood Street looking for Dr Rhodie

He should know, and, with his set-up, would be just the person to let Dr Rhodie know

If, that is, they were in contact

The Pegg residence, by another coincidence, is the only house in the street with a large burglar-alarm box secured to the front wall

If Dr Rhodie is, indeed, flying in and out of London and using the Flood Street house he's got all the comforts of a home away from home

Installed at Flood Street

is a black servant who, neighbours say, is South African and who is said to be "homesick"

I watched the servant clean windows and, early in the mornings, walk to a nearby shop for papers

This seems to be her only trip from the home When she answers the front door, she looks nervously out into the street

Another black woman also has a key to the home and visited briefly one morning before leaving — perhaps to work at another "residence" nearby

Nobody has yet been able to work out how many homes were bought with Department of Information money

Mrs Pegg, an attractive blonde, rarely leaves the home and Mr Pegg was said to be "on business" in Paris this week

Even with his information connections "blown" business must still be good as Mr Pegg can afford to pay a smartly dressed man to drive up to his home to polish his latest model car

The grey-haired man arrived in an expensive Ford one afternoon and spent several hours in the garage polishing the car.

The next day he arrived in another Ford and delivered a parcel

When the person who answered the door pointed to us across the street, he looked quickly and then went inside

Suddenly, all the curtains at 51 Flood Street were drawn

So, who knows who is behind those bamboo blinds?

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THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT REPLY

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Suddenly, all the curtains at 51 Flood Street were drawn
So, who knows who is behind those bamboo blinds?

12

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259

SUNDAY TIMES 11/2/79

259

REHOOODIEN'S LONDON

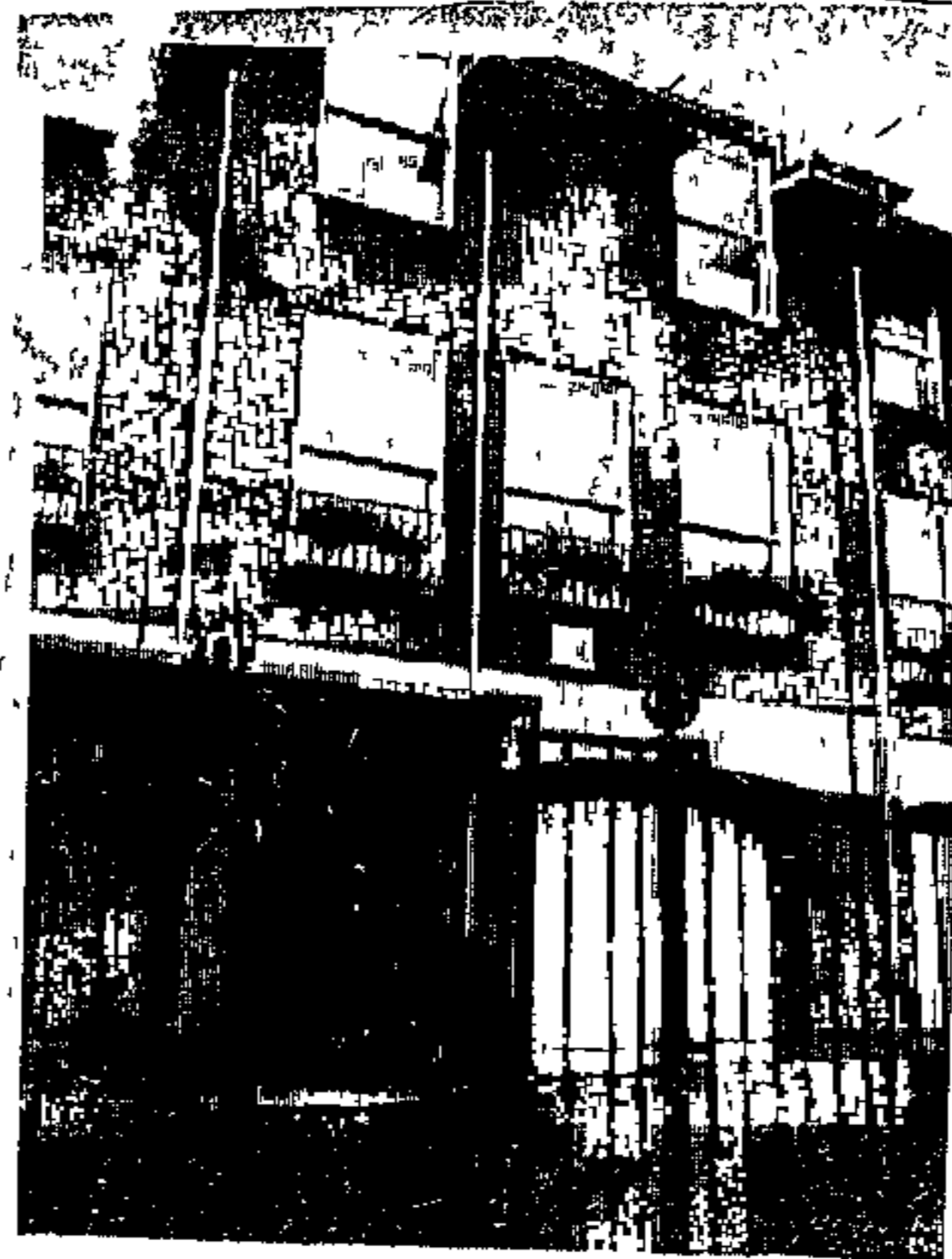


He flits around
from city to city

259

11/2/79

DEODUM



51 Flood Street, Chelsea

DR ESCHEL Rhoodie is leading an on-the-move existence in Europe and operating from a base in London.

The former South African Secretary for Information is known to call regularly at an address in the fashionable Chelsea area of London.

He moves from there to destinations in Europe, especially in the Netherlands and France.

He was in London during the week before last, but travelled to Cannes last weekend.

Information about Dr Rhoodie's furtive movements abroad were revealed to the Sunday Times this week by a highly placed source.

Last month it became known that Dr Rhoodie was in Sao Paulo, Brazil, but he left South America before South African consular officials were able to notify him that his passport had been withdrawn by the authorities in Pretoria.

On Friday, the Minister of the Interior, Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, announced that the passport of Dr Rhoodie's wife, Katie, had been returned to her.

She has been living a life of seclusion at her luxury home in Pretoria since her travel documents were withdrawn last month.

Feeling pinch

She is now expected to join her husband — who left South Africa shortly after giving evidence to the Erasmus commission of inquiry into the Information scandal — abroad.

There is, says an informed Sunday Times source, no question of marital strain in the Rhoodie family and reports of divorce proceedings are discounted.

Dr Rhoodie, who as Secretary for Information handled millions of rands in secret funds, is reported to be feeling the financial pinch and may be obtaining assistance from former agents and friends abroad.

For the moment he is said to have no plans for returning to South Africa and harbours powerful grievances about what he regards as his unjust treatment by the Government.

Isolated from many of his erstwhile friends, he is said to worry about a future that may see him wandering forever outside his country.

Coincidence

But he wasn't the only one who was watching me watch.

The other was Mr Edward Askew, who used to run a private detective agency in Johannesburg and now appears to spend much of his time observing what happens outside the Pegg residence.

Mr Askew and his wife came to London several years ago — by coincidence, just about the same time the Peggs moved into the house in Flood Street.

Now Mr Askew runs his own "information services" company from the front room of his home.

On Friday morning at 7.30, for instance, I saw him from the first floor of his home note the number of the car I was sitting in.

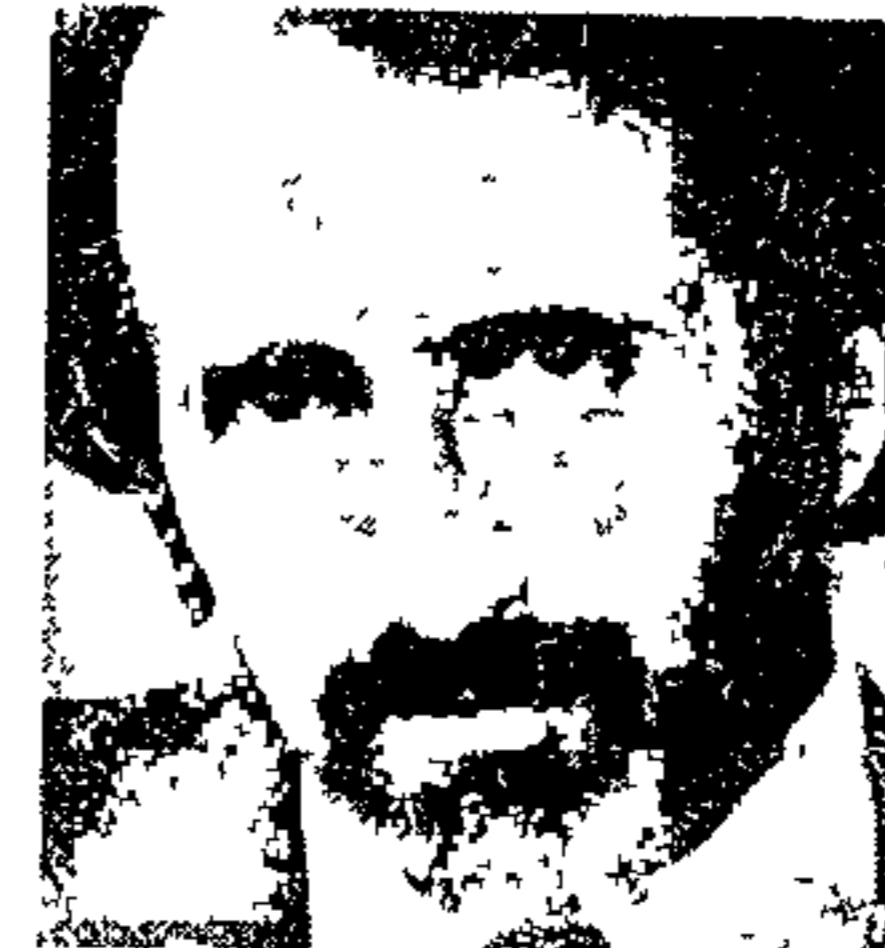
The day before he walked up to where I was parked with a photographer (in a different car) and frankly asked if I was watching No 51.

I was invited to his home for a cup of tea.

I marvelled at the couple's luck at leaving Johannesburg (currency restric-

● To Page 2

Private eye keeps an eye on prying eyes

MR EDWARD ASKEW
Watching

JUST a few doors down from No 51 Flood Street, Chelsea — the luxury London home where Dr Eschel Rhoodie has recently been seen — lives a former Johannesburg private detective.

He watches those who watch No 51.

In fact, there were so many people on the lookout for Dr Rhoodie in Flood Street this week that a confused British security policeman got in on the act.

Flood Street is an exclusive address where the ter-

By SUZANNE VOS
London

raced homes cost from R100 000 upwards.

No 51 is occupied by Dr Rhoodie's good friend Mr Stuart Pegg, who has admitted, using Information funds, to set up, together with Mr David Abramson, an undercover publishing empire.

Britain's Opposition leader, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, lives just up the street — hence the security police interest in the area.

You can't linger in Flood Street before the number of your car is being fed into a police computer and you are being asked what you are doing there.

The policeman who questioned me said he hadn't spotted the elusive Dr Rhoodie but didn't mind if I kept up my watch.

Official moves by the Government to seek his extradition to South Africa cannot be made unless formal charges are framed against him.

Although the police are investigating his affairs, there has not yet been any announcement of the discovery of any violation of the law.

5.

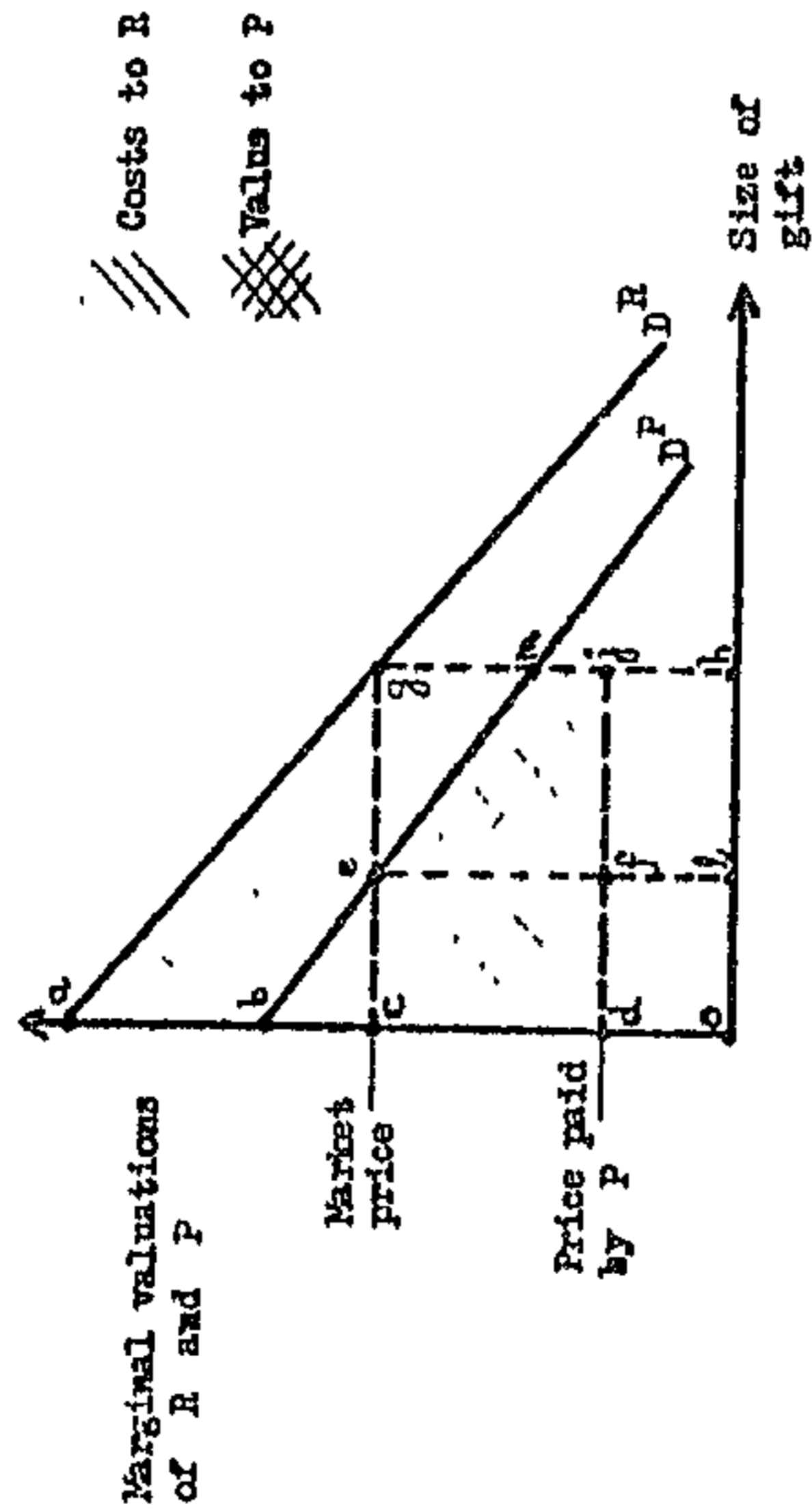


DIAGRAM 4: The value of a gift (Alchian & Allen, p 6-7 IEA, Cooper & Gulyer, p 139-40 IEA)

There is an area being sacrificed by R but not received by P. It is made up of a surplus sacrifice in kind by R of acg (£20) and a cash loss by R of egm (£20). The total £40 cost to R is represented by a £40 gain to P and a £40 residual amount. Does this residual indicate a 'waste'?

An apparent paradox exists, for P would prefer a smaller, saleable gift, and in fact this would cost R less. But this does not necessarily mean that a waste occurs. The essence of giving is that it is based on the utility function of the giver. R may only get pleasure out of P's having better housing, and not out of his increased general consumption. "It is, therefore, important to note that if specific welfare is introduced, price divergences must exist if efficiency is to be achieved." (Johnson, p87 IEA) "benevolent people are very apt to be one-sided, and not of the sweetest temper if others will not be good and happy in their way." (Sir Arthur Helps - quoted by Gulyer, p41 IEA)

The residual is not waste, but a minimal estimate of the intrinsic value of the act of giving to the giver. The result of this analysis is that it is the giver who will determine the nature and size of the gift.

Yet this does not mean that all giving is efficient - where a municipal golf course charges less than the market price, the player may be worse off if the lower charge plus the costs of queuing exceed the value to him of the original market green-fee rate. Another source of inefficiency is the rent-seeking behaviour of potential recipients of gifts. (Alchian & Allen, p 7-13 IEA)

Using this Alchian and Allen framework, determine the costs and benefits in the following case: Mr. P. Atcat drives a BMW paid for by his company, the S.A. Budget. Had he not got the £21,000 BMW, he would have driven a Rover Ford, though he values the BMW at £10,000. Mr. Atcat pays tax at a rate of 65%, while the firm pays 45%. (Students and staff to prepare a written answer to be handed in.)

(6) THE MOTIVES FOR GIVING:

Thus far we have considered the motive for giving purely in terms of R valuing a rise in P's consumption. But R's

T.R. Ireland and Johnson article

- (i) R may give to P as security to 'buy off' any desire for that should he one day become
 - (ii) Religious motives may play
 - (iii) Social and political press to give to P. (In a strict
 - (iv) Condition of employment - R
 - (v) Kantian motive - the desire from P's increased consumption
- Given these additional motives, if incomplete. Yet within a two-person adjusts the utility function of the event where R experiences, say, a
- The basic principle holds: R the extent of giving depends on R

(7) GIVING AND GIVING:

As soon as we go beyond the "If each individual gives a street beggar's welfare more than he val beggar will be much more than each citizen's made the same decision. does not give the beggar a penny welfare will be under-extended." As a result of this charity the political market. The private charity market motives as well as social pressure Therefore, especially in large tax-benefit system.

Within the political market, there have been two basic theories of redistribution, namely the Hochman-Rodgers view of the rich using the state to make gifts to the poor and the Downs model of the poor using their votes to obtain transfers from the rest of society.

Neither of these models is satisfactory. The Hochman-Rodgers one fails to explain why the amount received by the poor is also a function of the extent to which they vote. And the Downs model cannot explain why the poor do not receive the bulk of the

Katie may have left

By KITT KATZIN

THE whereabouts of Mrs Katie Rhoodie is surrounded in mystery — and there is strong speculation that she may have left South Africa to join her husband, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, and their 15-year-old son abroad.

The Sunday Express was told by reliable sources that Mrs Rhoodie had flown out on Friday night from Jan Smuts Airport, Johannesburg — bound for Amsterdam or possibly London.

And late yesterday the couple's only daughter, Anna-Marie, a second-year BA student at RAU, refused to comment on mounting speculation that her mother had left South Africa.

"I have nothing to say and I cannot help you," she said courteously from the family home in McKenzie Street, Menlo Park, Pretoria.

Mrs Rhoodie's passport was returned to her on Wednesday and, according to friends, she started preparing on Thursday to leave the country.

She made no secret that she would join her husband at the first opportunity.

● Dr Rhoodie, meanwhile, has visited London several times in the past few weeks. Among the contacts he saw were Mr David Abramson, chairman of Hortors, and his senior partner, Mr Stuart Pegg.

Mrs Rhoodie's passport was withdrawn in December along with that of Dr Deneys Rhoodie, formerly Deputy Secretary for Information and brother of Dr Eschel Rhoodie.

Anna-Marie, friends say, does not intend to join her parents abroad. She is anxious to continue with her university studies, and will continue to live at home.

San. Exp. 11/2/79

259

Mrs. Mulder

NM 12/2/77

comes out ⁽²⁵⁹⁾ fighting . . .

THE wife of the former Minister of Information, Dr. Connie Mulder has claimed that collective decisions were taken on many of the scandal-riddled department's secret projects.

Mrs. Suzanne Mulder made the claim in a hard-fitting interview with the Sunday newspaper Rapport in which she strongly defended her husband's role as head of the now-defunct department.

In the newspaper's main front-page report she says: "Why is everything now being heaped on my husband's shoulders and why is the impression being created that only he was aware of the information projects?"

Immediately after this, the report pointedly refers to an undertaking by the Prime Minister in Parliament that he would resign and call an election if it

could be proved that any member of the present Cabinet was aware of the financing of the Citizen or the improper use of public money.

Earlier in the report she said that on May 10 last year the former Prime Minister, Mr. John Vorster, said that the Government had decided in 1972 to make secret funds available to the department to use unconventional means to counter the propaganda onslaught against South Africa.

She says the "unconventional means" were never defined and it was never specified what could, or could not be done.

PFP men concerned at progress of inquiry

CAPK TIME 14/2/79 259

Political Staff

MR HARRY SCHWARZ and Dr Zac de Beer, the Progressive Federal Party MPs on the Van der Walt Commission, yesterday expressed "serious concern" at its lack of progress.

Immediately afterwards, the chairman, Mr Hennie van der Walt, MP for Schweizer Ren-ke, said "I agree that we are not progressing as fast as we would like but there are a variety of real problems."

These were largely concerned with duplicating all the evidence heard by the Mostert Commission, which was disbanded after Mr Justice Anton Mostert disclosed evidence concerning the Information scandal.

Mr Schwarz and Dr De Beer said they had agreed to serve on the commission on the strength of assurances given by the government and by Mr Van Der Walt.

They believed it was their duty to serve and contribute to the investigations, "which included not only exchange control in general, but in particular the Department of Information activities which involved foreign currency."

"We want to continue the work commenced by Mr Justice Mostert, which he could not continue as his commission was terminated," they said.

"We are, however, now very seriously concerned about the lack of progress being made by the commission."

"This was not the time to disclose what had happened in camera, but 2½ months had elapsed and no witnesses had testified yet except for relative

ly formal evidence given publicly at the opening session.

"We have raised our objections to the delay, we have spoken to the chairman, we have written letters, now we understand the commission may meet again at the beginning of next month," said the two MPs.

"We have expressed our dissatisfaction privately, without success. We believe the public should know of our concern."

"We ask — what are the intentions in regard to this commission? Are they serious? We want to call witnesses, we want to ask questions."

"We are waiting but more important, the public is waiting."

Asked to comment on the matter, Mr Van der Walt explained that the delay was due to the massive task of duplicating the evidence and documents of the Mostert Commission, all of which would be made available to the members.

Members would receive soon a great deal of "paper work" and already 2 000 folios had been reproduced. The commissioners would also have to study the Reserve Bank regulations.

"One of our problems has been that we have had to wait for the De Kock Commission," said Mr Van der Walt, who added that the commission had recommended that certain exchange regulations be phased out or relaxed.

Another procedural problem was that the secrets of companies would have to be protected and the commission would have to have some assurance that witnesses had something to contribute.

Foreign loans received by secret fund via
Thor

*28. Mr D. J N MALCOMESS asked the
Minister of Finance:

- (1) Whether the foreign loans received by the secret fund via Thor on 22 October 1976, and 18 February 1977, respectively, and referred to on page 12 of the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Alleged Irregularities in the former Department of Information, were guaranteed by the State or any State-controlled body; if so, (a)

259
Handled
2
C/S 5/5/77
14/2/77

who authorized the guarantee (b) what authority was there for such authorization, (c) who granted the loan and (d) what was the rate of interest,

- (2) whether any raising fee was paid on these loans, if so, (a) to whom and (b) what amount.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

Loan October 1976

- (1) No,
(a) to (d) fall away
(2) According to available information no commission was paid

Loan February 1977

- (1) Yes
(a) Dr E M Rhodde on behalf of the Government of the Republic of South Africa
(b) None
(c) I do not consider it in the public interest to furnish the name of the lender
(d) One and three-quarter per cent net above the interest rate the lender could have obtained on investment of a similar amount in US Dollar for the same period on the London Interbank Money Market.
(2) According to available information no commission was paid

Financial assistance to Institute for the
Study of Plural Communities of University
of Pretoria

*5 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the
Minister of National Education †

- (1) Whether the State has rendered any financial assistance to the Institute for the Study of Plural Communities of the University of Pretoria since the establishment of the Institute,
- (2) whether the State has at any time given financial support to the activities or conferences of the Institute in South Africa or abroad, if so, (a) which activities or conferences and (b) what amounts have been so spent

†The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

- (1) No, my Department did not render any assistance,
- (2) no, not my Department, and
(a) and (b) fall away

†Mr J D DU P BASSON, Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I point out to the hon. the Minister that the question did not concern his Department, but concerned the State

†The MINISTER Mr Speaker, I am responsible for matters concerning my Department and I reply to such matters

Handled
12/19/79
259



Dr Eschel Rhoodie

Cape Times 15/2/79 259

Rhoodie: S Asked UK to help

LONDON. — The British Government was asked last year to help find South Africa's former secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the House of Commons learnt yesterday.

The official admission to this effect came from the Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Ted Rowlands, in a written reply to a Labour Party left-winger, Mr Ioan Evans.

Mr Rowlands did not mention Dr Rhoodie by name. However, Whitehall sources confirmed that the former

secretary, believed here to be in Brazil, was the main character in question. The sources said the British Government had had no cause to reply to the South African request for help, made last November.

Mr Rowlands told the House of Commons: "The South African Embassy informed the government that the South African passports of certain of their former officials involved in alleged financial irregularities had been cancelled and asked for assistance in recovering them, should they seek to enter the United Kingdom." — Sapa

Hansard (1254)

7/1/72

16/1/79

FEBRUARY 1972

72

at their disposal that the Association was being supported by State funds. Over a long period I have addressed inquiries to the Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Department and made insinuations, which have not revealed the official connection. Staff members did not answer my questions. A climate of confusion and despair existed among staff members, which resulted in internal problems. In these circumstances it was apparent that the Foreign Affairs Association was not in a position to pursue its activities. The Secretary informed me personally that in these circumstances he could not continue the organization of this nature and that it would not fulfil its function if it continued and executive officers were not analysed.

The Secretary reported to me that inquiries were also made about alleged irregularities and threats were made that the investigations would be made public. I ordered an internal investigation of the allegations which *prima facie* could not be supported. In the interest of good administration and to remove all possible doubt I submitted the report to the Erasmus Commission.

The authority for the dissolution was derived from my commission which includes responsibility for the Information Service of South Africa.

- (2) All the assets are the property of the State and are being disposed of in consultation with the State Attorney and the Government Departments concerned.

Foreign Affairs Association

*4 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs.†

- (1) Whether the Government has decided to dissolve the organization known as the Foreign Affairs Association, if so, why and under what authority was the decision taken,
- (2) how will the assets of the organization be disposed of.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (for the Minister of Foreign Affairs)

Yes

- (1) Reporters of certain newspapers some time ago gave indications of informa-

Sun. Times

18/2/79

259

A third Rhodie brother in new

VIPS WERRI PRENTON

secret cash shock

Sun Times



DR. TOM MULLER
did not "feel
badly" about his
involvement in
the scheme

18/2/79

259



MR. JOHN HEINRICH
"At no time did I
make any finan-
cial contribu-
tion"

DONORS

259

Sun Times

18/2/79

By EUGENE HUGO

HUGE sums of Government money have been secretly channelled into Pretoria University's Institute for the Study of Plural Societies, which is headed by Professor Nic Rhodie.

A number of South Africa's most eminent businessmen posed as "donors" in the covert operation.

Prof Rhodie is the brother of Dr Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information, who is now living a furtive existence abroad following the scandal that exploded around his old department.

Another brother, Deneys, was deputy secretary of the department.

The chairman of Iscor, Dr Tom Muller, chairman of Volkskas, Dr Jan Hurter, and Mr John Heinrich, millionaire restaurateur and industrialist, this week admitted to the Sunday Times that they had been used as front men to channel State funds into Prof Rhodie's institute.

Architect

Two other "phantom" donors have since died.

They are Mr C A Bischoff, former managing director of Rondalia motoring club, and Mr Oscar Hurwitz, a Pretoria architect, entrepreneur and close associate of Dr Eschel Rhodie.

The names of the five businessmen were used to channel at least R140 000 in State funds into the institute, which has staged many international conferences attended by top academics in South Africa and abroad under the mantle of the University of Pretoria.

Neither at its conferences nor in its publications was it ever disclosed that the institute received substantial Government funding.

The Rector of Pretoria University, Professor Eddie Hamman, yesterday promised a full investigation into the affairs of the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies.

He said it seemed as though the university might have been "taken for a ride".

The Sunday Times confirmed this week that all the phantom donors were approached by Prof Nic Rhodie and subsequently received receipts from Pretoria University for donations they had not made.

Mr Heinrich told the Sunday Times:

"I could have filed those receipts with my income-tax return. But I did not."

Simultaneous

In February 1976 the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies received simultaneous donations of R15 000 each from Dr Muller, Dr Hurter, Mr Bischoff and Mr Hurwitz.

These were followed by a massive injection of R40 000 in March 1976 — ostensibly from Mr Heinrich on behalf of a group of Johannesburg businessmen who were supposedly keen to promote the work of Prof Rhodie in the field of plural studies.

In April 1977 another donation of R40 000 was sent to the university in the name of Mr Heinrich to bring the total contributions of these leading businessmen to R140 000.

All surviving major donors — Dr Muller, Dr Hurter and Mr Heinrich — confirmed that they had been approached by Prof Nic Rhodie, professor of sociology at Pretoria University, to "lend" their names to "donations" to the institute.

They accepted Prof Rhodie's argument that this was necessary because international participation in

The phantom donors

Sun. Times 18/2/79

From Page 1
the institute's activities would be limited if it became known that it was Government funded.

Prof Rhodie then wrote to the businessmen confirming the arrangement and confirming that they understood the "background mechanics" of the exercise.

They each also received a draft letter from Prof Rhodie addressed to the Pretoria University announcing their donations, but stressing that their names be kept confidential.

Dr Muller, Dr Hurter and Mr Heinrich subsequently received letters of thanks from Prof Hamman, enclosing receipts for their "donations."

None of the three men actually made any monetary contribution to the institute, nor were they required to sign any cheques.

Iscor chairman Dr Muller told the Sunday Times: "The contribution (of R15 000) was not in my personal capacity. They simply used my name."

He said he had been approached, had checked the aims and objects of the institute, and agreed that his name be put forward as a donor.

Dr Muller said he did not "feel bad" about his involvement because since then he had kept in touch with the institute and his impression was that it had done "fairly good work."

"But none of the money passed through my hands," he said.

The Iscor chairman said

it would be "embarrassing" for him to say who had actually approached him, but the Sunday Times established that it had in fact been Prof Rhodie.

Asked directly whether this was the only occasion on which he had acted as a Government front man, Dr Muller replied,

"I can't be sure of that I am patron and trustee of so many things."

Volkscas chairman Dr Hurter told the Sunday Times from his holiday home that he had tried to check his records, but these were in Pretoria. "So I can only tell you from memory."

Worthy

"I permitted them to use my name. I was aware that it (the institute) was a front for the Government, but I thought it was a worthy cause."

He said this was the only occasion on which he acted as a Government frontman.

Dr Hurter said he had been approached by Prof Rhodie who "outlined the whole 'setup' to him. He said he had no regrets over his involvement."

Mr Heinrich — later used by Dr Eschel Rhodie as a frontman-director of Homerus Finance Corporation with Hortors financier David Abramson — confirmed that his two "donations" of R40 000 to the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies were made "in name only."

He said he had been approached by Prof Rhodie, had agreed to the arrange-

ment and had later received both a letter of thanks from Prof Hamman, and receipts for his "donations".

"At no time did I make any financial contribution. I did not sign any cheques or have anything more to do with the arrangement after Prof Rhodie's approach," he said.

Mr Heinrich stressed that he had acted in good faith in what he thought was "in the interests of the country".

"At no stage did I do anything for personal gain," he said. "I have the receipts in my possession which I, in fact, did not make."

"I could have used them as a tax claim, but I did not. Can you imagine the

advantage I could have got had I claimed an additional R80 000 in donations on my tax return?"

The institute's last major conference was staged in New York as recently as October 1978.

It was attended by about 80 — mainly conservative — academics and African specialists.

It met criticism from anti-apartheid groups who claimed it had been covertly financed by the South African Government.

Last year the Sunday Times established that during the three years up to 1978 — when the Information Department was disbanded — R291 000 had been credited to Prof Rhodie's account at a branch of Nedbank in Pretoria.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER

This is the way out of the Info mess . . .

IT'S pretty tough to start one's period of office as Prime Minister with the Information monkey on one's back.

If this were the only problem, it would not be so bad, but with South West Africa, Rhodesia, oil shortage, unemployment and, above all, a need to solve the race relations problems, the job is no bed of roses.

For all this, you have my sympathy, but for your handing of the Information scandal you can expect no accolades.

This kind of scandal saps the energy of a nation, it creates distrust, not merely of those in power, but of the structure of government itself and of all politicians.

This kind of scandal requires quick and drastic surgery, as a running, festering sore can paralyse government action on more urgent problems.

What does the public expect from you and how can you bring this issue to an end?

The Erasmus commis-

Let me first tell you what I believe it does not want. It does not want blustering and shouting, insults and political bickering. It regards this type of action as a smoke-screen.

It does not want diversionary tactics, information "hoerhaat" or foreign threats.

Watergate demonstrated what the public requires. Open public exposure of the wrongs, action to prevent a recurrence, and punishment of the wrongdoer.

The public has to date not seen this in adequate measure.

There is a high degree of confidence in the Opposition's stand on these issues, and if the Opposition was satisfied, the public would follow.

In the heat of debate, it is said documents may be seen by some and not others, offices are open to one and not the other politician, challenges are made to the Opposition to



a meeting there could be no avoidance of questions.

From such a meeting could come a plan acceptable to all.

As I see it, in terms of such a plan:

(a) Adequate opportunity would be given to the Opposition to test any findings of the Erasmus Commission on which there may be doubts.

(b) A mechanism could be devised to satisfy the Opposition that all aspects which need investigation have, or will, be examined.

Evolved

(c) Adequate steps can be evolved to prevent any recurrence of an information situation.

(d) All moneys and assets of the State will be recovered.

(e) All wrongdoers are dealt with in accordance with the normal processes of the law.

Once this is done, you can get on with the job of governing South Africa and deal with the real

problems which face the country.

We may not agree with your policies and plans and will continue to criticise you where the circumstances warrant.

But the country cannot afford the continuance of this extraneous debacle, however advantageous it might be from a party-political viewpoint.

The ball is in your court.

Make the statesmanlike gesture of bringing the Opposition into the mechanism to deal with the information scandal.

If you do not — and dissatisfaction continues — your action as a government will continue to be hampered at a time when the country cannot afford it, and you will face rising public anger, even from the ranks of your own supporters.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Schwarz

their co-operation in bringing the debacle to an end.

There need be no pre-conditions, and it can be

ing The festering sore runs on

You can solve the problem if you wish. May I respectfully make some suggestions

Invite representatives of the Opposition to your office to discuss the problems frankly, and seek

confidentially conducted until a modus operandi is worked out.

Questions must be fairly put and answered. At such

Wat ek van Attieh weet—dr. Mulder

DIE DOBBEL-BOM

letpost
18/2/79

(259)

*„As by dit sê,
dan lieg by”*

DR. CONNIE EN DIE DOBBELKONING



Deur THINUS PRINSLOO

DR. CONNIE MULDER — jare al 'n goeie kennis van Raffie Attieh, wat as koning van Johannesburg se dobbel-Mafia duisende rande omkoopgeld aan die polisie betaal het — ontdek ten sterkste dat hy sy invloed gebruik het om 'n polisie-offisier op Attieh se aandrang uit die Johannesburgse drank- en dobbelak verplaas te kry.

„As Attieh beweer dat ek enige invloed gebruik het om 'n polisie-offisier verstuifte kry om hom te pas, is hy 'n leuenaar.
„Elk weet daar heeltemal niks van af nie. Attieh gooi nou sy gewig rond met my naam,” sê dr. Mulder.

Sers Suiker Kriel, een van 'n sekere Kabinetminister se fonds Hy dra jaarliks by 'n ken w... Die storie dat Raffie m...

Raffie ATTIEH links bo, reeds skuldig bevind is omdat dobbel- en omkoopgeld van Attieh nesking en dr. Connie Mulder (bo) Goede kennis

toegie hy help finansier het Volgens sers. Kriel het Attieh gesê dat die Minister in die hof getuig dat Attieh sy opdragte sal volg en dat hy reeds deur die Minister se toedoen vir kol. Wouter van Wyk, hoof van die drank- en dobbelak-an Johannesburg, laat verplaas Die Minister se naam is nie in die hof genoem nie Daar is net gesê dat hy nie meer in die Kabinet is nie By navraag van RAPPORT het dr. Mulder gister gesê dat hy Attieh by die drankwinkel van sy broer, mnr. S. Attieh, in Randfontein ontmoet het.

„Soos sommige mense het hy blykbaar toevasgekou aan die feit dat hy my ontmoet het en probeer misbrunk maak van my orendelikhed en toeganklikheid Ek het hy egter nie laat gehuik nie

Koeldrank

Op RAPPORT se vrag of Raffie Attieh bygedra het tot verkiesingsveldtogte, soos in die hof beweer is, het dr. Mulder geantwoord Sy broer dra soos talle ander sake-ondernemings in Randfontein tot die Nasionale Party

Dr. Connie en dobbelkoning

* VERVOLG VAN BL. EEN *

daarop aanspraak dat hy sulke goed soos koeldrank tydens u verkiesingsveldtog verskaf het en dat hy ook sou gehelp het met die vervoer van mense?

Besoek

Dr. Mulder: Dit moet jy die party-organisasie vra Ek weet nie of hy mense aangery het. Ek was nie vooraf hier nie. Ek weet nie of hy die koeldrank gegee het nie. Ek het dit in elk geval nie gekry of gekollekteer nie.

RAPPORT: Wat sê u oor die verskeie telefoongesprekke wat Raffie Attieh met u gehad het?

Dr. Mulder: Hy het my gebel by geleentheid wanneer hy probleme het. Hy het my gebel van tyd tot tyd, ek weet nie eens hoeveel keer nie.

Toe ek dit aan dr. Muller stel dat Attieh hom in Augustus-September verlede jaar by sy parlementêre kantoor in Kaapstad besoek het t.v.m. paspoorte, het dr. Mulder gesê: „Ek weet dat hy in

Kolonel wil niks sê nie

KOL WOUTER VAN WYK van die polisie in Soweto, wat glo verplaas is weens die beweerde invloed wat 'n Johannesburgse dobbelbaas by 'n voormalige Kabinetsminister gehad het, sê hy „sal 'n vreeslike ding oopkrap“ as hy nou praat oor die beweringe.

Kol. Van Wyk sê hy is nie jans in 'n posisie om kommentaar te lewer op die beweringe wat oor hom in die hof gemaak is nie. Hy weet nie wie die betrokke minister is nie. In die hof is getuig dat die Minister nie meer 'n lid van die Kabinet is nie.

die Kaap was. Sulke dinge is sulke kleinighede in my lewe, dis mos nou nonsens, om te verwag dat ek alles moet onthou

„Ek het hom net verwys na die regte departement. Ek het hom op geen manier probeer bevoordeel nie.”

Advokaat

* Ek het ook vasgestel dat 'n Volksraadslid, adv Tom Langley, genader is om Attieh te verdedig. Die Adjunk-prokureur-generaal van Transvaal, adv Chris Jansen, het gister op navraag gesê adv Langley was met hom in verbinding.

„Hy wou maar net gehoor het oor die klagstaat. Hy is genader (om Attieh te verdedig) en hy het gesê hy sal kyk of die datum hom pas.”

Attieh moet op 6 Maart in die hof verskyn op twee aanklagte van omkoperij.

Magtigste

* Kapt Daantjie van Eeden, gewese hoof van die drank- en dobbeltak, is onlangs tot vyf jaar tronkstraf gevonniss nadat getuig was dat hy minstens R6 000 omkoopgeld ontvang het.

Vandeesweek het sers Kriel, wat onder kapt. Van Eeden gewerk het, in die hof gesê dat hy R3 000 omkoopgeld van mnr Attieh ontvang het. Hy is met R5 000 beboet en tot 'n jaar tronkstraf gevonniss.

Daar is getuig dat Attieh die polisiemanne omgekoop het om strooptogte op sy teenstanders in die dobbel-wêreld uit te voer. Sy eie dobbelhuise was beskerm. Sodoende het hy die magtigste dobbelkoning in Johannesburg geword.

Brig. Jan Grobbelaar, speurhoof van Noord-Transvaal en die man wat die omkoperij in Johannesburg oopgeplek het, wou gister geen kommentaar lewer toe RAPPORT hom bel nie: „Ek vra u om liewer met my hoofkantoor in verbinding te tree.” het hy gesê.

Genl. J. F. Kleinhaus, speurhoof van Suid-Afrika, kon gistermiddag laat nie vir kommentaar opgespoor word nie.

tion is not achieved simultaneously with the liberation of men against their exploitation in the mines, factories and on the farms of this land.

Finally, let us conclude by posing a question. Bearing the conclusions of the UCT Women's Movement in mind - conclusions which are not the result of confusion but which flow logically from their approach - can one suggest that women should work within this movement? Or should women who reject the analysis of the UCT Women's Movement rather work to consolidate an independent organisation of women that can come to grips with the problem of exploited women in South Africa. Such a movement would work in opposition to bourgeois feminist groups or would only form an alliance on specific issues, on its own terms; but just as the women's struggle needs to be integrated into a wider social struggle, so too would such a movement, though separate, nonetheless have to integrate itself into wider movements of struggle thus confirming in its political practice the realities and possibilities of its analytical position.

18/2/79

259

all, to ignore the struggles of other people struggling against exploitation is not only incorrect but will lead to inadequate strategies that could well ensure that women's libera-

Recommended Reading.

Basic Reading: Lipsey (4th ed)

Samuelson : Relevant cha
Further reading: Goedhuys, D.W. : Money and Ba
Haines : Money, price,

1. Importance of a Study of Money in Economics.

Why it constitutes a separate discipline. Money, exchange
Money not a neutral counter - effects on aggregate ec
(expenditure, savings, employment, etc.) and on relat
incomes.

Money and price system. Money generalises purchasing
reduces cost of transactions.

2. Why Money? Origins and Functions of Money.

Money a man-made invention which arose inevitably out of
of RAPT? ECONOMICS. Problems of double coincidence of
of computing price-ratios in absence of common denominat
perishability, etc. of most bartered goods.

FUNCTIONS OF MONEY: Money is anything that performs th
money", viz: (1) Medium of Exchange, (2) Standard (1 e
of Value or of Debts; (3) Store of Value or Wealth or LI
meaning of Liquid Asset - All assets seen as having diffe
of liquidity or nonagedness - Money is most liquid. Son
as liquid as money called NEAR-MONEY A full discussio

3. Characteristics of a "Good" Money (i.e. one that per
of money efficiently).

"FUNCTIONS OF MONEY" - Different functions require different attributes
an evaluation of different kinds of money in terms of their functions and
attributes. The most important requirement was general acceptability.

Mulder - strong denial

Mulder after a policeman, Sergeant "Suiker" Kriel, who was convicted of receiving bribes, said in court Mr Attieh had told him he had influence over a certain Cabinet Minister. Sgt Kriel claimed Mr Attieh had told him he financed the Minister's election campaigns He also alleged Mr Attieh told him this Minister would follow his instructions and he had already secured the transfer of the police colo-

nel through the Minister's influence The Minister was not named in court, but reference was made to the fact that he was no longer in the Cabinet. Rapport quoted Dr Mulder as saying he met Mr Raffic Attieh at a bottle store owned by Mr Sabris Attieh in Randfontein "Like some people, he apparently clung to the fact that he had met me and tried to misuse my decency and accessibility I did not

allow myself to be mis-used", Dr Mulder was quoted as saying Rapport also quoted Colonel Wouter van Wyk as saying that if he talked about the affair he would expose "a terrible thing" Approached by the Rand Daily Mail yesterday, he said he had not been correctly quoted "In my position as a police officer I cannot comment on these things I must refer you to my headquarters", he said.

which relies on confidence and STABILITY in value of money - Money supply to be controlled so that it is scarce enough to have value and retain confidence but not too scarce as to restrict trade. Is there a "perfect" money? Modern methods of controlling money supply make this a possibility.

BY EMIELIA JAROSCHEK DR CONNIE Mulder yesterday strongly denied he had had any irregular involvement with the Johannesburg gambling king, Raffic Attieh Breaking a long silence since resigning from the Cabinet after the Information scandal broke, Dr Mulder. Strongly denied that at Mr Attieh's insistence he had used his influence to secure the transfer of a colonel in the Johannesburg Vice Squad, Described as "great nonsense" an allegation that Mr Attieh had financed his election campaigns while still MP for Randfontein. Dr Mulder told the Nationalist Sunday newspaper, Rapport: "If Attieh claims that I used any influence to

have a police officer transferred, he is a liar "I know nothing about this. Attieh is throwing his weight around with my name" Dr Mulder, making his first public statements since his resignation from the Cabinet on November 7 last year, also denied he had in any way tried to favour Mr Attieh in a passport matter. His denial that he had tried to influence the transfer of the police officer, Colonel Wouter van Wyk, was yesterday supported by the head of the CID, General J F Kleinhaus, who dismissed the allegation as "totally untrue" General Kleinhaus said: "I can tell you straight that the decision to transfer Colonel Wouter van Wyk from the Johannesburg Vice

Squad was made entirely without any influence from the outside "The transfer was a domestic, run-of-the-mill move, as is often made by the police department" Dr Mulder's statement that his campaigns had not been financed by Mr Attieh were supported by the chairman of the National Party in his former Randfontein constituency. But the chairman, Mr Nic Smuts, added that Mr Attieh's brother, Mr Sabris Attieh, who owned a textile factory in Randfontein, contributed annually to Nationalist funds in the town Mr Smuts said he thought Mr Sabris Attieh's contributions amounted to between R500 and R1000 a year. Rapport approached Dr

To Page 2

Connie speaks out on bribe case claims

259 R. D. ... 19/2/79

of deposits and MULTIPLE expansion of the banking system as a whole Concept of Excess Reserves: Fully loaned up - limits to size of credit multiplier - C.I. indicates a theoretical maximum.

Mulder denies gambling king link

Cape Times 19/2/74 254

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Dr Connie Mulder yesterday strongly denied having had any irregular involvement with the Johannesburg gambling king, Mr Raffic Attieh.

Breaking his long silence since his resignation from the cabinet after the Information scandal broke, Dr Mulder

• Strongly denied that at Mr Attieh's insistence he had used his influence to secure the transfer of a colonel in the Johannesburg vice squad

• Described as "great nonsense" an allegation that Mr Attieh had financed his election campaigns while he was still MP for Randfontein

Dr Mulder told the Afrikaans-Sunday newspaper Rapport. "If Attieh claims that I used any influence to have a police officer transferred, he is a liar

"I know nothing about this Attieh is throwing his weight around with my name"



Dr Connie Mulder

Dr Mulder, who was making his first public statements since his resignation from the Cabinet on November 7 last year, also denied that he had in any way

tried to favour Mr Attieh in a passport matter

His denial that he had tried to influence the transfer of the police officer, Colonel Wouter van Wyk, was supported yesterday by the head of the CID, General J F Kleinhaus, who dismissed the allegation as "totally untrue"

General Kleinhaus said "I can tell you straight that the decision to transfer Colonel Wouter van Wyk from the Johannesburg vice squad was made entirely without any influence from the outside

"I was personally in charge of the Witwatersrand CID at the time and I know why Colonel van Wyk was transferred

"The transfer was a domestic, run-of-the-mill move as is often made by the police department"

Dr Mulder's statement that his campaigns had not been financed by Mr Attieh were supported by the chairman of the National Party in his former Randfontein constituency

But the chairman, Mr Nic Smuts, added that Mr Attieh's brother, Mr Sabris Attieh, who owned a textile factory in Randfontein, contributed annually to Nationalist funds in the town

Mr Smuts said he thought Mr Sabris Attieh's contributions amounted to between R500 and R1 000 a year

Rapport approached Dr Mulder after a policeman, Sergeant "Suker" Kriel, who was

Registration Form

made

the Registration

if applicable,

Cape Town, Private

at the above

convicted of receiving bribes from Mr Attieh, had said in court that Mr Attieh had told him he had influence over a certain cabinet minister

Sergeant Kriel claimed Mr Attieh had told him he financed the minister's election campaigns

He also alleged that Mr Attieh had told him the minister would follow his instructions and that he had already secured the transfer of the police colonel through the minister's influence

The minister was not named in court, but reference was made to the fact that he was no longer in the cabinet

Rapport quoted Dr Mulder as saying he met Mr Raffic Attieh at a bottle store owned by Mr Sabris Attieh in Randfontein

"Like some people he apparently clung to the fact that he had met me and tried to misuse my decency and accessibility I did not allow myself to be misused," Dr Mulder was quoted as saying

Rapport also quoted Colonel Wouter van Wyk as saying that if he talked about the affair he would expose "a terrible thing"

Approached by the Rand Daily Mail yesterday, he said he had not been correctly quoted

"In my position as a police officer I cannot comment on these things I must refer you to my headquarters," he said

A. 109

A. 113

A. 201

Beattie Building

Beattie Theatre

Room B. 115

B. 105

B. 106

B. 114

Monday, 19th February (Course

9 - 9.50 a.m.

Afrikaans

10 - 10.50 a.m.

French

10 - 10.50 a.m.

French

10 - 10.50 a.m.

Educational

10 - 10.50 a.m.

Law

INFO ART FLOP PAYOUT

Parliamentary Staff

FURTHER instances of unauthorised expenditure and use of secret funds by the Department of Information are disclosed in this year's report of the Auditor-General.

In June last year the department used R946 from secret funds to finance fruitless expenditure of R1 227 for subsistence, travelling and other expenses when a scheme to establish a permanent overseas exhibition had to be abandoned.

To establish the cultural exhibition in a prominent overseas hotel, cultural objects to the value of R3 047 were bought during 1975-76.

The Auditor-General notes that, by the time of writing his report, a reply from the department as to the Treasury authority to buy the works of art and the eventual disposal of them had not been received.

While alleged irregularities in the department are also being investigated by the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry, the Auditor-General says that, at the time of writing his report, a number of matters concerning publications, films, and so on, were still being investigated.

It was therefore not possible to report on it at this stage.

COMPENSATION

Compensations payments amounting to R28 203 also had to be made by the Department of Information:

- R25 100 was paid to a private person for two tapestries lent to the department for foreign exhibition and which were damaged during return by ship to South Africa;

- R2 000 was paid to another person for tapestries used and damaged under similar circumstances;

- R1 103 that had to be paid to four institutions for damages to, or loss of, Zulu works of art lent to the department for exhibition overseas.

The report notes that R11 888 was paid out by the department in

1975-76 in respect of a publication without Treasury approval and contrary to the conditions of the contract. The publication is not named.

Through audit queries, it was also established that R30 000 was paid out of secret funds to a publisher for a loss he allegedly had on a publication bought by the Department of Information.

The claim was dated April 25 1977. Only R17 550 of the claim was supported by an auditor's certificate.

It also bore an endorsement by an official of the department which said: 'Although I do not doubt the facts we unfortunately cannot help. It is wrong in principle and moreover, we do not have the money.'

MAKE GOOD

The department informed the publisher on June 21 1977 that it had sympathy with his problem but it could not assist him because of lack of funds.

The publisher was invited to discuss the matter with an Information official.

The Auditor-General established that R30 000 was then paid out of secret funds to make good the publisher's loss of R29 120.

In his report he points out that the publication was initially bought out of funds provided under the Information vote.

PLURAL ATTACK

The Department of Plural Relations and Development also comes in for criticism in the Auditor-General's report.

He says that a test audit had shown that R101 994 of proceeds from sorghum beer were undercollected compared with the sales shown in his reports on the administration boards which are responsible for the sorghum beer fund.

NEWS 20/7/77
250

Probes cost R349 000

Parliamentary Staff

THE Government's 82 commissions and committees of inquiry sitting at present cost the country R349 854 over the past financial year, with a total expenditure since they began of R1,4-million.

This is contained in the 1977/78 annual report of the Auditor-General, which was tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The 28 commissions cost R249 912 and the 54 committees R99 912.

Largest single items of expenditure were the Riekert Commission investigating manpower utilisation (R38 912) and the Wiehahn Commission investigating labour legislation (R49 197).

The Mostert Commission, into malpractices connected with exchange control, cost R3 679.

Botha 'deplores' Argus report

Political Correspondent

THE Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said yesterday he deplored that, with the publication of a report in The Argus, the Erasmus Commission was being ignored.

He was reacting to a report published yesterday which said that the

259 Argus 20/2/79
massive financial power of gold wielded by the former Minister of Finance, Dr N Diederichs, was the foundation for South Africa's huge information department network.

The Prime Minister said it was wrong to publish such allegations deliberately.

He wanted to request again that this type of allegation should be submitted to the Erasmus Commission.

Mr Botha said he had asked the director of his Press secretariat to bring the report to the attention of the Erasmus Commission.

Auditor reveals more secret info payments

259
20/2/79

CAPE TOWN — Further unauthorised payments by the former Department of Information — some from secret funds — are reported by the Auditor-General in his report tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The report also reveals compensation payments of R28 203 for tapestries and works of art borrowed by the department and damaged or lost on return from an abandoned overseas exhibition.

The president Auditor-General, Mr W G Schickerling, succeeded Mr Gerald Barrie, whose reports last year started off the whole Information scandal with revelations of unauthorised expenditure.

The 1977-78 report mentions unauthorised payments of R30 000 from secret funds and R11 509 from voted money.

The R30 000 was paid to an unnamed publisher out of secret funds when the department had stated it

could not help him from its regular budget and payment would, in any case, be "wrong in principle".

The amount was also an overpayment, as the publisher's alleged loss on a prestige publication the department bought was R29 120. Only R17 550 of the claim was supported by an auditor's certificate.

The auditor's certificate had been endorsed by an official of the Department of Information who wrote: "Although I do not doubt the facts, we unfortunately cannot help. It is wrong in principle and moreover we do not have the money."

The claim was made on April 25, 1977, and the department informed him on June 21 that year that it sympathised with his problem but could not assist him owing to a lack of funds. He was invited to discuss the matter with an official of the department.

"In reply to an audit query, it was established

that R30 000 was paid out of secret funds to the publisher in order to make good his alleged loss of R29 120," Mr Schickerling said.

He reported the R30 000 was unauthorised expenditure out of secret funds.

The unauthorised payment of R11 509 was made during 1975-76 in respect of a publication contrary to the conditions of the contract and without Treasury approval. No further details were given.

The report also states that a number of matters concerning "publication, films etc", were under investigation.

The department also paid compensation during the 1977-78 and 1978-79 financial years of:

- R25 100 to a private person in respect of two tapestries lent to the department for foreign exhibition and damaged during return by sea.
- R2 000 paid to another

person for a tapestry lent for the same exhibition and similarly damaged.

- R1 103 paid to four institutions in respect of damages to or loss of Zulu works of art lent for overseas exhibition.

The report says the department also bought "cultural objects" during 1975-76 totalling R3 047 with a view to establishing a permanent cultural exhibition in a prominent overseas hotel.

The scheme was abandoned during June 1978 "as a result of various problems". Fruitless expenditure totalling R1 227, of which R946 was paid from secret funds, was incurred inter alia on subsistence and travelling expenses.

"At the time of writing this report, a reply as to the Treasury authority to purchase the works of art and the eventual disposal thereof had not yet been received," Mr Schickerling stated. — DDC

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of the Africans were fixed at a maximum wage average and the increasing demand for food called for the commercialization of agriculture.

Thus i) land became excessively expensive
ii) bywoners and squatters were unprofitable and pushed off the land
iii) the rinderpest epidemic aggravated the situation further and thousands of Africans and White farmers were pushed off the land.

Where the peasants could however stay on the land, they did and some were still able to produce enough to pay the government, their landlords and have enough for consumption. But between 1886-1899 many peasants in the Transkei could not withstand the pressure.

After the Anglo-Boer war the harrass was even stronger because of the opposition against the self-reliance and independence of the peasants by the White legislators and administrators.

In the Transvaal the Africans withheld their labour for 5-6 years. Africans leased many of the 1300 farms held by land companies. The Commisioner for Native Affairs refused to apply for anti-squatter provisions, because he said "it would place a good deal of land out of cultivation which is now of benefit to the country and the peasants produce a considerable amount of cereals, used for the consumption in the country".

In 1901 when Botha was elected in the Transvaal, it was a victory for the Afrikaner farmers and they now moved against the economic independence of the

the great... of the...

Biko known better than Info

PRETORIA — South Africa's image in the United States has been harmed more by the Biko affair than the Information scandal, says the "Watergate" editor, Mr Ben Bradlee.

Addressing the Pretoria Press Club, Mr Bradlee said he thought the whole United States knew more of the Biko affair than of the Information scandal. But the Information scandal could become

more widely known, he said. Mr Bradlee is the executive editor of the Washington Post whose Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward were at least partly responsible for the resignation of President Nixon following the Watergate scandal.

Mr Bradlee said the Watergate matter had not ended and fresh disclosures were being made. He felt the US was

stronger since the exposure which had shown up the pettiness and how skin-deep American leaders had been.

He said 19 people had been jailed and the fact the scandal had been exposed, and that people responsible had not got away with it, showed the system worked.

Mr Bradlee, on a 15 day visit to Southern Africa, said he felt each country had a duty to employ in-

telligence services, but the "dirty trick" division should not be above being responsible to anyone.

In 30 years of journalism, he had never heard one claim which could be justified whereby a story should be suppressed because of national interest.

Rather, it had been a matter of "national embarrassment".

In reply to a question, Mr Bradlee said he felt

South Africa was fairly represented in the United States.

Referring to the alleged takeover bid of the Washington Star by Mr George McGoff, Mr Bradlee said Mr McGoff's reputation was known in the US and he would have welcomed such a person to take over the opposition, be it on his own behalf or on behalf of a foreign (in this case South Africa's) power — DDC

Press now facing its most serious threat

STAND BY for another major campaign against the Press.

These assaults have become standard procedure for the Nationalist Government whenever it is under pressure. It happened after Government bungling precipitated the Soweto upheaval in June 1976. It happened again after the disgraceful death of Steve Biko in detention. Now it is about to happen once more after the exposures of the Information scandal.

And because that scandal has embarrassed the Nationalist Government more seriously than anything else that has happened in its 30-year rule, the campaign against the Press which exposed it is likely to be more vehement and serious than any that has gone before.

The purpose of the campaign, as in the past, will be diversionary, to try to draw the public's attention away from the embarrassing issue and focus it on a popular scapegoat.

The indicators of this coming campaign have been appearing for some time

- There was Mr P W Botha's threat last December to introduce legislation to prevent newspapers from "rumour-mongering"
- Then it started to become evident that the Rand Daily Mail and the Sunday Express, the two papers which have played the leading role in the Info exposures, were being singled out for special attacks and harassment
- This culminated in the Prime Minister's unprecedented threat to close down the Sunday Express unless it apologised for a report about an alleged caucus leak which he said was untrue
- The Newspaper Press Union

has held two meetings with the Prime Minister and senior members of the Cabinet recently. Ominously there has been no statement from either side on what the meetings were about. But an overseas newspaper report has suggested that the Government is dissatisfied with the Press Council system, which the NPU introduced in 1977 under threat of a Press control law, and is renewing threats of action unless it is toughened.

• Meanwhile there has been the extraordinary questioning of editors and various newspaper correspondents all around the country.

• Against this background Mr John Wiley, leader of the SAP, is introducing a Private Members' motion in Parliament today calling for a Select Committee to investigate the Press. One hardly needs to be clairvoyant to see that the Government is going to use this as a platform for the launching of the campaign proper.

It is, as we say, likely to be the most serious of the many campaigns the Government has launched against the Press. Almost inevitably, the newspapers will not come out of it unscathed. Press freedom is a fragile thing, easily shattered by the flailing fists of a beleaguered government.

There is little that we can do about this except continue trying to do our job as best we can in increasingly restricted circumstances. In the final analysis it is the public which must decide whether it wants a free Press — or whether it is prepared to tolerate a Government bent upon bringing the public watchdogs to heel so that it won't have scandals exposed any more.

Pik explodes a myth

MR Pik Botha, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, makes a heartening admission in his statement berating Dr Connie Mulder and his Info lieutenants for the damage they have caused South Africa. He rejects the claim that good intentions can be put forward as an excuse for what they did.

Right from the start of the Information affair those involved, and their apologists, have trotted out the story that they were acting "in the national interest". The funding of The Citizen, and the splurging of taxpayers' money on many other clandestine operations, was done "for the good of South Africa".

We are glad that at last someone of Mr Botha's standing has dismissed this view for the nonsense it is, and also told his countrymen some other home truths.

Mr Botha, according to one Nationalist newspaper, says the Government may disclose all the subsidies it makes to organisations like the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies at the University of Pretoria, which has

been exposed by the Sunday Times as being Government-funded.

We agree with Mr Botha that there is nothing wrong with State subsidies — provided they are given openly for all to see. Where the Government has gone wrong in so many cases is in deceiving the public into thinking these organisations were independent and privately sponsored.

Mr Botha also says the Government has nothing to fear from statements by Dr Mulder or anyone else, and that any irregularities must be exposed at once. That being so, we hope he will urge his Cabinet colleagues to respond positively to the many calls for the Government to "come clean" on Information, and take the public into its confidence.

The obvious way to do this is to publish the evidence given before the Erasmus Commission, and to ask the Attorney-General of the Transvaal to prosecute General Hendrik van den Bergh for the remarks he made about the commission. Then the public can judge the issue for itself.

Members of Press interrogated by Police

Hansard 3 (112) 21/2/74 (327)
*14 Mr D J MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Police (259)

(a) On whose instructions were members of the Press recently interrogated by the Police about the death of Dr R Smit and his wife and (b) why

†The MINISTER OF POLICE

(a) and (b) The Police acted in accordance with the powers vested in them by section 5 of the Police Act, 1958

I just want to add that if the hon member wishes to have a full debate on this at a later stage, it is his choice I am at all times prepared to have a debate on this

Mr D J N MALCOMESS Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, could I ask if he at any stage took any part in instigating such an inquiry by the police?

Mr H H SCHWARZ Why does he not answer?

Mr N B WOOD Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, could he tell us whether it was made clear to the members of the Press who were interrogated that they had the option to reply or not to reply to the questions? [Interjections]

Mr SPEAKER Order! The hon member may proceed

Mr N B WOOD Will the hon the Minister answer that question?

†The MINISTER Mr Speaker, I have already replied to the hon member's question, and if hon members want a full debate on this subject, I am perfectly willing to have one [Interjections]

Mr SPEAKER Order!

Mr N B WOOD Mr Speaker, further arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, why did a period of 15 months elapse before this interrogation took place?

Mr SPEAKER Order! In the light of the hon the Minister's reply, I cannot allow any further questions

257

How can it be wrong to expose scandal?

(5) A decreasing demand for investment goods will cause consumer goods demand to decrease more and more.

ONCE AGAIN the Prime Minister is voicing his anger at the Press for exposing aspects of the Information scandal. This time it is The Star and its sister newspaper he has attacked for their disclosure that the late Dr Nico Diederichs was one of the masterminds behind Info's international activities.

Mr Botha says it is wrong for newspapers to publish such material. They should place it before the Erasmus Commission instead.

To which we would pose one simple question. Why?

Surely it is indisputably in the public interest that all the facts in this scandal — the biggest political and financial scandal in South Africa's history — should be disclosed. And the sooner the better.

As far as the public is concerned, what difference does it make who makes the disclosure — so long as it is made, and promptly?

And let it never be forgotten that had the newspapers not started making disclosures about this scandal of their own accord, it is extremely doubtful whether anything would ever have come out. Because the Government had been covering it up for years.

Moreover, it surely cannot be seriously suggested that the Government requires evidence before a Commission of Inquiry to know whether or not The Star's report is correct that Dr Diederichs constructed the machinery for Info's projects. It must know of its own accord. Good heavens, he was Minister of Finance; it is incon-

ceivable that he would have manipulated huge sums of money without letting any of his Cabinet colleagues know about it.

It is even more inconceivable that his Prime Minister did not know. And don't prime ministers tell their Cabinets what is going on? If not, then we may have an even greater scandal on our hands than we imagined.

It is this type of thing which exposes the spuriousness of many of the Government's protestations and challenges in the Info affair. For instance, surely Mr Pik Botha knew full well that the Government was financing the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies at Pretoria University through secret front men before the Sunday Times exposed it last Sunday. Surely this was on the Pretorius Committee's list of 138 secret projects, and surely the committee has shown Mr Pik Botha that list.

Surely, too, Mr Pik Botha must have known the secrecy was unnecessary and wrong. And he could have stopped it, just as he disbanded the secretly-financed Foreign Affairs Association last year.

So what was his outburst against Dr Connie Mulder all about, and his curious challenge to Dr Mulder "and others" to give evidence to the Erasmus Commission? Dr Mulder has already given evidence to the Erasmus Commission. So have Dr Eschel Rhoodie and General Van den Bergh. The only trouble is, their evidence is being kept secret.

And the public wants to know.

47. The opportunity cost of using funds to purchase a machine is:
(1) The cost involved in setting up the machine.
(2) The interest one could receive from loaning out the funds.
(3) The marginal efficiency of capital.
(4) The cost of the machine.

524. If at a time of full employment with the government wishes to increase services by R10m and maintain full employment, prices should increase by R10m and the government should increase tax receipts by R10 million. Receipts by R10 million, but by less than R10 million. Receipts by R10 million, but by less than R10 million. Receipts by R10 million, but by less than R10 million.

implies that when:
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Cape Times 24/7/79

R52 m invested in bonus bonds

PRETORIA — A total of R52,7 million was invested in bonus bonds from April 1 last year to January 31 this year, according to a Treasury announcement here yesterday.

The following applications for other bonds were received: for eight percent Treasury bonds (to September 16, 1978): 14 910 applications amounting to R126 783 500, for national defence bonds (to September 16, 1978): 1 441 applications amounting to R145 161 250, for seven percent Treasury bonds (from October 16, 1978): 5 594 applications amounting to R53 843 500; for second series national defence bonds (from November 1 1978 to January 29 1979): 805 applications amounting to R140 564 300.

The exact amount invested in bonds was R52 712 790 — Sapa

Information scandal

Challenge to Horwood

NM 22/2/79 (259)

Parliamentary Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The New Republic Party has challenged the Government to investigate NRP allegations that the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, knew about the Information scandal earlier than he admits.

If the Government turns down the challenge the NRP is considering moving the appointment of a select committee to investigate the allegations — made by one of its own members, Senator Monty Crook.

On Tuesday Senator Crook accused Senator Horwood of telling "an untruth" to Parliament and stated flatly Senator Horwood had known about the Information scandal last April.

The move follows an undertaking by the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, that he will resign and call an election if there is proof of opposition allegations that present Cabinet ministers knew of the scandal before November last year.

Calculated

The NRP move is also seen as a calculated attempt to force the Government into an unenviable position.

If the Government moves, or accepts an NRP move, for a select committee, there will be a parliamentary investigation of the Information affair in which the honour of Cabinet ministers and the survival of the Government is at stake.

If the Government votes down an NRP motion calling for the select committee, Senator Horwood's honour will stand impugned.

After being made to withdraw statements that Senator Horwood was guilty of telling a blatant untruth to Parliament, Senator Crook said he construed Senator Horwood's statements that he had had no earlier knowledge of the scandal as being an untruth.

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URGENT
 firms in construction sample indicating their
 on a scale ranging from 1 being 'urgent' to 5

He then invited Senator Horwood to move the appointment of a select committee to investigate this allegation.

Senator Crook said a select committee would fill a most important role in the Information scandal cover-up and that important witnesses could include the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, and the former head of State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh.

Senator Crook based his argument against Senator Horwood on statements Senator Horwood made last April in piloting through Parliament the Secret Services Account Bill.

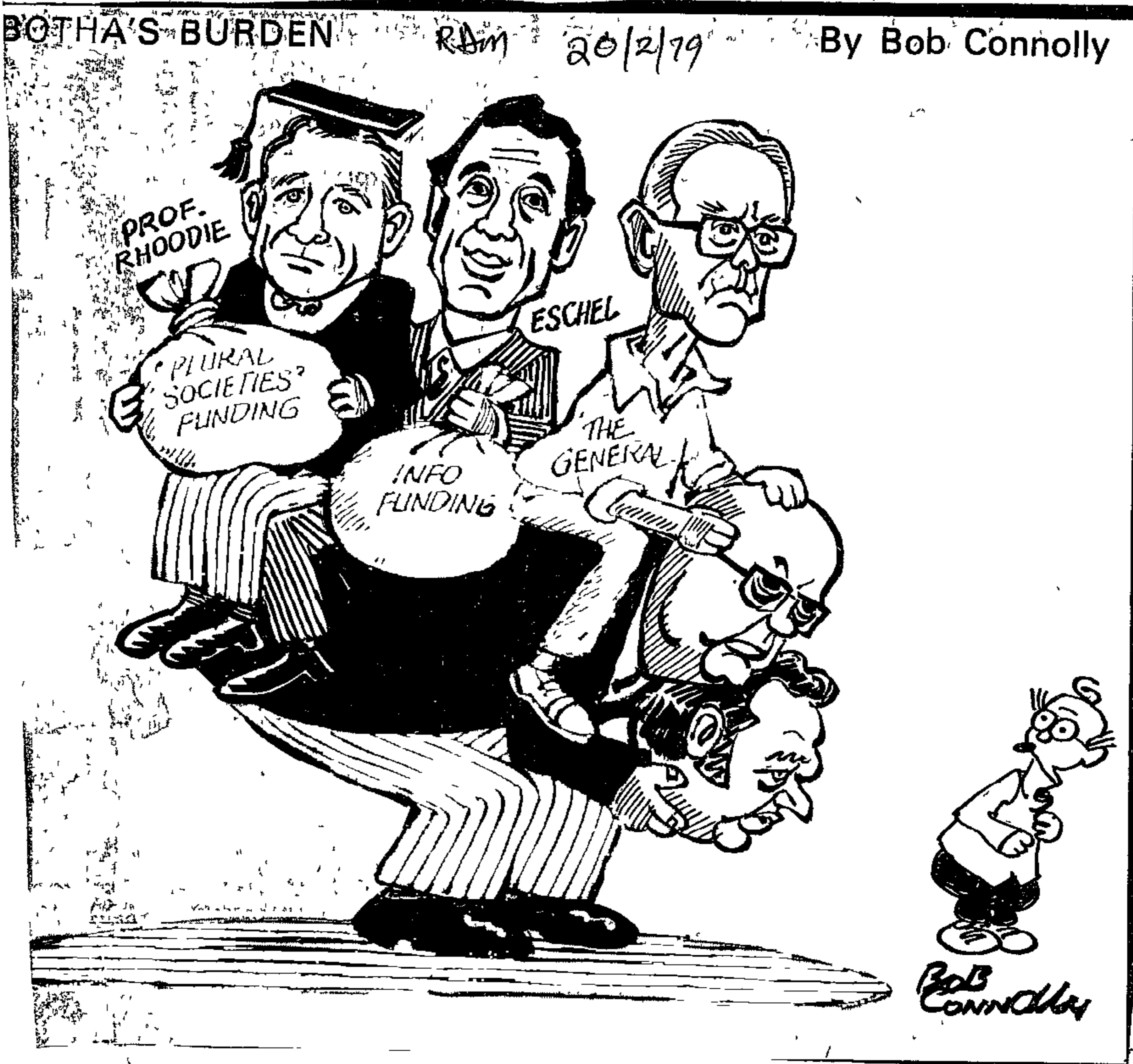
Therefore the table summarises the attitudes of more African technicians than they had indicated and said that they felt that nothing hindered them technicians... are tabulated below. Ten of the 14 question 4 (factors hindering firms from employing

BOTHA'S BURDEN

RAM

20/2/79

By Bob Connolly



Munnik refuses to give reasons

THE Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, has refused to give the City Council reasons for the Executive Committee's decision to allow the SABC to build TV studios on the controversial Vredehoek site on Devil's Peak

He has also refused the council access to an environmental impact study commissioned by the province to investigate the proposed development

In January last year, the executive committee refused an application to rezone the site after considering the impact study report

Last October the committee reversed its decision and approved the rezoning in principle, the final go-ahead to be given later when the SABC submitted site plans

In December, the City Council's town planning committee asked the province to make the impact study available, to provide reasons for the review of the original refusal, and to delay a final decision until the council had had an opportunity to consider the development again

The Town Clerk disclosed in a report to the town planning committee yesterday that the Administrator-in-Executive-Committee had rescinded the October decision and finally agreed to the rezoning, subject to certain development conditions

At a meeting yesterday, the town planning committee decided to ask the executive committee to approach the administrator for the information on the council's behalf

Architects, town planners, commerce and the public have objected strongly to siting the studios on the slopes of Devil's Peak

PFP did not go to reception

THE six PFP members of the Cape Provincial Council all declined invitations to last night's reception for the State President and Mrs B J Vorster, which was given by the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik

This was confirmed yesterday by Mr Herbert Hirsch (PFP Sea Point) and the leader of the Opposition in the council.

Mr Hirsch said members had received invitations. The cau-

cus discussed the matter about 10 days ago and all members had decided to reply that they were unable to attend the reception

The reason for this, he said, was that the events revealed by the Erasmus Commission on the defunct Department of Information had taken place during the time Mr Vorster was Prime Minister. The affair had not yet been cleared up.

Mr Hirsch said this stand was consistent with the line taken by the PFP last year, when the party moved an amendment to a motion congratulating Mr Vorster on his installation as State President and expressing appreciation for his selfless and outstanding service to South Africa as Prime Minister.

Because the events later revealed as part of the Informa-

tion affair had taken place while Mr Vorster was Prime Minister, the PFP had not prepared to support the reference to "outstanding services".

Instead the PFP had moved an amendment reaffirming its allegiance and loyalty to the office of State President and appreciating the unifying factor which the office could be to all South Africans. This amendment was defeated.

He said the additional money needed to see the province through to the end of the financial year on March 31 seemed high at first glance but it represented only a 3,34 percent increase

The funds for this were available as the previous financial year ended with a surplus of R10 843 000 instead of the estimated surplus of R1 m. In addition the province's income reflected an increase of nearly R14 m so the province would end the financial year with a nil balance

The surplus carried forward from the previous financial year resulted from extra income of about R2 551 000 and savings of R7 292 000

Most of the extra income for the present year is due to an increase of about R8,0 m in the government subsidy to the province. Dr Munnik said the income from taxation was R3 134 000 more than expected with an extra R2,1 m of this money coming from motor licences

Betting and totalisator taxes were expected to yield an extra R0,8 m and, in spite of the reduction in the rate of entertainment duty, this tax was expected to bring in an extra R0,25 m partly because of the higher cinema admission charges

Dr Munnik said spending had increased by R23,75 m and about half of this increase was accounted for by salaries and other staff benefits

The debate on the Additional Appropriation Ordinance was adjourned and will probably be resumed tomorrow

Munnik hopeful about Cape's future



Dr L A P A Munnik

ECONOMIC prospects for the Cape Province had improved but the recovery process could not be hurried, the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, said in the Provincial Council yesterday

He was introducing the second reading of the Additional Appropriation Draft Ordinance of R24 734 000

Dr Munnik said the latest developments in the economic field were most encouraging "with the promise of turning the corner to a brighter financial future". The recovery process could not be hurried, however, and the need for caution remained

Wavecrest: Hirsch challenges Munnik

Staff Reporter

MR HERBERT HIRSCH, Leader of the Opposition in the Provincial Council, yesterday challenged the Administrator to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into the approval of the Wavecrest Township at Jeffrey's Bay in 1971

Speaking in the Second Read-

ing debate in the Council on the Part Appropriation Draft Ordinance, Mr Hirsch said that the majority report of a committee of inquiry into the affair had been "totally inadequate and superficial" and that many questions remained unanswered

Mr Hirsch further challenged the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, to table the commit-

tee's full minority report in the council and to make available all relevant reports, recommendations and other documents to the commercial branch of the South African Police in Cape Town, which was investigating a closely related matter

Controversy surrounding the affair involves the approval of 4 000 stands at Wavecrest at a time when the province wanted



out of 22 dealing with conclusions, findings and recommendations of the committee, its majority report had been "totally inadequate and superficial"

The debate was adjourned late yesterday afternoon and is expected to continue today

Mini-budget:

Cape

Times

22/2/79

259

to cut back on township development on the Cape coastline

At a press conference after the debate, Mr Hirsch said he had gone into the Wavecrest affair after reading press reports about investigations by the police and the Trust Bank

In his address to the council Mr Hirsch said that in 1968 the then Administrator, Dr Nico Malan, had said that the Cape coastline had been "despoiled" and that "haphazard development" of the seaboard could not be allowed. Thousands of plots were then still available in developed townships

Dr Malan had announced that a survey would be made into the position then existing along the coastline

In February 1974 the then Administrator, Mr A H Vosloo, and the MEC in charge of local government had advised that a two-year moratorium be placed on all forms of township development on the Cape coast

A survey had shown that there were enough coastal stands on the market at the time and that a moratorium would contribute greatly to the Administrator's plans to conserve natural wild coastal regions

The provision of services to new townships was also draining the Province's capital, they had announced

Meanwhile, between 1968 and 1974, while other townships were approved and developed very cautiously, the Wavecrest township was granted 4 000 stands, Mr Hirsch said

This had been at a time when ample statistics had been available to cause the Administration to be very circumspect, he said

"Now any thinking person can but ask oneself 'What is the reason for this?'"

Among many points of controversy that had remained unanswered between June 1972 and February 1974, Mr Hirsch said, were

2nd reading

A SECOND reading of the Part Appropriation Draft Ordinance for a R230 million "mini-budget" was motivated by the Administrator, Dr L. A. P. A. Munnik yesterday

- Why had the initial Townships Board recommendation to refuse the (Wavecrest) application not been accepted? No reasons had been advanced

- Subsequently the Township Board agreed to approve 200 plots — and it had appeared as though this approval had been given under pressure

- On October 15, 1971, the then Administrator — Mr Vosloo — had rejected the Township Board's advice and the Executive Committee had granted the application on November 9

They met a deputation of the Township Board on November 26 after probably realising that they should have referred the application back to the Township Board in terms of Section 18 (bis) of the Township Ordinance

However, on November 24 word went out that the application had been granted. He would not be surprised if that sequence of events had made the decision "ultra vires", Mr Hirsch said.

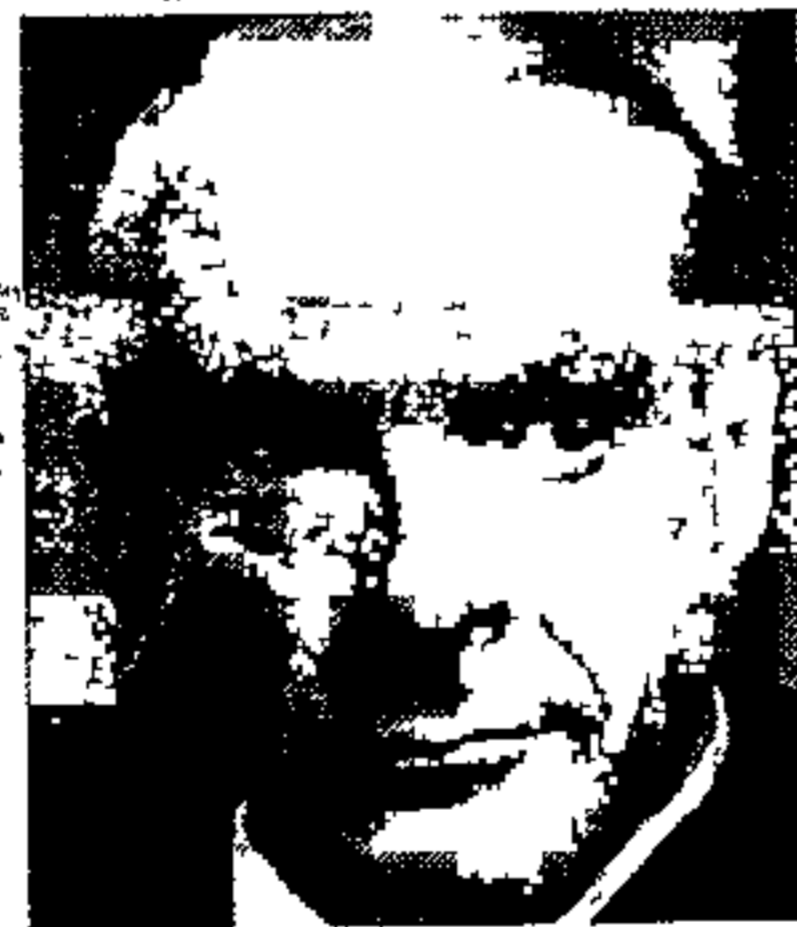
The minority report had been suppressed by the then Administrator — Mr Vosloo — Mr Hirsch said, because it had contained "secret and confidential" documents, but as had been the case in the Faros investigation, documents such as these had been quoted and the report published

Mr Hirsch said the committee of inquiry had been "toothless" without powers to subpoena witnesses or take evidence under oath. With only two pages

Challenge to clear Horwood

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

THE SENATE. — The New Republic Party has challenged the government to investigate NRP allegations that the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, knew about the Information scandal earlier than he admits.



Senator Monty Crook



Senator Owen Horwood

If the government turns down the challenge, the NRP may move the appointment of a select committee to investigate the allegations — made by one of its members, Senator Monty Crook

The government has not so far responded to the challenge, made on Tuesday by Senator Crook and repeated yesterday by Senator Warwick Webber

Senator Crook accused Senator Horwood of telling "an untruth" to Parliament and stated flatly that Senator Horwood had known about the Information scandal last April. He "invited" Senator Horwood to move the appointment of a select committee to investigate his impugning of Senator Horwood's honour.

A select committee is the traditional means of investigating an allegation by one parliamentarian against another.

The challenge follows an undertaking by the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, that he will resign and call an election if there is proof of opposition allegations that present Cabinet ministers knew of the scandal before November last year.

'Blatant untruth'

The NRP move is also seen as a calculated attempt to force the government into an unenviable position.

"Today I impugn the honour of the honourable the minister."

Senator Crook said a select committee "would fill a most important role in the Information scandal cover-up" and that important witnesses could include the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, and the former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh.

Senator Crook based his argument against Senator Horwood on statements Senator Horwood made last April in putting through Parliament the Secret Services Account Bill — the measure which brought all secret government funds under the control of one central account.

The existing arrangement was working well, Senator Horwood had said, but the new measure would bring about "necessary safeguards affecting the allocation and the use of such funds."

Senator Crook said there was "an irresistible inference" that the new measure was necessitated by the misappropriations of the Department of Information.

"In short, it was clear that a new arrangement was necessary to keep Rhoadie's grasping talons from the secret Information fund."

CAL-Times 22/2/79

259

Cape Times

22/2/79

259

Senator Crook said he re-
jected completely Senator
Horwood's denial he had not
known what was going on in the
Information Department.
The former Prime Minister,
Mr Vorster, and Dr Mulder
knew last April about the secret
funding of the Citizen Senator
Crook said he could not believe
Mr Vorster would not have
briefed his Cabinet colleagues —
or, at least Senator Horwood,
who was to pilot it through
Parliament — on why the new
bill was necessary.
Senator Webber raised the is-
sue again yesterday and said the
NRP would have to consider its
position if Senator Horwood did
not move the appointment of a
select committee.
The president of the Senate,
Senator Marais Viljoen, told
him that if the NRP wished
themselves to call for a select
committee, they would have to
move a substantive motion.

If the government moves, or
accepts an NRP move for a
select committee, there will be
a parliamentary investigation of
the information affair, in which
the honour of Cabinet ministers
and the survival of the govern-
ment is at stake.
After being made to withdraw
statements that Senator Hor-
wood was "guilty of telling a
blatant untruth to Parliament",
Senator Crook said he construed
Senator Horwood's statements
that he had had no earlier
knowledge of the scandal as be-
ing an untruth.
He then invited Senator Hor-
wood to move the appointment
of a select committee to investi-
gate this allegation.
Senator Crook said Senator
Horwood had in the past moved
the appointment of a select
committee when Senator Crook
was alleged to have impugned
the honour of other senators.

Overseas loans raised by Dr. E. Rhodie
3/2/1979
165 Mr D J N M... COMESS asked the
Minister of Finance

- (254)
- (1) What loans were raised overseas by Dr E Rhodie in the strength of the letter signed by the former Minister of Information stating that Dr Rhodie was the Government's accredited agent.
 - (2) whether the State is legally committed to repay any such loans,
 - (3)(a) what was the rate of interest payable on these loans, (b) when are they repayable and what is the latest available outstanding balance of such loans,
 - (4) whether the letter was countersigned by any person, and, by whom,

FEBRUARY 1979

180

- (5) whether any raising fees were paid on these loans, if so, (a) how much and (b) to whom

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

- (1) One loan of 3,5 million Dollar
- (2) Yes
- (3) (a) Two and a quarter per cent net above the interest rate the lender could have obtained on investment of a similar amount in U S Dollar for the same period on the London Interbank Money Market.
(b) The loan was repayable on 14 April 1978
(c) Nil
- (4) No
- (5) According to available information no commission was paid

Table 14.	Total number of technicians - 1970	13
Table 15.	Total number of technicians -	14
Table 16.	Total shortage of technicians -	14
Table 17.	Engineering technicians by type -	15
Table 18.	Numbers of engineering technicians employed by qualification 1972	17
Table 19.	Manufacture 300 employees by manufacture	17
Table 20.	Manufacture than 300 employees by manufacture	23
Table 21.	Number of more than 600 000 and the cost of dismantling and removal (c) h employees	25
Table 22.	Number Durdar	26
Table 23.	Factor from e	28
Table 24.	Urgency to firm	29
Table 25.	Number	29
Table 26.	Number	30
Table 27.	Factors	32
Table 28.	Urgency to firm	33
Table 29.	Number of African technicians firms in Rosslyn sample would employ	34
Table 30.	Factors hindering firms in Rosslyn sample from employing more Africans as technicians	35

Hansard 3 (1972) 23/2/79
The Citizen printing press

*3 Mr J D DUFF BASSON asked the Minister of Finance †

Whether the State has received offers for a printing press which belongs or belonged to the company publishing the newspaper *The Citizen*, if so, (a) from which companies, (b) on what dates, (c) what was the nature of each offer and (d) what was the reply to each offer

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

Yes, at a time when it was reasonably generally known that the printing press had already been disposed of

(a) Mr Jim Slater, Chairman of *The Argus*

(b) 8 January 1979

The Citizen: 'defiled by corruption, which is riddled with crime'

HERE is no clean slate. I want to make it clear that I am not talking about events before October 1978. I am talking about a deed committed in February, 1979

Not in secret, but committed in the open. Not by Dr Connie Mulder himself, but by the Nationalist Government, and the National Party.

This deed that was done now was a scandal and is as disgraceful as anything that took place in the past in secret and which these honourable gentlemen are now rightly condemning. I need hardly say Mr Chairman, that the deed I refer to is the take-over of The Citizen by Perskor with the assistance and consent and the connivance of the National Party and the Nationalist Government.

Let me first deal with Perskor. Perskor is a Nationalist-orientated company. It is a Nationalist-dominated company. It publishes Die Transvaler which is the official organ of the National Party.

One can ask: What has happened to public morality? What has happened to the standards and values that used to exist in this country — integrity and decency — when Perskor can take over a paper with a history of The Citizen?

Mr Pk Botha has spoken of the incalculable harm that has been done to South Africa by the Information scandal. This take-over of The Citizen by Perskor is an essential and integral part of that incalculable harm.

I think members should

crime and deception

How should I say it? Except for murder, treason and rape, practically every serious common law crime is linked in one way or another with The Citizen.

I think there is a long list of crimes when one examines the story of The Citizen and sees how R32-million was used and misappropriated in secret, without public knowledge.

There is no question that there was fraud, there was theft, there was perjury, and there was attempting to defeat the ends of justice.

I looked up the (criminal) definition of fraud and it is defined as in Gardner and Lansdowne as 'the wilful perversion of the truth with the intent to deceive'.

When this newspaper was put forward, was it put forward openly as a paper supporting the National Party, or was it put forward as an independent, objective paper which would take an impartial, balanced attitude?

The remarks I am applying now are to those people who ran The Citizen and who organised it as far as I know. To the best of my knowledge, and I think it is accepted by everybody, Mr Pk Botha had nothing whatever to do with the running of the newspaper (Mr Mervis then withdrew all reference to Mr Botha on the insistence of the chairman because members are not allowed to make defamatory remarks about Members of Parliament).

The list of crimes, obviously, that I referred to, did not refer to members of

Mr Joel Mervis, PFP MPC for Orange Grove, right, made a slashing attack on The Citizen takeover by Perskor during the part appropriation debate in the Transvaal Provincial Council in Pretoria this week.

Mr Mervis said Government members wanted to forget the events that occurred between 1973 and October 1978. They deplored these events but their attitude was that the dark and dirty work was now a thing of the past and should be forgotten to enable a new start to be made with a clean slate.

But, said Mr Mervis, there is no clean slate. He then went on:

This House I referred to people who ran it and had to do with The Citizen in the past. All I can say is that this newspaper, which has been built up with millions of money taken in cold blood from the taxpayers, is now brazenly handed over to Perskor to continue what The Citizen used to claim was a patriotic role. A patriotic role which has become a disgrace to South Africa.

I will give members good warning in this matter. They want the Information scandal to go away. I know they are shocked and

ashamed by it, but as long as Perskor continues to publish The Citizen, the scandal will not go away.

The Citizen, I should point out to them, is like a running, festering sore. It will be a perpetual reminder of the wickedness and evil committed by men who were closely linked with it.

Things that have in ordinary circumstances — that have gone wrong in a newspaper, that went wrong in the Information Department — that have in the normal course of events become forgotten — one

remember them forever.

The Citizen will be a continual, perpetual daily reminder to the public at large of the corruption and crimes that were undertaken by those people who were involved in The Citizen in the past.

Now there is R32-million of public money taken for The Citizen. I do not know what members would use for 'taken'. Would they say it was 'stolen'?

Apart from the use of public funds, and whether it was theft or embezzlement of public funds, I am not going to say, but there is no

doubt about the lying claims of The Citizen itself, that it was independent and not supported by State funds, and that it was not a National Party organ.

Apart from the fact that The Citizen was built up by Dr Mulder, Dr Rhoadie and others, on a foundation of fraud, theft and double-dealing, there is the fraud inside The Citizen itself.

Here was a paper sailing under false colours. It pretended to be independent yet, as we know, at the General Election in 1977, it supported the National Party, and was nothing short of

hysterical

Some of its conduct is unknown and unheard of in the history of this country.

In 1976, 30 000 copies a day of The Citizen were dumped on the garbage heap which, I might say, was a very appropriate place to dump The Citizen, to fake circulation figures and perpetrate a fraud on the advertisers.

Then there were the reckless lies told by the paper.

(Here he quoted from a Citizen editorial challenging the Sunday Express to publish concrete evidence that The Citizen had been financed by public money, channelled through massive and secret state funds. 'Yet the Sunday Express spreads the canard that this newspaper, The Citizen, was and still is funded by taxpayers' money'.)

That will give you an idea of the lies that were being told by this paper after the Express had disclosed the fact that The Citizen was being funded by Government money. Two or three days later the Mostert Commission revealed the truth and so since has the Erasmus Commission.

The Citizen has told countless lies. Luyt, yes, and Van Zyl Alberts, lied publicly when they claimed that The Citizen was funded with private capital and not with State funds.

I do not know what members feel about moral standards in this country, whether they need to be upheld, or whether we should become debased and depraved like a seventh-class American republic.



259

RDM

23/2/29

look at this in perspective I want to put our prognosis to them. If the Government had decided they wanted a Nationalist-supporting English-language newspaper, and if they had decided that it was very difficult to start such a paper, and if they said to themselves 'we have got a very clever idea how to start this paper, we steal R32-million of taxpayers' money, we will squander it left, right and centre to build up the . . . (Here he had to withdraw the word 'steal') . . . We will take, appropriate or apply R32-million of taxpayers' money to squander it left, right and centre on a tremendous scale far beyond what is normally ever spent on producing a newspaper, to build up a National Party organ under a facade of an independent owner so that in the end the paper can be handed over on a platter to Perskor'

If there was such a conspiracy, and of course I do not say there was, the outcome really could not be very different to what actually happened, yet — I can only call it a shocking manoeuvre and an immoral action — it is accepted without protest by the entire National Party Mr Pik Botha is himself a party to this, and I think before he points a finger at Connie Mulder, or anybody else, he should see his own hands are clean. He has made no protest against this takeover by Perskor.

To understand the enormity of what the Nationalist Government, National Party and Perskor have done, I think members need be reminded of the history and record of Perskor.

The Citizen's whole existence, from start to finish, has been besmirched and defiled by corruption. The kind of corruption which is riddled with

Lied to my son—Louis Luyt

MR LOUIS LUYT confessed this week: "I had to lie to my son for the sake of the Department of Information."

"Then the truth came out (that the Citizen was Government-owned)

"How can I now look my son in the face? How can I expect him to respect me — to look up to me?"

Mr Luyt was, speaking of the personal humiliation of his involvement in the Information affair and The Citizen newspaper

He launched the newspaper on behalf of the Information Department with finance from secret Government funds controlled by Dr Eschel Rhoadie

"I thought I was doing something for my country, but after The Citizen was exposed as a Government front, all that people do is point their fingers at me," he told me

At his headquarters in Tyromf House in Auckland Park, Johannesburg, he said

"But it is not restricted to strangers. I have always tried to teach my son about business, explaining what the ownership of shares means and how balance sheets work

"When the rumours started that the Citizen was Government-owned, I had to tell my son that his was not true and that he owned all the shares in the newspaper"

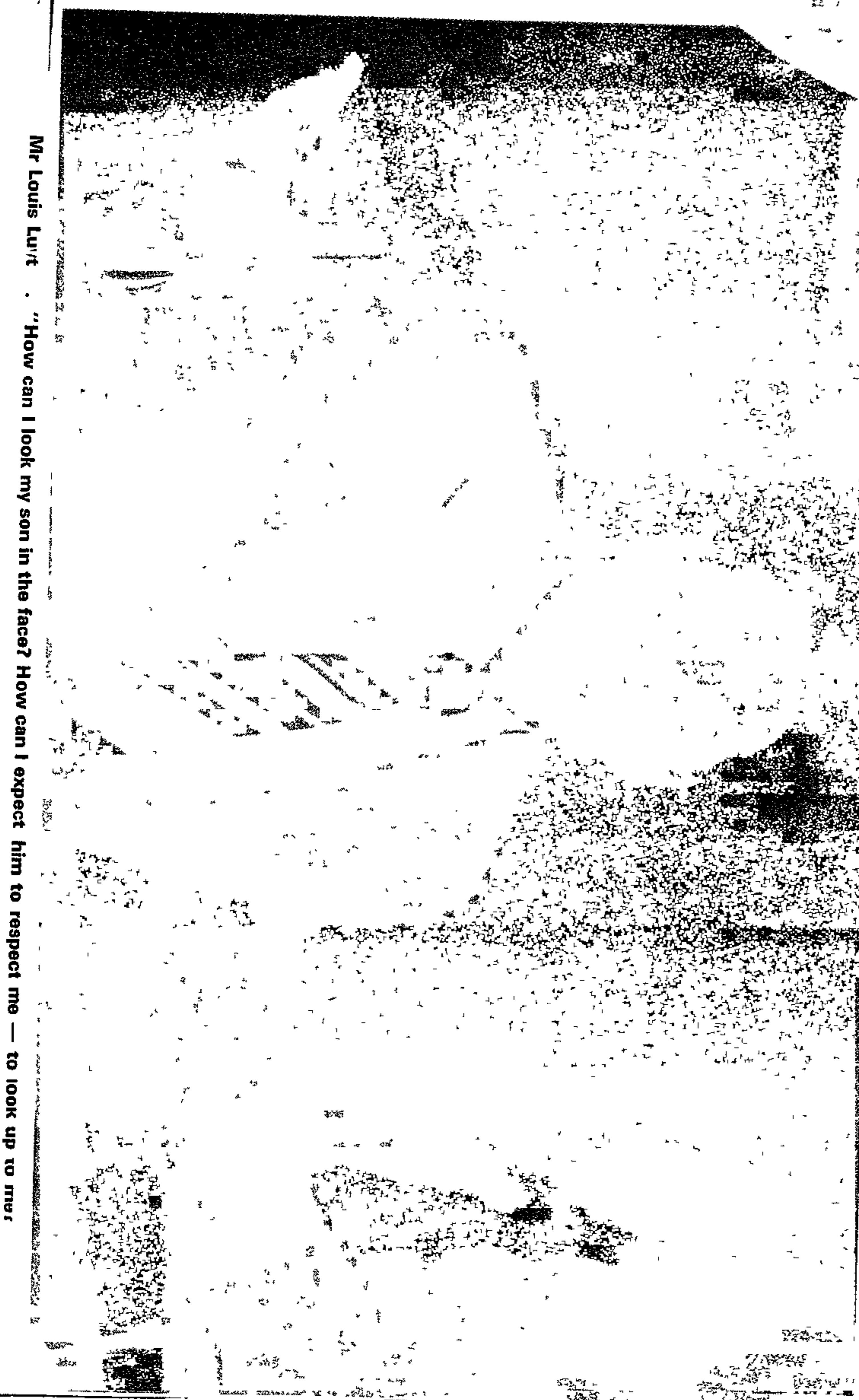
Unpredictable

He covered up for Info — then the Citizen was exposed

By NEIL HOPPER

However, in his evidence before the Mostert Commission, Mr Luyt said his relationship with Dr Rhoadie had rapidly deteriorated because the former Secretary of Information had interfered with the running of the newspaper, asking why certain books had not been reviewed and leaking information to the newspaper

I learnt this week that die as a "sort of James Bond, with all his mythological companies." This week Mr Luyt said he had been referring to companies such as Thor Communicators, of Pretoria, and Thesaurus, a Swiss company, both of which were front companies used by the former Information Secretary



Mr Louis Luyt . . . "How can I look my son in the face? How can I expect him to respect me — to look up to me"

259

25/2/79

Rhodie

Mr. Luyt said he still believed there was a need for a newspaper like the Citizen, but believed — and had always believed — that it should be privately owned.

“It is a good thing to have independent newspapers in the English market to provide competition,” he said.

“If the Citizen had been privately owned from the beginning, there would have been no interference from people like Dr Rhodie.”

He did not want to talk about Dr Rhodie, because this could be seen as “kicking a man while he is down”, but he did say that the former Secretary for Information was “completely unpredictable, saying one thing today and another tomorrow”.

Information leaked to the newspaper was that used as the basis for a front-page splash report in 1977 in which Pretoria medical circles were quoted as saying the probable cause of death of black consciousness leader Steve Biko in detention was a kidney complaint and not severe brain damage, as had been stated in a Sunday newspaper the previous day.

“A sort of James Bond”

The inquest found that his death was the result of head injuries and severe brain damage after a scuffle with Security Branch men in Port Elizabeth. No one was held responsible for Mr Biko's death.

In his evidence to the Mostert Commission, Mr Luyt described Dr Rhodie

from Thesaurus in Switzerland.

“A document was drawn up after I had already received the money, purporting to show that the money was an overseas loan,” he said.

Referring to the press bought for the Citizen, he said the deposit and instalments were provided by SA Today, the company which then published the newspaper, using money provided by Dr Rhodie from Government funds.

Therefore, there could be no doubt that the press had been the property of the Government.

In addition, Mr Luyt had given a personal guarantee to the firm that supplied the press, MGD Graphics, of Britain, for the payment of the press at 6.5 per cent export credit over two years.

This was replaced by a Volkskas guarantee when

Mr. van Zyl Alberts had taken over the running of the newspaper from him on behalf of the Information Department.

When Perskor bought the newspaper and press, it, too, had obtained a Volkskas guarantee, Mr Luyt said.

Disagrees with

Marius Jooste

He disagreed with a statement by the head of Perskor, Mr Marius Jooste, that the Afrikaans Press group had purchased the press “a long time ago”.

“The press belonged to SA Today until the newspaper was taken over by Perskor recently.”

“SA Today was always a totally Government-funded and sanctioned company,” he added.

25/2/77
259

Rhodie's Page

By EUGENE HUGO

THE man Dr Eschel Rhodie hired to spearhead some of his grandiose clandestine plans in the United States has lost his R150 000-a-year job.

He is Washington lobbyist Donald de Kieffer

This was confirmed this week by the Director of South Africa's Information Service, Mr Andries Engelbrecht

Mr Engelbrecht also serves as a member of the Pretorius Committee, now evaluating Information Department secret projects

He told the Sunday Times he had formally informed Mr De Kieffer that his verbal contract with Dr Rhodie and the Information Department had been terminated as from the beginning of January

Retained

"De Kieffer is out," he said. After Mr De Kieffer's law firm, Shannon, Rill and Edwards, became worried last year that the South African contract might affect their other business, Mr De Kieffer formed a separate company, De Kieffer Associates, to handle work for the Information Department

The termination of Mr De Kieffer's contract follows months of evaluation of his activities in the United States since he flew to South Africa

U.S. lobbyist spearheaded secret plans

in October in an attempt to persuade the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, to retain his services

Mr Engelbrecht also revealed that

●The New York public relations firm of Sydney Baron — hired by Dr Rhodie for R575 000 a year and which now employs his former Deputy Secretary Les de Villiers to run its South African operation — will continue to work for South Africa at least until mid-1979

●The Heinz Behrens operation in West Germany — costing the Information Service about R300 000 a year — is doing "very good work" for South Africa and will retain the contract

Mr Engelbrecht said he was satisfied with both the Sydney Baron and Heinz Behrens operations but that Mr De Kieffer would be used by his department only if he came up with any worthwhile project

Mr De Kieffer, who was

openly employed by the Information Department on its normal budget, scored two notable successes

He organised congressional support for a United States visa for former Defence Chief Admiral H H Biermann and similar backing for Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith's visit to the country

But he also severely embarrassed the South African Embassy in Washington when he sent one of his employees to attend a behind-closed-doors briefing on Capitol Hill for congressmen and their aides only

The De Kieffer employee was discovered and congressmen officially protested to South African Ambassador Mr Donald Sole

Mr Engelbrecht said the reorganisation and evaluation of his department was now almost complete and the Public Service Commission would "move within weeks" to inspect the operation

22. The sum of all stages' value-added in some goods:

- (1) is less than final selling price
- (2) is greater than final selling price
- (3) is equal to final selling price
- (4) bears no relationship to final price
- (5) is not a meaningful concept at all

541, 895;

Therefore it must be different from industry in-

in the case of gold on a 1972

platinum (about 30% of GNP)

the assumption that output

is 30% of GNP

is followed by a 30% increase

in the project

is followed by a 30% increase

in the project

is followed by a 30% increase

in the project

is followed by a 30% increase

in the project

is followed by a 30% increase

in the project

12. GNP per capita in constant rand can be as a measure of changes in standard of living

- (1) It makes no allowance for changes in inflation and deflation
- (2) It gives excessive weight to the value of double-counting in GNP
- (3) Transfer payments are excluded from GNP
- (4) Information and confidential reports are included in GNP

1.3. Given NIP, I derived net by:

- (1) Deducting personal savings
- (2) Deducting taxes and adding government savings
- (3) Deducting taxes and adding government savings
- (4) Deducting taxes and adding government savings
- (5) Deducting taxes and adding government savings

14. It may be argued that the net national product is a measure of the output of an economy which is produced because:

- (1) Net national product figures are in level of basic intermediate goods
- (2) GNP includes all intermediate goods
- (3) Net national product figures include made by the government and gross figures do not
- (4) Net national product is equal to stock at the end of the year
- (5) None of the above

15. The value of the household services from GNP because:

- (1) Of the statistical problem of measurement
- (2) It does not represent a current production
- (3) It is transferred
- (4) No money payments are involved
- (5) These services are not final

16. The relation between Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and GNP is:

- (1) GNP is always greater than GDP
- (2) GDP is always greater than GNP
- (3) GNP = GDP + Exports
- (4) GDP = GNP + Imports
- (5) None of the above

distinguishes Plewman disaggregates the projections into exports and domestic requirements. For all six he derives export figures from the report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Export Trade of the RSA (Plewman Commission) tabled in 1972³² Export figures were given

If experience of District Councils in the Northern Province is that the Chiefs were so tired of trying to get their grievances redressed that they turned to the Native Associations in the hope that the latter, being more educated, would bring greater pressure to bear upon the Government.⁹⁷

The Mombasa Native Association took up the case of the deposed and banished Chibumba and succeeded in persuading the colonial authorities to allow him to return home, although he was allowed no political function. After Chibumba's death in 1924, the Association intensified its pressures for an ethnic revival by championing the claim of Chibumba's putative son, Lazaro Jere, a mission-educated clerk in the Northern Rhodesian administration, to return and become, not Principal Headman, but 'Paramount' of the Ngoni, despite the fact that under law there was no office of Paramount permitted in Nyasaland.⁹⁸ Lazaro Jere returned to the district in 1924, and at once a popular campaign was launched to resuscitate the Paramountcy, and this would cover not only I'zimba District, but also areas to the north, south and west. This displeased the government immensely, and the District Commissioner contemplated calling in troops to put an end to the movement.⁹⁹ Nonetheless, in 1928 these pressures paid off when Lazaro Jere was made Principal Headman.¹⁰⁰ The naming of Lazaro to this position set off another wave in the campaign to revive the Paramountcy. In June, 1930, for example, the Mombasa Native Association asserted that the Ngoni

desire to have a paramount chief in Mombasa still rings in the hearts of the people, for the present policy of equalizing all the Principal Headmen is contrary to the law of the country — the law being that there must be one Paramount chief and that all other chiefs must act as his assistants. This old Ngoni law aims at having unity, lacking which it is difficult to form a nation. As the cry for a paramount chief grows greater and greater, the Association earnestly asks Government to take this question into deeper consideration.¹⁰¹

Again, as with the pressures for a stronger Chikulanayaboship, these demands came at an opportune moment, as Indirect Rule was about to be introduced in the Protectorate.

While the pressure for naming Lazaro Jere as Paramount was growing, there was also a parallel in Ngoni country of the Tumbuka history writing exercise. Just as J. Cullen Young had systematized Tumbuka history for the Tumbuka, so too did the Livingstonia Mission's Reverend Yesaya Chibambo do the same for the Ngoni. Chibambo's task was far easier than Young's, as Ngoni

history was far more vivid in the minds of the people than was the largely mythical history of Young. The Ngoni past was relatively recent, and, when compared with the dreary realities of labour migration and ecological degradation, of litigation and emasculated chiefly authority, it was a glorious thing to contemplate. The migrations from South Africa, the exploits of Zengondaba, the victories of the Ngoni impi, their success in state-building

all were naturally easy stories of past glories used in the local

When the cult popular demands of Ngoni, with the pride similar to Ngoni response to when in 1929 the suggested that the Chikulanayabobe of would damage the ment.¹⁰⁴ Later Jere so did Nbelwa II. chiefdom of the Chikulanayabobe of this time in vain Ngoni chieftains of Bledisloe Gerriss River and the Nya

NRP calls for Senate inquiry

Political Correspondent.

THE SENATE — The New Republic Party yesterday proposed a Senate investigation into exactly when the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, knew details of the information scandal.

Senator Warwick Webber gave notice of a motion to this effect, which will formally be moved today.

The motion follows an attack by another NRP member, Senator Monty Crook, on Senator Horwood last week.

Senator Crook alleged Senator Horwood knew in April last year of the irregularities in the Department of Information, and had told Parliament an "untruth" when he stated he had only discovered details last November.

Senator Horwood strongly denied the NRP allegation. He also refused an NRP challenge to appoint a select committee to investigate the charge.

Senator Webber did not propose an investigation of Senator Crook's allegation. He is to move instead the appointment of a nine-member select committee "to investigate and report by what date the Minister of Finance was aware of grave irregularities in the former Department of Information."

Senator Horwood has already indicated the government will oppose the NRP motion, regarding it among other things as an excuse to subpoena evidence from Dr Connie Mulder and General Hendrik van den Bergh which could be damaging to the national interest.

Thus, by the early 1970s, two strong chieftainship systems, fully allied with the areas' young intellectuals, had emerged in northern Nyasaland. One was the Ngoni hierarchy of Nbelwa II, firmly based on the glories of the Ngoni past. The other, that of Chikulanayabobe and the other descendants of the Walwoko, was based on the Tumbuka past as then accepted. Both were intent on erasing tribal awareness, and in this they were assisted by the schools and texts of the Livingstonia Mission. It is in this context that the whole question of language policy arose, and decisions were made about language policy which are still felt today.

Hansard 4 (199) 26/2/77
Foreign loan of former Department of
Information

254

214 Dr Z. J. DE BEER asked the Minister
of Finance

Whether the foreign loan referred to in paragraph 11 352 on page 77 of the report of the Commission of Inquiry into Alleged Irregularities in the former Department of Information was negotiated by or on behalf of the Department of Information, if so, (a) by whom, (b) what was (i) the amount of the loan and (ii) the interest rate, (c) what were the repayment terms and (d) for what purpose was the money used

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

Yes.

(a) Dr E M Rhodie

(b) (i) 1,5 million U S Dollar

(ii) One and three-quarter per cent net above the interest rate the lender could have obtained on investment of a similar amount in U S Dollar on the London Inter-bank Money Market

(c) 250 000 U S Dollar payable on 17 January of each year with effect from 17 January 1978 and a final instalment of 500 000 U S Dollar on 17 January 1982 (The loan has been repaid in full)

(d) For the financing of current projects

Info report amazes Schwarz

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. The national chairman of the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Harry Schwarz, yesterday described the reported allegation by the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, that the entire Randfontein constituency executive knew the details of the secret activities of the defunct Department of Information as "amazing"

He said an explanation was

now required from the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, as to how it could be that the 50 members of the Randfontein constituency executive of the National Party apparently knew details of the secret activities of the former department, when members of the Cabinet were not given details

"The prime minister will obviously have to deal with it. It creates an amazing situation,"

he said.

It was "quite remarkable" that such secret information could have been given to the Randfontein executive and not to the Cabinet. It would have to be established precisely what the constituency executive knew.

According to a report in the Sunday Times, Dr Mulder disclosed at a farewell party in his constituency on Saturday that the entire 50-man constitu-

ency executive of the party knew details of the secret activities "for all these years"

The regional chairman of the party in the area, Mr Piet Genis, was reported to have endorsed his claim by stating "We knew all about it"

Yesterday Mr Genis declined to make any comment. He referred inquiries to the chairman of the divisional executive of party for the area, Mr Nick

Smuts.

Mr Smuts said as far as he could recall, Dr Mulder had said that he had kept the executive in his constituency "in touch with" (op hoogte gehou) with what was happening in the former department

He claimed this had not entailed disclosures of details or the secret activities of the former department

Dr Mulder could not be contacted yesterday.

Hennie Serfontein answers back

HENNIE SERFONTEIN, the South African journalist who was linked to the scandal surrounding the Department of Information after a question in the House of Assembly by the SAP member for Simonstown, Mr John Wiley on how much he had been paid by the Department of Information for a book he was contracted to write but never delivered issued a statement last night

Here it is in full

With reference to certain press reports and questions in Parliament about my alleged links with the Department of Information and payments received from them, the following should be noted

1 It is absolutely untrue that I ever had a "contractual relationship" with the Department of Information, or have been paid any monies by the Department or have been in any manner directly or indirectly involved with the Department

2 I was approached in July or August by the newly founded Foreign Affairs Association and entered an agreement to write a book about Vorster's detente efforts I had, as many others, accepted the bona fides of the organization and regarded it as an institute which, among others, intended to do honest research work For not a moment did I believe at that stage nor did I know or suspect that it was financed with government

money

If I had known I would obviously not have touched it with a barge pole

In terms of the agreement, if I remember a fee would have been paid to me by the time of delivery of the manuscript, and expenses needed for the preparation to be paid in the meantime — a standard agreement by research institutes the world over

3 It is important to know that at that stage there existed no suspicion about the association Its work was welcomed by outspoken black and white opponents of the government, as well as in government circles which today are leading the Information witch hunt

4 In May 1975 I was an organizer of a private conference about detente held in Gaborone It had, among others the support of President Kaunda and was attended by leading Zambians, supporters of the present Patriotic Front of Mozambique, of Ian Smith and by black and white South Africans representing all political views such as Percy Qoboza editor of The World and Ton Vosloo editor of Beeld This meeting prepared the way for the important conference at Victoria Bridge in August 1975 between Vorster Kaunda Smith and black Rhodesians

This Gaborone conference was sponsored by the Foreign Affairs Association, a fact which was made public at the time

The association also organized in October 1975 a big multi racial conference about internal detente held

at Tuitfloop and which was attended by the most outspoken anti government black and white South Africans

5 In October 1975 certain monies were paid to me to cover my costs for a ten day visit to London with the specific and only purpose to obtain the perspective from the black side about the detente developments

During this visit I obtained the cooperation of one of the most prominent black African journalists for the book He would have delivered a chapter or two about the Rhodesian negotiations and as a private arrangement a part of my fee

This person and all the dozens of black contacts with whom I discussed the subject in London and Lusaka knew that the association would finance the book This fact was never hidden in African circles because the bona fides of the association were accepted

I also never regarded it as a secret and there are several journalists and other acquaintances who were aware of this

6 The manuscript was never completed This was partly due to the failure and collapse of the detente efforts and the deterioration of the Southern African situation

However by February 1976 I personally had strong doubts about the academic integrity, objectivity and independence of the association, and began to suspect that it was direct or indirect an instrument of the government, although I could obtain no evidence for this

This was as a result of the so called Totemeyer case Dr Gerhard Totemeyer of the University of Stel-

lenbosch was asked by the association to write a book about Namibia He submitted the manuscript at the beginning of 1976 Astonishingly the association rejected the manuscript

According to a letter of March 1976 to Dr Totemeyer (of which I received a copy in confidence) the manuscript was unacceptable because Totemeyer was allegedly pro-Swago, it would embarrass the government and it would damage the Turnhalle Constitutional Conference

These false, unacademic, clearly party political and fictitious reasons to reject Totemeyer's book convinced me that no objective and critical book about detente would be acceptable for the association

The result was that my own publishing company accepted the Totemeyer manuscript and published it in 1977 to prevent this important research from being silenced for political reasons

I also realized that my own credibility and professional journalistic integrity would be affected should I do any work for the association

At a later stage, Dr C. de Villiers, the previous director, informed me that because of the Southern African developments his books was abandoned

7 The fact is thus that I made not one cent out of the planned book With the exception of one occasion when my direct expenses were covered, no monies were paid to me

Those who are at this stage deliberately sending distorted and false information about my alleged links with Information around the world do so apparently because they do not like my reporting, especially about developments in Southern Africa

Journalists give evidence

6. Please complete together with the enclosed Registration Form
 together with the enclosed Registration Form
 payable to the University of Cape Town, Private
 Fee (R7.00) to the Dean, University of Cape Town, Private
 Bag, Rondebosch, 7700, Cape Town, for the Registration
 Fee (R13.00), if applicable,
 to the Dean, University of Cape Town, Private
 Bag, Rondebosch, 7700, Cape Town, for the Registration
 Fee (R13.00), if applicable,
 to the Dean at the above
 address or telephone number 289.

PRETORIA — Four journalists gave evidence here yesterday before the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry into the activities of the former Department of Information, the secretary of the commission, Mr J G Geysers said.

They were Mr A H Sparks, editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Mrs J E L de May of the Sunday Express, Mr K F Owen of the Sunday Times and Mr Benjamin Pogrand, of the Rand Daily Mail.

The commission would hear more evidence this afternoon, Mr Geysers said — Sapa.

nclosed Registration Form
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 iversity of Cape Town, Private
 to the Dean at the above
 . 289.

B; DETAILED PROGRAMME

Saturday 17th February (Course Information Lectures) Beattie Building

<u>Time</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Venue</u>
9 - 9.50 a.m.	Social Anthropology	Beattie Theatre
10 - 10.50 a.m.	Archaeology	Room B. 115
10 - 10.50 a.m.	Public Administration	B. 114
11 - 11.50 a.m.	Economic History	B. 105
11 - 11.50 a.m.	Speech and Drama	B. 106
2 - 2.50 p.m.	Political Science	Beattie Theatre
2 - 2.50 p.m.	Librarianship	Room B. 27
3 - 3.50 p.m.	Calculus	B. 106
4 - 4.50 p.m.	History	Beattie Theatre
5 - 5.50 p.m.	Sociology	Beattie Theatre
8 - 8.50 p.m.	Religious Studies	Beattie Theatre
9 - 9.50 p.m.	African Languages	Room B. 114

Sunday, 18th February (Student Workshop) Arts Block

10 - 12.00 p.m.	Afrikaans/Nederlands	Room A. 2
"	Social Anthropology	A. 4
"	Archaeology	A. 6
"	Classics	A. 8
"	Cultural History	A. 102
"	Philosophy	A. 10
"	Economic History	A. 12
"	German	A. 16
"	Hebrew	A. 105
"	History	A. 107
"	Political Science	A. 111
"	French/Italian	A. 117
"	Speech and Drama	A. 101
"	Religious Studies	A. 109
"	Public Administration	A. 113
"	Librarianship/Music	A. 201

Monday, 19th February (Course Information Lectures) Beattie Building

9 - 9.50 a.m.	Afrikaans/Nederlands	Beattie Theatre
10 - 10.50 a.m.	French Intensive	Room B. 115
10 - 10.50 a.m.	French I	B. 105
10 - 10.50 a.m.	Education	B. 106
10 - 10.50 a.m.	Law	B. 114

Rhodie talks to SA journalist

259

243
28/2/79
10

CAPE TOWN — The South African journalist, Mr John D'Oliveira, yesterday claimed to have found the missing former Secretary of Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, "somewhere in South America"

Writing for the Argus Group of newspapers, Mr D'Oliveira said he would be publishing the first interview with Dr Rhodie since he left the country.

The interview will be published in the Argus newspapers this afternoon.

He wrote. "Our meeting in an obscure South American state was the outcome of weeks of investigation, weeks of following false leads, incorrect trails and cul de sacs.

"It is not possible for me to reveal at this moment where I am seeing Dr Rhodie — even though others may now guess the name of the town.

"My reasons for not revealing the address will become clear today."

Mr D'Oliveira, who is an assistant to the editor of The Star in Johannesburg, said he had traced Dr Rhodie to the home of a business associate with whom he had been staying.

"He was only slightly taken aback when I

telephoned him and told him I was speaking from a hotel only a few kilometres from the home in which he was staying. He recovered quickly, greeted me warmly, but warned he was not prepared to talk to anybody at this stage."

Dr Rhodie had, however, later agreed to have lunch on condition that he did not reveal the identity of his hosts, that he did not reveal the precise whereabouts and that he did not try to take any photographs of him.

Mr D'Oliveira said that Dr Rhodie had discussed South African politics and economics, the world situation and the state of his health. He apparently refused to answer questions about the Information scandal, but he did reveal that he was working in the publications field and this was keeping him almost as busy as he had been in South Africa.

He also denied that he had ever been in Brazil and confirmed that reports to this effect in South African newspapers had been completely false.

"The last time I was in Brazil was in 1974 when I was there on official business," Dr Rhodie is reported to have said.

He refused to answer

any question about his wife, Katie, and would not even say whether she was somewhere else in South America.

Mr D'Oliveira says: "When we turned to less personal questions, to questions about alleged illegal money transactions, about his relationships in the South African Government, about his views on events since his flight from his homeland, Dr Rhodie's response was clearly thought out in advance.

"He did in fact phrase his answers with care making sure that I accurately recorded each response."

In Cape Town last night, there was considerable speculation as to what Dr Rhodie had told the Argus Group in his interview. Since his departure from South Africa on November 8 last year, shortly after he returned from overseas to give evidence to the Erasmus Commission, Dr Rhodie has until now escaped detection throughout the world.

There has been speculation that he has been in London, France, Italy, Brazil and in Israel as well as Switzerland.

However, this is the first time that any one has claimed to have found him — PC

259

V d Bergh promoted 2 days after joining

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY —
Two days after joining the SA Police Force in 1949, second class Detective Sergeant H J van den Bergh was promoted to Detective Warrant Officer. Nineteen years later he was transferred from the SAP to the Department of National Security as Lieutenant-General H J van den Bergh.

This information was made available yesterday in a written reply by the Minister of Police, Mr Jimmy Kruger, to a question by Mr John Malcomess (NRP East London North).

Mr Malcomess asked whether General Van den Bergh had been a member of the police force on December 1, 1948 if not, when he had become a member and at which rank, when he had been promoted and when he had retired.

Mr Kruger replied that Gen-

eral Van den Bergh had not been a member of the police force on December 1, 1948. He had joined the force on August 1, 1949 as a second class detective sergeant.

On August 3, 1949, he had been promoted to detective warrant officer and on March 15, 1950 to lieutenant.

On May 1, 1953, he was promoted to captain and on December 1, 1959, to major. On November 1, 1961, he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel and on January 1, 1964, to colonel. On April 1, 1964, he became a brigadier (assistant commissioner).

He achieved the rank of major-general on June 1, 1966, and on April 1, 1968, he was promoted to lieutenant-general.

"On October 1, 1968, he was transferred to the Department of National Security," Mr Kruger said — Sapa.

/cont :

1970/71
1969/70
1968/69
1967/68
1966/67
1965/66
1964/65
1963/64
1962/63
1961/62

Date

OUTPUT AND P

Secondly, Table IX, tabulates output and productivity growth rates over

to 2 000 000.

the period 1970-1979 when unemployment is projected to rise much faster, the rate going from 12% to 19% and the number from 1 000 000

smoothed unemployment number from 700 000 to 1 000 000;

the smoothed unemployment rate rising from 10% to 12% and the

the period 1961-1969 when unemployment was increasing quite slowly,

paper. The period falls into two sections :

1975-1979. This confirms the Legassick view quoted at the head of the throughout the period 1961-1974, and are projected to do so over the period. Firstly, both the numbers of unemployed and unemployment rate, have risen

The following conclusions may be drawn from this study :

VIII. CONCLUSIONS.

sanguine view of the situation.

ment, whether in the EDPs or by politicians, take an altogether too sequentially, this paper argues that official pronouncements about unemployment procedure embodies a more reasonable set of judgements. Con- In the light of the considerations just adduced, it seems to me that the

Erasmus ^{STAR}
evidence ^{28/2/79}
with police ⁽²⁵⁴⁾

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — The Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, said last night that the evidence of the Erasmus Commission was being sifted by six officers of the Police Commercial Branch with a view to criminal prosecutions.

He told a National Party meeting in Bellville he knew there were nationalists who were unhappy because General Hendrik van den Bergh and Dr Eschel Rhoodie were not being prosecuted. But important matters were at stake, such as the interests of the country and the fact that the police must first investigate.

The Government felt strongly about mistakes that had taken place in the former Department of Information, but information was only discussed twice in the Cabinet. This was when Dr Rhoodie was appointed and once when the former department wanted to erect a very high building in Pretoria.

"We say we are sorry about it. Many things the department did were positive, but the negative dominated the positive, also in the results it had for the country."

The Minister read from the Erasmus Commission's report that the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, the present Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, and the Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, were guilty of nothing.

Rhodie ^{3 AK} won't be ^{28/2/79} tried—Jaap

The Star's Africa
News Service

259

WINDHOEK — The South African Government would not bring Dr Eschel Rhodie, former secretary of the now defunct Department of Information to trial, because he knew "too much," the leader of the Herstigte Nasionale Party, Mr Jaap Marais, said last night

Addressing a meeting advertised as an "HNP Blanke Saamtrek," Mr Marais said the Government feared that Dr Rhodie would expose the roles played by others in the Information debacle

Before leaving South Africa, Dr Rhodie was in possession of documentary proof of complicity of "high-ranking government people"

Mr Marais related a tale in which Dr Rhodie is alleged to have tapped his briefcase and said "They won't touch me Here is my insurance policy"

Mr Marais said that R57-million had been channelled from the Department of Defence's equipment (toerusting) fund to Rhodie's department

But, said Mr Marais, when Mr Botha became Prime Minister, retaining also the Defence portfolio — he promised the people of South Africa an honest administration

He also called on the State President, Mr B J Vorster, to resign and "accept his responsibility" in the affair

Eschel Rhoodie is talking to Government

STAR (259)
28/2/79

▶ From page 1

speaking from a hotel only a few kilometres from the home in which he was a guest

Quickly he added "If you think I am going to talk, forget about it. I have deliberately not spoken to any journalist and I do not intend speaking to anybody at this stage. So, I am afraid you have come a very long way for nothing. Forget about me, and just enjoy the magnificent scenery and the other things that this place can offer."

Dr Rhoodie made it clear that he was not prepared to continue the conversation. However, we switched to an off-the-record discussion.

PLEDGES

After a long talk he eventually agreed to meet me for lunch at the hotel in which I was staying.

But he agreed only after I had promised him that

● I would not reveal the identity of his hosts or his own precise whereabouts.

● I would not expect him to discuss the Information affair, or his role in that affair, or what he thought of the Erasmus Commission or what he intended doing about it

● I would not take any photographs of him, either covertly or openly

Dr Rhoodie arrived, smiling and punctual. He was dressed in grey flannels, a navy-blue blazer, a striped shirt and a tie.

During the lunch he impressed me with the fluency which he ordered our food — I had forgotten that Dr Rhoodie is at home in both Spanish and

German in addition to English and his native Afrikaans

The lunch was friendly and Dr Rhoodie was more than polite. We ate the hotel's well-known fruit platter, because Dr Rhoodie, who neither drinks nor smokes, smilingly said that he had to keep in condition. Later he told me that he walked at least 12 km every day to keep fit.

He quipped about the privilege of having lunch in South Africa on The Star. Throughout the lunch we switched easily from English to Afrikaans

When I tried to get him to talk about himself or the Information affair or anything remotely associated with the Information affair, he would divert the conversation, saying "You know I will not talk about those things. . . this is the basis on which we have met"

I asked "What about the fact that your passport has been withdrawn? How do you travel?"—"I am not prepared to discuss anything of that nature"

"Are you prepared to come back to South Africa?"—"Sorry, I am not prepared to comment on that question."

Then Dr Rhoodie added, fairly vigorously

Rhodie lawyer silent

Pretoria Bureau

Dr Eschel Rhoodie's Pretoria attorney, Mr Mervyn Gross, today refused to admit or deny that he was responsible for keeping his client in touch with the South African Government.

Approached for com-

"My friend, you are wasting your time, really you are. I am not prepared to discuss anything of that nature with you or with anybody else at this stage. And you may as well accept it or else you will be just wasting your own and my time — and I am afraid I am a very busy man right now. You must accept that I cannot speak about the things you are now questioning me on"

After further questioning, he said "Why not write all your questions down, then write next to them 'No comment'?"

And so I had to shelve questions like

● Have you been in contact with Dr Connie Mulder since you have left South Africa?

● Has South Africa made any approaches to you to return?

● Who was involved in the planning stages of The Citizen?

● What about the properties bought in your own name?

● Who was involved in the top planning of secret projects?

● Why did you leave South Africa?

● What passport are you travelling on?

● What about the South African Government's request that you return your passport?

● Where is your home, and to what coun-

tries does your job take you?

● Has any attempt been made by either the Erasmus Commission or the Pretorius Commission, or any of their representatives, to meet you?

However, during the conversation, certain aspects came up which Dr Rhoodie briefly commented on, choosing his words very carefully and checking to see that I was recording them accurately

DISAPPOINTMENT

Like his disappointment because the Erasmus Commission has not released its full evidence

Like the fact that he had a job. Or the question of him being "on the run"

"To those who believe that I am on the run and that I am living off money that is not my own, I just want to say that, as I am gainfully employed, I am anything but on the run"

When I tried to question him further on his job "I would rather not discuss my job or give you any details about it because this is obviously nothing to do with anybody but myself and my family"

OK, so I knew when I had come up against a brick wall, and, a few unanswered questions later I had to give up — my surrender marked by a wide smile from Dr Rhoodie

And, as the taxi in which he was travelling pulled away, he called back to me "Thanks for the excellent lunch. It was good talking to you. We must really do it again sometime"

He was gone before I could ask him when and where.

No govt pact with Rhoodie, says PW Botha

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said yesterday that the government was not prepared to come to any agreement with the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie.

Nor, he said, would the government allow itself to be "blackmailed" by Dr Rhoodie or the Opposition.

Mr Botha was speaking after the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, had referred to press reports that Dr Rhoodie was in Ecuador and was in contact with the government.

He asked whether Dr Rhoodie, in his communications, had sought indemnity from prosecution.

Mr Botha said the government did not know where Dr Rhoodie was, nor did it have any direct contact with him. All communications had been through Dr Rhoodie's lawyer, who had been told the government was prepared to give Dr Rhoodie travel documents to return to the

Andromaque
Britannic
Berence
Mithridat
Iphigene
Phedre, e
Athalia,

5. Racine, wit

Dr Rhoodie, through his lawyer, had made "certain representations" in a letter without an address handed to the Foreign Minister, Mr P W Botha. The letter had been answered via the lawyer.

PFP walkout

"The government is not prepared to come to any agreement in respect of any matter identified by the Erasmus Commission or which may be identified by the Erasmus Commission or any other body," Mr Botha stated.

The Information scandal, raised again during the "mini budget" debate by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, led to some stormy exchanges and a walkout by Progressive Federal Party members when the Speaker limited interjections and points of order during Mr Botha's speech.

The PFP is to hold a special caucus meeting today to discuss the events which led to nine of its members leaving the Assembly.

Mr Eglin raised a series of questions about the government's handling of the Information affair including the sale of the Citizen printing press to the Nationalist group Perskor without government tender, and the whereabouts of Dr Rhoodie.

Mr Botha entered the debate directly after Mr Eglin. There were immediate Opposition interjections when he said he had dealt fully in earlier debates with the question of the Citizen press and the company SA Today, with which government ties had been broken last November.

The government, under his leadership, had stated that "this thing must come to an end, now and immediately."

Mr Botha said there had been allegations the government had "given the thing to our pals". He was not ashamed of his "pals", but he wondered whether the Opposition was

When Mr Botha started talking about Dr Rhoodie, Opposi-

Following options. Not more than two

Books for Papers 3 and 4

(FRENCH) - 1979

Y OF CAPE TOWN

C. Times
1/3/79

259

JOHANNESBURG — Dr Eschel Rhoodie appears to be on the move again — and indications last night were that he had left Ecuador for an undisclosed destination.

The Nationalist newspaper, Beeld, reported yesterday that the former Secretary for Information and central figure in the Information scandal was living with a businessman, Mr Herman Klein, in Quito, the capital of Ecuador

But last night Mr Klein denied all knowledge of Dr Rhoodie and suggested newspapers may have mistaken him for someone else of the same name

It was suggested that the reporter speak to Mr Harry Klein, also of Quito.

When a reporter phoned Mr Harry Klein he appeared to be surprised. In a short conversation before he put down the phone he admitted meeting Dr Rhoodie in Quito 10 days ago and said he thought Dr Rhoodie had left.

He said Dr Rhoodie had been staying in Quito for a few days and "had a letter of recommendation".

When questioned further, Mr Klein put down the phone.

Later, the reporter phoned Mr Klein again. This time he was more forthcoming.

Mr Klein said he was a banker and had been introduced to Dr Rhoodie at a social occasion in Quito.

He said there were about 20 people at a party, but could not remember who had introduced him. "I think he was introduced as a Dutchman, but I didn't ask him where he was from."

He denied Dr Rhoodie had stayed with him or that they had had any business dealings.

He said he did not know with whom Dr Rhoodie had been staying, but thought he had left Ecuador on Tuesday.

Asked why he thought this, he said "This is a small town and everybody knows everybody else. He did not know where Dr Rhoodie had gone."

Meanwhile, Barry Streek reports that the first South African journalist to find Dr Rhoodie got very little out of the man who once headed the government's secret funds.

The journalist, Mr John D'Oliveira, of the Argus group of newspapers, was told by Dr Rhoodie he did

Rhoodie traced to Ecuador

259

DD 1/3/79

not want to say anything because he was in communication with the South African Government

Mr D'Oliveira would only say that Dr Rhoodie was "somewhere in South America"

Dr Rhoodie was quoted as saying "You must understand I am in communication with the South African Government and I do not want to give anybody the excuse to say I abused my position or that I acted improperly in talking to the press"

He would not add anything to this statement other than to say the contact was being conducted through his Pretoria lawyer, Mr Mervyn Gross

Dr Rhoodie is also quoted as saying "I want to make no comment whatsoever, except to say I am bitterly sorry the full evidence before the commission has not been released for everybody in South Africa to see — and come to their own conclusions"

He would not discuss what travel documents he had been using since his passport had been withdrawn, nor whether he was prepared to come back to South Africa

Die Vaderland, the Johannesburg Nationalist afternoon newspaper, said yesterday the government knew where to find Dr Rhoodie overseas "from time to time"

The newspaper quoted the Minister of the Interior, Mr Alwyn Schlébusch, as saying that it was not easy to have a person extradited

DDC-PC

MPs walk out, page 2

Chairman : J.P. de V. van Nie
 David Bourne Health
 J.P. du Plessis Nutrit
 M.D. McGrath Health

Tuesday Morning (8.30)

Film : The Seeds of Health

Introductory Thoughts : Be

Structure of Conference :

Chairman, Samst

Welcome : Marius Barnard

Monday Evening (8.00)

PLENARY SES

THE ECONOMICS OF H

Regular domestic periodicals/publications
of former Department of Information
43 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the
Minister of Foreign Affairs †

Whether the Information Service of South Africa is continuing the publication of all the regular domestic periodicals and publications of the former Department of Information, if not, (a) which regular periodicals and publications have been discontinued, (b) for what reason have they been discontinued and (c) what saving has resulted from such discontinuance

The ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Yes

(a), (b) and (c) fall away

FERRY NORMA SHAKES HER FIST

259

Just Feb

4/3/79

**I'll take
action
against
critics
who
said
I was
linked
to
Info
scandal**

CONTRVERSIAL film producer and former beauty queen Norma Foster yesterday denied that there are any "sinister" connotations in her connections with the Department of Information and that she had ever had anything but official dealings with either Dr Eschei Rhoodie or Dr Connie Mulder.

"I hardly ever saw or met Dr Rhoodie and Dr Mulder — and then only in the department and on business," he said.

She also denied she had seen Dr Rhoodie overseas. Meanwhile, Miss Norma Foster is tackling her many critics head-on. On Friday she testified to the Erasmus Commission and then threatened to take action against "every-one who had defamed her" by linking her to the Information scandal.

On her return to South Africa this week, the Miss South Africa of 1959, sailed into a sea of troubles, determined not

Norma Foster: I had only official dealings with them.

By Peter Fabricius

to go under.

Worst of all was the R489 920 she owes to the Trust Bank. This was what the original R120 000 she had loaned for her TV series, *Wildlife in Crisis*, had grown into.

The bristling Miss Foster slammed the Press for saying that the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, had got her the loan.

The reports backed this claim by saying that Miss Foster had provided no security for the loan. The same allegation was made by the Trust Bank this week when it applied for the liquidation of Miss Foster's film company, *Normavor Productions (Pty.) Ltd.*

Security

Miss Foster angrily complained of the "sinister connotations which have been placed on the loan. When the newspapers say

Miss Foster was reluctant to elaborate on the Trust Bank loan because she said she was negotiating with the bank Her attorney, Mr Raymond Joffe, told the Sunday Tribune that they were asking for a few more months grace — before liquidation — because they believed that Miss Foster's films would not only bring in the money, but also make a profit.

Miss Foster denied she had no security for the loan. She said she had given in security "world wide contracts" on her films and other securities. "well in excess of the loan amount." She said she could not reveal the other securities because of delicate negotiations.

Not the least of the former beauty queen's problems — considering the sort of work she does — is that of weight. She doesn't mind admitting it's a problem. Asked if it was damaging to her career she said: "You bet."

Miss Foster said an ac-

ed-her weight

259

4/3/79

out security then people begin to imagine all sorts of things," she said.

Miss Foster denied that she had ever had anything but official dealings with either Dr Eschel Rhoodie, former Secretary of Information, or Dr Mulder.

"I have nothing to do with the connotations which the Press has placed on my dealings with the Department of Information.

"Everyone who sends films overseas has to deal with the Department of Information and the Department of the Interior to get permission. I would never have got permission if I went around them."

Miss Foster said she had also helped the department overseas. "If people wouldn't listen to our case and I could help by picking up a phone and speaking to a politician in the States, I would."

"I did this not only for the Government but for the opposition — in fact for my country. I am concerned about the people outside learning how South Africa ticks.

"I am fortunate that, through my position in media, I know a lot of people overseas and am able to get on the phone to them."

She said that it was at her suggestion that Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, Mrs Helen Suzman, Mr Ian Smith and Mr Ndabaningi Sithole and Dr Mulder had spoken to the World Affairs Council in Los Angeles.

"I have often brought hostile witnesses. But the whole point is communication." Miss Foster decried the "fixation about Information. I saw it as my duty to send cuttings to all departments not just Information.

Patriotic

"There are very few departments. I haven't helped as a patriotic South African. When Barry Goldwater was here I had long chats with him."

But Miss Foster denied introducing Dr Mulder to Ford in America, as has been claimed. "I would never have gone above the State Department there or our Foreign Affairs."

Miss Foster said she was going through all the Press clippings and giving the newspapers who had written "rubbish" about her the chance to straighten out their report "or go to the Press Council."

"To destroy people's lives and careers is not Press freedom," she said.

"As far as I'm concerned Dr Rhoodie and Co are officials only and where I can deal with them officially I will."

problem, when she injured her back, and this had prevented her taking exercise. The injury also prevents her "bouncing over the veld in a Land-Rover," and doing the other things she has to do in her wildlife films.

Camel

"A fall from a camel in the Kalahari Desert is not directly connected," she added.

She also hit back at the President Hotel, Johannesburg which claims she owes R1 000 for expenses during a stay and after the International Wildlife Congress in 1976.

Miss Foster, who acted as VIP PRO of the congress, claims that the hotel itself was responsible for part of the R1 000.

"I'll pay when they sort out the two bills," she said.

Mr Aldo Grosso, general manager of the hotel said he was seeing his lawyers to decide what action to take in sorting out the muddle.

Miss Foster's attorney said there was some hitch over the overseas distribution of Normavor films.

He said Miss Foster was trying to decide whether to get the films back from an American distributor and distribute them herself or find a new distributor.

Norma tells her story

Here's the real truth about my links with Connie Mulder

BY DESMOND BLOW, Chief Reporter

FORMER Miss South Africa Norma Foster told me shortly after she had given evidence before the Erasmus Commission on Friday that she was a staunch-South African patriot and had done many things for the South African Government without being paid.

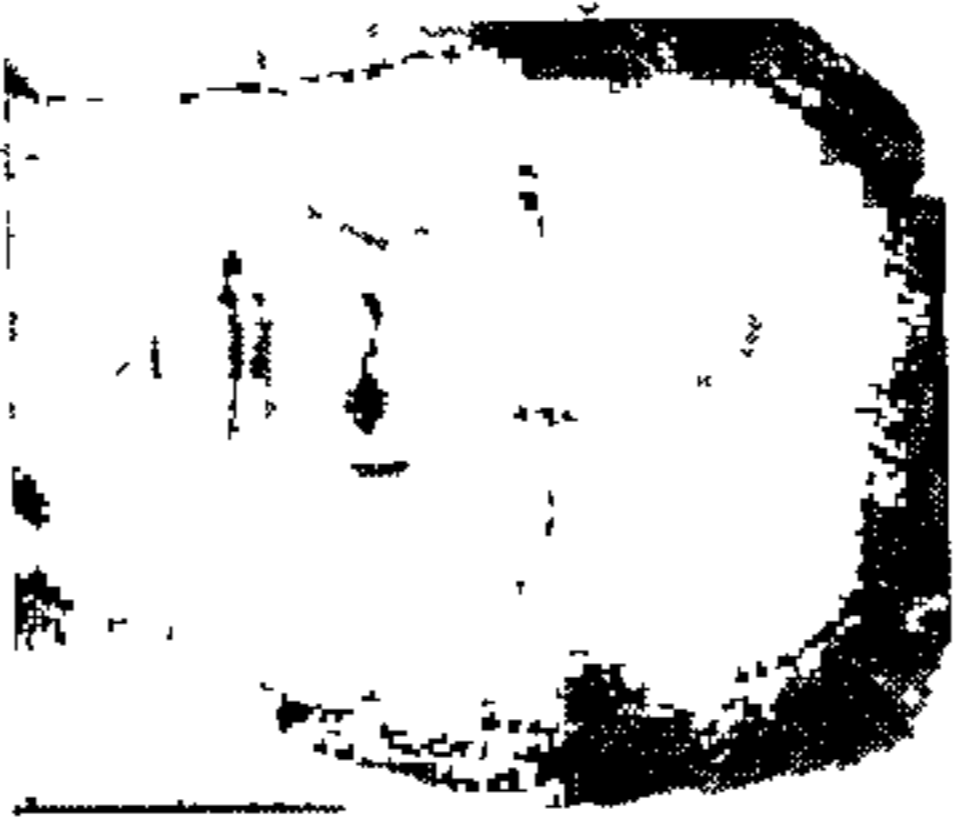
One of the things she had done was to throw a small dinner party at the luxury Hollywood restaurant, Chasens, in 1974 for Connie Mulder and Les de Villiers.

The other guests at the party were important people I thought could benefit South Africa. Among them was the British Consul General in San Francisco, the Consul General for the Dominican Republic, Mr and Mrs Light of the Southern California Broadcasting Corporation, and Mr and Mrs Stanley Meyers, who had important political contacts," Miss Foster said.

I also introduced them to the Black Mayor of Los Angeles, Tom Bradley.

However, she denied she had ever told anyone while she was filming her TV series, "Wildlife in Crisis", that she had introduced Connie Mulder to President Gerald Ford.

"I don't know Gerald Ford, although I have seen



● Dr Mulder saw TV preview

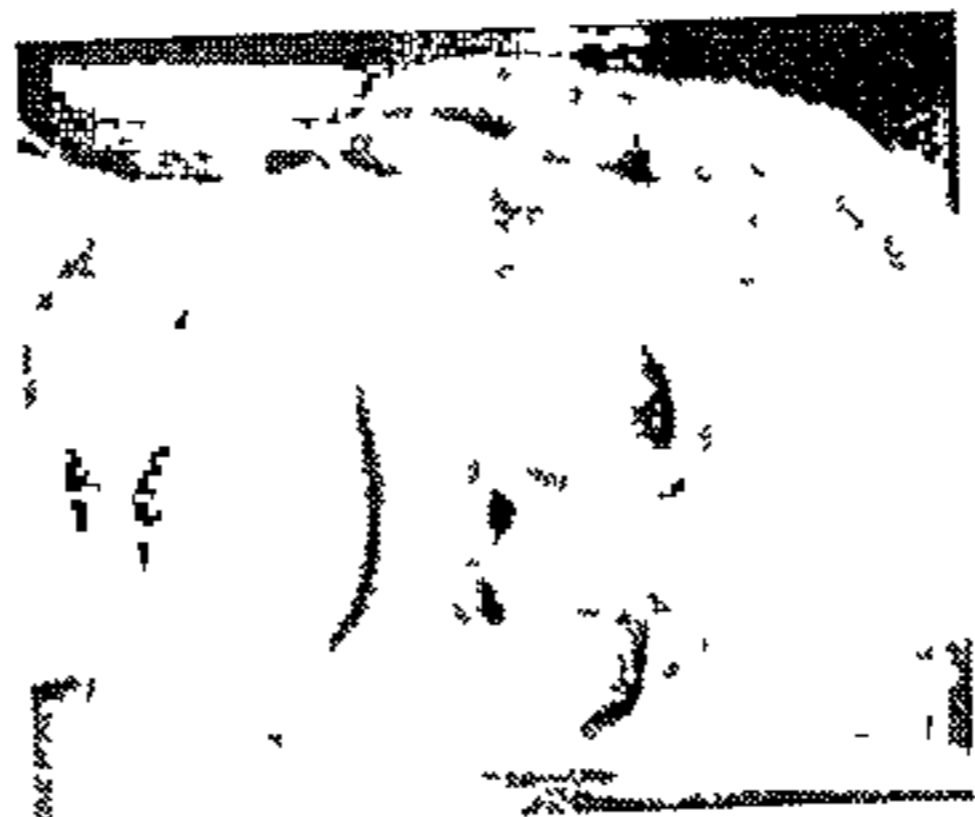
for South Africa in any way.

"What I did for South Africa I did out of patriotism, not for gain," she said.

Miss Foster, formerly Vorster, spent 90 minutes with the Erasmus Commission on Friday afternoon. She was accompanied by her attorney, Mr Raymond Joffe. Later she gave individual Press conferences to Sunday newspapers.

She said she had volunteered to come to South Africa to give evidence before the commission, but wanted to be free of the sub-judice ruling to make Press statements to defend her name and image after recent reports about her association with Connie Mulder and Eschel Rhoodie.

She said that adverse



● Mr Ford saw him at parties.

said, with newspapers which had "created the wrong impression".

Miss Foster denied that Dr Mulder had been instrumental in obtaining an overdraft of hundreds of thousands of rands for "Wildlife in Crisis" from the Trust Bank on her behalf by arrangement with Dr Jan Marais, then chairman of the bank.

"I obtained the overdraft in the normal way and put up more than sufficient surety for it," she said. "I cannot tell you what the surety was, because I am at present negotiating for a settlement with the bank and they are very delicate. But I can assure you that most of the R489 920 debt to the bank is for interest.

"In film making it

Press reports had implied she had used charm and sex appeal to obtain the huge overdraft, a subsidy, and an agreement with SAA not to pay for air tickets.

She told me angrily she had obtained all this by hard work and talent and by normal business practice.

"These reports imply I have no talent at all. I have been in the film game for 25 years and had made two TV documentary one-hour specials before I tackled 'Wildlife in Crisis'.

"It's a lie to say I obtained free air tickets from SAA. It was a barter arrangement — they obtained publicity in exchange for the tickets.

"The subsidy I obtained was the normal type of subsidy given by Government departments, such as SA-TOUR.

"It was to be used only for accommodation and meals in the game reserves for the filming of 'Wildlife in Crisis'.

"I budgeted so well that there was a balance of R11,91c in the subsidy after we had completed filming."

Miss Foster said she was a member of the South Africa Foundation and took an active part in assisting South Africa overseas as a "true patriot".

"I would write to various VIPs in South Africa, such as Dr Jan Marais, who was then chairman of the SA Foundation, suggesting



● Miss Foster waits with her attorney, Mr Raymond Joffe, before giving evidence to the Erasmus Commission

"It is true Dr Mulder introduced me to Dr Marais, but they did not

259

4/3/79

him about making 'Wildlife in Crisis' It was a normal business meeting.

"It is untrue that I often flew to Cape Town to see Jan Marais about increasing my overdraft and I have never been to his apartment in Cape Town

"I saw Dr Marais only twice in Cape Town. Once was when I attended an SA Foundation function and the second time when I flew to ask him about a further overdraft, but he told me he did not handle overdrafts."

Miss Foster said she had never met Eschel Rhoodie overseas, but had dealings with him in South Africa in the normal course of making her TV series.

Miss Foster confirmed she had held a preview of her first three films in the series and that it was attended only by Dr Mulder, his secretary and his chauffeur.

"But it is untrue that it was given especially for Dr

Park Hotel after the preview. I don't know who paid the bill. I was merely a guest."

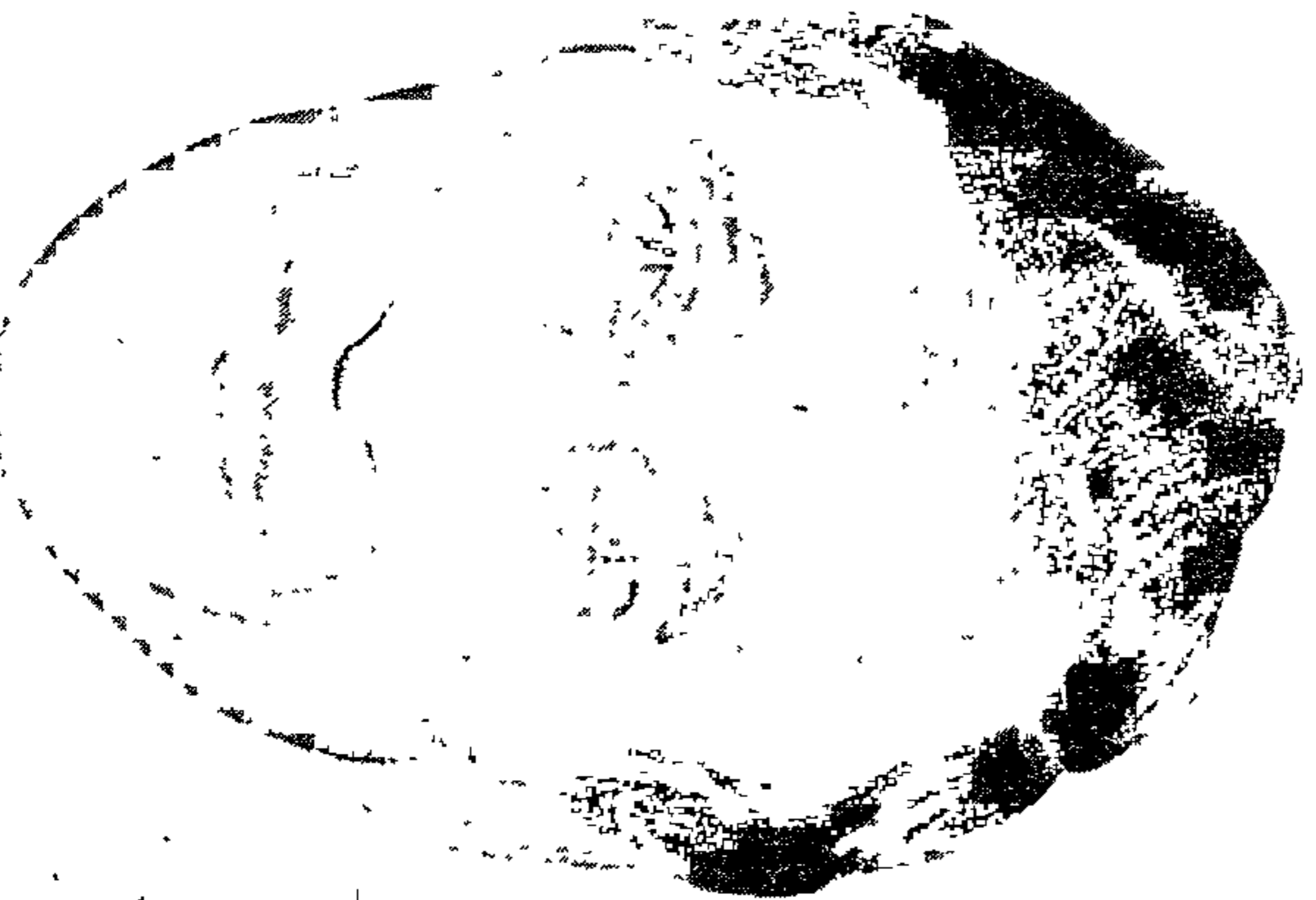
Miss Foster said it was true she had visited the Reserve Bank to see Mr. J. A. Senekal. "But there was nothing sinister in this visit. I had to see Mr. Senekal to arrange for the repatriation of money overseas in connection with salaries paid to overseas crew."

She said it was true she had important friends in high places, both in South Africa and overseas.

"And I have used these friends to the benefit of South Africa."

Miss Foster said that a year after she began her series, Dr Mulder and Mr Les de Villiers visited Los Angeles. She arranged a small dinner party at Chasens for them and introduced them to people she thought could assist South Africa.

RHODIE RUDIKWAATS



DR ESCHIEL Hy speel nou 'n troef.

OOOR

(259)

Verhoor 4/3/79 deur THINUS PRINSLOO

DR. ESCHIEL RHODIE gaan môre-oggend presies om agtuur die volle verhaal van sy aandeel in die Inligting-skandaal aan die oorsese pers uitblaker. Die name van hoë politieke figure wat glo saam met dr. Connie Mulder betrokke was, sal bekend gemaak word in bandopnames en dokumente wat aan die persmanne oorhandig sal word.

Dis sy laaste troëfkaart nadat onderhandelinge tussen hom en die Suid-Afrikaanse owerhede — met genl. Lang Hendrik van den Bergh as een van die bemiddelaars — afgespring het.

„Maandagoggend, 8-uur, is D-dag. Daarna is dit te laat en sal Suid-Afrika en die mense wat betrokke is, moet vat wat kom,” sê genl. Van den Bergh nadat hy Vrydagaand weer 'n half-

uur lank per telefoon met dr. Rhodie êrens in die buiteland gepraat het.

Ek het ook vasgestel dat

genl. Van den Bergh onlangs spesiaal na Kaapstad gehieg het in 'n poging om tot 'n vergelyk te kom sodat dr.

hom vra of ek hom êrens kan ontmoet, sal hy my sê waar hy is, maar ek—doen dit nie as 'n lokval vir enigeen nie. Ek is geen verraaier nie.

Kaapstad

„Ek soek nie skoor met die Re erin of eni e ander

baar maak nie. Dis het misluk.

Sewe jaar

Genl. Van den Bergh het gister gesê hy het "afdoende inligting dat dr. Rhoo die die punt staan om sy weergawe — alles wat gebeur het in sewe jaar en wat op band gestel is — aan die wêreldpers te gee.

Watter bewyse hy vir sy beweringe het, weet net hy alleen. My inligting is dat hy dit Maandag gaan oorhandig tot onvoorspelbare nadeel vir Suid-Afrika.

Ek het nie insae in sy weergawe gehad nie en ek weet nie wat daarin staan nie. Ek oordeel net op wat ek van tyd tot tyd van hom verneem het.

Enigste

Verwaand of nie, ek beskou myself vandag as die enigste mens in Suid-Afrika wat dr. Rhoo die kan beïnvloed om dit nie te doen nie. Daar is blykbaar niemand wat in so 'n weerhouding belangstel nie.

Genl. Van den Bergh het gesê dat die bandopnames en dokumente wat dr. Rhoo die môre gaan oorhandig, eers verwerk gaan word en dit sal eers die einde van die maand of op 1 April gepubliseer word.

Of ek hom nog in dié stadium kan beïnvloed (om nie die bande en dokumente te oorhandig nie), is 'n ander vraag. Stel maar vas wat met hom en sy vrou en hul eien-domme gebeur het in dié tyd.

Verraai nie

Ek was altyd onder die indruk dat dit die kernbasis is van Suid-Afrika se regsprosedure dat geen man skuldig is voordat hy skuldig bevind is in 'n onpartydige, regverdige hof waar hy die kans gehad het om sy saak te stel nie. Ek los dit net by daardie opmerking.

Genl. Van den Bergh het gesê dr. Rhoo die tree met hom in verbinding en hy weet nie waar hy is nie.

Ek is egter oortuig as ek

instansie nie. Maar ek verkrag ook nie my gewete nie. Genl. Van den Bergh wou nie kommentaar lewer toe.

• VERVOLG OP BL. 6

259

4/3/79

RETORIA SEHR'S HUSBAND TELLS OF ASTRAL TRIP TO RHODESIA

Eschel 'has a Bright future'

BY CLARE STERN

RETORIA clairvoyant
Maureen Murrays
is not surprised this
week when the elusive
Dr Eschel Rhoodie was
quoted in South Africa

She claims she knew he
- there all along
- and in an exclusive inter-
- view with the Sunday Ex-
- press she predicted the fu-
- ture of the central figure in
- South Africa's most sensa-
- tional political rumpus
"Dr Rhoodie has a bright
future ahead of him," she
told me

He will never lack mon-
- ey for his ideas and plans
- whether he works directly
- or through others"

Taxpayers who already
- feel they have been taken
- for a ride will claim Mrs
- Murrays - who believes
- she is descended from a
- witch in her Scottish-Gaelic
- past - doesn't have a leg to
- stand on or even a broom-
- stick to lean on

But as far back as 1969
- this amazing woman accu-
- rately predicted, almost to
- the month, the information
- fiasco

Earlier she had predicted
- the assassination of the
- Kennedy brothers
- She was threatened with
- a libel action when she cau-
- tioned people not to invest
- money in the shares of Cor-
- nwall Drive the real estate
- organisation that later
- crashed
- And long before the down-
- fall of Chaim Warner she

warned her building con-
- tractor husband not to ac-
- cept work from the propa-
- gandy magnate

More recently she fore-
- saw the Viscount atrocities
- in Rhodesia

Mrs Murrays is especial-
- ly intrigued by Dr Eschel
- Rhoodie's escapades

He will be brought back

that many more heads will
- roll when the next Eras-
- mus Commission report is
- released

She says the report will
- be more sensational and
- startling than the first and
- the ramifications far more
- extensive

Dr Connie Mulder, she
- says will re-enter politics

WHEN I first phoned Mrs Murrays' home, her
- husband, Mr Ian Murrays, said

"My wife went to China last night on her astral
- travels. She came back exhausted, after listening to a
- plan being outlined by China for better relations with
- America and Russia.

"Her last astral trip to Rhodesia was very taxing,"
- she returned with her toenails torn and arms
- scratched after climbing a rocky hill overlooking a
- meeting of African guerrilla leaders

"Once she returned with a red weal, from the
- outer edge of her armpit to her shoulder blade
- Anyone would think I had hit her with a cane."

The emotionally taxing business problems of chi-
- ents take up her day and the major part of the
- evening is spent organising tax affairs for the day ahead.

How does Mr Murrays cope, retiring to bed at
- night with a spouse who may take off at a moment's
- notice for Alaska or the Outer Hebrides?

"At least she doesn't ask me to pay for her air
- ticket," he said

to South Africa this year to
- face charges," she says

He will not be jailed
- merely fined

After the trial he will
- return to South America
- and business dealings in ad-
- vertising and communica-
- tions

Mrs Murrays predicts

but will never again reach
- the political heights he has
- known

He will have to labour
- hard politically and may
- possibly become an MP but
- never again a Cabinet Min-
- ister

She foresees SWA/Nami-
- bia as the scene of an at-

tempt on the life of a senior
- South African Cabinet Min-
- ister

Mrs Murrays says. The
- lid has been tightly kept on
- a pot that has been simmer-
- ing for some time

"This year it will explode
- in two further scandals"

A banking institution
- will come close to crashing
- and a business scandal, with
- tentacles stretching to other
- countries will be exposed

She also predicts further
- sanctions against South Af-
- rica, followed by violence
- directed against govern-
- ment personalities

Illness and death in the
- Government will cause con-
- cern in the National Party

The country will be
- stricken by a flu type epi-
- demic towards the end of
- the year

Traffic accidents and
- fires will increase greatly
- during the middle of the
- year

A further increase in the
- price of petrol will later be
- resented due to public dis-
- satisfaction

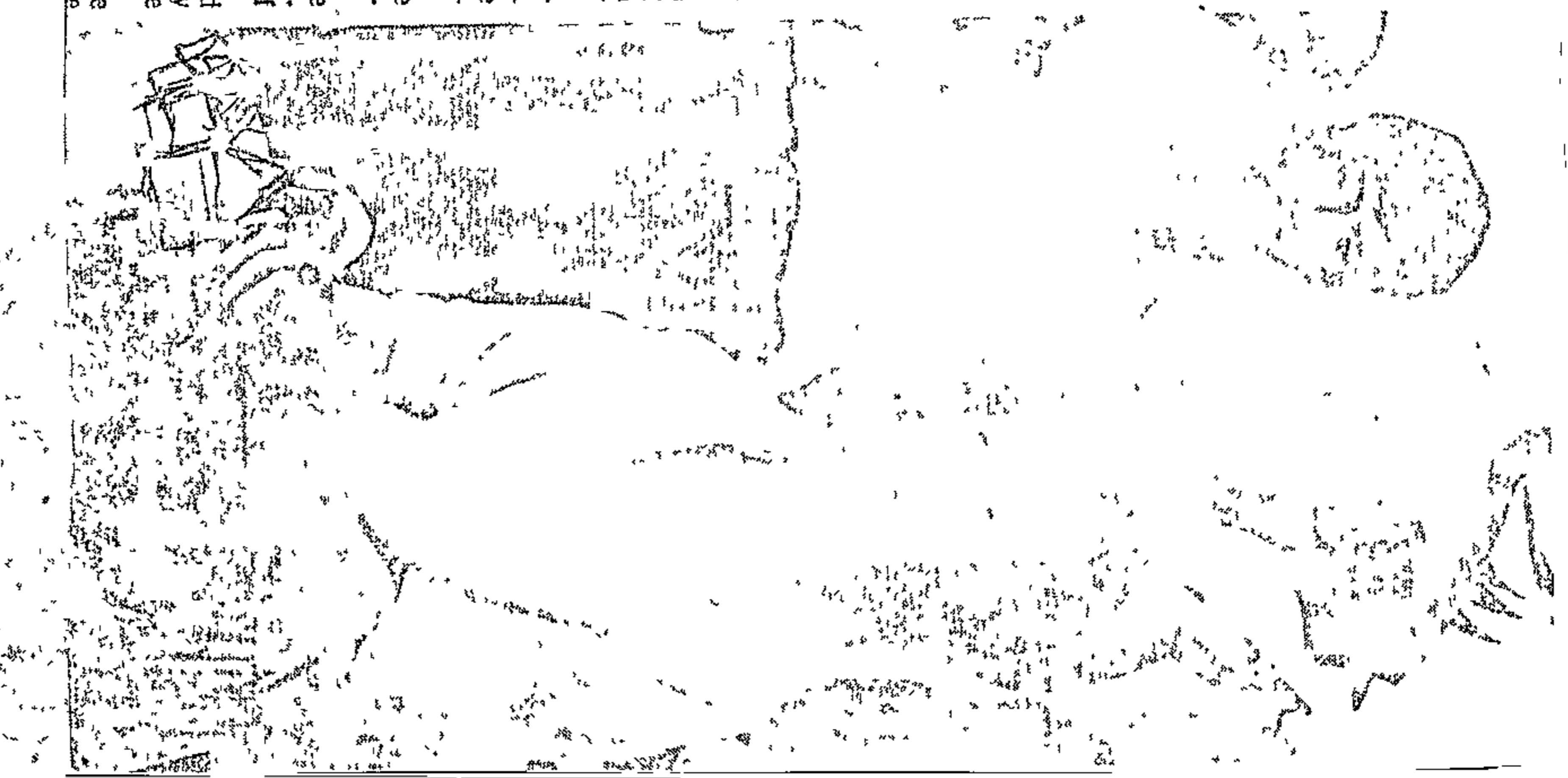
Through the year there
- will be many dramatic rob-
- beries and incidents of vio-
- lence in places of entertain-
- ment

People should exercise
- caution when travelling be-
- tween August 7 and Septem-
- ber 15, when there will be a
- spate of air sea and land
- accidents

Mrs Murray made these
- predictions for the Sunday
- Express after long delibera-
- tion and under great stress

Clairvoyant Maureen Murrays relaxes be-
- tween readings and astral travels at her Pretor-
- ia home. In the background is the late Alexis
- Preller's "Intaglio", one of the many paintings
- that fill her home

Picture by DOUG LEE



PM: I won't be blackmailed

5/3/79 DD

259

JOHANNESBURG — Dr Eschel Rhoodie's claims that he would make disclosures which would cause the resignation of the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, were "blackmail", Mr Botha said yesterday.

Mr Botha was reacting to reports that Dr Rhoodie, former Secretary for Information, would make disclosures in the wake of his efforts to negotiate a deal with the government for a safe return to South Africa

The combined opposition reacted by calling on the government for a full public disclosure on the information scandal

Mr Botha reacted to the reports by saying he would not be "blackmailed into a deal with anybody", and challenging Dr Rhoodie to return to South Africa and "do his talking here"

The reports said Dr Rhoodie was about to make disclosures through 41 tape recordings which would cause Mr Botha's resignation

Mr Botha undertook during the No-Confidence Debate to "resign and go to the country" if it could be proved any member of the existing Cabinet had had knowledge of the misuse of public funds involving the secret expenditure of the defunct Department of Information.

"I have seen the reports, but I do not want to say more than I said last week I am not prepared to do any deals with him and I am not prepared to be blackmailed by anybody," Mr Botha said yesterday

"If Dr Rhoodie has anything to say, why doesn't he come back and do it here before the Erasmus Commission?"

General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of National Security, said in an interview yesterday he would try to stop Dr Rhoodie from making disclosures that would be harmful to the country

would not be released as scheduled. But he made it clear Dr Rhoodie still intended to release the information

He indicated he would try to stop Dr Rhoodie, even if it entailed going overseas to see him

"If I can do anything to stop him, then I will do it.

"If I succeed in what I am doing, there will be no disclosures at all, much to the spite and sorrow of the newspapers"

General Van den Bergh said although he did not know what was contained in the 41 tapes and related documents, he was aware Dr Rhoodie was in a position to damage the government and South Africa

He said Dr Rhoodie had described the information he would release as a "bombshell" and he had regarded Dr Rhoodie's attitude as "very serious"

Dr Rhoodie had told him he had sold the information to "certain people", but these people were not in South Africa

He said Dr Rhoodie had told him he would release certain information that would cause the resignation of the Prime Minister. This information, given to him when Dr Rhoodie contacted him from an undisclosed venue on Thursday, related to the undertakings by Mr Botha to resign if it could be proved that any member of the existing Cabinet had knowledge of the secret funding of The Citizen

General Van den Bergh confirmed he had made a trip to Cape Town last Monday, but he refused to comment on whether it had had anything to do with Dr Rhoodie

He did say Dr Rhoodie had never asked him to do anything for him, as far as the government is concerned

ed him if Mr Mervyn Gross, Dr Rhoodie's attorney, had been in contact with him

Dr Rhoodie had told him that he had asked Mr Gross to contact him in connection with certain documents he had wanted General Van den Bergh to see, particularly a letter addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

According to the Sunday Times, Dr Rhoodie has given the government conditions for his silence including

- A public, personal apology by the Prime Minister

- The unconditional return of his South African passport

- The re-registration in his name of those properties seized by the government since he left South Africa last November

These conditions are believed to have been contained in a letter addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs — DDC

Editorial opinion, page 8

ment and South Africa

He would not explain how he knew, but claimed that information that Dr Rhoodie had said he would release at 8 am today

cerned"

Asked the purpose of Dr Rhoodie's call to him, General Van den Bergh said Dr Rhoodie had given no reason. But he had ask-

General Van den Bergh at home yesterday. He said Dr Rhoodie had described the information he would release as a "bombshell" and he regarded Dr Rhoodie's attitude as "very serious".

Rhoadie's ultimatum to PM

services.

"It is all right of Parliament to work see a child. Purely medi 9 October a Town into own panel concentrate

From Page 1 ship with the Press has also become friends, but only after I have first given them hell. For months now they have had licence to hunt me, to attack me," he said.

Commenting on the effect of the Erasmus commission findings about him, he said "In these few months only a few of my former thousands of friends have remained true. The others have vanished from under the sun, with a few exceptions.

But I still have a few left, but particularly political friends have rapidly vanished. I still have some political friends here in the Transvaal Provincial Council who had the courage to speak up for me, but they were taking their lives in their hands in doing so. And down in the Cape there are also a few," he said.

Gen Van den Bergh said after his criticism of the Erasmus commission report, he had believed the authorities would act. "I thought I would be inserted in the press

and, to ease the great pressure on hospitals, several emergency hospitals were set up - notably at Newlands House, Rentzkie's Farm, De Villiers' Street School in District 6 (for the Jewish community), Green Point Track (for Africans from the Docks Location which has been closed down because of its insanitary state) and Ellerslied Girls' High School in Sea Point.

Free inoculation with influenza vaccine being manufactured by the Government Laboratories was available from the end of that week. The vaccine was entirely unproven as a sure remedy, but, as the Government Bacteriologist and the Government Medical Officer of Health in Cape Town reported:

"...the results of the use of a mixed vaccine ... are encouraging, especially as regards the prevention of secondary pneumonia and the reduction of mortality... Whilst inoculation cannot be said always to prevent attack, the general opinion of practitioners in the Cape Peninsula who have been consulted is that it certainly reduces the incidence and severity of pneumonia complications to a very striking degree." 22

Gen Van den Bergh said that he, the champion of the battle against communism in South Africa, had been decorated by Taiwan for his fight against communism, but not by his own country. If South Africa offered him a decoration now he would not accept it.

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He threatens to tell all unless the PM accepts his ultimatum

VAN DEN BERGH SHIELDS

GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh disclosed this week that Dr Eschel Rhoodie was threatening to release 41 cassette taperecordings of info secrets unless the Prime Minister met his demands.

Gen Van den Bergh, retired head of the former Bureau for State Security, said Mr P W Botha would have to resign if Dr Rhoodie, former Secretary for Information, carried out his threat.

The Rhoodie tapes would hit South Africa like a bombshell, he said. In addition, Dr Rhoodie was still making more recordings and had a large number of documents to back up his assertions.

Dr Rhoodie's terms for his silence, revealed to the general in a recent letter included:

• A public and personal apology by the Prime Minister, Mr Botha, which would restore Dr Rhoodie's name to honour in South Africa.

• The return of his South African passport, with no strings attached.

• The right to return to South Africa, the country he loved, without any interference from the authorities.

• The re-registration in his name of all his properties seized by the Government since he left South Africa in November last year.

Mr Botha said in Parliament this week that the Foreign Minister, Mr P W Botha, had also received a letter from Dr Rhoodie.

Emphatically

The Prime Minister said



GENERAL VAN DEN BERGH
"PM will have to resign"

4/3/79

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Africa,

BY NEIL MOOPER

another front organisation funded by the Government.

Gen Van den Bergh said later that Prof Rhoodie had just returned from Europe after a fruitless attempt to contact his missing brother.

While at the general's home, he and Gen Van den Bergh tried to contact Dr Rhoodie in Amsterdam, but were unsuccessful.

He said Dr Rhoodie had been in Zurich, Switzerland, on Thursday.

I understand that Prof Rhoodie too, is keen to persuade his brother not to "release all" to the Press.

I had approached Gen Van den Bergh after he had been the guest speaker that afternoon at the Oostelikes

Sports Club in Pretoria where he said:

"I have reached the stage where I feel I have remained silent long enough, and I feel that it is time for me to talk a bit."

"During all the years that I was in the civil service, the two decades that I was chief of intelligence in South Africa, the Official Secrets Act bound me and I could not talk. I could only talk to the Prime Minister, John Vorster, and I never had a word to say."

"Once I was in violation of the law, and many times I kept my words back. I became used to that. But now I am no longer a civil servant, I am a simple farmer."

"As a result my relation-

© To page 2

The Prime Minister said emphatically that the Government was not prepared to make any deals with Dr Rhodie

It would do no more than give him temporary travel documents to enable him to return to the Republic, as his passport had been cancelled, Mr Botha said

Yesterday, Gen Van den Bergh — with whom Dr Rhodie is keeping in touch by letter and telephone — said that the former Information Secretary was now going ahead with his threat to release all to the Press

"I am desperately trying to get in touch with him — he does not tell me where he is when he contacts me — to try to persuade him not to release the information... not in the interests of any politicians involved, but in the interests of South Africa," he said.

"I also want to point out to him that he has only one bullet in the barrel of his gun, and once he fires that he will have run out of ammunition," Gen Van den Bergh said at his Pretoria home

Damaging

Asked whether the information which Dr Rhodie could reveal was so damaging that it could lead to the downfall of the Government, Gen Van den Bergh recalled the Prime Minister's promise to resign if evidence was found that he or any members of his present Cabinet had been aware at the time that Government funds were used to finance the Citizen newspaper

"If Dr Rhodie releases all the documents he has, then I do not think that Mr Botha will have any choice but to resign," he said

When I first spoke to Gen Van den Bergh at his home on Friday night, our conversation was interrupted by the arrival of Professor Nic Rhodie, brother of the former Information Secretary

The Sunday Times disclosed a fortnight ago that the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies, which Dr Nic Rhodie heads, was

4/3/79

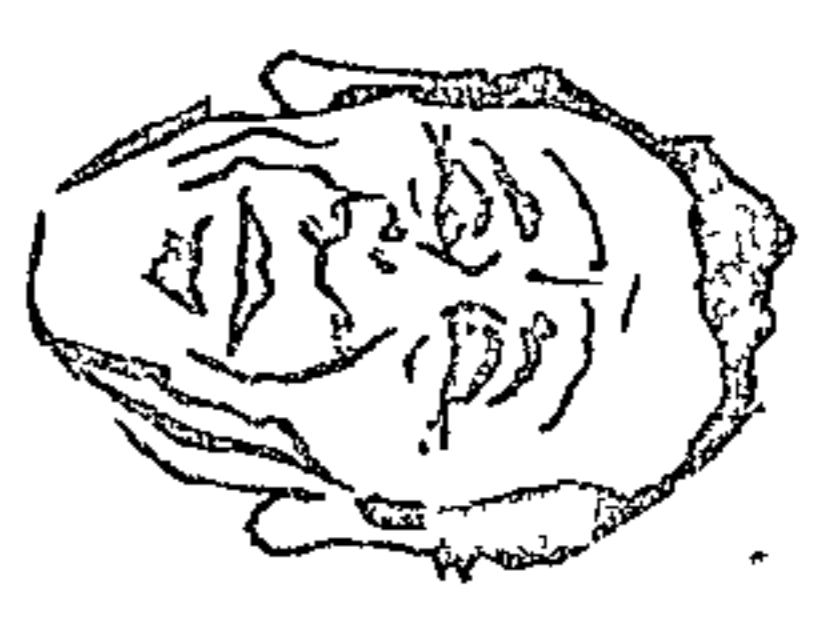
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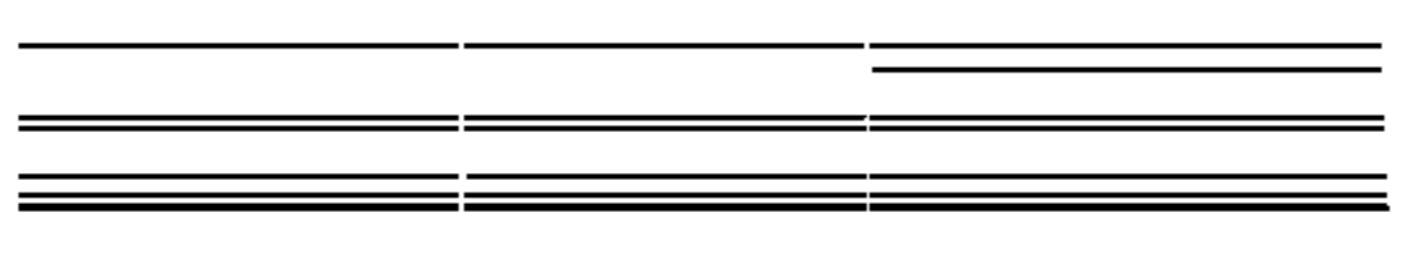
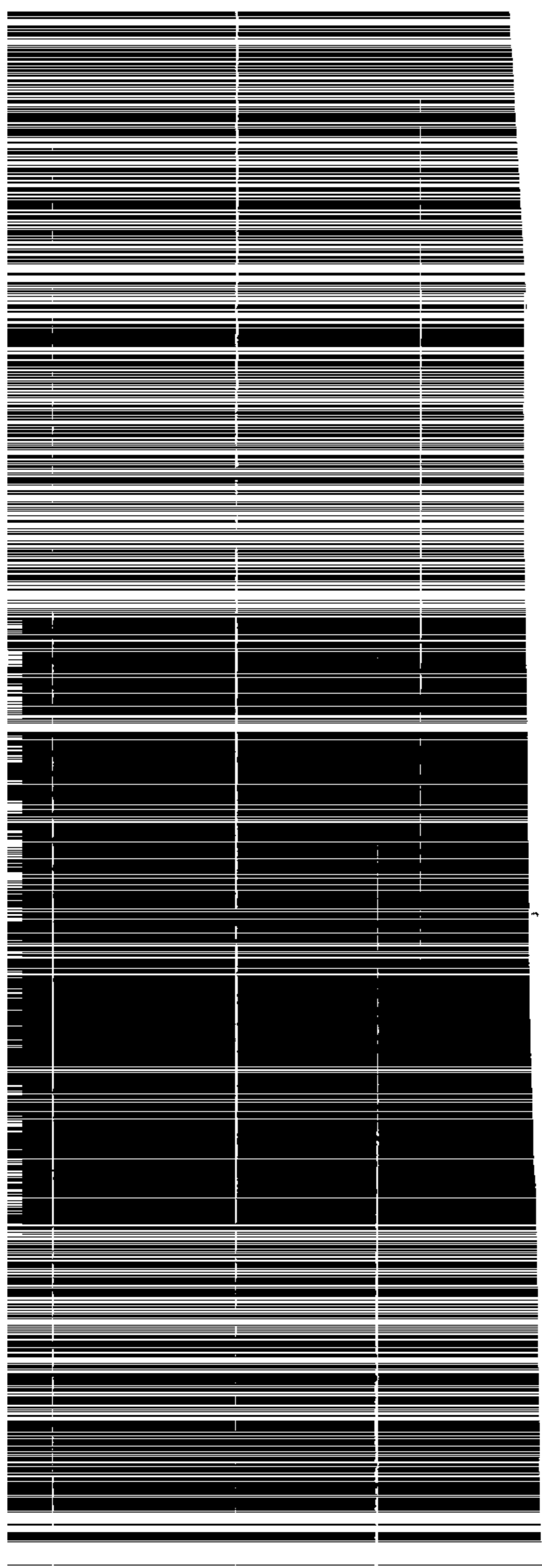
RHODDIE



He threatens to tell all unless
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Sum T news 4/21/71

RAPPERS BOMBERS SHEPHERD



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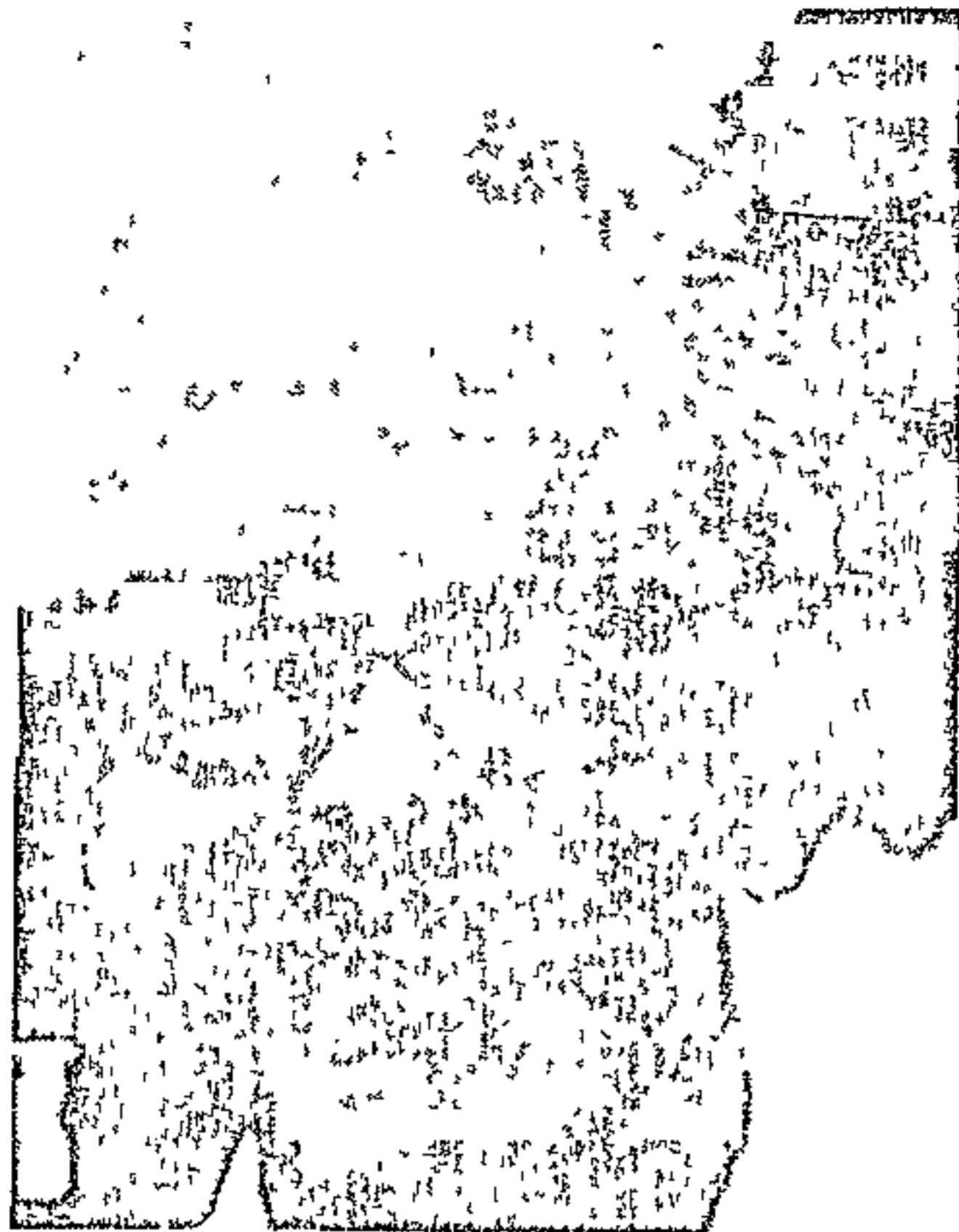
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GENERAL VAN DEN BERGH
"PM will have to resign"

By **NEIL HOOPER**

another front organisation funded by the Government

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"During all the years that I was in the civil service, the two decades that I was chief of intelligence in South Africa, the Official Secrets Act bound me and I could not talk. I could only talk to the Prime Minister, John Vorster, as I knew him then

"Otherwise it was a contravention of the law, and many times I kept my words back. I became used to that. But now I am no longer a civil servant, I am a simple farmer

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© To page 2

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Botha denies threat

NM 5/3/79

259

ORMANDE POLLOK
Political
Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Mr. P. W. Botha last night challenged Dr. Eschel Rhoodie to come back to South Africa, and do your talking here.

Undisturbed by reports that the former Information Secretary was threatening to "tell all" in Europe, the Prime Minister said he would not be "blackmailed into a deal with anybody."

Reports that Dr Rhoodie was planning to tell his side of the story created a sensation yesterday along with statements by former security chief, General Hendrik van den Bergh, that Mr. Botha would have no option but to resign if

Dr Rhoodie took off the wraps

Mr Botha stood by his undertaking to Parliament last week that the Government would not make any deal with the doctor. "I have seen the reports but I do not want to say more than I said last week. I am not prepared to do any deals with him and I am not prepared to be blackmailed by anybody," he said in an interview.

"If Dr Rhoodie has anything to say, why doesn't he come back and do it here before the Erasmus Commission?"

Earlier in the parliamentary session and again last week Dr Rhoodie's globe-trotting exploits and the Government's inability to track him down were hotly debated

"In one heated clash with the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Colin Egan, Mr. Botha said that if anyone could prove that he or any of his ministers knew about the Information affair earlier than had been disclosed he would resign and call a General Election.

It was this statement to which General van den Bergh was referring when he was quoted yesterday as saying that if Dr Rhoodie released 41 tape recordings and documentation he had collected, Mr Botha would have to resign.

"Monday morning at eight is the day and time. After that it is too late and the people who are involved must take what comes," the general said.

Harm

The general said he had persuaded Dr Rhoodie to extend his deadline. "I have succeeded in persuading him not to go through with his deal tomorrow morning.

Alone

"I asked him to give me a few days to see what I can do. I know that I have no public support in South Africa. What I do I'll have to do on my own.

"I might find somebody somewhere, who would be prepared to help me. But I'll do everything I can to prevent Eschel Rhoodie making, if I can say this, a fool of himself, notwithstanding the grievances he has against South Africa, or rather the Government, and not to do anything harmful to my country, because I

and General van den Bergh be tested in open courts."

In the interest of government itself, it was essential that the threat by Dr Rhoodie be tested and shown false, or the truth be made available to the people.

"The continued suspicion and speculation which

threats like these feed doing untold harm to South Africa and paralyse the government.

"It is tragic that at a time of international crisis when effective leadership is vital to deal with matters like South West Africa, this leadership is placed under a cloud."

NM

5/3/79

250

interviewed on SABC-TV, said he would do everything I can to prevent Dr Rhodie carrying out his threat.

"I know what Eschel Rhodie can say I investigated, for three months, at the request of Mr Vorster most of his secret projects.

And, I know that if he were to disclose some of these projects, it could harm South Africa terribly.

tend living in South Africa for the rest of my life.

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, last night said.

"It is intolerable that anyone should be allowed to hold the Government to ransom and it has become more important than ever that the Erasmus Commission's evidence be made available to the parliamentary parties and that the allegations of Dr Rhodie



GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh "What I do, I'll have to do on my own."

P.M. accuses

Rhodie of

'blackmail'

CAPE TIMES 5/3/79

259

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, yesterday described as "blackmail" a reported threat by Dr Eschel Rhodie to make disclosures that would force him to resign.

And the combined Opposition called on the government for a full public disclosure on the Information scandal after General Hendrik van den Bergh had claimed at the weekend that Dr Rhodie was now poised, after efforts to negotiate a "safe return" deal with the government, to release the information.

The Prime Minister said he would not be "blackmailed into a deal with anybody" and challenged the former Secretary for Information to return to South Africa and "do his talking here".

This followed reports yesterday that Dr Rhodie was about to release 41 tape recordings of information which would cause Mr Botha's resignation as Prime Minister.

During the no-confidence debate in Parliament, Mr Botha undertook to resign and "go to the country" if it could be proved that any member of the existing cabinet had knowledge of the misuse of public funds involving the secret expenditure of the defunct Department of Information.

Mr Botha said yesterday "I have seen the reports but I do not want to say more than I said last week. I am not prepared to do any deals with him and I am not prepared to be blackmailed by anybody. If Dr Rhodie has anything to say, why doesn't he come back and do it here before the Erasmus Commission?"

General Van den Bergh, former Secretary for National Security, said in an interview yesterday that he would try to stop

General's bid to stop Rhodie

JOHANNESBURG. — The former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh, said last night he would "do everything I can" to prevent the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, from carrying out his threat to reveal further details of the secret projects of the now-defunct Department of Information. General Van den Bergh was interviewed on the SATV news.

"I know what Eschel Rhodie can say. I investigated, for three months, at the request of Mr Vorster, most of his secret projects.

"And I know that if he were to disclose some of these projects it could harm South Africa terribly," General Van den Bergh said.

The interview came in the

wake of reported threats by Dr Rhodie to release tapes of his department's secret projects to overseas media today if the government did not meet certain conditions.

These were to reinstate his passport, restore his properties, and a personal and public apology restoring his good name from the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha.

In the news bulletin the SABC quoted Mr Botha as saying Dr Rhodie should return to the Republic to put his case and bear the consequences.

Mr Botha said Dr Rhodie ought to know by now that South Africa would not be threatened.

General Van den Bergh said last night that he had persuaded Dr Rhodie to extend his

deadline, set for 8 am today, for the release of the tapes.

"I have succeeded in persuading him not to go through with his deal tomorrow morning.

"I asked him to give me a few days to see what I can do. I know that I have no public support in South Africa. What I will do I'll have to do on my own.

"I might find somebody, somewhere, who would be prepared to help me. But I'll do everything I can to prevent Eschel Rhodie from making, if I can say this, a fool of himself, notwithstanding the grievances he has against South Africa, or rather the government, and not to do anything harmful to my country, because I intend living in South Africa for the rest of my life." — Sapa

Cape Times

5/3/79

259

Dr Rhodie from making disclosures that would be harmful to the government and South Africa.

He would not explain how he knew, but claimed he had knowledge that information Dr Rhodie told him he would release at 8 am South African time today, would not be released as scheduled.

But, he made it clear that it was still Dr Rhodie's intention to release the information.

However, General Van den Bergh indicated that he would try to stop him from doing so, even if it entailed going overseas to see Dr Rhodie.

"If I can do anything to stop him, then I will do it," he said.

The general indicated also that he was trying to stop Dr Rhodie from making the disclosures at all.

"If I succeed in what I am doing there will be no disclosures at all, much to the spite and sorrow of the newspapers," he said.

General Van den Bergh said that although he did not know what was contained in the 41 tapes and related documents that Dr Rhodie had told him he would release, he was aware that the former Secretary for Information was in a position to damage the government and South Africa by making disclosures.

He said Dr Rhodie had described the information he would release as a "bombshell" and that he regarded the attitude of Dr Rhodie in stating that he would make such disclosures as "very serious."

He said Dr Rhodie had told him that he had sold the information to "certain people" but that Dr Rhodie, when asked, had said these people were not in South Africa.

He said Dr Rhodie had told him he would release certain information that would cause the resignation of the Prime Minister. This information, given to him when Dr Rhodie contacted him from an undisclosed venue on Thursday, related to the undertaking by Mr

25 (257)
54

Govt funds were legal says rector

PRETORIA — Secret government funds received by two institutes at the University of Pretoria were in accordance with their constitutions and were not misappropriated.

The rector of the university, Professor E. M. Hamman, said in a statement here yesterday the investigation launched by him into the funding of the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies (ISPS), run by Professor Nic Rhodie, and the Institute for Strategic Studies (ISS) shown this.

"Although the university has been fully satisfied there was no misappropriation, and that funds have been appropriated strictly in accordance with the constitutions of the ISPS and ISS, it is desirable that the whole matter should be fully clarified because the university does not wish

to retain one cent it might not have been entitled to," Professor Hamman said.

The matter, supported by relevant university documents, was referred to the Erasmus Commission and the Director-General of the Information Service.

"The university has been informed that donations received in the past may be used by the two institutes and that, in future, methods of financing followed in the past would not be repeated," he said.

The Director-General of the Information Service had informed the Erasmus Commission of this.

"I would like to emphasise that the university was throughout completely bona fide in the whole matter; and was not aware of the specific manner in which funds were channelled," Prof Hamman said — SAPA

General leaves for UK to meet Rhodie

6/3/79
259
DU

JOHANNESBURG — General Hendrik van den Bergh, former secretary for National Security, left South Africa for London last night after pledging he would do everything in his power to stop Dr Eschel Rhodie from making disclosures harmful to the government and South Africa.

According to my information, General Van den Bergh, accompanied by his wife, left Jan Smuts Airport on a South African Airways London bound flight at 6 pm yesterday.

An SAA spokesman confirmed last night that a booking had been made in the names of Mr and Mrs H J van den Bergh.

On Sunday, General Van den Bergh said he would do everything he could to stop Dr Rhodie from making public information contained in 41 tape recordings.

General Van den Bergh said he knew Dr Rhodie

was in a position to damage South Africa and the government with information he had at his disposal.

He said he believed it would be best if he saw Dr Rhodie personally and indicated he would be willing to go overseas to dissuade Dr Rhodie from making the disclosures. He was convinced he could do so.

According to General Van den Bergh, Dr Rhodie told him in a telephone conversation last Thursday he would release the tapes, sup-

ported by documents, at 8 am South African time yesterday.

He said he had persuaded Dr Rhodie not to release the information at the scheduled time.

There was no reply when a reporter visited General Van den Bergh's home in Pretoria last night.

Lights were on in the house and two dogs were roaming around the grounds. However, no one answered when the reporter repeatedly knocked on the door and rang the bell — DDC

Letter to Rhodie

CAPE TOWN — Foreign Minister Pik Botha has replied to a letter he received from former Information Secretary Eschel Rhodie

Mr Botha's letter to Dr Rhodie reads.

"With reference to your letter of December 10, 1978, and a conversation I had with Mr Gross (Dr Rhodie's lawyer) on December 12, I gave Mr Gross an answer which may be summarised as follows

"(A) I don't see my way clear to accept your suggestion that I, or someone authorised by me, should meet you overseas to discuss the issues you raised

"(B) It appears to me that a distinction must be made between the secret projects as such and alleged irregularities in connection with the expenditure of state funds. I suspect that a specific project could be referred to, for example, as 'Project A' and then the acceptability or not of the expenditure of a specific sum in the carrying out of the project could be gone into

"I accept that the Attorney-General is just as concerned as you are that the content and purpose of the different secret projects should not be disclosed in court. I am convinced that the Attorney-General will

take our national interest fully into account. The Attorney-General will, in my opinion, only be interested in allegations concerning contraventions of existing statutory and common law.

"The matter which you were working on according to your letter remains, after all, subordinate to and is clearly to be distinguished from current legal norms in South Africa. To refer to the standard and well-known principle of constitutional law. 'The king is under no man but he is under God and the law'.

"Consequently, it appears to me that the disclosure of secrets which would constitute a contravention of the Official Secrets Act can be avoided by you and the Attorney-General. It should also be borne in mind that Article 153 of the Criminal Procedure Act provides that all or part of court proceedings can be closed to the public or a section of the public if it appears to the court that it would be in the interests of the security of the state or for good order to hold such proceedings behind closed doors

"(C) I agree with you that you are entitled to a reasonable and fair chance to defend yourself in a possible trial. I am not in a position to say whether or not the

259 7/3/79
The Attorney-General is going to prosecute you. That decision depends on the Attorney-General. I do, however, want to assure you that there is no legal system in the world which has a more objective and impartial judiciary than that of South Africa.

"In a spirit of understanding of the continuing human pathos which is involved here, I want to suggest that you in trust rely on the independence and fairness of our judiciary to let justice be done to you if the Attorney-General should decide to prosecute you

"I am also of the opinion that the Erasmus Commission will give you the fullest opportunity to give any relevant additional evidence you wish to give. Indeed, the Erasmus Commission's task has not yet been completed and it may be in your interest to be available to supply clarification with respect to possible further evidence which may be given to the commission

"(D) I particularly want to assure you that the South African Government has not 'found you guilty'. The government accepted the findings of the Erasmus Commission. You can only be found criminally guilty by a competent court in South Africa in terms of the rules and norms which apply in our legal system." — DDC

Hansard 5 (310) 1/3/79
Shares of South Africa Today (Pty.)
Limited

*9 Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the
Minister of Finance

(1) Whether the shares of South Africa
Today (Pty) Limited were transferred
or otherwise disposed of by the State,
if so, (a) how were they disposed of,
(b) in terms of what authority and (c)
what consideration was received for
the shares.

(2) whether tenders were called for if
not, why not

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

(1) No,

(a), (b) and (c) fall away

(2) Falls away,

Mr H H SCHWARZ Mr Speaker,
arising out of the reply given by the
Minister, does it therefore mean that he
rejects the findings of the Erasmus Commis-
sion that these shares were owned by the
State? [Interjections]

Mr SPEAKER. Order!

Contracts of former Department of
Information with Sidney S. Baron/other
firms

(Hansard 5(323) 7/3/79) *(254)*
35 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the
Minister of Foreign Affairs †

Whether the contracts which the former
Department of Information had with (a) the
firm Sidney S Baron and (b) any other
firm or firms which do public relations
work in the United States of America, have
been continued or renewed by the Informa-
tion Service of South Africa, if so, when
will the contracts concerned expire

The ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS

- (a) Yes The contract expires 31 March
1980
- (b) No other contracts exist at present

Secret projects

*5 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Answered 5(307) (259)
Whether a decision has been reached on the continuance or otherwise of (a) the two secret projects of the former Department of Information which were referred to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, (b) the project referred to his Department and (c) the project referred to the Department of National Security, if so, what was the decision in each case

7/3/79

Commission of Inquiry into Alleged
Irregularities in the Former Department of
Information

Hansard 5 (306) 7/3/79

*3 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister
of Justice

259

Whether the Attorney-General of the Transvaal has considered instituting prosecutions as a result of the evidence given by Mr Reynders before the Commission of Inquiry to Alleged Irregularities in the Former Department of Information, if so, (a) against whom and (b) with what result if not, why not

†The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

No In the light of the recommendation in paragraph 14 464(1) of the Commission's report the South African Police have been requested to investigate the matter The investigation is still being carried out

Mrs H SUZMAN Mr Speaker, arising out of the reply given by the hon the Minister, will he tell us whether the passports of the people under investigation have been withdrawn pending the result of the investigation and, if not, why not?

The MINISTER Mr Speaker, I should just like to inform the hon member that passports do not fall under my department [Interjections]

NIM 7/3/79

Rhodie affair

259

'nears climax'

LONDON — General Hendrik van den Bergh flew into London's Heathrow Airport early yesterday morning and immediately boarded an Air France flight for Paris to meet Dr. Eschel Rhodie to try to persuade him to make no further disclosures about the information scandal

The general said he did not want Dr Rhodie to release the information in his possession because it could cause "a hell of a lot of damage to friends of South Africa"

He said he did not know why he had undertaken the flight from South Africa to see Dr Rhodie.

His mission was 100 per cent personal, "but it should have been the Government's task to approach Dr Rhodie"

Tapes

The general who said in South Africa before his departure that Dr. Rhodie, former Secretary for Information, had 41 tapes which could do South Africa irreparable harm,

declared that the situation concerning Dr. Rhodie was coming to a "climax"

Dr. Rhodie, he said, was "an aggrieved man"

In a telephone conversation with him earlier this week, he had begged him to hang on for a while "until I can meet up with him"

He said he did not "have a clue" where Dr Rhodie was in Europe.

"But I have friends You must remember I've been liaising with the intelligence services of Europe for 20 years. I have

good reason to believe Dr. Rhodie is not in London "

He hoped Dr. Rhodie would return to South Africa.

Position

"I am not aware of any reason why Dr. Rhodie should not return to South Africa — and I would be in a position to know if there was reason.

"I know Dr Rhodie better than anyone else, except his wife and brothers. He is a fine man God bless him for his wonderful intelligence".

"I've never had such a reception," he added cheerfully, as news-papemen helped him with his bags and steered him towards the transfer bus which took him — and them — to the Air France terminal.

When the general was asked whether he still felt that he had been made a scapegoat in the information scandal, he replied: "this is how I feel."

Tapes made after Rhodie left SA

Dr Eschel Rhodie's tape recordings were made after he left South Africa, a Johannesburg attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, has revealed in London.

Mr Kahn said this in an interview broadcast by the SABC today. The interview took place after Mr Kahn had issued a statement on behalf of General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security, and Mr Josias van Zyl, a Johannesburg businessman.

Mr Kahn said the tapes "came into existence subsequently to Dr Rhodie leaving South Africa."

Asked whether the same applied to the documents Dr Rhodie had earlier threatened to release, Mr Kahn replied: "No. The documents, the two I saw, appeared to be dated at different times."

Asked how damaging the tapes and documents would be to South Africa, he replied: "As damaging

as the statement suggested they might be."

Asked what Mr van Zyl's motives were in the matter, Mr Kahn said there were two.

● The first was his concern, from a trade point of view, in regard to his business dealings.

● The second was that he wished to contribute to negating, at least in the interim, the possibility of the disclosure of sensitive information.

He said Mr van Zyl had made an offer of employment to Dr Rhodie but there was no suggestion that Dr Rhodie would start immediately.

Mr Kahn said he did not believe Dr Rhodie was motivated entirely by Mr van Zyl's offer, in deciding not to release the information.

He had later discussions with General van den Bergh and arising from those discussions, he determined to withhold the disclosures.

And then dinner for 4

The Star Bureau

LONDON — South Africa's former spy chief, General Hendrik van den Bergh, enjoyed a succulent steak flamed in brandy at his smart West End hotel after the three-way deal which has ensured the silence of Dr Eschel Rhodie.

The former head of the Bureau for State Security and his wife had dinner last night at the International Portman Hotel with wealthy South African businessman Mr Josias van Zyl, and his lawyer Brian Kahn.

The four enjoyed a leisurely meal together in which the general engaged in conversation with the young Johannesburg lawyer.

Later Mr van Zyl answered questions quietly and terminated the conversation only when Mr Kahn said that it must stop. Together the two men then entered a lift — still keeping to themselves the inside facts about what happened in Paris.

by PFF, NRP

Continued from page 1

tigations to put an end to rumours that "went wild" after the murder last year of the National Party candidate in Springs, Dr Robert Smit.

"There was talk of millions in army steel trunks, of numbered bank accounts, of farms and stashed millions in Paraguay, yet nothing of this appears to have reached the ears of any member of the government."

Also during the first day of debate

● Mr Botha stated the government had no further interest in the Citizen or responsibility for it.

● He released a report showing the Hortors and Morgan Grampian publishing groups were among department of Information targets and this was being investigated by the Erasmus and Van der Walt commissions.

● The Free State National Party leader, Mr Alwyn Schlabusch, called on Mr Botha to consider limiting the power of the Department of National Security, formerly headed by General van den Bergh.

● Senator Horwood revealed the Department of Information wanted to buy a newspaper in Europe.

● The PFF called on Mr Botha to explain why he told a press conference last month that no funds voted for defence purposes were allotted to the department of Information.

● It also called for a select committee to investigate parliamentary statements by Dr Mulder that the government had not funded the Citizen.

While the National Party began distancing itself from Dr Mulder, the former Transvaal NP leader arrived at Parliament and posed for photographers, but did not take his seat in the House.

The Star Bureau

LONDON — Former security chief, General Hendrik van den Bergh has admitted that he flew to Europe this week on his mission to gain the silence of Dr Eschel Rhoodie after "informal consultations" with several members of the South African Cabinet

He has also instructed his Johannesburg attorney to inform the Government of "certain aspects" of their discussions "as a matter of courtesy" on his return

This emerged in London last night when General van den Bergh issued a joint statement with South African businessman Mr Josias van Zyl announcing that Dr Rhoodie had agreed not to make public the tapes and documents he had planned to reveal

The statement followed the all-night meeting at a Paris hotel between General van den Bergh, Dr Rhoodie, Mr van Zyl and Mr Brian Kahn, Mr van Zyl's attorney

It documents in some detail Dr Rhoodie's reasons for wanting to release the information but gives little indication why he finally agreed not to meet the world's Press as he at first said he would

DISTRESS

The only benefit to Dr Rhoodie appears from the statement to be a job in Mr van Zyl's "international business operations," which would alleviate the financial distress Dr Rhoodie and his family were said to be suffering

At the meeting, Dr Rhoodie covered the last six years of the Department of Information's activities on behalf of the South African Government in the field of "propaganda and psychological warfare"

He disclosed information which if published, "could have had disastrous consequences, diplomatically, economically and politically" both in South Africa and abroad the statement said

The meeting the statement continues, "culminated in amongst other things, a proposal submitted to Dr Rhoodie by Mr Josias van Zyl that he accept an appointment in the international operations of Mr van Zyl's companies"

The statement said that in coming to his decision Dr Rhoodie had distinguished between the interests of the Government and the interest of the peoples of South Africa

Dr Rhoodie had at no time — now or in the past — sought an apology or pardon from the Government the statement said

At the meeting Dr Rhoodie mentioned that he had suffered "incalculable" damage by the Erasmus Commission

I consulted Cabinet on my mission — V d Bergh

failed to publish all the evidence submitted to it.

The withdrawal of his passport, the harassment of his wife by the South African authorities, and the serious financial embarrassment in which he now found himself were all factors that led to his decision, "however reprehensible to him," to disclose "the matters of a secret and sensitive nature," to the world Press

Mr van Zyl, said the statement made this pro-

posal because he felt that disclosures of the Information Department would have had disastrous consequences for South Africa politically and economically, and because he believes that Dr Rhoodie "vast experience abroad could be of great benefit to his international business operations"

This offer, said the statement, "would have the effect of alleviating the Rhoodie family financial predicament abroad."

Never heard of one, never saw the other

CANNES — Mrs Elizabeth van Luyk, whose number General van den Bergh called from Paris when he arrived there on Tuesday, insists that she has never heard about the former head of BOSS.

She had read about the Muldergate scandal in the London newspapers, she said yesterday but had never seen Dr Eschel Rhoodie

She could not understand why the General should call her number here

An elegant and attractive brunette in her mid-forties, Mrs van Luyk lives in an unremarkable square Mediterranean-style house about five kilometres inland

Although she did not invite me in, she was never unfriendly as we spoke over the black wrought-iron gate a few metres from her front door.

"I am a private person and I don't know how I got involved. I want nothing to do with all of this. I would please like to be left alone," she said



Johannesburg lawyer Mr Brian Kahn, who accompanied Mr van Zyl to Paris, photographed after the secret deal meeting

Rhodesie to

Keep secrets

8/3/99 AB
259

LONDON — Dr Ftschel Rhoodie has agreed not to disclose any secret information about South African propaganda and psychological warfare projects.

He made this decision after being offered a job by a Johannesburg businessman, Mr Josias van Zyl.

Dr Rhoodie does not intend returning to South Africa at this time.

This was the basis of a statement issued here last night by General Hendrik van den Bergh after more than 17 hours of negotiations with Dr Rhoodie in Paris.

The statement said Dr Rhoodie's information about the secret projects could have disastrous consequences, diplomatically, economically and politically, both at home and abroad.

Dr Rhoodie had been approached by international television networks which had offered to buy tapes containing

harassment of his wife by the authorities, and the sense of betrayal by senior members of the establishment, he had no intention of returning to the Republic in the present climate of extreme hostility directed towards him.

The statement was released by Mr Brian Kahn, a Johannesburg lawyer, briefed by General Van den Bergh and Mr Van Zyl.

Mr Kahn said the statement had been issued with Dr Rhoodie's approval and since the negotiations had been completed, General Van den Bergh and Mr Van Zyl would fly back to South Africa today.

Mr Kahn said Dr Rhoodie's tapes were made solely by Dr Rhoodie. They were not recordings of conversations between Dr Rhoodie and any other party.

Mr Kahn would not disclose details about the job Dr Rhoodie would do for Mr Van Zyl, but he said Mr Van Zyl headed companies involved in metal cutting machines and the

department during the past six years, the statement said.

It said Dr Rhoodie's reasons for considering the release of this information was motivated by two criteria.

● "The need to place all facts concerning his conduct in and about the former Department of Information before a public forum to enable all parties to judge him on all the facts and not only those revealed by the Erasmus Commission.

"Dr Rhoodie disputes the correctness of the commission's findings to date and is convinced that the evidence placed

before the commission, if made public, would throw a different light on the former Department of Information and its principal officials.

● "As a result of the government's actions in freezing his assets and withdrawing his passport, whilst travelling overseas with the former Department of Information, Erasmus Commission, thereby denying him freedom of movement and subsequently the opportunity of finding employment abroad, Dr Rhoodie and his family faced a crisis of survival.

Mr Kahn emphasised that although General

Van den Bergh had met with members of the Cabinet, he was in no way representing the government.

Before news of the statement last night, senior Nationalist sources in South Africa were viewing General Van den Bergh's trip to Paris as a "bluff".

His sudden departure for the French capital was being interpreted as a ploy to project himself as the martyred but loyal servant of the state who was prepared to put the country before his own personal interests — SAPA-PS

Petition, page 11.

8/3/79
259

would have helped him escape from financial difficulty — a problem overcome by the offer from Mr. Van Zyl.

"In coming to this decision, Dr Rhodie has distinguished between the interests of the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the interests of the people of South Africa," the statement said.

"Dr Rhodie said that because of the incalculable damage caused to his and his family's name, the prejudice suffered by him by the withdrawal of his passport when no reason existed therefore, the refusal of the Erasmus Commission to make public all the evidence submitted to it, the unnecessary and petty

national apathy. Asked why Mr Van Zyl had become involved in the controversy, Mr Kahn said he had been concerned about the effects that the disclosure of information could have on South Africa.

His own-trade interests might also have been affected.

Mr Kahn said neither General Van den Bergh nor Mr Van Zyl nor he himself were in any way connected with the Government of South Africa.

During the negotiations, Dr Rhodie revealed to the others documentation containing summaries of all secret projects undertaken by his former

My sense of betrayal is so great . . .

By MERVYN REES

IN a final interview before gagging himself on South Africa's secret projects, Dr Eschel Rhoadie lashed out and spoke of his bitterness and shattered idealism at the way in which the South African Government handled the Information affair.

His views, based on a long series of discussions over the last few weeks, were critical, not only of the government, but told of his life on the run and he said that till last Wednesday morning he had been firmly committed to going ahead with his disclosures because there had been no response from anyone in the government to discuss his situation.

Dr Rhoadie, who undertook not to provide the tapes or documents to any media after signing his agreement with Mr Van Zyl, gave the following interview based on previous discussions, and it was therefore done before the new contract was entered into.

"I came out of South Africa with only my travel allowance and that of my wife Eyer since then I have stayed in the homes of friends, driven their cars and they have even paid my various air fares. One man even lent me 5 000 US dollars."

Dr Rhoadie said he had been moving about Europe most of

the time and denied having been in Sao Paulo, Brazil, or having grown a beard.

During the past few months he had been finishing off a manuscript and research for a doctoral dissertation on discrimination in the constitutions of the world.

He was also busy with the first chapters of a novel which would be published in about 18 months' time, called "The Courier". The book would be in some parts based on his own experiences.

Dr Rhoadie said he had felt both anger and frustration at not being able to defend himself during the past three months and that being alone and separated from his family over Christmas and New Year had been a low point in his life.

"I had been booked to return to South Africa early in December when I read that my passport had been withdrawn, and up until this day all I know about my passport is what I have read in the newspapers." He said he did not fear pros-

ecution if he returned, but the fact of the matter was that in order to vindicate himself completely he would have to disclose all he knew about the secret projects.

"But apart from that, my sense of betrayal and disillusionment is so great and the ashes of my destroyed idealism leave a bitter taste in my mouth. This is on top of the disgraceful harassment of my wife on the part of the South African authorities. It just makes me not want to return to

South Africa."

Referring to his painful decision to sell the story of South Africa's psychological and propaganda warfare, he said he had to get a public forum to evaluate all the projects if his role was to be seen in perspective, and the only way in which that could be done would be through the press.

This was why he had decided on simultaneous publication in the South African Morning Group daily newspapers and the foreign media, because if they (the Morning Group) were prevented from publishing, that would not be the case overseas. The second aspect was that the government had frozen his assets — which he estimated to be worth R265 000. They had blocked his pension and withdrawn his passport.

"It was a question of survival, and my negotiations with television networks provided me with the opportunity for funds that would simply allow me to survive. I was on the horns of a dilemma. In order to defend myself — both my actions and my person — I had to disclose the secrets. Failure to do so would mean I was unable to defend myself, so it should not



The team that found Dr Rhoadie and talked to him: (From the left) Mervyn Rees, Chris Day and Ted Olsen, the Cape Times reporter who made the all-important breakthrough.



Cape Times special representative Mervyn Rees took this and other pictures of Dr Eschel Rhoadie relaxing in Quito, Ecuador, when he spent more than a week with the former Info chief interviewing him about the activities of his now disbanded department



FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1979

259

12 CENTS

CITY

Girlsweat

Claremont

A week in Rhodie's hide-away

More pictures, pages 2 and 7



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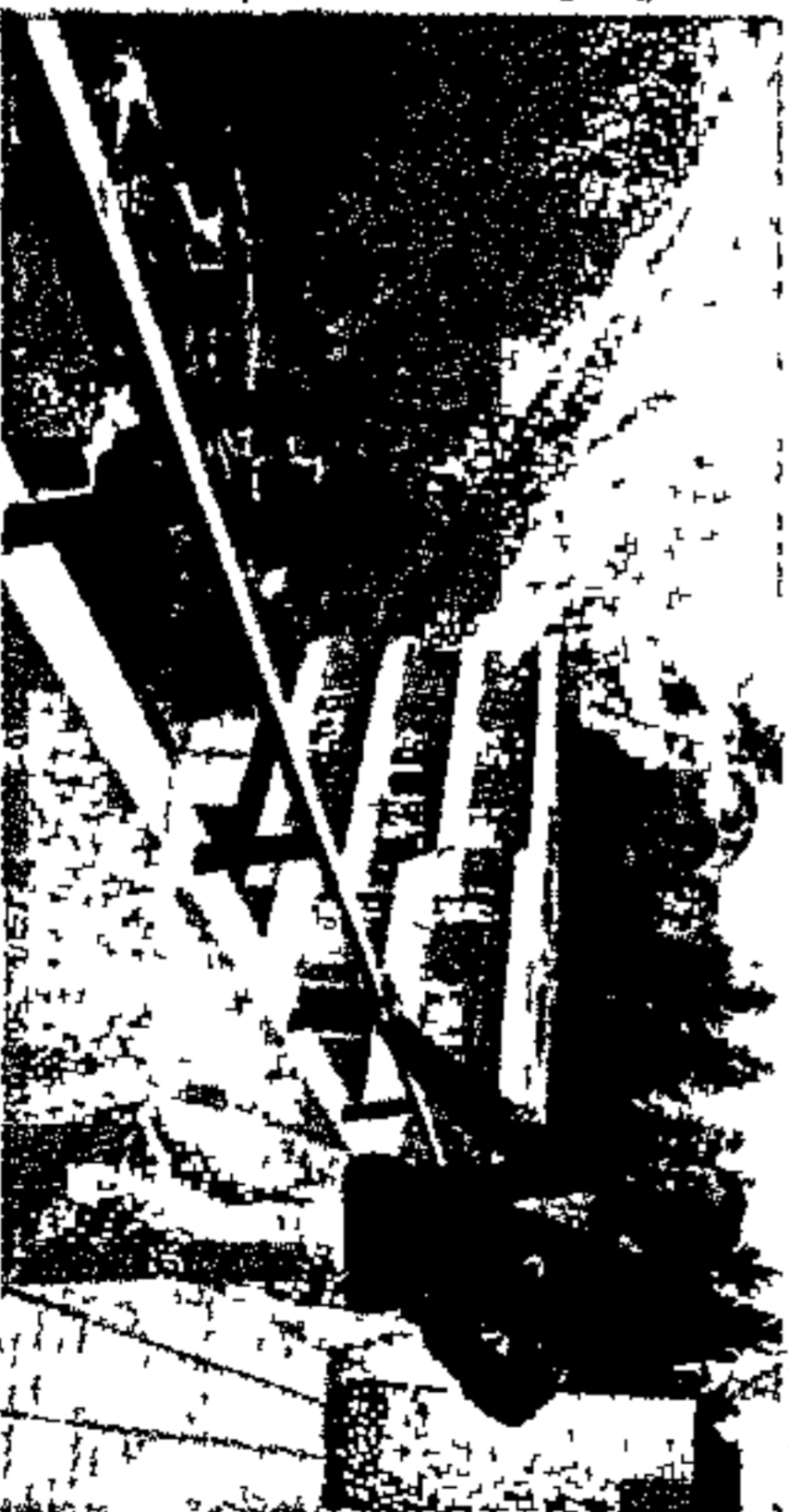
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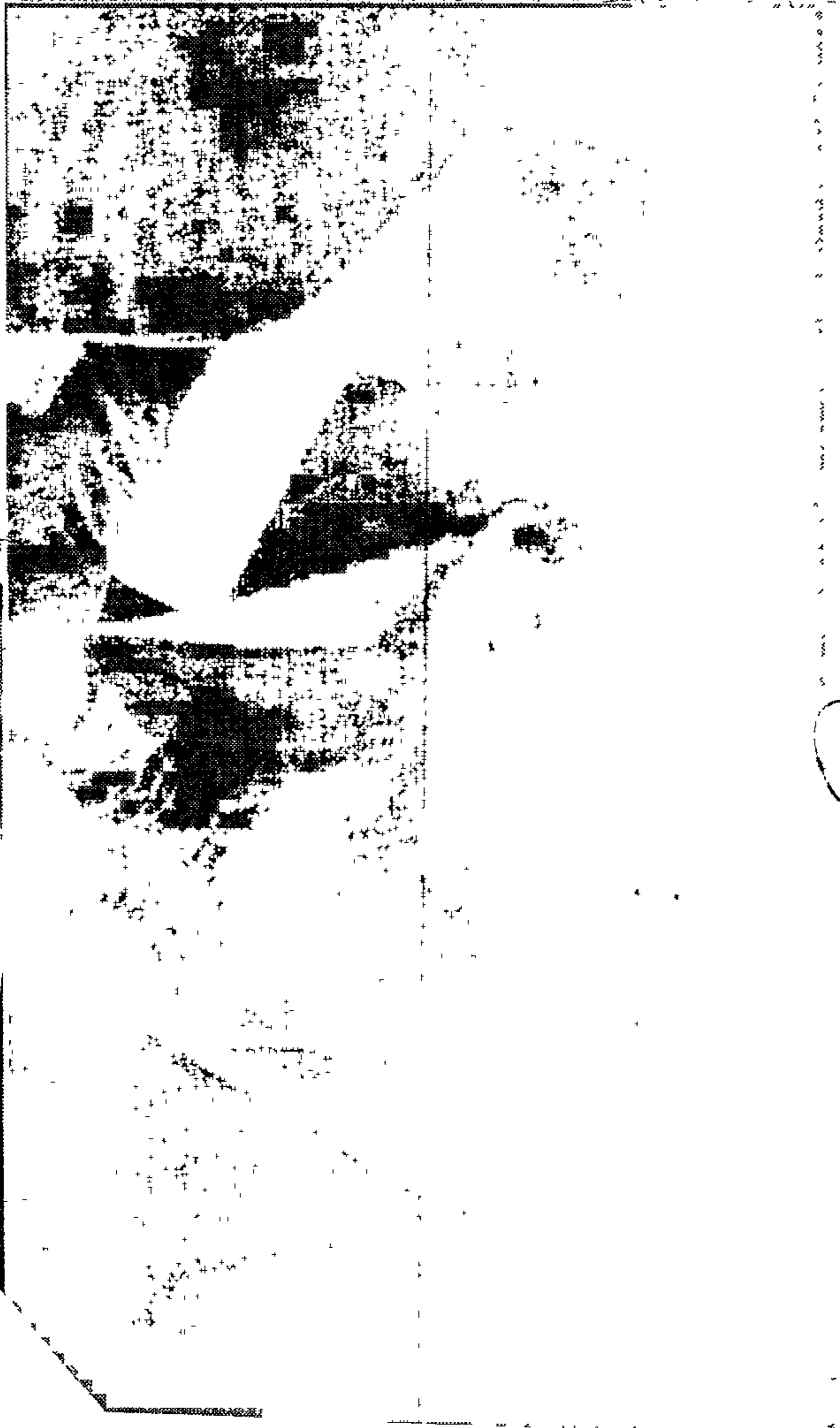
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259



General Hendrik van den Bergh (right) in London this week with lawyer Brian Kahn and businessman Josias van Zyl.

General told Rhoodie not to spoil things

From STANLEY UYS

ON DON — General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of Boss, told Eschel Rhoodie that if he "betrayed" everything he had done as Secretary of Information by disclosing his tape recordings you will spoil and waste all the years of your hard work."

Interviewed on the B.C.'s World at One programme yesterday shortly before his return to South Africa, General van den Bergh said when Dr Rhoodie spoke to him in South Africa by telephone last week, he told me that Monday could be D-day — on that day he would have to take a final decision on whether he would sell his tapes or not.

"He was in desperate need of money, but I told him that as head of the Department of Informa-

tion he had been trying to sell South Africa's policies, and everything that goes with it to the world. But if you were now to sell everything you know, you would spoil and waste all the years of your hard work

"You will do your people in South Africa a lot of harm, but I think you will also do a lot of harm to South Africa's friends overseas, wherever they are

"People overseas might come to the conclusion that you cannot trust a South African, and thus we must never allow to happen. You must always be able to trust a South African

Asked whether he offered Dr Rhoodie money, General Van den Bergh replied "I had no money to offer him Mr Josias van Zyl was not

prepared to buy any tapes, because he did not want Dr Rhoodie to sell his information, to sell his character. That he did not want

"But if Dr Rhoodie was the type of man I told him (Mr Van Zyl) he was, he would perhaps take him into his service. Dr Rhoodie was then offered a job, but only after we had many hours of talks"

General Van den Bergh said Dr Rhoodie recorded the tapes after he left South Africa, and on the tapes he had a complete record of everything he could remember. They were like his memoirs.

Asked whether release of the tapes would have brought down the South African Government, General Van den Bergh replied "No, although it would have been very embarrassing to the

government"

General Van den Bergh said he personally had never threatened to expose anything. "I dare anyone in this world to point his finger at me for being a traitor, for having betrayed anybody, or for having stabbed anybody in the back. I haven't threatened the government at all.


"But I did criticise the Erasmus Commission for the references they had made about me. You must bear in mind I had had nothing to do with the Department of Information"

General Van den Bergh said that in persuading Dr Rhoodie not to publish his tapes, "it was not so much a matter of working for the South African Government, as working in the interests of my country"

He said "I was given no brief whatever by the government, I came without the knowledge of the government. The government did not know I was coming"

General Van den Bergh denied that the activities of the Department of Information had been reprehensible, as suggested by the interviewer

"I have some idea of what governments do as far as propaganda is concerned. Perhaps the methods they (the Department of Information) employed were not always the most advisable, in the circumstances, but the job they were doing is a job which is being done in each and every country in the Western world, and I know what I am talking about."



This picture, from the Rhodie family album, was taken at the Prime Minister's residence, and shows the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, being presented with a bust of himself by men who have all been named as key figures in the Department of Information scandal. Mr Vorster was cleared by the Erasmus Commission of all complicity in the scandal but he has been named by Dr Eschel Rhodie as having known and approved of all the major secret projects of the Department. From left are: Dr Rhodie, Dr Connie Mulder, General Hendrik van den Bergh, Mr Vorster, and Mr Johannes van Zyl Alberts, publisher and managing director of The Citizen until the newspaper was sold to Perskor.

Nobody blackmails this govt — PM

CAPE TOWN — Prime Minister P. W. Botha repeated yesterday that the government would not allow itself to be blackmailed or threatened by former Information Secretary Eschel Rhodie.

Nor was the government afraid of anything which might be revealed by Dr Rhodie or the former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh, he said.

General Van den Bergh was making a fool of

himself with "political stunts."

Mr Botha was speaking after New Republic Party leader Vause Raw had raised Dr Rhodie's reported willingness to release documents and tapes concerning Information Department activities.

Mr Raw said Dr Rhodie was trying to blackmail the government and General Van den Bergh regarded Dr Rhodie as a threat to state security. Steps should be taken to

extradite Dr Rhodie.

"Nobody blackmails this government," Mr Botha said.

"This government is not afraid of anything either of those two gentlemen can reveal."

South African policemen could not go overseas "and drag Rhodie back by the neck."

All South African embassies had instructions to issue emergency travel documents to Dr Rhodie in return for his passport.

Mr Botha said General Van den Bergh was "a retired official" with whom the government had nothing to do any more. If the general wanted to get up to "political stunts," he was making a fool of himself.

"Nobody is going to threaten this government as far as the Information scandal is concerned. Nobody is holding us up to ransom."

People or newspapers who embarrassed the country would be dealt with. Mr Botha said — PS

How journalist got his man in Miami

JOHANNESBURG — It was nearly midnight at Miami international airport. The lean figure in a St Moritz sweater stood up from a table in the coffee shop near the Braniff airline counter. Mervyn Rees stretched out his hand and said, "Dr. Rhodie, I presume?"

And so ended a search that lasted months. A search which had turned Rees into an international transit-lounge lizard — just like the man he'd been chasing across four continents.

"So this is what you look like," said the hunted to the hunter.

"Where did you get all that bloody information?"

Rees didn't reply straight off. He lit a cigarette (the 62nd of the day?), studied the man in front of him, smiled and said: "We really have so much to talk about don't we, doctor?"

A frizzy-haired waitress came up and said "Ok, honey. What ya'll gonna have? The Reuben sandwich's real good."

Rees ordered a coke (the 14th of the day?), Dr Rhodie ordered coffee, adding South African-made saccharine tablets.

"Oh, yes," Rhodie added, "and a cup of coffee for that gentleman over there please."

That "gentleman" was a uniformed United States airport security official.

The big Rhodie smile came on, bright even in that neon world. "He's my guard, you see. I'm in transit without a visa and that guy's been designated to make sure I catch my plane out again."

Dr Rhodie, you see, had come into the United States without a visa to meet Rees. He was travelling on the South African passport which the

government had withdrawn and which expires at the end of the year.

"I'd forgotten that you have to clear customs and immigration at this airport when in transit," he explained. "So they only let me in on condition that I stay under guard until my plane leaves again in a few hours."

But that kind of drama didn't end there.

We moved into a hotel room with him inside the airport building to catch a quick nap before flying out to Quito, Ecuador.

Rees decided to go downstairs and get his 15th Coke of the day. It was now about 1 am, but there was something of a crisis on the go. US airport officials were scurrying around, one saying "where in hell is that guy?"

To his horror, Rees suddenly heard the public address system click on and a sweet, deep voice saying "Calling passenger Rhodie. Calling passenger Rhodie. Please come to the Braniff counter immediately."

Rees has been in journalism a long time, he has been just about everywhere and he's done just about it all.

He went up to what he thought was the boss man and said, "Hey, what's the fuss? My friend's in room 503 having a quick nap."

And indeed, South Africa's most wanted man was fast asleep while his name was being called out in one of the world's busiest airport terminals.

The Rees-Rhodie meeting was the end of a road which began when Cape Times reporter Ted Olsen made contacts which he and Rees developed. They later made contact with Dr Rhodie through third

parties in Europe.

The contact system was complicated and could have come from a drop-letter spy network system. Calls could only be made from Europe which meant Rees and Olsen had to fly thousands of kilometres to make one phone call.

Rees was finally told to fly to Frankfurt, then Zurich, then Amsterdam, then Chicago, then Miami, then Quito, then Venezuela (where he was locked in a room and questioned by airport authorities because he was travelling on a South African passport), then to London, then to Paris, then to Cannes, and back to London.

"We should write a book you know," Dr Rhodie said to Rees as they stood looking down the Quito Valley (the city is 2,800 m above sea level). That would be an interesting concept — the investigator and the subject writing a book together.

For more than a month they have sparred, joked, argued, talked — and you will be reading all about it (no secret projects, of course) in the next issue of the Dispatch.

They made the perfect couple. No histrionics, just two professionals who knew the ground rules (and then neither was breaking them).

That's all over now. Dr Rhodie can now only talk to Rees if his new boss, Mr Josias van Zyl, says he can.

— Chris Day

Jan 21/79

BLACK MAGAZINES

Stepping out

Hortors' glossy magazine for blacks, *Pace*, brought out in December with a launch budget of R1,25m, appears to have ridden out the Information storm.

Circulation manager Howard Pell says sales rose from 56 000 in December to 72 000 for the 96-page January edition, and the print order has been raised to 120 000 for the next two issues.

Its competitors are beginning to see *Pace* as a bull factor, which, in the classic pattern, expands the whole market as a result of intensified competition.

Vincent Mattheus, of advertising brokers Greenberg, Mattheus and Associates (who handle *Drum*, *Bona* and *Hit* magazine accounts), sees a parallel in the time when the only English language magazines were *Outspan* and *Femina & Women's Life*.

"Things were bad then with a total lack of impetus for sustained advertising campaigns. Others came onto the market and things snowballed. It's the same with media for blacks — there is a definite need for more editorial and advertising coverage," he reckons.

Noel Coburn, circulation manager at Republic Press, publishers of *Bona*, agrees. "The market is ripe. Look at how *Bona* sales have risen over the past couple of months and you'll see that *Pace* is helping fill a void." *Bona*, with editions in English, Zulu, Xhosa and Sotho has an ABC circulation of 184,391 for July-December 1978 (up 97,6% on 1977). Coburn reckons that recent issues have topped 200 000.

Ted Sceales, of *Drum* (latest ABC figure 85 996), says any legitimate competition can only be welcomed. "The publicity from the Information/Hortors tie-up has stimulated the market and advertisers have suddenly become aware of the potential of black magazines."

The other market leader is *Hit* (ABC 85 869) and a spokesman there avers that *Pace's* apparent success shows that the Information rumpus has had no affect on black readers. *Hit* is owned by Afri-comics, part of the Van Zyl Alberts stable.

Readers of *Pace* say it is giving them what they want to read in slick, sophisticated style. "But it must cost a mint to produce," says one sceptic.

demonstrate locally designed and manufactured terminals at the Hanover Fair this month.

On show will be four terminals manufactured for Datakor under licence by Messina Electronics and Allied Technologies — two versions of the DT 3000, the TT 4000 ticket terminal and the FT 3000 financial terminal.

"It's the first move to export SA computer equipment," says MD Nic Frangos. "We were encouraged to participate in the fair by the inquiries we received from Europe. We believe we can compete, in terms of features and price performance, with anything available anywhere in the world."

After just a year in the business, Datakor has installed 85 of its terminals and has orders in hand for 327. In the past six months, says Frangos, R3m worth of business has been signed. Certainly not a terminal case.

Jr Rhoodie relaxes



Scenes from Dr Eschel Rhoodie's sojourn in South America **TOP**: Dr Rhoodie relaxes at a friend's home **BELOW**: Dr Rhoodie feeds a llama

67 hours and a ^{CT, 9/3/79} deposit box

By MERVYN REES

ONLY 67 hours and an impenetrable safe deposit prevented Dr Eschel, Rhoodie, the former Secretary for Information, from releasing explosive details of South Africa's secret propaganda and psychological warfare operations in Britain, Europe, the United States and Africa

It can now be disclosed that a week ago today, Dr Rhoodie was on the point of handing the documents and tape recordings to the Cape Times and other media. But the combination lock in a bank in the south of France had been changed.

The production of the tapes and documents would, in the words of Dr Rhoodie, have "disastrous consequences for the Government".

The delay while bank officials broke into the box lasted the weekend, and in the 67 hours that followed a dramatic series of events centring on South Africa's spy master and Dr Rhoodie's lifelong friend, General Van den Bergh, had been set in motion.

I joined Dr Rhoodie in Zurich last Thursday after he had flown into Switzerland from Ecuador via the United States and London and changing his itinerary several times to avoid detection. He checked into a hotel near to the Salour offices in Zurich and was there reunited with his wife, Kabe, exactly three months to the day since he had last seen her.

It was an emotional reunion but the following day Dr Rhoodie immediately set about collecting the first set of documents which he had agreed to give to the media.

"I was done it simply because I had no choice with my assets frozen and my passport withdrawn and the fact that I was living off friends. It had become a question of survival," he told me.

At that point he produced several documents on official letter-heads but would not allow me to see the contents. The following morning we flew to the south of France where the balance of the proof lay in another bank. He was anxious to get there before the weekend.

During the flight he was then approached by a representative of the Argus Group of newspapers who had been waiting at Zurich airport. Dr Rhoodie believes that the newspaper had been tipped off by the South African authorities as they had done a week before when they gave his address to Mr John D'Oliveira also of the Star newspaper and a close friend of the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster.

... ..

Chase ends in Miami coffee shop

By CHRIS DAY

JOHANNESBURG — It was nearly midnight at Miami international airport. The lean figure in a St Moritz sweater stood up from a table in the coffee shop near the Braniff Airline counter. Mervyn Rees stretched out his hand and said "Dr Rhodie, I presume?"

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Rees has been in journalism a long time, he has been just about everywhere, he's done just about it all.

But he rates that moment as something really special. Lighting a Perilly with his Dunhill lighter, he went up to what he thought was the boss man and said "Hey what's the fuss? My

friend's in room 503 having a quick nap."

And indeed, South Africa's most wanted man was fast asleep on his posturepedic mattress while his name was being called out in one of the world's busiest airport terminals.

Rees promised to produce his friend soonest and we were later escorted to the departure lounge by a Cuban expatriate guard who became Dr Rhodie's sudden friend as they chatted away in Spanish.

The Rees-Rhodie meeting was the end of a road which began when Cape Times reporter Ted Olsen made contacts which he and Rees developed and later made contact with Dr Rhodie through third parties in Europe.

The contact system was complicated and could have come from a drop-letter spy-network system. Calls could be made only from Europe which meant Rees and Olsen had to fly thousands of kilometres to make one phone call.

Rees was finally told to fly to Frankfurt, then Zurich, then Amsterdam and then Chicago and then Miami and then Quito, Ecuador.

Then Venezuela (where he was locked in a room and questioned by airport authorities because he was travelling on a South African passport), then to London, then to Paris, then to Cannes, then to London.

The last I heard he'd run out of Perillys and is now smoking Winstons and complaining that

he had to pay R3 for one coke in a Zurich hotel.

"We should write a book, you know," Dr Rhodie said to Rees as they stood looking down the Quito valley (the city is 2 800 metres above sea level).

That would be an interesting concept — the investigator and the subject writing a book together.

Rees turned to Dr Rhodie and said "Yes, that would be really something. But there's something I'd like you to do for me first. I want to take a picture of you wearing a sombrero."

(At the time, some South African newspapers were saying that Dr Rhodie had a beard and all that sort of thing, and cartoonists were depicting him taking a siesta lying under a palm tree with a hat over his face.)

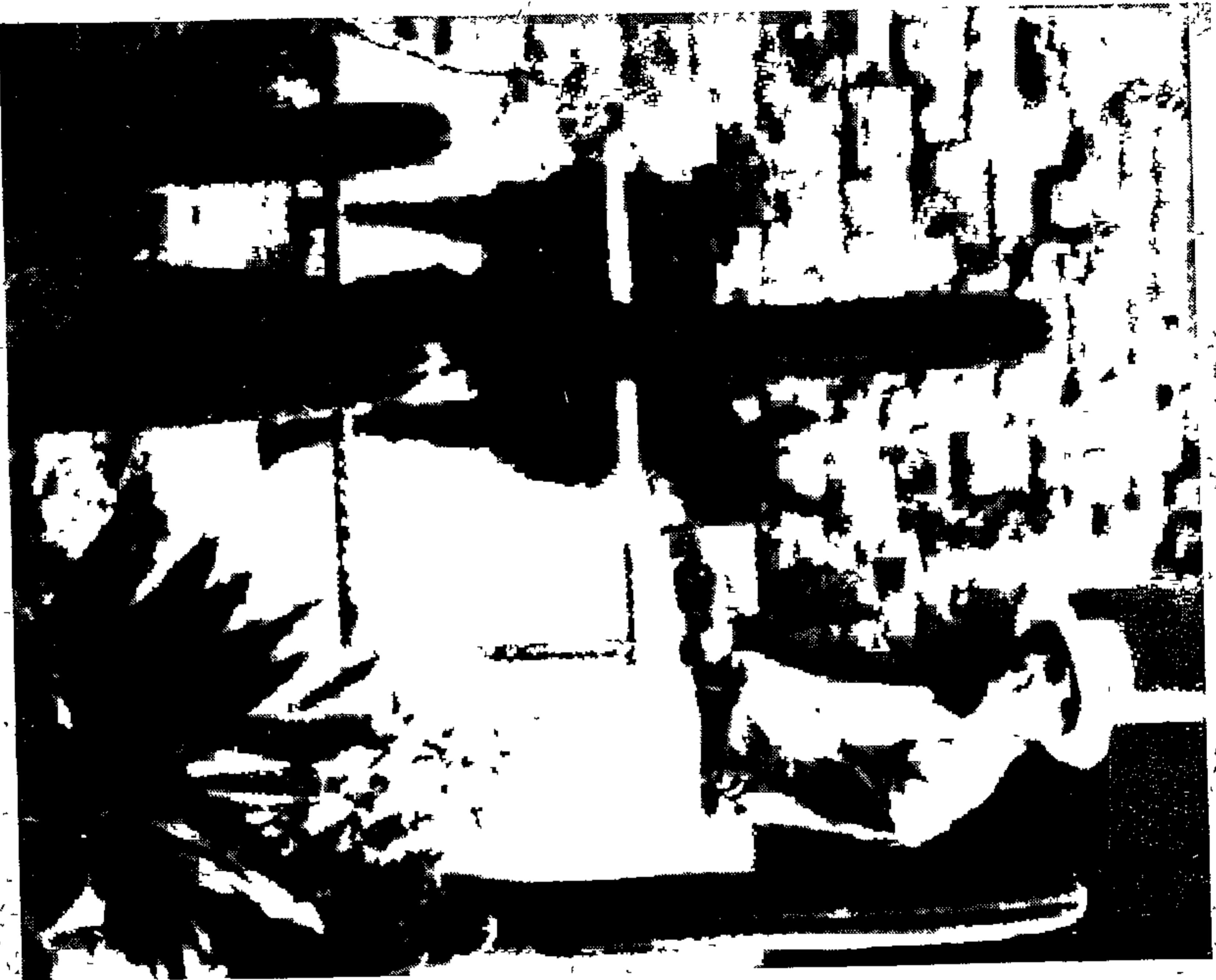
"So where do we get a sombrero?" Dr Rhodie asked.

A quick trip to a shop and Rees had his picture. But no sombrero — a mere panama.

For more than a month they have sparred, joked, argued, talked — and you will be reading all about it (no secret projects, of course) in the Cape Times.

They made the perfect couple. No histrionics, just two professionals who knew the ground rules (and when either was breaking them). That's all over now. Dr Rhodie can now talk to Rees only if his new boss, Mr Osias van Zyl, says he can.

I'm putting my money on Rees.



holiday cruise to the Mediterranean but two hours later I met him in a hotel coffee bar where he told me of the attempts he had been making to get into his own safe deposit box.

Apparently the box could not be opened as the previous owner, now dead, had set the combination without informing the bank. A bank official confirmed this and said it could not be opened until after the weekend.

General Van den Bergh was quoted in the South African press as saying that Dr Rhoadie was preparing to sell his story but it was not until Monday that Dr Rhoadie discovered this when he arrived at my hotel carrying a total of 29 tapes and consisting of 45 hours of recordings.

He also showed me a thick document in book form which he said was a total summary of all the secret projects.

It was at this point that I told him of the stories which had appeared in South Africa and he immediately set about contacting family and friends. Several hours later, obviously under tremendous pressure from his family, he told me he was having to reconsider his situation in the light of what had been published about his selling the story to the foreign media.

He later told me he was flying to Paris to meet a relative who was being accompanied by somebody else.

That person turned out to be General Van den Bergh, together with Mr Josias van Zyl, whom he described as a distant relative, and a Mr Brian Kahn, whom he said was Mr Van Zyl's attorney.

They met with General Van den Bergh in a hotel room near the airport from 3 pm until 4 am the next morning after which the statement was issued in London that Dr Rhoadie had accepted a position with Mr Van Zyl's firm.

When he returned to explain the developments to me, he said he could no longer go ahead with the disclosures that he had been about to make.

'Second honeymoon'

From MERVYN REES

thriller

JOHANNESBURG. — Mrs Ka-
the Rhoadie, wife of the exiled
former Secretary for Informa-
tion, claimed in Europe this
week that an agent of the South
African authorities had tried to
sell her a passport while she
was in South Africa.

She said that she had antic-
ipated that he might be acting
on behalf of the government
and had therefore immediately
reported this to the au-

Mrs Rhoadie, who saw her
husband in a Zurich hotel on
Wednesday night last week, for
the first time in three months,
said that their being together
again was like a second honey-
moon.

She said that it had been a
terribly difficult time for the
family while they were all sep-
arated with her son in boarding
school, her daughter at the
Rand Afrikaans University, her
husband moving about the
world and herself confined to
South Africa.

Rhoadie!

JOHANNESBURG —
The Daily Dispatch
can reveal today
what it knows of the
political implications
of the Eschel
Rhoadie story.

This includes the identity of the informal Cabinet committee which approved and monitored the Citizen and other Information projects.

Dr Rhoadie told his story to Rand Daily Mail reporter Mervyn Rees over more than a week of interviews at the beginning of February in his hideout in Quito, Ecuador, which in the South American Andes.

Rees, who represents the Rand Daily Mail, the Daily Dispatch, the Cape Times, the Eastern Province Herald and the Natal Mercury, was the first newsman to trace Dr Rhoadie in exile and has been with him almost constantly in the USA, Latin America and at various hideouts in Europe ever since.

They were still together yesterday.
The interviews, with Rees were completed by the time the next newsman on Dr Rhoadie's

trail, John D'Oliveira, of The Star, arrived on the scene—to be told nothing substantial.

The story Dr Rhoadie told to Rees is a startling one, containing political dynamite for the P W Botha administration and for the previous government.

Dr Rhoadie told Rees that Information's secret projects had been approved and monitored by an informal Cabinet Committee, consisting initially of Mr Vorster, Dr Mulder and Dr Diederichs.

When Senator Owen Horwood took over as Minister of Finance on February 1, 1975, he had also replaced Dr Diederichs on this Cabinet Committee. Dr Rhoadie told Rees the Citizen had been among the projects which had been approved and monitored by this committee.

The Prime Minister, Mr Botha, has consistently denied that any members of his Cabinet knew of the Citizen project or any other. Information irregularities and has said he will resign and "go to the country" if it can be proved they did know.
Senator Horwood himself has also repeatedly



THIS STORY

denied in Parliament that he knew of The Citizen project

Dr Rhoadie also told Rees "he would never return to South Africa because the Government had destroyed the idealism which had driven him to work so hard for his country for so many years

He said government actions had shown him that they had already "convicted" him and he therefore did not think he would get fair and just treatment in "the country I love so much"

"I will never go back," he told Rees bitterly following the dramatic intervention of Gen Van den Bergh to stop disclosure of the Information Department's secret projects. Dr Rhoadie has called off plans to tell his story about secret projects to the overseas news media and to hand over to them all tape recordings which are located abroad

The Daily Dispatch is not here concerned with the revelation of secret projects which might adversely affect national security. But political embarrassment of the Nationalist

From THE EDITOR

Government and individuals in it is another matter

After Rees had completed his extensive interview in February, the Daily Dispatch and its news partners withheld publication of the story at Dr Rhoadie's instance — because he wanted to negotiate the sale of the story to overseas news media, to give him a means of livelihood in exile following the Government's freezing of his assets in South Africa.

Rees had made it clear to him that the newspapers he represented would not pay him a cent for the story.

Dr Rhoadie also asked Rees to delay publication until he had completed indirect negotiations with the Government — over the return of his wife's passport, the cancellation of his own passport and his frozen assets

Then came the dramatic intervention of Gen Van den Bergh — Dr Rhoadie's former collaborator in the secret projects — to try to persuade him not to

reveal the secret projects to the overseas media.

He took with him a wealthy Nationalist businessman Mr Josias van Zyl, who has reportedly made a "job offer" to Dr Rhoadie to compensate him for his cancelled deal with the overseas media.

In a joint statement issued in London on Wednesday night, Mr Van Zyl and General Van den Bergh said Dr Rhoadie had signed an agreement not to disclose any information about secret projects

Dr Rhoadie agreed to be interviewed by Rees after Rees had told him emphatically that the new-

sheets he represented would not pay him for it, because Dr Rhoadie said he wanted his side of the story published in South Africa

Dr Rhoadie also wanted to recall what he regarded as political hypocrisy on the part of members of the Nationalist Government whom he believes have made him, Dr C Mulder and Gen van den Bergh scapegoats for the Info debacle.

In his interviews with Rees, he has disclosed information who, in the Government he believes, knew of, and who were responsible for Info's activities.

In the interests of South Africa the Daily Dispatch feels Dr Rhoadie's story must be made known and thus we intend doing in forthcoming issues

Footnote: The Daily Dispatch and its associate newspapers have no tape recordings nor Government documents relating to secret projects in their possession

More Info scandal page 5

INSIDE

- Weather 8
- TV, radio 8
- Ships, air 9
- Stars 9
- Shares 10
- Classified 14-18

Friday, March 9, 1979

259

Dr Rhoodie relaxes at a Quito hotel.

Rhoodie relaxes beside a friend's pool in South America.

Drama of a locked box

By MERVYN REES

LONDON — Only 67 hours and an impenetrable safety deposit prevented Dr Eschel Rhoodie from releasing explosive details of South Africa's secret propaganda and psychological warfare operations in Britain, Europe, the United States and Africa.

The production of the documents and tapes which had lain in two bank vaults in Switzerland and France was to have taken place when his "agreement" with the South African Government expired on March 1.

The delay while bank officials broke into the box lasted the weekend and in the 67 hours that followed, a dramatic series of events centering round South Africa's spy master and Dr Rhoodie's lifelong friend, General Van den Bergh, had been set in motion.

I joined Dr Rhoodie in Zurich last Thursday after he had checked into a hotel near the Satour offices there and was reunited with his wife Katie exactly three months to the day since he had last seen her.

It was an emotional reunion, but the following day Dr Rhoodie immediately set about collecting the first set of documents which he had agreed to give to the media.

"I was doing it simply because I had no choice with my assets frozen and my passport withdrawn and the fact that I was living off friends. It had become a question of survival," he told me.

At that point he produced several documents on official letterheads but would not allow me to see the contents.

of the proof lay in another bank. He was anxious to get there before the weekend.

Apparently the box could not be opened as the previous owner, now dead, had set the combination without informing the bank.

A bank official confirmed this and said it could not be opened until after the weekend and it would take a locksmith several hours.

When Dr Rhoodie arrived at my hotel carrying a total of 29 tapes consisting of 45 hours of recordings, he also showed me a thick document in book form which he said was a total summary of all the secret projects.

It was at this point that I told him of the stories which had appeared in South Africa and he immediately set about contacting family and friends.

Several hours later, obviously under tremendous pressure from his family, he told me he was having to reconsider his situation in the light of what had been published about his selling the story to the foreign media.

He later told me he was flying to Paris to meet a relative, but that turned out to be General Van den Bergh, together with Mr Josias van Zyl, whom he described as a distant relative, and Mr Brian Kahn, whom he said was Mr Van Zyl's attorney.

They met with General Van den Bergh in a hotel room near the airport from 3 p.m. until 4 a.m. the next morning after which the statement was issued in London that Dr Rhoodie had accepted a position with Mr Van Zyl's firm.

When he returned to explain the developments to me, he said he could no longer go ahead with the

disclosures that he had been about to make.

Dr Rhoodie, who undertook not to provide the tapes or documents to any media after signing an agreement with Mr Van Zyl, gave the following interview based on previous discussions he had held with the Rand Daily Mail and it was, therefore, done before the new contract was entered into.

His views, based on a long series of discussions over the last few weeks, were critical, not only of the government but told of his life on the run.

"I came out of South Africa with only my travel allowance and that of my wife. Ever since then I have stayed in the homes of friends, driven their cars and they have even paid my various airfares. One man lent me 5 000 dollars.

He said he had been moving about Europe most of the time and denied he had been in Sao Paulo, in Brazil, or that he had grown a beard. During those months he had been finishing off a manuscript and research for a doctoral dissertation on discrimination in the constitutions of the world.

"I had been booked to return to South Africa early in December when I read that my passport had been withdrawn and up until this day all I know about my passport is what I have read in the newspapers.

"But apart from that, my sense of betrayal and disillusionment is so great and the ashes of my destroyed idealism leave a bitter taste in my mouth. This is on top of the disgraceful harassment of my wife on the part of the South African authorities. It just makes me not want to return to South Africa."

"Referring to his painful decision to sell the story of South Africa's psychological warfare, he said he had to get a public forum to evaluate all the projects if his role was to be seen in prospective, and the only way in which that could be done would be through the press.

This is why he had decided on simultaneous publication in the Rand Daily Mail, its morning group partners, and the foreign media, because if the Rand Daily Mail and its partners were prevented from publishing, that would not have been the case overseas.

He said the second aspect was that the government had frozen his assets, which he estimates to be worth R265 000. They had blocked his pension and withdrawn his passport.

"It was a question of survival and my negotiations with television networks provided me with the opportunity for funds that would simply allow me to survive.

"I was on the horns of a dilemma. In order to defend myself — both my actions and my person — I had to disclose the secrets. Failure to do so would mean I was unable to defend myself, so it should not be seen as a purely commercial transaction."

He said he was grateful that General Van den Bergh and Mr Van Zyl had come to talk to him and he hoped it would materialise into a concrete agreement.

He said as far as their role was concerned he believed they had saved the country from disastrous consequences, and said the evidence contain-

ed with the documentation and the 29 tapes could topple the government.

"It was a great shock to me and my family that I should be viewed as somebody selling out the country.

Of his future, he said this was his last conversation with the press and he now wanted to get on with his new job, studies and family.

Asked whether suggestions that the General and Mr Van Zyl may have been acting as emissaries of the South African Government, he said he did not believe so.

Dr Rhoodie also revealed that his 15-year-old son, Eschel, who is now in a boarding school in Europe, had been beaten up by boys at Grey College in Bloemfontein and they said his father had stolen millions.

"For this sort of thing I blame the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and the Erasmus Commission. They did this to my son."

"The Citizen newspaper was not just my decision, or Dr Mulder's. It was known and approved by Mr Vorster, and for that my son had to suffer. That is why I took him out of South Africa."

Dr Rhoodie said he could never forgive them for what they had done to his son.

He said he still believed that Dr Connie Mulder was the one man capable of structuring a society in South Africa and that had a real chance of surviving.

Dr Rhoodie said he had decided to deal with the Rand Daily Mail and its partners because they were the only newspapers in South Africa that would have had the guts to go through with disclosing the true facts.

Reveals 'Jespers',

259

INM 9/3/79

General Rhodie

Dare

When the interviewer suggested he had once been prepared to disclose information, the general denied this. "I never threatened to expose anything. I dare anyone in this world point a finger at me and accuse me of being a traitor, of having betrayed anybody, of having stabbed anybody in the back."

In Parliament yesterday the Prime Minister, Mr. P. W. Botha, repeated the Government would not allow itself to be blackmailed or threatened by Dr Rhodie.

Nor, he said, was the Government afraid of anything which might be revealed by Dr Rhodie or General van den Bergh, the general making a fool of himself with "political stunts".

The men who made the 'tapes' deal



LONDON — Outside their hotel yesterday . . . General Hendrik van den Bergh (right), lawyer Brian Kahn and businessman Josias van Zyl (centre) — (Cablecast)

LONDON — General Hendrik van den Bergh explained here yesterday how he urged Dr. Eschel Rhoodie not to throw away years of work for South Africa — and in this way persuaded him not to release secret information that would have harmed his country.

Dr. Rhoodie agreed after meeting the general not to publish the information in exchange for a job offered to him by a Johannesburg businessman, Mr. Josias van Zyl. The deal was made in Paris after more than 17 hours of negotiations between the three men.

Yesterday General van den Bergh told the BBC in a radio interview. "When Dr. Rhoodie spoke to me in South Africa by phone last week he told me that Monday would be the day. On Monday he was going to have to take a final decision whether to sell his tapes. He was in desperate need of money.

'A lot of harm'

"I said to him, 'You, as a member and subsequently head of the Department of Information, you have been trying to sell South Africa's policies and everything that goes with them to the world, but if you were to now sell everything you know, you spoil and waste all the years of your hard work.

"You will do your country and the people of South Africa a lot of harm.

"But I think you will also do a lot of harm to South Africa's friends, wherever they are."

The general said he stressed that people might not trust South Africans if the information were disclosed.

When he was asked whether a direct cash offer had been made to Dr. Rhoodie in exchange for the tapes, the general replied: "He was in urgent need of money. Of that I was sure. Mr. van Zyl was not prepared to buy any tapes because he did not want Dr. Rhoodie to sell his information, to sell his character."

The general confirmed Dr. Rhoodie made the tapes after he left South Africa last November. "He had a complete record of everything he could remember."

Luyt bounces back

1985 (2) 11/11/79 see copy in 159.1 for details

Triomf Fertilizer's Louis Luyt says he will have no difficulty repaying the R12m borrowed from former Triomf partner...
Luyt's view with the I.M. he said he would not keep one cent of capital or interest owing to government other than that amount he lost through his involvement with the Department of Informa-

the government as a *Citizen front* and is adamant that there will be no more...
...the best company of its kind in the world.

There has been speculation that he would have to sell his 37% holding in the listed Triomf company to his partners in the operating company. An I Government was expected to press him for immediate repayment of every cent owing on the basis that his agreement with Rhoadie was *ultra vires* and therefore invalid.

Senior counsel, however, are convinced that Luyt's written agreement to repay the money between now and 1986 using post dated cheques is binding and the State Attorney apparently now supports this view.

With Triomf poised to take advantage of rising demand for phosphoric acid, which it produces at its R200m Richards Bay plant, Luyt's share of the takings should be more than adequate to cover the cheques.

It seems likely, moreover, that his bankers Nedbank would give him even more backing in the event of an emergency payout. Triomf's total commitment to Nedbank, including overseas loan guarantees, is about R80m. Triomf (Pty)'s own means are in excess of R15m not R10m as speculated.

Though this means a gearing of 2:1 (most financial experts believe a gearing of 1:1 to be advisable in Luyt's type of business) Nedbank is not alarmed. "We went to 2:1 because we believe we're into a good thing," one bank source told the *FN*.

In addition Nedbank receives massive doses of foreign exchange, over R100m a year at the moment, as a result of Triomf's involvement in foreign markets. This in itself could justify the over gearing.

Nevertheless, Luyt admits to having been extremely worried before the world take-out of phosphoric acid prices

Triomf needs \$225 a ton to meet interest charges and to make a profit on each ton loaded. Only recently did the price rise to \$220. But now it looks as if the price could settle around \$300 going to \$400 before the year's end. Hardly surprisingly, the market is predicting Triomf earnings of around 60c per share for the current year.

Though Luyt insists he will be in control at Triomf "in 25 years," one of the most persistent items of market talk is that he would like out. One stockbroker's newsletter reported that Luyt was keen to sell to Federale Volksbeleggings. Other sources maintain that takeover by Luyt's 49% partner in Triomf (Pty), AECL, is imminent.

Securities rand

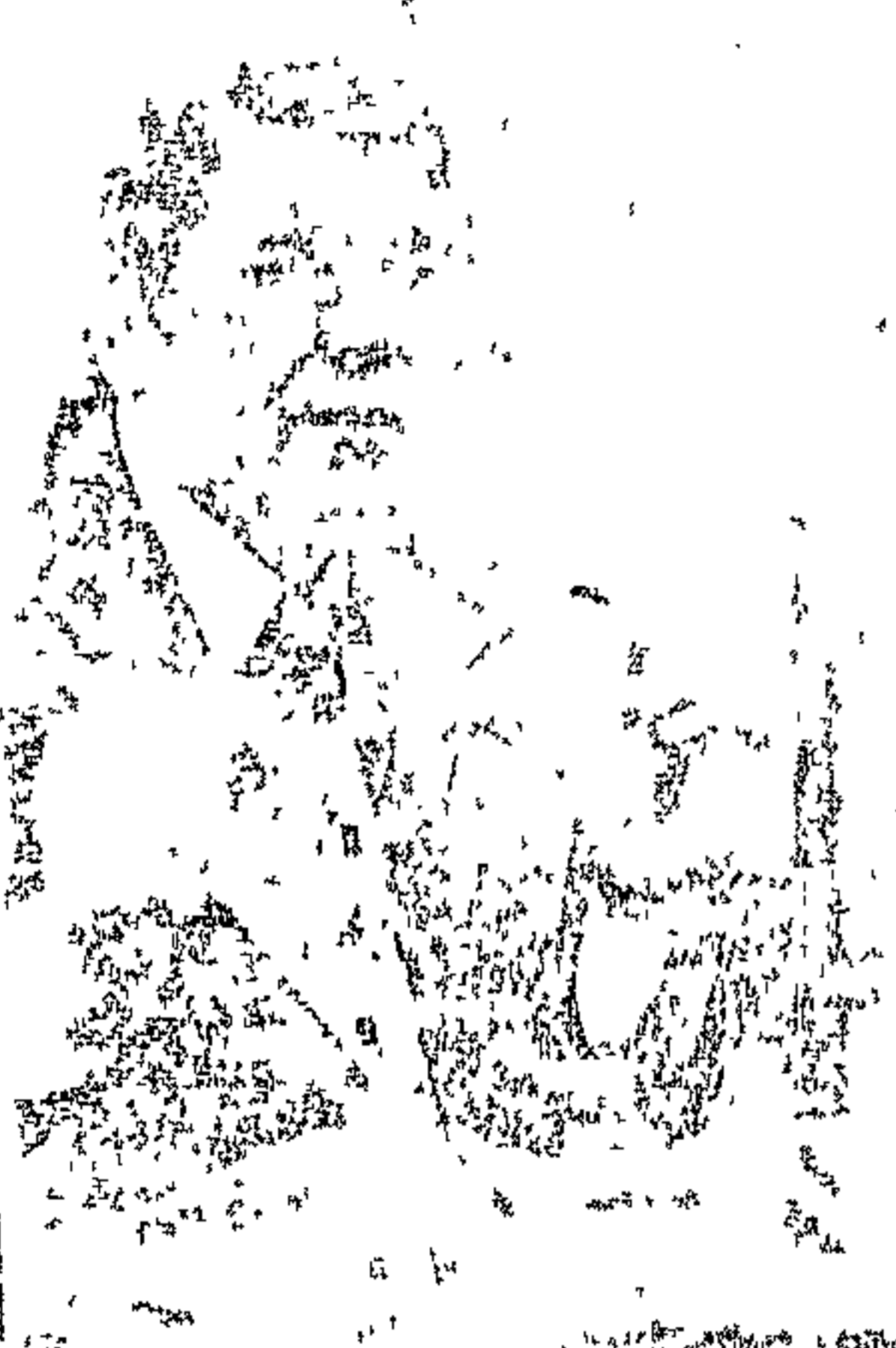
Luyt says he's aware of the talk and points out that certain foreign interests would also be keen to negotiate and take advantage of the near 40% discount available through the securities rand — if he were for sale!

While he insists with vigour that he's not, he stresses he would not in any event do a deal with foreign interests in preference to his local partner, AECL, or the co-ops.

It would not make sense for Luyt to sell now. Having been through a bad time (when he had an offer and turned it down) the fortunes of his company are changing rapidly. From a R12m pre-tax loss in 1977, the turnaround is expected to bring in net profits of close to R30m in the current year.

Nedbank's Gerry Muller believes the recent decline in phosphoric acid prices — and Triomf's fortunes — may prove a blessing in disguise. "Had the market been as good as it is now, we would have had other plants in the world competing against the two in SA. This would naturally have had an effect on Triomf."

"As things are now, I feel Richards Bay was and is an excellent investment for Triomf, AECL, and all other parties involved — in spite of the difficulties of the past few years."



Luyt's hindsight is a science

Just how much this would amount to, Luyt would not say. But he believes it is owed in the region of R38m in differential interest through having a R7m loan cancelled when it was due for renewal. Reason for the cancellation, Luyt claims, was that he could not furnish a balance sheet without blowing his cover on *The Citizen*.

To day, Luyt is bitter and "ashamed" over the way he believes he was used by



General Hendrik van den Bergh fields questions from reporters at Jan Smuts Airport while Johannesburg businessman Mr Josias van Zyl listens. The general said Mr van Zyl paid for the delegation to visit Dr Rhodie.

Eschel product does not exist yet

By Jan van Ree

Dr Eschel Rhodie has been employed by a Johannesburg businessman to market a product which, according to its patent holder, does not yet exist in its final form.

The businessman is Mr Josias van Zyl, who returned to South Africa today with his lawyer, Mr Brian Kahn, and General Hendrik van den Berg after they had visited Dr Rhodie in Europe this week.

At a Press conference at Jan Smuts Airport today Mr van Zyl said he had not bought Dr Rhodie's silence over the Information scandal.

"Dr Rhodie signed a contract to work for Mr van Zyl, who has a company called Intermeneue, which will sell a machine which cuts metal without distortion "once the final product is ready in a few weeks' time."

So far more than R7-million had been put into the development of

the machine, by various South African businessmen, including one who put in R800 000 and pulled out last year, he said.

Mr van Zyl said he was employing Rhodie for two reasons. One because it was in "the country's interest" and the other because of Dr Rhodie's business abilities.

When asked exactly what Dr Rhodie would do for his company he said that the final agree-

ment had not yet been sorted out but that "he was going to perform a function for me."

Mr van Zyl said he had only one company at the moment and it was going to market his metal-cutting machine.

Another of his companies, Prepazyl Group of Companies, was liquidated last year. Prepazyl was, according to Mr van Zyl, a holding company and never traded.

... world to get Dr Eschel Rhoodie back to South Africa.

The instruction came from Foreign Minister, Pik Botha, who made it clear that in spite of the deal negotiated by the former BOSS chief, General Hendrik van der Bergh, the Government still wants the ex-Information Secretary to testify again to the Erasmus Commission

It was issued as a new storm broke over the Information scandal with fresh revelations by Dr Rhoodie — angrily denied by Prime Minister P W Botha — that Finance Minister Senator Owen Horwood, former Finance Minister the late Dr Nico Diederichs, and the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, formed an informal Cabinet committee to control the huge secret Information operation

"I totally reject this false information," Mr P W Botha said today through his Press secretary to The Star's political correspondent, Hugh Leggatt

Senator Horwood today denied he had been a member of any Cabinet Committee dealing with Information matters or that he had known anything about The Citizen project.

Mr P W Botha said "What can people think of a man who sits overseas and besmirches others but who will not come back to his own country to substantiate his allegations?"

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, said today "Either Dr Rhoodie or Senator Horwood is lying and South Africa has the right to know the truth."

From Zurich John Cavill reports that Mr Pik Botha has ordered all South African embassies to seek the cooperation of the governments they are accredited to in getting Dr Rhoodie's passport and to issue him with a one-way travel document valid for a direct journey only to South Africa.

"Mr Botha first heard of the deal between Dr Rhoodie and businessman Josias van Zyl, negotiated by General van den Bergh, from me," writes Cavill.

"The Government does not fear anything that Dr Rhoodie can disclose and he has been invited to return and testify again to the Erasmus Commission"

Trio to approach Government over passport

By Pieter Schoombee,
David Breier and
Jan van Ree

The three-man delegation who made a deal for Dr Eschel Rhoodie's return is to approach the Government about his passport. They returned to South Africa today.

Mr Josias van Zyl, the Johannesburg businessman who gave Dr Rhoodie a job as part of the deal, said at Jan Smuts Airport the Government would be approached by their attorney, Mr Brian Kahn

Mr Kahn made up the delegation with General Hendrik van den Bergh, retired chief of the Bureau for State Security, who is a long-standing friend of Dr Rhoodie

At a Press conference it was emphasised that they did not go to Europe for discussions with Dr Rhoodie on instructions or in consultation with the Government. "The Government has nothing to do with it," General van den Bergh said.

said, but he might get one in future. When pressed, he said there were "international possibilities" of a passport for Dr Rhoodie.

Mr Kahn is to meet the Government about the passport issue.

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259

9/3/79

Citizen

Senator Horwood told Hugh Leggatt today that at no time was he a member of a Cabinet committee of any kind dealing with Department of Information matters.

Senator Horwood said he did not believe that any such committee existed. "At no time whatsoever was I a party to approving a single project of the Department of Information nor did I, in fact, approve any such project."

"I knew nothing about The Citizen project."

Opposition leaders today demanded an urgent probe into the allegations made by Dr Rhodie and said the Government would have to resign if these were found to be true.

There are moves to call a special debate to discuss the latest disclosures.

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, pointed out that during the current session of Parliament, the Prime Minister placed the Government at issue on the fact that no Minister knew about The Citizen.

"There is now a flat allegation that this is not true and South Africa demands that the facts be established," he said.

He said the Erasmus Commission report had referred to a Cabinet committee.

Mr Colin Eglin, the Opposition leader, challenged the Prime Minister to agree to the appointment of a select committee to examine the evidence given to the Erasmus Commission and investigate the latest disclosures by Dr Rhodie.

Mr van Zyl admitted that Dr Rhodie would need a passport to work for him internationally. "That speaks for itself."

Dr Rhodie was without a passport "at present," he

Love letter

snoopers

riled Eschel

Dr Eschel Rhodie became an embittered man after Government officials read his love letters for days on end.

General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security, revealed this today when he arrived at Jan Smuts Airport after consultations with the former head of the Department of Information.

The General said: "Certain officials spent days reading the love letters he wrote to his wife when they were courting."

"This is the most unpleasant thing that could happen to any man."



Mr. P. W. Botha
still
back
to
his
old
place

I reject this false information—P W Botha

Brins Rhoadie back, Govt calls

STAR 9/3/79

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His son was not beaten'

G.M. Bra

Rhodie scoop promised to more than one

STAR 9/3/79

259

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The son of Dr Eschel Rhodie had not been beaten up by fellow pupils at Grey College in Bloemfontein, the headmaster of the school, Mr J L Cronje, said today. Dr Rhodie was quoted in a morning newspaper today as saying that his 15-year-old son, Eschel Junior, now in a boarding school in Europe, had been beaten up by boys at the school who had said his father had stolen millions.

"I am positive no such thing happened," Mr Cronje said.

"When he left the school last year I asked him whether the other boys had been nasty to him.

"He replied 'Sir, nothing nasty has been said to me. The boys have been very kind'.

"I also received a letter from someone on behalf of the Rhodie family, thanking me and the school for the way in which the boy had been treated."

Dr Eschel Rhodie has been promising to place his political "bombshell" in the hands of The Star, The Rand Daily Mail, and perhaps several other newspapers — leaving each with the impression that he wished to give it to them first.

This was revealed today when the Mail published Dr Rhodie's allegations.

The Rand Daily Mail also published several colour pictures of Dr Rhodie in Ecuador and long background stories similar to those appearing in The Star over the past two weeks.

The Mail quoted Dr Rhodie as saying he had decided to deal with that newspaper because it was the only one with the guts to go ahead and disclose the facts.

However, when he spoke to John D'Oliviera of The Star in Quito, he said the only newspaper

he could trust was The Star, and D'Oliviera would be the first to know if he decided to release his "bombshell".

He was, at the same time, already supplying information to the Mail. This week, after a bargaining session with General van den Bergh, Dr Rhodie decided to call off all deals (none involved finance) and to withhold his information.

In return he was offered an overseas job by Mr Joe van Zyl who attended the bargaining session.

General to be called?

Political Reporter

CAPE TOWN — The possibility of calling former security chief General Hendrik van den Bergh as a witness was due to be discussed by the Van der Walt Commission into exchange control contraventions when it met today.

This was confirmed today by the Commission's chairman, Nationalist Mzp Mr Henne van der Walt.

Opposition members of the commission have made it clear they want General van den Bergh to testify and Mr van der Walt said in an interview that this and other matters would be considered today.

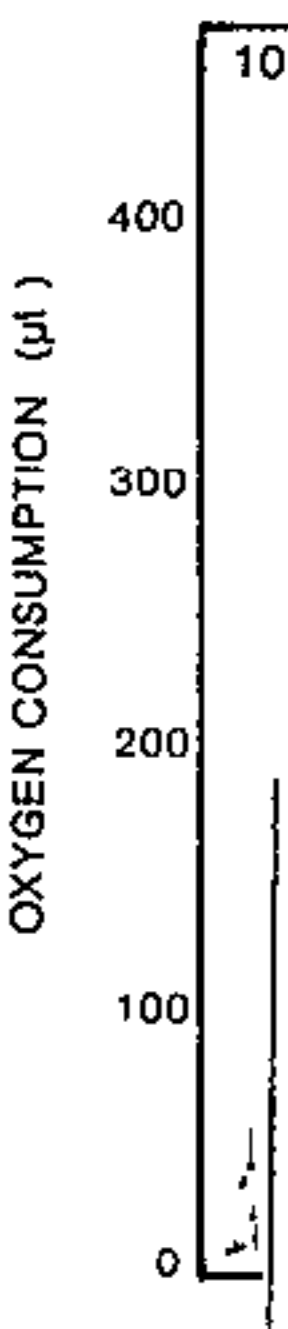
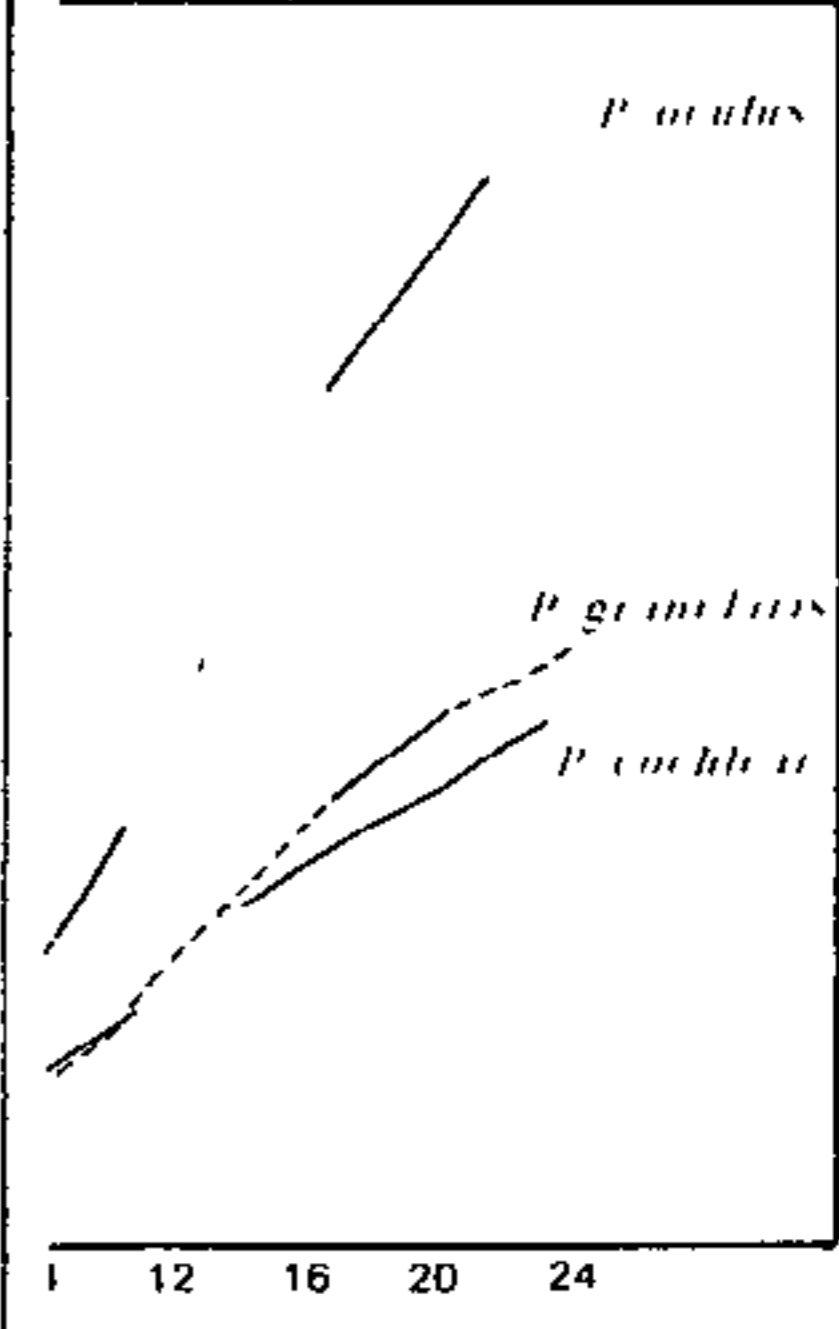


Fig. 6. of tidal and diurnal cycles for standard individuals calculated by the



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of la that 5A). differ and l. 3). Th cochle the a vatio tides Ir lus i ably 5B). and b (up t midsh expos 46 272 signatures on the spire incre tide. Du Patell long perat minim

Petition on the general goes in

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — A petition for the prosecution of the former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van der Bergh, was handed to the Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, today.

Mr Kruger was told the 46 272 signatures on the petition represented only a portion of its supporters. Many calls had been received from the plateau and from people interested in signing it.

Mr Johan Maree chair-man of the organisation committee, said he had

asked Mr Kruger if he had anything to say. The Minister replied "Nothing at all".

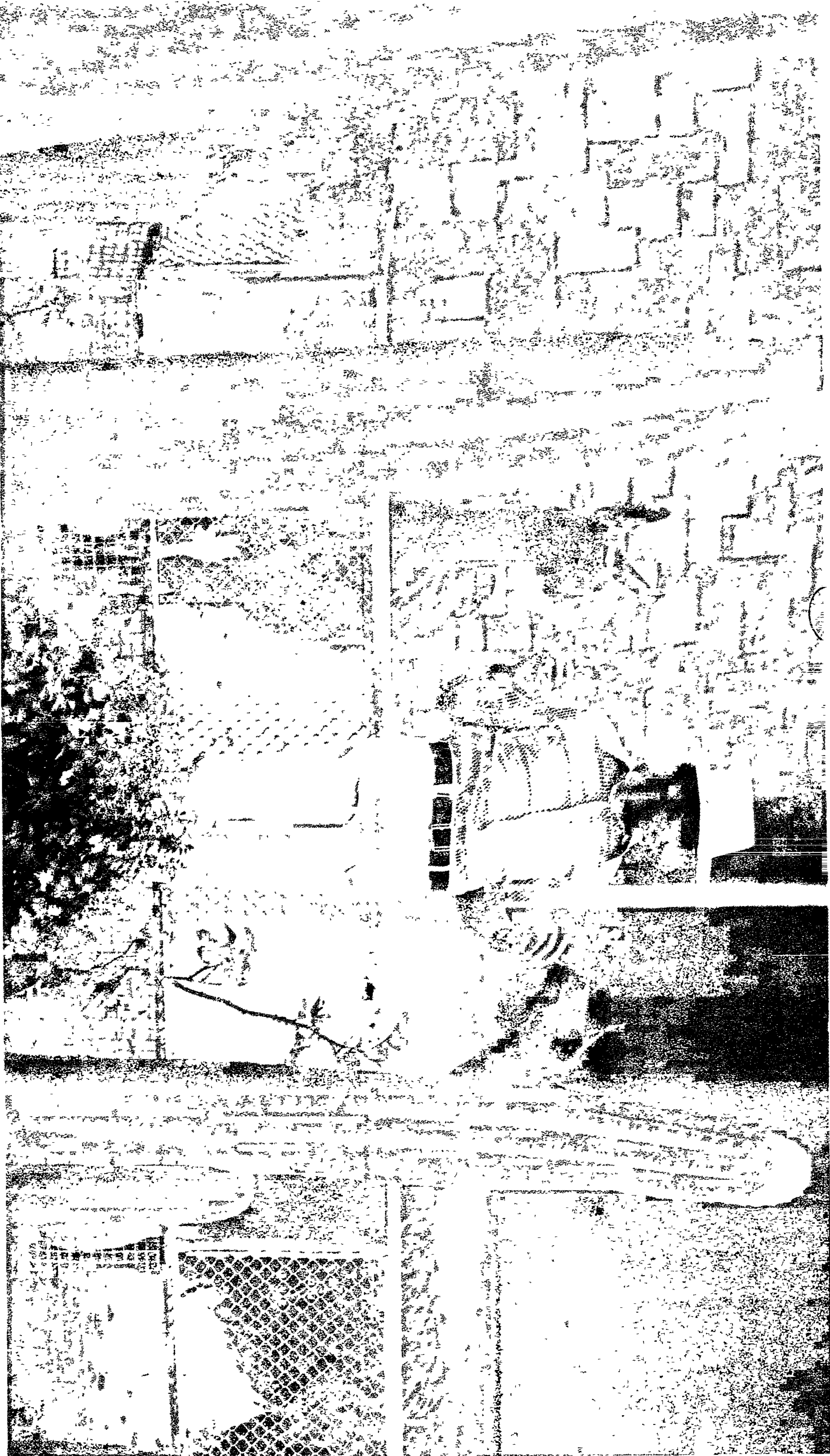
The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, backing the call for prosecution of General van den Bergh for his remarks about the Erasmus Commission, pointed out that a letter the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr R F "Pik" Botha had written to Dr Eschel Rhodie contradicted an earlier statement by Mr Kruger that the national interest would be prejudiced by a prosecution.

this period because their respiratory rates are low in air. The Q₁₀ between 17°C in water and 28°C in air is only 1.33. Conversely, there is a dramatic drop in respiration at night from the rate at 17°C in water to that at 15°C in air (Fig. 5C), the Q₁₀ being 7.80. Thus, the low rate of aerial respiration not only keeps down day-time rates when temperatures are high at low tide, but results in a considerable saving of energy at night when air temperatures are low.

... especially evident in the larger individuals.

clusions

ella cochlear occurs very low on the shore where algal growth is potentially high, but under conditions of intense interspecific competition most algae are eliminated, leaving lithothamnium (which are heavily calcified and have a low caloric value) as the main food. Feeding occurs during submergence and is thus fairly prolonged. Territorial spacing and stacking of juveniles on the shells of adults diminish but do not eliminate competition (Branch, 1975b). Populations are very stable and longevity high: up to 30 years. These circumstances favour a low growth and low reproductive output.



South Africa's most wanted man Dr Eschel Rhoadie feeding a pair of llamas in Ecuador The Rand Daily Mail found him first and this photograph was taken by the man who found him MFRVVA R 1 1

Political Cynamate for P W Botha

By THE EDITOR

THE Rand Daily Mail can reveal today that it knows the political implications of the Eschel Rhoodie story — including the identity of the

informal Cabinet committee which approved and monitored The Citizen and other information projects.

Dr Rhoodie told his story to "Mail" reporter MERVYN REES over more than a week of interviews in

his hideout in Quito, Ecuador, high in the South American Andes, at the beginning of February.

Rees was the first newsmen to trace Dr Rhoodie in exile — and has been with him almost constantly in the United States, Latin America and at various hideouts in Europe ever since. Until last night they were still together

The interviews with Rees were completed by the time the next newsmen on Dr Rhoodie's trail, John D'Oliveira of The Star, arrived on the scene — to be told nothing substantial

The story Dr Rhoodie told the "Mail" is a startling one, containing political dynamite for the P W Botha Administration — and the previous Government of Mr John Vorster. Dr Rhoodie told Rees that Information's secret projects had been approved and monitored by an informal Cabinet committee, consisting initially of Mr Vorster, Dr Mulder and Dr Nico Dieдриchs

When Senator Owen Horwood took over from Dr Dieдриchs as Minister of Finance on February 1, 1975, he had also replaced him on this Cabinet committee. Dr Rhoodie said The Citizen had been among the projects which had been approved and monitored by this committee.

The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, has consistently denied that any member of his Cabinet knew of The Citizen project or any other Information irregularities — and has said he will resign and "go to the country" if

□ To Page 2

Dr Rhoodie, I presume . . .

By CHRIS DAY

Ronnie Bass, the unrepentant Sigma magician is playing to packed houses in Eloff Street and in Von Riebeck Avenue, Edenburg. The Mazda, Golf and Chrysler deals Ronnie Bass pulls out of the hat astound the mind. No wonder they come back for more. See the Sigma wizard in action for yourself. Ronnie Bass — Sigma. The greatest value-for-money show in town!



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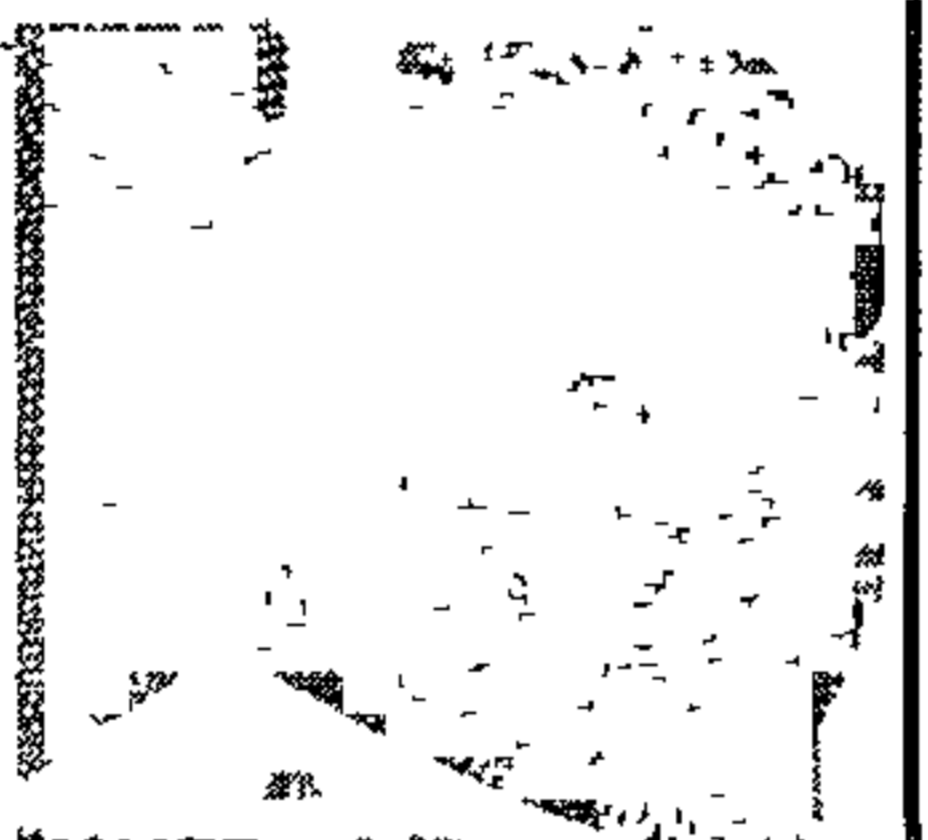
IT WAS nearly midnight at Miami International Airport. The lean figure in a St Moritz sweater stood up from a table in the coffee shop near the Braniff airline counter. Mervyn Rees stretched out his hand and said: "Dr Rhoodie. I presume?"

And so ended a search that had lasted months. A search which had turned Rees into an international transit-lounge lizard — just like the man he'd been chasing across four continents. "So this is what you look like," said the hunted to the hunter. "Where did you get all that bloody information?"

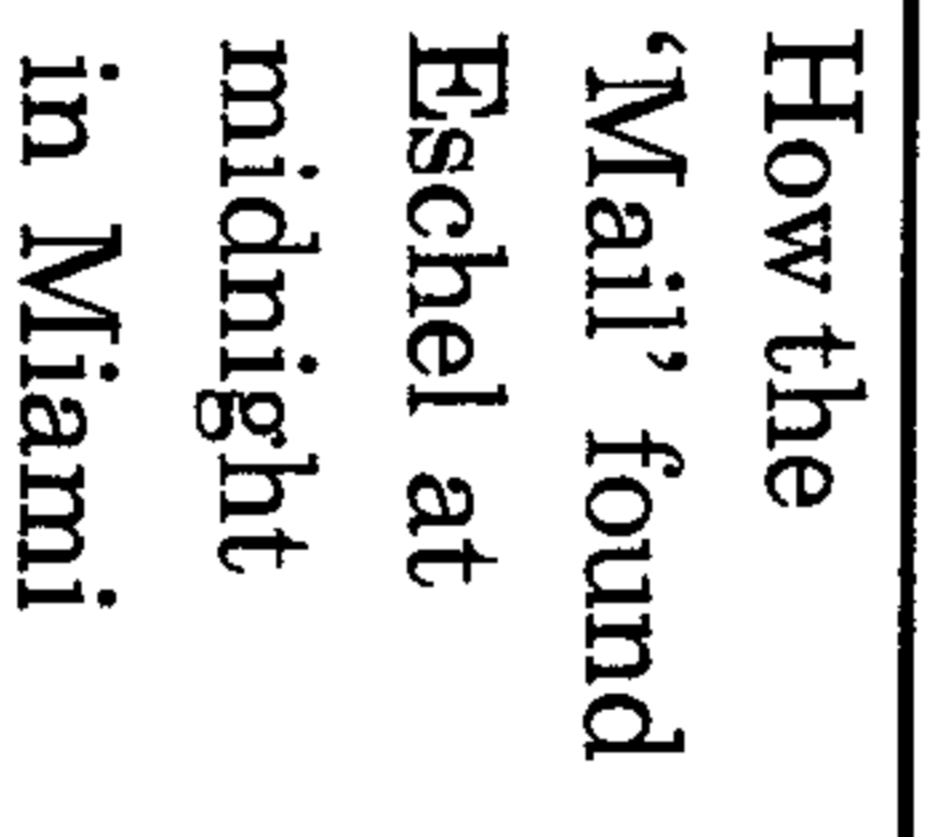
Rees didn't reply straight off. He lit a Perilly (the 62nd of the day?), studied the man in front of him, smiled and said: "We really have so much to talk about don't we, doctor?"

A frizzy-haired waitress came up and said "OK, honey. What ya'll gonna have?" The Ruben sandwich's real good." Rees ordered a Coke (the 14th of the day?), Dr Eschel Rhoodie ordered coffee, adding South African-made saccharine tablets. "Oh, yes", Rhoodie added, "And a cup of coffee for that gentleman over there please."

The "gentleman" was a uniformed US airport security official. The big Rhoodie smile



DR ESCHHEL RHOODIE



MERVYN REES



MERVYN REES

came on, bright even in that neon world. "He's my guard, you see. I'm in transit without a visa and that guy's been designated to make sure I catch my plane out again."

Dr Rhoodie, you see, had come into the United States

without a visa to meet Rees. He was travelling on the South African passport which the Government had withdrawn and which expires at the end of the year. "I'd forgotten that you have to clear customs and immigration at this airport

when in transit," he explained, "so they only let me in on condition that I stay under guard until my plane leaves again in a few hours."

But that kind of drama didn't end there. We moved into a hot

room with him inside the airport building to catch a quick nap before flying out to Quito, Ecuador. Rees decided to go down stairs and get his 15th Coke of the day.

It was now about 1am, but there was something of crisis on the go. US airport officials were scurrying around, one saying "Where in hell is that guy?"

To his horror, Rees suddenly heard the public address system click on and a sweet Deep South voice saying: "Calling passenger Rhoodie. Calling passenger Rhoodie. Please come to the Braniff counter immediately."

Rees has been in journalism a long time, he has been just about everywhere, he's done just about it all

But he rates that moment as something really special. Lighting a Perilly from his Dunhill lighter, he went up to what he thought was the boss man and said "Hey, what's the fuss? My friend's in room 503 having a quick nap."

And indeed, South Africa's most wanted man was fast asleep on his posturepedic mattress while his name was being called out in one of the world's busiest airport terminals.

Rees promised to produce his friend soonest and we were later escorted to the departure lounge by a Cuban expatriate guard who became Dr Rhoodie's sudden friend as they chatted away in Spanish. The Rees-Rhoodie meet-

□ To Page 2

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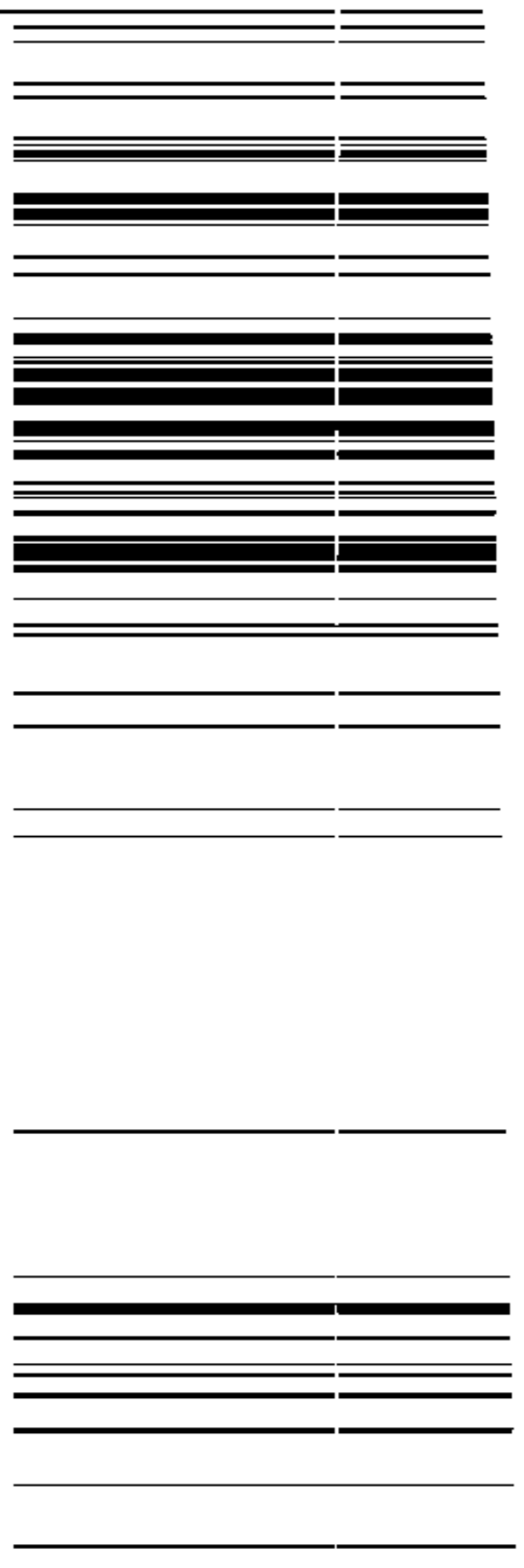
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THE RHODE ISLAND STORY

259



THE RHODIE STORY

Eschel in Equador . . . the first pictures



Dr Eschel Rhodie in profile — the face that is known by most South Africans, but seems to fit unnoticed through the world's capitals and airports. This picture by Mervyn Rees was the first taken by any journalist since Dr Rhodie went into exile



Dr Rhodie has been on the move for months now — from airport to airport, from country to country, from continent to continent. But this picture, taken by the "Mail's" Mervyn Rees shows him . . .


Rhodie relaxes in his South American hideout



Dr. Escnel Rhodie, a fitness nut, has been missing tennis while in exile over the past few months. But he has been catching up on this loss by walking whenever he can. This picture shows him striding through the streets of Quito, Ecuador.

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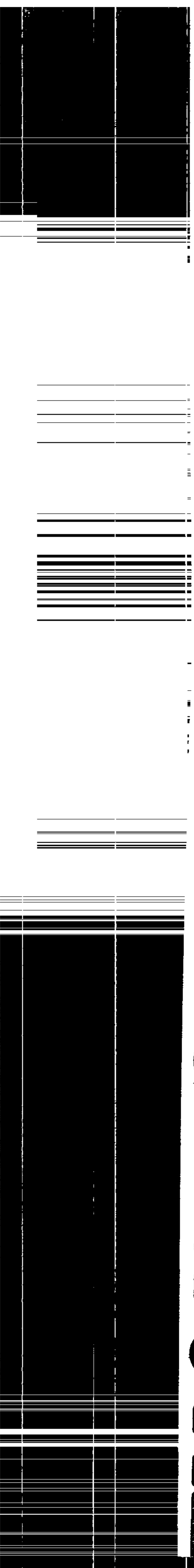


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Night out in Taiwan . Dr. Connie Mulder watches while a local beauty puts the finishing touches to Dr. Eschel Rhoodie's outfit. The pair were on a diplomatic mission

Dr. Rhoadie also said Mr Vorster both knew and approved of the propaganda war the former Secretary of Information planned to wage in which no rules would apply and even bribery would be tolerated.

Dr Rhoadie said he told a meeting in February 1974 attended by Mr Vorster, the then Minister of Finance Dr Diederichs, Dr Mulder and his own two deputies, Dr Deneys Rhoadie and Mr Les de Vilbois.

"I want you to approve not an information asset but a propaganda war in which no rules or regulations would count."

He said he meant that if need be, he must be able to bribe.

"If it was necessary for me to purchase a sable coat or a mink coat for an editor's wife, I should be able

● The info men at the Lido.

PAGE 3

Van Zyl's firms can't pay

By JONY STIRLING

MIR JOSIAS van Zyl, who this week 'bought' the silence of Dr Eschel Rhoodie, controls a group of companies — including the one which has offered Dr Rhoadie a job — which has been unable to discharge a debt of about R9 030 outstanding for three years.

He vigorously denied at a Press conference yesterday that his trip with General Hendrik van den Bergh, and his attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, to London and France was financed by a Government or any other agency.

Computer Patent Annuites, a worldwide patent concern in Jersey in the Channel Islands, claims it is owed about R9 030 by the Papazyl group of companies for patent renewals held by the group, which is in provisional liquidation.

In a letter to the provisional liquidators, the company credit controller, Mr Gareth Watkins, said his firm was not quite sure how the liquidity problem of the Papazyl group would affect a settlement (if any) against Mr Van Zyl's debt.

Rhoodie's silence. But he refused to confirm the names.

They were named in the Rand Daily Mail yesterday as Dr Mulder, the former

which unfortunately is totally inadequate and in fact confirms that no immediate cash is available at the moment within the company or the group.

Intermedia, of which Mr Van Zyl is managing director, is the company in which Mr Van Zyl has offered Dr Rhoadie a job in marketing a patented steel-cutting device.

In a telephone conversation last night, Mr Watkins said the money had been owed to his firm by Mr Van Zyl for 18 months. Some of the debt had been incurred in 1966.

□ To Page 3

□ To Page 3

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The Government must resign

THE CRISIS of confidence between the Government and the people of South Africa has now reached such a level that Mr P. W. Botha should honour his undertaking to resign and go to the country.

The electorate should be given the opportunity to pass judgment on the events of the past year, and above all to choose a new administration that can lift South Africa out of the morass into which it is sinking.

There are two things dragging us into this morass.

A crisis of integrity — and a crisis of ideology. The integrity crisis started becoming paramount last year when first the newspapers and then the Mostert and Erasmus Commissions revealed that our public administration was rotten with malfeasance.

Men in positions of trust in the administration had misappropriated millions. They had abused their power and enriched themselves. There had been skulduggerous attempts to subvert the independent media, and a major fraud had been perpetrated upon the public in launching a Government-financed newspaper under a false cover.

Then came the realisation of official falsity. Men in high places lied about *The Citizen*. A Minister lied in Parliament — and his Prime Minister listened in silence, knowing it was a lie. Others who knew the truth also kept silent, thus conditioning the principle that a Minister of State might lie in the national legislature.

Now we have the disturbing case of Senator Owen Horwood, whom Dr Eschel Rhoodie claims was a member of an informal Cabinet committee which approved and monitored Info's secret projects — including *The Citizen*.

Both Mr P. W. Botha and Senator Horwood have repeatedly denied this in Parliament — and continue to deny it strenuously.

Mr Botha has pledged in Parliament that he will resign if it can be proved that any member of his Cabinet knew of *The Citizen* or other Info malpractices.

Yet Dr. Rhodie has furnished this newspaper with impressively detailed information about where and when this alleged committee met, who was present, who knew of the meetings and even who prepared the briefing room.

As Mr. Vause Raw has said, somebody is lying — and South Africa is entitled to know the truth.

But whatever the truth, the disturbing thing is the extent to which untruthfulness seems to have polluted our public life.

Another serious matter Dr. Rhodie alleges that, in getting top-level approval for his "no rules" propaganda campaign, the principle of bribery was specifically cleared.

This is shocking enough in itself, but it raises another question: Bribery of whom? There has been much anxiety displayed that if Info's secret projects were ever disclosed, this would shatter South Africa's relations with friendly countries. Which makes one wonder: Would those relations be shattered because we have been bribing influential people, politicians perhaps, in friendly countries?

We — the nation that has always professed such uprightness about the principle of non-interference in another's domestic affairs?

It is an appalling thought — but the very fact that it can arise in one's mind is a measure of the deterioration of confidence in the standards of political integrity now prevailing.

Then there is the crisis of ideology. Apartheid has failed manifestly, and as South Africa stands before the gravest period in its history, with internal and external pressures building up rapidly, the Government is in a state of total ideological confusion.

There is no clarity and there is certainly no unity on which direction to take. Nor is there the leadership to draw it out of this confusion and give it some sort of direction.

Thus in South Africa's hour of need the ruling party is thrashing about blindly, expending its energy in a turmoil of internecine treachery and discord.

This is why we say the public of South Africa is entitled to an election to make a new choice.

But such an election would impose a responsibility on the Opposition, too. If the public is to have a proper choice there must be a credible alternative government, which means something must be done to bring the Opposition together in this hour of need.

But not with another merger. There have been too many fruitless attempts at merging the PFP and NRP. However, there could easily be an Opposition coalition, with each party retaining its identity but finding a common platform to offer themselves as a coalition government with a limited programme.

A programme to clean up South Africa and re-establish our national integrity.

Then we can start again.

Vorster 'told Cabinet of The Citizen'

By MERVYN REES

SHORTLY before the General Election in November 1977, the then Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, is said to have addressed a full Cabinet meeting on The Citizen newspaper project and warned them that if the project ever became public knowledge he would have to resign.

Dr Eschel Rhoodie, speaking to the Rand Daily Mail at his hideout in Quito, Ecuador, last month, claimed he had been told this by both Dr Connie Mulder former Minister of Information and the Minister of Justice, Mr J.T. Kruger.

Breakfast Quip



I'd like someone to offer you a job to keep your mouth shut

INSIDE

- Horwood rejects Rhoodie claim.
- PM says story is false.

I know who vetted info, says General

By TONY STIRLING and BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh, former Secretary for National Security, said yesterday he had been given the names of the three-man informal Cabinet committee which monitored the secret projects of the former Department of Information.

At a Press conference at Jan Smuts Airport the general said he had been told the names of the three members by both Dr Rhoodie, former Secretary for Information, and Dr Connie Mulder, his Minister.

The general had just returned from Europe where he and businessman Mr Jo-sias van Zyl bought Dr

Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood.

According to Dr Rhoodie, Dr Horwood took over as the third member on the retirement as Minister of the former State President, Dr Nico Diederichs.

When asked by the "Mail" if he could confirm whether the third member of the committee was Senator Horwood, he said: "I won't comment. I don't want to tell you that."

"If Dr Rhoodie said it, then he said it. I can't comment on that."

The former Secretary for Finance, Mr Gerald Browne, said yesterday it would be improper for him to comment on whether the

The Info men take time



Lido

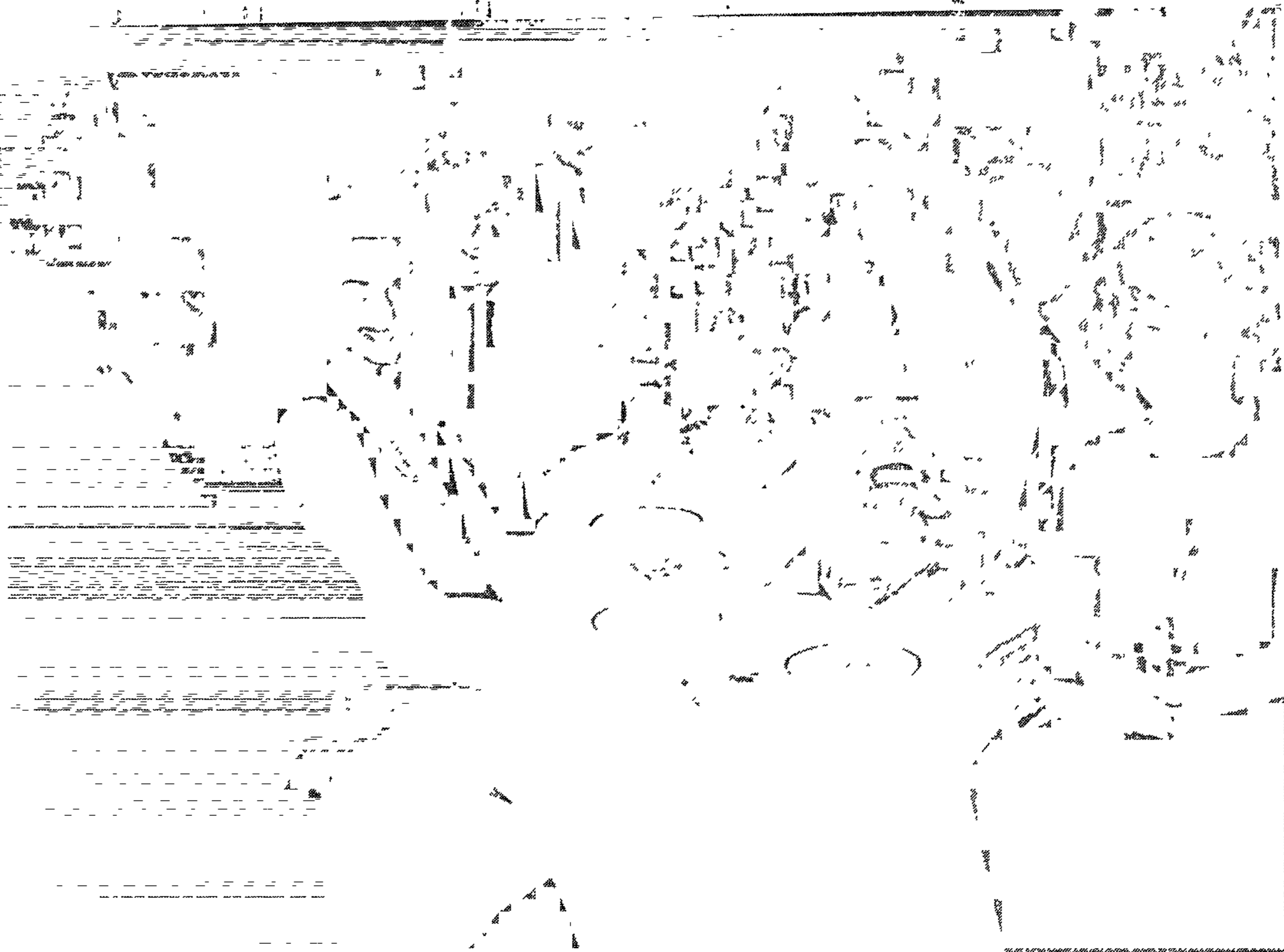
LE PLUS CÉLÈBRE CABARET DU MONDE

DIRECTEUR PIERRE LOUIS-GUÉRIN

CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES PARIS ÉLY. : 11-61

his impressive cover of the commemorative programme from the Lido nightclub in Paris reveals something of what the club is all about Photographs of the revellers are inside the programme.

out at the Lido



it shows the revellers inside the nightclub — Dr Connie Mulder, Dr and Mrs Denys Rhoodie and on the right side of the table is Dr and Mrs Esche Rhoodie and an unidentified man

Van Zyl's firm

can't pay

From Page 1

legal action for the return of the money within the next month," he said.

His firm had done patent researches for the group of companies in many countries, including Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, Hungary, Britain, East Germany and Russia.

The provisional liquidator of the Preparzyl group confirmed yesterday that he had asked the Master of the Supreme Court for an financial examination of Mr Van Zyl.

At the Press conference yesterday, Mr Van Zyl claimed his steel-cutting device would be ready for production in six to eight weeks, and was being built in Natal.

Eight years ago Mr Van Zyl was hailed as the youngest millionaire in South Africa when as the head of Preparzyl he announced millions of rands in foreign orders for a steel-cutting device invented by Mr E. Bredervelt, who later committed suicide.

Yesterday, Mr Van Zyl admitted this device had never got off the ground and that the design was a failure. He had taken out a patent for a new device which was "mainly" his own invention. The machine was being built

General: I have names of Cabinet's Info committee

as he had given evidence before the Erasmus Commission

He said he would be in breach of commission if he was to discuss the matter.

Replying to questions at the conference, Gen Van den Bergh conceded that the tentative agreement made with Dr Rhoadie included him only from speaking about the secret projects of the Department of Information.

But he said he doubted whether Dr Rhoadie had information of sufficient detail on other matters to release, although he did admit Dr Rhoadie had knowledge of some of the secret projects of the Bureau for State Security, formerly headed by Gen Van den Bergh.

Referring to the agreement, Mr Van Zyl described the document signed by Dr Rhoadie as "tentative" and said "delicate" negotiations

From Page 1

would take place before a final agreement could be reached.

He refused to comment when asked if he would regard it as an abrogation of the agreement if Dr Rhoadie were to disclose details of the secret projects.

Gen Van den Bergh said Dr Rhoadie was extremely upset about the State actions against him, particularly the alienation of his assets and the withdrawal of his passport.

He said one of the actions which had most embittered Dr Rhoadie had been taken by certain State officials who spent "hours and hours" reading love letters written by Dr Rhoadie to his wife before they were married.

He would not reveal to which Department the offi-

cials were attached, but he said:

"I know from which Department the officials were. You can imagine how any man or woman would feel about having details of their love life examined in this way."

Gen Van den Bergh said he believed that because of what had occurred, Dr Rhoadie found himself in difficult circumstances.

Other State organisations which had secret projects were the Departments of Defence and Foreign Affairs, the Security Police ("while I was there") and the Bureau for State Security.

If Dr Rhoadie had knowledge of these projects, he had never hinted that he would reveal it.

Gen Van den Bergh stated categorically he would not give evidence to the Erasmus Commission again, because it had made him out to be a har-

Mr Van Zyl said that if he was called upon to give evidence, he would have to consider his position.

His attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, said he would have to consider the "legalities" if such a situation arose. Mr Van Zyl said he did not regard his offer to Dr Rhoadie as "buying his silence."

Gen Van den Bergh, who boasted he had found Dr Rhoadie more quickly than the Press, said he could locate Dr Rhoadie at any time, although he did not know his present whereabouts.

Asked if he had people watching Dr Rhoadie, he said: "I don't have the people to watch him and I don't have the money to pay such people."

He said he did not believe that Dr Rhoadie was in any personal danger because of the information he had at his disposal.

Prosecute General plea to

RAND

Daily Mail

PM claims Rhodie story false

CAPE TOWN. — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday rejected as "totally false" information contained in newspapers of the SAAN group regarding allegations by Dr Eschel Rhodie, the former Information Secretary, about the defunct Department of Information.

Approached for comment, the Prime Minister's press secretary, Mr Neville Krige, said Mr Botha did not want to react to each "gossip story" sent into the world by Dr Rhodie and distributed through the opposition Press.

"First there was the story that there was a Cabinet committee. Now, suddenly, it is an informal committee whatever that means," the Prime Minister said.

According to the spokesman, the Prime Minister's standpoint is that if these people had the courage of their convictions, they would testify before the Erasmus Commission.

In his comment, the Prime Minister said: "What can a person think of a man who sits overseas and berates people and who does not want to return to his own country to support his allegations?" Sapa.

Horwood rejects Rhodie claims

CAPE TOWN. — The Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, has rejected "out of hand" assertions by the former Information Secretary, Dr Eschel Rhodie, that he was a member of a Cabinet committee, informal or otherwise, which dealt with the now defunct Department of Information.

"I do not believe that any such committee existed," he said.

Sen Horwood also rejected an allegation that he either knew of the nature of any specific secret projects of the department, or had any part in approving them.

"I want to draw the country's attention to the apparent coalition between Dr Rhodie and certain Opposition newspapers

"Dr Rhodie must return to South Africa forthwith and make this kind of allegation here so that we can deal with him.

"If he is telling the truth, why is he afraid to return?" Sen Horwood said he had known nothing about the Citizen newspaper project.

"I take full responsibility

for everything I have done as a member of the Cabinet, particularly as Minister of Finance, and I stand by everything I have said. I withdraw nothing.

"I have given evidence on oath to the Erasmus commission of inquiry on these matters, and the commission has unreservedly upheld me."

Sen Horwood said his attention had been drawn to a report in yesterday's Cape Times, under banner headlines: "Rhodie speaks — Horwood was on Cabinet committee."

Despite the fact that he was freely available until 6.30 pm in Parliament yesterday and at home afterwards, neither the Cape Times nor any other newspaper which had, or might have, reported in like vein had consulted him before publishing a report which, in its implications, would appear to him to constitute a serious and scandalous reflection on his integrity and that of his colleagues.

"I can say further that at no time when Information

matters were discussed in my presence in the Cabinet (that was after the present Prime Minister had assumed office) did Dr Mulder say that I had had any knowledge of the Citizen case, or that I had been a member of any kind of committee dealing with Information matters.

"To the very best of my knowledge and belief, I state that on two occasions, and two occasions only while Minister of Finance, was I asked to approve of expenditures which would have made possible the purchase by the Department of Information of publications abroad, and on both occasions I refused to do so.

"During my tenure of office as Minister of Finance I personally, and the Secretary to the Treasury at my request and on his own initiative, repeatedly asked the Department of Information to provide the Treasury with information bearing on the department's secret operations

"On every occasion the Department of Information

refused to do so.

"Dr Rhodie himself consistently refused to do so, and as recently as 1977, refused to do so in writing to the Secretary to the Treasury in reply to a letter I had once again asked the secretary to write to him

"The Treasury has the correspondence in its files," Sen Horwood said.

He said said in May, 1976, when wild rumours and reports were being bandied about concerning secret operations of the Department of Information, the then Prime Minister had issued a statement in which, characteristically, he assumed full responsibility for "the way in which funds were allocated because it was my judgment that it was in the highest interests of South Africa."

Sen Horwood said "to the very best of my knowledge and belief, the then Prime Minister was never a member of any kind of committee dealing with the secret operations of the Department of Information." — Sapa.

'Vorster told the Cabinet'

to do so. If it was necessary to send a man on holiday to the Hawaiian Islands with his mistress for a month, then I should be able to do so," Dr Rhodie said.

He twice asked the Prime Minister whether he was fully aware of what he was saying and both times Mr Vorster replied that he approved of a propaganda war "in which I should not be concerned about rules and regulations".

In one of the many lengthy interviews he gave me in South America, Dr Rhodie alleged that

● Mr P W Botha, then Minister of Defence and now also Prime Minister, knew of the informal Cabinet subcommittee formed by Mr Vorster together with Dr Mulder and the then Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs, and that Dr Die-

From Page 1

driehs arranged with Mr Botha the funding of secret Information projects through the Department of Defence

● A full report was made by Dr Rhodie at a meeting in the Prime Minister's conference room at the Union Buildings in November 1977 at which all the major secret Information projects were discussed. Copies of The Citizen and other Information activities were displayed.

Those present were Mr Vorster, Mr Owen Horwood, Minister of Finance (who left after an hour), Dr Mulder, Gen Van den Berg, and Mr Lood Reynders, the BOSS auditor, whom Mr Vorster had appointed in August 1977 to

investigate the affairs of the Department of Information following the Auditor-General's report of irregularities

● Some public servants and former public servants knew about aspects of some secret Information projects. They were Mr Gerald Browne, then Secretary of Finance, Mr Dries Pretorius, Secretary of the Treasury, and his deputies, Mr K Pretorius and Mr Sarel du Plessis.

● When Mr Horwood was ill with back trouble during 1977, Dr Mulder, Mr Gerald Browne and Dr Rhodie went to Mr Horwood's home where they discussed at length the progress of many of the Information projects operating at that stage.

● Mr Vorster was shown the first copy of The Citizen,

by Dr Rhodie, who said to him "Here is your newspaper".

● Mr Louis le Grange, then Deputy Minister of Information and now Minister of Public Works and Tourism, was shown a "dummy" or trial copy of The Citizen by Dr Rhodie.

Dr Rhodie said he had proposed a five-year programme costing R65-million but Mr Vorster told Dr Diederichs he did not want at that stage to commit himself to that amount of money.

He said he, Dr Diederichs and Dr Mulder would form an informal subcommittee that would oversee the secret Information projects and allocate funds to it and that he would inform senior ministers of the Cabinet that such a subcommittee existed.

Rhodie explains motives

By MERVYN REES

FUNDING of front organisations and private individuals to speak for South Africa abroad, and the elimination of laws based purely on colour at home, were the two prongs of the plan Dr Eschel Rhodie had to save South Africa from the threat of growing isolation.

Interviewed at his South American hideout in Quito, Ecuador, early last month, Dr Rhodie told me how he came to accept the position of Secretary for Information in 1972.

The decision to undertake

a secret propaganda war was taken before his appointment, he said, but he was only prepared to take the job if he could radically alter the "soft-sell" approach of the Department of Information.

He and Dr Connie Mulder, then Minister of Information, had agreed that the problem for South Africa was no longer so much the communists, but Western democracies, politicians, and Press.

Communism was a respectable political movement in Europe, and for

South Africa to defend herself by saying agitation against the country was being led by the communists was "not going to get us anywhere", Dr Rhodie said.

To make it easier for South Africa to operate abroad, the country had to change at home, and a major effort had to be made to eliminate laws based purely on colour.

The second, crucial aspect of Dr Rhodie's new approach would be to operate outside official channels. He proposed to Dr

Mulder that they finance front organisations and pay secret salaries or travel allowances to private individuals to speak for South Africa.

Even in the United States the heavily funded information offices had an extremely low credibility rating because the people disseminating the information were being paid to present the official line.

"We wanted organisations and people who could say 'We are not being paid to say this, therefore you

Headmaster denies allegation

Staff Reporter

AN angry Mr J L Cronje, headmaster of Grey College, Bloemfontein, said yesterday he knew nothing about Doctor Eschel Rhoodie's son being manhandled by fellow-pupils while he was a boarder there.

Mr Cronje was reacting to a claim by Dr Rhoodie that his son, Eschel, had been beaten up by boys at the college, who taunted him that his father "had stolen millions".

"I spoke to Eschel junior in my office, just before he left, and he assured me that none of the boys had beaten him up," Mr Cronje said.

must accept what we are saying as being the true state of affairs," Dr Rhoodie said.

But these organisations and people would not be expected to sell apartheid, he stressed. The idea would be to sidestep race, and rather stress South Africa's strategic importance and the Government's commitment to change at home.

"Dr Mulder said he was 200% in agreement with my view and that he would support any request on my part for funds to launch a

and he offered to take reporters to see it.

Prototypes of Mr Breedvelt's invention were built in South Africa, at least one of which is known to have been repossessed by the engineering firm which built it.

In 1977 another of Mr Van Zyl's companies collapsed. This was Prepazyl (Pty). It had no assets at the time of liquidation.

Two investigations were conducted into companies with which Mr Van Zyl is associated by Commercial Branch detectives last year.

A docket was handed to the Attorney-General, who declined to prosecute.

When approached last night, Mr Van Zyl demanded to know whether the Rand Daily Mail's information had been stolen from Intermenua's offices.

He said that debt had been accumulated over a period of time and that Intermenua, for some years, "has applied to Exchange Control for patent renewals, which we have never got. We have even written to our bankers and threatened legal action. It's as simple as that."

secret operation to finance front organisations and private individuals to work for us," Dr Rhoodie said.

His case for a "massive propaganda and psychological war" on these lines was presented to Dr Mulder, and later accepted at a meeting attended by the then Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and Dr Mulder and the then Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs, as well as Dr Rhoodie and his two deputies, Dr Deneys Rhoodie (his brother), and Mr Les de Villiers.

Kruger

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — A petition with 46 272 signatures calling for the prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh, head of the former Bureau for State Security, was handed to the Minister of Justice yesterday.

Petition organisers claimed they could have got many more names if they had been able to spread the campaign to country areas and if some people had not been scared of signing.

The list was handed to Mr Kruger at his Cape Town office by the chairman of the Committee for Equality Before the Law, Mr Johan Maree, of Pretoria.

With Mr Maree was Mr Mike Case, the New Republic Party's Cape Peninsula chairman, and Mr Roger Hulley, MPC, of the Progressive Federal Party.

Mr Maree, a former Chief of Protocol and one-time South African Ambassador to Spain, Australia and Argentina, said afterwards that Mr Kruger did not react when the petition was handed over.

"He was completely stone-walled," added Mr Hulley.

After the three men had entered Mr Kruger's office, Mr Maree said he explained that they were unhappy with the decision not to prosecute the general.

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259

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Horwood denies that Cabinet group knew General says he knows the names

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — General Hendrik van den Berg, former Secretary for National Security, said yesterday that he had been given the names of the three-man informal cabinet committee that monitored the secret projects of the former Department of Information.

At a press conference at Jan Smuts Airport the general said he had been told the names of the three members by both Dr Eschel Rhoodie and Dr Connie Mulder, the former Minister of Information.

The general had just returned from Europe where he and

businessman Mr Josias van Zyl bought the silence of the former Secretary for Information, Dr Rhoodie.

But he declined to confirm the names that had been given to him by the two men. They were named in yesterday's Cape Times as Dr Mulder, the former Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster, and the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, who, according to Dr Rhoodie, took over as the third member on the retirement as minister of the former State President, Dr Nico Diederichs.

Asked if he could confirm whether the third member of the committee was Senator Horwood, the general said: "I won't comment. I don't want to tell you that."

He said he had been told the names of the members but

declined to confirm any of them. "If Dr Rhoodie said it, then he said it. I can't comment on that."

The former Secretary for Finance, Mr Gerald Browne, said yesterday that it would be improper for him to comment on whether he knew that Senator Horwood or Dr Diederichs had been members of the committee, as he had given evidence before the Erasmus Commission. He indicated that he would be in breach of commission if he were to discuss the matter.

Replying to questions at the conference, General Van den Berg conceded that the tentative agreement made with Dr Rhoodie precluded Dr Rhoodie only from speaking about the secret projects of the Department of Information.

He said, however, that he doubted whether Dr Rhoodie had information of sufficient detail on other matters to release, although he did admit that Dr Rhoodie had knowledge of some of the secret projects of the Bureau for State Security, formerly headed by General Van den Berg.

Referring to the agreement, Mr Van Zyl described the document signed by Dr Rhoodie as "tentative" and said that "detailed" negotiations would take place before a final agreement could be reached.

→ → →
To page 2

A

'Beating' allegation shocks principal

By TED OLSEN

MR J L CRONJE, headmaster of Bloemfontein's Grey College, said yesterday that he was shocked to hear that Dr Eschel Rhoodie was alleging that his son, Eschel Jun, 15, had been bullied and beaten by other boys at the school last year.

Opposition call for probe on Rhoodie

Political Correspondent

OPPOSITION parties yesterday called for a parliamentary select committee to investigate allegations by Dr Eschel Rhoodie about the former Department of Information.

The allegations, published in the Cape Times and its sister newspapers yesterday, evoked immediate political reaction.

Both the Progressive Federal Party and the New Republic Party said they believed a select committee should investigate the charge that the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, had been a member of an informal Cabinet committee monitoring the department's secret projects.

Parliamentary standing orders preclude a special debate on the matter, as it has already been debated this session.

Opposition parties also called on the government to charge Dr Rhoodie or the former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh, to test their allegations.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, must take the blame for the fact that Dr Rhoodie and General Van den Bergh were making the government look ridiculous.

"The protracted comic tragedy which is being played out before the press of the world is caused by the stubborn refusal of the government to arrange for the publication of the evidence given last year before the Erasmus commission.

Mr Eglin said public unease was mounting and could only be put to rest by

- Charging General Van den Bergh

- Releasing the Erasmus commission evidence and

- Appointing a parliamentary select committee to investigate Dr Rhoodie's charges that Senator Horwood knew of

jected an NRP motion in the Senate for a select committee on the issue, now had a duty to provide an open forum where the truth could be demonstrated in a way all could see and accept.

"All the NRP seeks and demands is that an end be made to the suspicion and rumours caused by allegations and denials by interested parties.

"The farce of Dr Rhoodie's and General Van den Bergh's cloak-and-dagger antics, while destroying their own credibility, has only made it more vital that they be made to prove the charge," Mr Raw said.

B

From page 1

"I knew nothing about the Citzzen project. This is borne



Left: Dr Eschel Rhoodie and Cape Times special representative Mervyn Rees in France yesterday. Right: Dr Eschel Rhoodie, in a festive hat, and Dr Connie Mulder prepare for a party in Taiwan during one of their overseas trips. An unidentified man (back to camera) accepts a wreath from a smiling girl.

been a member of any kind of committee dealing with information matters.

"To the very best of my knowledge and belief I state that

dence in its files.

"I take full responsibility for everything I have done as a member of the Cabinet, particularly as Minister of In-

terests of South Africa."

"To the very best of my knowledge and belief the then prime minister was never

interested in the Citzzen project. This is borne



He refused to comment when asked if he would regard it as an

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From page 1

He refused to comment when asked if he would regard it as an

Rhodie planned funding, race laws

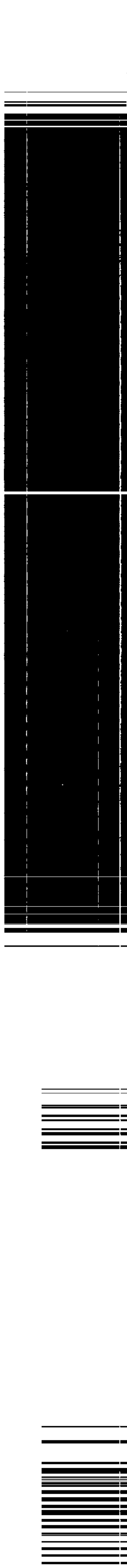
By Mervyn Rees

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Interviewed at his South American hideout in Quito, Ecuador, early last month, Dr Rhoodie told me how he came to accept the position of Secretary for Information in 1972.

The decision to undertake a secret propaganda war was taken before his appointment, he said, but he was only prepared to take the job if he could radically alter the "soft-self" approach of the Department of Information.

He and Dr Connie Mulder, then Minister of Information, had agreed that the problem for South Africa was no longer so much the communists but Western democracies and politicians



252
10/3/78

INDEX

Weather, page 2
 Classified Index, page 12
 Book at Today, page 21
 V programmes, page 2

- craft 21, Homefinder 16 17
- ger 6 Out & About 23
- mess 4 Parliament 4
- ma 10-11, Racing 8-7
- nic 13 Radio 21
- it Holl 21 Religion 11
- ssword 8 Ships 12-21
- gnacy 8 Sport 21, 23, 24
- h Air Fund 23 Womens 5
- World Report 4
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Rhodie angry at Botha's attack

By MERVYN REES

DR ESCHEL RHOODIE, the former secretary for Information now living in self-imposed exile in a secret European country, has reacted angrily to attacks made on him by the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday.

Mr Botha had asked what people could think of a man who sat overseas and besmirched others and would not come back to his own country to substantiate his allegations.

Dr Rhodie, speaking from an undisclosed hideout "somewhere in Italy" then issued the following statement to "defend myself":

"The government knows very well what I have said in a letter to my lawyer why I do not intend to return at this stage. "This includes, inter alia, the fact that the Erasmus Commission refuses to make public all the evidence on which it based

its first report. In fact, this makes it impossible for me to defend myself. It would mean that everybody who appeared before the commission, including the State-President, would have to appear in court for cross-examination.

"In order to defend myself I would have to blow all of the government's most important propaganda secrets. "It includes the fact that the government has publicly preu-

dicted my case when it took away my passport, froze my assets, and has made various statements about me.

"It is easy for the State to use massive amounts of money for court cases but who is going to pay for my defence because all of this could only be settled in an open court of law? The cost to me of a senior advocate alone would be approximately R6 000 per day and the case would last for weeks, if not

months — and how do I know I would ever recover these costs? "Another reason why I find it difficult to consider returning to defend myself is, for example, that when four people swore under oath that the then Prime Minister knew about the Citizen, this was rejected by the Erasmus Commission who accepted only Mr Vorster's word

→ → →
To page 4



→ → →
To page 2



Copies of the Citizen and other information activities were displayed. The displays were prepared by Miss M. Retief, Miss S. Marree and a Mr C du Toit.

Those present were Mr Vorster, Dr Owen, Horwood, Minister of Finance (who left after an hour), Dr Mulder, General Van den Bergh, and Mr Lood Reyniers, the Bureau for State Security auditor whom Mr Vorster had appointed in August, 1977, to investigate the affairs of the Department of Information following the Audi-

THE RHOODIE STORY + THE RHOODIE STORY + THE RHOODIE STORY + THE RHOODIE STORY

259

10/3/79

'knew'

Cabinet

259

10/3/79

Yesterday Mr Cronje said the first he heard of the alleged beating "was when a newspaper reporter called me and reported it to me early in the morning".

When Eschel junior was taken out of the school by his mother at the end of last year, he was called in to the headmaster's office for a last chat.

"At that time, I asked him if any of the boys had been aggressive, cruel or nasty towards him in any way.

"He replied without hesitation: 'No sir, everyone — the boys included — have been very nice and kind to me'."

When asked if Eschel Jun, his mother or anyone else had alleged to Mr Cronje that the boy had been maltreated before the final chat in the headmaster's office that day, Mr Cronje said no one had

Mr Cronje was then asked if it was common for him to ask boys leaving the school if they had been mistreated or hurt by anyone else at the school, Mr Cronje said: "I was alone with the boy for a few minutes and knew at the time the pressures his family had been under. That is why I asked him."

Mr Cronje said that a few days after Eschel Jun had left the school, he received a letter from Mrs Katie Rhodie in which she expressed appreciation and thanks for the way her son had been treated at the school.

Political Correspondent

THE Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, yesterday denied that he had ever been on a Cabinet committee, informal or otherwise, dealing with Department of Information matters.

Senator Horwood described allegations to this effect published in the Cape Times and its sister newspapers yesterday as a scandalous reflection on his integrity and that of his colleagues

The reports quoted the former secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, as saying the department's secret projects were monitored by an "informal Cabinet committee" consisting of the then prime minister, Mr Vorster, Senator Horwood and the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder.

Senator Horwood denied knowing the nature of any specific secret projects of the former department or having had any part in approving them.

The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said he did not know what Dr Rhodie meant by an "informal committee" and denied Dr Rhodie's allegations.

"I totally reject this false information," Mr Botha said through his press secretary, Mr Neville Krige.

Both Senator Horwood and Mr Botha challenged Dr Rhodie to return to South Africa and repeat his allegations here.

Mr Botha said he did not wish to react to every "gossip story" sent into the world by Dr Rhodie and spread by the

opposition press.

"First there was the story that there was a Cabinet committee. Now it is suddenly an informal committee, whatever that means."

Mr Krige said Mr Botha said that people who had the courage of their convictions would testify before the Erasmus Commission so that their allegations could be properly tested

"What can one think of a man who sits abroad and bemoans people and will not return to his own country to back up his allegations?" Mr Botha asked.

Senator Horwood said, in a lengthy statement, that his attention was drawn to the Cape Times report under banner headlines which said "Rhodie speaks — Horwood was on Cabinet committee".

"Despite the fact that I was freely available until 6.30 in the House last night, and at home thereafter, neither the Cape Times, nor any other newspaper which has or may have reported in like vein, consulted me before publishing a report which, in its implications, would appear to me to constitute a serious and scandalous reflection on my integrity and that of my colleagues.

"I was never at any time a member of a Cabinet committee, or of any other kind of committee, dealing with Department of Information matters.

"I do not believe that any such committee existed.

"At no time whatsoever was I a party to approving a single project of the Department of Information, nor did I in fact approve any such project.

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The G O's participate in all activities, and generally enjoy all the privileges of paying members. They do not accept, and are not permitted to accept tips, considered a token of

the master-servant relationship. Their season in any one resort complex lasts only six months.

At the completion of this six-month stay, they have the option of being assigned to another village by the Club's Paris headquarters, or returning to their normal life. G O's are drawn from many countries, including all of those in which the Club operates resort villages. When staffing a 600-bed village, the team of G O's headed by the Chef de Village (Village Manager) will comprise of between 90 to 110 people, working along with 180 to 220 permanent local staff.

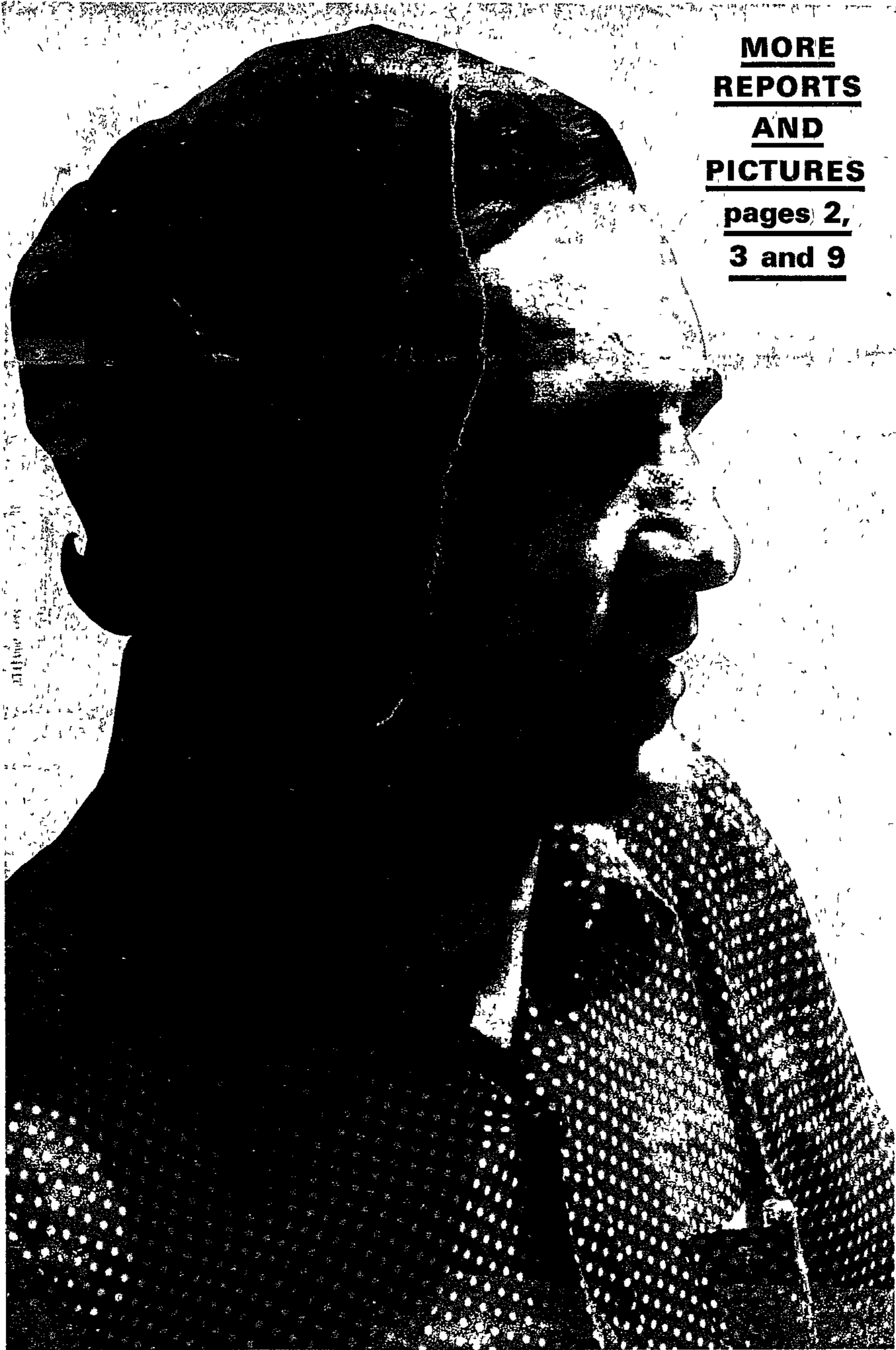
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10/3/79

259

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REPORTS
AND
PICTURES
pages 2,
3 and 9



259 10/3/79

Rhodie tells of 'no rules' plan

By MERVYN REES

SHORTLY before the general election in November, 1977, the then Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, is said to have addressed a full Cabinet meeting on the Citizen newspaper project and to have warned them that if the project ever became public knowledge he would have to resign.

Dr Eschel Rhodie, speaking to the Cape Times at his hideout in Quito, Ecuador, last month, claimed he had been told this by both Dr Connie Mulder, former Minister of Information, and the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger

Prime Minister whether he was fully aware of what he (Dr Rhodie) was saying and both times Mr Vorster replied that he approved of a propaganda warfare "in which I should not be concerned about rules and regulations"

Dr Rhodie also said Mr

Dr Rhodie said Dr Diederichs



Mr Vorster was shown the first copy of the Citizen by Dr Rhodie, who said to him: "Here is your newspaper."

Vorster both knew and approved of the propaganda war the former Secretary of Information planned to wage in which no rules would apply and even bribery would be tolerated

Dr Rhodie said he told a meeting in February, 1974, attended by Mr Vorster, Dr Diederichs, the Minister of Finance, Dr Mulder and his own two deputies, Dr Deneys Rhodie and Mr Les de Villiers "I want you to approve, not an information asset but a propaganda war in which no rules or regulations would count"

Dr Rhodie said he meant that he must, if need be, be able to bribe

"If it was necessary for me

richs, who was standing at the window, turned and said he was just terribly disappointed that they could not have had this conversation 10 years ago, because until then the Department of Information had been little more than "a glorified post office"

In one of the many lengthy interviews he gave me in South America, Dr Rhodie stated that Mr P W Botha, then Minister of Defence and now also Prime Minister, knew of the informal cabinet sub-committee formed by Mr Vorster together with Dr Mulder and the then Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs, and that Dr Diederichs arranged with Mr Botha



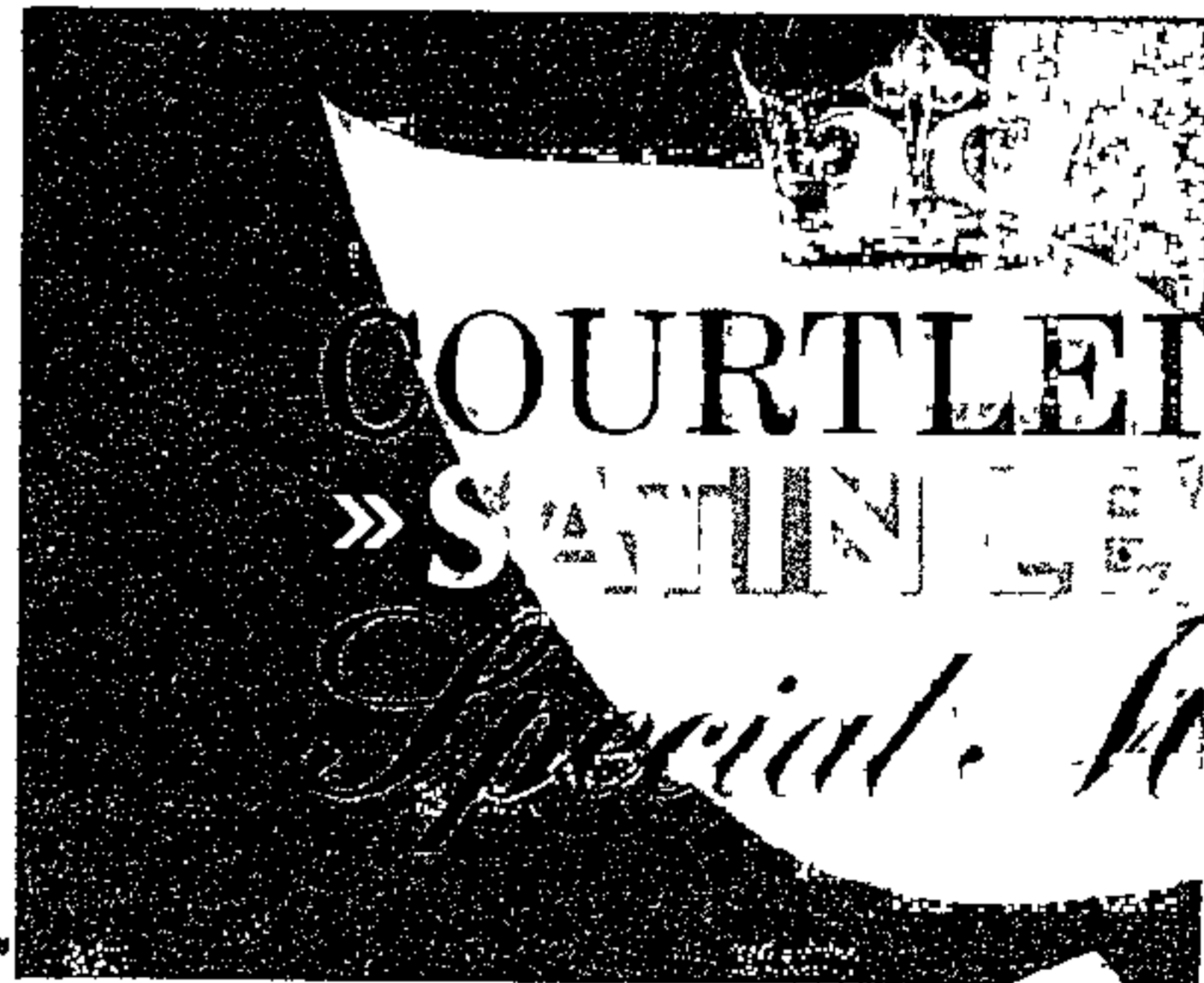
Mr Louis le Grange, then deputy minister of Information, was shown a "dummy" or trial copy of the Citizen by Dr Rhodie

to purchase a sable coat or a mink coat for an editor's wife, I should be able to do so. If it was necessary to send a man on holiday to the Hawaiian islands with his mistress for a month, then I should be able to do so," Dr Rhodie said

He said he twice asked the

the funding of secret information projects through the Department of Defence.

Dr Rhodie said a full report was made by him at a meeting in the Prime Minister's conference room at the Union Buildings in November, 1977 at which all the major secret information projects were discussed





...ance yesterday Left With coloured wreaths about their necks in the picture on the
 aiwan during one of their overseas trips An unidentified man (back to camera) accepts
 a smiling girl



Rhodie planned funding, race laws

By Mervyn Rees

FUNDING of front organiza-
 tions and private individuals to
 speak for South Africa abroad,
 and the elimination of laws
 based purely on colour at home,
 were the two prongs of the plan
 Dr Eschel Rhodie had to save
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 lation

Interviewed at his South
 American hideout in Quito, Ec-
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 Rhodie told me how he came
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He and Dr Connie Mulder,
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To make it easier for South
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"Dr Mulder said he was 200

C From page 1

tor-General's report of irregu-
 larities

Dr Rhodie said some public
 servants and former public ser-
 vants knew aspects of some se-
 cret Information projects They
 were Mr Gerald Browne, then
 Secretary of Finance, Mr Dries
 Pretorius, Secretary of the
 Treasury, and his deputies, Mr
 K Pretorius and Mr Sarel du
 Plessis

When Dr Horwood was ill
 during 1977 with back trouble,
 Dr Mulder, Mr Gerald Browne
 and Dr Rhodie went to Dr
 Horwood's home where they
 discussed at length the progress
 of many of the Information pro-
 jects operating at that stage

M1 Vorster was shown the
 first copy of the Citizen by Dr
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Mr Vorster said he and Dr
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 would form an informal sub-
 committee that would oversee
 the secret Information projects
 and allocate funds to it and
 that he would inform senior
 ministers of the Cabinet that

A From page 1

He refused to comment when asked if he would regard it as an
 abrogation of the agreement if Dr Rhodie were to make
 disclosure of the secret projects, in spite of the efforts of himself
 and General Van den Bergh

General Van den Bergh said Dr Rhodie was extremely upset
 about the State actions against him, particularly the alienation of
 his assets and the withdrawal of his passport.

One of the actions that had most embittered Dr Rhodie had
 been taken by certain State officials who spent "hours and hours"
 reading love letters written by Dr Rhodie to his wife Katie
 before they were married

The general would not say to which department the officials
 were attached, but he said "I know from which department the
 officials were. You can imagine how any man or woman would
 feel about having details of their love life examined in this way"

General Van den Bergh said he believed that because of what
 had occurred, Dr Rhodie found himself in straitened circum-
 stances.

He said that other departments which had secret projects were
 Defence, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the security police
 ("while I was there") and the Bureau for State Security

If Dr Rhodie had knowledge of these projects, he had never
 hinted that he would disclose it

General Van den Bergh stated categorically that he would not
 give evidence before the Erasmus Commission again, because it
 had made him out to be a liar

Mr Van Zyl said that if he was called on to do so he would have
 to consider his position.

His attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, said he would have to consider
 the "legalties" if such a situation arose

Mr Van Zyl said he did not regard his offer to Dr Rhodie as
 "buying his silence"

General Van den Bergh, who boasted about finding Dr Rhodie
 much quicker than the press, said he could locate Dr Rhodie at
 any time, although he did not have knowledge of his present
 whereabouts

Asked if he had people watching Dr Rhodie, he said "I don't
 have the people to watch him and I don't have the money to pay
 such people"

He said he did not believe Dr Rhodie was in any personal
 danger because of the information he had at his disposal.

SWA jobs — no 'evacuation'

Opposition call for probe on Rhodie.

Political Correspondent

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Opposition parties also called on the government to charge Dr Rhodie or the former head of the Bureau for State Security, General Hendrik van den Bergh,

to test their allegations.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, must take the blame for the fact that Dr Rhodie and General Van den Bergh were making the government look ridiculous.

"The protracted comic tragedy which is being played out before the press of the world is caused by the stubborn refusal of the government to arrange for the publication of the evidence given last year before the Erasmus commission.

Mr Eglin said public unease was mounting and could only be put to rest by

- Charging General Van den Bergh

- Releasing the Erasmus commission evidence and

- Appointing a parliamentary select committee to investigate Dr Rhodie's charges that Senator Horwood knew of the Information department's secret projects

"The credibility of the government is at issue. If Dr Rhodie is right, the prime minister must carry out his undertaking to resign."

The NRP leader, Mr Vause Raw, said Dr Rhodie's open repudiation of Mr Botha and Senator Horwood could not be expunged by a mere denial. Dr Rhodie should be charged and extradited "to substantiate his charge or face the consequences".

The government, having re-

jected an NRP motion in the Senate for a select committee on the issue, now had a duty to provide an open forum where the truth could be demonstrated in a way all could see and accept.

"All the NRP seeks and demands is that an end be made to the suspicion and rumours caused by allegations and denials by interested parties.


"The farce of Dr Rhodie's and General Van den Bergh's cloak-and-dagger antics, while destroying their own credibility, has only made it more vital that they be made to prove the charge," Mr Raw said.

B From page 1

"I knew nothing about the Citizen project. This is borne out, among others, by Dr Connie Mulder's statement, as reported in Die Burger of February 28, 1979, when he said 'Waarom sou ek hulle (Afdelingsbestuur, Randfontein) van the Citizen vertel as ek nie eens die Kabinet daarvoor ingelig het nie?'"

"I can say further that at no time, when Information matters were discussed in my presence in the Cabinet (that was after the present prime minister had assumed office), did Dr Mulder say that I had any knowledge of the Citizen case, or that I had

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lications abroad, and on
th occasions I refused to
so

ring my tenure of office as
nister of Finance I person-
ly, and the Secretary to the
asury at my request, and
his own initiative, repeat-
ly asked the Department of
formation to provide the
easury with information
aring on the department's
cret operations
every occasion the Depart-
ant of Information refused
do so Dr Rhoadie himself
sistently refused to do so
d, as recently as 1977, re-
sed to do so in writing to
e Secretary of the Treasury
reply to a letter I had,
ce again, asked the secre-
ry to write to him. The
easury has the correspon-



and the commission has un-
reservedly upheld me

The then prime minister, in
May, 1978 when wild rumours
and reports were being ban-
died about concerning secret
operations of the Department
of Information, issued a
statement in which, charac-
teristically, he assumed full
responsibility for 'the way in
which funds were allocated,
because it was my judgment
that it was in the highest

member of a. (a) ne
mltee, informal or other-
wise, (or any other kind of
committee) dealing with ac-
tivities of the now-defunct
Department of Information,
and the implication arising
from it that I either knew of
the nature of any specific
secret projects of the depart-
ment or had any part in ap-
proving of them.

"I want to draw the country's
attention to the apparent co-
alition between Dr Rhoadie
and certain opposition news-
papers

"Dr Rhoadie must return to
South Africa forthwith and
make this kind of allegation
here so that we can deal with
him. If he is telling the truth,
why is he afraid to return?"

Pretor us, ecre ary o
Treasury, and his deputies, Mr
K Pretorius and Mr Sarel du
Plessis

When Dr Horwood was ill
during 1977 with back trouble,
Dr Mulder, Mr Gerald Browne
and Dr Rhoadie went to Dr
Horwood's home where they
discussed at length the progress
of many of the information pro-
jects operating at that stage

Mr Vorster was shown the
first copy of the Citizen by Dr
Rhoadie, who said to him,
"Here is your newspaper"

Mr Louis le Grange, then
Deputy Minister of Information
and now Minister of Public
Works and Tourism, was shown
a "dummy", or trial copy,
the Citizen by Dr Rhoadie

Dr Rhoadie said he had pro-
posed a five-year programme
costing R65-million, but Mr
Vorster told Dr Diederichs he
did not want at that stage to
commit himself to that money

Mr Vorster said he and Dr
Diederichs and Dr Mulder
would form an informal sub-
committee that would oversee
the secret information projects
and allocate funds to it, and
that he would inform senior
ministers of the Cabinet that

to spend, four and hours"
reading love letters written by Dr Rhoadie to his wife Katie
before they were married.

The general would not say to which department the officials
were attached, but he said, "I know from which department the
officials were. You can imagine how any man or woman would
feel about having details of their love life examined in this way."
General Van den Bergh said he believed that because of what
had occurred, Dr Rhoadie found himself in straitened circum-
stances

He said that other departments which had secret projects were
Defence, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the security police
(while I was there) and the Bureau for State Security

If Dr Rhoadie had knowledge of these projects, he had never
hinted that he would disclose it

General Van den Bergh stated categorically that he would not
give evidence before the Erasmus Commission again, because it
had made him out to be a liar

Mr Van Zyl said that if he was called on to do so he would have
to consider his position

His attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, said he would have to consider
the "legalities" if such a situation arose.

Mr Van Zyl said he did not regard his offer to Dr Rhoadie as
"buying his silence."

General Van den Bergh, who boasted about finding Dr Rhoadie
much quicker than the press, said he could locate Dr Rhoadie at
any time, although he did not have knowledge of his present
whereabouts.

Asked if he had people watching Dr Rhoadie, he said "I don't
have the people to watch him and I don't have the money to pay
such people"

He said he did not believe Dr Rhoadie was in any personal
danger because of the information he had at his disposal.

SWA jobs — no 'evacuation'

SUNDAY EVENING

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Right Dr Eschel Rhoodie and Cape Times special representative Mervyn Rees in in France yesterday. Left With coloured wreaths about their necks in the picture on the left Dr Eschel Rhoodie, in a festive hat and Dr Connie Mulder prepare for a party in Taiwan during one of their overseas trips. An unidentified man (back to camera) accepts a wreath from a smiling girl.

been a member of any kind of committee dealing with Information matters. To the very best of my knowledge and belief I state that on two occasions, and two occasions only, while Minister of Finance, was I asked to approve of expenditures which would have made possible the purchase by the De-

dence in its files
 "I take full responsibility for everything I have done as a member of the Cabinet, particularly as Minister of Finance, and I stand by everything I have said I withdraw nothing
 "I have given evidence on oath to the Erasmus Commission
 on these matters,

Interests of South Africa'

"To the very best of my knowledge and belief the then prime minister was never a member of any kind of committee dealing with the secret operations of the Department of Information.
 "I reject out of hand Dr Rhoodie's statement that I was a

From page 1

for-General's report of irregularities
 Dr Rhoodie said some public servants and former public servants knew aspects of some secret information projects. They were Mr Gerald Browne, then Minister of Finance, Mr Dries

From page 1

He refused to comment when asked if he would regard it as an abrogation of the agreement if Dr Rhoodie were to make disclosure of the secret projects, in spite of the efforts of himself and General Van den Bergh
 General Van den Bergh said Dr Rhoodie was extremely upset about the State actions against him, particularly the alienation of his assets and the withdrawal of his passport.
 One of the actions that had most embittered Dr Rhoodie had

XT —

DOWN

... is a type of man who tends to uncommonly — about the views he ... **SORE/SURE** ... ical holidaymaker would hardly go with just a little — **CASE/CASH** ... is often pretty good at acting ... **IGER/SINNER** ... ne — have their obvious dangers ... **MES/GASES** ... the loyal supporters of theatre ... — seats when hit show is ... ected **DESERVE/RESERVE** ... — for a living is likely to mean that ... mes one is desperately short of ... **BEG/BET** ... -, someone in demanding job is ... ely to make a blunder ... **SHED/RUSHED** ... — of ancient times would appear ... range creature to our present way ... hinking **ROMAN/WOMAN** ... an involve a severe discipline for ... se concerned **DIETS/DUETS** ... netimes — means nothing at all to ... sons engaged in argument ... **XT/TACT**

... by a donation not less than 25c. If all four blocks ... are acceptable made out to St John Ambulance, ... a back and will be automatically disqualified if ... jstere letters cause considerable delay and are ... velopes. Clear facsimiles, the same size as the ... ould be used without erasures of alterations. All ... e will not be checked and will be treated as ... ion of the organizers shall be final. No personal ... of results may be considered, if received within ... and accompanied by a search fee of R25 in cash ... is upheld. All advertised results are subject to ... successful rescrutiny claim. In the event of a tie ... can currency only and non de plumes are not ... dges reasons are available on request and the ... if the staff of St John Ambulance the voluntary

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CT.

... by prospective public servants of an independent SWA, Namibia as well as serving public servants of the Republic of South Africa who would be seconded to that service — Sapa

British award to UCT professor

PROFESSOR B J CREMIN of the medical school of the University of Cape Town is the first South African to be awarded the Barclay Prize of the British Institute of Radiology, the university announced yesterday

Professor Cremin who is Professor of Radiodiagnosis received the award for his contributions to paediatric radiology

His case for a "massive propaganda and psychological war" on these lines was presented to Dr Mulder and later accepted at a meeting attended by the then Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, Dr Mulder, Dr Nico Diederichs, then Minister of Finance, Dr Rhodie and his two deputies, Dr Deneys Rhodie (his brother) and Mr L E S de Villiers

CAPE PENINSULA and vicinity Partly cloudy and mild with fog patches at first, becoming cloudy and cooler during the day with rain. Wind, light north-westerly freshening later. The maximum temperature at the D F Malan Airport will be between 25° and 27°C (77° and 81°F)

Western Cape coastal belt Partly



cloudy and mild with fog patches becoming cloudy in the south with showers. Wind light to moderate south westerly to north westerly freshening later in the south. Coastal belt Sir Lowry's Pass to Plettenberg Bay Partly cloudy and mild with fog patches at first becoming cloudy in the west later with rain. Wind light to moderate south westerly

ly becoming north westerly. Namaqualand and the south west Cape interior Fine to partly cloudy and hot with isolated light thundershowers over Namaqualand. It will become partly cloudy over the southern area during the day.

Coastal belt Plettenberg Bay to Port Alfred Partly cloudy and warm with fog patches overnight. Wind light variable becoming moderate westerly to south westerly tomorrow.

Pretoria Witwatersrand the Eastern Highveld western and south western Transvaal Fine to partly cloudy and hot.

Transvaal Fine and hot but cloudy at first in the north with fog patches.

Free State and Cape north of the Orange River Fine to partly cloudy and hot with isolated thundershowers over Gordonia Griqualand West and over the Southern Free State.

Natal Fine to partly cloudy and hot with isolated thundershowers over the Southern Drakensberg.

YESTERDAY'S READINGS

	noon	8pm
Barometer	1014.1	1012.3
Humidity	61.0	76.0
Temperature	25.9	21.6
	maximum 30.5	minimum 15.7
	(At D F Malan 24 hours to 8pm)	
Water temperatures	Sea Point 12°	
	Sea Point pool 22°	Newlands pool 23°
	Muizenberg 18°	
Hours of sunshine	8.6	
Wind (D F Malan) 8pm	S 3 knots	
Tides (Table Bay) today		
	High 0147	1358
	Low 0757	2005
Sun sets	1911	rises 0541
Moon rises	1717	sets 0330

Too late for Classification BIRTH

KOTZE — To John and Patricia (nee Barnard) a son 9th March 1979 in Johannesburg

Weekend TV

- 3.00: **Sport '79.** Live coverage of the afternoon's sport
 - 6.00: **Boekevat**
 - 6.04: **Peter die Hanswors.** Children's programme
 - 6.18: **Ridders van die Renbaan** Because of an accident Alain and his friends are without a car. But Alain manages to borrow one for his next race
 - 6.43: **Rooi en Blou.** Another load of fun with these two crazy pieces of clay. The final programme
 - 6.50: **Oorlewing** The Survival team reveals more of nature's mysteries
 - 7.20: **Petrocelli** Sam Horton dies when his aircraft is blown up by a hand-grenade. His daughter Barbara is arrested and charged with murder. Everybody believes she's guilty — except Petrocelli
 - 8.10: **Nuus**
 - 8.30: **Weather**
 - 8.37: **Return of the Saint.** Starring Ian Ogilvy as Simon Templar
 - 9.30: **Film of the Week:** The Guinea Pig. It's just after World War II and Jack Read, a Cockney school-boy, finds himself chosen to attend a public school where he is to be a guinea-pig in an education experiment. From the very beginning he leads a miserable life, mocked by the other pupils for his rough ways and despised by his tradition-minded housemaster Mr Harley. Starring Richard Attenborough, Sheila Sim and Bernard Miles
 - 10.45: **News**
 - 11.00: **Epilogue.** The Rev W F Bunyan of Kroonstad
- TOMORROW NIGHT**
- 6.00: **Ligstraaltjies uit die Bybel.** Children's programmes
 - 6.14: **Met Woord en Lied.** A studio service
 - 6.41: **Programme to be announced**
 - 7.32: **P G Gesels met . . .** Author and dramatist P G du Plessis talks to someone interesting
 - 8.00: **Nuusorsig**
 - 8.30: **Giselle.** Adolph Adams's classical ballet. Dancers, Carla Fracci, Erik Bruhn, Bruce Marks and Toni Lander. Music by the orchestra of the German Opera, Berlin, conducted by John Lanchbery
 - 10.00: **Epilogue.** The Rt Rev Michael Nuttal of Pretoria

High Noon

WILD ANIMAL KINGDOM AND NATURE RESERVE

THE GEM OF THE WESTERN CAPE

Take N2 to Grabouw and follow signs to Villiersdorp

DB 18/3/79
250

NRP move for a snap debate

THE ASSEMBLY — The New Republic Party has called for a snap debate "in the national interest" to discuss Dr Rhodie's claim that the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and the Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, knew The Citizen was financed by the Department of Information.

The Speaker, Mr J. J. Loots, is expected to rule on the request on Monday. If he approves, the debate will take place on Tuesday.

The call for the debate and a full probe into the allegations came as the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, sharply rejected the information released by Dr Rhodie as "false".

And Senator Horwood issued a three-page denial of Dr Rhodie's allegations, repeating that he had never been a member of a cabinet committee "informal or otherwise" dealing with the activities of the former Department of Information.

Mr Harry Schwarz, chief opposition spokesman on the Information affair, pointed out that when the allegation of the cabinet committee was made originally by Dr Rhodie last year, there had been no denial from the government.

Now that Dr Rhodie had told his side of the story it was essential that the evidence of Mr Vorster and Senator Horwood before the Erasmus Commission be revealed so that their side of the story could be heard, Mr Schwarz said.

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, pointed out that the Senate motion calling for a select committee on precisely the same allegations Dr Rhodie was making against Senator Horwood had been rejected.

The government would have to provide an open forum so that the public could be told the truth and suspicion and rumours come to an end. — PS

Group offering Eschel a job has bad debt

259
10/31/79

By Tony Stirling

JOHANNESBURG — Mr Josias van Zyl, the man who this week "bought" the silence of Dr Eschel Rhodie, controls a group of companies — including the company which has offered Dr Rhodie a job — which have been unable to discharge a debt of R9 030 some of which has been outstanding for three years.

He vigorously denied at a press conference yesterday his trip with General Hendrik van den Bergh, and his attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, to London and France was financed by government or any other agency.

Computer Patent Annuities, a worldwide patent concern in Jersey in the Channel Islands, claims it is owed the sum of R9 030 by the Prepazyl group of companies for patent renewals held by the group, which is in provisional liquidation.

In a letter to the provisional liquidators, the company creditor controller, Mr Gareth Watkins, said his concern was not quite sure how the liquidity problem of the Prepazyl group would affect a settlement (if any) against "Mr J van Zyl's debt which stands at R9 030."

"An offer has been made through Intermenua Pty Ltd which unfortunately is totally inadequate and in fact confirms that no immediate cash is available at the moment within that company or the group," the letter stated.

Intermenua, of which

Mr Van Zyl is managing director, is the company in which Mr Van Zyl has offered Dr Rhodie a job in marketing a patented steel cutting device.

In a telephone conversation last night, Mr Watkins said the money had been owed to his company by Mr Van Zyl for 18 months, and that some of the debt had been incurred in 1966.

He said his firm was trying to establish whether the money was owed in Mr Van Zyl's personal capacity, or by the companies with which he was associated.

"We are going to institute legal action in Johannesburg for the return of the money within the next month," he said.

He said his concern had done patent renewals, for the group of companies in a number of countries, including Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, Hungary, Britain, East Germany and Russia.

The provisional liquidator of the Prepazyl group confirmed yesterday he had asked the Master of the Supreme Court for a financial examination of Mr Van Zyl. He said that at this stage, he was unable even to state how many companies there were within the group or how much creditors were owed. But

he said that the liquidating creditor had brought a claim of slightly in excess of R600.

At the press conference yesterday, Mr Van Zyl claimed his steel cutting device would be ready for production in six to eight weeks and at present was being built in Natal.

Eight years ago Mr Van Zyl was hailed as the youngest millionaire in South Africa when as the head of the Prepazyl group, he announced millions of rands in foreign orders for a steel cutting device invented by Mr E Breedvelt, who subsequently committed suicide.

Yesterday Mr Van Zyl admitted that this device had never got off the ground and that the design was a failure. He said he had taken out a patent for a new device which was "mainly" his own invention. He said he had private financial backing for his company.

The machine was being built and he offered to take reporters to see it.

In 1972, the inventor and other investors tried unsuccessfully to wrest the patent from the Prepazyl group in a court action.

Among those who took this step was a Western Transvaal farmer, Mr W Pretorius, who invested a sum in excess of R300 000

in the group of companies that was to market the invention.

At that stage Mr Van Zyl was quoted as saying that global sales of the device would bring his concern a profit of R2 million to R3 million annually and that final arrangements for manufacture were being made in Spain.

Prototypes of Mr Breedvelt's invention were built in South Africa, at least one of which is known to have been repossessed by the engineering concern which built it.

In 1977 another of Mr Van Zyl's companies collapsed. This was Prepazyl Pty Ltd. It had no assets at the time of liquidation.

Two investigations were conducted into companies with which Mr Van Zyl is associated by the commercial branch of the police last year, a docket on which was handed to the Attorney-General, who declined to prosecute.

One of the complainants was Mr Pretorius, the others were two chemical engineers, Mr Ian Dreyer and Mr Desiderus Erasmus, who at one stage were set to become partners with Mr Van Zyl in manufacturing a detergent patent and who were being sued by Mr Van Zyl for R3 million damages.

VORSTER

denies claims

VORP calls for debate

Citizen's

yours, he was told

Parliamentary Correspondent

TOWN — A snap debate in Parliament "in the national interest" called for by the New Republic Party to discuss Dr. Rhoodie's hat the former Prime Minister, Mr. B. J. Vorster and the Minister nce, Senator Owen Horwood, knew that the Citizen was financed by partment of Information.

Speaker of the House J J Loots is expected on Monday whether will agree to a debate on sday

he call for a special ate and a full probe into e allegations came as the rime Minister, Mr. P. W botha, sharply rejected the "false information" made public by Dr Rhoodie

And Senator Owen Horwood issued a three-page denial of Dr. Rhoodie's allegations, repeating that he had never been a member of a "infor-

JOHANNESBURG — Shortly before the General Election in November 1977, the then Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, is said to have addressed a full Cabinet meeting on the Citizen project and warned them that if the project ever became public knowledge, he would have to resign.

Dr Eschel Rhoodie, speaking at his hide-out in Quito, Ecuador, last month, claimed he had been told this by Dr. Connie Mulder, former Minister of Information, and the Minister of Justice, Mr Jimmy Kruger.

Dr Rhoodie also said Mr Vorster both knew and approved of the propaganda war the former Secretary of Information planned to wage in which no rules would apply.

Dr. Rhoodie said he told a meeting in February, 1974, attended by Mr. Vorster, Dr. Nico Diederichs, the then Minister of Finance, Dr. Mulder and his own two deputies, Dr. Deneys Rhoodie and Mr. Les de Villiers. "I want you to approve, not an information asset but a propaganda war in which no rules or regulations would count."

Dr Rhoodie said Dr. Diederichs, who was standing at the window, turned and said he was just terribly disappointed they could not have had this conversation 10 years ago, because until then the department had been little

5/8/79

259

Journal



WITH coloured garlands round their necks, Dr. Eschel Rhodie in a festive hat, and Dr. Connie Mulder prepare for a party in Taiwan during one of their overseas trips. An unidentified man (right), accepts his garland from a smiling Dr. Rhodie.

18/3/79 (259)

tions, they would give evidence before the Erasmus Commission so that their claims could be tested.

Referring to Dr. Rhoodie, the Prime Minister said:

"What is one to think of a person who slanders his people while he is overseas and does not want to come back to his country to support his claims."

Meanwhile no investigation has been made into allegations that Dr. Rhoodie was in possession of State documents about projects and transactions of the former Department of Information.

The Prime Minister yesterday read out in Parliament this reply on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. F. Botha, who was yesterday in Europe.

meeting in the Prime Minister's conference room at the Union Buildings in November, 1977, at which all the major secret information projects were discussed. Copies of the Citizen and other Information activities were displayed

* TURN TO PAGE 2

Rhodie answers Premier

Mercury Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG — Dr.

Eschel Rhoodie, now in self-imposed exile in Europe, yesterday reacted angrily to attacks on him by the Prime Minister, Mr. P. W. Botha.

Mr. Botha had asked what people could think of a man who sat overseas and besmirched others and would not come back to his

two men.

They were named in yesterday's Mercury as Dr. Mulder, former Prime Minister Mr. John Vorster and Minister of Finance Senator Owen Horwood who, according to Dr. Rhoodie, took over as the third member on the retirement as minister of former State President Dr.

own country to substantiate his allegations.

Dr. Rhoodie, speaking from an undisclosed hideout "somewhere in Italy" issued the following statement to "defend myself".

"The Government knows very well what I have said in a letter to my lawyer why I do not intend to return at this stage. "This, includes, among

not he knew that Senator Horwood or Dr. Diederichs had been members of the committee as he had given evidence before the Erasmus Commission

He indicated he would be in breach of commission if he was to discuss the matter. However it is understood

of Information

He said he doubted whether Dr. Rhoodie had information of sufficient detail on other matters to release although he did admit that Dr. Rhoodie had knowledge of some of the secret projects of the Bureau for State Security, formerly headed by General van den Berg.

"To defend myself I would have to blow all of the Government's most important propaganda secrets

"It includes the fact that the Government has publicly prejudiced my case when it took away my passport, froze my assets, and made various state-

in court for cross-examination.

* TURN TO PAGE 2

259 18/3/79

mal or otherwise" dealing with the activities of the former Department of Information.

"I do not believe that any such committee existed," Senator Horwood said

"I knew nothing about the Citizen project."

Mr Harry Schwarz, the Opposition's chief spokesman on the Information affair, pointed out when the allegation of the Cabinet Committee was originally made by Dr. Rhoodie last year, there had been no denial from the Government.

Credibility

Mr Colin Eglin, Leader of the Opposition, said Dr. Rhoodie's claims had put the Government's credibility at stake.

"If Dr Rhoodie is right, the Prime Minister must carry out his undertaking to resign."

In a strongly-worded statement the Prime Minister said he could not react to every piece of gossip that was spread throughout the world by Dr. Rhoodie.

Mr Botha said his view was that if "the Press had the courage of their conviction

more than a "glorified post office" He meant, he said, that he must, if need be, be able to bribe

"If it were necessary for me to purchase a sable coat or a mink coat for an editor's wife, I should be able to do so

"If it were necessary to send a man on holiday to the Hawaiian Islands with his mistress for a month, then I should be able to do so," Dr. Rhoodie said.

He twice asked the Prime Minister whether he was fully aware of what he was saying and both times Mr. Vorster replied that he approved of propaganda warfare "in which I should not be concerned about rules and regulations"

In one of the many lengthy interviews he gave me in South America, Dr. Rhoodie alleged.

Botha

Mr P. W. Botha, then Minister of Defence and now Prime Minister, knew of the informal Cabinet sub-committee formed by Mr. Vorster together with Dr Mulder and the then Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs,

A full report was made by Dr. Rhoodie, at a

I knew the three, says General

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG.—General Hendrik van den Bergh, former Secretary for National Security, confirmed yesterday he had been given the names of the three-man informal Cabinet committee that monitored the secret projects on the former Department of Information.

General van den Bergh said at a Press conference

at Jan Smuts Airport after returning from Europe where he and businessman Mr Josias van Zyl bought the "silence" of former Secretary for Information Dr Eschel Rhoodie, that he had been told the names of the three members by Dr Rhoodie and Dr Connie Mulder, the former Minister of Information.

But he declined to confirm the names that had been given to him by the

Nico Diederichs.

When asked if he could confirm whether the third member of the committee was Senator Horwood he said, "I won't comment. I don't want to tell you that"

"If Dr. Rhoodie said it, then he said it I can't comment on that"

The former Secretary for Finance, Mr Gerald Browne, said yesterday it would be improper for him to comment on whether

that prior to giving evidence to the commission about a week ago Mr. Browne did confirm to certain sources that Dr Diederichs had informed him that he was a member of such a committee

In response to questions at the conference, General van den Bergh conceded the tentative agreement made with Dr Rhoodie precluded him only from speaking about the secret projects of the Department

Angry Rhodie hits back

NN 10/3/79 (259)

ments about me:
 "It is easy for the State to use massive amounts of money for court cases, who is going to pay for my defence because all this could only be settled in an open court of law. The cost to me of a senior advocate alone would be approximately R6 000 a day and the case would last for weeks, if not months. And how do I know I would ever recover these costs?"

"Another reason why I find it difficult to consider returning to defend myself is, for example, that when four people swore under oath that the then Prime Minister knew about the Citizen, this was rejected by the Erasmus Commission who accepted only Mr. Vorster's word.

"The witnesses were General Hendrik van den Bergh, Dr. Connie Mulder, myself, Mr. Lood Reynders, and in addition, Mr. Retief van Rooyen gave the same evidence to Judge Mostert.

"I am not being disrespectful to the commission. If I ask the question whether this would happen to any other witnesses I would produce.

"I am, sorry, Mr. Botha thinks I am besmirching people. I am only stating facts known to present and former members of the Government and administration. In fact, I am the one besmirched.

"I have not given away a single State secret so far. I am merely stating it as a fact that the secret projects of the Department of

Information, were approved by a sub-committee of the Cabinet consisting of Mr. Vorster, Dr. Diederichs and, later, Senator Horwood, together with Dr. Mulder, and that present at the annual and bi-annual report-back meetings where the projects were motivated and approved were General van den Bergh, Mr. Les de Vries, and Dr. Detheys Rhodie. Later Mr. Reynders was also present.

"Therefore Senator Horwood's signature, for example, appears on two documents approving the 1978-1979 programme. I can produce these documents if necessary.

"In November, 1977, three officials of the former Department of Information, Miss M. Retief, Miss S. Maree, and Mr. C. du Toit, set up the entire exhibition of secret books, publications, newspapers and other material in the conference room of Mr. Vorster's offices in the Union Buildings in Pretoria. Only secret project products were shown.

"That last meeting was attended by Mr. Vorster, Senator Horwood, Dr. Mulder, General van den Bergh and Mr. Reynders.

"When I therefore state that a sub-committee of the Cabinet, which included Senator Horwood, knew about and approved these projects, it is simply to prove that Dr. Mulder

and I did not act on our own as the Government alleges — and nor am I besmirching anyone.

"The people I mention can be called on to verify these facts under oath. All officials in the special section of the department assisted in preparing the annual report and annexures which I took to this committee. This is the absolute truth and I cannot understand why Senator Horwood does not want to admit this fact. I am not accusing him of anything.

"But he will recall Dr. Mulder and I met in his house in Pretoria when he was confined to bed. And in the presence of Mr. Gerald Browne, the former Secretary for Finance, presented to him some of the projects and to discuss the financial requirements.

"Furthermore, at least since April, 1977, the senior officials of the Treasury were aware of the details of the secret projects. They include the department's deputy secretaries, Mr. K. Pretorius, S. du Plessis and the Secretary himself, Mr. A. Pretorius.

"Dr. Rhodie said he wanted also to correct a misleading Press report stating that he had offered his silence in return for immunity from prosecution and a public apology from the Prime Minister.

"This is totally untrue. All I asked for was the return of my passport and

for my assets to be released. I do not see this as a blackmail situation at all."

Dr. Rhodie said that he intended fully to honour the agreement reached with Mr. Josias van Zyl and General van den Bergh not to disclose State secrets, but that he had made his statement in reaction to the "very personal" attack made on him by Mr. Botha.

Vorster named

★ FROM PAGE 1

Those present were Mr. Vorster, Senator Owen Horwood — who left after an hour — Dr. Mulder, General Hendrik van den Bergh, and Mr. Lood Reynders, the BOSS auditor whom Mr. Vorster appointed in August, 1977, to investigate the Department of Information after the Auditor-General's report of irregularities.

• Some public servants and former public servants knew about aspects of some secret information projects. They were Mr. Gerald Browne, then Secretary of Finance, Mr. Dries Pretorius, Secretary of the Treasury, and his deputies, Mr. K. Pretorius and Mr. Sarel du Plessis.

• When Senator Horwood was ill during 1977 with back trouble, Dr. Mulder, Mr. Gerald Browne and Dr. Rhodie went to the senator's home where they discussed at length the progress of many of the information projects operating at that stage.

• Mr. Vorster was shown the first copy of the Citizen by Dr. Rhodie, who said to him: "Here is your newspaper," and

• Mr. Louis le Grange, then Deputy Minister of Information, and now Minister of Public Works and Tourism, was shown a "dummy" or trial copy of the Citizen by Dr. Rhodie. Dr. Rhodie said he had proposed a five-year programme costing R65 million but Mr. Vorster told Dr. Diederichs he did not want at that stage to

Public Finance Chap. 7. Evidence that high levels of income tax

versely.

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WIND-UP: BOTHA THA NINA GAVEL ON JUDGE

25-9

Deques 10/3/79

THE Government is to consider asking the Erasmus Commission to release its report early and to investigate the 'unequalled smear campaign' being conducted from abroad by Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said in a statement today.

He was commenting on reports in newspapers of the SAAN group quoting Dr Rhoodie as saying that the Cabinet was told by the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, of the Citizen newspaper project shortly before the 1977 elections.

Mr Justice Erasmus said today he preferred not to comment at this stage on Mr Botha's announcement. The present date for the release of his report is the end of May, he said.

Mulder

net and as a result of that he had to resign.

Furthermore, Dr Mulder admitted to me in the Cabinet that a Cabinet committee never existed. Now suddenly he is hiding behind a so-called informal Cabinet committee. This is a monster (on-ding) of which the Cabinet knows nothing.

Cowardice

It is now clear to the country what sort of friends Dr Mulder used to waste the country's money through irregular means, according to the Erasmus Commission's findings, on schemes which they would not allow to see the light of

'Getting

out of

hand'

- Eglin

If the latest allegations by former Information Department Secretary, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, are true

Will sue — Kruger on Rhoodie

Political Staff
CABINET Ministers

today stuck firmly to their denials that they knew about secret information projects like the Citizen — in spite of startling new reported claims by Dr Eschel Rhoodie.

And two Ministers directly implicated by the former Secretary of Information in his latest disclosures rejected these as absolutely untrue.

Mr Jimmy Kruger, Minister of Police, Justice and Prisons, threatened to sue newspapers which had published the allegations.

REJECTED

He reacted to the claims by Dr Rhoodie, as reported today, that the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, addressed the full Cabinet on the Citizen

Botha's statement reads: 'I reject these repeated smear stories with contempt. Dr Rhoodie's contemptible behaviour from overseas to connive with certain opposition newspapers is a transparent game to take vengeance on people who exposed his irregularities. Dr Conne Mulder personally admitted that he never informed the Cab-

The Government will consider asking the Erasmus Commission to release its report early and to investigate this unequalled smear campaign. In closing, I would like to refer again to the cowardice of Dr Rhoodie who is flying around (roundvling) overseas instead of coming to South Africa to look his own people in the eye — Sapa,

Mr P W Botha, will have to fulfil his promise and resign, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said today. Mr Eglin was reacting to the latest disclosures by Dr Rhoodie in South African morning newspapers that the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, informed a full Cabinet meeting shortly before the general election in November, 1977, about the Citizen project.

newspaper project, before the November 1977 general election.

He is claimed to have warned them that he would have to resign if the project ever became known.

According to the reports, Dr Rhoodie claimed he was told this by Mr Kruger and also by the former Minister of Information, Dr Conne Mulder.

Commenting on the claims today, Mr Kruger said: 'This is an absolute untruth.

TWO OR THREE

He said he was going to see his attorney about the claims published in newspapers. 'I'll sue them, they will have to say where they get all this from. I am going to sue them for a big amount.'

He said he did not even know Dr Rhoodie well. 'In my whole life I have only spoken to him two or three times.'

The other Minister implicated by Dr Rhoodie is Mr Louis le Grange, Minister of Public Works and of Tourism. He is said to have been shown a 'dummy' or trial copy of the Citizen by Dr Rhoodie.

Mr le Grange denied this today and in a statement to Sapa said he was doing this with the knowledge and backing of the Prime Minister Mr P W Botha.

He said: 'I deny categorically that I ever received a dummy copy of the Citizen or knew of the Citizen project.'

'If this is in fact what Dr Rhoodie told the newspapers then I unequivocally call him a liar. I find it shocking that opposition newspapers are willing to publish willfully serious allegations by Dr Rhoodie while he is hiding elsewhere, without verifying the accusations.

with the people accused,' he said.

Other members of the 1977 Cabinet also retorted Dr Rhoodie's claim that they were told about the Citizen before the 1977 election.

FAR-REACHING

The new claims by Dr Rhoodie are so far-reaching that they are seen in political circles as presenting a growing crisis for the Government.

The New Republic Party has called for another special debate in the Assembly in the light of the latest claims.

Among members of the 1977 Cabinet who reacted today was the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, who said: 'What Dr Rhoodie is saying (that Mr Vorster had addressed the Cabinet about the Citizen) is a public lie.'

WON'T GO

The Information scandal won't go away as Mr Botha would like to believe.

He now has the opportunity to release all the evidence given to the Erasmus Commission, something which the PFF has called for all along,' he said.

Mr Harry Schwarz, Progressive Federal Party MP for Yoeville, said the Prime Minister had no choice now but to make public the Erasmus Commission report.

Whether the latest disclosures are true or not, the Government must be quite open and make the report available.

IMPERATIVE

The Information scandal is now of such a nature, that this is imperative, irrespective of whether it is proved that members of the Cabinet knew or not,' he said.

Mr Schwarz said he believed the Prime Minister would call a general election during the second half of this year.

Dr. Eschel Rhoadde broke his silence

JOHANNESBURG

Businessman Mr Josias van Zyl — the man who bought Dr Eschel Rhoadde's silence — yesterday admitted that he had a "moral obligation" to repay about R1.5-million

But, in an emotional outburst he angrily denied a report that a group of companies he controlled had been unable to discharge its debts.

Referring to a morning paper's report that the (Prepazy) group of companies had allegedly had a debt of about R9 030 outstanding for three years, he insisted: "The report is false, incorrect and it will be taken to the Press Council and we are taking action against them on Monday morning"

He claimed that the newspaper had been on the brink of publishing information revelations from Dr Rhoadde and were now waging a personal vendetta against him.

"It's sour grapes and nothing else. We stepped in and shut them up," he said

The report quoted from a letter from Computer Patent Annuities, a world-wide patent concern based in Jersey, in which it claimed it was owed about R9 030 by the Prepazy group of companies, now in provisional liquidation.

"An offer has been made through Intermedia (Pty) Ltd, which unfortunately is totally inadequate and in fact con-

JOSIAS VAN ZYL

ADMITS

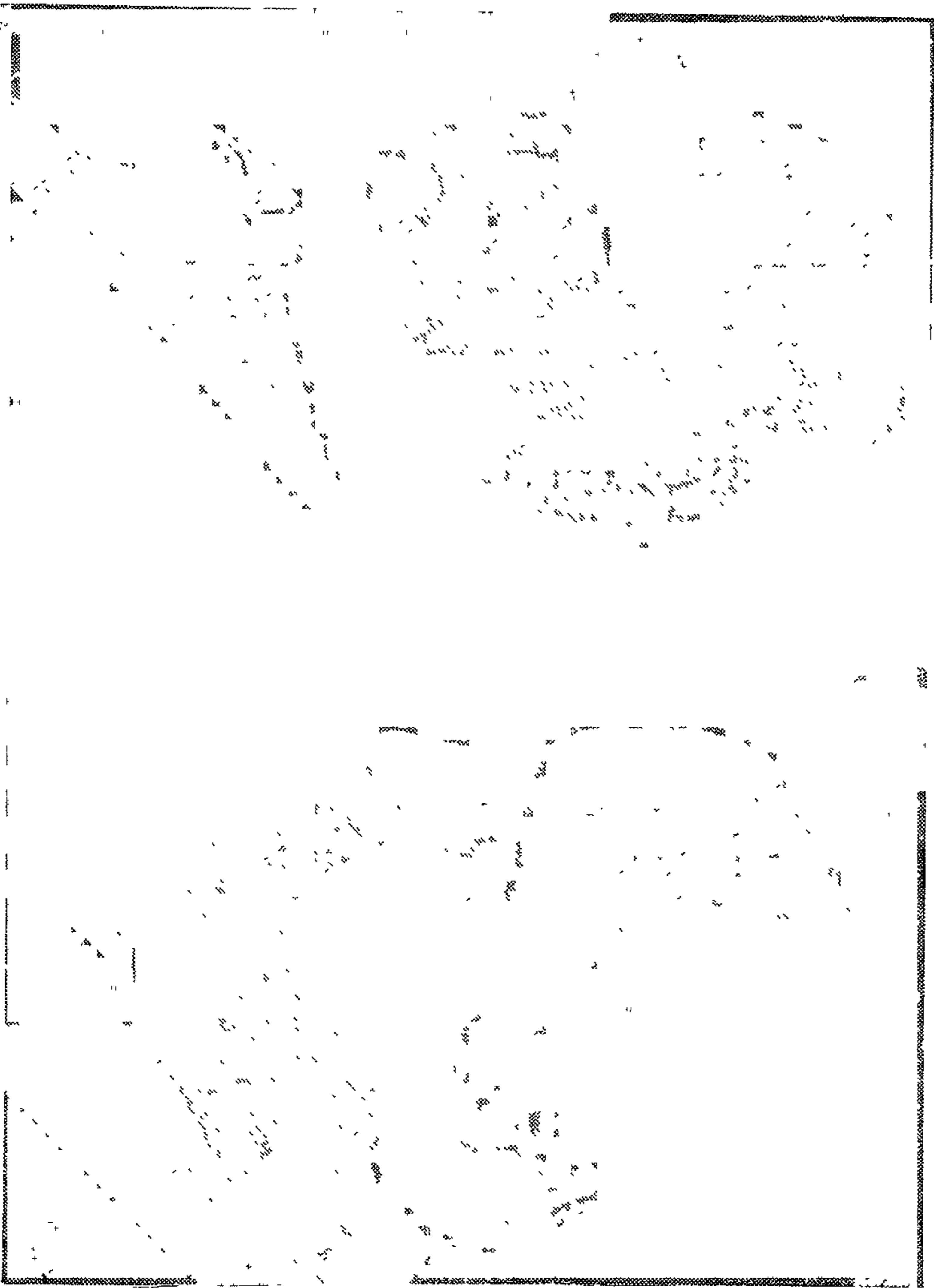
MUST

REPAY RTGM

11/3/79

259

General Hendrik van den Bergh and Mr Josias van Zyl at Jan Smuts Airport this week after their expensive overseas trip to see Rhoodie



25/2/76
257

firms that no cash is available at the moment within that company or the group," the letter allegedly states.

Mr Van Zyl, a director of Internenna, insisted it was "a company standing on its own two feet. It had nothing to do with PrepaZyl."

Asked if he was a millionaire, he said: "Not today, but I have offers on my table right at this moment that could make me a millionaire many times over."

The offers relate to special 22-ton metal-cutting machines which he said were "the only ones in the world to cut without twisting or bending".

The hydraulic guillotine first hit the headlines in 1970 but it is only now, after a number of failures, that four of the redesigned machines are nearing completion at Conac engineering in Pietermaritzburg.

Referring to the money sunk into the project by a Pochelstroom man, Mr Klaas Turksstra, and a Western Transvaal farmer, Mr Wilhe Pretorius, he said "I have a moral obligation to repay about R1.5-million."

He said he had taken over shares and loan accounts from them and had no legal obligations to them although he intended to repay them with proceeds from the machines

Reports by Roy Lynsky, Geoff Dalglissh, Peter Fabricius, Marian Shinn and Peter Mann

Cabinet Ministers say it's all lies, we didn't discuss plan to launch the Citizen before election

CABINET Ministers are sticking to their denials that they knew about secret information projects such as the Citizen — in spite of startling new claims by Dr Eschel Rhoadie.

The Ministers are also denying that they had any consultations with the former head of Boss, General Hendrik van den Bergh, before he flew overseas to meet Dr Rhoadie this week.

General van den Bergh however has alleged that he had "informal discussions" with several members of the Cabinet before he left.

Yesterday, Dr Rhoadie implicated at least two members of the Cabinet in the information scandal.

He said that Mr Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Justice, had told him that shortly before the 1977 general election the then Prime Minister, Mr B. J. Vorster, addressed the full Cabinet on the Citizen project.

Mr Vorster is said to have warned the Cabinet that he would be forced to resign if the project ever became public knowledge.

In an interview yesterday, Mr Kruger said he was considering suing newspapers which had published Dr Rhoadie's claim.

"They can tell me how Dr Rhoadie brings my name into it," Mr Kruger

said. He had met Dr Rhoadie casually at cocktail parties but could only remember speaking to him twice about information matters.

"Let me put it this way. Obviously the Cabinet discussed the Department of Information on many occasions, but as far as I can remember they never discussed the Citizen before the 1977 general election."

The other Cabinet Minister directly implicated by Dr Rhoadie was the Minister of Public Works and Tourism, Mr Louis le Grange.

Dr Rhoadie claimed that Mr Le Grange, then deputy Minister of Information, was shown a "dummy" or trial copy of the newspaper by Dr Rhoadie.

He said "I deny categorically that I ever received a dummy copy of the Citizen or knew of the Citizen project. If this is in fact what Dr Rhoadie told the newspapers then I unequivocally call him a liar."

Among the members of the 1977 Cabinet who reacted to the allegation that Mr Vorster had told the full Cabinet about the Citizen before the 1977 general election, were Mr Chris Heunis and Dr Schalk van der Merwe.

Mr Heunis, the Minister of Economic Affairs, said: "What Dr Rhoadie is saying is a public lie."

Anna-Marie's staying to study

ANNA-MARIE, Dr Eschel Rhoadie's student daughter, is staying on in South Africa to finish her degree, despite her father's new job as international marketer of a new South African product.

Speaking yesterday from the Rhoadie's Pretoria home, the Rhoadie's daughter, a second year BA student at Rand Afrikaans University, said she was in frequent contact with her father and mother both of whom are overseas.

But she would not say where they were or comment on announcements that her father would be working for businessman Mr Jošias van Zyl.

Anna-Marie is the only member of the family still in South Africa. Her mother left last month and her brother Eschel junior is at school in Europe.

THE three men named by Eschel Rhoadie as the informal Cabinet committee which oversaw his undercover projects were involved in running the secret fund which financed them.

This was the finding of Mr Justice Rudolph Erasmus, who chaired the commission of inquiry into irregularities into the now defunct Information department.

Its second report — predicted to drop a bombshell in May — may be published earlier at the request of the Prime Minister's response to what Mr Botha has labelled Dr Rhoadie's "smear campaign".

Dr Rhoadie named the "Cabinet committee" as the former Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster; the former Information Minister, Dr Connie Mulder, and the former Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs.

He claimed Sen. Owen Horwood joined the committee when he took over the Finance portfolio from Dr Diederichs in February, 1975 — before the machinery for launching

the Citizen — the most controversial secret project — got into gear. Without access to the full evidence given to the Erasmus Commission it is impossible to say how much individuals knew about the projects.

It reported that there was lack of communication between the principals in the information scandal, so it is possible they did not fully inform those outside the department.

When the secret fund was started in 1973, the Secretary to the Treasury told the Secretary for State Security in a letter how the money would be allocated to the department from the Prime Minister's budget vote under the sub-heading "special accounts for security services."

The letter said: "Though unconventional, the proposals of the Secretary for Information are the only practical way out in the circumstances" — indicating that details of the secret projects might be known.

The Treasury Secretary pointed out the various legal restrictions on special accounts for security services but added that these would be "no stumbling block as all the projects will be presented to the Prime Minister (then Mr Vorster) by the Minister of Information (Dr Mulder)."

Eschel Rhoadie: Selling a metal guillotine.

**The three
men
that
Rhodie
named
ran hush
account**

Eschrel — is he rich? man or poor man?

DR ESCHREL Rhoadie's true financial position abroad remains one of the unanswered questions arising from the controversial agreement drawn up this week between him and wealthy South African businessman Mr Josias van Zyl.

Mr van Zyl, together with former BOSS chief General Hendrik van den Bergh, and his lawyer, Mr Brian Kahn, hammered out an agreement with Dr Rhoadie in which he agreed not to make public the tapes and documents which he had planned to reveal to the South African and international media.

Mr van Zyl, in return, will be taking Dr Rhoadie into his international organisation — thereby guaranteeing Dr Rhoadie's financial situation.

Dr Rhoadie's position and salary are not yet known.

According to the Paris document, Dr Rhoadie believes the freezing of his assets and the withdrawal of his passport:

- Denied him opportunity of finding employment
- Denied him freedom of movement
- Left him facing a

PLAY THE RHOODIE MONEY GAME AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELF!

crisis of survival.

Does this square with the facts?

• To all intents and purposes he has not suffered from freedom of movement. He has not surrendered his passport and has travelled widely since November 19

Between the time he was interviewed by reporter John d'Ohveira on February 26 in Quito, Ecuador, and his meeting with Mr Van Zyl in Paris, he has travelled in at least five countries, including the United States, Switzerland and France. His next port of call after Paris was Rome.

• Dr Rhoadie has been offered a job in one of Mr Van Zyl's international companies. But who is he working for now?

When he met D'Ohveira last month he claimed that he was then working in the "publishing field" and that the work was keeping him busy

"To those who believe that I am on the run and

that I am living off money that is not my own, I just want to say that, as I am gainfully employed, I am anything but on the run," he told D'Ohveira.

Further, he was in Ecuador for 37 days on what he then called a "business visit."

• Patently Dr Rhoadie does not appear to have been hampered recently by lack of funds. Yet his close friend General Van den Bergh, says Dr Rhoadie "was in a desperate need of money."

Costs

As the Rhoadie "financial predicament" worsened, Dr Rhoadie's costs have mounted. Apart from the expenses of his trip to Ecuador, he is estimated to have spent nearly R1 000 during the past 10 days in air fares between Quito and Paris — taking in stops in Zurich, Nice and later Rome.

Dr Rhoadie has been able to maintain a luxury

four-bedroom three-bath-room apartment in Cannes near the Avenue Jean de Noailles. The property, which is in the R500 000 bracket, is in the same block as a flat owned by Mrs O. Jussen, wife of the former information department front, Mr Hubert Jussen.

The cost of General van den Bergh's three-day junket overseas is also awesome — although in this case, presumably, Mr Josias van Zyl picked up the tab.

The General, together with his wife and Mr van Zyl and Mr Kahn, travelled first class on their South African Airways flight from Johannesburg, conducted the negotiations at a plush Paris hotel and finally booked into the smart Portman Hotel in London's West End.

The Sofitel hotel at Charles de Gaulle Airport and the Portman Hotel have tariffs ranging between R68 and R76 a night for a single room with bath.

The Sofitel agreement leaves other questions unanswered.

It is not yet known how the three men persuaded Dr Rhoadie to not release his tapes and documents and keep his silence.

The agreement also says that General van den Bergh, in an attempt to prevent publication of the tapes, consulted on an informal basis with several members of the Cabinet.

But in London after the agreement was announced, General van den Bergh said he had no brief from the South African Government "I came without the knowledge of the Government. The Government did not know I was coming."

Finally, there are the unanswered questions surrounding Dr Rhoadie's job as international metal shearing salesman.

When does he come on to the payroll? Where will he be based and how will he be paid — taking into account South Africa's stringent exchange control regulations?

And how will he travel — especially vital in the light of the call by the South African Foreign Minister, Mr P. K. Botha, for his ambassadors to get Dr Rhoadie back to South Africa?

ance (Dr Urenergens) is in accordance with the proposals, and has approved the sum of R293 000 in the financial year 1973/74 to be made available for such services to the Department of Information.

Dr Rhoadie has claimed that Senator Horwood joined the "Cabinet Committee" and knew of the secret projects.

The Erasmus report printed almost none of Senator Horwood's evidence or details of his involvement in the projects and they found no reason to doubt his credibility and exonerated him of all blame concerning the irregularities. This week Sen Horwood denied he had been on the "cabinet committee".

But he was involved in allocating millions of rands for the secret projects.

At that time Mr Vorster was aware the Information scandal was about to erupt. He had been briefed by former Auditor-General Mr Gerald Barrie, BOSS auditor Mr Loed Reynders and Information front man Mr Rehef van Rooyen, on the extent of the scandal.

According to Dr Rhoadie, Mr Vorster told the Cabinet in November 1977 that the Government had financed the Citizen and if it became public knowledge he would have to resign.

Dr Rhoadie claimed that a meeting was held at the home of Sen. Horwood during 1977 at which the secret projects were discussed by himself, Dr Mulder, Sen. Horwood and Mr Gerald Barrie, the former Secretary for Finance.

Mr Browne said yesterday he could not recall a meeting at Senator Horwood's home at which "I was present with Dr Mulder and Dr Rhoadie. But I cannot deny that such a meeting took place."

259 13/3/79



GEAMUSEERD oor haar man in die skielike rol van landsredder — mev. Gail van Zyl, 26, sê sy het glad nie geweet haar man gaan op sy sakebesoek oorsee vir dr. Rhodie 'n werk aanbied om hom stil te hou oor inligting nie

Premier woedend oor

DIT IS

Maatjies 11/3/79

259

nuutste Rhodie-stories

IN KARTON
se boek Die Afrikaner-Broederbond: Eerste vyftig
Jaar.

PROFERUNT!

259

Joe sit Lang Hendrik gou op Rhodie

Deur THINUS PRINSLOO Rapport 11/3/71

⁽²⁵⁹⁾
DR. ESCHEL RHOODIE se nuwe baas, die raaiselagtige jong sakeman Josias (Joe) van Zyl, het gister via genl. Lang Hendrik van den Bergh sy eerste opdrag aan dr. Rhodie gegee: Sorg dat geen verdere geheime inligting gepubliseer word nie.

Vir die reg om bevele aan dr. Rhodie te gee, betaal hy hom goed, sê mnr. Van Zyl „Dis nie 'peanuts' nie. As jy 'peanuts' betaal, kry jy ape”

Dis juis hierdie rykmanshouding van die jong Josias wat die meeste vrae laat ontstaan. Hy is klaarblyklik 'n papiermiljoenêr wie se hele toekomstdroom berus op 'n staalsnymasjien wat al sedert 1969 hofsake, skuldeise en 'n getuis veroorsaak het en waarvan nog nie 'n enkele model geld inbring nie.

In hul dupeks-woonstel buite Johannesburg sê sy pragtige vrou, Gail, dat hulle glad nie in die miljoenêrsklas is nie en hierby voeg Josias self „Tot tyd en wyl die staalsnysentrums wat ek in Suid-Afrika en oorsee beplan, 'n werklikheid word, kry ek my geld van finansiële instellings wat my van gewaarborgde fondse voorsien op voorwaarde dat hulle later sake met ons kan doen”

Van dié geld het hy vandeeweek R10 000 geblaas om vir dr. Rhodie in die buiteland te gaan aanstel as verkoopman van sy snymasjien en te voorkom dat dr. Rhodie verdere onthullings doen.

So verloop die paadjie van Josias van Zyl (32) se enigste bate 'n Masjien wat staalplate sny sonder dat dit buig.

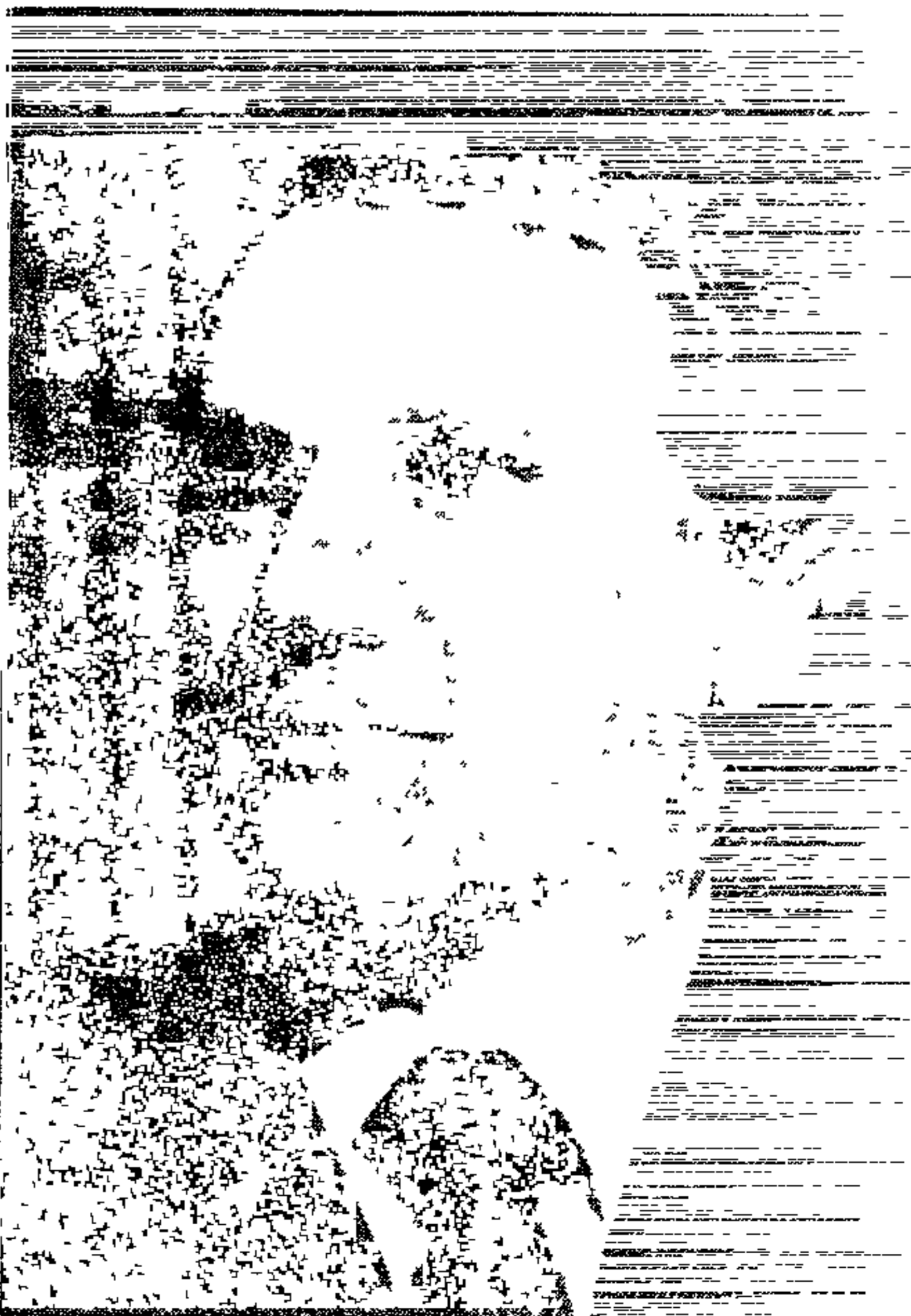
• Sowat R6½ miljoen is al aan ontwikkelingskoste en patentregte bestee sedert mnr. Van Zyl in 1969 die patente van die oorspronklike Breedveltsnymasjien bekam het.

• Twee beleggers in die maatskappy Prepazyl wat die patentregte en gebruik daarvan in Suid-Afrika bekom het, is minstens R1½ miljoen kwyt omdat die snymasjien nooit bemark kon word nie.

Dis mnr. Pretorius en Turkstra

* Mnr. Van Zyl sê hy onderhandel tans met 17 lande wat belang stel in kon-

* VERVOLG OP BL. 5 *



MNR. JOE VAN ZYL, op papier 'n miljoenêr

11/3/79

259

Kwaai klappe vir Connie

SKROEIENDE verklarings op die hoogste Regeringsvlak, 'n Minister wat dreig met lasteraksies, die moontlikheid van 'n vervroegde Erasmus-verslag, 'n hernieude opposisie-aanslag...

Dis hierdie naweek die naloop van die beskuldigings wat die man in die Panama-hoedjie — dr. Eschel Rhodie — ingebring het teen ministers Jimmy Kruger, Owen Horwood en selfs Louis le Grange.

In 'n skerp bewoorde verklaring oor beweringe dat die Kabinet voor die 1977-verkieping van die Citizen-projek gewet het, trek die Eerste Minister, mnr. P. W. Botha, los teen dr. Rhodie, en opvallend teen dr. Connie Mulder, oor die „soort vriende” wat hy gebruik het.

Min Jimmy Kruger dreig met 'n groot lastereis teen koerante en min. Le Grange ontken ten sterkste dat 'n proefuitgawe van The Citizen aan hom gewys is.

Intussen vra die PFP en die NRP dat 'n gekose komi-

tee van die parlement moet ingaan op beweringe dat min. Owen Horwood van die geheime projekte van die ou Departement van Inligting gewet het

Regter Rudolph Erasmus wou gister op navraag niks

sê nie oor mnr. P. W. Botha se verklaring dat die Regering dit oorweeg om die regter te vra om sy verslag vroer uit te bring, en om ondersoek in te stel na die „ongewenaarde smeerveldtog” wat van oorsee deur dr. Eschel Rhodie gevoer word

● In sy verklaring lewer die Eerste Minister kommentaar op berigte in SAAN-koerante waarvolgens dr. Rhodie sê dat die vorige premier, mnr. John Vorster, die Kabinet kort voor die 1977-verkieping oor die Citizen-projek ingelig het

Onding

Elk voer hierdie smeerstories by herhaling en met veragting. Dr. Rhodie se veragtelike optrede uit die buitenland om saam te span met seker opposisiekoerante is 'n deursigtige spel om wraak te neem op mense wat sy onreëlmatighede aan die raak gestel het

Dr. Connie Mulder het self erken dat hy die Kabinet nooit ingelig het nie en as

VERVOLG OP BL. 5

ESCHTEL Rhoadie's Diary

EXCLUSIVE FOUND (PART I)

OF THE CITIZEN NEXT TO THE

1978
 Paris/France. SA A. G. G. away in the nick of time. Direct to bistro for rendezvous with Pfi, Josephine and Briette. (Code names for top info agents in Europe). Pfi has phlete's foot and can't follow Helen Suzman on fact-finding mission. Josephine says she'll do it on condition he can travel with Boetie van Wyk and not in blonde wig and handbag. I OK it all. Am myself sick of my own blonde wig and handbag.

London/UK. December 1978
 The Bjorn Borg disguise nearly got me into trouble. Picked up in Piccadilly by X X X X (well-known, disgraced British Politician). Had to expose myself and make clean breast of things. He thought I was someone else.

Amsterdam/Holland. January 1979
 Happy New Year. Using new passport found in my stocking under tree. Can't get used to the name Glenda. Was forced to use the Ladies at Schipol airport. Molested by Russian tram-poline star. No, hell, man, this disguise must also go!

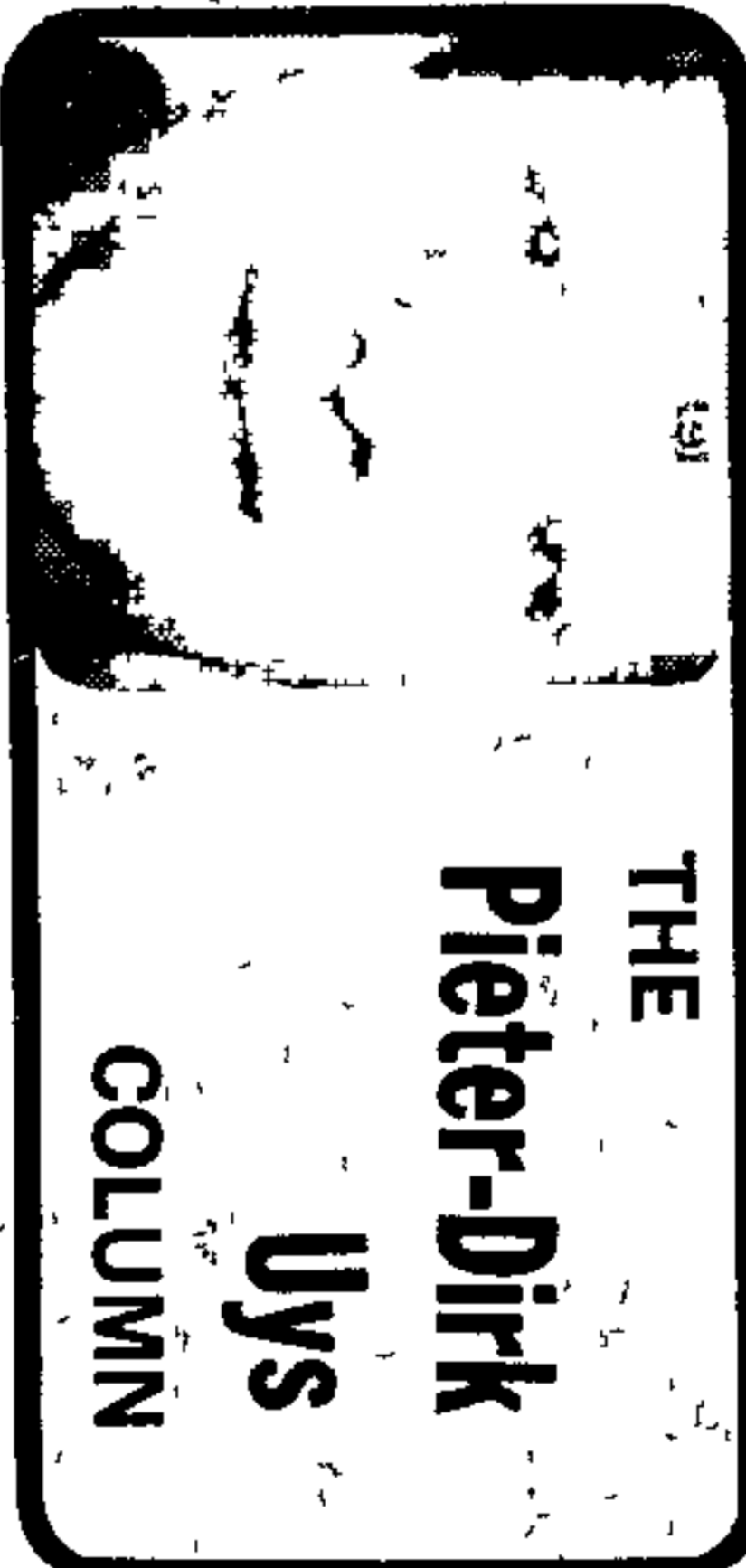
Paris/France. January 1979
 Pfi and Josephine didn't recognize me with my new mustache and little bowler hat. Kept calling me The Little Tramp. Maybe it's the walking stick and the funny shoes. I got from X X X X (well-known show-man). This disguise, alas, must also go, after someone near the SA Embassy called me Domineel.

Paraguay. February 1979
 At last! On my smallholding and in peace. Find out they have taken away my passport. Which one, for heaven's sake? Relieved I'd anyway lost THAT one in the Seychelles last year when (famous name), (another famous name) and (notorious person) skinny-dipped after seeing (banned film). Eat your heart out PW Sao Paulo, Brazil. February 1979

Mexico City/Mexico: Next day
 I AM Dolores del Rio. At least no trouble with passports. Given freedom of Mexico City. Notice abusive Afrikaans three-letter word all over the place. May be it's a local word. Certainly

puts my state of mind into a nutshell. Uruguay/Argentina: February 1979
 Back and forth over border like at home. My German helps here a lot. Met (famous Nazi) and we swapped stories about (famous Afrikaaner). Gretchen arrived with (famous SA agent) and did good impersonations of (disgraced MP). Laughed so much my make-up got smudged. This disguise must go. Gretchen very passionate — something to do with my dirndl and French Roll.

Quito/Ecuador. February 1979
 Jistank, but that was close. Nearly caught by reporter at lunch. Garlic makes communication somewhat



THE
**Pieter-Dirk
 Uys**
 COLUMN

Richard Smith

11/3/79

259

shortlived Blew smoke in his face and ran for the plane

London Airport. March 1979

Had to flee well-known SA columnist who thought she recognised me in my Jamaican cleaning man's outfit

Paris/France. Same day

Exhausted Reunited with Fifi and Josephine Brigitte defected Sold full into story to Penthouse magazine Shame will only be read in SA by censors and customs.

Cannes/France. Next day

Katie flies in pursued by SA Press I disguised as Heidi. Innocently Press take pictures of me for their readers to colour in Katie has brought me biltong and 'Poppie Nongena'. We celebrate

Athens/Greece. March 1979

Going on boat trip to record memoirs Put call through collect to (famous, notorious ex-policeman) Tell him about tapes His phone still tapped by (well-known "cold" minister) so we must talk in code I call him Aia and he calls me Ma

Paris/France. March 1979

Discussions with (notorious ex-policeman) a success Am promised own Jumbo if we take over Find old copy of "To the Point" with me on cover Those were the days Heimwee for old Transvaal! Must find a telephone booth here we are. up, up and ole!

Johannesburg/South Africa:

March 11, 1979

All still think I'm Norma Foster. Disguise works. If any trouble have full Shah of Iran outfit in station locker, also Liewe Heksie alternative Have some more surprises up my pants-hose

Ha ha ha.

Sunday EXPRESS

(259)

WHAT'S BEHIND ALL THIS HARASSMENT?

THREE times now in recent months the police have used their powers to bring Sunday Express staff members before court so that they can be forced to reveal a source of information. This week its Political Correspondent received a prison sentence because his journalistic ethic would not allow him to comply.

Readers are entitled to ask: Has the Sunday Express suddenly begun to do something reprehensible or terrible that it should be treated in this way? Our answer is NO.

All that this newspaper has been doing is publishing reports that it deems to be in the public interest. Why then have the police developed this unhealthy interest?

We cannot answer for them. But there can be little doubt that, in one instance anyway, there was a blatantly intimidatory aspect. The police actually rejected an offer by a Sunday Express journalist to give them information freely — and dragged him into court instead.

Are magistrates simply required to rubber-stamp police demands in such cases or do they have discretion to consider whether the demands are reasonable? Higher courts are being asked to rule on this. In the meantime, if the intention behind the police subpoenas is to try to discourage investigative reporting, it won't work. The Sunday Express is not intimidated.

But we wouldn't blame readers if they began to wonder why the newspaper that did so much to bring the Information Department scandal into the open, has suddenly become the victim of such harassment.

SINKING FAST

ONLY ONE thing is clear: someone must be lying. The question is: who? There are elements of farce in the Rhodie affair now, but it would be disastrous to dismiss lightly this week's revelations by the Rand Daily Mail. They strike right at the heart of the Government.

If Dr Rhodie is correct, Mr P. W. Botha's administration will have to resign immediately. If Dr Rhodie is lying then the man is a danger to stability itself because there is no end to the fabrications he can produce.

One suggested solution is that Dr Rhodie come back home to say his say here. Apart from being unrealistic (Dr Rhodie isn't going to come home), the suggestion is pointless too. Dr Rhodie is no more likely to get his day in open court than General Van den Bergh was. And any further testimony to the Erasmus Commission is no more likely to be released than the nine hours of evidence he gave first time round.

No, the only solution is to reveal all that has been said under oath to the commission so far. This will immediately make two things clear:

A) Whether four witnesses did in fact contradict the former Prime Minister on the extent of his knowledge; and B) The reasons why the commission chose to believe the single witness and not the others.

South Africa is sinking fast into a quagmire of suspicion. The rescue operation must be mounted urgently. Open those Erasmus files now.

259

PM in new attack on Mulder and Rhoodie

IN A dramatic announcement yesterday afternoon the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, announced that he is considering asking the Erasmus Commission to speed up its work and begin an investigation into the "smear campaign" which he claims Dr Eschel Rhoodie and some Opposition papers are waging.

This statement was one of four by Cabinet Ministers, after Dr Rhoodie told the Rand Daily Mail that Mr Vorster had addressed a full meeting of the Cabinet about the Citizen newspaper before the general election in November 1977.

Mr Botha's statement also attacked Dr Gomme Mulder, the former Minister of Information, for having friends like Dr Rhoodie who would give the type of interviews he has given from overseas.

By JOHN MATSONN
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister said the Government will consider asking the Erasmus Commission to bring out its report quicker than its stated deadline of the end of May, and thereafter to ask it to investigate this unparalleled smear campaign.

He rejected the Rhoodie allegations again and with contempt, and said Dr Rhoodie's "contemptible" actions in "convinving with certain Opposition newspapers" were a transparent attempt to hit back at those who exposed his irregularities.

Dr Mulder himself admitted that he never informed the Cabinet and as a result of this he had to resign. Further, Dr Mulder admitted to me in the Cabinet that a Cabinet committee had not existed.

Now suddenly there was hiding behind a so-called informal cabinet committee, which was an absurdity (and) of which the Cabinet had no knowledge. It is now clear to the court

try what sort of friends Dr Mulder used to waste the country's money in an irregular manner, according to the Commission's findings, on schemes which they did not want in the public eye.

"In conclusion I just want to refer again to the cowardice of Dr Rhoodie who flies around overseas instead of looking his own people in the eye inside his country."

The Minister of Public Works and former Deputy Minister of Information, Mr Louis Le Grange, said that if the reports of what Dr Rhoodie said about him were correct, "then Dr Rhoodie is a liar". He denied "categorically"

that he had been shown a dummy copy of The Citizen or that he knew of the Citizen project. He pointed out that he was saying this with the knowledge and backing of the Prime Minister.

Mr Le Grange also said he found it shocking that some newspapers were willing to publish Dr Rhoodie's allegations without first checking with the people involved.

Mr Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Justice, said he intended to sue newspapers which had published the Rhoodie allegations.

On Friday night the Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, denied the allegations which referred to him.

Sunday Express

• JOHANNESBURG, MARCH 11, 1979

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• Mr. Josias van Zyl
five sensational days

WYSTERYMAN
259
VAN ZYL SPEAKS

Sun. Express 11/3/79

11/3/79 (259)

Face-to-face ... my 17 hours with Rhodie

THE mystery businessman who was behind the touch-and-go "gag" deal with Eschel Rhodie told me his inside story this week.

He spoke as fresh and devastating info disclosures, which could spell political dynamite for the P-W-Botha Government, came into the open.

During my interview, he described in detail what he called "the five most sensational days of my life", during which he spent 17 hours in face-to-face negotiations with a "desperate" and "disillusioned" Dr Eschel Rhodie

The mystery man is 31-year-old Mr Josias (Joe) van Zyl — charming, plausible and wealthy. Eight years ago, at the age of 23, he was hailed as the youngest millionaire in South Africa.

On Friday on his return from London, Mr Van Zyl told the Sunday Express his full version of the drama-charged Eschel Rhodie-Hendrik van den Bergh talks in Paris

It was the first time he had spelled out in detail how he had become involved

Mr Van Zyl said he had never before met Dr Rhodie and had had no business dealings with him or with any of his staff. He met General Van den Bergh two weeks ago. "Before that I did not know him, either, from a bar of soap."

He was horrified, he said, when he read newspaper reports saying that Dr Rhodie intended releasing tapes and documents concerning secret Government projects to international TV stations and the world Press.

Shocked by the "damaging" and "dangerous" implications this would have for South Africa, and concerned about how this would affect his international business operations, he — and nobody else — contacted General Van den Bergh, the former head of the Bureau for State Security, and offered to fly with him to Paris in a last-ditch attempt to stop Dr Rhodie.

At that stage, said Mr Van Zyl, he told General Van den Bergh he believed that Eschel Rhodie was calling a gigantic bluff. If it were true, he reasoned, that Dr Rhodie did have "political dynamite" to divulge, then surely the Government or the Erasmus Commission would have been seen to be dealing firmly with the matter.

"I really believed," he recalled, "that Eschel Rhodie was calling a bluff, though naturally I could not be sure. And also in



**By
KITT
KATZIN**

the back of my mind was the thought that in no way was he going to knock my 63 patents to hell

Mr Van Zyl said he made it perfectly clear, through General Van den Bergh, that he would want to listen to the tapes and study the documents in Dr Rhodie's possession to satisfy himself that they were genuine, documented and politically explosive from the point of view of harming South Africa, before offering him a job and dissuading him from releasing them.

He had two motives for coming to an agreement with Dr Rhodie, he said. First, after listening to the tapes and studying the documents, he believed their release would have been catastrophic for South Africa.

Secondly, he said: "I'm a businessman,

To Page 2

289

11/3/79



Van Zyl lawyer to marry

● Mr Brian Kahn, the lawyer who accompanied General Hendrik van den Bergh to France to meet Dr Eschel Rhodie, with Miss Sandy Bayhach, the girl he is marrying this afternoon at Mr Kahn's house in Sandton. The couple and the guests will be wearing jeans for the open air ceremony — to which General Van den Bergh has been invited

'Desperate' Dr and the millionaire



● Mr Josias van Zyl with his wife Gail

➔ **From Page 1**

first and foremost, and right now I'm planning to bring out 45 industrialists from 13 countries to inspect my metal-shearing machines

"I don't want that operation destroyed, either"

So he flew off with General Van den Bergh and his wife (paying for their first-class tickets) and his attorney, Mr Brian Kahn, who is also a shareholder in his company

"But Brian and I travelled economy class," Mr Van Zyl chuckled

Talking of his meeting with Dr Rhodie and the agreement the parties signed at the end of the marathon session of heart-to-heart talks, Mr Van Zyl claimed that

● General Van den Bergh had been particularly concerned about the tapes as he did not know, before meeting Dr Rhodie, which tapes the former Information Secretary had

● That he was "shocked and bewildered" when he listened to the content of the tapes (recorded by Dr Rhodie in English) and examined certain documents

"I realised then," Mr Van Zyl recalled, "that he just had to be stopped. I vowed then that even if we remained together in that room for one year I would never leave until Dr Rhodie had signed an agreement, giving us his word he would not make the tapes and documents available"

"There is no question that this would have led to disastrous results for South Africa"

Asked if he agreed with General Van den Bergh that public disclosure of Dr Rhodie's secrets would im-

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"...AND YOU'RE SURE I DON'T NEED A VISA?"

placate the Prime Minister and Cabinet members and possibly lead to the downfall of the Government, Mr Van Zyl, after considering the question carefully, shook his head and offered a solemn "no comment".

He also revealed that Dr Rhodie could easily accept a new passport (from a South American country, it is believed) and that the job he had offered the former Information Secretary would "cut across international marketing, promotional and public relations commitments".

"Make no mistake," said Mr Van Zyl, "Eschel Rhodie is a brilliant man and he has an incredible range of international contacts, which I could use to the benefit of my company. No South African businessman could establish contacts like these in a million years."

Mr Van Zyl also revealed that

● At one stage the talks with Dr Rhodie almost broke down "We pulled no punches and the going was heavy"

● Dr Rhodie was a broken man "He cuts a pathetic figure of one who is disillusioned, bitter, frustrated, destitute and financially broke"

● Dr Rhodie's papers and recordings appeared to be factual and well documented "He's right on top of every facet of this wealth of information"

● That he, General Van den Bergh and Mr Kahn would negotiate with Dr Rhodie again soon on aspects arising out of their agreement and to finalise the executive post Mr Van Zyl had offered Dr Rhodie

Mr Van Zyl, whose marriage three years ago to beautiful Johannesburg blonde Gail Jackson was described as "the wedding of the century", vehemently denied he was an Information or Government "front" or that any of his businesses had received "one cent" of State funds

He says he is the only industrialist in the world who has perfected a "multi-billion-dollar" technique to shear metal without distor-

tion Patent rights had been registered in 63 countries in Europe, North America and Asia Patents had also been lodged in several communist countries, including Russia

Mr Van Zyl, a Stellenbosch University law student, says he is a friend of Khojrow Akmal, once the Vice Grand Master of the former Shah of Iran. He flew to Iran 23 times in one year to negotiate deals that would have topped R480-million a year in profits, if they had come off

Asked if he would testify to the Erasmus Commission on the basis of what he now knew, Mr Van Zyl said "I cannot think for them". General Van den Bergh said on Friday he would not do so, as the Erasmus Commission had made him out to be a liar

Mr Van Zyl denied reports that he had been unable to discharge a debt of R9 030 outstanding for three years, an allegation made by Computer Patent Annuities, based in Jersey

Van Zyl faced sequestration after cheque was stopped

By **DESMOND BLOW**
Chief Reporter

MR JOSIAS (Joe) van Zyl was recently threatened with sequestration because he failed to comply with a Supreme Court order to pay a R3 500 cheque he had stopped

The cheque was the deposit on a R35 000 Johannesburg duplex flat Mr Van Zyl had bought. Later inquiries by the seller showed that Mr Van Zyl, in any event, did not have the funds in the bank at the time to have met the cheque.

Mr Van Zyl bought the flat on a 90% bond and contracted for renovations costing R37 000 to make it into a luxury home for the couple of weeks a year he planned to spend in South Africa.

He produced photographs of a R1,5-million home he said he owned at Monte Carlo, where he and his wife intended to live for most of the year.

Mr Van Zyl made the deal on June 13 last year, he was to have taken occupation of the flat — 12 Bonifay, Pendering Road, Blackheath — in September.

The contract for the renovations for the flat was cancelled after the contrac-

months

It was then discovered that he had paid with a post-dated cheque for October 8, a week after he was due to take occupation.

When the cheque was presented for payment it was found to have been stopped.

The estate agency, De Huizemark, sued him. A judge granted a provisional order compelling him to pay the R3 500, plus costs and interest.

Mr Van Zyl still failed to pay and De Huizemark obtained a writ of execution to attach moveable property belonging to him.

On November 10 an Assistant Deputy Sheriff, Mr Jac van den Berg, served the writ on Mrs J Briscoe at Mr Van Zyl's offices in the Carlton Centre.

The payment was not met, nor could Mr Van den Berg make an attachment as there was nothing of value to attach.

On December 21 a different Assistant Deputy Sheriff, Mr P J H Koen, attempted to attach moveable property at the home of Mr Van Zyl at 2 Acacia Park, Acacia Road, Corris-moor, Johannesburg.

When he asked Mr Van Zyl's wife Gail to point out property belonging to her husband, she replied that she had been married by ante-nuptial contract and that everything at 2 Acacia Road, belonged to her.

De Huizemark subsequently cancelled the sale of the flat to Mr Van Zyl, who never took occupancy.

Mr Pieter Hamman of De Huizemark told me: "Both my company and the

seller suffered damages as a result of Mr Van Zyl's action.

"The seller was embarrassed because the deal did not go through and had to find extra loans for the house he had bought, the flat was unoccupied for three months.

"My attorney, Mr Glen van der Watt, of Chris De Wet, who is acting for the seller and my company, will decide whether Mr Van Zyl is worth sequestrating."

The contractor, who asked that his name be not published, said the renovations Mr Van Zyl had requested would have cost more than the original flat and would have over-capitalised it by "many thousands".

Mr Van Zyl had said he planned to use the flat only occasionally.

It's not possible, he says

YESTERDAY Mr Van Zyl denied that he was being threatened with sequestration, saying: "In my particular circumstances, and in terms of the law, this would just not be possible."

He also denied that he had contracted for renovations of R37 000 to the duplex flat he intended buying, saying: "That is what

bond and that De Huizemark had not provided collateral security, which it had undertaken to do.

As regards the photographs of the villa he is alleged to have said he owned in Monte Carlo, Mr Van Zyl said that while he did have photographs of a particular villa, he certainly did not own it, nor did he own

ALICE CHEQUE WAS STOPPED

By **DESMOND BLOW**
Chief Reporter

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He produced photographs of a R1,5-million home he said he owned at Monte Carlo, where he and his wife intended to live for most of the year

Mr Van Zyl made the deal on June 13 last year, he was to have taken occupation of the flat — 12 Bonifay, Pendering Road, Blackheath — in September

The contract for the renovations for the flat was cancelled after the contractor had spent a lot of time providing Mr Van Zyl with "what he had requested".

Mr Van Zyl had obtained a 90% building society bond for the property and had himself to pay the remaining 10% within three

months

It was then discovered that he had paid with a post-dated cheque for October 8, a week after he was due to take occupation

When the cheque was presented for payment it was found to have been stopped

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It's not possible, he says

YESTERDAY Mr Van Zyl denied that he was being threatened with sequestration, saying: "In my particular circumstances, and in terms of the law, this would just not be possible"

He also denied that he had contracted for renovations of R37 000 to the duplex flat he intended buying, saying: "That is absolute nonsense — I did not enter into any negotiations."

Mr Van Zyl said that in regard to the negotiations concerning the purchase of the flat he had subsequently lodged a counter-claim in the light of the fact that the building society had not granted the 90%

bond and that De Huizemark had not provided collateral security, which it had undertaken to do.

As regards the photographs of the villa he is alleged to have said he owned in Monte Carlo, Mr Van Zyl said that while he did have photographs of a particular villa, he certainly did not own it, nor did he own any other property abroad

"I was in London at the time and the photograph of the villa was given to me with a view to buying it some time in the future," he said.

"But I have taken the matter no further. If I do so I will naturally obtain the necessary approval from the authorities"

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Rhodie threatens to reveal Info tapes

259

Star 12/3/79

Rhodie's threat

► From page 1

the Prime Minister and other named ministers are not enough to stem the stories from Dr Rhodie

Mr Kruger was not available today to comment on a report that he might introduce a Bill this week seeking to place the onus on newspapers to prove that untested allegations were not published with malicious intent

A special Cabinet committee headed by the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, is also believed to be considering a measure resembling the "rumour-mongering" Bill which the Prime Minister warned of in the special parliamentary session on the Erasmus report last year

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Meeting

A number of Ministers, including the Minister of the Interior, Mr Schlebusch, and the Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, were in top level meetings today.

The Cabinet meets tomorrow amid signs that there is a major rethink going on about the Government's strategy in dealing with the Information scandal

It is believed the Government is contemplating comprehensive action aimed at smothering the currency given to untested allegations against ministers. A situation has arisen in which denials by

To Page 3, Col 1

By Jan van Ree

Dr Eschel Rhodie will make public some of his tapes and documents on the Information affair if he finds it necessary to clear his name of Government accusations, says his new boss, the Johannesburg businessman Mr Josias "Joe" van Zyl.

In a frank interview in his plush Carlton Centre offices today Mr van Zyl said he had given instructions that the tapes and documents be made up into two separate parcels

The first will contain information on the internal part of the Info scandal and this one will be released to the Press if Dr Rhodie feels he has to clear his name. The other parcel will contain the psychological warfare and State secrets side and this will never ever be made public

"It will harm not only my business interest but those of every other South African company," Mr van Zyl said

Mr van Zyl's statement creates yet more confusion over Dr Rhodie's intentions and the "secret" material he holds about the former Information Department

Dr Rhodie first said he would never reveal details of secret projects which could harm South Africa

Then it was revealed that he had cached two sets of his material in separate places in Europe as "insurance" against anything happening to him

Agreement

Last week it was announced that he had agreed, in return for employment with Mr van Zyl, never to reveal any of this material. The deal was made with Mr van Zyl and his lawyer, Mr Brian Kahn, with General Hendrik van den Bergh acting as an intermediary

Now Mr van Zyl states Dr Rhodie might release part of the material.

In another development, the Rhodie disclosures so far — all vehemently denied by those he has named — are expected to

Cape judge restricts Rhodie report

129 3179 (259)

The Judge President of the Cape, Mr Justice J W van Zyl, granted a rule nisi to the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, early this morning, restricting South African Associated Newspapers from publishing a section of a report quoting the former Secretary of Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie.

On hearing of the order at about 2:30 am the Rand Daily Mail held back 10 000 copies of their

newspaper for reprinting. In terms of the order SAAN, and the Rand Daily Mail, Cape Times, Natal Mercury, Eastern Province Herald or any other newspaper are prohibited from publishing an extract from the report.

The application was heard by Mr Justice van Zyl in his chambers at 1 am. The return date for the order is March 27.

SAAN's lawyers are handling the matter.

Van Zyl invites Govt on trip to meet Eschel

By Jan van Ree

A South African Government representative will be allowed to listen to the information scandal tapes of Dr Eschel Roodie — under certain conditions, the former Secretary for Information's new boss, Mr Josias "Joe" van Zyl said today.

Mr van Zyl, his lawyer, Mr Brian Kahn and General Hendrik van den Bergh will be leaving for "further negotiations" with Dr Rhodie somewhere overseas as soon as possible.

"I have been thinking about inviting an independent legal man along with us to listen to the tapes and look through the documents but I would welcome it if the Government were to send a representative," Mr van Zyl said.

"This will have to be done overseas of course, under the condition that Dr Rhodie's travel documents are not interfered with once we lead the

Government representative to him.

"The Government would have to give us a public assurance on this."

Mr van Zyl said the idea of taking an independent observer along was to help sort the tapes and documents into two separate parcels — one concerning the Info scandal and the other State secrets and psychological warfare.

"I want Dr Rhodie to come back and move into my offices, so the sooner this whole thing is sorted out the better."

"Dr Rhodie can release the contents of the first parcel to clear his name and that will be that."

Mr van Zyl said Mr Kahn would probably be contacting the Government today to pass on information on "certain aspects" of their negotiations with Dr Rhodie last week.

"I suppose he will also be talking to them about Dr Rhodie's passport."

250

WARRANTY

RECORDS

b5c

6/1/1979

BY MERVYN REES

N A series of interviews recently by Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information, claimed here were very few Cabinet Ministers in Mr P W Botha's Government who could claim they did not know about one or more of the secret projects undertaken by the Department as part of its five-year secret pro-aganda war.

He said the war as conducted not only in other countries, but also in South Africa and South West Africa

Several Ministers participated in projects knowing that they were being financed or arranged secretly by the Department of Information

"My main reason in notifying these Ministers and the officials concerned not to expose any of the secret operations itself is that I will never do unless the Government forces me to do so or leaves me with other alternative



Together again Dr Eschel Rhodie and his wife, Katie stroll through the streets of a European city

Picture by MERVYN REES

12/4/79 (259)

"The reason is simply to prove, in public and not before a commission hearing evidence in secret (which could decide, for whatever reason, not to disclose the evidence), that Dr Mulder and I conducted this five-year programme with the full knowledge of the then Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and the full knowledge of the Minister of Finance and his predecessor, the late Dr Diederichs

"In addition, at least half a dozen other Ministers currently serving in the Cabinet of Mr Botha — including Mr P W Botha himself — knew of or participated in secret projects

"Dr Connie Mulder has never denied he approved the secret projects nor have I denied that the detailed implementation was left to me

"The letter of the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, addressed to the entire Cabinet in December, 1973, informed them that Information was to embark on a new role and that the operations, both open and secret, the objectives and methods, including financing, were the responsibility of Dr Mulder

"However, Dr Mulder would keep the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister informed and consult with them on major operations

"This Dr Mulder did. In fact the Cabinet was often collectively informed, during its regular sessions, of particularly successful actions undertaken in secret by the Department

"It is therefore incomprehensible that the entire Cabinet would now, by word of the Prime Minister, claim that they knew nothing of The Citizen or any other secret operations of the Department

"In particular, the claim by Senator Horwood, who now denies all knowledge of secret operations and of serving on any informal Cabinet committee which received my annual and sometimes twice-yearly report on the projects

"Since Dr Mulder sometimes informed the regular Cabinet meetings of secret projects it could be stated that all Ministers were aware of secret operations or aware of at least one

To Page 3

Eschel comments on those denials by the government

By MERVYN REES

DR ESCHEL RHOODIE said in a statement yesterday that he was sorry that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, was resorting to attacks on his character by accusing him of personal cowardice.

Mr Botha, as well as the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, and the Minister of Tourism, Mr Louis le Grange, have strenuously denied certain claims made by Dr Rhoodie and published on Saturday concerning former Department of Information secret projects

Dr Rhoodie said yesterday "All I want to state is that Dr Connie Mulder last spoke to me in November, 1978, and has not been in touch with me by telephone or by letter since. Since all my calls back home have been listened into and even my personal mail to family intercepted, the authorities should know Dr Mulder is totally innocent of Mr Botha's accusation that he is behind my actions

"I repeat that I merely want to start a new life, to get my passport reinstated and my assets transferred back to me, and to tell the public that Dr Mulder and I did not act on our own in launching the propaganda war, just as we did not start The Citizen without Mr Vorster's approval. I believe that is a reasonable position.

"I confirm that Mr Jimmy Kruger spoke to me several times to help him clear a statement from a tape-recording by a French journalist which Mr Kruger admitted to me would have meant the end of his career if published. I did so and he replied that if ever a shadow fell over my life he would move mountains to help me. He is not doing so now.

"I spoke on many occasions to Mr Kruger at Press

conferences, receptions and so on. When I saw him in Cape Town in the lobby of Parliament in 1978, shortly after the Barrie report leaked from the Auditor-General's office to the Press, I told him that I was going to request a police investigation into the leak, since the matter was deadly serious. He replied 'yes' and that since this could implicate the Prime Minister who had warned us that he would have to resign if the Citizen story got out, we had to be doubly careful

"I took it by 'us' he was referring to the Cabinet

"Concerning Mr Le Grange's statement yesterday, I never said to the Rand Daily Mail I had told Le Grange The Citizen was being financed from State funds. I showed him in his office in Pretoria the dummy of the newspaper. At that time Louis Luyt called me in Mr Le Grange's office to say the name 'The Citizen' was the final choice. I turned to him, Mr Le Grange, and said 'Well, you heard all that, and you are the first to know the name of the newspaper'

Meanwhile, allegations in the "Mail" that he had been involved with Dr Rhoodie in The Citizen project or matters concerning the former Department of Information were denied in Cape Town by Mr Kruger

In a statement to Sapa, Mr Kruger said he intended "taking the whole matter of this particular publication up with my lawyers with a view to suing them (the newspaper) for defamation."

Mr Kruger's statement followed reports that he and the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, had attended a Cabinet meeting shortly before the 1977 general election when the then Prime Minister spoke of The Citizen project

Mr Kruger's full statement to Sapa was

"I have never spoken to Dr Rhoodie about The Citizen or matters appertaining to his department or the Information scandal at any stage

"I've only met Dr Rhoo-

To Page 3

Rhodie on those denials

From Page 1

die casually on a few social occasions

"I only spoke to Dr Rhodie twice on matters relating to my own department. One was when I granted an interview to a French journalist at the request of the Department of Information and I phoned Dr Rhodie personally and asked him to make certain that the journalist had not misunderstood anything I had said

"A second occasion was when Dr Rhodie was in the secretary's bay in Parliament and I asked him when I could expect his department's booklets containing my answers to Amnesty International allegations of deaths in detention

"No newspapers contacted me to verify Dr Rhodie's statements as required by the code of ethics in journalism and I will be taking the whole matter of this particular publication up with my lawyers with a view to suing them for defamation"

Senior Government members and public servants strongly denied at the weekend claims by Dr Rhodie that they had prior knowledge of secret projects of the defunct Department of Information.

The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, in a weekend statement, again denied the existence of an informal Cabinet committee which monitored the department's secret projects. He attacked Dr Rhodie, saying "His contemptible

behaviour to connive with certain newspapers is a transparent attempt to take revenge on people who exposed his irregularities"

Mr Botha said the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, had admitted to him personally that he had never informed the Cabinet. For this reason he had had to resign.

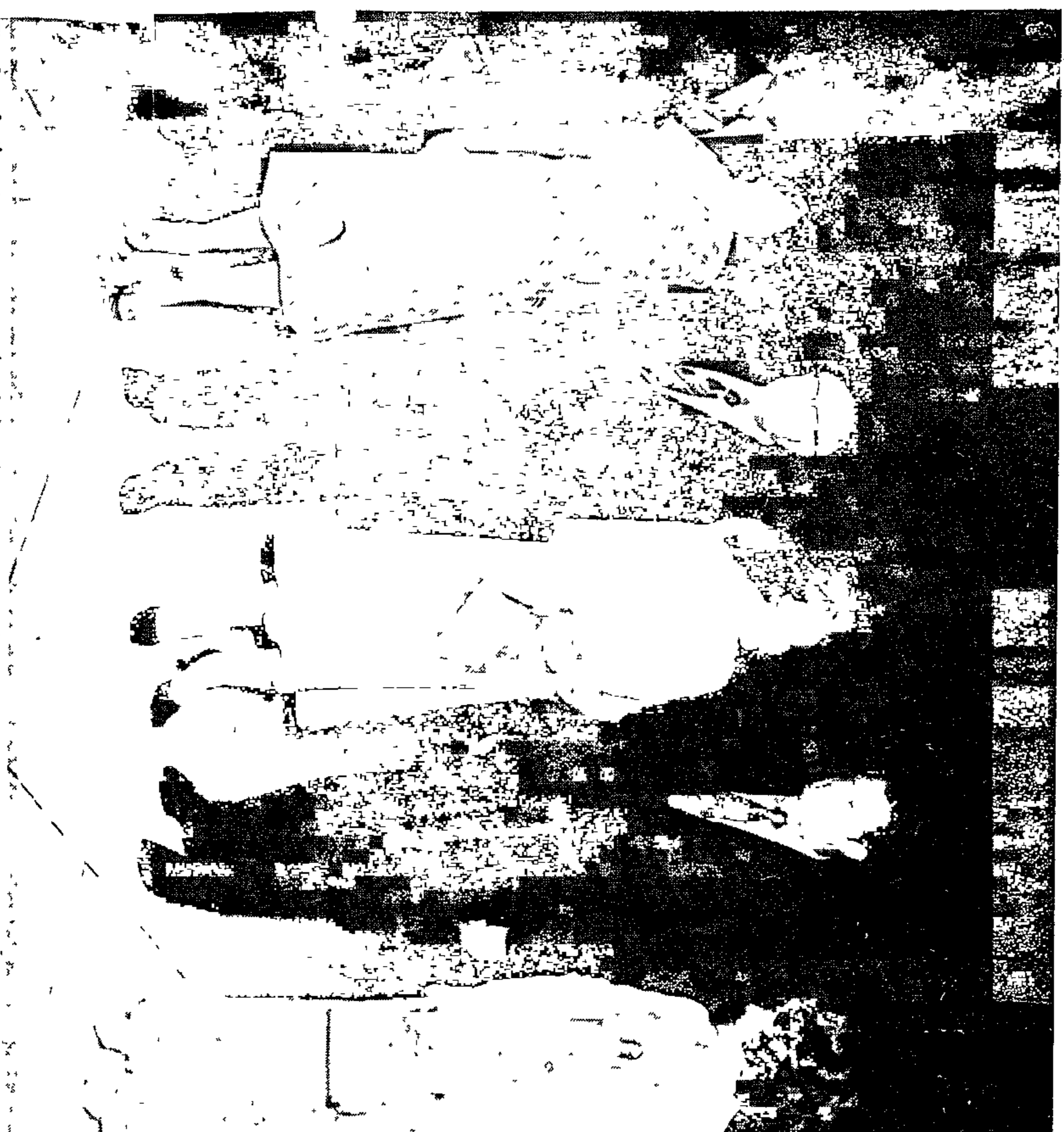
He said Dr Mulder has also admitted to him in Cabinet that a Cabinet committee never existed

"Now they are hiding behind a so-called informal Cabinet committee. This is a monster of which the Cabinet knows nothing"

Mr Louis le Grange, now Minister of Tourism and Public Works, denied a claim by Dr Rhodie that he was shown a dummy or trial copy of 'The Citizen' while he was still Deputy Minister of Information or that he knew of 'The Citizen' project

Mr Gerald Browne, former Secretary for Finance, said he could not recollect any occasion when Dr Mulder and Dr Rhodie discussed secret projects with the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, and that "I am positive that details of projects were not discussed in my presence"

Dr Rhodie had claimed that while still in office Mr Browne had attended a meeting held at the home of Senator Horwood.



Three of the top men involved in the secret projects scheme of the former Department of Information with their wives at a film show in Pretoria in 1977. From left they are Dr Eschel Rhodie, Mrs Suzanne Mulder, the late Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs, Mrs. Margaretha Diederichs, Dr Connie Mulder and Mrs Katie Rhodie

Many knew of Info secrets, says Rhodie

or more secret projects undertaken by the Department

"There is a mass of evidence on file to back up what I have to say I repeat that I am disclosing this not to blow any secret projects but to fight publicly the allegation that Dr Mulder and myself acted on our own, made our own plans, kept everybody else in the dark, and are therefore legally and financially responsible for any losses incurred as a result of any secret project

"One could begin by saying that if the Government did not know what Information was doing, then the entire apparatus of the Department of State Security, the Security Police, and Military Intelligence should be disbanded on the basis of incompetence

"Secondly, who then approved of the annual amount channelled to Information via the Defence secret account? Did Dr Mulder simply get up in the Cabinet or inform the Minister of Finance that he wants R17-million this year and no questions asked?

"In fact, as the Treasury will tell you, it is impossible for such a thing to happen. The Minister of Finance must approve the allocation to Information — and he must know what it is all about

"What really happened was that after my annual report to the sub-committee the Minister of Information, the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister would get together to approve of the amount I was then officially informed of the amount in writing

"As from at least April, 1977 the Secretary of Finance and the Secretary of the Treasury knew of expenditure for certain individual projects. Is it conceivable that they did not inform their Minister, Senator Horwood?

□ From Page 1

ject in the United States Mr Botha knows that he participated in this project

"Mr Brand Fourie, his Secretary, from time to time received notes and letters from me, together with books and brochures — the products of secretly financed actions

"Similarly, Mr Heunis knows that I spoke to him about another project in the United States and in London and that he participated in those projects. So did Minister Owen Horwood

"Minister Horwood's denials that he knew about the secret projects or the monitoring committee are particularly painful to me because I admire the man as well as his extraordinary capabilities. I will never know why he did not admit that such a committee met on a yearly basis or that he knew about the projects

"My report to the committee, sometimes lasted hours. Admittedly, he left the 1977 meeting after staying for only an hour to sign a major loan agreement, but how does he explain that his initial appears on every page of a seven-page document and his full signature on the last page in which is listed nearly 100 ongoing secret operations for 1978/79

"If he cancelled his signature on this document, and I accept his word for it, then he still knew what was in the document. The significant part is that in the last paragraph of the letter Dr Mulder informs Senator Horwood that the details of the projects have been discussed with him, Senator Horwood

"And if that is not enough, what about his signature on a second document approving se-

fearing men such as the Secretary of the Treasury and his deputies, Messrs Koert Pretorius and Sarel du Plessis, denying that this was the situation and that their Minister was not informed of this project

"I cannot see someone like Mr Gerald Browne denying that Dr Mulder and I came to see Senator Horwood in his house in Pretoria when he was confined to bed with back troubles to discuss the budget for the next year, and how some projects were proceeding

"There is one other Minister whose role I also want to discuss in particular because it again illustrates, as in the case of Senator Horwood, the danger of stating publicly that no one in the Cabinet knew of the secret projects, and that Dr Mulder and I acted on our own when in fact some of the Ministers were even operationally involved

"Dr Mulder gave Mr Louis Le Grange the responsibility of domestic Information efforts in South Africa

"As a result, he was briefed by the Minister and myself and again later by various officials of certain secret projects undertaken in South Africa and South West Africa. He received memoranda from me and other officials which are still on file

"Officials such as Mr Les de Villiers, Mr Gerbie Grobler, Mr Martin Zimmerman, and Mr Kobus van Graan kept Mr Le Grange informed of the projects. He often dealt directly with them and vice versa

"Mr Le Grange even officially approved, on paper, foreigners invited to South Africa under cover of secret front organisations

"What about all those top secret and secret blue and yellow memoranda in their pink

Mr Ben Schoeman, Dr Hilgard Muller and Dr Connie Mulder were all in at the start of a major, multimillion secret project in 1973 and Mr Botha knows that project is still financed in secret by the new Bureau for International Communication

"It would be absolutely incredible if many senior officials knew about secret projects but not their Minister

"Mr Gerald Browne that his signature appears on documents concerning a multimillion dollar project. How can anyone now turn around and say that Mr Browne signed this on his own without approval of the Minister of Finance?

"If that is the case, will he now be held liable for that expenditure as Dr Mulder and I are being held? Of course, Mr Browne had the approval of the then Minister of Finance, and of Mr Vorster

"There are many other officials who knew about some secret projects. Why would their Ministers not know about it? On two occasions I appeared before the full Public Service Commission and briefed them in secret on a number of sensitive projects

"I discussed with both the previous and present Receivers of Revenue certain aspects of our operations. I informed Dr Chris Stals and Dr Senekal of the Reserve Bank of many secret projects which involved sending money out of the country

"Mr Gerald Barry, the former Secretary of Information and Auditor-General, was deeply involved and a party to the project, which involved Mr P W Botha and Mr Ben Schoeman referred to above.

12/3/79

259

Surely, they could not, on their own have approved the amounts?

But there is more the private secretaries of the Minister of Information and the senior typists of the Department of Information all knew of the memorandums which the Minister received for Cabinet briefings

Those documents on which the Minister had marked that would be presented to the Cabinet still exist. There were also letters from the Minister of Information to some of his colleagues referring to secret projects. Individual Ministers were briefed by Dr Mulder and myself on secret projects

For example, on the day of the swearing in of Mr R F Botha as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Mulder asked him to participate in a secret pro-

cret projects to the tune of more than R7 million. This document carries the official stamp of the Treasury and the file number. How can one deny the existence of these documents?

There is another aspect which worries me about Senator Horwood's denials. He knows that since April, 1977 I have been keeping the Treasury informed of certain projects and that one particular project, costing R800 000, is the subject of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to me approving the overall budget and referring to this one amount in particular

Since this involved a particularly sensitive project, the Treasury officials discussed this with the Minister who said that the money would be provided if the project got off the ground. I cannot imagine God-

files? Will all these hundreds of files in the Department have to disappear? Files with the Minister and Mr Le Grange's initials on them?

The Foreign Minister, Mr Botha, will remember that on occasion some of the secret agents of the Department, heads of front organisations, reported directly to him as they did to Mr Vorster

Dr Piet Koornhof and his Secretary, Mr Beyers Hoek, know how much contact with him they had concerning at least one secret operation, so do other Ministers

There was a meeting in Cape Town in the office of Mr M C Botha, attended by Dr Mulder and myself, and the then deputy Ministers, Dr Andries Treurnicht and Mr Willem Cruywagen. They know that we discussed the implementation of parts of a massive three-year programme which affects the urban black population

Mr F W de Klerk knew that one of his visits abroad was in connection with a project secretly financed by the Department

As for the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, surely he must recall that it was he who proposed a certain operation to the Cabinet and that this operation was partially financed in secret by Information and carried out by its staff until July, 1978 when General Van den Bergh stopped it?

There are about 15 officials who knew about this operation, which was co-ordinated in Pretoria by Mr J van Graan. Other senior officials such as Mr Gerbie Grobler, Martin Zimmerman and J Els will know exactly what I am referring to

There was correspondence between General Magnus Malan and myself on this subject. There is also another project which Information shared with Defence concerning certain visitors from abroad, but the money came from the secret account of Information

Mr P W Botha, on the written instruction of General Malan, was kept informed of who these people were

Mr P W Botha knows that he, Mr Vorster, Dr Diederichs,

erations, otherwise all the secret documentation going in the Prime Minister's conference room in Pretoria

What were Dr Mulder, Senator Horwood, Mr Vorster, General Van den Bergh, and myself, doing inside, while some of my officials, who set up the exhibition, waited outside?

On many occasions agents and contacts were taken directly to the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, either alone or in my or Dr Mulder's presence

I am not trying to apportion blame - if a project was badly handled or incorrectly handled then the blame is mine - but to say Dr Mulder and I acted on our own, that we are the only ones responsible, is to slander my efforts to defend myself in public

It is even, politically speaking, unjust

It would be presumptuous of me to try to suggest how the Government should have handled this, but what is there to fear on the part of Mr Vorster, Mr Botha, Senator Horwood and the other Ministers to admit to their knowledge of secret projects and the financing thereof?

What fear is there on the part of Mr Vorster and Senator Horwood to admit the existence of the informal Cabinet committee and the other facts pertaining to its operation? There is nothing for them to be ashamed of

After all, a great many operations are being continued with the new Cabinet's approval so that not everything we undertook can be labelled as amateurish

There were a great many very successful secret operations which they can claim credit for if they want to, but the kind of denials issued by Mr Botha and Senator Horwood is inexplicable. For, if there were to be a public examination of this matter with officials testifying under oath and the files made public, how many of the Cabinet would survive?

Talks with ministers recalled

By MERVYN REES

IN A series of interviews recently, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the former Secretary for Information, claimed there were very few Cabinet ministers in the government of Mr P W Botha who could claim that they did not know about one or more of the secret projects undertaken by the defunct department as part of its five-year secret propaganda war.

He said that war was conducted not only in other countries but also in South Africa and South West Africa.

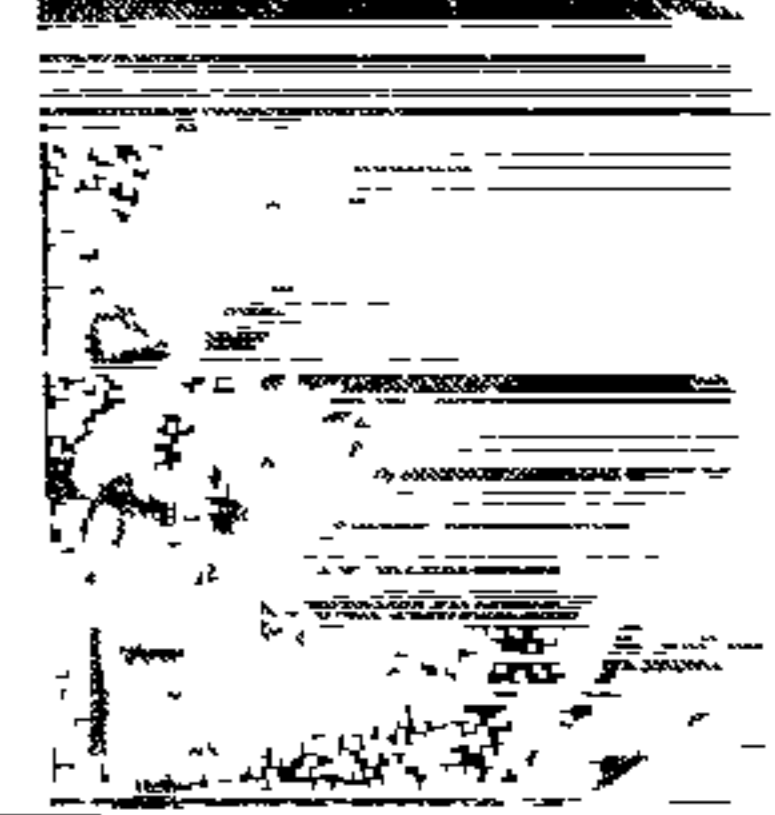
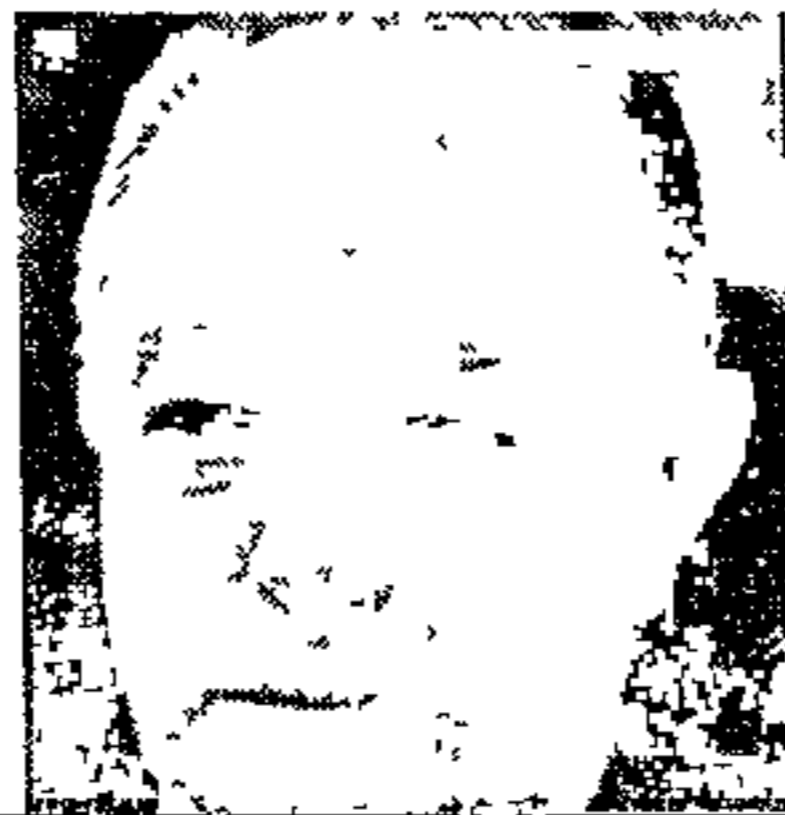
Several Ministers participated in projects knowing that these were being financed or arranged secretly by the Department of Information.

"My main reason in identifying these Ministers and the officials concerned is not to expose

report on the projects

"Since Dr Mulder sometimes informed the regular Cabinet meetings of secret projects it could be stated that all ministers were aware of secret operations or aware of at least one or more secret projects undertaken by the Department.

"There is a mass of evidence on file to back up what I have to say. I repeat that I am disclosing this not to blow any sort of



On page 2

- PM may ask for Erasmus inquiry.
- Botha: No Rhoodie link with visit.

Two named have nothing to say

(1) of the men named by Dr Rhoadie as having knowledge of secret Information projects yesterday declined comment on Dr Rhoadie's statements and said they would like talking to the Erasmus mission

Dr Rhoadie said some public servants and former public servants knew "aspects of some

secret Information projects"

He named Mr Gerald Browne, then secretary of Finance Mr A (Dries) Pretorius Secretary, of the Treasury, and his deputies Mr K R Pretorius and Mr S J (Sarel) du Plessis

Mr S J du Plessis said in an interview at his home in Acacia Park that the "whole affair is in the hands of the minister

(Senator Owen Horwood) and I want to leave the matter there

Mr Du Plessis who has been Acting Secretary of the Treasury in the absence of Mr A Pretorius said he had not yet appeared before the Erasmus Commission

"If we talk we will do our talking to the Erasmus Commission" he said

He confirmed that Mr A Pretorius had been in Pretoria and was due back in Cape Town late last night

Mr K R Pretorius another deputy secretary, said yesterday that Dr Rhoadie's statements were "new stories which he expected the Erasmus Commission would put to various witnesses

He said he had appeared be-

fore the commission and expected to be called again to comment on Dr Rhoadie's latest statements

Mr Pretorius is also staying in the government village Acacia Park and has been allocated house number D14 the house which Dr Connie Mulder the former minister of Information, occupied during his last parliamentary session



INDEX

Weather, page 2
 Classified Index, page 14
 Book at Today, page 18
 TV programmes, page 2

craft	18	Horseshoe	18
ts	4	Racing	45
ness	11	Radio	18
erna	4	Ships	6
imes	15	Smalls	14 18
osswold	12	Sport	11 18 20
ournals	18	Womens	6
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Council workers reject offer

Staff Reporter

MORE THAN 1 500 members of the Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association yesterday unanimously rejected a new pay offer by the City Council which did not meet an average 17.5 percent pay rise demand retroactive to January 1.

But the association secretary, Mr. J H Ernstzen, said it had been authorized at a meeting in City Hall to pursue negotiations with the City Council in an attempt to avoid confrontation.

In terms of the Industrial Conciliation Act municipal workers constitute an essential service and are barred from striking. Should negotiations with the council fail the matter could go to a conciliation hearing or directly to arbitration, where the ruling would be binding on both parties.

Mr. Ernstzen described the atmosphere at the meeting as tense, and said

MWU strikers's crisis day today — page 2

many of the association members were "living on the border-line of starvation".

He said the offer rejected yesterday was submitted to the association by the council's executive committee on February 20. It provided for consolidation of an additional emolument of five percent which employees had been carrying since January last year and a fur-

ther notch increase (about five to eight percent depending on position) from April 1. A further one-notch rise was to be granted from October 1.

The association said it had not raised several matters which it regarded as unsatisfactory because it hoped to achieve a speedy settlement of the wage issue. It had accordingly limited its claims to a four-notch increase in wages from the beginning of the year for all workers employed by the City Council.



"Have you heard the one about Eskimo Nel? He got left out in the cold"

Times 4/11/61

The reunion in Europe — Dr Eschel Rhoodie and his wife-Katie stroll arm-in-arm down a street in France

Court order against SAAN

Staff Reporter

THE Judge-President of the Cape Mr Justice J W van Zijl, granted a rule nisi to the Ministers of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, Friday this morning restricting with African Associated Newspapers (SAAN) from publishing

a section of a report quoting the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie

In terms of the order, SAAN and the Rand Daily Mail Cape Times, Natal Mercury Eastern Province Herald or any other newspaper are prohibited from

publishing an extract from the report

The application was heard by Mr Justice van Zijl in his chambers at 10am this morning

The return date for the order is March 27
The order reads "Pending the

return date of the rule, the said owners are restrained from publishing the said report and from distributing any newspaper from carrying such report

"The return date of this rule may be anticipated upon 24 hours notice

"The said owners are to show cause on the return date why they should not be ordered to pay the costs of these proceedings"

Mr J E Kleynhans, appeared for the Minister of Justice, Police and Prisons

self "That I will never do unless the government forces me to do so or leaves me with no other alternative The reason is simply to prove in public and not before a commission hearing evidence in secret (which could decide for whatever reason not to disclose the evidence) that Dr Mulder and I conducted this five-year programme with the full knowledge of the then Prime Minister Mr Vorster and the full knowledge of the Minister of Finance and his predecessor the late Dr Diederichs

"In addition at least half a dozen other ministers currently serving in the Cabinet of Mr Botha and including Mr P W Botha himself knew of or participated in secret projects

"Dr Connie Mulder has never denied he approved the secret projects nor have I denied that the detailed implementation was left to me

"The letter of the former Prime Minister Mr Vorster addressed to the entire Cabinet in December 1973 informed them that information was to embark on a new role and that the operations both open and secret, the objectives and methods, including financing was the responsibility of Dr Mulder However Dr Mulder would keep the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister informed and consult with them on major operations

"This Dr Mulder did in fact the Cabinet was often collectively informed during its regular sessions of particularly successful actions undertaken in secret by the Department

It is therefore incomprehensible that the entire Cabinet would now by word of the Prime Minister claim that they knew nothing of the Citizen or other secret operations of the Department, in particular the claim by Senator Horwood who now denies all knowledge of secret operations and of serving on any informal Cabinet committee which received my annual and sometimes twice-yearly

projects and to fight publicly the allegation that Dr Mulder and myself acted on our own made our own plans, kept everybody else in the dark and are therefore legally and financially responsible for any losses incurred as a result of any secret project

Senior typists

"One could begin by saying that if the government did not know what information was done then the entire apparatus of the Department of State Security, the Security Police and Military Intelligence should be disbanded on the basis of incompetence Secondly who then approved of the annual amount channelled to information via the Defence secret account? Did Dr Mulder simply get up in the Cabinet or inform the Minister of Finance that he wants R17-million this year and no questions asked? In fact, as the Treasury will tell you it is impossible for such a thing to happen The Minister of Finance must approve the allocation to information and he must know what it is all about What really happened is that after my annual report to the sub-committee, the Minister of Information, the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister would get together to approve of the amount I was then officially informed of the amount in writing As from at least April 1977 the Secretary of Finance and the Secretary of the Treasury knew of expenditure for certain individual projects Is it conceivable that they did not inform their Minister Senator Horwood? Surely they could not on their own have approved the amounts?

"But there is more The private secretaries of the Minister of Information and the senior typists of the Department of Information all knew of the memorandums which the minister received for Cabinet brief-



Three of the men involved in the secret projects scheme of the former Department of Information, and their wives, at a film show in Pretoria in 1977 From left, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, Mrs Suzanne Mulder, the former Minister of Finance Dr Nico Diederichs, Mrs Margaretha Diederichs, Dr

MWU strikers' crisis day today

By GORDON KLING

THE national strike in support of job reservation by members of the white Mine Workers Union enters a critical phase today with both mine managements and the union hierarchy committed to hard-line stands on the major issues.

The general secretary of the MWU, Mr Arrie Paulus, was stomping the minefields at the weekend in an effort to boost strikers' morale and to urge an all-out stayaway to totally disrupt the industry from today.

The President of the Chamber of Mines, Mr P K von Wielligh, last night promised protection to returning workers amid signs of increased tension in the dispute, which began with a walkout on Wednesday in support of white miners at the O'Okiep Copper mines in Namqualand, who downed tools in protest at the admission of three coloured workers to positions previously occupied by whites. The Chamber has refused to reconsider its decision to annul the accumulated privileges of returning strikers, which, it says, have resigned

and are accordingly new employees.

Police were called out on the West Rand on Saturday when pickets allegedly tried to prevent others from going to work.

Conflicting reports cloud the extent of the strike with the Chamber of Mines stating that 5 000 of an original 9 000 strikers had returned to their jobs at the weekend, while the MWU maintained the strike was holding and that the Chamber was manipulating figures.

The Afrikaans newspaper, Rapport, yesterday termed the strike "a naked political challenge" to the government from the MWU, which, it said, stood to the right of the HNP. The newspaper said, in a leader article, that the Union executive was anticipating the findings of the Wiehahn Commission into the country's labour laws and was challenging the government because it had phased out job reservation in other areas.

It was clear the strike ignored prescribed procedures, and the primary concern was not the treatment of workers, but an attempt to break the government

Death of Colonel Jack Bowring:

Staff Reporter

COLONEL JACK BOWRING, MC, OBE, a member of the Cape Provincial Council for many years, died on Saturday. He was 79.

Colonel Bowring died in Fish Hoek's False Bay Hospital after a long illness. He leaves his wife Phyllis and three children. The funeral will be at the Matieland Cemetery tomorrow at 3 20pm.

As the United Party MPC for Rondebosch from 1959 to 1970 Colonel Bowring acted as the party's chief whip for several years. From 1970 he acted as Sir de Villiers Graaff's informal adviser for four years.

Colonel Bowring wrote on politics for the Cape Times under the name Herodian.

He had a long military history, starting with World War I when, after the armistice, he fought against the Bolsheviks in northern Russia. In Turkey he was held prisoner by the Kemalists and was later decorated with the Military Cross.

From 1939 to 1945 he was second-in-command of the 2nd Armoured Division in North Africa, and in 1947 became military governor of Graz in Austria. Two years later he retired from service and returned to South Africa.

12/3/79

259

Transvalers rout WP riders at motocross event

By BRIAN GROBBLER
Motoring Editor

TRANSVAAL riders had a virtual clean sweep of the first round of the national motocross championships, run at the Cape's Killarney off-road circuit on Saturday.

It was the first time that the first round of the series, sponsored by Kronenbrau 1308, was held out of the Transvaal, and it attracted a crowd of 3 000 who saw some first-class performances in dust-free conditions. The organizers — the Western Province Motor Club — gave the sandy circuit a good watering before the meeting.

In the most competitive class, for 250 cm³ machines, there were 36 starters and a tremendous battle developed among the top Transvaal riders, who finished 1-2-3. Tyrone Stevenson on a Husqvarna was first, Charlie Tissen on a Honda "Red Rocket" second and Tony Riddell on a Kawasaki third.

The favourite, Robbie Wicks of Eastern Province, was in a good position to win when the chain came off his machine.

Top Cape riders Mike Hopkins on a Husqvarna, Billy Cooper on a Honda "Red Rocket" and Arnold Burton on a Suzuki, all put in good performances but failed to score from the tough Transvalers.

In the 500 cm³ class the Natal riders were to the fore with Barry Falconer on a Suzuki and Stuart Beattie on a Yamaha taking first and third places, and Transvaal's Chris Brand on a Husqvarna second. Beattie put in a great ride and might have crossed the line first, but a puncture in his back wheel slowed him when he was in the lead.

The 125 cm³ class was an-

other clean sweep for Transvaal riders with Deon du Plessis on a Honda first and Robert Campbell and Sym Grobbler on Suzukis second and third. One of the favourites in this class, Gary Bergstrom, of Natal, on a Suzuki, twice led the heats, only to have mechanical problems put him out of the running.

The first round of the South African motocross championship also saw the first national event for minicross riders. Much to the surprise of spectators the young Cape riders showed tremendous form and David McLaughlan on a Suzuki was the winner while Dale Pfeiffer, who was in second position, came off his bike. This left two Transvaal riders, Charles Bezuidenhout on a Kawasaki to take second place and the much-fancied Gary Butcher on a Suzuki, third.

Israelis kill four guerillas

TEL AVIV — Israeli security forces killed four members of a Palestinian guerilla force that tried to infiltrate via the river Jordan on the eve of President Carter's arrival in Israel, an army spokesman announced on Saturday.

A communiqué said the gang attempted to cross into the Israeli-occupied West Bank near the Adam Bridge, about 50 km north-east of Jerusalem.

12/3/79

259



Flying through the air at the national motocross championships at Killarney on Saturday is Keith Illman of Transvaal, who put in a hard ride in the 500 cm³ class

Amin counter-attack beats back rebels

By [unclear] 12/31/79

NAIROBI — Ugandan rebels fighting to overthrow President Idi Amin have suffered their first major setback and have retreated after a battle with government troops on the road to the capital of Kampala, exile sources said here yesterday.

According to the exiles a continuing arms airlift into Uganda from Libya includes heavy 122 mm artillery, similar to that being used by the invaders. They said the anti-Amin forces, supported by regular Tanzanian troops,

staged a tactical retreat after a battle at Lukhya, 100 km from Kampala.

Radio Uganda, nominally in Nairobi, said the invaders were in retreat about 110-km from Kampala and were looting, destroying property and raping as they withdrew.

The exile sources said Kampala's three main hotels — the International, the Imperial and the Speke — had been taken over by Libyans who were concentrated around Kampala and Entebbe, Uganda's main civil and military airport.

Uganda Radio had no report of fighting yesterday, but two days ago said government troops had captured artillery and other equipment in the counter-attack masterminded by President Amin.

A spokesman for the Save Uganda Movement said his guerrillas had fallen back but were hoping to cut off the loyalist troops with an attack from the second invasion force which has been advancing to the west. Military analysts said the counter-

offensive marked the first real opposition the invaders have encountered since starting their push from the Tanzanian border. It was not known if Tanzanian troops, who have been providing largely artillery cover and logistical support, were involved in the retreat.

The exile sources said President Amin was eager to obtain "Stalin organ" multiple rocket-launchers, but added that it took six months to transport personnel to use the devastating, lorry-mounted weapons — Sapsa-Reuter



President Idi Amin

Botha: No Rhodie link with visit

PARIS — The South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said yesterday that his presence in France was not related to a Paris meeting between General Hendrik van den Bergh and Dr Eschel Rhodie last week involving the Information affair

"There is absolutely no connection," he told reporters after talks with the French Deputy

Foreign Minister, Mr Olivier Stirn

Referring to the meeting between the general and Dr Rhodie, Mr Botha said "I hope it is not expected for me to arrange my official work to fit the almost comical behaviour of General Van den Bergh and Rhodie"

Mr Botha said yesterday "I

am not responsible for their actions or movements. Embassies have instructions to assist us in withdrawing the passport of Dr Rhodie and in issuing temporary travel documents for a journey back to South Africa"

Mr Botha said Dr Rhodie should explain statements he had made to the Erasmus Commission

Meanwhile, Mr Stirn said his talks with Mr Botha had been about bilateral problems and the future of SWA/Namibia

Mr Botha, asked if he was optimistic about the Western plan, said "The South African Government accepted the proposal and is ready to implement it as it has accepted it" — Sapa-Reuter



From page 1

ings Those documents on which the Minister had marked that would be presented to the Cabinet still exist. There were also letters from the Minister of Information to some of his colleagues referring to secret projects. Individual Ministers were briefed by Dr Mulder and myself on secret projects. For example, on the day of the swearing-in of Mr R F Botha as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Mulder asked him to participate in a secret project in the United States. Mr Botha knows that he participated in this project.

"Mr Brand Fourie, his secretary, from time to time received notes and letters from me, together with books and brochures — the products of secretly financed actions.

"Similarly, Mr Heunis knows that I spoke to him about another project in the United States and in London and that he participated in those projects. So did Minister Owen Horwood.

"Minister Horwood's denials that he knew about the secret projects of the monitoring committee is particularly painful to me because I admire the man as well as his extraordinary capabilities. I will never know why he did not admit that such a committee met on a yearly basis or that he knew about the projects.

"My report to the committee sometimes lasted hours. Admittedly, he left the 1977 meeting after staying for only an hour to sign a major loan agreement, but how does he explain that his initial appears on every page of a seven-page document and his full signature on the last page in which is listed nearly 100 ongoing secret operations for 1978/79.

Official stamp

"If he cancelled his signature on this document, and I accept his word for it, then he still knew what was in the document. The significant part is that in the last paragraph of the letter Dr Mulder informs Senator Horwood that the details of the projects have been discussed with him, Senator Horwood. And if that is not enough what

Treasury and the file number. How can one deny the existence of these documents?

"There is another aspect which worries me about Senator Horwood's denials. He knows that since April 1977 I have been keeping the Treasury informed of certain projects and that one particular project, costing R800 000, is the subject of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to me, approving the overall budget and referring to this one amount in particular. Since this involved a particularly sensitive project, the Treasury officials discussed this with the minister who said that the money would be provided if the project got off the ground. I cannot imagine God-fearing men such as the Secretary of the Treasury and his deputies, Messrs Koert Pretorius and Sarel du Plessis, denying that this was the situation and that their Minister was not informed of this project. I cannot see someone like Mr Gerald Browne denying that Dr Mulder and I came to see Senator Horwood in his house in Pretoria when he was confined to bed with back troubles to discuss the budget for the next year, and how some projects were proceeding.

"There is one other minister whose role I also want to discuss in particular, because it again illustrates, as in the case of Senator Horwood, the danger of stating publicly that no one in the Cabinet knew of the secret projects, and that Dr Mulder and I acted on our own when in fact some of the ministers were even operationally involved.

"Dr Mulder gave Mr Louis Le Grange the responsibility of domestic Information efforts in South Africa.

"As a result, he was briefed by the minister and myself and again later by various officials of certain secret projects undertaken in South Africa and South West Africa. He received memoranda from me and other officials which are still on file. Officials such as Mr Les de Villiers, Mr Gerbie Grobler, Mr Martin Zimmerman, and Mr Kobus van Graan kept Mr Le Grange informed of the projects. He often dealt directly with them and vice versa.

"Mr Le Grange even officially approved on paper foreigners

knows that project is still financed in secret by the new Bureau for International Communication.

"It would be absolutely incredible if many senior officials knew about secret projects but not their ministers.

"Mr Gerald Browne knows that his signature appears on documents concerning a multi-million-dollar rand project. How can anyone now turn around and say that Mr Browne signed this on his own without approval of the Minister of Finance? If that is the case will he now be held liable for that expenditure as Dr Mulder and I are being held? Of course, Mr Browne had the approval of the then Minister of Finance and of Mr Vorster.

"There are many other officials who knew about some secret projects. Why would their ministers not know about it? On two occasions I appeared before the full Public Service Commission and briefed them in secret on a number of sensitive projects.

"I discussed with both the previous and present Receivers of Revenue certain aspects of our operations. I informed Dr Chris Stals and Dr Senckal of the Reserve Bank of many secret projects which involved sending money out of the country.

"Mr Gerald Barry, the former Secretary of Information and Auditor-General, was deeply involved and a party to the project, which involved Mr P W Botha and Mr Ben Schoeman referred to above. Did all these senior civil servants know but not their ministers?

"When he was Prime Minister Mr Vorster was of course fully informed on all secret op-

erations, otherwise what was all the secret documentation doing in the Prime Minister's conference room in Pretoria? What was Dr Mulder, Senator Horwood, Mr Vorster, General Van den Bergh, and myself, doing inside, while some of my officials, who set up the exhibition, waited outside? On many occasions agents and contacts were taken directly to the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster either alone, or in my or Dr Mulder's presence.

"I am not trying to apportion blame. If a project was badly handled or incorrectly handled then the blame is mine. But to say that Dr Mulder and I acted on our own, that we are the only ones responsible, is to slander my efforts to defend myself in public, is even, politically speaking, unjust.

"It would be presumptuous of me to try and suggest how the government should have handled this, but what is there to fear on the part of Mr Vorster, Mr Botha, Senator Horwood and the other Ministers to admit to their knowledge of secret projects and the financing thereof? What fear is there on the part of Mr Vorster and Senator Horwood to admit the existence of the informal Cabinet committee and the other facts pertaining to its operation? There is nothing for them to be ashamed of. After all, a great many operations are being continued with the new Cabinet's approval so that not everything we undertook can be labelled as amateurish. There were a great many very successful secret operations which they can claim credit for if they want to. But the kind of denials issued by Mr Botha and Senator Horwood is inexplicable."

Kruger threatens to sue newspapers

ALLEGATIONS in newspapers that he was involved with Dr Eschel Rhodie in the Citizen project or matters concerning the former Department of Information have been denied by the Minister of Police, Justice and Prisons, Mr J T Kruger.

In a statement to Sapa on

"I've only met Dr Rhodie casually on a few social occasions.

"I only spoke to Dr Rhodie twice on matters relating to my own department. One was when I granted an interview to a French journalist at the request of the Department of Informa-

about his signature on a second document approving secret projects to the tune of more than R7-million. This document carries the official stamp of the

invited to South Africa, under cover of secret front organizations. What about all those top secret and secret blue and yellow memoranda in their pink files? Will all these hundreds of files in the department have to disappear? Files with the minister and Mr Le Grange's initials on them?

Saturday Mr. Kruger said, he intended "taking the whole matter of this particular publication up with my lawyers with a view to suing them (the newspaper) for defamation".

tion and I phoned Dr Rhodie personally and asked him to make certain that the journalist had not misunderstood anything I had said.

Mr Kruger's statement followed reports on Saturday that he and the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, attended a Cabinet meeting shortly before the 1977 general election when the then prime minister spoke of the Citizen project.

"A second occasion was when Dr Rhodie was in the secretary's bay in Parliament and I asked him when I could expect his department's booklets containing my answers to Amnesty International allegations of deaths in detention."

Mr Kruger's full statement reads:

"No newspapers contacted me to verify Dr Rhodie's statements, as is required by the code of ethics in journalism and I will be taking the whole matter of this particular publication up with my lawyers with a view to suing them for defamation." — Sapa

Secret agents

"The Foreign Minister, Mr. Botha, will remember that on occasion some of the secret agents of the department, heads of front organizations, reported directly to him as they did to Mr Vorster."

"Dr Piet Koornhof and his secretary, Mr Beyers Hoek, knows how much contact with him concerning at least one secret operation, so do other ministers. There was a meeting in Cape Town in the office of Mr M C Botha, attended by Dr Mulder and myself, and the then Deputy Ministers, Dr Andries Treurnicht and Mr Willem Cruywagen. They know that we discussed the implementation of parts of a massive three-year programme which affects the urban black population."

"Mr F W de Klerk knew that one of his visits abroad was in connection with a project secretly financed by the department."

"As for the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, surely he must recall that it was he who proposed a certain operation to the Cabinet and that this operation was partially financed in secret by Information and carried out by its staff until July 1978 when General Van den Bergh stopped it. There are about 15 officials who knew about this operation which was co-ordinated in Pretoria by Mr J van Graan. Other senior officials such as Mr Gerbie Grobler, Martin Zimmerman and J Els will know exactly what I am referring to. There was correspondence between General Magnus Malan and myself on this subject. There is also another project which Information shared with Defence concerning certain visitors from abroad, but the money came from the secret account of Information. Mr P W Botha, on the written instruction of General Malan, was kept informed of who these people were."

"Mr P W Botha knows that he, Mr Vorster, Dr Diederichs, Mr Ben Schoeman, Dr Hilgard Muller and Dr Connie Mulder were all in at the start of a major multi-million secret project in 1973 and Mr Botha

Too late for classification DEATHS

SHELVER — Mick, of 7 Prince Street, Somerset West, passed away suddenly March 11. Funeral service at Methodist Church, Somerset West, Wednesday March 14 at 12 noon. Cremation private. By request no flowers. Donations to Child Welfare 15 Church Street, Somerset West. Arrangements: A Esterhuysen & Son, Phone Somerset West 2 1546.

12/3/79
259



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Cabinet Info denials 'not good enough'

Political Correspondent

THE public was no longer satisfied with denials about the Information scandal from people in high places, the Nationist newspaper, Rapport, said yesterday.

The newspaper said the country could not take much more of the confusion surrounding the allegations by the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie.

In an editorial entitled "Bring proof", it said there was a tumult of allegations and denials.

"There are accusations and a theatrical melee of scapegoats, sinners and matyrs."

"It is not just ordinary people who no longer know what to think. A crisis of confidence is being spoken of."

"It is unfortunately so that mere denials, even from the highest places, no longer satisfy. This, together with all sorts of accusations, claims and speculation, is drawn into the confusing total picture the public has before it."

"Mr P W Botha said this week. If a South African minister was involved in the irregularities, it must be made known, the sooner the better."

PM may ask for Erasmus inquiry

THE government is to consider asking the Erasmus Commission to release its report early and to investigate the "unequalled smear campaign" being conducted from abroad by Dr Eschel Rhodie, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said in a statement in Cape Town on Saturday.

Mr Botha was commenting on reports in newspapers of the Saan group quoting Dr Rhodie as saying the Cabinet was informed by the former prime minister, Mr Vorster, of the Citizen newspaper project shortly before the 1977 election.

The full text of Mr Botha's statement reads:

"I reject these repeated smear stories with contempt. Dr Rhodie's contemptible behaviour from overseas to connive with certain opposition newspapers is a transparent game to take vengeance on people who exposed his irregularities."

"Dr Connie Mulder personally admitted that he never in-

formed the Cabinet and as a result of that he had to resign. Furthermore, Dr Mulder admitted to me in the Cabinet that a Cabinet committee never existed. Now suddenly he is hiding behind a so-called informal Cabinet committee. This is a monster (onding) of which the Cabinet knows nothing."

"It is now clear to the country what sort of friends Dr Mulder used to waste the country's money through irregular means, according to the Erasmus Commission's findings on schemes which they would not allow to see the light of day."

"The government will consider asking the Erasmus Commission to release its report early and to investigate this unequalled smear campaign."

"In closing, I would like to refer again to the cowardice of Dr Rhodie who is flying around (rondvlug) overseas instead of coming to South Africa to look his own people in the eye." — Sapa

1968-03-28

Front-page news in London

259 D 12/3/79

LONDON — The top Fleet Street newspaper, The Observer, carried a front-page story yesterday on the sensational developments in the Information scandal under the headline, Vorster and Botha on the Brink.

The newspaper reports South Africa is moving towards a political crisis after the failure of its former spymaster, General Hendrik van den Bergh, to stopper the bottle of scandalous disclosures opened by the fugitive former propaganda chief, Dr

Eschel Rhoddie. After detailing the background which led to General Van den Bergh and Dr Rhoddie meeting last week, The Observer states "It seems clear the government and Van Den Bergh are in disagreement."

Nevertheless, the South African Government is as determined as Van Den Bergh that Rhoddie's tapes should never see the light of day. They are worried by the fact the juicier bits of information contained in the tapes may already have come into the hands of the people with whom Rhoddie has been negotiating.

According to Van den Bergh, much of the information relates to the extensive network of contacts maintained by South Africa's secret service with their foreign friends.

The Pretoria authorities insist that this information contains vital state secrets. Any South African citizen involved in passing on these secrets would be charged with treason. This threat is likely to silence all of Rhoddie's contacts and to inhibit local papers from publishing any of it. Therefore, if the deal between Rhoddie and Van den Bergh should finally fall through, the tapes would be publishable only in overseas media.

The Prime Minister told the South African Press Association the government might ask the Erasmus Commission, which is investigating the scandal, to release its report early and to investigate Rhoddie's unqualified smear campaign. — DDC

Arin in arm, Dr Rhoddie and his wife Kalle stroll down a street in a French city after their reunion last week.

Rhoddie!

Time

259

12/3/79

13/3/79

259

Dr Rhodie wearing a natty Panama hat in Quito, Ecuador.

knew

Swearing in of Mr R F Botha as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Mulder asked him to participate in a secret project in the United States Mr Botha knows he participated in this project

"Mr Brand Fourie, his secretary from time to time received notes and letters from me, together with books and brochures — the products of secretly financed actions

"Similarly, Mr Heunis knows I spoke to him about another project in the United States and in London and that he participated in those projects So did Minister Owen Horwood

"Minister Horwood's denials that he knew about the secret projects or the monitoring committee is particularly painful to me because I admire the man as well as his extraordinary capabilities. I will never know why he did not admit that such a committee met on a yearly basis or that he knew about the projects

"My report to the committee sometimes lasted hours Admittedly, he left the 1977 meeting after staying for only an hour to sign a major loan agreement, but how does he explain that his initials appear on every page of a seven-page document and his full signature on the last page in which is listed nearly 100 ongoing secret operations from 1978/79

"If he cancelled his signature on this document, and accept his word for it, then he still knew what was in the document The significant part is that in the last paragraph of the letter, Dr Mulder informs Senator Horwood that the details of the projects have been discussed with him, Senator Horwood

"And if that is not enough, what about his signature on a second

Horwood in his house in Pretoria when he was confined to bed with back troubles to discuss the budget for the next year and how some projects were proceeding

"There is one other Minister whose role I also want to discuss in particular, because it again illustrates, as in the case of Senator Horwood, the danger of stating publicly that no one in the Cabinet knew of the secret projects, and that Dr Mulder and I acted on our own when in fact some of the Ministers were even operationally involved

"Dr Mulder gave Mr Louis le Grange the responsibility of domestic information efforts in South Africa

"As a result, he was briefed by the Minister and myself and again later by various officials on certain secret projects undertaken in South Africa and South West Africa. He received memoranda from me and other officials which are still on file Officials such as Mr Les de Villiers, Mr Gerbie Grobler, Mr Martin Zimmerman, and Mr Kobus van Graan kept Mr Le Grange informed of the projects He often dealt directly with them and vice versa

"Mr Le Grange even officially approved on paper foreigners invited to South Africa under cover of secret front organisations

"If these officials were to testify under oath in a public court, what would be Mr Le Grange's position What about all those top secret and secret blue and yellow memoranda in their pink files Will all these hundreds of files in the department have to disappear? Files with the Minister and Mr Le Grange's initials on them? "The Foreign Minister, Mr Botha, will remember

financed in secret by Information and carried out by its staff until July 1978, when General Van den Bergh stopped it. There are about 15 officials who knew about this operation which was co-ordinated in Pretoria by Mr J van Graan. Other senior officials such as Mr Gerbie Grobler, Martin Zimmerman and J Els will know exactly what I am referring to.

"There was correspondence between General Magnus Malan and myself on this subject There is also another project which information shared with defence concerning certain visitors from abroad, but the money came from the secret account of Information

"Mr P W Botha, on the

"There are many other officials who knew about some secret projects Why would their ministers not know about it? On two occasions I appeared before the full Public Service Commission and briefed them in secret on a number of sensitive projects

"I discussed with both the previous and present receivers of revenue certain aspects of our operations I informed Dr Chris Stals and Dr Senekal of the Reserve Bank of many secret projects which involved sending money out of the country

"Mr Gerald Barry, the former Secretary of Information and Auditor General, was deeply involved and a party to the project, which involved Mr P W. Botha and Mr

"What fear is there on the part of Mr Vorster and Senator Horwood to admit the existence of the informal cabinet committee and the other facts pertaining to its operation. There is nothing for them to be ashamed of After all, a great many operations are being continued with the new Cabinet's approval so that not everything we undertook can be labelled as amateurish.

"There were a great many very successful secret operations which they can claim credit for if they want to But if there were to be a public examination of this matter with officials testifying under oath and the files made public, how many of the Cabinet would survive?"

No somersault says Law Society head

JOHANNESBURG — The Association of Law Societies had not performed a "somersault" and did not back the Minister of Justice, the president of the Law Society of the Transvaal, Mr William Lane, said in a statement last night

Commenting on a report in a paper yesterday, Mr Lane said the Association of Law Societies had decided to discuss with the Minister of Justice the prosecution of General Hendrik van den Bergh

The Sunday paper quoted the association's president, Mr Jan Symington, as saying secret details of the Information scandal, which he could not reveal, had been told to a delegation led by him when they met Mr Kruger

at a meeting on Wednesday

"In view of this, I agree that it would not be in the national interest to prosecute General Van den Bergh," Mr Symington was quoted as saying.

Last night's statement by Mr Lane said, "These discussions took place last week and the presidents of the (four) law societies now more fully understand the Minister's position.

"I am not aware that there was much in the way of confidential disclosure by the Minister, but the result has been that the association will not take the matter further," Mr Lane said

"Regarding reports appearing in the Sunday press, I can only say that there have been no secret

resolutions of the Association of Law Societies The only resolution was that the matter be discussed with the Minister. There has never been any question of confrontation with the Minister

"The association has not performed a 'somersault', and does not 'back' the Minister. It simply decided to leave this matter alone."

Mr Lane said the council of the Transvaal Law Society "remains deeply concerned about many matters brought to light by the Information scandal

"The fact that it does not issue press statements does not mean that the council is remaining passive, and appropriate action will be taken at the right time." — SAPA.

JOHANNESBURG —
At least six of the ministers in Mr P. W. Botha's Cabinet knew of or participated in secret projects undertaken by the defunct Department of Information, according to Dr Eschel Rhodie.

In a series of interviews recently, the former Secretary for Information, said the department's five-year secret propaganda war was conducted, not only in other countries, but also in South Africa and South West Africa.

Several ministers participated in projects knowing these were being financed or arranged secretly by the Department of Information.

"My main reason in identifying these ministers and the officials concerned is not to expose any of the secret operations itself. That I will never do unless the government forces me to do so or leaves me with no other alternative. The reason is simply to prove, in public, and not before a commission hearing evidence in secret (which could decide, for whatever reason, not to dis-

close the evidence), that Dr Mulder and I conducted this five-year programme with the full knowledge of the then Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and late Dr Nico Diederichs.

"In addition, at least half a dozen other ministers currently serving in the Cabinet of Mr Botha and, including Mr P. W. Botha himself, knew of or participated in secret projects.

"Dr Connie Mulder has never denied he approved the secret projects nor have I denied the detailed implementation was left to me.

"The letter of the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, addressed to the entire Cabinet, in December 1973, informed then that information was to embark on methods, including financing, which was the responsibility of Dr Mulder. However, Dr Mulder would keep the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister informed and consult with them on major operations.

"This Dr Mulder did. In fact, the Cabinet was often collectively informed, during its regular sessions, of particularly successful actions undertaken in secret by the department.

"It is therefore incomprehensible that the entire Cabinet would now,



Dr Rhodie with Mervyn Rees, the man to whom he has told his side of the Information story.

intelligence should be disbanded on the basis of incompetence.

"Secondly, who then approved of the annual amount channelled to Information via the Defence Secret account? Did Dr Mulder simply get up in the Cabinet or inform the Minister of Finance that he wants R17 million this year and no questions asked? In fact, as the Treasury will tell you, it is impossible for such a thing to happen. The Minister of Finance must approve the allocation to Information and he must know what it is all about.

"What really happened is that after my annual

259

13/3/79

Reports by MERVYN REES

by word of the Prime Minister, claim they knew nothing of The Citizen or any other secret operations of the department in particular; the claim by Senator Horwood, who now denies all knowledge of secret operations and of serving on any informal Cabinet committee, which received my annual and sometimes twice-yearly report on the projects.

"Since Dr Mulder sometimes informed the regular Cabinet ministers of secret projects, it could be stated that all ministers were aware of secret operations or aware of at least one or more secret projects undertaken by the department.

"There is a mass of evidence on file to back up what I have to say. I repeat that I am disclosing this, not to blow any secret projects, but to fight publicly the allegation that Dr Mulder and I acted on our own, made our own plans, kept every body else in the dark, and are therefore legally and financially responsible for any losses incurred as a result of any secret project.

"One could begin by saying that if the government did not know what information was doing when the entire apparatus of the Department of State Security, the Security Police and the Security

report to the sub-committee, the Minister of Information, the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister would get together to approve the amount.

"I was then officially informed of the amount in writing. As from at least April 1977, the Secretary of Finance and the Secretary of the Treasury knew of expenditure for certain individual projects.

"Is it conceivable that they did not inform their Minister, Senator Horwood? Surely they could not on their own have approved the amounts. But there is more. The private secretaries of the Minister of Information and the senior typists of the Department of Information all knew of the memorandums which the Minister received for Cabinet briefings. Those documents on which the Minister had marked that these would be presented to the Cabinet, still exist. There were also letters from the Minister of Information to some of his colleagues referring to secret projects. Individual ministers were briefed by Dr Mulder and myself on secret projects. For example, on the day of the

document approving secret projects to the tune of more than R7 million. This document carries the official stamp of the Treasury and the file number. How can one deny the existence of these documents?

"There is another aspect which worries me about Senator Horwood's denials. He knows that since April 1977, I have been keeping the Treasury informed of certain projects and that one particular project costing R800 000 is the subject of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to me, approving the overall budget and referring to this one amount in particular. Since this involved a particularly sensitive project, the Treasury officials discussed this with the Minister who said the money would be provided if the project got off the ground.

"I cannot imagine God-fearing men such as the Secretary of the Treasury and his deputies, Messrs Koert Pretorius and Sarel du Plessis, denying that this was the situation and that their Minister was not informed of this project. I cannot see someone like Mr. Gerald Browne denying that Dr Mulder and I went to see Senator

that on occasions some of the secret agents of the department, heads of front organisations, reported directly to him as they did to Mr Vorster.

"Dr Piet Koornhof and his secretary, Mr Beyers Hoek, knows how much contact with him concerning at least one secret operation, so do other ministers."

There was a meeting in Cape Town in the office of Mr M C Botha, attended by Dr Mulder and myself, and the then Deputy Ministers Dr Andries Treurnicht and Mr Willem Cruywagen. They know

written instruction of General Malan, was kept informed who these people were.

"Mr P W. Botha knows he, Mr Vorster, Dr Diederichs, Mr Ben Schoeman, Dr Hilgard Muller and Dr Connie Muller were all in at the start of a major multi-million secret project in 1973 and Mr Botha knows that project is still financed in secret by the new Bureau for International Communication.

"It would be absolutely incredible if many senior officials knew about secret projects, but not

Reaction to Rhodie revelations, page 7

that we discussed the implementation of parts of a massive three-year programme which affects the urban black population.

"Mr F. W. de Klerk knew that one of his visits abroad was in connection with a project secretly financed by the department.

"As for the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, surely he must recall that it was he who proposed a certain operation to the Cabinet and that this operation was partially

Ben Schoeman referred to above. Did all these senior civil servants know, but not their ministers?

"When he was Prime Minister, Mr Vorster was, of course, fully informed on all secret operations, otherwise what was all the secret documentation doing in the Prime Minister's conference room in Pretoria? What was Dr Mulder, Senator Horwood, Mr Vorster, General Van den Bergh, and myself, doing inside, while some of my officials, who set up the exhibition, waited outside? On many occasions agents and contacts were taken directly to the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, either alone, or in my or Dr Mulder's presence.

"I am not trying to apportion blame. If a project was badly handled or incorrectly handled the blame is mine. But to say that Dr Mulder and I acted on our own, that we are the only ones responsible, is to slander my efforts to defend myself in public and is even, politically speaking unjust.

"It would be presumptuous of me to try to suggest how the government should have handled this, but what is there to fear on the part of Mr Vorster, Mr Botha, Senator Horwood and the other ministers to admit to their knowledge of secret projects and the financing thereof?

Hansard 6 Question Col 394

13/3/79

259

Financial assistance rendered by
Government to Christian League of
Southern Africa/Encounter

37 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Whether the Government has rendered
or is rendering financial assistance in any
way (a) to the organization known as the
Christian League of Southern Africa and
(b) for the publication and distribution of
the organization's mouthpiece *Encounter*

The ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS

(a) and (b) The reply is the same as that
which has been given to Question 2 of
Friday, 23 February 1979

Hansard Ques col. 394

13/3/80

259

MARCH 1979 394

To The Point/To The Point International

39 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs †

(a) How many copies of the magazine (i) *To the Point* and (ii) *To The Point International* were purchased by the Department of Information and the Bureau for National and International Communication, respectively, in 1978 for distribution (aa) locally and (bb) abroad and (b) what was the total cost

The ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(a) and (b) The reply is the same as that which has been given to Question 2 of Friday, 23 February 1979

Hansard 6¹ Question Column (394)

13/3/79

259

Periodical/Pace

(322) 44 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs †

- (1) Whether the former Department of Information had any interest in or rendered any assistance to the periodical *Pace* or its owners and publishers, if so, (a) what was the interest or what was the form of the assistance rendered and (b) what amount was spent in this way
- (2) whether the Information Service of South Africa is continuing to render assistance to the periodical

The ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- (1) and (2) The reply is the same as that which has been given to Question 2 of Friday, 23 February 1979

Hansard 6 ~~34~~ Question Col. 395

13/3/80.

259

Institute for the Study of Plural Societies
University of Pretoria

327
276 Mr J D DU P BASSON asked the
Minister of Foreign Affairs

- (1) Whether the former Department of Information rendered any financial assistance to the Institute for the Study of Plural Societies of the University of Pretoria since the establishment of the Institute.
- (2) whether the former Department at any time gave financial support to the activities or conferences of the Institute in South Africa or abroad if so,
 - (a) which activities or conferences and
 - (b) what amounts have been so spent.

The ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- (1) and (2) The reply is the same as that which has been given to Question 2 of Friday, 23 February 1979

Mail: Judge gives his reasons

13/3/79
259
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JOHANNESBURG. — In an important judgment delivered in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday Mr Justice G Coetzee gave his reasons for refusing the Erasmus Commission an interdict against the Rand Daily Mail.

His judgment followed a two-hour sitting on Monday night when the Commission unsuccessfully made an urgent bid to stop the Rand Daily Mail from publishing further disclosures by Dr Eschel Rhoodie.

The members of the Commission brought the application against South African Associated Newspapers Ltd, Allied Publishing Ltd, and Mr Allister Parks, Editor of the Rand Daily Mail.

Important aspects of his findings were:

- The commission's application failed because the commis-

sion had not and set out the 'new aspects and fields' it was presently canvassing

- It was impossible for the Rand Daily Mail to anticipate what it might not publish because a prohibition in terms of the Commissions Act had not been set out in precise terms

- The first report of the commission was irrevocable, and the commission was presently acting under a new and narrower sphere

- The commission was not entitled to a blanket restriction on any publication

- Anticipation of a possible offence, in terms of the Commissions Act, was insufficient, and a counter-vention had to be shown

- The members of the commission were ordinary individuals, performing a task with no special powers, and the members were incorrect in purporting to be acting in an official capacity during the application

OWN CORRESPONDENT

- The idea that reporting of matters being canvassed by the commission was sub judice, even with the increased powers under the Commissions Act, was unfounded

Mr Justice Coetzee's judgment started at 9 30 am and ended at 10 15. A large crowd of interested people, including lawyers, gathered in the courtroom to hear his reasons for refusing the application at 11 15 on Monday night.

The Judge's reasoning yesterday came in support of argument by Mr Sidney Kentridge, SC, for the newspaper group.

One of Mr Kentridge's submissions was that it was astonishing to suggest that while a commission was sitting, there could be no discussion of the various aspects. This was contrary to the principles of free speech, Mr Kentridge had submitted

In his judgment Mr Justice Coetzee said the commission had originally been appointed, by government notice on November 3, 1978, to investigate into alleged irregularities in the former Department of Information. The terms of reference were that the commission was to inquire into and report on:

- Any irregularities or unlawful gaining of advantage by individuals or bodies or the misappropriation of public funds by the former Department of Information, or by any person who was connected with that department

- The methods and malpractices which were employed in connection with any irregularities or gaining of advantage of any misappropriation which may be found

- Steps be taken to put an end to such practices as well as

any action against any persons who were involved

The commission was requested to report to the State President before December 6 last year.

Mr Justice Coetzee said the appointment was not made under any statute, and he could therefore assume that the commission was not controlled by statute and did not constitute a legal body. It was expected to co-operate and operate within the confines of the commission according to its terms of reference.

When the State President appointed a commission he was empowered to confer upon it powers under the Commissions Act, but could only do so if the matter to be investigated was "a matter of public concern" — according to the Act — giving additional powers and establishing the rights and duties.

In the present case, the State President declared the provisions of the Act to be applicable

on a proclamation published on November 7, 1978.

He referred to Regulation 14 of the Act which said "No person shall insult, disparage or belittle the commission or a member of the commission or prejudice, influence or anticipate the proceedings or findings of the Commission."

Regulation 15

He also read Regulation 15 which states that any person who contravenes any provision of various sections of the Act, or "willfully hinders, resists or obstructs" a member of the commission would be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding R200 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

Mr Justice Coetzee said the commission performed its task and reported to the State President last December. The State President then extended the commission which was to "inquire into and recommend on the new aspects and fields mentioned in paragraph 14 487 of the commission's report" and report to the State President before May 30 this year.

On December 15 a further proclamation was published reappointing the commission of inquiry and declaring that the provisions of the Commissions Act would continue to apply.

Mr Justice Coetzee said the new inquiry acted in terms of the reference found in the government notice.

The members of the commission had averred on Monday night that the Rand Daily Mail published reports last Friday, Saturday and Monday of alleged disclosures by Dr Eschel Rhoodie, who is presently overseas.

Judge's reasons

259
243

From page 5

defined in the proclamation. These were to investigate new aspects and fields

This had appreciably narrowed the duties of the commission, he said

"For a subject to know what he must do he must know what the new aspects and fields are," he said

Referring to the commission's first report he said the commission recommended an extension to permit it to investigate new aspects, which would allow an investigation by a chartered accountant and the commercial branch of the South African Police

This indicated that the matters reported on by the commission last December had finally been dealt with. The commission had said it had completed its duties in the time at its disposal, he added

Any contravention of the Commissions Act therefore, had to be in respect of the new aspects or fields

Interim findings

He said he could not accept the claim by Mr Geysér who had alleged in his affidavit that all the interim findings were subject to revision in the light of further evidence and could therefore not be regarded as final

Mr Justice Coetzee said that the report by the commission presented last December was irrevocable in view of the terms of reference of the original commission

The commission had apparently penetrated to the core and essence of its original terms of reference, he said

Now the commission apparently, in investigating new aspects, required the assistance of a chartered accountant and the commercial branch of the police. It was apparently functioning under its original terms of reference and under a new sphere

He went to refer to the submission by Mr Kentridge that the proclamation extending the commission was void for vagueness. Mr Kentridge had said there was no indication as to what the new aspects and fields were, and there was no intelligible duty to be observed

Mr Justice Coetzee said he would assume that Regulation 14 was valid, but the court should have been apprised of the facts so as to indicate what

applicants must fail," he said

He said Mr Kentridge had argued that before the applicants were entitled to an interdict they had to show publication constituted an unlawful act. There was no indication of what was still to be published

Mr Kentridge had also said, secondly, that the members of the commission had no legal right to bring the application. They had not shown any special personal damage and therefore could not succeed

Dealing with these points Mr Justice Coetzee said the commission was clearly not entitled to a blanket restriction on publication. The fact that Dr Rhodie had given evidence, and may still give further evidence, took the matter no further

If what was to be published was unlawful then it had to be established, he explained

He said the members of the commission believed that the newspaper group intended to publish further reports which would purport to be further disclosures by Dr Rhodie and that these would "necessarily contain material of a nature which will contravene Regulation 14"

Consequently, the point was well taken by Mr Kentridge, he said

Dealing with the second point he said the members of the commission were not appearing in an official capacity as purported in the proceedings. They were simply ordinary individuals given a commission. This was not done by statute and they therefore only had the powers of an ordinary individual

He said they had to show irreparable injury to themselves personally, but they did not contend that this was so

They missed the point altogether, the Judge said. The question was whether they acted in their own interest or in the public interest

He said they clearly had no personal interest in the legal position or the outcome of this application

Pattern

Mr Justice Coetzee said the pattern of the application before him gave the impression that the case was equated to a question of sub judice pending a hearing in a court of law. The view was enforced by the language used in the founding affidavit by Mr Geysér

He said Mr Geysér's affidavit used the language, "reports

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15/3/79

and he said they feared the Rand Daily Mail would continue to publish reports of this nature

He said that in the founding affidavit by Mr J G Geysler, secretary of the commission, it was said that Dr Rhodie was a former secretary of the now defunct Department of Information His activities as a secretary had a direct bearing on the matters presently being investigated by the commission Dr Rhodie had already given evidence before the commission and might possibly be required to give further evidence

It was also said, the Judge continued, that the applicants were of the opinion that all these reports constituted serious contraventions of the regulations in that they contained matter which might prejudice, influence or anticipate the proceedings, or the ultimate findings of the commission

He also said it was alleged that the reports, which will probably be published in the future would not only constitute an offence in terms of Regulation 14, but would also seriously hamper and embarrass the commission in its task

He said Mr E Du Toit, SC, for the members of the commission, argued that a commission was entitled to an injunction to restrain anyone committing a breach of Regulation 14 Mr Du Toit had relied on the reports published and reports threatened to be published, and said the reports would prejudice, influence or anticipate the findings of the commission, Mr Justice Coetzee said

Precise terms

Mr Justice Coetzee said it was impossible for a subject (referring to the Rand Daily Mail) to anticipate what he might not do if what was prohibited was not set out in precise terms

The first step he had was to determine as precisely as possible what the newspaper groups were prohibited from doing under Regulation 14

The meaning of the language in the regulation might be debated It might mean no more than no person may prejudice, influence or anticipate the proceedings

He said that without going into the aspect of correct meaning of Regulation 14, and for the purposes of his judgment, he found that the regulation still involved the ambit of the commission, which duties were de-

To page 6

the new aspects were contain matter which might

It was impossible in the circumstances to say whether any particular publication offended against Regulation 14

He said Mr Du Toit was invited to say how the problem could be solved He had difficulty and asked for an adjournment, supposedly to file a supplementary affidavit

This could have been done, Mr Justice Coetzee said Mr Geysler was present, but Mr Du Toit did not and said he would "stand or fall" on the papers as they were before court

"I am still in the dark, and do not know what the new aspects and fields are," he said

"This is a fatal defect in the applicants' papers," he said

"Even if I am wrong there are other grounds on which the

judice, influence or anticipate the proceedings"

This was clearly insufficient Actual prejudice or actual influence had to be shown

Mr Justice Coetzee said one frequently heard the public media refer to a judicial commission of inquiry, that there was no warrant in South African law for this expression

He said a commission was appointed and was entrusted with specific duties In some cases the powers of the Commissions Act may be conferred, but this did not turn the situation into anything else but an ordinary citizen in charge of a commission

There was no place for use of the words, sub judice There was nothing like sub judice of a commission

The commission sat as such and it was irrelevant whether the person entrusted to do the work was a magistrate or a judge, he explained

A commission could in no respect be equated with a court of law, he said

He said it may be true that the effect of Regulation 14 was to create, to a large means, the same result which may flow when contempt of court takes place However, it had to be borne in mind that the Commissions Act could not be said to deal with matters sub judice, and only if one acted in contravention of the Act could there possibly be a remedy

Mr E Du Toit, SC, and Mr S Burger, instructed by the deputy State Attorney, appeared for members of the commission Mr S Kentridge, SC, and Mr L Bowman, instructed by Bell, Dewar and Hall, appeared for the respondents

C 1 12/3/77

Pik Botha hits out at Rhoodie's 'nonsense' claim

By Michael Acott
Political Correspondent

THE FOREIGN MINISTER
Mr Pik Botha yesterday de-
scribed allegations by the for-
mer secretary for Information
Dr Eschel Rhoodie as non-
sense.

Mr Botha, who is in Rome,
issued a sharply worded state-
ment criticizing Dr Rhoodie
and newspapers which pub-
lished his claims.

He also threatened to termi-
nate the lucrative public rela-
tions contract of the American
firm Sydney Baron if the firm
had been involved in Depart-
ment of Information irregulari-
ties.

In reports published yester-
day Dr Rhoodie named Mr
Botha as having personally been
involved in an Information se-
cret project in the United States
at the request of the former
Minister of Information Dr
Connie Mulder.

Mr Botha said Dr Rhoodie
had deliberately not revealed his
'comic activities' to the De-
partment of Foreign Affairs.

As far as he could remember
Dr Mulder had on one occasion
asked him to take part in a
meeting. This was about June
1977 when Sydney Baron orga-
nized a symposium in New
York on investment in South
Africa.

'Open matter'

"As far as I was concerned
this was an open matter of
which everyone in South Africa
was aware," Mr Botha said.

Everyone was also aware
that Baron arranged it and the
South African press openly re-
ported it.

If there was anything irreg-
ular about that occasion I chal-
lenge Dr Rhoodie and Dr Connie
Mulder to reveal it because I
will then have to consider anew
whether to retain the services of
Baron.

Mr Botha's statement came
on the same day as he told
Parliament in reply to a written
question that the contract with
Sydney Baron had been renewed
by the new Information service
and now expired on March 31
next year.

Reacting to Dr Rhoodie's lat-
est claims Mr Botha said it
would not surprise him if Dr

Rhoodie began to allege that
the whole of South Africa
formed part of his secret
games.

Nothing Dr Rhoodie says
surprises me. What does sur-
prise me is that there are still
newspapers which will publish
his nonsense.

It is generally known in
South Africa that Dr Rhoodie
deliberately kept his comic ac-
tivities away from the Depart-
ment of Foreign Affairs.

Part of his great plans was
that the Department of Foreign
Affairs in particular should
have no knowledge of them.

The Secretary for Foreign Af-
fairs Mr Brand Fourie also
issued a statement yesterday
after Dr Rhoodie named him as
having received notes and let-
ters plus books and brochures
financed by secret actions.

Mr Fourie said that in the
normal course of things all de-
partments continually sent
notes and letters to the Depart-
ment of Foreign Affairs. This
included the Department of In-
formation.

What is relevant is that the
secretary for Information over
the past five to six years, al-
ways insisted that the methods,
means and actions his depart-
ment used to achieve its objec-
tives rested only by him and his
minister.

There was no further reaction
yesterday to Dr Rhoodie's alle-
gations but Cabinet ministers
available for comment on Sun-
day night declined to do so or
rejected Dr Rhoodie's claim.

The Minister of Finance Sen-
ator Owen Horwood, said "I
have made my statement. I am
really not prepared to continue
further with the scandalous lie-
bel that is going on."

The Minister of Public Works
and former Deputy Minister of
Information Mr Louis le
Grange said "I have nothing
to say. I was involved in the
former Department of Informa-
tion and did my job as a Deputy
Minister both inside and outside
South Africa. So what?"

The Minister of Economic Af-
fairs Mr Chris Heunis "I have
no comment on anything that
Rhoodie has to say."

The Deputy Minister of Plur-
al Relations Dr A P Frcur-
nicht "I don't know what he's
talking about."

Particulars

Rhoades

JOHANNESBURG —

An urgent attempt by the Erasmus Commission to prevent the Rand Daily Mail from publishing further disclosures by Dr Eschel hoodie failed in the and Supreme Court last night.

In Cape Town, a similar application which was to have been brought against the Cape Times last night, was postponed until today.

In view of the court applications, the Daily Dispatch yesterday withheld publication of further disclosures by Dr hoodie.

In a sitting which ended at 11 p.m., Mr Justice Coetzee dismissed with interest an application for an order against South African Associated Newspapers, Allied Publishing Limited and Mr Allister Marks, editor of the Rand Daily Mail.

He said it was important at reasons for his decision be recorded. This will be done at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Mr Geyser said the applicants, Mr Justice R B Erasmus, president of the commission, Mr G Smalberger, and Mr A Lategan, were of the opinion that these reports constituted serious conventions of the regulations. He said the newspaper had given the under-

taking that a whole series of alleged disclosures by Dr Rhoades would be published.

"I further submit that the applicants have a clear right, that an injury is actually being committed and that the applicants have a well-founded apprehension that the respondents will continue to commit such injury, and that there is no other remedy open to the applicants which will afford any adequate protection from the mischief which is being done and threatened," Mr Geyser said.

Mr Justice Coetzee questioned Mr E du Toit, SC, counsel for the commission, on how one could anticipate proceedings. He said it appeared that this related only to the finding.

Mr Du Toit said the regulation referred to both proceedings and the finding.

Mr Justice Coetzee, "Do you allege this is in anticipation of proceedings? It is not set out in your affidavit."

Mr Du Toit: "What is set out are the articles themselves, which speak for themselves."

Mr Justice Coetzee: "Will you tell me precisely what you complain of?"
Mr Du Toit: "The evidence which is to be led is anticipated and it may be influenced by prior information given."

Mr Justice Coetzee: "You mean the commission may be influenced?"

Mr Du Toit: "No, the witnesses."

Mr Du Toit said there was also the question of anticipation of the findings.

Mr Justice Coetzee asked "What is it that has been published that anticipates the findings?" "Would you perhaps point it out to me?"

Mr Du Toit then referred to yesterday's issue of the Mail, to a report headed "Many cabinet men knew — says Rhoades."

Mr Justice Coetzee: "Is the commission to determine what cabinet ministers knew?"

Mr Du Toit: "It has to inquire into any irregularities."

Mr Justice Coetzee: "Irregularities of what?" "What has this to do with whether a minister knew of secret projects? Is that any irregularity?"

Mr Du Toit: "No."

Mr Justice Coetzee: "Your client should have supplied me with much more factual information about the commission so that I can decide whether this may influence proceedings. At the moment I do not know to what this is tied."

Mr Du Toit referred to Saturday's edition of the Mail and to a story headed "Vorster told the cabinet of 'The Citizen' and which

said that the former Prime Minister had warned that if the project became public knowledge he would have to resign. Mr Du Toit said The Citizen was another of the projects which was an irregularity.

Mr Justice Coetzee said that his difficulty remained. Because of the little time available to the legal men there were no facts in the application and he was asked to draw an inference that certain things were likely to influence the commission.

He asked whether it was irregular for the Prime Minister to have known about the alleged irregular funding of The Citizen.

Mr Du Toit said carrying on of the newspaper was irregular, and anyone knowing about it was obviously part of the irregularity.

Mr Du Toit said the finding of the commission in the interim report was that Mr Vorster's action was honest and bona fide and his integrity remained unblemished.

He said Dr Rhoades was reported to have claimed that Mr Vorster approved of propaganda in which no rules applied and which might even include bribery.

This constituted an irregularity which might be a new aspect of inquiry by the commission — P.D.

259

13/3/79

Particulars

Press

'Don't rush in' Opposition plea

ORMANDE POLLOK
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—The two major Opposition parties have called on the Government not to take any "over-hasty" action against the Press for the Rhodie allegations or general coverage of the Information affair.

The calls came against the background of the sudden application by the Erasmus Commission for an interdict against the "Morning Group" carrying further revelations and rising speculation in Nationalist circles about legislation to gag the Press

It is expected the Cabinet will discuss the issue this morning after the midnight action by Mr Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Justice, to stop all newspapers in the group carrying allegations about him by Dr. Eschel Rhodie

Questions about the possibility of a move by the Government are to be asked in Parliament by Mr Nigel Wood (NRP, Berea), who wants to know from the Minister of Interior, Mr Alwyn Schlabusch, "whether he is considering the introduction of legislation in respect of the South African Press and if so, when such legislation will be introduced."

Nationalist MPs were approached yesterday by senior members of the party on what their attitude would be to Press legislation

They were also asked if the Press should be allowed to continue with "one-sided and unsubstantiated" allegations about Cabinet Ministers and senior officials

Conference crisis

One was asked if he believed the way in which the Morning Group had published the Rhodie revelations was in the best traditions of Press freedom

Another said that there were Nationalist MPs who felt that a parliamentary select committee should be appointed to investigate if any ministers were involved because it was in everyone's interests that the matter be cleared up

He agreed a confidence crisis was developing among Nationalist supporters who felt extremely strongly about even the possibility of dishonesty among any of their

leaders
The possibility of Press legislation gained impetus yesterday afternoon when the conservative Transvaal Nationalist leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said there were people who

Press gag bid

FROM PAGE 1

Government and this was not possible without the Opposition, which was prepared to meet Mr Botha without any pre-conditions

The Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha, yesterday described allegations by Dr Rhodie as nonsense

Mr Botha, who is in Rome, issued a sharply-worded statement criticising Dr Rhodie and newspapers which published his claims

He also threatened to terminate the lucrative public relations contract of the American firm, Sydney Baron, if the firm had been involved in Department of Information irregularities

In reports published yesterday, Dr Rhodie named Mr Botha as having personally been involved in an Information secret project in the US at the request of the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder

Mr Botha said Dr Rhodie had deliberately not revealed his "comic activities" to the Department of Foreign Affairs

As far as he could remember, Dr Mulder had on one occasion asked him to take part in a meeting. This was about June, 1977, when Sydney Baron organised a symposium in New York on investment in South Africa

"As far as I was concerned, this was an open matter of which everyone in South Africa was aware

"Everyone was also

13/3/79

13/79

259

ag bid

were saying that it might be times to reproduce the Newspaper Bill

But Mr. Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, and Mr. Harry Schwarz, the Progressive Federal Party's chief spokesman, both called on the Government not to take any hasty action.

Mr. Raw said that any attempt to silence the Press would achieve nothing more than "increase suspicion about what is being suppressed"

Harm

"If the rumours have any truth, I would like to say that the answer is not to silence the media but to reveal the facts to the public," said Mr. Raw, who agreed anything to do with security should not be published

Mr. Schwarz appealed to the Prime Minister to meet the Opposition before any steps which could affect South Africa's future were taken.

"Matters cannot go on in their present form — the festering sore is continuing," he said

"If action is taken now against the Press it will do even more harm to South Africa and will not solve the Information debacle"

It was necessary to restore confidence in the

★ TURN TO PAGE 2

it, and the South African Press openly reported it"

Question

Mr. Botha's statement came on the same day he told Parliament in reply to a written question that the contract with Sydney Baron had been renewed by the new Information service and now expired on March 31 next year

The Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Brand Fourie, also issued a statement yesterday after Dr Rhodie named him as having received notes and letters, plus books and brochures financed by secret actions

Mr Fourie said that, in the normal course of things, all departments continually sent notes and letters to the Department of Foreign Affairs This included the Department of Information

"What is relevant is that the Secretary for Information, over the past five to six years, always insisted that the methods, means and actions his department used to achieve its objectives rested only by him and his minister"

But above all, this assertion that would have the primary conflict as that being between men and women can have no concept of history, of politics, of change. If one asserts that the history of men and women has always been governed by this primary contradiction, how then does one explain the changing nature of domination - for example, how does slavery change to feudalism, feudalism to capitalism? How does one introduce the political into one's analysis or must it necessarily be arbitrarily introduced from the outside as something external to an analysis? And how does one change the structural position of women if men fail to heed the call to "change their consciousness"? Social classes may be overthrown, men cannot (despite wishful thinking on behalf of some). In short, how can this "Sisterhood is powerful" be translated into effective political practice?

It is clear, then, that the UCT Women's Movement cannot have a clear definition of objectives, a systematic analysis of the structural position of women, tying it into the economic, political and ideological levels of society. Instead, it remains in the realm of rhetoric, arbitrary and individual, rather than informed by a critical and objective approach to the totality of society and its forms of oppression.

Contrary to this kind of analysis, we assert that the history of men and women can only be understood in terms of the contradictions that exist between social classes. This is not to deny the importance of the women's struggle against exploitation and discrimination. Indeed the mere fact that half of the exploited and oppressed people of this world are women indicates a central role for this struggle. Instead, while recognising the urgency of this struggle, we assert that to ignore the very real contradictions that exist between bourgeois women who experience their oppression as discrimination, and working class women who experience their oppression as essentially exploitation, to ignore the specific way in which the oppression of women is produced and ensured within the South African social formation, and above all, to ignore the struggles of other people struggling against exploitation is not only incorrect but will lead to inadequate strategies that could well ensure that women's libera-

tion is not achieved simultaneously with the liberation of men against their exploitation in the mines, factories and on the farms of this land.

Finally, let the question be asked: the UCT Women's conclusions of confusion from their assessment that women's movement? Or the analysis of movement rather than independent organization can come to give exploited women a movement which would be bourgeois only form an analysis, on its own, the women's struggle is integrated into a social analysis so too would separate, none of itself into which thus confirming the reality of its analytical

Move to silence Mail rejected

The Rand Daily Mail last night won a court battle against the Erasmus Commission, who in an urgent application to the Supreme Court tried to stop the newspaper from publishing further disclosures by Dr Ischael Rhoades.

After a two-hour late-night session in the Supreme Court, Mr Justice G Coetzee, dismissed the application.

Mr Justice Coetzee said it was important that reasons for his decision be recorded. This will be done at 10 am tomorrow.

An affidavit by the secretary of the commission, Mr J G Geysar, was handed in as evidence. He said reports published and those to be published would seriously hamper and embarrass the commission.

Mr E du Toit, SC, for the commission, then read extracts from certain affidavits which had already appeared in the Mail. His submission was that certain allegations regarding the former Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster, had belittled the commission.

Mr Justice Coetzee then said: "How do you belittle a man over something on which he had already expressed a finding?"

Mr Sydney Kentridge, SC, for SAAN, submitted that the documents before the court contained no proof that the defendants were on the verge of committing an offence. The papers merely contained the opinion of the Erasmus Commission. Mr Kentridge submitted that if the court had to decide what the newspaper was going to publish, was it going to publish what was going to be published?

Dr AP against releasing evidence

By Hugh Leggatt,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Dr AP Treurnicht said today it would not be in the country's interest for the Government to release the evidence of the Erasmus Commission.

He was reported in the Rand Daily Mail today as having said at a Press Club luncheon in Cape Town yesterday that the evidence should be released.

Dr Treurnicht explained that he had mentioned that there were certain people who wanted the evidence to be released.

He had emphasised that the Government could not, for reasons of national security, release all the evidence.

He said releasing the evidence would get the Information scandal behind the Government, but this could not be done for the sake of satisfying curiosity.

He had not seen a transcript of the evidence and could, therefore, not say whether it should be released, or what matters of national security could be prejudiced.

Dr Treurnicht told the Press Club he was in favour of Press freedom. He added, however, that there were people who were wondering if the Press legislation which was withdrawn in 1977 could not be "dusted off".

But the PFP's Mr. Harry Schwarz warned against rash action, such as steps against the Press.

"I appeal to the Prime Minister to meet with the Opposition to work out an acceptable procedure to deal with current developments in the Information scandal."

If action were taken against the Press, the Information problem would go underground and the whispering and rumours would get worse.

'Rhodie men' forced to give up passports

STAR 12/3/79

259

Mr Josias van Zyl, Dr Rhodie's new boss, in his office after his passport was seized.

By Jan van Ree

The passports of the two South Africans closest to Dr Eschel Rhodie — General Hendrik van den Bergh and Mr Josias van Zyl — were seized on Government orders by police early today.

The Minister of the Interior, Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, confirmed the action, but refused to give any reasons.

Mr John Malcomess, New Republic Party spokesman on the information affair, said this latest move made the Government look like "a chicken running around without a head".

General C. F. Zietsman, former chief of the Security Police, visited General van den Bergh at his home in Waterkloof, Pretoria, shortly after midnight.

Other policemen were also present as General van den Bergh received a letter demanding the immediate return of his passport, and any other travel documents.

"Occupational hazard" was General Zietsman's comment after General van den Bergh complied with the request. General Zietsman served under General van den Bergh for years when the latter was head of the Security Police.

The policeman regarded the task as a job that had to be done without getting emotionally involved, he told The Star today.

From the general's home they went to the Northcliff home of Mr van Zyl, who 12 days ago flew to Paris with General van den Bergh and a lawyer, Mr Brian Kahn, to reach a deal with Dr Rhodie.

Under the deal Dr Rhodie would work for Mr van Zyl and not make public all tapes and documents which would allegedly reveal details of the Information Department's secret operations.

But yesterday Mr van Zyl said Dr Rhodie could, if he wished, reveal part of this material to clear his name.

Release

Mr van Zyl said today he would now have to consider contacting Dr Rhodie to release part of the tapes and documents.

Two policemen, one a Major le Roux in plain clothes and the other in uniform, arrived at Mr van Zyl's house at 115 am. They showed him a letter from the Department of the Interior which demanded the immediate return of his passport.

"I told them the passport was at my office. They accompanied me into town and I gave it to them. They were very polite and even said how bad they felt about the fact that they had to wake me up and then put me to so much trouble," Mr van Zyl said.

"I'm not going to let a thing like this upset me. I will consult with my legal advisers later today and then we will decide what to do."

"I was not interested in getting into the dogfight between the Government and Dr Rhodie, but now it seems as if I have been drawn in and I will have to defend myself."

● Rhodie version one-sided says Erasmus counsel — Page 3.

STP 1313791

Erasmus men abroad

Two members of the Erasmus Commission leave South Africa on Thursday to hear evidence abroad related to the Information scandal.

Mr. J. G. Geysler, secretary for the commission, said that the two advocates responsible for leading evidence before the commission, Mr. H. G. Klem,

SC, and Mr. H. G. van Zyl, would be going.

As soon as they returned his commission would continue its investigations.

The judge would not comment when asked if the commission would take further action against the Rand Daily Mail.

Gen H J. van der Bergh authority from Government to negotiate with Dr. E. Rhodde

*1 Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Prime Minister

- (1) Whether General H J van der Bergh has any authority from the Government to negotiate with Dr E Rhodde, if so, (a) what authority and (b) what matters will form the subject of such negotiations

401

WEDNESDAY, 14

- (2) whether the Government intends to take any action in regard to the alleged threat by Dr Rhodde to publish certain information, if so, what action if not why not,

- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter

†The PRIME MINISTER

- (1) No
- (2) No, the Government does not deem it necessary
- (3) The Government will not allow itself to be blackmailed

Ministers

Commission of Inquiry into Fluoridation

*1 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Health

Whether legislation is to be introduced during the current session of Parliament to give effect to the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Fluoridation

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH

No

Rhodie version of Info is labelled one-sided

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Counsel for the Erasmus Commission today closed its case in the hearing in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, in which two commissioners are seeking an interdict to prevent the Cape Times from publishing further disclosures by Dr Eschel Rhodie.

Mr W G Burger SC, for Mr G F Smalberger and Mr A J Lategan, submitted that the temporary interdict originally applied for, returnable on March 23, was not appropriate in the circumstances. He ap-

plied for a final interdict. Mr Burger today described the disclosures by Dr Rhodie reported in the Cape Times as 'a one-sided, highly coloured, highly flavoured piecemeal version' of the information story.

"The whole tenor of his evidence is not that there were no irregularities, but that everyone was in on it, everyone knew about it and okayed it," Mr Burger said.

"Dr Rhodie has attempted throughout to give his story the stamp of truth by referring to specific people and to in-

dicte that if only they would speak the truth and produce relevant files they would amply bear out what he has to say," Mr Burger said.

Witnesses might be scared and might not come forward.

Mr Justice Friedman: On the other hand he has given you the names of a number of witnesses you would not otherwise have had.

Mr Burger: Thank you. But I think the commission can be left to do its own work without the help of Dr Rhodie.

Mr Justice Friedman: Why? Might witnesses be scared?

Mr Burger: Because they might be implicated. Dr Rhodie always implicates people to his own advantage. He never gives the name of a witness who could contradict him.

Counsel for the Cape Times argued that Mr Lategan and Mr Smalberger had failed to make out a case for an interdict preventing the newspaper from publishing further reports of disclosures by Dr Eschel Rhodie.

Mr Harry Snitcher, QC, said the members of the Erasmus Commission believed future reports would contravene the regulations relating to the commission by prejudicing, influencing or anticipating the proceedings or findings of the commission.

"But one looks in vain for the necessary factual basis on which it could be found the Cape Times has already been guilty of a criminal act."

Mr Snitcher argued that the Erasmus Commission had "come out with a firm and irrevocable finding in relation to the conduct of Dr Eschel Rhodie and certain other people."

Mr Snitcher said the question of Cabinet responsibility for the funding of The Citizen and other secret projects had been "haunting the corridors of Parliament and the public corridors of this country."

He said the articles published by the Cape Times related essentially to what Cabinet Ministers knew or did not know about these issues.

Judge explains his dismissal ruling

▶▶ From page 1

statutory body, Mr Justice Coetzee said.

The commissioners appeared before court simply as people appointed by the State President to a commission and this did not add to their stature as applicants.

To succeed they had to show that they stood to suffer "special damage" themselves. The regulation referred to by counsel for the commission was to protect the public interest, said the judge.

For this reason the applicants had no legal right to succeed in their application.

The judge said the language of the application gave him the impression the case was being equated to one in which

the sub-judice rule was invoked, as in a court of law.

The public media frequently referred to "judicial commissions of inquiry," but there was no justification under South African law for that expression.

It was purely coincidental that magistrates or judges were appointed to commissions, and this did not make the commission comparable to a court of law.

There were, therefore, no grounds for restricting comment by saying a matter was sub-judice, because "in the case of a commission it can't be said that it is dealing with matter that is sub-judice in any matter or form."

In dismissing the application the judge ordered the Erasmus Commission to pay costs.

Hansard 6 vol 2 665 →

15/3/79

259

several weeks. Therefore it has no essential bearing on any recent events or reports. The motion reflects the standpoint we have consistently adopted, i.e. that the maximum disclosure of evidence in the public interest, provided that the national security is safeguarded.

There has been newspaper speculation during the past few days that this matter is now on the point of exploding. This afternoon's debate was expected to be controversial in a special sense according to a newspaper report. So be it. If there are hon members who want to explode, they probably will. But there is no such intention on our part. We certainly are not seeking confrontation or attempting to score debating points in this House. We just want to make another sincere attempt to put an end as soon as possible to the lingering misery of the continuing information dispute. I shall submit that the fullest disclosure, subject to the conditions I shall state, is necessary in the public interest in the national interest and also in the interest of individual members of this House.

Before proceeding with that, I just want to draw attention to the wording of the motion, especially the reference to Standing Order No 206. As hon members know, this Standing Order provides that when we have asked for this evidence to be tabled, it should remain confidential and in the possession of hon members of this House—to begin with, in any case, and until the House has taken further decisions. The intention is that hon members should first have the opportunity of examining the evidence before it is made public, which we want to happen, of course. I shall say more about that shortly.

I want to begin my argument by referring to the public interest in this matter. More than once we have heard the hon the Prime Minister say in this House, with a tone of almost pathetic longing in his voice, "It will go away." The hon the Prime Minister hopes that the matter will blow over and that people will soon tire of it. In reality, however, it has never gone away. In a certain sense it is true that people are beginning to tire of it. This applies to us as well, and for that reason we want to put an end to this whole matter, in the only possible way. If any hon member of this House requires proof of the public attitude and of the intensity of public interest, he has

TABLING IN PARLIAMENT OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BY ERACIUS COMMISSION ON FORMER DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

(Motion)

-Dr Z J DE BEER Mr Speaker, I move the motion printed in my name on the Order Paper, as follows—

That this House calls upon the Government to recommend to the State President that the evidence taken by the Commission of Inquiry into Alleged Irregularities in the Former Department of Information, marked confidential in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No 206, should on completion by the Commission of its inquiry be laid upon the Table of this House.

All hon members know that the motion in its present form has been on the Order Paper for

Court told of principle on Rhodie disclosures

259
Syst 14/3/79

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — It was "utterly ridiculous" to suspect that reports in the Cape Times quoting Dr Eschel Rhodie could prejudice investigations of the Erasmus Commission into where money from secret funds had gone, Mr Harry Snitcher QC told the Supreme Court, Cape Town, today

Mr Snitcher was continuing his argument in opposition to an application by the commission for an order restraining the Cape Times from publishing any further disclosures by Dr Rhodie.

The Cape Times, Mr Snitcher said, was not concerned with the type of detail concerning irregular payments from secret funds mentioned in the Erasmus Commission's report

It was concerned with matters of principle such as whether public funds should be used for the acquisition of a newspaper advocating a particular party political line.

UNEXPLAINED

The crucial inquiry emerging from the presentation of the Erasmus Commission report was to what extent present Cabinet Ministers must be held responsible — or whether responsibility was to be on the heads of only one or two people.

Mr Snitcher said there were certain things left unexplained in a political sense in the Erasmus report

"The report lifts the veil to a certain extent but not the whole of it. People are left to speculate, guess, draw inferences, and make serious comment on all the matters containing in this report," he said

Quoting a letter from the then Prime Minister Mr B J Vorster to members of his Cabinet in December 1973, Mr Snitcher said it was "clear that many Cabinet Ministers of the day must have been aware of the existence of a large number of secret projects."

He added, "What is amazing in this whole unfortunate episode is why people are at pains to deny their knowledge of secret funds."

"I am not suggesting, and the Cape Times is not suggesting that they knew there was pinching of money going on," Mr Snitcher said

Mr Snitcher told the court General Hendrik van den Bergh had called the Erasmus Commission "a farce"

Lawyers welcome sub-judice judgment

DURBAN — Legal experts today welcomed Mr Justice Coetzee's judgment against the Erasmus Commission

The commission yesterday sought, but failed to obtain, an interdict to stop the Rand Daily Mail from making further public disclosures about Dr Eschel Rhodie.

Legal academics today called the judgment "extremely significant" and "very correct."

Professor John Dugard, director of the centre of Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand said:

"If the sub-judice rule were to be applied strictly, it would stifle all public debate on matters of public interest"

Judge Coetzee's judgment makes it clear that this is not to be the case"

Professor Marinus Wiechers, a noted writer on constitution and administrative law and professor of law at the University of South Africa, did not see Judge Coetzee's judgment as a relaxation of the sub-judice rule

Professor Anthony Matthews, head of the department of law at the University of Natal in Durban, saw yesterday's judgment as extremely important for South Africa.

"I welcome it because the judge was very wary of restricting free discussion simply because certain issues were before a commission," he said

Opposition spokesmen said the Government could no longer use the sub-judice rule as an excuse for condemning publication of material connected with the Information scandal

• The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, will speak in Parliament again tomorrow on the Information affair

Passports seized—no reasons

Night police

Van Zyl,

V d Bergh

Swoop

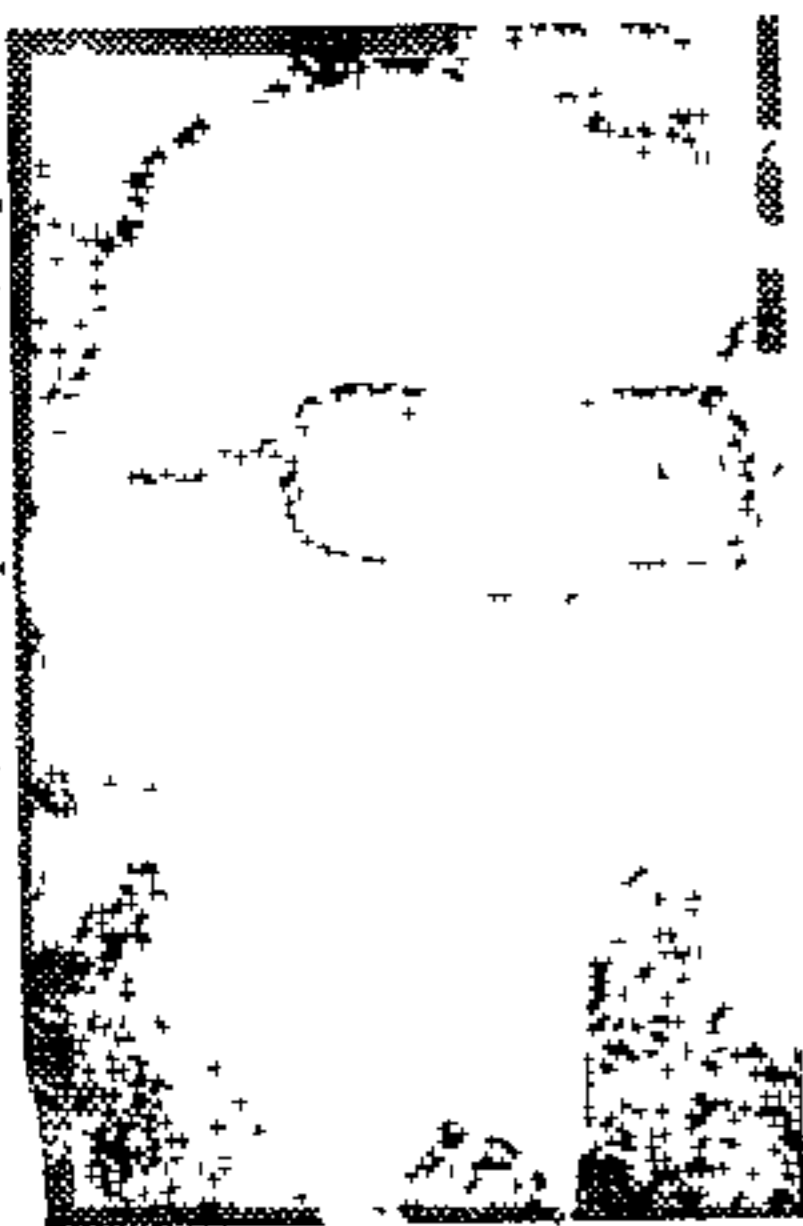
(Continued from Page 1)

the times we are living in.'

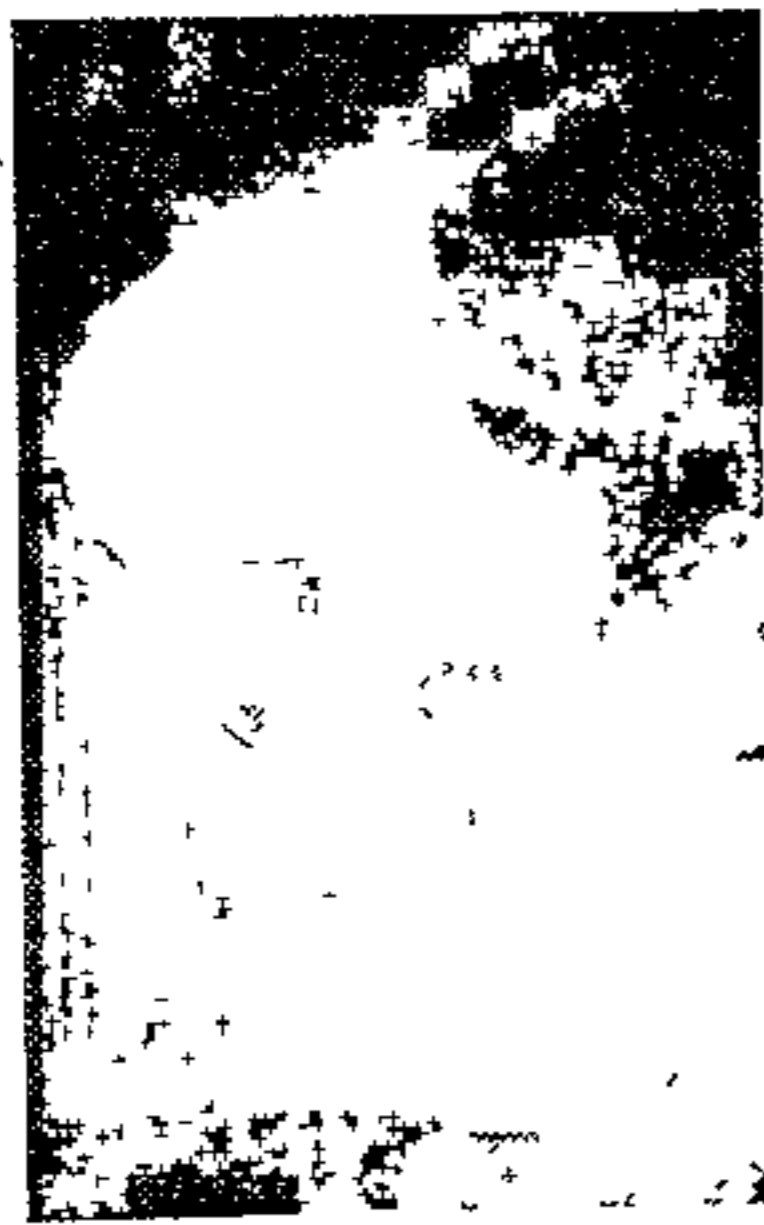
The general was awakened after the bell on his front door had been rung persistently.

Political Correspondent

THE Information affair has taken another dramatic turn with the seizure early today of the passports of General Hendrik van den Bergh and Mr Josias van Zyl, employer of the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie.



General H J van den Bergh



Mr Josias van Zyl

The Minister of the Interior, Mr A L Schlabusch, said today no reasons were given for passport withdrawals

It is clear, however, that the passports were withdrawn to save the Government further embarrassment, following the two men's recent activities in Europe.

After talks the two had with Dr Rhoodie, a deal was made by which he would not disclose details of secret Information projects which could harm the country.

Mr van Zyl said recently he was going back to Europe.

A chicken

Meanwhile, Dr Rhoodie has been making allegations about the Information debacle which have infuriated Nationalist leaders.

Mr John Malcomess MP, the New Republic Party's main spokesman on Information, said today the seizure of the passports made the Government look like 'a chicken running around without a head'.

The seizure was 'extraordinary behaviour' on the part of the Government, which refused to prosecute General van den Bergh.

Furthermore, it appeared that General van den Bergh had 'saved the Government's bacon' by preventing State secrets from leaking out.

Mr Malcomess claimed that the stage had been reached where Dr Rhoodie made allegations and the Government denied these. But the public believed Dr Rhoodie.

Both men were visited by officers of the security police shortly after midnight.

General van den Bergh's passport was seized at 12.25 am by a former colleague and Chief of Security Police, General C F Zietsman and Mr van Zyl's by a Major de Roux.

Mr van Zyl's passport was not in his possession when he was instructed to

Van Zyl considers release of tapes

JOHANNESBURG. — Mr Josias 'Joe' van Zyl said here today he was considering instructing his new employee, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, to release part of the tapes and documents he has on the Information scandal.

Mr van Zyl, whose passport was seized by police early today, signed an agreement with Dr Rhoodie in Europe last week.

One of the conditions was that Dr Rhoodie would not release any information without the approval of Mr van Zyl.

STRUGGLING

'I am a businessman and have been struggling to market a certain product for 10 years.

'I'm not going to let a thing like this upset me. I will consult my legal advisers later today, and we will decide what to do,' Mr van Zyl said today.

'I was not interested in getting into the dogfight between the Government and Dr Rhoodie, but now it seems as if I have been drawn in and I will have to defend myself.

'One of the aspects we will be considering will be the releasing of the tapes and documents' — Sapa.

put on his clothes after which he and the major left for the Tower building in the Carlton complex here where Mr van Zyl kept his passport.

Minutes after his passport had been seized, General van den Bergh commented: 'It shows you

(Continued on Page 3, col 1)

are given

259

14/3/79

Agre

SWOOP ON

When opening the door, General van den Bergh was confronted by General Zietsman and a sergeant. They showed him a letter from Mr Schlebusch which instructed him to surrender his passport and all other travel documents.

Progressive Federal Party spokesman Mr Harry Schwarz deplored the midnight visit to General van den Bergh.

Objected

'I would like to ask why it was necessary to visit a man who was head of the security police at midnight in the way that one has objected to others being visited at midnight,' he said.

Mr Schwarz said it would be proper to seize General van den Bergh's passport if a prosecution was pending against him — although he did not believe General van den Bergh would leave the country.

However, if the seizure was aimed at preventing him from seeing Dr Rhodie — even if one deplored the 'comic opera' of last week — he did not think it justified. Everyone was entitled to freedom of movement and certain rights.

● Our correspondent reports from Pretoria that when reporters asked to see General van den Bergh at his Waterkloof ridge home today, Mrs van den Bergh told them:

'He has gone to the farm. You people don't even give a person a chance to brush their hair. He is a farmer, you know, and you can't tell the cows to wait just because you have problems.'

22-9
327
259

Info, Biko incidents 'harmful to SA'

14/2/77
Argus

Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — The Information scandal and the death in detention of Black consciousness leader, Steve Biko, received prominence today at the annual meeting of the South Africa Foundation in Durban.

Both these issues were analysed against the backdrop of South Africa's domestic development and its international standing by the president of the Foundation, Mr Basil E Hersov and the director general, Mr J de L Sorour.

for their actions — under the present circumstances of weakened parliamentary opposition should be more fully shared with an outspoken, independent Press.

THE PRESS

'I recognise that, as elsewhere, the importance of this role of the Press grows precisely in times when its free existence is most likely to be threatened,' Mr Hersov said

He added that public reaction to disclosures of corruption and maladministration in the Information scandal had deep significance.

PUBLICITY

Mr de L Sorour said that the international publicity given to the Information affair contrasted strongly with the 'saturated publicity' given to Biko and the banning stories of 1977.

'That is not to say that the Information Department disclosures did no external damage at all. Obviously, we would have been better off without it.

'South Africa's renowned official integrity will have acquired an unwelcome question mark in some circles, and the disclosures can only harm attempts at quiet communication with black Africa,' he said.

Surveying South Africa's position in the international context, he said that there was agreement that another Biko or Modderdam-type incident would be catastrophic in the present atmosphere.

He saw hopeful signs in

Referring to his previous address, Mr Hersov said he had noted that the continuing unrest in 1977, the Biko case and the banning of the World and several organisations had contributed to a 'pervasive image of an inequitable society held together by police-state methods'

OVERSEAS MEDIA

In addition to the harm done to the country by these incidents, the overseas media had also exploited these issues to South Africa's disadvantage

He said the impossibility of 'hiding even the smallest skeleton in our cupboard becomes manifest because we have an open society and a democratic system'

'Since we are thus vulnerable to propaganda attack and unable to retaliate in like manner we have to plan our defence based on truth and openness, and orchestrated in such a way as to disarm the attackers and nullify their efforts in the most effective way,' Mr Hersov said

FREE EXPRESSIONS

He said it was his deep conviction that the free expression of alternative proposals regarding policy should not be seen by the Government as a threat. It should be recognised as an essential element of a spirited society

Africa,' he said.

FREE EXPRESSIONS

He said it was his deep conviction that the free expression of alternative proposals regarding policy should not be seen by the Government as a threat. It should be recognised as an essential element of a spirited society

Mr Hersov believed that the essential balancing role of opposition — the demand that government and its officers account

Surveying South Africa's position in the international context, he said that there was agreement that another Biko or Modderdam-type incident would be catastrophic in the present atmosphere

He saw hopeful signs in a new dispensation for blacks and great 'expectations of dramatic legislative changes' following the reports of the Wiehahn and Riekert Commissions.

Commission being 'greatly prejudiced'

By JANE ARBOUS

THE Cape Times was conducting "its own little inquiry" into the Department of Information scandal which greatly prejudiced the Erasmus Commission, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

The commissioners said they had investigated some, but not all the matters. The commission also stated that it needed an extension of its commission to continue until May 30. Mr Burger said it was common cause that the evidence in the first stage of the inquiry had not been released. The hearings had been held in camera and the press had been excluded.

'piecemeal part'

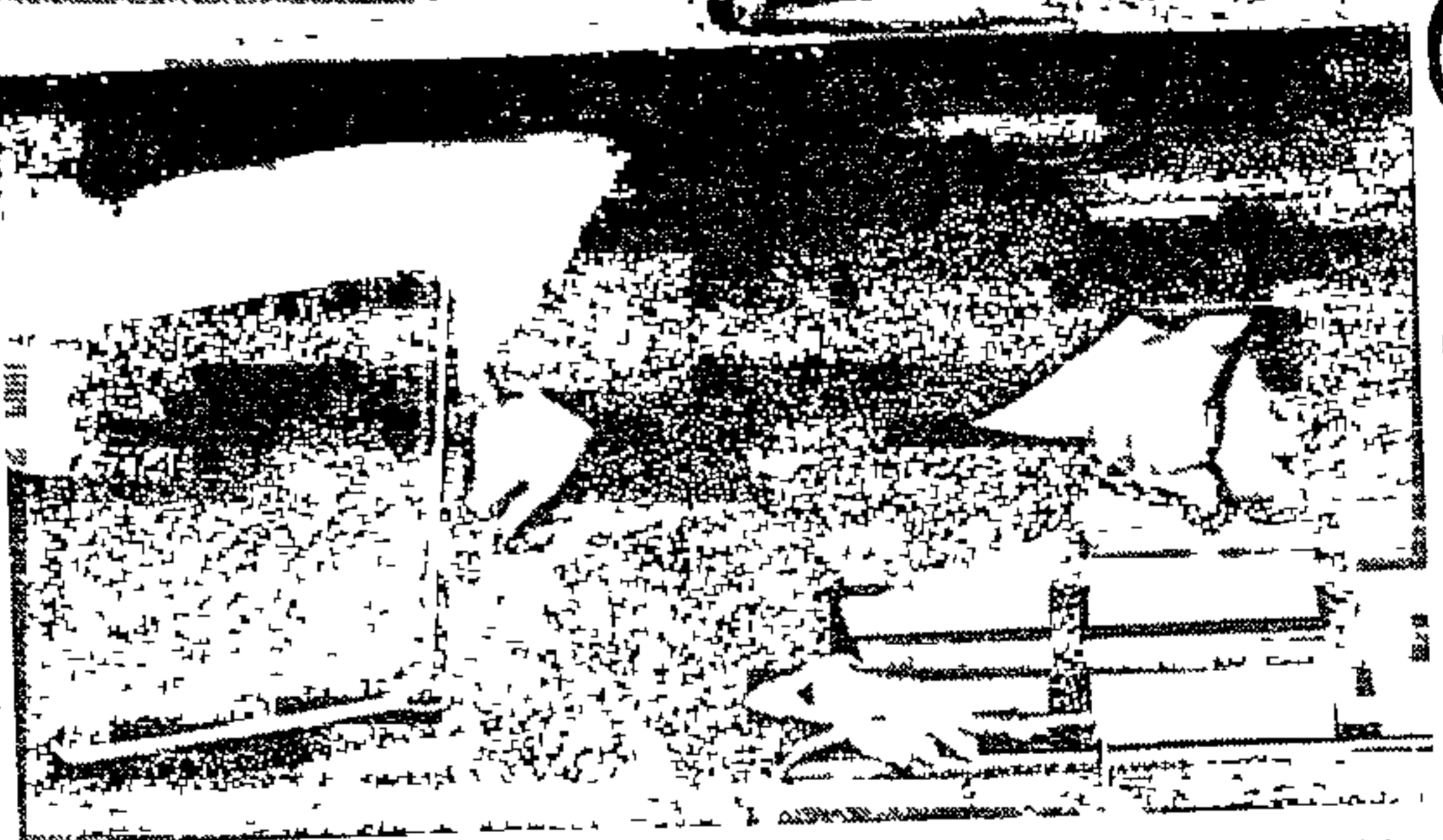
In this situation while active investigation was still taking place, he said the Cape Times had started to publish the version of one person who testified before the commission.

The Cape Times was "on the horns of a dilemma", Mr Burger said. The newspaper reports dealing with previous evidence were "one-sided and highly coloured". It was clearly a "piecemeal part" of the commission's record which was not released to the public, he said.

"It is harmful to the ongoing gathering of evidence that this version should be let loose on the public and potential witnesses," Mr Burger said. "And as I have stressed, it's not merely an antiseptic recording



One of the applicants, Mr A J Lategan, who is a member of the Erasmus Commission



Mr W Burger, SC, appearing for the two applicants, Mr G F Smalberger and Mr A J Lategan

Mr Burger. "No one can say how far the rot has spread."

Referring to Dr Rhoadie's statements in which he mentioned names of potential witnesses, Mr Burger said the whole tenor of his evidence was not that there were no irregularities but that "everyone was in it".

"That's really what he's saying," Mr Burger said. Dr Rhoadie attempted throughout the stories to give them "a stamp of truth" by referring to people whom he said could bear out what he was alleging.

"The effect of all this is very detrimental to the work of the commission," Mr Burger said. Potential witnesses might be "scared" to come forward before the commission.

Mr Justice G Friedman: "On the other hand, you might have witnesses coming forward why might witnesses be scared?"

Mr Burger: "Because they might be implicated. Rhoadie always implicated people by introducing them as people who could support what he said. Now they are being connected before they have given evidence in a way that is favourable to

Mr Burger said it could not only influence members of the commission and public opinion but could also cause a sympathetic potential witness to "softpeddle" his evidence, especially if the witness was an ex-colleague of Dr Rhoadie's.

Another article headlined "Rhoadie angry at Botha's attack" was an attempt to show Dr Rhoadie as the wronged man, Mr Burger said.

Dr Rhoadie also referred to the rejection by the Erasmus Commission of the evidence of four men under oath in favour

of the former Prime Minister, Mr J B Vorster, concerning Mr Vorster's knowledge of the founding of the Citizen newspaper. Mr Burger said Dr Rhoadie obviously intended to convey that the Erasmus Commission was prejudiced.

The "very considerable list" of people Dr Rhoadie had so far mentioned, were "compromised before they opened their mouths" by what he said Mr Burger said the commission could not function in "such an atmosphere".

Mr Burger said the original application for a rule nisi (which was to operate as a temporary interdict), calling on the newspaper to show cause on March 23 why they should not be restrained from publishing all information by Dr Rhoadie



5/5/79
259

no longer appropriate
He asked the court for a final order.

Making his final submission, Mr Burger said the Cape Times reports clearly prejudiced the commission's proceedings, and findings by hampering the actual gathering of evidence and the interviewing of witnesses.

Three lists

The reports also influenced the proceedings by evoking sympathy for Dr Rhoadie in witnesses and the commission's findings. The reports anticipated the findings and evidence given by potential witnesses by the continual harping on 'corroboration', Mr Burger said.

Mr Burger handed in to court three lists which gave Dr Rhoadie's references in the reports to potential witnesses before the commission, references in the commission's report which showed that the whole field of the inquiry was still open, and references of authorities.

To illustrate how 'unfinalised' the work of the commission was, Mr Burger read out sections of the report in which

of evidence, it is dramatic and highly flavoured."

Dr Rhoadie was not only giving his version, but was bolstering his own defence by referring to "a cloud of witnesses and a mass of documents" which Dr Rhoadie said would support his statements.

"More and more people were being dragged in," Mr Burger added.

Mr Justice H E P Watermeyer asked Mr Burger if Dr Rhoadie's "great dissatisfaction" with the commission's findings, was in itself a contravention of Regulation 14?

Replying, Mr Burger said it might influence the commissioners by evoking sympathy for "the poor wronged individual".

Mr Burger then referred to another section of one of the newspaper reports in which Dr Rhoadie alleged that civil servants could confirm certain secret projects undertaken by the Department of Information.

Mr Justice Watermeyer asked Mr Burger if the court was, in fact, not concerned with general secret projects, but with projects that were irregular.



Leaving the Supreme Court for the lunch adjournment yesterday are (from left) Mr Gerald Shaw, Acting Editor of the Cape Times, Mr A. A. Charnock, instructing attorney for the newspaper, and Mr W. Judge, Managing Director of the Cape Times.

Rhoadie every time."

Mr Burger added that both a witness and a document could disappear. If the police, for instance, were working on a fraud charge, would they welcome such disclosures, Mr Burger asked?

He said the "ripple effect" on witnesses could be seen in a recent Cape Times report headed "Two named have nothing to say". This was a direct consequence of Dr Rhoadie's disclosures when the newspaper immediately interviewed two of the men named by Dr Rhoadie.

Although the men told the Cape Times they would only talk to the Erasmus Commission, they had been "upset and badgered", Mr Burger said. "You can see how this thing gets entirely out of control."

Referring to an article headed "My sense of betrayal is so great", Mr Burger said an attempt was being made to influence public opinion and to create sympathy.

Mr Justice Watermeyer then asked him if Dr Rhoadie's expressing disappointment, contravened Regulation 14 in any way.

Rhodie lashes 'business mentality'

ment to follow through on the foundations he had laid — such as in his extensive visits to the Middle East

'No avail'

"I know that when he returned from the Arab world and reported his progress to the Department of Foreign Affairs, months would elapse and he had not heard from the Government whether they had followed through on the contact he had established

"Professor Barnard eventually went to Mr Vorster and complained saying that he was using up his time, money and energy and that it was all to no avail"

Returning to the contributions made by South African companies to propaganda programmes, Dr Rhodie said "Most of those who contributed were English-speaking companies

Sickened

"As an Afrikaner it was one of the greatest disappointments of my life and something that often sickened me

"I heard so many times Afrikaans business leaders and so on, expressing their feelings of patriotism but they never put their money where their mouths were

"Their mentality was that 'we pay taxes to the Government, therefore the Government must do it all'

MERVYN REES

JOHANNESBURG — Eschel Rhodie, former Information Secretary, has lashed out at Afrikaans financial, industrial and commercial institutions for their lack of support of "open propaganda programmes."

Dr Rhodie, who was speaking to me over several days when I met him in Quito, Ecuador, last month, said that if these institutions had come forward with money the Government would not have to embark on many of the clandestine projects that had now caused such a furore

"On many occasions I had to go cap in hand to these institutions — and more often than not I came away without a cent

"I was particularly bitterly disappointed because it was these Afrikaans institutions,

more than any others who were continually warning against insidious anti-private-enterprise propaganda campaigns being conducted by communists, fellow-travellers and socialists"

Dr Rhodie, however, cited Professor Chris Barnard as a symbol of the kind of true patriot South Africa needed "Here was a man who was vehemently opposed to many of the National Party's policies, but who was prepared to do many things to help his country in the broader national interest"

"Quietly, at his own expense he travelled the world and whether he was meeting presidents or kings, he shared the overall view that this was in the country's interest

"I'm not saying he always agreed with us but he shared the overall view that there could be accommodation between Indian, Coloured and White. He was very much against the petty rules and regulations and apartheid and that sort of thing.

"He never asked for any money, and he became extremely frustrated that he could not get the Government

NM 15/8/79

259

Sunday Times

THE PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE

259

It gets curiouser and curiouser

AT first glance the Prime Minister appears at last to have acknowledged the need to satisfy the public that the Information scandal has been fully and impartially investigated; but in fact the Government's response to that need becomes steadily more mystifying, and it is developing ominous overtones

First of all, Mr P W Botha has ostensibly extended the terms of reference of the Erasmus commission to enable it to investigate allegations that members of his Cabinet were party to the scandals. If this is not sleight of hand, it is nonsense

Not only did the original terms of reference permit the Erasmus commission to investigate the complicity of this Cabinet, but it actually did investigate the roles of Mr P W Botha himself and of Senator Owen Horwood, the Minister of Finance (as well as the role of the former Prime Minister)

Indeed, the demand for publication of testimony derives in part from the difficulty of reconciling the commission's own summary of the evidence with some of its conclusions.

For example, General Magnus Malan said he would not "again" permit his Minister to mislead Parliament; when was the first time?

The troubling aspect of the supposed "extension" of the terms of reference is that it may in fact tend to narrow the inquiry by confining it to the present Cabinet, and so exclude former Cabinets.

A similar suspicion attaches to the extraordinary proposal to appoint an Advocate-General to investigate allegations of corruption and maladministration in the Government

We have an Auditor-General, a Parliament and its select committee system, a police force, and an independent judiciary; what need is there for another bureaucracy to deal specifically with the crimes of politicians and officials — unless it is intended to place the Government and its agents beyond the reach of

the institutions that enforce the law for other people?

Remember that Dr Eschel Rhoddie was honourably retired on a fat pension after both the Auditor-General and the Van der Walt committee had investigated the Information Department; it took Judge Mostert to get to the heart of the affair. And his commission was terminated when he announced an intention to hold public hearings

If the Prime Minister had refrained from interfering with the Mostert commission, he would not now be in need of a new bureaucracy, nor would he be suspected of creating that bureaucracy in order to protect officialdom from honest judges and good policemen

The last thing we need is another official, backed by another bureaucracy, to ensure that officials and politicians do not have to suffer the indignity of being called to account in public. And this is the nub of the matter. Unless the Government submits to public accountability, it will not win public trust.

But the Government, puffed up with arrogance after 31 years in office, is impatient of the notion of public accountability, that is why it reserves its wrath for the Press (Not that this is surprising. Ask yourself: Since this affair began, who has been most consistently truthful, Press or politicians?)

It can hardly be coincidence that Mr Jimmy Kruger this week introduced a Bill that will put the police, an important department in constant contact with the public, in the same privileged position as the Defence Force and the Prisons Department.

As it is, South African newspapers can barely report on what happens in South African prisons (which may not seem to matter much until there is a Biko case). Defence procurement, uranium — these are among the matters which the Government, the Government that gave you Eschel Rhoddie, administers in the dark.

Now it wants to extend the area of darkness. Ask yourself why.

Counsel: Erasmus mandate discharged

259

Chief Reporter

MR H SNITCHER, QC, submitted before a full bench of the Cape Supreme Court yesterday that the Erasmus Commission had discharged its mandate by reporting to Parliament by December 6, 1978 — and that its work since then could be seen as being in the nature of a "cleaning-up operation"

"On the presentation to Parliament of their report the members of the commission ceased to be clothed with the majesty — or whatever it was — of commissioners," he said

Mr Snitcher is appearing for the Cape Times Limited, who are first respondents in an application to the Supreme Court by two members of the Erasmus Commission for an interdict to stop the Cape Times from publishing any further disclosures by Dr Eschel Rhoodie, former Secretary for Information

The application is being heard by the Judge-President, Mr Justice-J W van Zijl, sitting with Mr Justice G Friedman and Mr Justice H E P Watermeyer

Mr Snitcher was still making his submission when the court was adjourned. The hearing will be resumed today

When the judge-president referred yesterday to the judgment in a similar application, given on Monday night by a Rand Supreme Court judge, Mr Justice G Coetzee, Mr Snitcher said he was awaiting a full copy of the judgment

The judge-president "We'll allow you to wait, and be accurate"

Commission being 'greatly prejudiced', page 6



Leaving the Supreme Court yesterday after the second day of proceedings against the Cape Times, were, left, Mr H Snitcher, QC, who is defending the newspaper in an application brought by the Erasmus Commission, and Mr Gerald Shaw, Acting Editor of the Cape Times. The case continues today

The urgent application for an interdict on Monday night was brought, also by members of the Erasmus Commission, primarily against SA Associated Newspapers. It was dismissed with costs

In his submission yesterday Mr Snitcher said the evidence given before the Erasmus Commission had not been made public and that there was nothing to show that the material contained in the Rhoodie reports was not fully canvassed before and reported on by the commission

The mere publication of such material would not constitute an offence in terms of the regulations relating to the commission, he added

"It can never be improper to comment on the findings of a commission. A commission can never in this regard be in a better position than a court of law"

Mr Snitcher said it was part of the mandate of the Erasmus Commission to report to the State President by December 6, 1978. "And I am going to submit that by delivering its report by this date, the commission's mandate terminated. To test the position if after the commission had delivered its report it had, say on December 7, purported to issue a subpoena on a certain person, this person would have been entitled to ignore that subpoena"

"The mandate had closed and before anyone could exercise

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To page 2

cycle.

9. An experienced researcher, Dr. Guy Daynes CBE, Medical Superintendent of Umzimkulu psychiatric hospital, will conduct a study of the incidence of alcoholism in the area served by the hospital. The causes of alcoholism, the cost to society, and the methods and prospects of rehabilitation will be included.
10. The varieties of mental illness experienced in different contrasting communities will be studied and compared, and the differing needs for therapy elucidated. The area for the study is to be determined.

royalty The 1979 University of Cape Town Rag Queen, Miss Mathy Franco, and her sister, Miss Erika von Zelewski, acknowledge the applause during last night's glittering coronation ceremony in a City hotel

functions at all as a commissioner, there had to be a fresh appointment by the State President.

"I submit that even if this (the report of the Erasmus Commission) had been a finding of a court of law, a man who felt aggrieved would have been entitled to say 'I don't accept the court's findings — for the following reasons.' There is an authority for this.

"Is a man who feels aggrieved to be muzzled forever? Is he to be kept quiet if he says 'I don't accept the findings you have made?'"

Mr Snitcher said the thrust of the Rhodie articles being published by the Cape Times was not so much about how government secret funds were being spent but about certain highly placed persons who knew of these funds.

The question whether the Cabinet did know about the whole Citizen affair as well as a host of other secret projects had been "haunting the corridors of Parliament and of the public sphere".

Mr Snitcher submitted "I am going to show that the entire thrust of the articles published by the Cape Times relates essentially to what the people in highest office in the country knew about the Citizen affair."

Mr Snitcher said the commission's application against the Cape Times was analogous to "your being asked to find that I'm going to commit an offence next week."

"To suggest, as has been done, that the report and the findings presented in all solemnity to the highest authority in the land — Parliament — are merely interim findings, subject to revision in the light of further evidence, is a travesty of the true position.

"The proper course for the commission would have been to take your lordships into their confidence and to say what it is they were going to revise in the report."

Mr Snitcher said the government, when the report had come before Parliament, had given no indication that there was anything tentative about it.

He read from a cutting of a Cape Times report in December, of an interview with one of the applicants, Mr A J Lategan, SC, a member of the Erasmus Commission. "This is surely strange language to use if in fact this report is to be revised. Here we have the position, where one of the applicants indulges in public discussion of the report."

"Mr Lategan describes the evidence (before the commission) as irrefutable."

In a later reference to the report, of this interview Mr Snitcher said Mr Lategan had been quoted as saying the commission believed that in its report it had "penetrated to the heart of the matter." And he was asked if this type of statement which had not been demonstrated indicated that the report submitted to Parliament by the commission in December was of an interim nature.

Mr Snitcher said a point of interest in the Erasmus Commission's report was that it extended the Minister of Finance not only in relation to the Citizen but also in relation to a host of other secret projects.

The report, he said, dealt with the former Department of Information and its secret fund as well as with the origin of the

fund. It also dealt with a letter dated March 29, 1973, which had been received by the then secretary for State Security from the then secretary for the Treasury.

The judge-president: Who were they at the time?

Mr Snitcher: The secretary for State Security could have been General Van den Bergh, I'm not sure. And the secretary for the Treasury would have been Mr Browne.

Mr Snitcher said this letter could be seen as the start of "this whole rather sad episode."

What was clear from the Erasmus Commission report, he added, was that in 1973 a secret fund came into being, under the aegis of three Cabinet ministers — the prime minister, the minister of Information and the minister of Finance.

"And when one looks at what Rhodie is saying, this is what is referred to as the monitoring of secret funds and secret projects. There were various departments funding this secret fund — and the figures are really colossal."

This, said Mr Snitcher, was the sort of thing Dr Rhodie was talking about, and when he referred to an informal committee he was referring to the three key figures in the whole affair.

At a later stage in his submission Mr Snitcher was asked by Mr Justice Friedman: "When was Dr Rhodie sacked?"

Mr Snitcher: He was never sacked, he was retired.

The judge-president: That's perhaps a nicer way of putting it.

Mr Snitcher said the point the Cape Times was entitled to make was that, with constant denials being issued by people in high office, if Dr Rhodie knew what in fact had taken place then the public was entitled to be informed about it.

"And I submit that there is nothing today that prevents any member of the public from saying that certain members of the Cabinet knew (about the secret projects)."

In a written submission, handed into court, Mr Snitcher said:

"As to the requisites for an interdict to prevent the commission of an offence by the publication of certain matter, it is submitted that it is essential to show that a criminal act will necessarily be committed if the publication were to take place."

"In this regard the position is analogous to cases where it is sought to restrain publication of defamatory matter. It follows that the court must be satisfied on the evidence before it that what is unquestionably a crime would be committed by such publication."

It had not been shown, said the written submission, that publication of the Rhodie articles had in fact prejudiced, influenced or anticipated the proceedings or findings of the Erasmus Commission.

"In this regard it is important to distinguish between a contravention of Regulation 14 and common law contempt of court. In common law contempt it need merely be shown that what was said had a tendency to prejudice. Actual prejudice is not required."

"The statutory offence created by Regulation 14 differs very clearly from common law contempt of court. It is clear from the wording of the regulation that the offence created thereby is only committed when something is done which actually prejudiced, influenced or an-

tipated.

"It is submitted that the reason for the differentiation is clear. An ordinary court case deals with a dispute, but a commission of inquiry deals with matters of public interest — frequently with matters that have already been ventilated."

"In such cases there is no sub-judice rule."

"It would have been a simple matter, if such had been the intention of the legislator, to provide in the Commissions Act or in the regulations that anything which fell within the terms of reference of a commission may not be publicly discussed. This has not been done."

"The plain language of the regulation simply states that no person shall 'prejudice, influence or anticipate the proceedings or findings of the commission'."

"Prejudice is defined in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary as meaning 'to effect injuriously or unfavourably, to injure or impair the validity of (a right, claim, statement etc)'. "

"The Afrikaans version of the regulation uses the word 'benaedeel', which is defined as follows in Kernwoordeboek van Afrikaans: 'skade aandoen, naedeel besorg, afbreuk doen aan'."

"Influence' is defined in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary as meaning 'to exert influence upon, to affect by influence'."

"The primary meaning of 'anticipation' in this context is defined in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary as being 'occurrence in advance of the due time'."

"In this context to anticipate the commission's findings means to state in advance what the findings will be. The regulation is aimed at the premature leaking of actual findings before they were officially published."

"The report was officially published on December 5, 1978. If someone had published the report on the commission's findings before that date he would have been guilty of 'anticipating' the findings."

"It is submitted that it has not been shown that the publication (of the Rhodie articles) by the Cape Times has actually prejudiced, influenced or anticipated the proceedings or findings of the commission."

"Applicants' case appears to be based on a misconception, namely that conduct which is calculated to prejudice, influence or anticipate is hit by Regulation 14."

"Alternatively and in any event, it is submitted that the regulations upon which reliance is placed are void for vagueness in that they give no guidance as to what may or may not be done."

"It is submitted further that no facts have been put before the court which will justify the court in positively finding on these papers that by the publication, offences have been committed and that by reason thereof any publication of a report emanating from Dr Eschel Rhodie relating to the affairs of the Department of Information will necessarily constitute an offence under Regulation 14."

"The allegation in the papers is a vague one, as is the assertion in the supporting affidavit that reports 'seriously hamper and embarrass the commission in its task'."

Mr Snitcher's submission said the fact that the Erasmus Commission was reappointed on December 8, 1978, three days after it had discharged its mandate, refuted any suggestion that may be made that the find-

ings of the commission were interim, or were subject to revision. Such a suggestion was also refuted by the very terms of the report.

"Before it can be said that an offence under Regulation 14 has been committed, the scope of the inquiry on which the commission is presently engaged must be established. A commission is not at large to interrogate individuals but is confined within the terms of its mandate. If the mandate purports to permit the commission to investigate matters in its discretion, then the commission's mandate is ultra vires."

"The subject must know what precisely it is which the commission is empowered to investigate. In the instant case the mandate of the commission is either contained in government notice No 2569 of 1978 (in which case it is void for vagueness) or in some other document which is not before the court and of whose contents the court is unaware."

"Government notice No 2569 of December 15, 1978, states that the commission of the commission has been extended until May 30, 1979, 'in order to enable the commission to inquire into and recommend on the new aspects and fields mentioned in the commission's report'."

"It is not clear precisely what are the 'new aspects and fields' (sic) into which and on which the commission is to inquire and make recommenda-

tions. It is impossible for the subject to know what the ambit of the commission's inquiries is and the commission of the commission if it follows the same wording as in government notice No 2569 of 1978 is void for vagueness."

"Alternatively, it is impossible to say that the commission, in carrying out this vague and undefined mandate, is being prejudiced, influenced or anticipated by the publication of the reports."

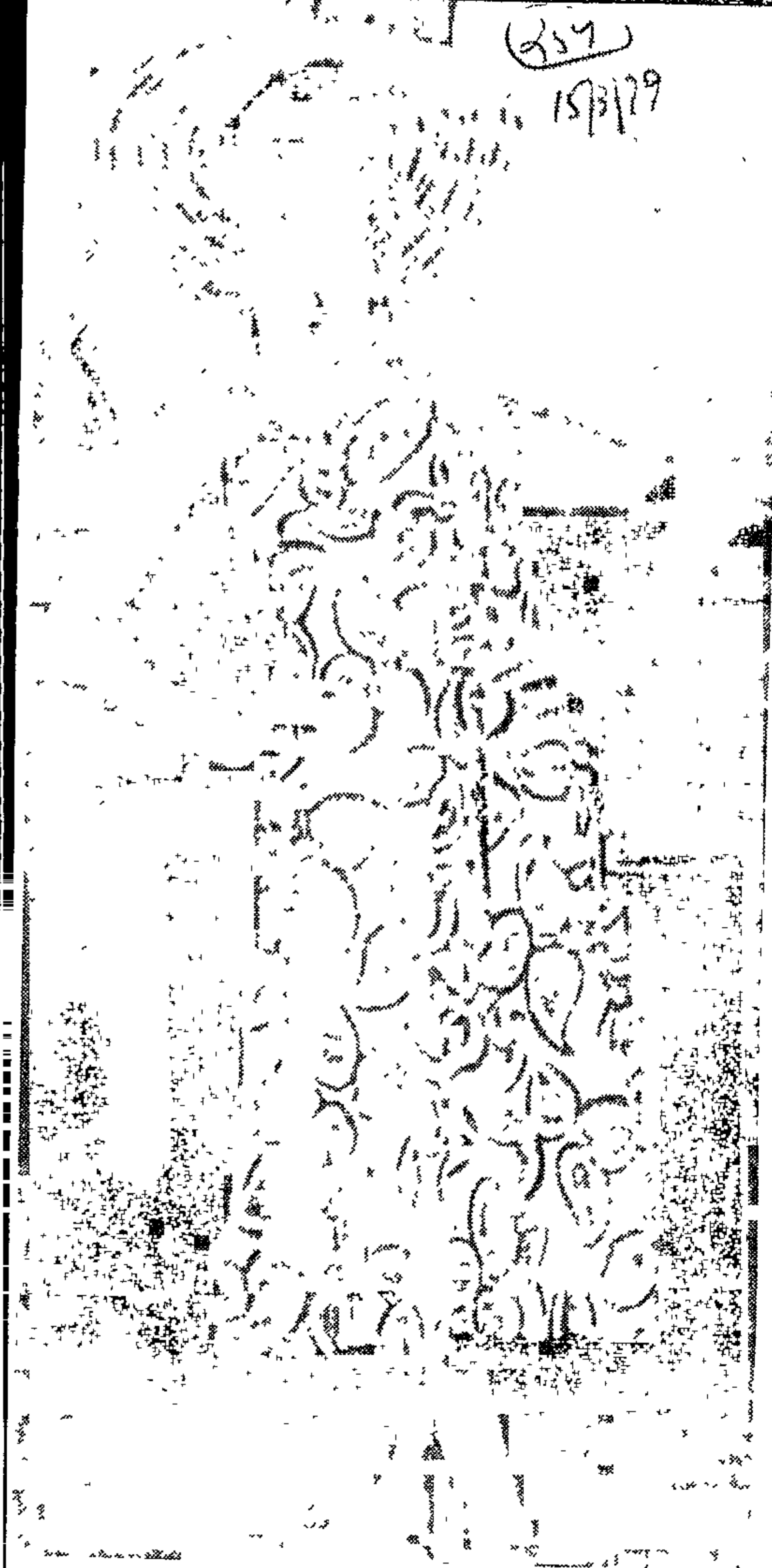
"The evidence given before the commission has not been made public and there is nothing to show that the material contained in the Rhodie reports was not fully canvassed before, and reported on by the commission."

"The mere publication of such material would not constitute an offence under Regulation 14."

"It can never be improper to comment on the findings of a commission."

"A commission can never in this regard be in a better position than a court of law."

Mr W Burger, SC, appeared for the applicants, Mr G R Smallberger and Mr A J Lategan, had said earlier that the Cape Times was conducting "its own little inquiry" into the Department of Information scandal which greatly prejudiced the Erasmus Commission. A full report of Mr Burger's submission appears on page 6.



DOCTOR in drag this photograph of Dr Eschel Rhodie was taken at Margate on the South Coast not long after his wedding to Katie He was dressed up for a fancy dress ball The picture comes from the Rhodie family album Dr Rhodie captioned it "Die turn-about mans word meises and vice a versa."

All-out effort to get passport

CAPE TOWN — The Government was endeavouring, with every means available to it, to obtain Dr Eschel Rhoodie's passport, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pk Botha, said here yesterday

Speaking at a Press conference, Mr. Botha said the Government was continuously endeavouring to do so and to issue Dr Rhoodie with a travel document to return to South Africa

He was concerned about the impression being created in the South African Press that the Government was not capable of obtaining Dr Rhoodie's passport

South African officials overseas however, could not act as policemen

It was not known whether Dr Rhoodie was travelling on a South African passport

When the Government received information regarding Dr. Rhoodie's whereabouts, it acted immediately. This had been done in Sao Paulo, The Hague and in Belgium

In each case, Dr Rhoodie was not at the address where he was alleged to be

Asked to comment on the withdrawal of General Hendrik van den Bergh's passport, Mr Botha said it had nothing to do with him

(Sapa)

Dr Rhoodie also spoke to me about suggested links between the Department of Information scandal and murders of Dr Robert Smit and his wife, Jean-Cora

"I can state categorically that I know of absolutely no links and I would point out that after these reports first appeared I personally instructed officials in my department to establish whether we had ever had any contacts with Dr. Smit. I had only met him on one or two occasions."

Another story which Dr Rhoodie wanted to go on record as knowing nothing about concerned the setting up of "governments-in-exile"

Rumours and reports that large amounts of money had been channelled out of South Africa through the department of information were totally false

"It was suggested, for example, that moneys had been sent to South American countries and I wanted to say I know absolutely nothing about these suggestions"

Rhodie tells of 'pressure' on Pope

MERVYN REES

JOHANNESBURG — Dr. Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information, tried to persuade the Vatican to "stop the Catholic Church interfering with South African politics."

He told me this in a series of interviews lasting over a period of weeks last month in Quito, Ecuador.

Dr. Rhodie said one of the most prominent Catholic laymen in the United States had arranged for him to meet the Pope.

"Unfortunately when I got there the Pope had already fallen ill.

"But I had a long session with the Vatican Secretary of State who is now Cardinal of Florence."

Dr. Rhodie said the purpose of his visit was to outline the role the Catholic Church was playing in South Africa.

"It was our view that the church in South Africa was becoming directly involved, not only in politics but also in political programmes."

Agreed

Dr. Rhodie said he knew this was not the official policy of the Vatican and that the Vatican should put a stop to the Catholic Church's activities in the political sphere.

He said the Vatican Secretary of State agreed it was the policy of the church not to get involved in local politics.

He told me, however, that the social-political situation in my country was such that he didn't know where the line could be drawn between politics and the social responsibility of the church.

Dr. Rhodie said he also told of changes that were taking place in South Africa, and that his country should be judged not on the "photograph taken seven years ago but the photograph taken three months ago."

MM 15/3/79

257

Police probe trip finances

JOHANNESBURG — The police have started a full-scale investigation to find out the sources of finance for the trip to Europe a week ago by the former head of Boss, General Hendrik van den Bergh, businessman Mr Josias van Zyl and his lawyer, to see Dr Eschel Rhoodie

It was learnt in Pretoria that several members of the police Commercial Branch in Johannesburg have been put on the investigation, which started on Monday on the direct orders of Cabinet Ministers

Through its acting chief, Colonel Tertius Wium, the Commercial Branch has issued an official denial that it was making any fresh inquiries involving Mr Van Zyl.

Members of the Commercial Branch have examined Mr Van Zyl's bank accounts at two branches of Nedbank in Johannesburg and also at a Johannesburg branch of the Standard Bank in an attempt to ascertain where the money came from to pay an estimated bill of R12 000 for last week's trip to London and Paris, where an alleged agreement was reached between Mr Van Zyl and Dr Rhoodie

I understand that the government's interest in the financing of the trip abroad by Mr Van Zyl and General Van den Bergh has arisen because of the possible role played in the

matter by the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder

It has been established that on Saturday, March 3, Dr Mulder paid a visit to the Carlton Centre, Mr Van Zyl's company has its offices on the 29th floor of the building

At weekends visitors to the centre are required to sign the visitors' book, and Dr Mulder's name appears in the book as a visitor on the day in question — two days prior to the departure of General Van den Bergh and Mr Van Zyl for London

My sources in Pretoria have informed me of the imminent possibility of a warrant of arrest being issued for Dr Eschel Rhoodie as a result of progress made in the police investigation made on recommendations of the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry, which is investigating alleged irregularities involving the secret expenditure of the former Department of Information — DDC

Erasmus report is discussed in court

Staff Reporters

THE REPORT of the Erasmus Commission was discussed in detail and at length in the Cape Supreme Court yesterday when Mr H Snitcher, QC, appearing for the Cape Times Limited, argued in support of his contention that when the commission reported to Parliament in December it ceased to exist as a commission

An application by two members of the commission for an interdict to stop the Cape Times from publishing any further disclosures by Dr Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information, is being heard by a full bench consisting of the Judge-President, Mr Justice J W van Zyl, sitting with Mr Justice H E P Watermeyer and Mr Justice G Friedman

During his submission Mr Snitcher was closely questioned by the three judges on aspects of the Erasmus Commission's report which, Mr Snitcher contended, showed that this was an irrevocable and definitive document and not merely an interim report, subject to revision

He had not completed his submission when the court rose. The hearing will continue today, and it is not yet known when judgment is likely to be given

Mr Snitcher said although a proclamation was published on December 15 to enable the members of the commission to continue their inquiry into certain aspects of the matters they had been required to investigate, the commission's original mandate had expired on December 6. This was the date by which it was required to report to Parliament

Mr Justice Friedman So the commission in its application is

suggesting that it is continuing with its work?

Mr Snitcher They can continue if they want to — but without legal status. Until they receive their letter of appointment they cease to function (as a commission)

Asked by the Judge-President if the extension-by-proclamation had nothing to do with the commission's original mandate, Mr

Snitcher replied "We don't know"

The judge-president Certain aspects of the inquiry had not been completed, and it was necessary to continue to investigate these aspects?

Mr Snitcher That is so

The judge-president They asked for a limited extension of time?

Mr Snitcher A limited time

and a limited mandate — the original mandate having expired on December 6. Having discharged its mandate and delivered its report, it was permissible for any member of the public who had been brought before the commission to deal with it — to criticize it. If on December 7 Dr Rhodie or General Van den Bergh had said they challenged every aspect of the report, the commission could not have said to anyone "Please stop these men, they are interfering with the functions of the commission"

Mr Justice Watermeyer interposed to say that if the commissioners had asked that they be enabled to continue inquiring into aspects of the matters they had been investigating, this must surely mean they wished to inquire into aspects of their original mandate. Mr Snitcher agreed with him that anyone wanting to know why the extension had been asked for would have to look at the commission's report

Mr Snitcher continued I want to suggest to your lordships that what you are being asked to do (in the application before the court) is to determine that if I publish any further articles on Dr Rhodie I will be restrained

Mr Justice Friedman What the commissioners are saying is that they have not had time to investigate all the aspects of their mandate?

Mr Snitcher The commission reports on or by December 6 — and on that date the commission is dead, it's gone out of



The Editor of the Cape Times, Mr A H Heard, who returned yesterday from a visit to Natal, leaving the Supreme Court building

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To page 2



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From page 1

business

The Judge-President You mean it has handed over its report by that date?

Mr Snitcher Correct. It has reported on Dr Rhodie fully, as well as on various other people, and certain action is taken accordingly. Then, in order to deal with something else, there appears on December 15 a proclamation by the State President, relating to the provisions of the commission of inquiry into the former Department of Information. But one important thing is missing — and that is the letter of appointment. Such a letter is not before your lordships. It is not mentioned. If there was a letter of appointment they have tended not to rely on it — and what I am submitting here is that what we are dealing with is in fact an appointment that has expired. The only mandate on which they (the Erasmus Commission) rely is the original mandate — and that has expired

referred it to the attorney-general

Mr Snitcher asked how it could ever be suggested that the Cape Times' publication of what Dr Rhodie was saying from abroad, could be detrimental to the investigation

The "root of the political crisis" was project Annamarie and the use of public funds for a party-political newspaper, the Citizen, he said. It was clear that there was a difference of opinion between Dr C Mulder and the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, on whether it was right and proper to use public money in this manner

Reading from the report, Mr Snitcher said there was the feeling that drastic measures had to be taken to combat the "terrific onslaught" being made on the policies of the government of the day which was undermining the security of the State, and the "distorted" view overseas produced by the English-language press in South Africa which was not giving a sufficiently objective view

paid the penalty, must be the sole person held accountable. The commission had not investigated in any depth, "and, I submit, it might have been wrong for them to do so", to what extent members of the government became acquainted with the Citizen project and at what time

"Where does the originating responsibility lie?" he asked

Commenting on "certain things in a political sense which are unexplained", Mr Snitcher said it was interesting to note that a Cabinet member, Dr P Koornhof, who did not give evidence before the commission, was mentioned in the report as having explored the idea of a takeover of SAAN

Referring to the evidence given by Dr Mulder and Dr Rhodie on who knew, and when, of the department's activities, Mr Snitcher said. What is amazing in the whole Information episode, is why everyone is at pains to deny knowledge of secret projects

Mr Snitcher submitted that the foundation of the commission's application against the Cape Times was therefore without legal substance

If they are going to rely on that new proclamation, it is vague in the first place — and in any event this is not what they are relying on

"One can only conclude that the basis of the commission's application is completely and utterly misconceived"

Mr Snitcher had said earlier "Public men have been pilloried and thrown out of the Cabinet on the strength of this report. If the commission say their report is not conclusive, they were not doing their duty properly

"And if they say that today, the whole report stands condemned. It would be a farce"

It was clear from the report, Mr Snitcher said, that the commission had got down to the "nitty gritty". Neither he nor the Cape Times was concerned with the great detail in chapter 6 and 7 of the report involving trips abroad, front organizations and payments to, for instance, the Annamarie project concerning the funding of the Citizen

In the following chapter which dealt with the department's investment in immovable properties, all listed, Mr Snitcher said this was the totality with no suggestion that there were others. There was no basis for the suggestion that Dr Rhodie's disclosures in the Cape Times would interfere with the investigations into the properties

At the end of the report, the commission suggested it be referred to the attorney-general, he said

Mr Justice Van Zyl "The English language is the window through which the world can look at us. It is the easy language of contact"

Continuing, Mr Snitcher said whatever the rights or wrongs of the decision to use public funds for this aim, the controversy which burst upon the public scene at the disclosure, was still continuing

The crucial inquiry which began to emerge after the presentation of the report to Parliament, was to what extent the present Cabinet, which had old members of the previous Cabinet in it, must be held responsible

Mr Snitcher "Basically, are they not to be held accountable as the public representatives of the people of South Africa for this whole debacle?"

The whole debate now was whether Dr Mulder, who had

"Neither I nor the Cape Times are suggesting they knew of irregularities" he said

If the Department of Information had openly declared it was going to fund a newspaper "all would have been all right"

"The moment one enters into secrecy, the line between what is moral and immoral, ethical and unethical, becomes very difficult to draw"

If all the evidence heard by the commission had been released to the public, they could have drawn their own conclusions, Mr Snitcher said

The Judge-President of the Cape, Mr Justice J W van Zyl, is presiding, assisted by Mr Justice H E P Watermeyer and Mr Justice G Friedman. Mr H Snitcher, QC, assisted by Mr I G Farlam and instructed by Findlay and Tait, appears for the Cape Times Ltd. Mr W Burger, SC, assisted by Mr T E Kleynhans, and instructed by the Deputy State Attorney's office, appears for the applicants

properties

At the end of the report, the commission suggested it be referred to the attorney-general, he said

Concerning Dr Rhodie's purchase of a stand at Plettenberg Bay registered in his name Mr Snitcher said this transaction had come before the commission at a late stage by which time Dr Rhodie had left for overseas. The commission had

16/3/29

259

CT.

General Van den Bergh speaks

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — General Hendrik van den Bergh, former secretary for national security, has confirmed to the Cape Times Correspondent that he saw two documents relating to secret projects in the possession of Dr Eschel Rhoodie, former secretary for Information, that bore the signature of the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood.

General Van den Bergh said he had looked at one of the documents. It was a financial document containing a list recognizable as the secret projects of the former Department of Information, and it bore the signature of Senator Horwood.

Each of the projects had been initialed by Senator Horwood.

Dr Rhoodie showed him a second document, signed by Senator Horwood. He had not looked at this document and could not comment on its contents.

General Van den Bergh made it clear that through personal knowledge gained as head of the former Bureau for State Security — now the Department of National Security — he had acquired detailed knowledge of all the secret projects of the former Department of Information, as well as those of other departments.

By virtue of his position, he said, he also had personal knowledge of the names of ministers and officials involved in

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To page 2



From page 1

such projects.

However, he considered himself bound by the Official Secrets Act and would never disclose his knowledge.

Although he conceded that the act could not prevent him from naming ministers who knew, or who were involved in the running of the secret projects of the former Department of Information, he could not bring himself to an act of "betrayal" against those with whom he worked in government, even in circumstances where those people had turned against him.

He confirmed that his personal relations with the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had not been good for a number of years and that they had had a serious personal difference of opinion over the invasion of Angola by South African forces in 1975/76.

"But that was not the most serious of the clashes that we have had over the years. I think his personal dislike of me stems from the fact that I was one of the few people who stood up to him. John Vorster did not."

In this regard he later told Mr Vorster, in referring to an other matter, that the fact that he, Mr Vorster, had a 17-man Cabinet had not prevented the invasion of Angola by South African forces.

About a year ago Mr Vorster and Mr Botha had a very serious disagreement which resulted in Mr Botha tendering his resignation.

Mr Vorster did not accept the resignation, and a few days later Mr Botha resumed office as if "nothing had happened".

On his personal relations with Mr Vorster, General Van den Bergh said he told Mr Vorster that "if you are going to drop me" on the Information scandal, "let me know when and where and I will take it".

But John Vorster dropped me without warning at the Erasmus Commission. I will never forgive him for that."

General Van den Bergh said that despite the withdrawal of his passport by the government, a move for which he squarely placed the blame on Mr Botha, he would contact Dr Rhoodie and still urge him not to release his tapes containing information on the secret projects of his former department.

General Van den Bergh said that disclosure of certain of the projects involving the bribery of politicians to vote favourably for South Africa in a legislative body of a major Western power

severance of diplomatic relations between that country and South Africa.

There could be equally grave repercussions from other major Western states and disclosure of the information would "set back South Africa's diplomatic effort for 30 to 40 years."

General Van den Bergh disclosed that before leaving to see Dr Rhoodie with businessman Josias van Zyl he attempted to get the "blessing" of the government for the enterprise.

In this regard he went to Cape Town to see three members of the Cabinet and on his return to the Transvaal contacted a fourth.

One of these people included the leader of the National Party in the Transvaal, Dr Andries Treurnicht, he claimed. However, his efforts in this regard came to nil.

Explaining the visit of Dr Connie Mulder to the offices of Mr Van Zyl two days before the departure of Mr Van Zyl and himself to see Dr Rhoodie, he said Dr Mulder had been invited to discuss certain arrangements with counsel who was being consulted with a view to drawing up an agreement with the former secretary.

He criticized Dr Mulder for failing to support publicly the allegations made this week in the Rand Daily Mail concerning the knowledge of certain ministers and officials of the secret projects of the former department.

"Unlike myself, I do not see him as being bound not to confirm what Dr Rhoodie has said, and I believe that he should now speak out on the matter, instead of apparently trying to preserve his political interests, which I understand is his main worry at the moment."

Regarding the Rhoodie tapes, General Van den Bergh said they did not contain reference to every project. One major project, on which he worked in conjunction with Dr Rhoodie, which was of paramount importance to the survival of South Africa, had been omitted.

In fact, he added, all of Dr Rhoodie's information on the projects was contained, according to his information, in the unpublished evidence of the Erasmus Commission.

"Mr P W Botha will, therefore, realize the seriousness of possible disclosure of the information." And, realizing this, would be logical for the government to return his passport so that he could renew dealings with Dr Rhoodie on a personal level.

HORWOOD TO ask for commission investigation

Political Correspondent

THE Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, announced in the Senate yesterday that he would ask the Erasmus Commission to investigate allegations made by Opposition senators against Cabinet ministers, including himself.

Replaying to the second reading debate on the Part Appropriation Bill, he said this would result in the senators having to testify before the commission. He warned Opposition members that they were "playing with fire" by making serious and unsubstantiated allegations and insinuations in recent debates about when ministers had known details of the Information scandal.

"It has clearly been stated that no minister knew of the fact that State money was going into the Citizen."

Senator Horwood said he could not give orders to the Erasmus Commission. "But I am going to put all these speeches containing these allegations before the commission. I am going to ask the commission to investigate them very thoroughly," he said.

"That will mean senators will have to appear before the commission."

The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, would speak in the Assembly today when the Information affair was debated on a private member's motion.

"The Prime Minister is going to have a few things to say as well."

"You will find the Prime Minister and I are talking consistently on these matters," Senator Horwood said.

The Opposition chief whip in the Senate, Senator Bill Horak of the New Republic Party, said in a statement afterwards that the two NRP members concerned, Senator Monty Crook and Senator Warwick Webber, had nothing to hide and would respond willingly to a subpoena.

"Normally, in my view, a threat to a member of Parliament to have him examined by a body other than Parliament in respect of anything said by him in Parliament would be an infringement of the right of mem-

To page 2



From page 1

bers to free speech

However in these circumstances both Senator Crook and Senator Webber challenged the minister to have them subpoenaed by the Erasmus Commission. Senator Horak stated:

Senator Horwood said during the debate that the Opposition had made yet another sustained attack on the government over the Information affair without any evidence they could lay before a responsible tribunal.

Senator Crook, who had made serious allegations, had had to admit he could not substantiate them and that they were based on hearsay evidence.

It was "utter and complete nonsense" to say unsubstantiated evidence was precluded by the commission's present terms of reference.

You can go tomorrow on the question of the Citizen and say I say ministers knew before they

say they did and the commission will investigate it.

The parliamentary focus on Information switches to the Assembly today when Dr Zac de Beer (PFP Parktown) introduces a motion calling for the release of the Erasmus Commission evidence.

There is speculation that the Prime Minister might agree to have the evidence vetted by a parliamentary select committee.

The Citizen newspaper, centre of the Information scandal, predicted yesterday that the government would move to end the "damaging and untested" allegations by the former secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie.

The newspaper said the government might also take other "positive steps" such as extending the Official Secrets Act, reintroducing the Newspaper Bill to control the press, and regulating reports on police activities.

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Kaldor on Taxation and Risk-bearing. Review of Economic
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c Journal Sept. 1959.

Waldheim tells PM: No gain for Swapo after ceasefire

CAPE TOWN — The United Nations Secretary-General, Dr Kurt Waldheim, has assured the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, that his report to the Security Council did not provide for Swapo gaining any military advantage after a ceasefire.

In a letter to the Prime Minister released last night, Dr Waldheim objected to the Prime Minister's inter-

pretation of his Security Council report.

Dr Waldheim's letter said. "No party to a conflict may expect to gain, after a ceasefire, a military advantage which it was unable to obtain prior to it"

The Prime Minister replied yesterday, saying he stood by his statement to Parliament and wanted to

know from Dr Waldheim whether the proposal adopted by the Security Council provided for

- The restriction to base of all Swapo forces
- Such restriction to be monitored by Untag.
- The designation of locations inside SWA to which Swapo could be restricted in order to allow Swapo to gain, by UN authorisation, armed bases which they

GEN VAN DEN BERGH
... row on Angola

General tells of
feud with PW

259 RDM. 16/3/79

16/3/79

Pope on justice

POPE John Paul II, in his first Encyclical Letter, denounces injustices caused by capitalism and restrictions imposed by atheistic regimes

PAGE 6

Egypt says yes

EGYPT'S Cabinet yesterday unanimously approved an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and cleared the way for President Anwar Sadat to sign the accord next week in Washington

PAGE 6

Gold \$240,10
(\$239,50)

PAGE 12

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PAGE 15



TELEPHONE 28-1500

The World.....	6
Flair	7
Leaders	8
Inside Mail.....	9
Show Mail.....	10, 11
Business Mail...	12-14
Stock Exchange	15
Racing Mail.	20
Sports Mail.....	21, 22
Bridge	13
Crosswords	13
Appointments	17
Property Bargains	18
Car Specials...	18
Legals	19
Comics	20
Radio	20

General Van den Bergh made it clear that through personal knowledge gained as the head of the former Bureau for State Security — now the Department of National Security — he had detailed knowledge of all the secret projects of the former Department of Information as well as those of other departments

He said that by virtue of his position he also had personal knowledge of the names of Ministers and officials involved in such projects

But he considered himself bound by the Official Secrets Act and would never disclose his knowledge.

Although he conceded that the Act could not prevent him from naming Ministers who knew or who were involved in the running of the secret Department of Information projects, he said that he could not bring himself to an act of "betrayal" of those he had worked with in the Government, even in circumstances where they had turned against him

He confirmed that his personal relations with the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had not been good for a number of years and that they had had a serious difference of opinion over the invasion of Angola by South African forces in 1975/76

"But that was not the most serious of the clashes that we have had over the years I think his personal dislike of me stems from the fact that I was one of the few people who stood up to him John Vorster did not," he said

In this regard he had later told Mr Vorster that the fact that Mr Vorster had had a 17-man Cabinet had not prevented the invasion of Angola by South African forces.

About a year ago Mr Vorster and Mr Botha had had a very serious disagreement, which had resulted in Mr Botha tendering his resignation, Gen Van den Bergh said

Mr Vorster had not accepted it, and a few days later Mr Botha had resumed office as if "nothing had happened"

On his personal relations with Mr Vorster, Gen Van den Bergh said he had told the then Prime Minister that "if you are going to drop me" over the Information scandal, "let me know when and where and I will take it. But John Vorster dropped me without warning at the Erasmus Commission I will never forgive him for that."

Gen Van den Bergh said that despite the withdrawal of his passport by the Government, for which he placed the blame squarely on Mr Botha, he would still contact Dr Rhodie and urge him not to release his tapes containing information on the secret projects.

He said disclosure of certain projects involving the bribing of politicians to vote favourably for South Africa in a legislative body of a major Western power would lead to the immediate severing of diplomatic relations between that country and South Africa There could be equally

grave repercussions from other major Western states and the disclosure would "set back South Africa's diplomatic effort for 30 to 40 years."

Gen Van den Bergh said that before leaving with businessman Mr Josias van Zyl to see Dr Rhodie in Europe, he had attempted in vain to get the blessing of the Government for the enterprise

That old magic!

Ronnie Bass, the unrefuted Sigma magician is playing to packed houses in Eloff Street and in Van Riebeeck Avenue, Edenvale

The Mazda, Colt and Chrysler deals

18/3/79

Pay demand

THE ARTISAN Staff Association has warned the Minister of Transport, Mr Louwrens Muller, that another wage demand will be made on behalf of its 23 000 members later in the year

PAGE 3

Didn't know

A MAN imprisoned in police cells at Port Shepstone has declared he did not know a cellmate was so badly injured he was close to death.

PAGE 3

Pay parley

TOUGH talks are looming between the Mineworkers' Union and the Chamber of Mines over benefits lost by miners involved in the week-long illegal strike.

PAGE 4

Record sales

TRADING records fell like nine-pins during the first two days of business at the Eastgate shopping centre, sitting on the border of Johannesburg and Bedfordview.

PAGE 4

Sick fear

THE fear on the faces of blacks being arrested for pass offences made him feel physically ill for a whole day, the outgoing Israeli ambassador, Mr I D Unna, told students at Stellenbosch University

PAGE 4

By TONY STIRLING

GENERAL HENDRIK Van Den Bergh has spoken for the first time about his bitter clash with the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, his own conflicts with Mr P W Botha, a startling confrontation between Mr Botha and Mr Vorster, and two Info documents signed by the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood.

In an interview at his Pretoria home with the Rand Daily Mail, General Van den Bergh, the former Secretary for National Security, said

- He would never forgive Mr Vorster for "dropping" him without warning.
- He had had a serious clash with Mr Botha over the Angola invasion.
- Mr Botha had tendered his resignation to Mr Vorster after a "very serious" disagreement but it had not been accepted, and
- He had seen two documents, relating to secret projects, in the possession of Dr Eschel Rhoodie that bore the signature of Senator Horwood

General Van den Bergh said he had looked at one of the documents. It was a financial document containing a list recognisable as the secret projects of the former Department of Information. It bore Senator Horwood's signature. Each of the projects had been initialled by Senator Horwood.

Dr Rhoodie had shown him a second document signed by Senator Horwood. He had not looked at this document and thus could not comment on its contents.

Senator Horwood, who was not available for comment last night, has consistently denied knowledge of the secret projects.

He told the Erasmus Commission that he had put his signature to one document after an urgent request to Dr Connie Mulder, then Minister of Information.

Later he had withdrawn his signature from the document.

18/3/79

APR 16 1964

Info ripples reach European councils

(259)

From Andre Meyerowitz
for The Star

STRASBOURG — Ripples from the Information Department scandal have thrust an obscure official of the European Parliament into a political spotlight.

He is Mr Wolfgang Schroeder, a German who until yesterday was nudging the EEC towards acceptance of race segregation in South Africa.

Part of Mr Schroeder's work in the research department of the parliamentary secretariat has been to prepare a report

and draft resolutions for the Committee on Development and Co-operation.

But just before the report was to be debated in Parliament yesterday some members claimed that Mr Schroeder had been "influenced" by the South African Government — possibly through elements of the Information Department's secret machinery.

Mr Ernest Glinne, a Belgian socialist, said: "The report presented for debate here reflects a sort of sophisticated propagan-

da put out by certain pro-apartheid forces."

Mr Schroeder himself denies emphatically that he was influenced by the South African Government in any way.

He said: "I had no assistance from any South African representative and did not even consult South African Government publications."

"But I do feel that South Africa might have to be broken up among the different racial groups. In the future that might make sense."

General to tell story to Dutch television

Own Correspondent

General Hendrik van den Bergh is to tell his story to a Dutch television crew and has granted them four interviews

One of the interviews took place early today and the general was filmed sitting on a plough lying in the weeds on his farm outside Pretoria.

In a brief interview, before he told a reporter and a photographer to get off his farm, he said he would refuse to pass on any information about his meeting overseas with Dr Eschel Rhoodie to the Erasmus Commission.

"I have said before that I would not testify again before the commission. I stand by that," he said.

The general refused to comment on the disclosures on the information scandal made by him and Dr Rhoodie.

RELATIONS

From Cape Town. The Star's political correspondent reports that the Prime Minister, Mr. P. W. Botha, today declined to react in detail to allegations made by the general about relations between them.

When approached for comment on the general made in his views with morning news papers, Mr. Botha said:

"I have nothing to add to what the Erasmus commission found about this gentleman."

Plea was: stop Info meddling

Political Reporter

CAPE TOWN — Alarmed officials of the old Department of Bantu Administration once asked certain men of the Bureau for State Security to persuade Department of Information officials to stop undermining kwaZulu leader Chief Gatsha Buthelezi

This adds a new twist to a controversy which has raged for several years over the former Department of Information's activities in kwaZulu.

Chief Buthelezi himself has, in the past, made repeated accusations about attempts by the department to unseat him and to aid his political opponents in kwaZulu

One such opponent was once discovered in a department car which had been involved in an accident.

A petition, calculated to undermine Chief Buthelezi's authority was found a few years ago to have been typed in an office of the department in Natal. Officials hastily claimed it had been the work of a very junior person in the department

Accusations about information meddling in kwaZulu politics continued through much of the period during which Dr Eschel Rhoodie was secretary of the department

Knowledgeable sources have now revealed that officials in the Department of Bantu Administration (now the Department of Plural Relations) were approached by Information officials and asked to help undermine Chief Buthelezi

It is understood that one of the matters discussed was a whispering campaign against the kwaZulu leader.

Sources say the Bantu

Administration officials were strongly opposed to these moves.

They did not dispute that there were major ideological differences between the South African Government and Chief Buthelezi. However, they appreciated the co-operation they got from him in attempts to develop the homeland

So concerned did they become about information activities that they approached certain BOSS officials who had a sound knowledge of the realities of kwaZulu politics and asked them to persuade the Information men to leave Chief Buthelezi alone

He had cut down the movements of certain white officials who, he claimed, had a tendency to visit chiefs in kwaZulu

● Chief Buthelezi said today that South African Government officials were still covertly involved in moves to undermine his authority

Info US details given to NBC TV by Rhodie

STAR 161379
The game of the name in Info Dept

By Rob Meintjes and Jan van Ree

Dr Eschel Rhodie has released details of South African "operations" in the United States to a major American television network.

Informed sources in Johannesburg said the former Secretary for Information contacted the National Broadcasting Corporation through an intermediary in America before his Paris meeting with General Hendrik van den Bergh and Mr Josias van Zyl last week.

During the Paris meeting Dr Rhodie undertook to work for Mr van Zyl. One of the conditions was that he would not release any of the tapes and documents on the information scandal in his possession to the Press without Mr van Zyl's approval.

But according to the Johannesburg source Dr Rhodie had already released unconfirmed "assertions" to the NBE.

"FIRE HIM"

The source said Dr Rhodie had contacted the NBC again within the last week, which meant that Dr Rhodie runs the risk of having details of his agreement with Mr van Zyl made public.

If the South African Government were to issue a warrant of arrest against Dr Eschel Rhodie then Mr van Zyl, would "seriously consider firing him."

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, today declined to comment on reports that the police had completed their investigations into Dr Rhodie's role in the former Information department and were about to charge him, reports Hugh Leggatt. The

Star's Political Correspondent.

He also would not say whether the Prime Minister would deal with the matter when he spoke in a debate in the Assembly later today on the information scandal.

The Erasmus Commission reported that the irregularities committed by Dr Rhodie pointed to theft as well as complicity in theft and fraud through which the State suffered great losses.

In an interview today, Mr van Zyl said an additional reason for firing his new employee would be that Dr Rhodie might already have broken their agreement by talking to the Press.

When questioned today on the possible breaking of the agreement between himself and Dr Rhodie, Mr van Zyl said "I am considering making the agreement public. There are other things in this contract which could adversely affect Dr Rhodie's reputation."

Mr van Zyl did not want to elaborate on what these "things" were.

The Johannesburg source said the information which Dr Rhodie had given to the NBC required verification before it could be published.

He said General van den Bergh was aware of the fact that Rhodie had released this information.

New York Times representative in Johannesburg, Mr John Burns today rejected a report that the New York Times had offered Dr Rhodie more than R87 000 for the information. He said he would see to it that senior people in Government were made aware the report was a "canard."

Political Reporter

CAPE TOWN — Code names given by the former Information secretary, Dr Eschel Rhodie, and his lieutenants to senior men in Government and the information scandal have provoked derision — and some mirth — among Opposition MPs.

Nationalist MPs appear to be a little cautious about expressing their views on the code names revealed by Dr Rhodie.

The names include "the pangaman" for the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, whose fiery temper is legendary, "Olympus" for the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, and "the sun king" for Mr Louis Luyt, the former boss of The Citizen.

Dr Koornhof was known affectionately as "Piet Wolf" because of his trying task in walking a tightrope on the Government's sports policy. Only Little Red Riding Hood could have believed what he was saying.

General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security, was given the name of Moses — a play on the meaning of his surname (Die Moses van die berg).

"It's all mad, mad, mad," said one Opposition MP.

A few others approached for comment felt there might be a certain aptness to some of the names.

The Rand Daily Mail quoted Dr Rhodie as saying that Mr Les Je Villiers, who headed several secret projects, became known as "Dirty Harry" because of his handling of some of the "dirty tricks" of the department and his fondness for pretty women.

Horwood denies charge over secret funds

STW 16/3/77

(254)

THE SENATE — The Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, said he took the strongest exception to a remark by Senator Eric Winchester in the Senate earlier this week that he (Senator Horwood) had been less than frank with Parliament when introducing the Secret Services Accounts Act last year.

Earlier Senator Winchester, speaking during the second reading debate of the Part Appropriation Bill, said the Minister had told Parliament he was happy with the old way in which secret funds had been channelled.

Later, he told the Erasmus Commission he did not like the old system. Senator Winchester commented that Senator Horwood had been less than frank.

Senator Winchester asked Senator Horwood to explain how R14.8-million could have been approved in the Budget in terms of the Secret Services Accounts Act when neither the Budget nor the Act had been passed when the money was approved.

Senator Horwood, replying to the debate yesterday, said Senator Winchester had left last year's mini budget out of account. The amount had been approved in terms of this Budget.

Senator Horwood said serious allegations and insinuations had been made in connection with the Information affair, and he intended to place all the speeches before the Erasmus Commission and to ask the commission to investigate them thoroughly.

Hain prompts Info debate

STAR 17/5/78 (24)

The Star Bureau
LONDON — A letter by the anti-apartheid campaigner, Mr Peter Hain, to his MP will lead to the British Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, being questioned in the House of Commons on the South African Info scandal.

Mr Hain said today that the MP, Mr Hugh Jenkins, had decided to put ques-

tions to Mr Callaghan after he had received the letter.

It referred to the "extraordinary series of events around 1975 and 1976 that haven't yet been fully explained."

One of these was the laying of bank robbery charges against Mr Hain. He was later acquitted and he suggests in the letter that he might have been framed by South African agents.

AGENTS

He said today that Sir Harold Wilson's statement to the Commons in 1976, when he was still Prime Minister, that South African agents funded by private business sources were operating in Britain, had an "uncanny" resemblance to what has been revealed in the wake of the Information scandal.

Mr Hain suggested in his letter that information in Dr Eschel Rhoodie's hands could contain references to British politics.

Mr Jenkins, who is the Labour MP for Putney, could not be contacted for comment today.

PMM's bid

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to clean

up scandala

17/3/79

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday announced a series of new measures aimed at cleaning up the Information scandal and removing the political question mark hanging over his Cabinet.

His statement came during debate on an Opposition motion calling for the release of all Erasmus commission evidence not damaging to state security.

Mr Botha rejected the request that the evidence be vetted by an all-party select committee, but announced that

- The Erasmus Commission would release further evidence in support of the findings in its interim report published in December

- The commission's final report, due in May, would be backed by the fullest possible evidence

- The commission would undertake a special investigation by the end of this month to establish whether any cabinet minister knew earlier than he stated of the state funding of the Citizen newspaper or other irregularities

Any evidence given on this matter after March 31 would be included in the commission's final report

- A new post of Advocate-General would be created from June 1 for the investigation of sworn allegations relating to state malpractices or corruption

Mr Botha said the evidence relating to the commission's investigation of the Cabinet would be released in full. Other evidence would be released with the exception of matters, which could affect state security, or damage state interests

The Opposition and its newspapers claimed the Information scandal would not go away

"It will go away because we will ensure that everything that is wrong is put right. We are bound publicly to clean administration," he stated

"The country can trust this government, and it will trust this government."

Mr Botha's announcement was immediately attacked by the Progressive Federal Party and accepted by the South African Party. The New Republic Party leader, Mr Vause Raw, said he was prepared to give the Prime Minister's "package" a chance

Mr Harry Schwarz (PFP Yeoville) said Mr Botha's moves did "not even go half way" to what was needed

It was unheard of that a judicial body should be asked to select only the evidence which supported its own findings. The public and Parliament should be allowed to judge the issue on all relevant evidence

"I believe we are entitled to see if the findings of the com-

mission are correct or not"

If evidence was vetted by a parliamentary select committee, the public would have the safeguard that Opposition members agreed on which evidence had to be kept confidential

Mr Schwarz said the assessment of the political responsibility of the Cabinet for the Information affair was the function of Parliament, not a commission

He also expressed reservations about the Advocate-General. Until legislation was published, there was no assurance that the move would not be a restraint on parliamentary debate or press reporting

Mr Raw, who said in a statement he was prepared to give the Prime Minister's "package" a fair chance, added "He has placed the fate of his administration in the hands of the Erasmus Commission, the credibility of its findings and the evidence it presents

"The test of the package will be when it is unwrapped for all to see. I will not try to prejudice nor seek to undermine it in advance

"At this stage I want to warn the Prime Minister that the final verdict on political responsibility will still have to be given by Parliament and that the NRP will not relax its vigilance," Mr Raw said

17/3/79

Arrest warrant for Rhodie issued

Political Correspondent

A WARRANT has been issued for the arrest of Dr Eschel Rhodie on a charge of fraud, with an alternative charge of theft, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, announced yesterday. He told Parliament the warrant had been issued with the approval of the Transvaal Attorney-General after a police investigation.

"That case will now go ahead," he said.

Mr Botha gave no details of what the charge related to or what steps the government would take to secure extradition of the former Secretary for Information, now that a charge against him had been formulated.

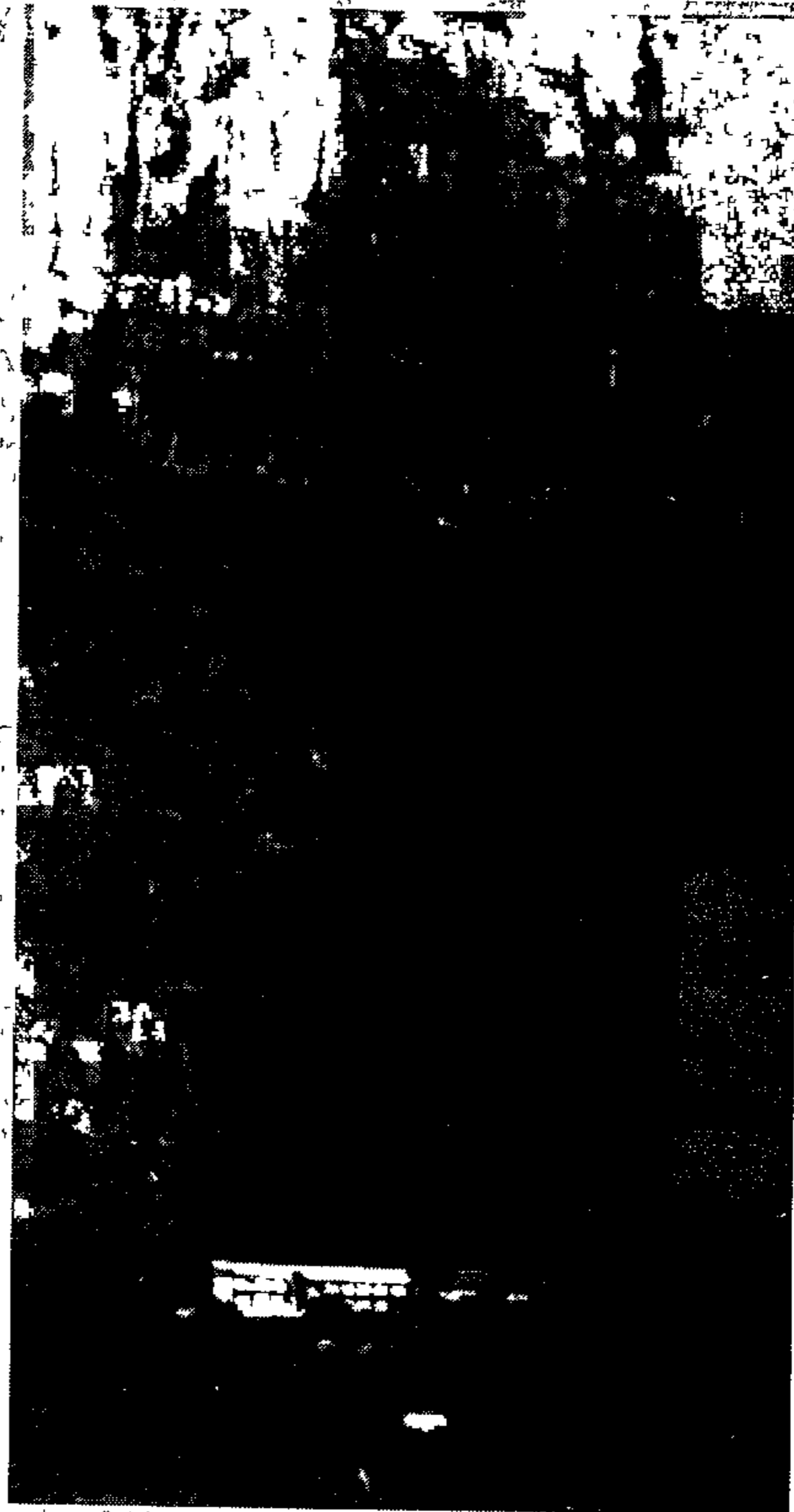
Government ministers have in the past said that no extradition proceedings could be instituted until the Attorney-General had decided whether or not to charge Dr Rhodie with an offence.

This is the first criminal charge to be laid against anyone involved in the Information scandal since the Erasmus Commission reported last December.

The commission found Dr Rhodie and his brother, Dr Deneys Rhodie, had committed irregularities with money from secret funds and recommended investigation by the Attorney-General with a view to criminal proceedings.

It said there were numerous examples of irregularities committed by Dr Eschel Rhodie "which point to theft as well as complicity in theft and fraud through which the State suffered great losses."

It also found Dr Eschel Rhodie was guilty of contravening the Archives Act by destroying documents or having them destroyed and that this was an attempt "to conceal irregularities pointing to fraud and theft."



Set against a background of looming mountains and plunging wooded ravines, is a secret retreat owned by Dr Connie Mulder, Dr Eschel Rhodie and other members of the jet-setting Information clique. The villa, on the farm Reenberg, near Hoedspruit in the Eastern Transvaal, was planned to serve as a "Camp David" for Dr Connie Mulder when he became Prime Minister.

General to tell his story

PRETORIA — General Hendrik van den Bergh is to tell his story to a Dutch television crew and has granted them four interviews, the Johannesburg newspaper the Star, reported yesterday.

One of the interviews took place early yesterday, and General Van den Bergh was filmed sitting on a plough lying in the weeds on his farm at Bapsfontein, near here.

In a brief interview before he told a reporter and a photographer to get off his farm, he said he would refuse to pass on any information to the Erasmus Commission about his meeting overseas with Dr Eschel Rhodie.

"I have said before that I would not testify again before the commission. I stand by that," he said — Sapa.

259

No basis for granting interdict, counsel argues

Cape Times Reporter

WHILE Dr Eschel Rhodie was entitled to criticize the findings of the Erasmus Commission, his statements reported by the Cape Times did not challenge the "correctness" of the commission, Mr H Snitcher, QC, said in the Supreme Court yesterday.

Concluding his nine-hour argument on the merits of the application brought against the Cape Times, Mr Snitcher, appearing for the newspaper, submitted there was no basis for an interdict against it.

He asked the full bench of the court to dismiss with costs the application brought by two members of the commission, Mr G F Smalberger, SC, and Mr A J Lategan, SC.

At the start of yesterday's proceedings Mr Snitcher handed in copies of this week's Rand Supreme Court judgment by Mr Justice G Coetzee in which he refused a similar application by

the Erasmus Commission against the Rand Daily Mail.

Mr Snitcher told the court he had submitted similar arguments used by the Rand Daily Mail's counsel, Mr S Kentridge, SC, which were upheld by Mr Justice Coetzee.

Mr Snitcher was questioned by the Judge-President, Mr Justice J W van Zyl, Mr Justice H E P Watermeyer and Mr Justice G Friedman, on the grounds for his submissions.

Mr Snitcher said a general summary of the findings made by the Erasmus Commission's report issued in early December was

- Cabinet responsibility
- The actual knowledge of certain members of the cabinet
- The Citizen newspaper affair
- The fact of the existence of a whole range of secret projects
- The accepted statement in the report of "unorthodox methods" in meeting the onslaught against South Africa

Subsequent to the presentation of the report and acceptance by Parliament, a public debate ensued regarding the first two findings, cabinet responsibility and which members knew of the former Department of Information's activities, Mr Snitcher said.

There was cabinet denial inside and outside Parliament.

Dr Rhodie was entitled to make public statements denying certain aspects and alleging that certain members did know what was going on.

Merely to say publicly to a commission "Look here, I can tell you of a number of people able to give you information" would not interfere with its investigations.

Mr Justice Van Zyl asked Mr Snitcher if a person attacking the findings of the commission must always bear in mind that investigations were continuing. Mr Snitcher replied that this was not so.

The Judge-President of the Cape, Mr Justice J W van Zyl, presided, sitting with Mr Justice H E P Watermeyer and Mr Justice G Friedman. Mr H Snitcher, QC, assisted by Mr I Farlam and instructed by Findlay and Tait, appeared for the Cape Times Ltd. Mr W Burger, SC, assisted by Mr T E Kleynhans and instructed by the Deputy State Attorney's office, appeared for the applicants.

17/3/79
259

By JOHN SCOTT

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. It was the calmest debate on the Information scandal so far. No one raised his voice (well, hardly anyone), political opponents actually agreed with one another on some points, and when it ended members had smiles on their faces.

No place else to have them. Mr P W Botha's announcement of new measures to help clear up the matter had much to do with the new mood. The "hoor hoors" emitted by his own members at the end of his speech sounded very heartfelt.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pk Botha, came forward, sat beside the prime minister, and with a congratulatory grin shook his hand. The next speaker, Mr Harry Schwarz, was already on his feet and in full cry, but most of his thunder had been stolen. Dr Zach de Beer also did a lot to cool the debate in introducing his motion, calling for evidence of the Erasmus Commission to be made available on a confidential basis to all MPs, the member for Parktown avoided making accusations and spoke with the tone of a medical doctor (which, of course, he is) careful not to frighten the patient with too graphic an account of his ailment.

But no one did. Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Economic Affairs, who spoke next, was so calm his speech sounded like an exercise in pure logic, except that some opposition members had difficulty following it.

"Who is best qualified to decide which information should not be released?" he asked.

"This House," replied someone in the opposition benches. But that, apparently, was the wrong answer. Mr Vause Raw kept up, more or less, the model of restraint. He even had government members "hoor hooring".

"Clear the innocent smeared by the backwash of the present situation," he cried, "and at the same time punish the guilty!" "Hoor hoor" applauded Nationalists.

"Whether they are guilty of criminal or political misdemeanours," added Mr Raw. "Hear hear," applauded opposition members. Then the prime minister rose. Very relaxed. With hindsight one realized it was because he had some positive action up his sleeve.

The Information debate that

notes in the House

refused to explode

259

he would flip out of his cuff-links, like a conjurer, at the appropriate moment)

It wasn't fair to the Speaker and parliamentary officials to lumber them with confidential evidence, he said, looking across at Dr De Beer to see if he appreciated all this reasonableness

"I don't know whether the member follows me," remarked Mr Botha "He nods his eyes."

Dr De Beer's beetling eyebrows performed a frowning movement, but its political significance re-

mained in some doubt

Mr Botha proceeded to announce that the Erasmus Commission would release further evidence to substantiate the findings in its first report, that all the evidence to support the findings in its second report would be released, and so on

Mr Brian Bamford asked if he could ask a question

"You are wasting my time," snapped Mr Botha "Ask me during my Vote"

"Why am I here?" asked Mr Bamford. That, of course, wasn't

the question he wanted to ask Mr Botha

"I will give you some of my time," said Mr Harry Schwarz, but Mr Botha rejected his offer.

Instead he announced that the Erasmus Commission would in addition be asked to investigate the Cabinet's involvement, or lack of it, in the Citizen affair and other irregularities

All the evidence in this investigation would be released.

"That's fair," commented Mr Raw.

lowed?" asked Mr Bamford.

The optimism of opposition members is sometimes beyond belief

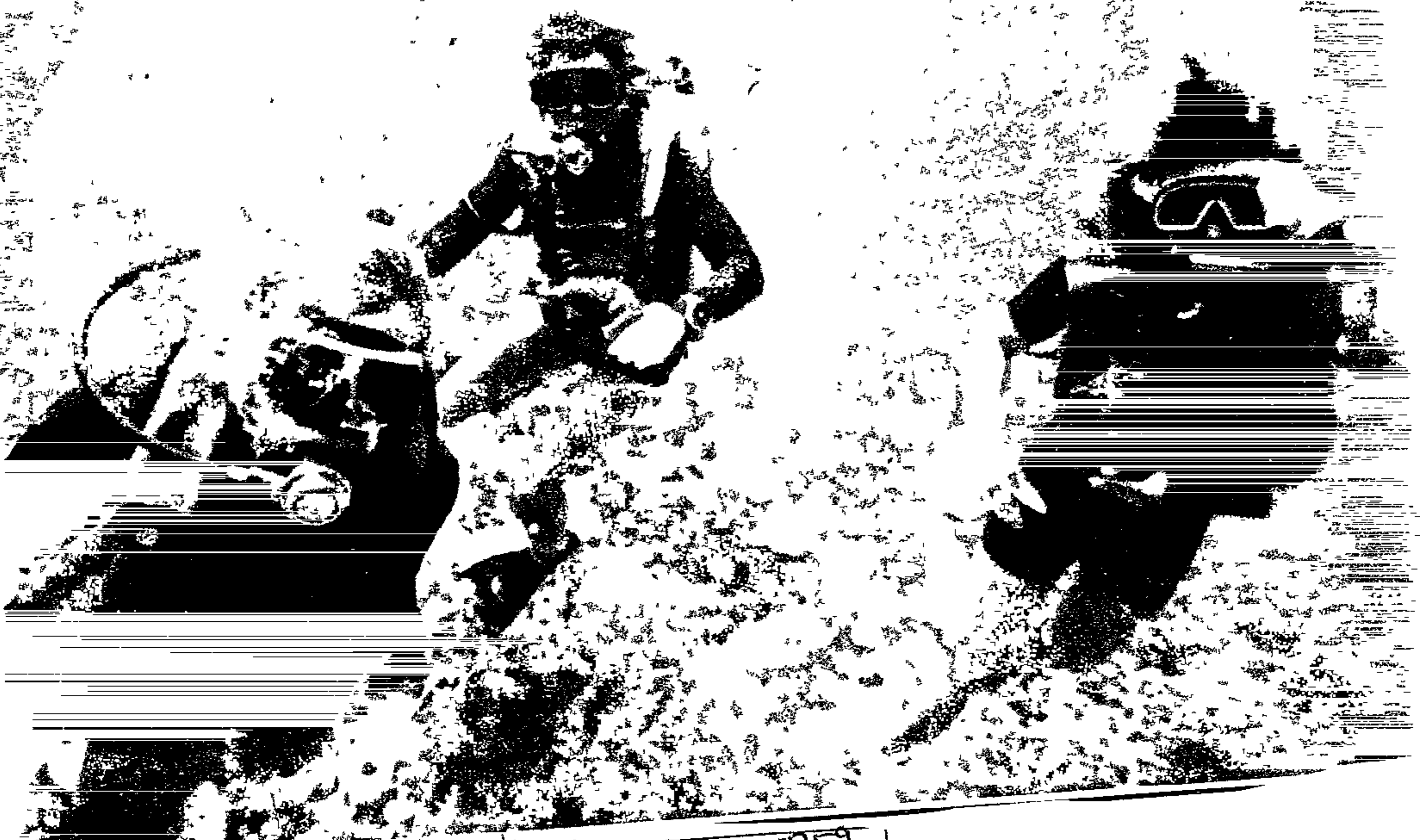
Finally, announced Mr Botha, an advocate-general would be appointed to investigate all alleged State malpractice and corruption

Mr Schwarz immediately argued that such an office would in fact be more restrictive on complainants than that of attorney-general, while Mr Japie Basson, next PFP speaker declared. "It would be premature to comment on the appointment of an advocate-general"

"Harry didn't think so," interjected delighted Nationalist members

As I said, it ended on a happy note

Bubbly below — on a happy



Dr Eschel Rhoodie's 45th birthday party, last July, was definitely one to remember — a champagne party 10 metres below the surface of the Red Sea. Swimming with Dr Rhoodie, centre, to the festivities are, left, Mr Stuart Pegg, executive director of Hortors, and Miss Annemarie Rhoodie

Rhodie: Detente my greatest mistake

17/3/79
259
CT

BY MERVYN REES

DR ESCHEL RHOODIE, former Secretary of the Department of Information, told me that he regarded as the "greatest mistake of his life" having started the detente in Africa during the Vorster administration.

In a series of interviews initiatives and I don't think it

CT 17/3/79 259
B From page 1

were prepared to meet him immediately in Africa
"It took a great deal of time and trouble to get him to agree to travel into Africa with us, and we had exactly the same problems in getting him to go to Israel"

Dr Rhodie said although he had great admiration for Mr Vorster's abilities as a political force in his own party and was without equal as a political debater, he had several criticisms to make of him in other fields

He likened Mr Vorster's political outlook to that of General Smuts

"Mr Vorster finally wanted to go down in history as the man who would bring peace to Southern Africa. But in this vision he forgot that what was really needed was a dramatic initiative in his own country on race relations

"In other words he was standing on top of Table Mountain looking into Southern Africa but failing to look at what was happening at his feet in District Six"

General Smuts, Dr Rhodie said, had done exactly the same

in the sense that he had stood on top of Table Mountain and looked at the world but failed to see South Africa's race problems which were evolving at a tremendous rate right under his nose

259

17/3/79

which he conducted with me in Quito, Ecuador, last month, Dr Rhodie said Mr Vorster was on the point of retiring when the detente programme into Africa, was initiated and operated by himself and General Hendrik van den Bergh

Those travels into Africa did several major things for South Africa — including keeping Mr Vorster as prime minister when he wanted to go and as well as earning him a reputation as a statesman

If we had held back on those initiatives for several months, Mr Vorster would have had his wish and retired and Dr Mulder would have become prime minister and would have got the credit for being the architect of the outward policy

Dr Rhodie said that the popular conception of Mr Vorster as a statesman was exaggerated

... who counts that it was ... General Van den Bergh ... all those ... in fact Mr Vorster was ... to act on our

would be unfair of me to say this, that I think history must know, it We had to drag Mr Vorster kicking into Africa

“Right from the start he seemed unwilling even when we had conclusive proof that moderate African heads of state like Sengor and Houphouet-Boigny,

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To page 2

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RHOODIE'S CHAMPAGNE PARTY IN THE RED SEA



Dr Rhodde's 45th birthday party last July was one to remember — a champagne do 10m below the Red Sea. Swimming with Dr Rhodde, centre, to the festivities are, left, Mr Stuart Pegg, executive director of Hortors, and Miss Annemarie Rhodde.

could not achieve by
on their own

● An end to all hostile acts as a prerequisite for implementation of the peace plan — particularly the reduction of SA troops.

● The release of all detained SWA citizens

● Talks on the composition of Untag, particularly taking into account the SA Government's view and according its reasonable suggestions recognition

Foreign Affairs sources said the way Dr Waldheim's proposals stood meant a loophole existed for Swapo to sneak across the border after South African troops had been withdrawn at the announcement of the ceasefire, according to Sapa

● SEAN O'CONNOR reports from Windhoek that the Swapo-Democrats — one of the SWA political parties which accepted an invitation to go to New York next week for proximity talks on the floundering UN settlement plan for the territory — decided late yesterday not to attend the vital discussions

The surprise development was made by the information and publicity secretary of Swapo-D, Dr Kenneth Abrahams, who said his party would withdraw "unless we are accorded the same status as the other parties taking part"

"It became clear through an official from the British Embassy in Pretoria that we would not even be receiving a lukewarm reception in New York," he said

"Our invitation has been withdrawn, and it is quite clear that we will not be included in the talks."

Stowaway's father prepared to wait

By JEREMY BROOKS

THE FATHER of 12-year-old stowaway, Vincent Kelly, said last night he had no intention of flying to Britain to collect his son

Mr Michael Kelly of Kempton Park was reacting to reports in London that he was due to arrive in Britain to collect Vincent, who secretly boarded a British Airways flight at Jan Smuts Airport on Monday and flew to Heathrow after being "told off" by his parents

"I am hoping that British Airways will take responsibility for what happened and bring him back as soon as possible," Mr Kelly said

"All I can say at this stage is that he is coming back, — exactly when, I don't know. It could be tomorrow, it may be later"

Mr Kelly said he had been in contact with both the British and South African authorities, and he was now waiting to hear of definite arrangements. "At the moment it's just a matter of going through several formalities. Vincent has got dual citizenship — both my wife and I have British passports — and Immigration will have to clear him in the normal manner before he is re-admitted into South Africa."

An underwater toast to himself. Dr Rhodie sports a bottle of champagne on the seabed while his daughter Annemarie looks on.

Saturday D-day for fuel sales

GARAGE OWNERS who sell petrol before 8am today will be prosecuted, the director of the Motor Industries Federation, Mr J van Huysteen, announced yesterday

He said the new regulations regarding the hours of petrol sales would come into operation tomorrow

The regulations are published in today's Government Gazette

From tomorrow petrol will be sold from Mondays to Saturdays from 7am to 6pm. On Wednesdays pumps will close at noon — Sapa

Erasmus Commission 'no longer exists'

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Counsel for The Cape Times Mr H Snitcher, QC, argued in the Cape Supreme Court yesterday that after the Erasmus Commission reported to Parliament last December it ceased to be a commission

The report then submitted was a definitive and irrevocable document, not an interim report subject to revision.

Before the Court was an application by two members of the Commission for an interdict to stop the Cape Times from publishing any further disclosures by

Dr Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information

Mr Snitcher submitted that Commission's original mandate expired on December 6 — the date by which it was required to report to Parliament

Mr Justice G Friedman asked Mr Snitcher: So, in its application, the Commission is suggesting that it is continuing with its work?

Mr Snitcher: They can continue if they want to — but without legal status. Until they receive their letter of appointment they cease to function (as a commission)

The hearing will continue today

'Strike hardly touched production'

By DON ROBERTSON
Mining Editor

THE seven day miners' strike has had a negligible effect on production, according to the Chamber of Mines and the major mining houses.

Production during the wild-cat strike, which was called off on Tuesday night, was maintained by a "very keen" force of surface officials, black workers and miners who refused to heed the strike call of the Mineworkers' Union

But at some mines it had been necessary to pull miners off development work to keep up an even flow of ore to recovery plants.

This could have an effect on future production.

It was still too early to estimate what this would mean to the mines.

Intimidation of willing workers was a problem which the industry would have to look at if another strike developed

Breakfast Quip



"Would you ever have thought a game of golf could become a secret project?"

Robber, victim made strange bedfellows

ROME. — Yesterday was a bad day for both the bandit and his victim — they were both injured, taken to the same emergency ward and put in beds next to each other.

As told by police in the southern Italian town of Benevento, Mr Bruno de Luisa, 23, grabbed the purse of Mrs Italia Ianotti, 63, hit her on the head and ran

Fleeing, Mr De Luisa was

run over by a truck and taken to hospital — the same one to which Mrs Anotti had been taken

Police said it was purely accidental that they were put in beds next to each other — Mr De Luisa still clutching Mrs Ianotti's purse containing R1 900

Mr De Luisa's condition was given as not serious — Sapa-AP

See Pages 4 and 12.

Botha tells of extension of Erasmus Commission terms of reference

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The Prime Minister, Mr. P. W. Botha, yesterday announced that the terms of reference of the Erasmus Commission had been extended to investigate and evaluate the political culpability of the government.

Mr. Botha also said the commission had agreed to disclose as much of the evidence placed before it as possible.

The Attorney-General of the Transvaal had authorized the issuing of a warrant against Dr. Eschel Rhoodie for charges of fraud and theft.

Mr. Botha further announced the appointment of an advocate-general who would investigate and report to Parliament on any allegation supported by a sworn affidavit of corruption or mal-

practice by the government. The advocate-general would be appointed on June 1.

The Prime Minister said the Erasmus Commission had been instructed to report its findings on government culpability by March 31.

The commission had informed him that it hoped to present its final report before the scheduled date of May 31.

If agreed that further evidence to support findings in its first report would be made public and that as much of the evidence as possible supporting its further findings would be included in the final report.

Explaining the appointment of an advocate-general, Mr. Botha said the whole matter had been considered thoroughly

Parliament had the right to keep a watchful eye over the administration and to address itself to corruption and maladministration.

Other parliaments in the world had also taken steps in this regard, such as the special prosecutor appointed in the United States after the Watergate scandal.

Legislation would be introduced soon to enable the appointment of an advocate-general on June 1 whose exclusive task would be to investigate allegations of irregularity and malpractice made under oath by any member of Parliament, the provincial councils, the press and the Attorney-General.

He would hear evidence in camera and would be assisted

by an independent staff. He would report directly to Parliament, where his findings could be dealt with by a select committee.

"This is a further step on the road to pure administration."

Mr. Botha, speaking during a debate on a private member's motion calling on the government to make the evidence of the Erasmus Commission available to Parliament, said every thing that was wrong in the government was being corrected.

He had publicly committed himself to pure administration but it should be understood that the government was equally bound to orderly government. The question which had been hung over the government's

head regarding its integrity was now in the hands of the Erasmus Commission.

"I will, where it concerns my cabinet, ask the commission to give its evidence in full," Mr. Botha said.

The problem with the Opposition to date had been that it was too hasty.

The government had machinery which was far better than anything the Opposition was capable of suggesting. The Opposition's problem was that it would not allow the machinery to take its course unhindered. "The machinery of State is slow, but it is thorough."

Orderly government did not permit the machinery of State to be overridden. Mr. Botha said the Erasmus

Commission had been asked and had agreed to disclose as much evidence as possible to support its findings published in its first report.

The commission had said it now had the time at its disposal to select the relevant evidence. It had undertaken to publish in its final report any further evidence in support of its first report.

The evidence supporting its findings in its final report would be as full as possible. It would not publish any evidence which effected the security of the State.

Mr. Botha said evidence which could effect the good relations between South Africa and other countries would also not be published. — Sapa

259
17/5/79

Mulder denies division claims

Political Staff

JOHANNESBURG — Dr. Connie Mulder yesterday rejected allegations against him by the Nationalist hierarchy on the eve of his confrontation with the Transvaal Nationalist leader, Dr. Andriës Treurnicht.

Making only his third press statement since his resignation from the Cabinet late last year because of the Information scandal, Dr. Mulder denied claims that he was sowing division in party ranks by giving his side of the Information story at National Party meetings.

"Since my resignation as an MP on February 1, I have neither attended nor addressed a single NP branch or divisional committee meeting," he said.

Dr. Mulder's statement came as Dr. Treurnicht prepared to hand him an ultimatum that he faced expulsion from the National Party unless he retired completely from politics.

The Prime Minister, Mr. P. W. Botha, apparently insisted on the confrontation because of fears that Dr. Mulder was planning a political comeback supported by a group of Transvaal Nationalist MPs.

Their meeting — possibly this weekend — could embarrass Dr. Treurnicht, who received Dr. Mulder's still substantial support in his election late last year as Transvaal leader.

Smit murders: Info link denied

By MERVYN REES

DR ESCHEL RHOODIE has spoken to me for the first time about the suggested links between the Department of Information scandal and the murders of Dr Robert Smit and his wife, Jeanné-Cora

Dr Rhodie, the disgraced former secretary for Information, was asked in Quito, Ecuador, to comment on the rumours and press reports in South Africa suggesting that there was a connection between the scandal and the murders.

Dr Rhodie denied that there were any links and said he had personally reported the matter to the police when it was first suggested in the press that the murders were linked in some way with the Department of Information

I can state categorically that I know of absolutely no links, and I would point out that after these reports first appeared, I personally instructed my department to establish whether we had ever had any contacts with the late Dr Robert Smit

Not only that, but I had only met him on one or two occasions

Dr Rhodie said rumours were so rife at the time that it had even been suggested to him on the cocktail circuit in Pretoria that he and Dr Smit had been wife-swapping

He said this was one example of the sort of wild speculative rumours that were being bandied about

It was for this reason, Dr Rhodie went on, that he, more than anybody else, wanted the murderer or murderers of the Smits to be caught. He was equally sure that the police under General Mike Geldenhuys were as determined to solve the murders

Another story which Dr Rhodie wanted to go on record as having no knowledge of concerned the setting up of "governments in exile"

Rumours and reports that money in large quantities had been channelled out of South Africa through the Department of Information were totally false

"It was suggested, for example, that money had been sent to South American countries, and I want to say that I know absolutely nothing about these suggestions"

Mulder's Camp David

background of looming green-grey mountains and plunging wooded ravines

Reenberg was bought by Dr Mulder, former Minister of Information, Dr Rhoodie, former Secretary for Information, Mr de Villiers, a former Deputy Secretary for Information, Jan van Zyl Alberts, who joined the Government as Minister of the Citizen, and right-wing United States publisher Mr John McGoff.

The Rand Daily Mail recently visited "Copenhagen" which is perched on a mountain about 1 000m above the farming areas and dense bush at Jongmanspruit, about 30 km from the tiny village of Hoedspruit

From the plain the retreat looms like an eagle's eyrie on the side of the mountain

The road route to "Copenhagen" is unmarked and along a road scoured out of the dense bush. At the end of this road is a winding 4 km drive to the houses on the levelled-off mountain-top. The view is breathtaking — a clear 180 deg sweep of the horizon.

The villa is a slate and timber split-level, double-storey construction about 50 m long. The guest house is white-walled and has a thatched roof. It is rondavel-styled and is the size of a medium-size house.

Both houses were locked and

the blinds and curtains were drawn when the I visited the property

The house has its own electricity supply carried up the hillside by a line of pylons. Water is pumped up to the house from a stream.

"Copenhagen" is not used all-year-round or even every weekend. The most recent occupant was Professor Nic Rhoodie, brother of Dr Eschel Rhoodie, who stayed there in January.

It is believed the next visitor will be Dr Mulder, who is expected to spend some time at the retreat at Easter

For the rest of the year the

farm is attended by one black servant who lives in a rondavel on the mountainside below the houses.

The Info set appear to have had a leisurely time during their short stays at the retreat. They are not farming the land.

One anecdote about the Info set's visits to the district involves a man who was approached by Dr Eschel Rhoodie while working on his farm.

Dr Rhoodie, true to his lifestyle was driving a Mercedes. The farmer was on a tractor, ploughing a strip of land.

Dr Rhoodie pulled over to the side of the farm road, leaned out the window and beckoned

the farmer to his car with his forefinger.

The farmer pretended not to recognize the Secretary for Information and carried on ploughing.

Again Dr Rhoodie beckoned him and ploughed two more troughs in the field before beckoning Dr Rhoodie to his tractor.

Dr Rhoodie finally walked across and asked: "Where is Copenhagen?"

The farmer knew exactly what Dr Rhoodie meant by this, but he pondered the question and then said: "Isn't somewhere in Denmark?"

Premier

BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

DR CONNIE Mulder, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, and other members of the jet-setting Information clique, own a secret holiday retreat in the Eastern Transvaal Lowveld which was planned to serve as a "Camp David" for Prime Minister Mulder.

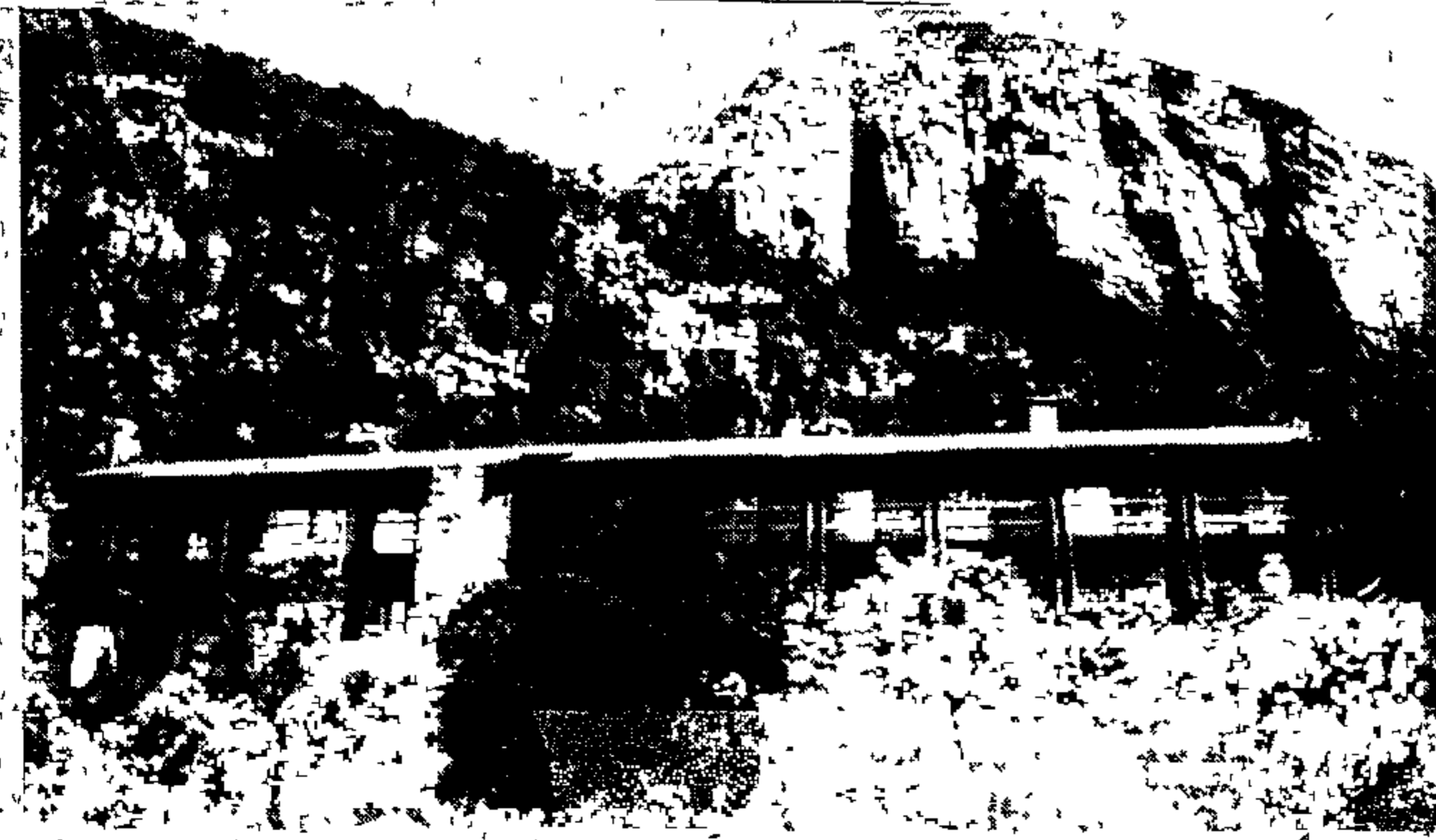
The retreat — a Spanish villa-type house and safari-style guest house on the farm Reenberg, near Hoedspruit — is virtually inaccessible by road but a specially-built helicopter pad makes it possible for visitors, both South African and overseas, to be flown in for secret meetings. In this way dignitaries would have been able to

meet Dr Mulder informally during his expected premiership.

The farm is a 50-morgen expanse of dense bush below the Reenberg mountain after which it was named. Overlooking thousands of kilometres of Eastern Transvaal Lowveld, it gives yet another glimpse of the exotic and grandiose scale on which prominent members of the Information set lived.

The Information clique have their own name — "Copenhagen" — for the property where they have in the past entertained important overseas guests of the Department of Information.

The retreat is set against a



Perched high up in the Reenberg mountain range near Hoedspruit in the Eastern Transvaal the stone and timber house from where Dr Mulder would rule the country

Ex-PM's name was Olympus, god of gods

By MERVYN REES

THE people who formed the centre of Dr Eschel Rhoodie's spider web of intrigue had special names for special people.

This was revealed to me in a series of interviews that I had with Dr Rhoodie over a period of several days in Quito, Ecuador, last month. Dr Rhoodie said that just as the projects had code names so did some of the people who knew of or worked on the project.

Here are some examples.

The former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, was known as Olympus — the god of gods.

Mr Les de Villiers, who headed the secret project programme, was named Dirty Harry for two reasons. Firstly he handled several "dirty tricks" programmes, including carrying bugged briefcases, and secondly, he was given this name because of his pre-deliction for beautiful women. Mr De Villiers and his wife Patsy are divorced and now Mr De Villiers is to marry an attractive air hostess from the US.

Dr Rhoodie himself was given the code name of Thor — the god of thunder. But unknown to him he was known by his underlings as Gadaffi because, like the Libyan head of state, he was "most ruthless and dark".

General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the BSS, who played a key role in many of the secret projects, was known as the "Long Man". Dr Rhoodie also told me that in

some Pretoria circles the general was also known as "Die Moses" — this was a play on the words "die Moses van die berg" — in other words Moses who came down from the mountain with the Ten Commandments.

Dr Rhoodie told me that Dr Piet Koornhof, now Minister of Plural Relations and former Minister of Sport, was affectionately known as "Piet Wolf". He had to walk such a tight-rope because of the ever-changing government policy on mixed sport.

"We gave him this name," said Dr Rhoodie, "because he had to say so many different things at such short notice that only little Red Riding Hood could really believe what he was saying."

Mr Louis Luyt, the fertilizer magnate, who launched the Citizen newspaper as a secret project for the government, was known as the "Sun King". The Sydney Baron organization in the US, which had handled extensive public relations and political lobbying programmes for South Africa in the US, was known as the "Red Baron", after the famous German war ace and, of course, the Snoopy cartoon strip.

The Citizen project was code named Annemarie after Dr Rhoodie's 19-year-old daughter who is a RAU student. Miss Rhoodie told the Rand Daily Mail recently that the Rhoodies' code name some while back for the Rand Daily Mail was unprintable.

Tapes have details of 'bribes'

THE Rhodie tapes and documents contained details of bribes paid to top-ranking politicians and officials in Africa, the West "and maybe even the East," Mr Josias van Zyl has told the Financial Mail.

In terms of the agreement, Dr Rhodie would have been employed by Mr Van Zyl and would not have released the secret tapes, which would, it is believed, cause irreparable damage to South Africa

Mr Van Zyl said "Now that we can't conclude the agreement, he cannot wait for me. It is possible that he is considering releasing the tapes

"The country is at risk. I am not interested in a dogfight between Dr Rhodie and the government, but South Africa would face a disaster if those

tapes are released. "We saw extracts from documents and the tapes which were enough for us to sign an initial agreement. But now it cannot be finalized

'Our friends'

"If the tapes are released our friends overseas will never trust a South African again"

Mr Van Zyl said he had spoken to General Van den Bergh on Wednesday morning. "I advised him not to overreact, and we agreed that, should Dr Rhodie contact either of us, we would

still try to persuade him not to release the secret tapes," he said

He and the general were both dumbfounded by the government's action against them, Mr Van Zyl said. They had negotiated with Dr Rhodie only in the interests of South Africa

By employing Dr Rhodie he had achieved a greater measure of control over the secret tapes than the government had, and now the government had jeopardized

The Financial Mail reported this week that Mr Van Zyl, who claims to have secured the silence of Dr Eschel Rhodie, believes publication of the tapes and documents would make the Lockheed aircraft scandal "look like a Sunday school picnic"

Several years ago the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation was exposed as having bribed international political figures to secure orders for its aircraft

Mr Van Zyl said his activities did not fall within the ambit of the Erasmus Commission, and he "bewailed the fact that the Prime Minister has now lost a golden opportunity to acquaint himself first-hand with the information related to what is going on on the other side"

"They've described those tapes as a farce, rubbish and nonsense. But I've seen the documentation"

'Staggering things'

He maintained that the "dynamite" went beyond bribes. "Bribes form part of it, but they aren't necessarily the key. I have seen staggering things"

Rand Daily Mail reporter Paul Bell, who interviewed Mr Van Zyl this week, writes that the businessman fears the withdrawal of his and General Hendrik van den Bergh's passports could lead to Dr Rhodie releasing his secret information

Interviewed in his luxury office suite in Johannesburg's Carlton Centre, he said the government's action had prevented him and the general from seeing Dr Rhodie to draw up a final agreement

dized that control. Mr Van Zyl said any disclosures would cost his companies "a couple of million rand" and would force him to register them overseas, where he held shares through nominees

He also denied that there had been anything improper in the financing of his and General van den Bergh's overseas trip to see Dr Rhodie

Commenting on the fact that the police were investigating the financing of the trip, he said "The police can come round here and see for themselves. I paid for it myself"

He added that he was seeking legal advice on the withdrawal of his passport



A picture from the Rhodie album. Dr Eschel Rhodie in "drag". He dressed as a woman for a fancy-dress party at Margate, Natal, soon after his marriage. On the back of the photograph Dr Rhodie has written "Die turnabout — die mans word meisies en vice versa"

THAT WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS





Sun. Times 18/3/79

(259)

THIS was the week that the National Party's chickens came home to roost — the week that a lifetime of conspiratorial politics erupted into recrimination, vengeance, retaliation

It was the week that old allies savaged one another, the week that the Justice Minister turned the powers of his office against his fellow Nationalists, the week that General "Lang" Hendrik van den Bergh learned the meaning of the midnight knock at the door

And as the Government fell about — a headless chicken, remarked one opponent — a guillotine salesman who had given Dr Rhodie a job in return for control of the nation's darkest secrets, took charge

For Mr Josias van Zyl, reputed millionaire, it was a moment of exquisite glory. He would, he explained on television, save the country from the dangers which the Government was powerless to avert, he would divide up Dr Eschel Rhodie's secret tape-recordings, this pile would merely disgrace the mighty and could be made known, that pile contained secrets known only to the Government's most trusted servants, and to its enemies, and to him — and those secrets he would protect forever, for the sake of the nation

It was an extraordinary sight, not seen before in South Africa, of an individual coming to the rescue of a Government that had totally lost control

Josias van Zyl was emperor for a day

THE week's drama began on Sunday night, at 9.50, when a reporter from the Rand Daily Mail read out to Mr Jimmy Kruger, the Minister of Justice, two paragraphs of assertions about the Information affair made by Dr Rhodie the for-

secret testimony before the Erasmus commission, was telling his own story again in his own way. It rocked the Government to its foundations, as clearly it was intended to do

SUSPICIONS abounded that the Info triumvirate — Dr Rhodie, Gen Van den Bergh, and the fallen prince of South African politics, Dr Connie Mulder — were embarked on an elaborate propaganda campaign designed to startle and confuse the Government

Mr Van Zyl, it turned out, had spoken to Dr Mulder, and to the former Information front man, Mr J van Zyl Alberts, before flying to Europe with Gen Van den Bergh to persuade Dr Rhodie (as the general put it) not to fire the only shot in his gun by releasing his secrets

Instead, the secrets were allowed to dribble out, and Mr Van Zyl talked of another trip to Paris to see Dr Rhodie

The Government's nerve began to crumble along with its credibility. And it resorted, as the National Party so often has in the past, to threats, to unbridled abuse, and then to the instruments of repression

The Prime Minister rejected Dr Rhodie's charges as "contemptible", and he finally abandoned his staunch defence of Dr Mulder to say "It is now clear on what sort of friends Dr Mulder used to waste the country's money"

Mr Kruger — and Temporary Emperor Josias van Zyl — threatened to sue the newspapers, while many Nationalists muttered darkly about new Press laws

On Wednesday, just after midnight, General C F Zietsman, knocked at the door of his former boss, Gen Hendrik van den Bergh, and demanded his passport. The

bribes paid to top-ranking officials in Africa, the West and even the East

The next day he suddenly lost interest in the game

Gen Van den Bergh said if all this became known, at least one major Western power would break diplomatic relations

The Government, fixed in the habits of 30 years, grew increasingly frantic. Unable to silence its vengeful critics, it turned its rage on the Press that provided them with the means to bait their erstwhile comrades

On Friday, Mr Kruger produced a Bill to compel newspapers to prove that their reports on police matters were correct — a measure that would put in his hands another powerful instrument to call to account an institution which he seems to loathe

THE new threat to the Press missed the point. Increasingly, the Info scandal was taking on a political appearance. The ignominious defeat of the mineworkers' strike early in the week — an event of possibly cataclysmic importance to the future of labour laws, but overshadowed in this week of unending sensation by other events — has created a core of embittered rightwingers under union leader Arrie Paulus who may rally to Dr Mulder's banner

In the wings stands the HNP, with whose members Dr Mulder has long-standing ties. The right wing of the National Party in the Transvaal, smarting under the Cape leadership and nursing its grievance over the fall of Dr Mulder, promises a power base

No wonder then that the National Party showed signs of panic. "Will Rhodie bring proof?" cried a banner headline in the faithful Vaderland. And a shudder ran through

18/3/79

259



MR JIMMY KRUGER
Midnight action

mer Secretary for Information, now flitting from hideout to hideout in Europe

"That's all I want to know," said Mr Kruger "Good night I have a lot of work to do"

Three hours later the Judge-President of the Cape, Mr Justice Van Zyl, forbade the South African Associated Newspapers to publish the two paragraphs.

In Johannesburg, the Rand Daily Mail, in a classical assertion of Press freedom, left the space blank That gesture drove home to its readers something of the drama of the struggle that was to unfold

MR Kruger's midnight court action served only to highlight other assertions by Dr Rhodie, in which he accused more than a score of officials and Cabinet Ministers of sharing knowledge of the undercover operations which he conducted, and for which he was condemned

The former Prime Minister, the former Minister of Finance, Dr Nico Diederichs, the present Minister of Finance, Prof Owen Horwood, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, Dr Hilgard Muller, Mr Pik Botha, Mr Kruger — even Dr Andries Treurnicht and Dr Piet Koornhof, were named So were a string of officials

Quite what these accusations meant was not immediately clear But Dr Rhodie, aggrieved and embittered over the outcome of his

general "veteran" of "so many" similar raids in the night, remarked "It shows you the times we are living in"

Less than an hour later, the passport of Mr Van Zyl was also seized His plans to save the country from the vengeance of Dr Rhodie had gone awry

MEANWHILE, the Erasmus commission was also trying to re-establish control On Tuesday night it applied urgently to the Rand Supreme Court to prevent the Rand Daily Mail from publishing further disclosures by Dr Rhodie

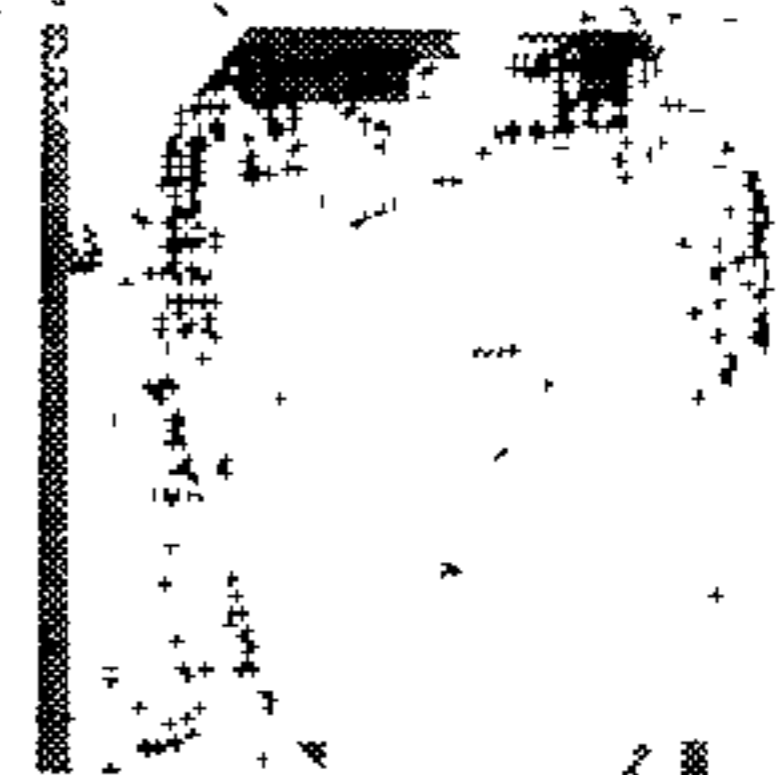
From the Government's point of view, the outcome was a disaster. Not only did Mr Justice Gert Coetzee refuse to gag the Mail, but he delivered, two days later, a judgment that both clarified the law on commissions and, in effect, extended vastly the scope of the Press in dealing with matters under investigation by commissions

Brushing aside one of the Government's chief instruments in the past for the suppression of information, he ruled that commissions of inquiry did not, like courts, enjoy the protection of a sub judice rule

He also cleared the way for the Press to deal freely with the matter covered by the Erasmus commission's first report in December, and declared that the commission and its findings were not immune to criticism

Later the Cape Times won a similar verdict from a full bench of the Cape Supreme Court

STILL the damaging allegations, the bits of information, the hints of dark deeds, continued to dribble out By Wednesday Mr Van Zyl was saying that the Rhodie tapes and documents contained details of



MR ARRIE PAULUS
Union leader

the party when it was reported that Dr Mulder was addressing groups in three Transvaal constituencies

Dr Mulder issued a qualified denial

The Transvaal party, having purged Mr Louis Nel for rebuking his leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht, was now being pressed by the Cape faction to purge itself of Dr Mulder

The man chosen to wield the knife was Dr Treurnicht For Transvaal's rightwingers, the cup of bitterness overflowed

BY week's end, the Government was bending to the wind The Prime Minister announced that the Erasmus Commission would even look into the actions of Cabinet Ministers under new terms of reference

He also announced plans to appoint an Advocate General to deal with allegations of corruption in the Government, though he did not explain why officialdom should be exempt from the normal processes of police investigation and public prosecution that apply to mere mortals

And of course, there was no question of a full disclosure, not even to Opposition members of Parliament National secrets, you know — like those that Dr Rhodie (for whom an arrest warrant has been issued) tried to peddle to Emperor Josias

Eschel back in weeks,
promises leader of hunt

RHOODIE

SUND. EXPR. 18/3/79

259

IN TERROR

OF MAFIA

ESCHEL Rhodie — most wanted fugitive in South African history — will be traced and delivered to Pretoria "within a few weeks" to stand trial on charges of theft and fraud.

This is the confident prediction of CID chief General J F Kleinhaus, the man leading the intricate and worldwide "Operation Rhodie"

If things run according to plan, says General Kleinhaus, also a deputy Commissioner of Police, "we should have Dr Rhodie home within a few weeks"

He also disclosed to the Sunday Express that attempts may be made to have Dr Rhodie declared a prohibited immigrant in the country in which he is hiding out.

"An application to have him extradited will depend on where he is." South Africa had extradition treaties with several countries

"Now that a warrant is out for Dr Rhodie's arrest, the police are in a position to put the necessary machinery into operation," General Kleinhaus told me

These developments come



● Eschel Rhodie
... chased by Mafia

By **KITT
KATZIN**

at a time when Dr Rhodie, beleaguered and destitute, is said to be living in "terrifying fear" of his life

With press re mounting to disclose the "political dynamite" in his package of 41 tapes and documents, he fears that if he does so — and indications are that he will — he will come

face-to-face with the real danger of being "liquidated", in the classic sense of the word, by Mafia hitmen from the United States or secret agents in Europe

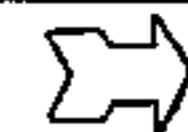
With time running out fast, and with no place to hide, the 47-year-old former Government secret agent, who stood at the centre of almost all South Africa's international State projects, is also bitterly concerned with the safety and future of his wife Katie and 15-year-old son Eschel Jnr, who are in Europe

"This is the living hell of Eschel Rhodie — the portrait of a man who knows he has lost," a close confidant told me

Other sources close to the former Information Secretary also point to his "inevitable dilemma" as he gropes slowly but surely towards the inevitable decision to release his tapes and lift the lid on the Government's extensive secret operations

This is the only option, Dr Rhodie believes is open to him in his last-ditch stand to regain credibility — even if it means placing his own life in danger — and to show how far other Cabi-

To Page 3



of hitmen from Mafia' (259)

From Page 1

net members may have been involved in Info projects

But he knows, too, that if he does so the results would be catastrophic for South Africa and her friends — particularly in America and Africa

For this is where the murky area of bribery and payoffs might be exposed — the buying off of politicians, trade union leaders, even Governments

And if the parties involved were to be identified and betrayed, Eschel Rhodie will never be forgiven

Already investigations in this respect are under way by British and American journalists, probing to what extent money changed hands, to whom it was paid, and why

One, Antony Sampson of the Sunday Observer who has written about and thoroughly researched the ramifications of international Info spending, arrived in Washington this week to investigate evidence that South Africa, through the

former Information Department, became involved in two recent State elections — in California and Iowa

Yesterday the vice-chairman of the American National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC), Mr Nigel Ryan, flew to London from America by Concorde to negotiate with Dr Rhodie somewhere in Europe

His lightning visit followed earlier discussions with the former Information Secretary A top NBC journalist, Mr Jim Polk, has been assigned to the Rhodie story

In Johannesburg, local representatives of the Washington Post, which broke the Watergate scandal, and the New York Times denied their newspapers had also negotiated a cash offer with Dr Rhodie, or through his local "boss", industrialist Mr Joe van Zyl, who secured a temporary silence from Dr Rhodie after 19-hour talks in Paris last week

They were reacting to earlier reports that the Times offered \$1-million and that the Washington

Post was prepared to "better the offer"

Strong rumours are also circulating in Johannesburg that bribes may have been paid to politicians and union labour leaders in America and Europe, though there is no immediate evidence of this

Dr Rhodie is also said to have had several dealings, involving the transfer of foreign currencies, with selected African countries

The widely-travelled former Government agent regularly visited a number of Black countries

It is for these reasons, say sources close to him, that he fears for his personal safety — in Africa, Europe and the United States

For while he may pick up a staggering fee for selling his tapes and documents — perhaps even a million dollars — as Johannesburg businessman Joe van Zyl, who secured his temporary silence after talks in Paris, says

"For the sake of a fat bank balance, Eschel runs the risk of having his head blown off"

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und und lassen 4 Kinder zurück. Sie vergleicht die Kinder mit dem
v Verwandten. Es kommt zu dem Schluss das die Kinder sind



'My father Eschel . . .'

● Annemarie Rhodie, 19, daughter of former Information Secretary Dr. Eschel Rhodie, says the Information scandal has forced her to grow up in a hurry. In an exclusive interview this week, she spoke frankly to Carol Lazar about her parents, her friends, and the future. Annemarie, a student at the Rand Afrikaans University, says the Rhodies are a very strong family unit.

Picture by DENIS FARRELL

● **See Page Eight and Better Living**

I'll clear your daddy, the General tells Miss Rhodie

SUN. EXPR.
18/3/79

By CAROL LAZAR

259

GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh has promised 19-year-old Annemarie Rhodie he will fight to clear her father's name

Annemarie told me that this week in an exclusive interview in her room in residence at the Rand Afrikaans University, Johannesburg, where she is a second-year student planning to major in English and psychology

After the exposure of the role in the Information scandal of Eschel Rhodie, as Secretary for Information, General van den Bergh former head of BOSS, called Annemarie and her brother Eschel Jnr, to his office in Pretoria

"He promised he would do all in his power to clear my father's name"

"I respect him for for that"

She admitted the Information scandal had changed her

life "I was forced to grow up in a hurry. I am no longer as naive as I was. When something like that happens, you learn who your friends are."

She was non-committal about the key figures in the Information affair, except for the general

She was horrified at the "shocking and insensitive" way her mother, Katie, had been treated by officials who came in the middle of the night to confiscate her passport.

"They sent two brash young policemen at midnight. My mother was all alone in the house and she got a terrible shock"

It is not well known that Mrs Rhodie is a sick woman who has suffered from a thyroid problem for many years

When Annemarie left home to attend university last year, her mother gave her a printed copy of a prayer which now stands on her bedside table.

The prayer reads "Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that you and I together cannot handle"

Annemarie commented: "At the time, I did not realise how appropriate"

When Annemarie left home to attend university last year, her mother gave her a printed copy of a prayer which now stands on her bedside table.

The prayer reads "Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that you and I together cannot handle"

Annemarie commented "At the time, I did not realise how appropriate my mother's present would be"

She also recalled a memorable lesson her mother taught her. It happened when Annemarie once made a derogatory remark to a Black. Her mother immediately took off her shoe and publicly whacked her daughter

That incident happened a few years ago when Annemarie and her younger brother Eschel were playing tennis at a Pretoria tennis club

"I felt totally humiliated by the whole thing but learnt a very good lesson"

Neither of my parents would tolerate racial discrimination"

Annemarie is the only member of the Rhodie family left in South Africa—and intends to continue living here. But she talks to her parents several times a week by telephone.

Although she is entitled to an Australian passport, as she was born in Canberra, she is proud of her South African passport and has no thoughts of relinquishing it

"My father did more for South Africa and worked harder for his country than anyone else I know" she told me "I believe he is innocent and I, too, will fight to clear his name"

© The full Annemarie Rhodie story is in...
BETTER LIVING

April 7 deadline on Rhodie tapes

Saw 19/3/79 (259)

By Jan van Ree

The Government has until April 7 to ensure that the tapes and documents on the Info scandal being held by Dr Eschel Rhodie are not released. This warning was issued today by the former Secretary of Information's new boss, Mr Josias van Zyl.

Mr van Zyl, his lawyer Mr Brian Kahn, and General Hendrik van den Bergh, held a two-hour meeting in Pretoria yesterday to discuss developments since their agreement with Dr Rhodie earlier this month.

"By taking away my passport the Government has rendered me immobile. The agreement with Dr Rhodie has to be finalised within a reasonable period. This period is a month and as the first agreement was signed on March 7 this makes the expiry date April 7."

"I can only hope that the Government comes to its senses in time for me to go back to Dr Rhodie," Mr van Zyl said.

TWO DEALS

He said he had virtually two agreements with Dr Rhodie. One was a service contract for Dr Rhodie to work for him and the other was that State secrets could not be released without his approval.

The American network ABC was scheduled to interview Mr van Zyl.

ABC executive Mr Nigel Ryan said in London at the weekend an attempt was made to sell his group information relative to the scandal.

"We have been approached by an intermediary (he would not say who or where) but we made no deal," he told The Star's London bureau. The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Lieutenant-General J.E. Kleinhans, confirmed today that moves have started to extradite Dr Rhodie on charges of fraud.

DENIAL

Mr Ben Schoeman, retired Minister of Transport, today said he could not remember a meeting of ministers in 1970 to discuss a publications project which allegedly cost the Government "many millions."

Dr Rhodie was quoted in the Rand Daily Mail today as saying: "Mr Botha, Mr Vorster, Dr Hilgard Muller, Mr Ben Schoeman and Dr Mulder will also recall a meeting back in 1970 on a similar publications project which has cost the Government many millions ever since. Mr Gerald Barrie also played an active role."

Mr Schoeman also denied ever being present at any function to launch To the Point magazine.

● A senior assistant editor of the Rand Daily Mail said today that the newspaper had not yet decided whether or not it would release Dr Rhodie's present address to the authorities now that a warrant for his arrest has been issued. "The decision rests with the Editor, Mr Allister Sparks," he said.

● Latest Rhodie claim a riddle. — Page 3.

Americans launch two probes into Info scandal

STAR 12/3/79 (257)

By Hugh Robertson,
The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — American authorities are examining the activities here of South Africa's former Department of Information. The US Justice Department has begun an inquiry into aspects of the Information scandal.

The House of Representatives ethics committee has also agreed to open a preliminary investigation into allegations that US politicians accepted bribes.

Florida Democrat Mr Charles Bennett, chairman of the committee, said an inquiry has been under way for several days. But an investigation was started for reasons other than the appearances of the front-page story in a Johannesburg Sunday newspaper.

The Justice Department inquiry is the first probe

of the scandal outside South Africa and could lead to new disclosures of the secret activities in the US of Dr Eschel Rhoodie and other former Information officials.

Justice Department spokesmen declined to discuss the matter today, but it was confirmed at the highest level elsewhere in the administration that the inquiry was quietly started in response to reports connecting prominent Americans with the scandal.

At this stage administration sources emphasise that an inquiry — rather than an investigation — has been ordered.

A House Ethics Committee official said late yesterday a decision would be made by the end of this week about conducting official hearings into the allegations.

If hearings are held, then representatives of the former Department of Information such as legal firms and public relations consultants holding contracts with the South African Government will be called to give testimony and relevant documents might be subpoenaed.

What mainly concerns the US, sources here state, are reports that the South African Government gave a loan of 11.5-million dollars (R9.68-million) through secret front organisations to the ultra-conservative American newspaper publisher Mr John McGoff.

After failing in his effort to buy The Washington Star, the reports said, Mr McGoff held on to the loan for two years, finally repaying it with interest early in 1978.

But well-informed sources say that the Justice Department is looking into a further aspect of the McGoff loan saga.

It is that Mr McGoff, acting with the knowledge of the former Department of Information, may have used the money to buy at least one major American newspaper, the Sacramento Union in Florida.

The newspaper was bought when Mr McGoff is said to have still held the South African loan, and for roughly the amount of the loan.

Mr McGoff has denied reports that he received South African funds to support his bid for The Washington Star, describing them as "wantonly crude," but could not be reached for comment today on allegations concerning the Sacramento Union.

It is believed that the Justice Department is looking into the possibility that Mr McGoff may have contravened the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

PM's feather duster in the rubble

NEWS ANALYSIS
By FLEUR DE VILLIERS

IFER the sigh of relief from Nation-
at benches when the Prime Minister
lounced his anti-information mea-
sures to a hushed Assembly on Friday,
seems unkind to break the spell.
But the problem remains: They are
going to work.

standing amid the ruins of public
confidence, Mr Botha has tried to
sweep up the rubble with a feather
duster.

And at least one measure — the
appointment of an Advocate-General to
investigate charges of corruption —
is suspiciously like the Prime Min-
ister's promised anti-rumour, anti-
press legislation in drag.

The appointment of this parliamen-
tary watchdog who will be empowered
to call for affidavits from MPs, pro-
vincial councillors and the Press, will
take place on June 1 — the day after
the final date for the report of the
Erasmus commission.

If this appointment is not intended to
restrict the Press, what other function
will he perform?

Any newspaperman feeling confident
enough of his facts to make an affida-
vit, would have no difficulty in going
straight to the police and the Attorney-
General, institutions already
empowered to investigate corruption.

The Information scandal was not
broken through affidavits, but through
painstaking sifting of fact and rumour
and cross-checking of tips-offs, many
from sources which could not be
named.

It was investigative journalism
which succeeded against enormous
odds in informing the public.

It is highly unlikely that the scandal
will die a tidy death after the Eras-
mus findings. And the temptation for
Mr Botha to smother all further Press
reports and inquiries must be strong.
But public confidence will not be

served if the Advocate-General is, as
one suspects, simply a means to that
end.

And public confidence is Mr Botha's
main problem.

Neither do the other measures an-
nounced this week seem destined to
restore confidence in a government
helplessly trying to plug holes in the
crumbling wall of public trust.

True, Mr Botha said that the Eras-
mus commission would be asked to
quote more fully from evidence to
support the findings of its first report.

But a selection of evidence to sup-
port the commission's own findings is
not what is required.

Only a release of all the evidence
which does not directly affect State

security will enable South Africans to
judge those findings for themselves.

Neither, unfortunately, does Mr
Botha's promise to ask the commis-
sion to release as much evidence as
possible with its second report carry
much weight.

Only evidence which does not affect
either the security of the State or the
national interest will be released.

No South African wants the truth at
the expense of his country's security.
But he is also naturally gun-shy about
buzzwords like "national interest"
which today he automatically trans-
lates into anything which might em-
barrass the Nationalist government.

It is not for a judicial commission
or the Nationalist Cabinet to reassure

him on this point, but the
Government's political opponents
whose understanding of national
interest tends, simply because they
are opponents, to be more precise and
accurate.

Finally, there was Mr Botha's cur-
ious promise to ask the Erasmus
commission to investigate the question
of who in the Cabinet had early knowl-
edge of the Citizen project and to
probe other Information Irregularities
— and to make its findings known
within 10 days.

This issue was dealt with by the
commission in its first report and it is
unlikely at this stage to reverse itself.

Neither is the question of political
responsibility the proper concern of a
judicial commission, but rather of
Parliament and, more precisely, of a
parliamentary select committee on

which the Government and Opposition
are represented.

As Mr Vause Raw commented on
Friday: It was not only the Govern-
ment, but the system itself which was
in the dock and facing its accuser, the
public.

Once again, Mr Botha has made a
vain attempt to remedy the damage
by tinkering with the system itself
when all that was required was to
allow it to work freely.

The public of South Africa is no
longer alarmed by the crimes and
misdemeanours revealed by the Infor-
mation scandal.

But it is thoroughly frightened by
the spectacle of a stumbling govern-
ment trying to dodge landmines laid by
a fugitive spy, an irate ex-spy-master
and a vengeful disgraced politician.
The Prime Minister has not yet
allayed those fears

Give him UK
Asylum plea

By IAN HOBBS
London

LEADING Labour MP is
ask parliament to grant
r Eschel Rhoadie political
ylum in Britain and the
rotection of the security
ervices here.
The move by former Arts
inister, Mr Hugh Jenkins,
not out of sympathy
Mr Jenkins is positive
eneral Hendrik van den
ergh was referring to Brit-
n when he said the infor-
ation scandal included
projects involving the

bring of politicians to vote
avourably for South Africa
in a legislative body, of a
major Western power".
Mr Jenkins told me:
"On Monday I am asking
the Home Secretary, Mr
Merlyn Rees, to offer Dr
Rhoadie political asylum, so
that he can open the can of
worms in safety."

Mr Jenkins is also asking
Premier James Callaghan
to get the British security
services to seek an inter-
view with Dr Rhoadie here
or abroad

SMI LINES 18.3.79
2574
Eschel joins the

DR ESCHEL Rhoadie appears destined to join the ever-increasing list of South African fugitives abroad, with little chance of the authorities ever being able to serve the warrant for his arrest on charges of fraud and theft.

South African officials have, since early December last year, been unable to

‘fugitives’

By EUGENE HUGO

find Dr Rhoadie to withdraw his invalid passport and, with the disgraced former Information Secretary now officially on the run, their task is likely to become even more difficult.

At the same time, South Africa has had few successes in moves to extradite

fugitives from justice like Chaim Wainer and Eldred Savell — both wanted on fraud charges in South Africa.

Savell, together with a number of other South African

cans on the run, has been in Israel since 1972 after the collapse of his Sidarel group, which robbed hundreds of pensioners of their lives' savings
Wainer, notorious as a crooked landlord in Johannesburg, was last seen in Chicago

As a fugitive overseas, Dr Rhoadie will be permanently separated from his frozen assets — reported to be worth about R250 000 — and the likelihood of his selling Information Department secrets has, therefore, increased sharply
The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, announced in Parliament on Friday that a warrant for Dr Rhoadie's arrest had been issued by the Attorney-General of the Transvaal

Private

It is understood the main grounds for the fraud and theft charges against Dr Rhoadie involve the trans-

The flat was registered in Mr Mitchan's name only in September last year, when Dr Rhoadie paid the transfer fees of R957,88
But the arrest of Dr Rhoadie will be an incredibly complicated process.

In February, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, explained in Parliament how the authorities would have to go about it
First, the Government has to know his exact address in whatever country he may be hiding

Then that country has to be approached through diplomatic channels for help in securing the return of the fugitive

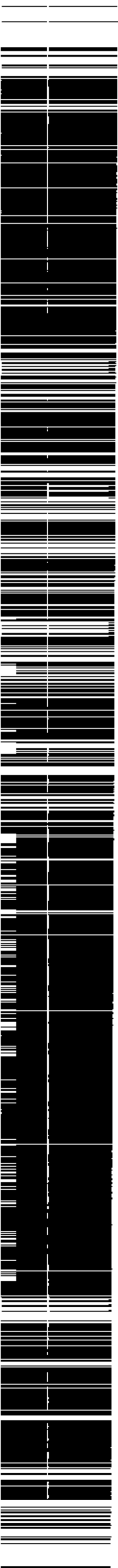
Fit

A person has to face a specific criminal charge before an application for extradition can be made.
And the contraventions of which he is accused have also to be contraventions of the laws of the country involved (Political crimes do not normally meet the requirements for extradition.)

Dr Rhoadie would also have access to the courts of that country where he could fight the extradition application — normally granted only when a prima facie case is proved to the satisfaction of the court
The only other way in



THE SUNDAY EXPRESS



in his name and subsequently sold to a Frenchman, Mr Arnon Milchan

The proceeds of this sale were deposited in Dr Rhodie's private bank account.

According to the Erasmus commission report, Dr Rhodie drew an amount of R33 205 on January 16 1976 from the Citizen account to pay for the flat

Before the flat was registered in his name, he resold it to Mr Milchan

On September 16 1976, an amount of R44 928.18 was paid into Dr Rhodie's personal bank account

It was a telegraphic transfer of \$51 800 from Mr Milchan

Rhodie bomb set to blow

From page 1

tapes, Gen Van den Bergh said

"Eschel said he felt he should sell the tapes and documents, but I asked him to hold everything until Sunday night, when I would tell him what the answer was

"The way I feel now, when I speak to Eschel I will tell him to go ahead and release the tapes

Money

"But first I must speak to Joe van Zyl about it. I must find out if Joe is able to meet his agreement with Eschel

"I understand he is talking of selling the agreement for R1 if this is so, then he can't have the money to employ Eschel overseas."

The general attacked the Government for taking away his and Mr Van Zyl's passports

"They are now using passports as political documents

"I went to see Dr Rhodie during my own time and at the expense of someone else, certainly not at the expense of the Government

"The Prime Minister must decide now, once and for all, about the tapes

"Both I and Mr Van Zyl have told him that the contents of these tapes are going to embarrass South Africa and her friends overseas terribly, if they are released.

"If this happens, it is something that we will regret

"I have not done anything embarrassing to South Africa. But the Prime Minister

Africa is if he is reported from a country and escorted to a direct flight to South Africa.

Otherwise, he could simply fly to a neighbouring country

It is also pointed out that the nine members of the European Common Market do not require travel documents for movements of individuals within the EEC, giving Dr Rhodie easy access in his flight from justice

The Foreign Minister, Mr Botha, has confirmed that his department will handle the matter after an approach by the Department of Justice

says I went without his permission.

"Apparently because of this he has taken away my passport, he has penalised me . . . the person who was in charge of South Africa's security for two decades

"Does the Prime Minister want to say that I contravened the law when I went to Paris to plead with Eschel, in the interests of South Africa, not to release the tapes?"

"As far as I know, nothing has been done by the Government to try and ensure that he does not release the information in these tapes."

During the interview, Gen Van den Bergh said he had not been surprised to learn that the application by the Erasmus Commission to the Supreme Court to stop the Rand Daily Mail and its sister newspapers from publishing disclosures by Dr Rhodie had failed

"That is why I signed the petition (calling on the Government to prosecute the general for contempt of the commission)

"In my baboon mind I knew that I did not defame the commission, I knew that no charges could successfully be brought against me"

his home

Last August Mr Strachan, 53, was fired at by a gunman while sitting in his dining-room with his wife, Maggie, and son, Joe. The single shot missed him by a few centimetres

Police subsequently arrested Mr Geoffrey Neville Wright, of Durban, who has appeared in the Durban Magistrate's Court charged with attempted murder Judgment in the case is expected tomorrow

Mr Strachan told me yesterday that he got up before the shooting to quieten his barking dogs.

"I went back to bed and was about to fall asleep when I heard a burst of fire from an automatic weapon," he said. "I shouted at Maggie to roll. She threw herself off the bed.

Lights

"I did the same I immediately grabbed her shotgun, which is always kept loaded, and took off the safety catch

"I did not go out, nor did I switch on the lights I crawled below window level, out of range of the front door, to see if I could see anyone. If I had spotted someone, I would have plugged him

"Even before I phoned the police they were on the scene. Someone from the next street had alerted them and a cruising police car picked up the call"

At Foxglove Place, a shotgun blast ripped into the home of Mr Naidoo as he lay asleep with his wife, mother and three children

Mr Naidoo, whose five-year banning order expired last October, told the Sunday Times that he was woken by an explosion at 2 20 am

"My wife, Maya, and I got

glaz-guarded lounge window, smashed into a wall at the back of the room

MI DUBOIS, would be used investigative job

GOLDBAK COMPETITION PRIZE WINNERS

1ST PRIZE: GOLDBAK HOLIDAY TO WITH SAAA

Mica H Jacowich, SA Phillips, PO Box 58088, New

2ND PRIZE: 10 STER-KINEKO COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS VA MONDAY-SATURDAY FOR 1 YI

A J Shackleton Springbok Colliery PO Vandysdrif 2245 M Bo 25 Kimberley 8301 R C Smart PO Box 131 Fishhoek C Bedenhorst 8 Roosevelt Avenue Durbanville Vereeniging 1930 I Warneboone Warner Beacher Natal 4125 Mr F Barnardo PO 0250 Mrs J van der Merwe Railway Cottage 4 Mount Edgecum Taylor B 1 Jessica Court Hill Road, Sea Point 8001 L V F Street Florida 1710 Mini Munn PO Box 70 Mount Edgecombe 4300

3RD PRIZE: 20 STER-KINEKO COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS VA MONDAY-THURSDAY FOR 1 YI

Mrs D Ladner 13 School Road, Amanzimtoti 4125 G Janse Pearce Cres Empangeni 3880 Mrs M van Wyk 5 Geelhou 1 Virginia OFS 8430 Mr J A Koekemoer PO Box 878 Edenville S Collier 7 Treeshaven Close Garfield Road Claremont 770 A T Avenue Glendower 1610 W Harrison 38 Kere Avenue Midc 1050 Ginny Morkel 7 Nyela Road Buffalo Ridge Stilton 2551 14 Church Avenue Primrose 1401, Mrs Joan Powell, PO Box 111, A Ratcliffe 4 Rookkrans Street, Kullsvier Cape 7580 B Wilah laendo 1800 D H Schreuder, PO Box 775 Rustenburg 0300 Mr I 81 Paerden Elland Cape 7420 Mr L Mulder 28 Canterbury Str Mrs J Fritzsche PO Box 1577 Windhoek 8100 Mrs I Scott Sydenham 2192 Mrs C Du Preez House No 81 Merried -Maraisburg 1710 Mrs B Buttner 16 Embassy Apartments 7 Flr East London 5201 Mrs P M Wood 113 Murray Street Goodwood 74

CONSOLATION PRIZES OF COKE AND NESTLE GIFT HAMPER

Mrs E J Elvey 30 West Avenue Florida 1710 Mrs G Jordan Trilomf Johannesburg 2093 Debbie Ballentine PO Box 712 Pret Cloete 18 Melan Crescent Venes Uitenhage 8230 Mrs C H Street Stellenbosch 7800 Marcella Westhof 121 Mahakane 78 L Sue Trenchard 4 Rodrick Place Bonza Bay East London 5201 Constance Road Chario Port Elizabeth 6005 D De Freitas 73 Benoni 1500 Mrs Anne Stein 2 Septimium Street Pearl Cape 78 Sunde 85 Queens Court Esplanade Durban 4001 C Schlabusch Villiers Pretoria 0186 D Oberholzer Box 31322 Braamfonte Plessis 5 Marshall Avenue Highway Gardens Germiston 1401 Mrs Memora Road Pinetown 3800 Mr W J Wessels 106 Michael Colliers Street Sunnyside Pretoria 002 Mr C V Kamm PO Box Mr P A Fairhurst 15 Euclid Street Vanderbijlpark 1900 I Street Rustenburg 0300 Mrs J Rosen 30 Hayden Street Vanderbijlp

DATSUN COMPETITION

1ST PRIZE — DATSUN 200L AUTO MANUAL PLUS A CHOICE FROM SERIES

Mrs J Gerlach, 104 Charles Gate, Maud Street, Sa

2ND PRIZE — DATSUN 160Y STATION J Rencken, 19 Wilson Drive, Pinetown 3600

3RD PRIZE — DATSUN 120Y DE I Peter van Zyl, 35 Rogland Street, Brackenfell 7560

4TH PRIZE 10 STER-KINEKO COMPLIMENTARY CARDS VA MONDAY-SATURDAY FOR 1 YI

Mrs G Mouton 10 St Elmo Avenue Mayfair 2092 Miss S L Bir Wycombe Marine Parade Durban 4001 Mr J J Potgieter 23 Waterkloof Verwoerdburg 0140 Mr J R Smith 108 Key West San Beach 4001 R H Davison 23 Whitehall Court, Durban North 4051 Rustenburg Road Victory Park 2195 Mrs J Robinson 47 Winston L M du Chenna Rietveld 89 (Box 87) Muldersdrif 1747 Mrs Y H Crescent East London 5201 Karin Brice 7 Inverness Ave Pinelands 74

5TH PRIZE 20 STER-KINEKO COMPLIMENTARY CARDS VA MONDAY-THURSDAY FOR 1 Y

Mrs M D Prinsloo 113 Stekroos Street Northmead Ext 4 Benoni Anderson c/o 37 Bulwer Street Dundee 3000 D McLean 1 Walmer, Port Elizabeth 6100 Mr S T Castelyn 6 Knightsbridge Port Elizabeth 8001 Mr A J J van Rensburg, Croux Avenue Roodepoort 1725 Mr M van Rooyen PO Box 1951 Kempton Par 12 Coteridge Street Vanderbijlpark 1900 Mr H W Morkel 211 Stillfontein 2550 Mrs V L Haden 41 Baines Road Glamore Durbs Blackmore 8 Bale Street Pietermaritzburg 3201 F H J Hanekom Mayfair 2092 Mrs L L Black 19 Ocean Street Irene 1675 M Sm Pretoria 0001 A Swanepoel Platina Drive 11 Hillshaven We McKinley 32 Rocklands Rd Murdoch Valley Simonstown 7891 Benjamin RAU PO Box 524 Johannesburg 2000, Mrs E Price 1 1884 T Blunden, 304 Flower St Capital Park Pretoria 0001 Danie Theron Rd Eastleigh Edenville 1810 Mr C Livingst Bradfield Drive Fairmount 2192

CONSOLATION PRIZES OF T-SHIRT! KAT GIFT HAMPERS

Mr H J Robert 68 Luzerne 120 Clarence Rd Durban 4001 Mr F di Harrison St Johannesburg 2001 I Steyn 20 Knights Ave Windzor J Swart S A Police Kimberley 8301 J H van der Merwe Pretoria Wes 0183 Johan Blignaut Verkonnerweg 18 Bloemf Elaine Afge 32 Hastings Ave Savoy 2192 Francois Beets Carolusburg 8247 Mr C A Cooper 51 Broom Rd Casseldele S Lesley Anne Byst PO Box 9 Louisa Creek Eastern Transvaal Muller PO Box 315 Pretoria 0001 W H Pretorius Posbus 342 I J la Grange Bloemhof Woonstelt 15 Kamillestraat Blomtuin Be Flint 1 Oxford House Wessels Rd Green Point 8001 Rita Wapen St Pietersburg 0700 G B White 90 Verdun Rd Lorraine 6065, N Pikkerwyn Flats Aigoo Park Port Elizabeth 8001 D R Fant Street Krugersdorp 1740 Mrs I C Ryan PO Richmond Natal Tavaras 53 7th Ave Roodepoort North 1725

WEATHER AND TIDES

TRANSVAAL. Partly cloudy and warm, with isolated thunder showers.

FREE STATE. Partly cloudy and warm, with isolated thunder showers.

CAPE PROVINCE: Cloudy and cool, with occasional showers.

NATAL. Partly cloudy and warm to hot, with isolated thunder showers.

	High	Low
Cape Town	0542/1808	1154/ -
Mozael Bay	0815/1839	1227/0033
Kranya	0819/1842	1231/0037
Port Elizabeth	0601/1825	1213/0019
East London	0802/1826	1214/0020
Durban	0809/1832	1220/0028
Walvis Bay	0859/1823	1211/0017

e

Government and Opposition
resented.

Vause Raw commented that
was not only the Govern-
the system itself which was
and facing its accuser, the

ain, Mr Botha has made a
upt to remedy the damage
ing with the system itself
that was required was to
work freely.

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armed by the crimes and
hours revealed by the Infor-
andal.

s thoroughly frightened by
cle of a stumbling govern-
g to dodge landmines laid by
spy, an irate ex-spy-master
eful disgraced politician,
me Minister has not yet
ise fears.

the

e flat was registered in
Milchan's name only in
ember last year, when
Rhodie paid the trans-
ees of R957,88.

t the arrest of Dr
die will be an incredi-
complicated process.

February, the Minister
oreign Affairs, Mr Pik
a, explained in Parlia-
how the authorities
I have to go about it.

rst, the Government
to know his exact ad-
in whatever country
ay be hiding.

en that country has to
approached through dip-
tic channels for help in
ing the return of the
ve.

Filt

person has to face a
ic criminal charge be-
an application for ex-
tion can be made.

d the contraventions of
a he is accused have
to be contraventions of
aws of the country in-
d. (Political crimes do
ormally meet the re-
ments for extradition.)

Rhodie would also
access to the courts of
country where he could
the extradition appli-
— normally granted
when a prima facie
is proved to the satis-
of the court.

only other way in
...

...



Mr Harold Strachan shows the spot
where one bullet embedded itself in the
floor.

Gunmen blast two homes

●From page 1

drive away after the
shooting.

Mr Strachan's home is
about five kilometres
away from that of Mr
Naidoo.

It was the second attempt
in both cases.

In October 1976 a petrol
bomb was thrown
through the windscreen

up," he said. "I thought
the stove had exploded.
Maya went into the
lounge and saw smoke.
There was also a strange
smell.

"Suddenly I heard a neigh-
bour shout: 'Don't come
out! Don't come out!'

"I did not open the door and
while I was phoning the
police, my wife heard a
motor vehicle pull off at
high speed."

The shot, which was fired

Drastic clamp on freedom

Sun. Times 18/3/79
of the Press

is feared (243)

By FLEUR DE VILLIERS

DRASTIC moves to further muzzle the
Press and widen the news blackout in
South Africa were signalled this week in
two separate Government announcements.

The action has been taken despite
strong protests by Nationalist academics
and the Afrikaans Press and reservations
among some verligte Nat politicians.

The Police Bill, which will impose
censorship on the reporting of all matters
relating to the South African Police, was
roundly condemned by Opposition politi-
cians yesterday.

The Prime Minister's announcement on
Friday of the appointment of an Advocate-
General to investigate allegations of cor-
ruption is also interpreted as a disguised
move to muzzle Press investigations.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin
Eglin, told the Sunday Times that he had
"serious misgivings" about the appoint-
ment.

"Has corruption in government
reached such proportions that we now need
special state machinery to deal with it?"
Mr Eglin asked.

He would reserve judgment until the
legislation was published, but the Prime
Minister's announcement could well be
simply another move to muzzle the Press
and inhibit parliamentary opposition.

Mr Eglin wanted to know

● Whether the machinery
would in any way inhibit the
Press making public disclo-
sures on alleged corruption;

● Whether it would result
in a news blackout on any
issue under investigation by
the Advocate-General;

● Whether the sub-judice
rule would apply and so pre-
vent the matter being de-
bated in Parliament;

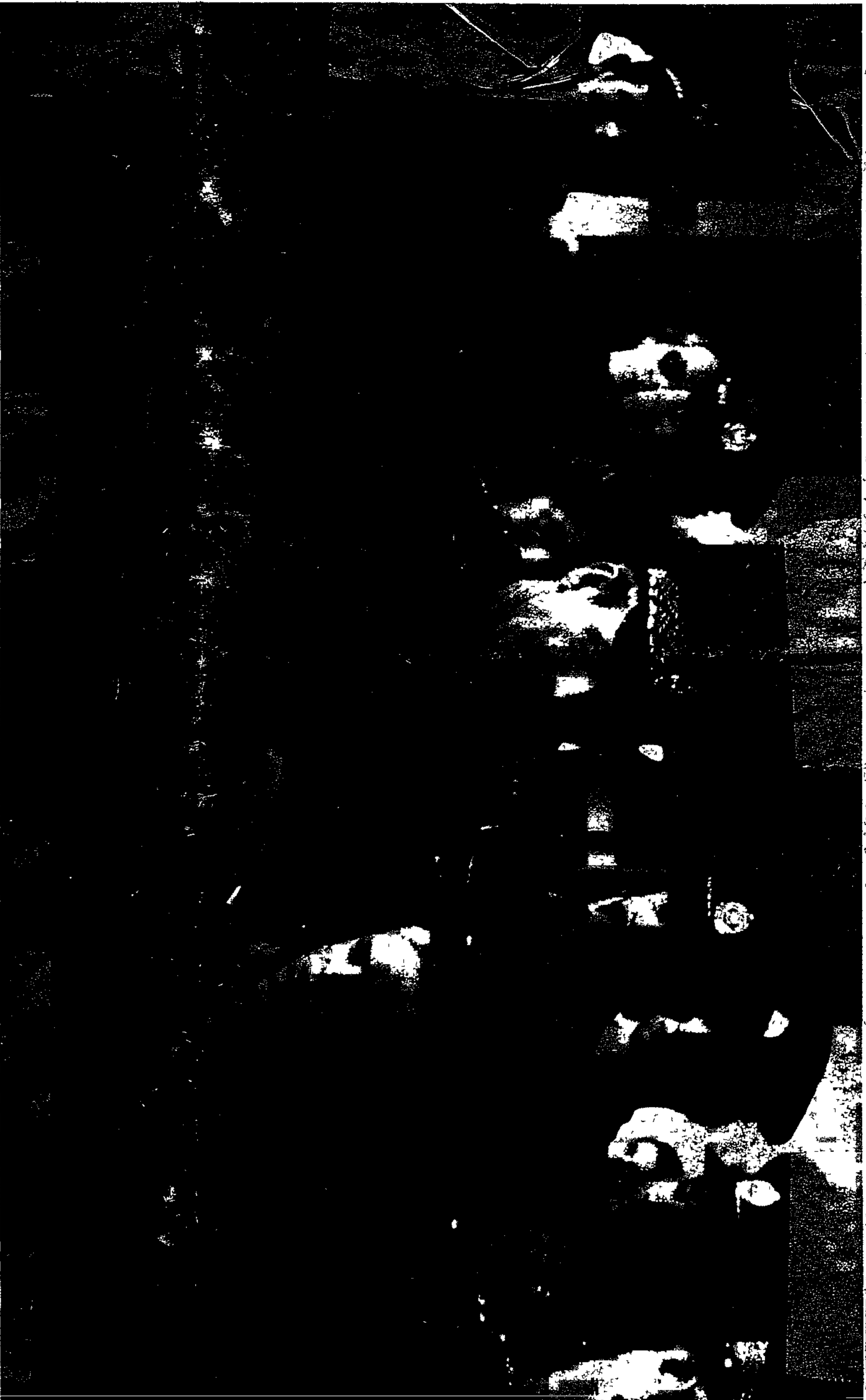
● Whether it would in any
way impinge on the parlia-
mentary rights and privi-
leges of members to speak
on any matter, subject only
to the rules of Parliament
itself;

● Whether it would inter-
rupt normal law enforce-
ment and judicial pro-
cesses.

Mr Vause Raw, leader of
the NRP, said that the value
of the Advocate-General
would depend entirely on
whether the new machinery

Stowaway Vincent Kelly is surrounded by policemen on his arrival at Jan Smuts Airport from Britain

Picture: JAMES SOULLIER



blasted the Springfield home of Mr Naidoo at 2:20 am.

Twenty minutes later, a man using an R1 7,62 mm rifle fired a single burst of at least eight shots at the Overport home of Mr Strachan.

One of the bullets went through the front door and tore into the wooden flooring in the dining room, only two metres away from where an attempt was made on Mr Strachan's life last August.

The high velocity rifle used on Mr Strachan's home is standard issue in the South African Defence Force.

Mr Naidoo's neighbour saw two white men in a "pale green combi" outside his Foxglove Place home when the single shot boomed through the night.

And a milkman who was delivering in Chapel Street, where Mr Strachan lives, told police he saw a "yellow" combi.

●To page 3

Underdog is bowls champ

By TED PARTRIDGE

UNDERDOG Terry Freeme, a 41-year-old works study officer from the De Beers diamond mine in Kimberley, turned in a sparkling performance yesterday in Cape Town to become the 1979 South African men's bowls champion.

He crushed odds-on favourite, Springbok Kevin Campbell 22-7 in one of the most one-sided finals at the SA tournament in years.

In a sensational fightback, Bulawayo Raylton beat Doug Watson's favourite Springswood team in the fours final. The Eastern Transvaalers led 18-5 at one stage before the Rhodesians stormed back to win 19-18 at the 21st end.

Warrant

Dr Rhodie claims the release of the tapes and documents will disclose top-level co-responsibility for the defunct department's secret projects.

He decided to withhold this material after Gen Van den Bergh and a Johannesburg businessman, Mr Josias van Zyl, had spoken to him in Paris.

Later the Government withdrew the passports of Gen Van den Bergh and Mr Van Zyl and issued a warrant for the arrest of Dr Rhodie.

"I am fed up with the whole thing, including the bad publicity," the retired head of the former Bureau for State Security said on his farm.

"What I did in going to Paris to see Eschel and persuade him not to release the tapes or documents was for the sake of South Africa, not for Eschel or the Government.

"But look at the reaction: They take our passports away and now they have issued a warrant for Eschel's arrest.

"As far as I know, Eschel does not yet know about the warrant."

Binding

He said Dr Rhodie had contacted him on Thursday afternoon to ask whether he could go ahead and sell the tapes for "several hundreds of thousands of rand".

After speaking to him, Gen Van den Bergh told me Dr Rhodie wanted to know whether the agreement with Mr Van Zyl was still binding.

In terms of that agreement, Dr Rhodie would become Mr Van Zyl's representative overseas and would, in turn, undertake not to release the secret material.

Since the passports had been withdrawn, he was again thinking of selling the

●To page 3

By NEIL HOOPER

DR ESCHEL Rhoodie's "dynamite" — the secrets of his 41 tapes — was set to explode on the international scene this weekend.

The former Secretary for Information was contemplating a new deal to sell the tapes for "hundreds of thousands of rands" tomorrow.

And General Hendrik van den Bergh, embittered and angry at the withdrawal of his passport, was threatening to tell him: "Do it"

Mystery guns blast homes of ex-banned men

By G R NAIDOO

POLICE have begun a full-scale investigation into the shootings early yesterday at the homes of two prominent Durban men.

They are art lecturer Mr Harold Strachan and Mr Morgan Naidoo, president of the South African Amateur Swimming Federation.

Both men were formerly banned.

Gunmen using a shotgun

Gen Van den Bergh told the Sunday Times yesterday

"The way I feel now, I will tell Eschel to release the tapes."

He will speak to Dr Rhoodie by telephone tonight.

I have learnt reliably that the tapes include allegations by Dr Rhoodie that

- Several pro-South African speeches delivered by top Western and Third World politicians were in fact drafted in part by Dr Rhoodie.

These are said to include a speech by the French President, Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing, when he was Minister of Finance.

- Information Department money was paid into campaign funds of pro-South African politicians in America — possibly including an American presidential candidate.

- Direct bribes were paid by the Information Department to various politicians.

At the same time, a source close to the former Information Secretary has revealed that Dr Rhoodie will release documents within a fortnight in an attempt to back his allegations of Cabinet involvement in various secret projects.

The cunning little boy, who created a sensation when he stowed away on a British Airways flight from Johannesburg to London on Monday night, looked scared out of his wits.

His father, equally grim-faced, refused to say anything. I asked Vincent if he was happy to be home, and he looked at me blankly.

Only hours before on the aircraft bringing him home, Vincent was chirpy and at ease.

He seemed quite happy

was interrogated by senior policemen at home with his parents present

Now a money row has broken over the lad's head. No one wants to foot the bill for his return and accusations are flying over who is responsible for the stow-away incident.

The cost of fares for Vincent and his welfare escort, who will return to Britain this week, total about R1 800.

British Airways insisted on payment before flying

into his bed to fool his parents that he was asleep if they also demanded the escort, they looked into his room.

Mischief

The fares were met by the Bedfordshire County Social Welfare Department who will now look to Mr Kelly for reimbursement.

But Mr Kelly feels he is not to blame for his son's free trip.

British Airways says it is not their fault the youngster got on their Jumbo jet — airport security at Jan Smuts is to blame.

This is not the first time Vincent has run foul of the authorities.

Apart from stowing away on a flight to East London two months ago, he has got up to other mischief which has brought him to the attention of police.

British Airways has explained that Vincent

At Heathrow, Vincent latched on to a family and brazened his way through checkpoints telling officials he was with his parents

Vincent, with only 8c in his pocket, made his way from Heathrow, which in itself is as big as a provincial capital like Maritzburg, and then across the metropolis to a mainline station

Avoided

He avoided ticket control, wearing only a cotton shirt and light pants in bitter snowy winter weather and reached his destination of Leighton Buzzard in Bedfordshire, where his beloved granny, 65-year-old Mrs Florence Kelly lives.

By a 5 000-to-one chance he walked into a shop and asked the owner if he knew her and he took him to her home.

Mrs Kelly said: "He was blue with cold, but completely calm. In his mind he knew what he was doing. He had simply made up his mind to see his gran."

Kallie, Gerrie—R1m rematch

By GORDON MCINTYRE

The long-awaited rematch between Kallie Knoetze and Gerrie Coetsee for the South African heavyweight boxing title will almost certainly take place next month, their managers, Billy Lotter and Hai Tucker

said yesterday.

Both camps are discussing the terms, date and venue with matchmaker Maurice Towel.

Mr Lotter intends to appeal against the US court decision upholding the State Department's revocation of Knoetze's

visa. But he admits there is little hope of Knoetze's having a shot at the world title.

The same problem faces Coetsee.

His visa application has not yet been refused, but he will probably not get the TV coverage essential for his proposed fight against American John Tate in May.

Mr Tucker said a fight between the South African boxers

could make up to R1-million. "We would fill any stadium in South Africa."

American promoter Bob Arum has assured me that Gerrie still has a slight chance of fighting Tate.

"He says he has been told that if the State Department gives Gerrie a visa, then the television networks may reconsider their boycott of the fight."

Row over bills for jet

By RIC WILSON

LITTLE stowaway Vincent Kelly, was force-marched from Jan Smuts Airport yesterday amid a squad of at least a dozen burly Railways policemen.

The blond 12-year old adventurer was grim-faced and on the verge of tears as he was bundled through the airport terminal to a waiting car.

At times his feet were not touching the ground, with his father, Mr Michael Kelly, clutching one arm and a policeman tightly holding the other.

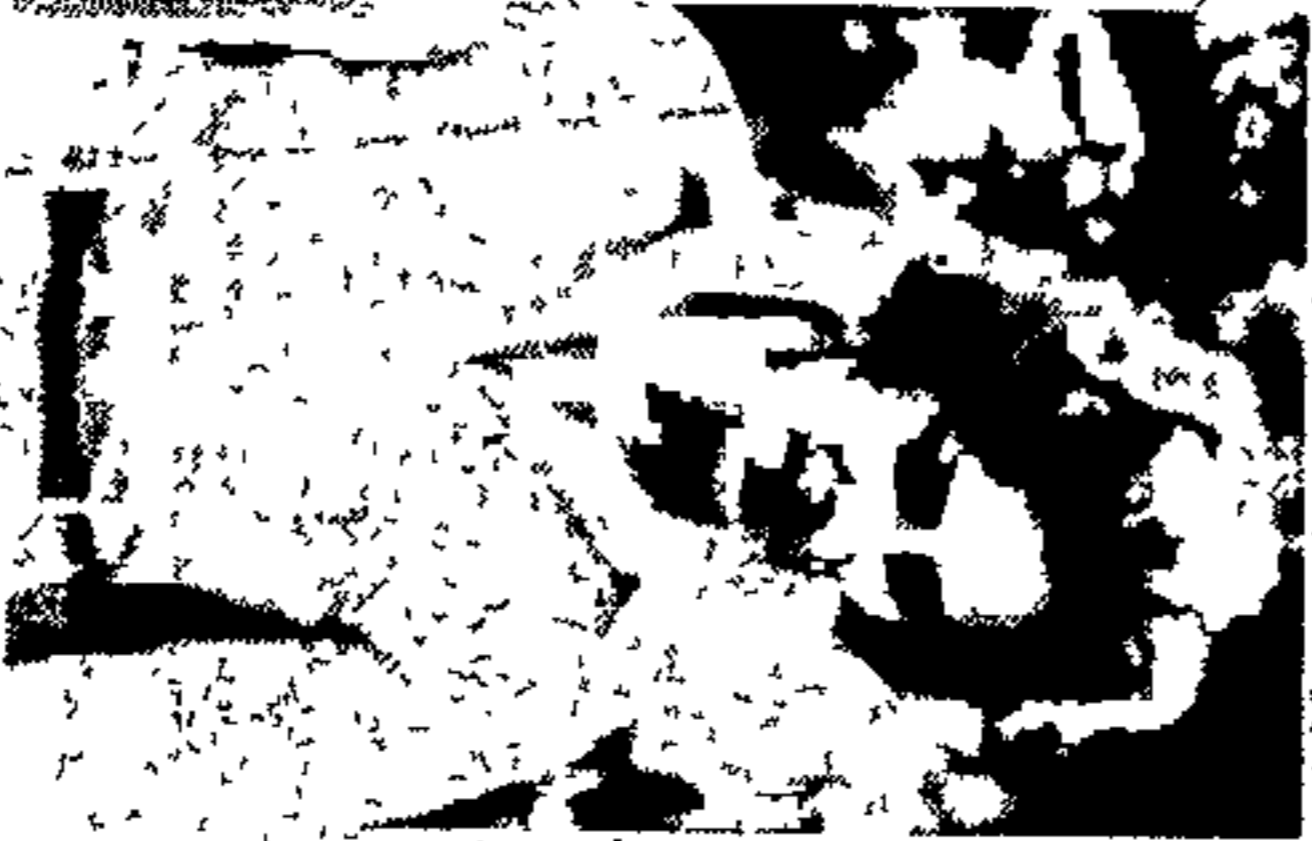
Scores of arriving passengers and waiting relatives were swept aside and one shocked air hostess cried, "Leave the little lad alone."

on the plane. He spent most of his time reading comics which we gave him," said one of the hostesses who cared for him.

Waiting to meet the plane were two women from the Benoni and Germiston offices of the Welfare Department. They never saw Vincent being taken from the airport — they left minutes before with the British welfare officer who escorted young Vincent on his flight home.

Escorted

After he was escorted from the airport like a dangerous criminal, Vincent



MRS JEAN KELLY Runaway's mum

It is estimated that communications and staff time cost R2 000-plus, as the British Government, British Airways, the Bedfordshire police, his grandmother, Mrs Florence Kelly, and the South African Embassy's Consular office in London tried to sort out the problem.

Vincent, a Standard 3 pupil, ran away from home because he didn't want to be sent to boarding school after falling two years at Kempton Park Primary School.

He crept out of his home in Rhodesfield, on Sunday night, after tucking a pillow

boarded his plane after scaling the security fence at Jan Smuts.

He hid by a bush near the apron.

When a bus pulled up to off-load passengers, he boldly walked among them and on to the plane.

He immediately hid in the toilet and came out when the plane was airborne, finding himself an empty seat.

The British Airways hostesses, obviously proud of their "Care-line" slogan, looked after what they thought was an unaccompanied passenger.

**RHOOD
SET TO**

IE BOMB

BLOW

Sun. Times

18/3/79

(259)

259

Rhodie's new boss spent R14 000
on clothes for himself and his brother—
and charged it up to the company



Mr Van Zyl.
A court
found him
'evasive'
and 'less
than frank
and truthful'

JOE VAN ZYL'S amazing shopping spree

Rhoodie says he has proof

R ESCHEL RHOODIE confirmed yesterday that he had documentary evidence proving secret Department of Information projects involving the transfer of money' to major political figures in several Western countries, as well as overseas labour unions.

Statement by Rhoodie

He said the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, knew of all these projects, which had been approved by the informal Cabinet sub-committee which Dr Rhoodie still insists monitored all secret projects of the department.



(259)

THE RHODDIE STORY + THE RHODDIE STORY + THE RHODDIE STORY + THE RHODDIE STORY + THE RHODDIE STORY

SA envoy confiscates Mrs Rhoodie's documents

From STANLEY UYS
London Editor

LONDON — Personal documents which Mrs Kalie Rhoodie took to the South African Embassy in Paris last week for certification were confiscated by the Ambassador, Mr Louis Pienaar, who told her that they belonged to the State

This information was conveyed to the Cape Times this weekend by Mrs Rhoodie, who is in Europe
Mr Pienaar declined to comment when I spoke to him yesterday He said "You are obviously in touch with Mrs Rhoodie She is



Antecent photograph of Dr and Mrs Eschel Rhoodie

aware of the facts of the situation. I suggest you approach her "

The loss of the documents could hinder the Rhoodies in their attempt to establish residence in a country outside South Africa

Mrs Rhoodie called at the South African Embassy in Paris towards the end of last week and presented various personal family documents for certification and copying Among the documents was her marriage certificate and the birth certificates of the Rhoodie children

Mrs Rhoodie also presented a letter from the family's lawyer in Pretoria, Mr Etienne le Roux, stating that he had known the Rhoodies for 20 years and that they had never committed a crime

Mrs Rhoodie required the embassy to certify that the documents were true and correct

She said she was kept waiting for about an hour, and was then called in by Mr Pienaar. He told her he was attaching the documents because they were State property He also asked her to surrender her identity book

The ambassador handed Mrs Rhoodie a letter for her husband informing him that his passport had been withdrawn

"I'll now" Dr Rhoodie has had no official confirmation of the withdrawal of his passport He claims all he knows is what he has read in newspapers

Mrs Rhoodie left the embassy without the documents she had brought in for certification, but with the letter for her husband given to her by the ambassador

Mrs Rhoodie claims, however, that she was so distraught when she left the embassy and took a taxi to return to her hotel that she left the letter, which was in a zip bag, in the taxi and has not been able to recover it

Dr Rhoodie's view, I understand, is that he has still not been officially informed of the withdrawal of his passport, and proposes to continue to use it

Payouuts' allies

BELOW Celebrating the launch of To the Point with Dr Rhoodie are, from left, Mr Gordon van der Merwe, then editor of the international edition of the magazine, Mr Hubert Jussen, then chairman of SA Today, the company that operated the magazine, and Mr Martin Duyzings, chief of the editorial board

THE following is the statement which the former Secretary of Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, issued to the Rand Daily Mail from his hideout in Europe yesterday.

It would appear from newspaper reports in the European press that Mr Josias van Zyl is financially unable to live up to the offer he made me in Paris in the presence of his lawyer, Mr Brian Kahn, and General and Mrs Hendrik van den Bergh.

Mr Van Zyl's lawyer has not yet informed me of any developments and until such time as I receive a letter from him advising me that the contract will not be concluded, I will honour



General Van den Bergh



Dr Connie Mulder

my part of the agreement. One thing I do not intend to proceed with in any case is to release the tapes and documentary evidence I have of the government's secret propaganda war. The decision I took in Paris not to do so was based on considerations other than just financial.

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To page 2

B

Dr Rhoodie also alleged that the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, had participated in plans for the launching of two secret publication projects similar in principle to the Citizen — both of which are still operating.

He refused to name the publications, because of his undertaking not to disclose secret projects, but it was evident from the dates Dr Rhoodie gave for these projects that one of them was To The Point.

Referring to the warrant of arrest that has been issued against him on charges of fraud and theft, Dr Rhoodie protested his innocence and pointed out that the timing of Mr Botha's announcement was "extraordinary". He accused the Prime Minister of pursuing a campaign against him because he had blamed the whole government for the Information debacle and refused to be the scapegoat.

He also disclosed that, after "much agonizing", he had decided not to release his 41

PM pledges to go to the country — page 2

tapes and documents on the secret projects — in spite of the fact that his deal with

British MP to seek asylum for Rhoodie

Own Correspondent

LONDON. — A leading socialist MP is to ask Parliament to grant Dr Eschel Rhoodie political asylum in Britain and the protection of the security services, here.

The move by the former Arts Minister, Mr Hugh Jenkins, who represents Labour's Putney constituency in London, is not out of sympathy.

Mr Jenkins suspects that General Hendrik van den Bergh was referring to Britain when he told the South African press that the Information scandal included "projects involving the bribing of politicians, to vote favourably for South Africa in a legislative body of a major Western power".

Mr Jenkins said: "Too many unexplained things have happened here and I believe Dr Rhoodie holds the answer to them. On Monday I am asking the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, to offer Dr Rhoodie political asylum so that he can

rity services to seek an interview with Dr Rhoodie, in Britain or abroad.

Mr Jenkins said the statements made by the former Prime Minister, Sir Harold Wilson in Parliament in March and May of 1976 that heavily-financed South African subversion was being carried out in Britain, using false business fronts, had been almost prophetic.

"These matters must be answered urgently, particularly if there has been corruption." One of Mr Jenkins's best known constituents is Peter Hain, the anti-apartheid radical who was charged with robbing a branch of Barclays Bank of more than R800 in 1975.

In a dramatic Old Bailey trial which ended in his acquittal, Mr Hain said he may have been deliberately framed by South African agents using a "double" of himself to carry out the bank snatch.

Mr Hain said yesterday: "I

CID bid to have Rhoodie extradited

JOHANNESBURG — Machinery was being put into motion to have Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the former secretary for Department of Information, returned to South Africa, SATV last night quoted the Deputy Commissioner of the South African Police in charge of the Criminal Investigation Department, Lieutenant-General J F Kleinhaus, as saying.

SATV said General Kleinhaus had expressed optimism that Dr Rhoodie could be back in the country within three weeks. It would depend largely on where he was traced.

The general said South Africa had extradition agreements with many countries and added that Dr Rhoodie would possibly be declared a prohibited immigrant in other countries.

A warrant for Dr Rhoodie's arrest on charges of fraud and alternatively theft was issued by the Attorney-General of Transvaal, Mr J E Nothing, last week — Sapa

General Hendrik van den Bergh and Mr Josias van Zyl to keep silent had apparently collapsed.

Dr Rhoodie made these statements to the Rand Daily Mail after meeting the editor of the newspaper, Mr Allister Sparks, who flew to see him in his European hideout last week for discussions about the tapes and documents.

Money involved

"It is true," said Dr Rhoodie, "that some of the secret projects involved major political figures in more than one Western country, and that money was involved."

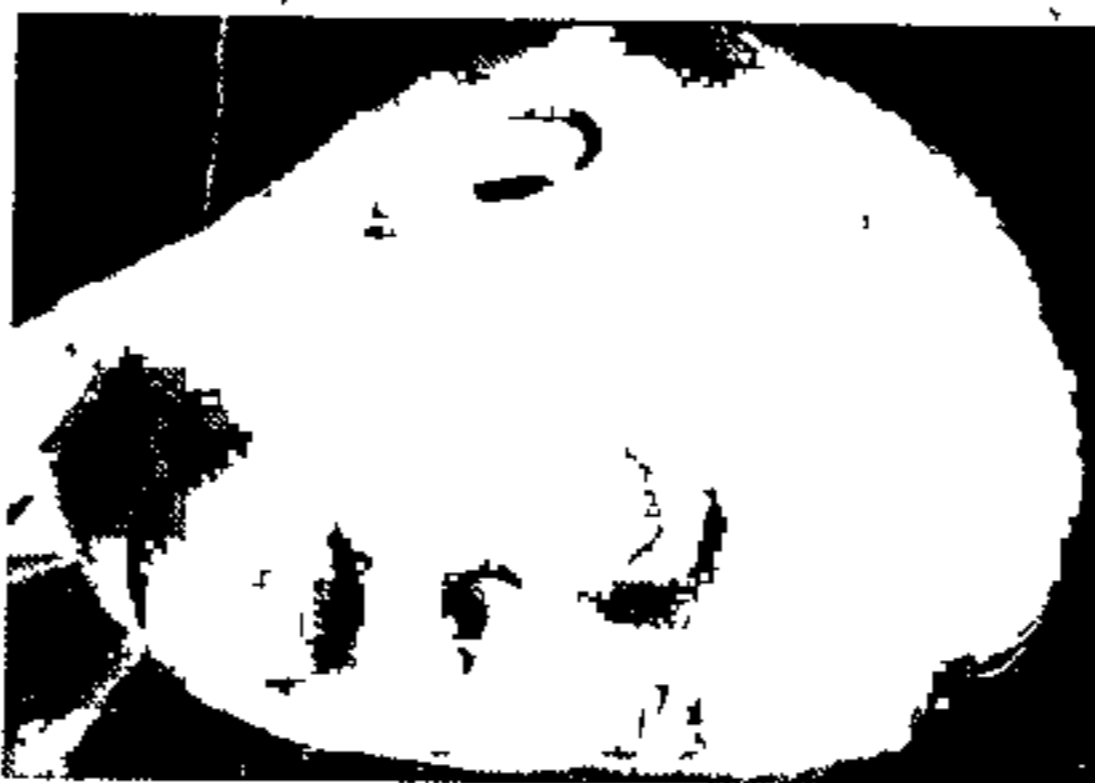
"Projects concerning labour unions were also undertaken, involving the transfer

Minister of Finance) agreed to in principle, of running a propaganda war in which no rules would apply.

In spite of strenuous government denials, Dr Rhoodie said he would maintain "to my dying day" that the secret projects were monitored by an informal Cabinet committee, and that Mr Vorster and Senator Owen Horwood knew of and provided the funds for these projects.

"Mr Vorster not only knew of the Citizen project," he said, "but even went so far as to nominate Mr Jaap Theron for the post of political corre-

→ → →
To page 2



Sir Harold Wilson



Mr Merlyn Rees

open the can of worms in safety." Mr Jenkins is also asking the Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, to get the British security.

am delighted that Hugh Jenkins is getting Muldergate raised in Parliament I am sure I was framed and so is Sir Harold Wilson."

Rhoodie 'appears afraid of some dreadful thing'

DR ESCHEL RHOODIE appeared to be afraid that some kind of dreadful thing would be done to him if he disclosed the secret projects, the Editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Allister Sparks, said yesterday after meeting the former Secretary for Information in his European hideout.

"He told me that ominous threats had been conveyed to him," said Mr Sparks. "He told me he had become obsessed about his personal security and this had become the main consideration in his mind, overriding his initial desire to tell all."

Mr Sparks said that outwardly Dr Rhoodie was still the dapper, self-confident man South Africans had known, but that after four months on the run signs of tension were beginning to show. "He is moving constantly and you can only get

in touch with him through his elaborate security rignarole he has set up and which is known to only a few trusted people. "It is an unbelievable way to live and a man with a thinner skin and less resilience would have cracked long ago."



MR J.F. Ludorf alleged killers were former Congo mercenaries who had fought under the command of Colonel Mike Hoare.

Ludorf — colourful judicial officer

MR Joseph Francis Ludorf was born in Pretoria on November 14, 1913. He was educated at King Ed-

ward VII School, Johannesburg, Pretoria Boys' High School, Christian Brothers College, Pretoria, and the University of Pretoria where he studied law.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1936, elevated to the Bench in 1955, and retired because of ill health in July 1973.

A colourful judicial officer, Mr Ludorf, universally known as Joe, sentenced about 500 people to death during his term as a judge. Most of these escaped the gallows because of his own report that sentence should not be carried out.

At one time and another he gave judgments involving at least 50 Cabinet Ministers in their official capacities.

He tried the Johannesburg station bomber, Frederick John Harris, and sentenced him to death. Harris was hanged.

In one of the earliest terrorist trials, he defen-

ded Robey Leibrandt, accused of treason during World War 2.

Recently Mr Ludorf became embroiled in a dispute with the Johannesburg Society of Advocates who refused him admission, but, as forthright as ever, he went ahead and he has been practising as a senior counsel in defiance of the Transvaal Bar Council's ruling that this would be unethical.

At the time he said: 'I was admitted as an advocate to the Transvaal Division of the Supreme Court. That is a right I have been given and no one can take it away.'

Since his retirement, he has also been working on a three volume autobiography which will not be published before his death because it is defamatory.

An executive member of the National Party in the Transvaal, former Judge Ludorf has always — although he was educated at English-speaking schools — been an ardent Afrikaner.

By Argus Staff Reporter Bert van Hees

TWO Germans were hired to murder Dr Robert Smit and his wife for a fee of R30 000 each, according to a former South African Airways pilot.

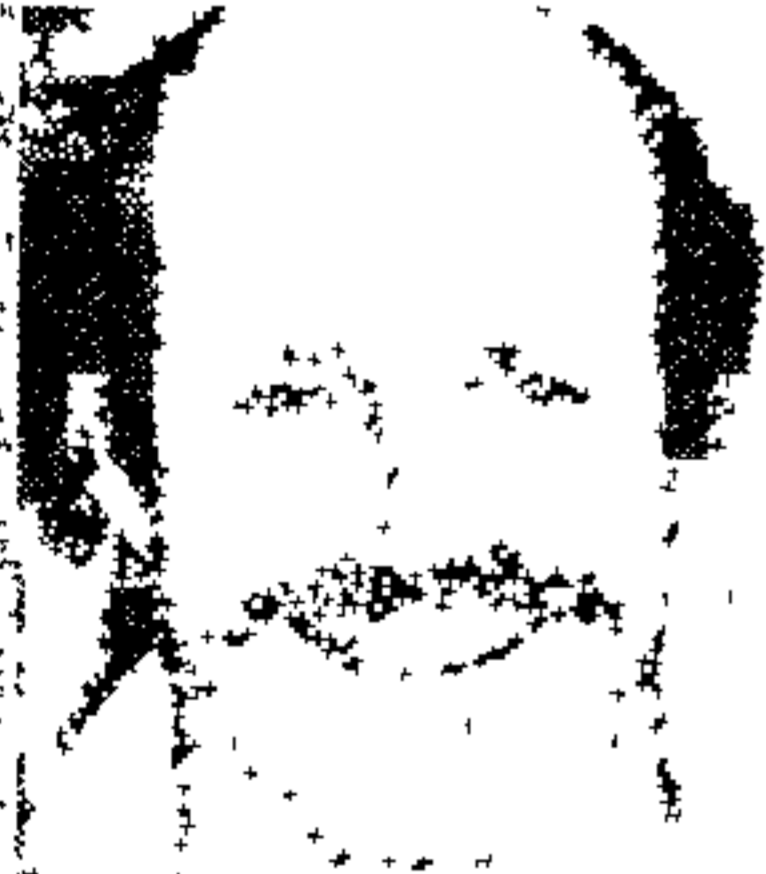
In a dramatic attempt to save his own life, the pilot, who fears that he knows too much about the brutal slayings, and other matters, has desperately sought protection from former Transvaal Supreme Court judge, Mr J F Ludorf, SC.

These and other extraordinary claims are made by the former judge in a statement today. The police are aware of the details but are treating some of them with reserve.

In an exclusive interview with The Argus last night, Mr Ludorf disclosed that the alleged killers were former Congo mercenaries who had fought under the command of Colonel Mike Hoare.

Police told

Mr Ludorf said he himself genuinely believed that his client's life was in danger. A statement has been given to the police, he said, and it was imperative that certain



Dr Robert Smit



Mrs Jeanne-Cora Smit

Top Nat, wife found head in home

...ms for dead
...ple's children

Interests of

FLASHBACK to November 23 1977, when Dr and Mrs Smit were found slain in their Springs home.

Smit was shot three times and stabbed

DR ROBERT SMIT and his wife Jeanne-Cora were found murdered in their home in Selcourt, a select suburb of Springs, on November 23 1977 — a home they had occupied a few weeks before to enable Dr Smit to conduct his election campaign in that constituency.

Dr Smit was shot three times in the head, in the neck and the chest, and stabbed once in the back. Mrs Smit was also shot three times in the head, left side and right knee. She was stabbed deeply 14 times and once superficially.

facts be made public immediately.

I am making this statement with a polite request to the Press to publish it in the interests of my client who has approached me in my capacity as counsel because he fears for his life.

What he told me is secret and privileged between counsel and client and this being so I am not going to disclose my client's name because the people at whom this statement is directed will know who he is and it is my intention that they should know who he is.

His statement is thoroughly corroborated by documents, witnesses who heard discussions, and other witnesses and all the circumstances surrounding the events to which he testifies.

Statement

My client's statement is already in the hands of the police who asked him many questions in my presence.

Photostat copies will be preserved in my own safe, the safe of an attorney and another in the safe of a friend so that in the event

(Continued on Page 3, col 7)

RAU TEM

The letters RAU and TEM in red paint were found sprayed on the kitchen wall and the refrigerator.

From a police reconstruction of the crime it appeared Mrs Smit had been killed in the house between 8.30 and 9 pm on November 22. The killers then waited in the house with her body until Dr Smit arrived home shortly before midnight, when he was killed.

NO EXPLANATION

No satisfactory explanation for the presence of the letters RAU and TEM has been found.

At the age of 37, Dr Smit was appointed executive director of the International Monetary Fund. He was also a director of Santam International.

In his election pamphlet for the 1977 general election, in which he was the National Party candidate for Springs, Dr Robert van Schalkwyk Smit, 44, was described as 'a family man, economist, sportsman and man of the world.'

Mrs Smit was born at Rouxville in the Free State and the couple were married in Britain while Dr Smit was studying at Oxford.

BBC to screen TV interview with Rhodie

LONDON. — An interview with South Africa's former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, is to be screened on BBC television tomorrow.



Mrs Rhodie



Dr Eschel Rhodie

SA denies that Rhodie papers were confiscated

Political Correspondent

THE Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday that documents taken to the Paris embassy by Mrs Katie Rhodie had been posted to her lawyer in Holland after authentication.

The department denied reports that the documents had been confiscated, saying they had been "retained in safekeeping" pending approval of Mrs Rhodie's request.

Mrs Rhodie had been informed personally last Friday of the approval and she had asked for the documents to be posted to Holland.

This happened when she telephoned the embassy, as she had declined to inform them where she could be contacted.

Mrs Rhodie, wife of the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, is reported to have taken for authentication documents which would help them establish residence outside South Africa. These included her marriage certificate and their children's birth certificates.

A warrant has been issued for Dr Rhodie's arrest on a charge of fraud.

The department said in a

statement that Mrs Rhodie had approached the Paris embassy last Thursday requesting authentication of South African documents for herself and other members of her family.

"The request was routine in the sense that a wide range of consular services are made available by South African diplomatic and consular missions to South African citizens abroad on behalf of the Department of the Interior.

"The request was referred to South Africa for approval and pending the decision, the documents were retained by the embassy in safe-keeping.

"There was no question of confiscation and the retention of the documents until a decision was received was routine and standard practice.

"The decision was received during the afternoon of the same day, Thursday, March 15," the statement said.

"Mrs Rhodie had in the meantime left the embassy, saying that she would be in touch.

The BBC said the interview with Dr Rhodie would be screened on Wednesday's "Tonight" programme.

Presenter David Dimbleby and producer David Harrison are expected to tell at a press briefing tomorrow how they obtained the interview, and to release extracts.

"But we'll keep the juiciest bits back for the programme," a BBC spokesman said.

Harrison and Dimbleby were involved in a recent BBC series about the Afrikaner.

The spokesman said the 40-minute programme's sub-title would be "Rhodie Speaks Out", and it would have "some of his tapes on it".

Meanwhile, Britain's Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, is to be asked in the Commons next week if he would grant political asylum to Dr Rhodie in exchange for the former Dr Rhodie "telling all" on the Information affair.

A letter from anti-apartheid activist Mr Peter Hain to Labour MP Mr Hugh Jenkins was passed on to Mr Callaghan yesterday suggesting that Dr Rhodie should be interviewed by Britain's security services so he could "spill the beans" about the scandal.

Mr Hain said Mr Jenkins, Labour MP for Putney in southwest London, would be asking the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, in the House if he would grant political asylum to Dr Rhodie so he could be interviewed "over the question of disruption and manipulation of British political life by South African agents".

Similar question

Mr Jenkins would be asking Mr Callaghan a similar question next week.

Mr Hain, former leader of the Young Liberals, is now on the executive of the Putney Labour Party and a close associate of Mr Jenkins.

In his letter to Mr Jenkins, Mr Hain said "So far as Britain is concerned there is a prime facie case for suspecting that the information in Rhodie's possession may concern a series of attempts to manipulate

British politics and also to discredit the activities of British anti-apartheid campaigners."

He recalled the "extraordinary events" of 1975 and 1976, which, he said, had seemed to implicate the South African Bureau for State Security, and made particular reference to Sir Harold Wilson's statement on South Africa meddling in British politics shortly before he resigned as Prime Minister.

Bank theft

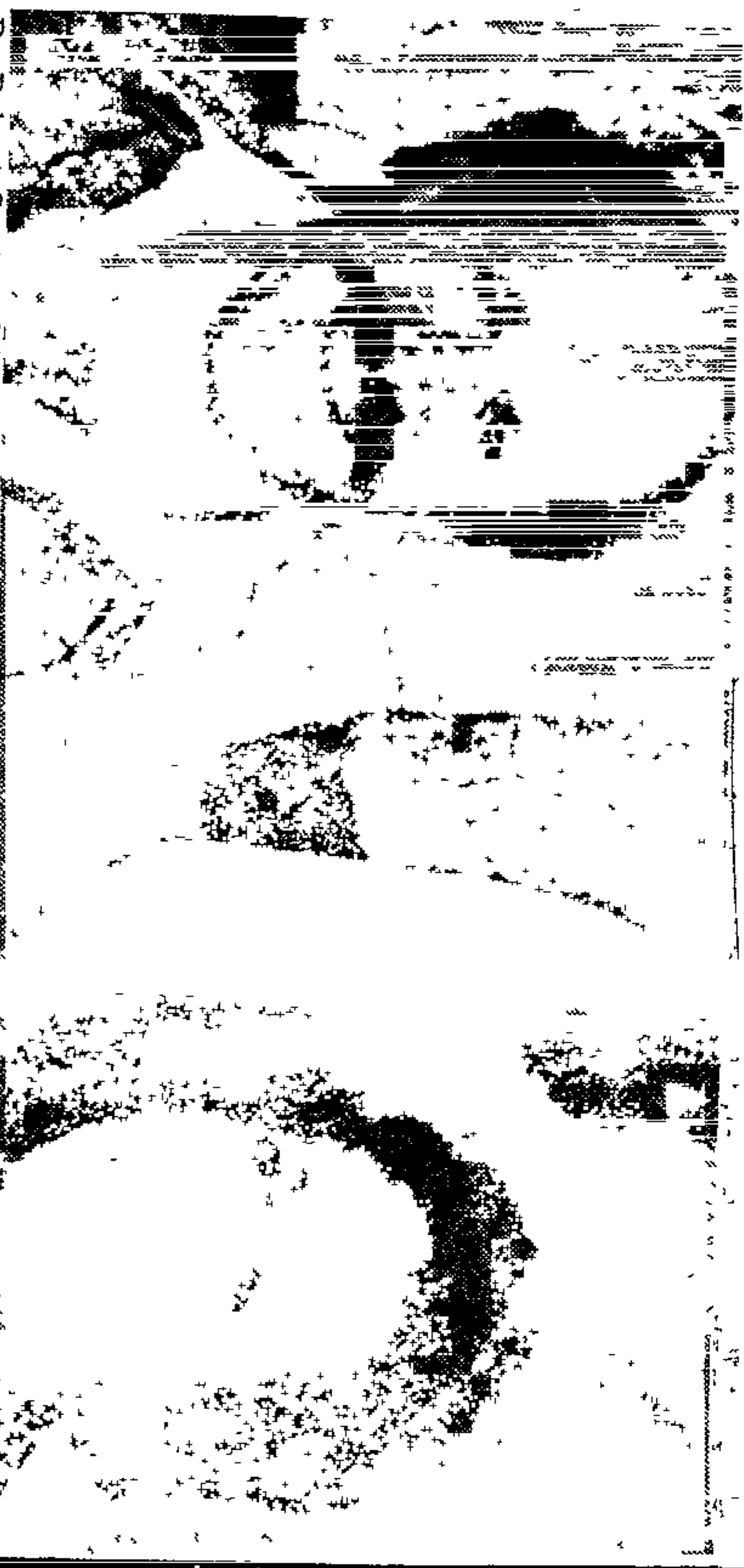
Mr Hain also mentioned his bank theft charge of October, 1975, on which he was acquitted in April, 1976.

"The charge rested on a number of unusual coincidences and it was suggested at the time that I may well have been framed by a South African agent who was my double."

The British Home Office, meanwhile, has said that the question of granting political asylum to Dr Rhodie would be considered only once an application from him had been received.

A spokesman for the Home Office said "It is only when an application is received from an individual seeking so-called political asylum that the matter is considered. In each case it is considered on its merits." — Own Correspondent and Sapa-Teuter-AP

Who Killed Smits are known



Dr. Robert Smits and his wife Jeanne Cora, photographed shortly before they were murdered in November 1977.

SMR 2013/77

259

R60 000
was fee
for
murders
— ex-judge

MR LUDORF
By Bert van Hees, for The Star
Cape Town

Ex-judge of the Transvaal Supreme Court
Mr J F Ludorf, SC, claimed today that two
German men were hired to murder Dr
it and his wife.

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' Geesbecht Willem's diete
korsten, und hetteno und

He claimed he got his information from a former South African Airways pilot.

In the dramatic attempt to save his own life, the pilot, who fears that he knows too much about the brutal slayings, and other matters, has desperately sought his protection Mr Ludorf alleged.

In a statement issued last night, Mr Ludorf claimed the alleged killers were former Congo mercenaries who had fought under the command of Colonel Mike Hoare.

The pilot is to give evidence before the Erasmus Commission.

These and other extraordinary claims are made by the ex-judge in a statement today. The police have been aware of the details, but are treating many of them with reserve. The Star is now checking with all available sources.

Mr Ludorf said he himself genuinely believed his client's life was in danger. A statement had been given to the police, he said, and it was imperative that certain facts be made public immediately.

"I am making this statement with a polite request to the Press to publish it in the interests of my client who has approached me in my capacity as counsel because he is in fear of his life," he said.

"What he told me is secret and privileged between counsel and client and in this case I am also not going to disclose my client's name because the people at whom this statement is directed will know who he is and it is my intention that they should know who he is.

"His statement is so thoroughly corroborated by documents, witnesses who heard discussions, and other witnesses, and all the circumstances surrounding the events to which he testifies," he claimed.

"My client's statement is already in the hands of the police who asked him many questions in my presence and photostat copies will be preserved in my own safe, the safe of an attorney and another in the safe of a friend.

"This is in the event of my client being shot dead or being killed in an accident or stabbed to death by thugs, or meeting an unnatural death in any other manner.

"It will be of no benefit to the killers because the evidence will remain preserved in the light of all the other corroborating evidence.

"Furthermore in the event of the untimely death of my client the police will in the circumstances reveal the statement, know who to arrest for the murder of my client," Mr Ludorf claimed.

Erasmus Commission

"My client intends to give this evidence before the Erasmus Commission and to submit himself to cross-examination by the commission and its advocates, but I doubt that we will make the deadline of March '31 set by the Prime Minister.

"Because I am satisfied of the truth of the contents of the statements, I now know that Dr and Mrs Smit were murdered by two German 'contractors' for a fee of R30 000 each, when Dr Smit was a candidate in the general election," he said.

"I know that the 'contractors' flew from Luton Airport near London to Lanseria airport near Rodepoort. I know of their flight plans filed from Luton to Lanseria and return, whose aircraft they landed at 3 am and the date, who the pilot was, in whose car they were taken from Lanseria to Springs, where Dr Smit and his wife were murdered," he claimed.

"I know that the two killers were immediately afterwards taken back to Lanseria, from where they returned to London in the same aircraft before dawn the following day.

Mr Ludorf added "I know who drove the car, I know who the police officer was who investigated the murder, but was unable to solve it or arrest a suspect. I do not know where the R60,000 was paid over, but that has been ascertained.

"The originals of the documents belonging to my client were taken from him on two occasions by the Security Police. The first time it happened as follows:

"My client's former attorney, who was also involved in the relevant transactions and is named in the state-

Rhodie still gets ²⁵⁴ his pension from SA

Political Staff
CAPE TOWN — Former Secretary for Information, Dr. Eschel Rhodie, is being paid his public service pension despite his apparent refusal to return to South Africa where a warrant for his arrest has been issued.

The Secretary for Social Welfare and Pensions, Mr H. P. J. van Vuuren, said today he knew of no law that stipulated Dr Rhodie's pension should be withheld.

Dr Rhodie was legally entitled to the pension and could sue if he did not get it.

Asked where the pension was being paid, Mr van Vuuren said he did not know.

Dr Rhodie's pension amounts to about R500 a month. On retirement in 1971, at the age of 64, when his department was replaced by a bureau, he also received a lump sum payment of about R18 000.

Link with \$50-an-hour De Kieffer believed cut

STAR 2/3/79

249

By Hugh Robertson
The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — The South African Government is believed to have abruptly ended its curious relationship with Mr Donald de Kieffer, the Washington lawyer who worked for the former Department of Information.

Highly placed sources in Congress say that no explanation has so far been forthcoming for the decision.

Justice Department records show that although Mr de Kieffer and his firm, De Kieffer and Associates, were paid enormous fees by the Department of Information, no written contract has ever existed between them.

Mr de Kieffer was paid a fee of 50 dollars (R42,37) an hour, plus all expenses, and between February 14 and May 5 last year he was paid 236 245 dollars (R200 207)

by the South African Government.

The unwritten understanding which Mr de Kieffer had with the Department of Information over the years appears to have been reliable enough for him to employ a full-time consultant, Mr Donald Johnson at a salary of 5 000 dollars (R4 237) a month, which is enormous even by American standards.

According to the latest report made by Mr de Kieffer to the US Department of Justice in terms of the Foreign Agents Registration Act, he gave a total of 2 500 dollars (R2 613) to American politicians and political organisations last year.

Among the beneficiaries were Senator Robert Griffin, the Republican National Committee, Congressman Richard Ichord, Congressmen Philip Crane, Senator William Hathaway

and Congressman Charles Carney.

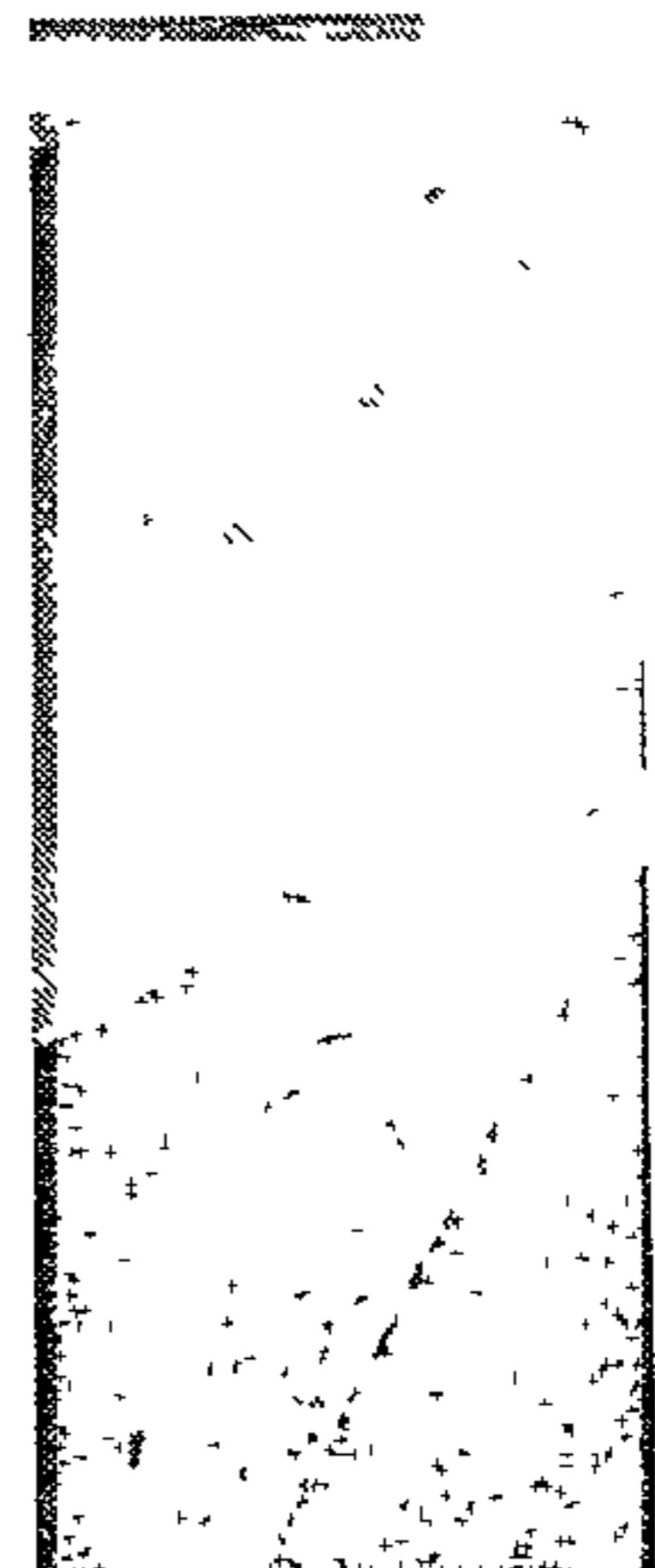
All these contributions were entirely lawful and there is no suggestion of impropriety either by Mr de Kieffer or the beneficiaries.

In his list of disbursements made on behalf of the South African Government, Mr de Kieffer reported giving only 56 dollars (R47,45) in the last six months of 1978.

The donations and contributors were not itemised.

ENTERTAINMENT

In the same six month period, Mr de Kieffer spent 14 810 dollars (R12 550) on entertainment on behalf of the South African Government and 17 284 dollars (R14 647 on rent, legal and overhead expenses. A further 9 000 dollars (R7 627) was spent on "various" legal costs.



Mr de Kieffer . . . curious relationship.

Rhodie asked R170 000 for top signatures

The Star Bureau
LONDON—The BBC has refused an offer by Dr Eschel Rhodie to reveal documentation allegedly containing the signatures of people like Mr B J Vorster and Senator Owen Horwood in exchange for a fee of R170 000.

This emerged today at a Press conference previewing a BBC interview Dr Rhodie gave David Dimbleby to be broadcast tomorrow night.

But the former Secretary of Information has given the BBC a photocopy of a document he

believes proves that present members of the Cabinet were involved.

Mr Dimbleby said the amount mentioned by Dr Rhodie was "ridiculously high".

But he was confident that Dr Rhodie had agreed to the interview

with the BBC because he was trying to clear his name and "wanted to prove that he did nothing against the South African Government and the South African people, and that other people knew about the project".

● Disclosures by Dr

Rhodie on BBC television tomorrow will not be screened on television news in South Africa, a spokesman for the SABC said.

She did not know whether it would be broadcast in other television programmes.

ERASMUS to start Cabinet probe

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — The Erasmus Commission will sit in Cape Town from tomorrow in special session to investigate whether Cabinet members knew about the Citizen affair and irregularities in the former Information Department

The special session is being held at the request of the Prime Minister, Mr PW Botha, who announced in Parliament last week that the commission's terms of reference had been extended to investigate and evaluate the political culpability of the Government

The chairman, Mr Justice Rudolph Erasmus, is expected to fly to Cape Town from Bloemfontein today. The commission's secretary, Mr J G Geysler, said from Pretoria yesterday that the special sitting, which would be in private, would take place at Marks Building, opposite Parliament

It is not yet certain who would be called to testify before the commission on the Government-culpability aspect of its investigation

Mr H Klem and Mr F van Zyl, both advocates attached to the Erasmus Commission, will not be present at the special sitting in Cape Town

They are both overseas, investigating certain unspecified aspects of the Information affair

BBC set to show 'slush' document

Own Correspondent

LONDON. — Dr Eschel Rhodie, fugitive former Secretary for Information, is making public a document which he believes could force South African Prime Minister Mr P W Botha to resign, a BBC Television interviewer said yesterday

Mr David Dimpleby told newsmen that a photostat of the document would be shown tonight in a BBC TV interview with Dr Rhodie

Asked whether he considered that the document proved Mr Botha knew about the secret "slush fund" projects, Mr Dimpleby only said "I would rather you judged that for yourself when you see it... but obviously we would not have used it if it were rubbish"

He said the interview, conducted at a secret European luxury hotel, also contained details of material Dr Rhodie claims to possess implicating South African leaders and foreign politicians in the Muldergate scandal. But he said it did not contain any new names

One of the chief reasons in granting the interview was that Dr Rhodie, Dr Connie Mulder and General Hendrik van den Bergh were not alone in knowing about Information moves, according to Dr Rhodie — the The Cabinet also knew

"It is for Mr P W Botha to judge if he feels he has to resign and go to the country. Dr Rhodie gives the impression this is so"



Interviewer David Dimpleby, right, talks with Dr Rhodie. a bombshell revelation looms

The South African Prime Minister has said he would resign if present Cabinet members knew of The Citizen project and other irregularities in the spending of secret funds

Mr Dimpleby said Dr Rhodie also refers in the interview to the involvement of the former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, "in all the projects"

A tape of Dr Rhodie's voice, played at the Press conference, says "Being the man in charge, my memory serves as a record and I have dictated everything I know on to tapes"

"I also have other tapes that were not dictated. I have certain documentation containing the signatures of Mr Vorster and Senator Horwood. I also have documentation summarising all the secret projects which the Government have undertaken over the past five

years, including the current projects

"I have code numbers, code names, file numbers, the amount of money spent, the names of people, a summary of the projects, who received what, who was involved in what"

Dr Rhodie says all this information is contained in bank vaults "somewhere in Europe"

● Meanwhile, the two Erasmus Commission officials collecting evidence in London are saying nothing about their plans or their contacts. They are Mr Hendrik Klem, SC, the Deputy Attorney-General for Natal, and Mr Francois van Zyl

● 'Mail' TV Editor Ian Reid says SABC-TV was still debating whether it would screen tonight's BBC-TV interview with Dr Rhodie

"No decision has yet been made," said a Corporation spokesman

Backdown as Mulder rejects Rhodie

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Political Staff
Cape Town



Dr Treurnicht . . . issued statement.

Dr Connie Mulder, the former Minister of Information, has repudiated claims by Dr Eschel Rhodie that the full Cabinet had been told about The Citizen before the 1977 general election.

This announcement was made here today as the disgraced minister and former Transvaal Nationalist leader bowed to party pressure and agreed to withdraw from active politics.

He stated that the Cabinet was told about the newspaper only on September 26 last year. Other secret projects had also not been discussed in the Cabinet.

A statement confirming these points was issued by the Transvaal Nationalist leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht, after a meeting with Dr Mulder which was also attended by the three deputy chairmen of the party in the Transvaal, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, Mr Fanie Botha and Mr Jimmy Kruger

It was Dr Mulder's first public repudiation of Dr Rhodie who claimed earlier that he was told by Dr Mulder and by Mr Kruger (who had since denied it) that the full Cabinet was informed about The Citizen before the 1977 election

Dr Treurnicht said in his statement that Dr Mulder had confirmed that secret projects of the Department of Information had never been discussed at Cabinet meetings

He said Dr Mulder also gave the assurance at the meeting that he remained loyal to the National Party

He undertook not to address any National Party meetings and stated that he had no plans to use National Party organs to propagate his views

Accepted

Dr Treurnicht said Dr

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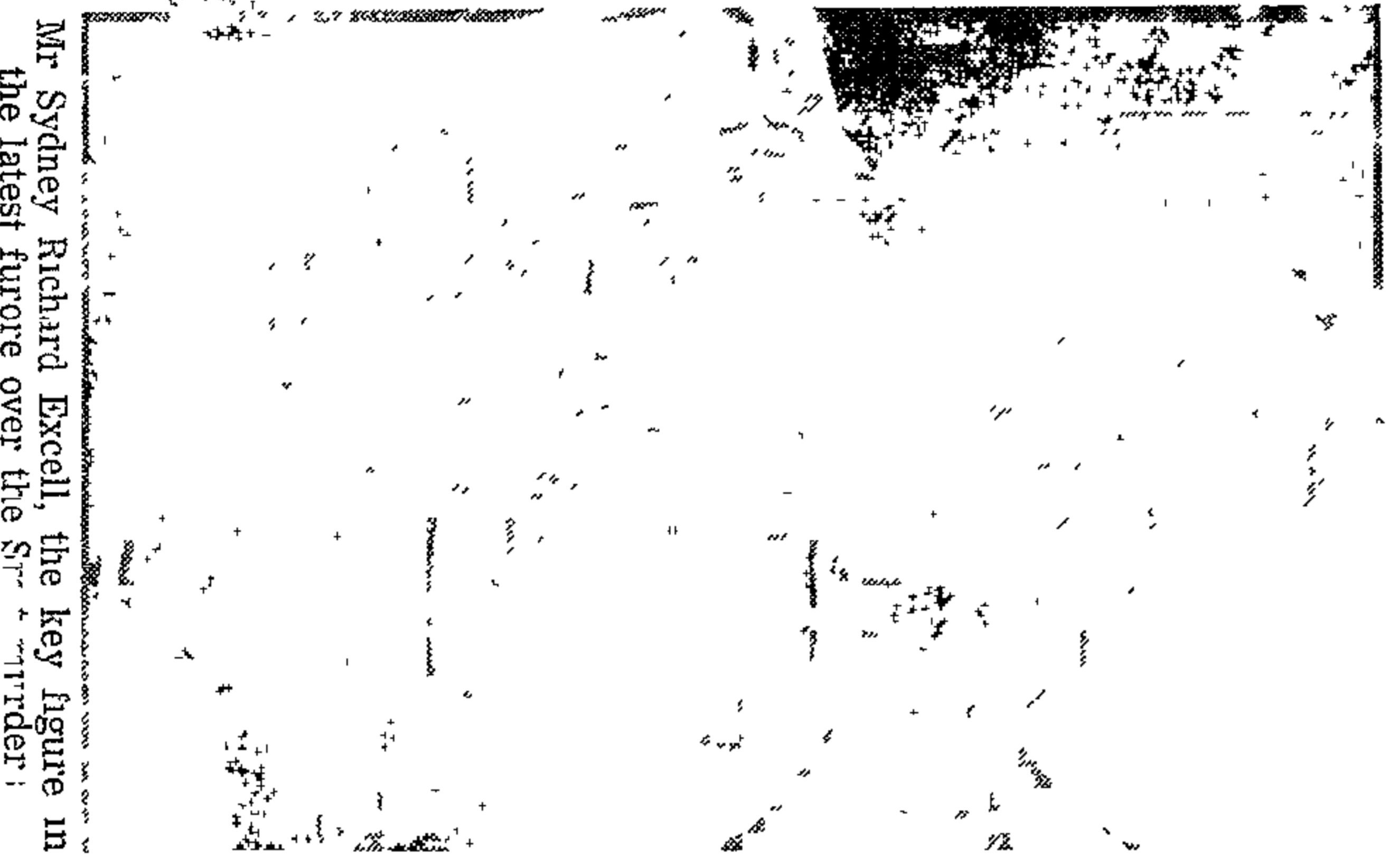
murder's assurances and undertakings had been accepted by the party's Transvaal executive
Immediately after the meeting, Dr Treurnicht entered the Nationalist Parliamentary caucus meeting and it was expected that he would inform the party's MPs of the outcome of the talks
The meeting with Dr Mulder was arranged after strong pressure from certain party ranks that the former Minister should be given the ultimatum of withdrawing from politics or facing expulsion from the party
Verligte Nationalist MPs argued that if Mr Louis Nel got expelled because of the Bols Joke, then Dr Treurnicht should prove his bona fides by taking similarly harsh action against his former col-

To Page 3, Col 10

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Mr Sydney Richard Excell, the key figure in
 the latest furore over the Star murder:

Info man on

By Bob Kenneough and
 Rob Mentjies

The BBC interview with
 Dr Eschel Rhoodie being
 broadcast tonight might
 corroborate a statement
 made by adventurer Mr
 Sydney Excell to Mr J F
 Ludorf, a former judge.
 One of his claims was that
 he knew about a plot to
 murder the Smits

Interviewed at his
 Florida home today, the
 former Transvaal judge re-
 fused to specify which part
 of his allegations Dr
 Rhoodie's secret informa-
 tion might support

He also refused to elab-
 orate on his extraordinary
 statement yesterday that
 a former pilot had proved
 to his satisfaction that two
 German ex-Congo merce-
 naries had been hired to
 assassinate the Smits in
 their Springs home on
 November 22 1977

Mr Ludorf produced
 none of the documentary
 material which he said he
 had to back up his allega-
 tions. The Star is con-
 tinuing to investigate
 them

The pilot who gave Mr
 Ludorf the original infor-
 mation is still unidentified

BBC TV tonight

21/3/79

259

Ludorf says Rhoodie may back Smit death claims

Mr Sydney Richard Ex-
 cell, a well-known ecen-
 tric who has twice ap-
 peared in court after
 shooting incidents, and
 also on other charges

Mr Ludorf yesterday re-
 fused to identify the pilot,
 but last night confirmed
 that it was Mr Excell,
 after The Star had pub-
 lished Mr Excell's name in
 its late editions

Today Mr Ludorf
 slammed the Commis-
 sioner of Police, General
 M J G Geldenhuys who

last night dismissed Mr
 Excell's claims as "absol-
 ute nonsense"

Admitting that Mr Ex-
 cell's record was not "illy-
 white," the ex-judge said
 he had, however, a wide
 circle of prominent
 friends, among them Dr
 Connie Mulder, Mr Syb-
 rand van Niekerk, former
 State President Jim
 Fouché and Mr Rob Fei-
 reira

Mr Fouché and Mr Fei-
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 ing Mr Excell

Rhodes in
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'Barbizon' from USA

Just arrived — loveliest lingerie in latest styles . . . ½ slips in anti-cling Crepe tulle, Black, skintone, white
Also — Sleepwear in cool, comfortable blends, Batiste
R10,95-R12,95
*Add Tax
JINGERIE — 3rd Floor

City

Garlicks

The Cape Times

★ FOUNDED 1876

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1979

259

12 CENTS

Stuttafords

DISCO SPARKLE

tied up with Rhinestones.

PINS R2,50

CHOKERS R2,99

Add-on sales tax

FACETS

City and Claremont



Rhoadie says he has key signatures



Dr. Eschel Rhoadie left, with David Dimbleby, a BBC interviewer in London. Dr. Rhoadie is to talk on BBC TV for the first time tonight about the scandal.

LONDON — The former South African Secretary for Information, Dr. Eschel Rhoadie, had given the BBC a copy of a document which he believed proved members of the present South African government knew of secret projects and which could force the Prime Minister, Mr. P. W. Botha, to resign, a television interviewer said yesterday.

Dr. Rhoadie gave the BBC a long interview at a luxury hotel in a European city last Saturday, and a brief excerpt from the interview was played over a tape recorder to reporters yesterday.

The interview lasted between five and six hours and no money changed hands, although Dr. Rhoadie originally asked the BBC for

£100,000 (R170,000), according to David Dimbleby, who with his BBC colleague David Harrison conducted the interview.

Some of the interview could be shown on a special 40-minute BBC television programme tonight.

Dimbleby said that during the interview Dr. Rhoadie talked of the involvement of the then Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, in the secret projects, but the fugitive civil servant had not played any of his 41 reportedly explosive tape recordings to the BBC.

Dr. Rhoadie talked about members of Parliament getting involved, but would not identify them.

He had also discussed specific projects, Dimbleby said.

In the excerpt played yesterday, Dr. Rhoadie said he had certain key documentation containing the signatures of Mr. Vorster and the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood.

He also had documentation summarizing all of the secret projects which the government had undertaken over the past five years, including current projects.

Dimbleby said a photostat of the document which Dr. Rhoadie said could force the Prime Minister to resign would be shown to viewers today.

Asked whether he considered the document proved Mr. Botha knew about the secret projects, Dimbleby said, "I would rather

you judged that for yourself when you see it . . . but obviously we would not have used it if it were rubbish."

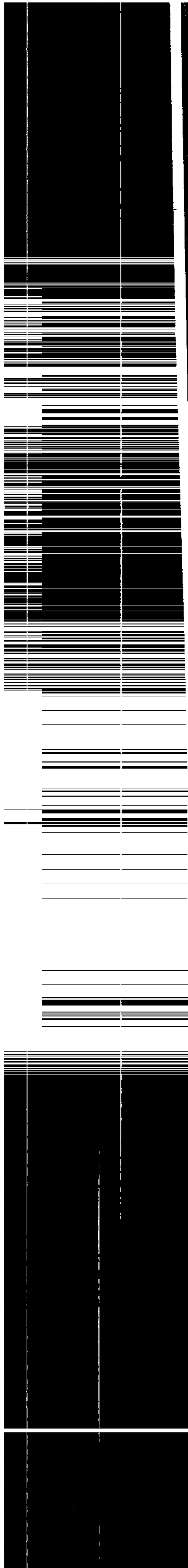
The interview also contained details of the sort of material Dr. Rhoadie claimed to possess implicating South African leaders and foreign politicians in the Information affair. But Dr. Rhoadie had not mentioned any new names, Dimbleby said.

In the excerpt, Dr. Rhoadie was asked what record he had of the secret projects.

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To page 2

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THE RHOOIDIE STORY THE RHOOIDIE STORY THE RHOOIDIE STORY THE RHOOIDIE STORY



...wn presented
with R250 000

THE Administrator Dr L A P A Munnik, presented a cheque for R250 000 to the Mayor of Stellenbosch Mr P G Marais yesterday a gift from the Provincial Administration to Stellenbosch on the occasion of the town's 300th birthday. The money will be used for the purchase and restoration of the home-lead Vergelegen in Dorp Street. The garden of the property will be opened to the public.

In return for the gesture Mr Marais presented Dr Munnik with an illustrated history of Stellenbosch printed when the town turned 250

More working

UNEMPLOYMENT — Unemployment in Britain fell slightly this month to 5.9 percent of the work force of 1 402 254 people out of work, according to government figures released yesterday — down 149 623 over last month.

Just arrived at
CONTEMPORARY
LIVING

Botha leaves

With ceasefire

Issue undecided

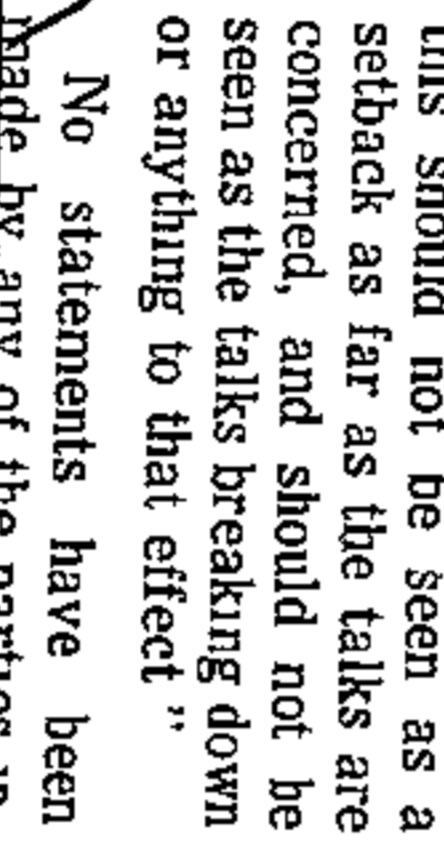
NEW YORK. — The South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, was due to leave New York last night with the S/WA/Namibia ceasefire problem unresolved and an agreement with the Western Five governments for continuing lower-level consultations.

Mr Botha headed the South African delegation at nearly three hours of talks with Western foreign ministers yesterday, and afterwards a South African spokesman said he was returning home to brief the government on the developments.

"The minister left the meeting with the clear impression it would be in everybody's favour to go back to South Africa at this stage to inform the prime minister, the Cabinet and the administrator-general on a first-hand basis of the points of view and the discussions that took place," the spokesman said.

"The minister has stressed this should not be seen as a setback as far as the talks are concerned, and should not be seen as the talks breaking down or anything to that effect."

No statements have been made by any of the parties in-



Pre-election murders unsolved

Staff Reporter

DR ROBERT SMIT, 44, and his wife Jeanne-Cora, 31, were murdered on the night of November 22, 1977, in their temporary home in Springs from where Dr Smit was campaigning to win the Springs seat for the Nationalists in the general election of November 30.

The bodies were found the following morning shortly after 7 o'clock — by which time, according to Mr Joe Lindorf's disclosures yesterday, the assassins were already out of the country.

Dr Smit had been shot and stabbed and his wife, who was found in a kneeling position next to the telephone, had been stabbed 14 times and shot three times.

The killers had left behind a message

in graffiti which has remained undeciphered — the letters RAU and TEM spray-painted in red on the kitchen wall and on the refrigerator.

Dr Smit, who would have walked the election in Springs, was sure to have become South Africa's next minister of finance.

A brilliant economist, he had degrees from three universities including a Blitt from Oxford University.

He served as head of the foreign trade relations division of the Department of Commerce and Industries, was a former executive director of the International Monetary Fund in Washington, and at the time of his death managing director of Santam International.

It was his association with the Inter-

national Monetary Fund which led to speculation last year that Dr Smit's death was linked to major currency smuggling out of South Africa and the information affair.

Seven months after the killings, the financial journal, *EuroMoney*, published a report that Dr Smit had been silenced because he had uncovered a currency evacuation scheme involving Cabinet ministers.

The report was denied and described at the time as "completely untrue and grossly irresponsible" by the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood. Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the former Secretary for Information, has subsequently denied any link between the department and the Smit killing.

Numerous allegations and rumours

have been made and published during the 16 months since Dr Smit and his wife died, but as recently as six weeks ago it appeared that the police still did not have a clue to the identity of the killers.

On February 9, journalists and newspaper editors throughout the country were questioned by the Criminal Investigation Department about the Smit murders.

Explaining the action, the Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger, said the journalists had been questioned because the police believed pressmen might be able to help them in their inquiries.

The police had no leads in the case, he said.

From page 1

to Lanseria airport near Roodepoort by a hired pilot.

Were taken in a car driven by a special driver to Springs where Dr Smit and his wife Jeanne-Cora were staying while he campaigned in the by-election there.

Returned to Lanseria after

From page 1

Why this deadline? Are you aware that this deadline pertains to evidence of cabinet ministers having earlier knowledge of the Information scandal and irregularities?

Well, this is what it is all about — or a lot of it anyway.

Does this imply that there are some highly placed individuals who might be implicated? You are cross-examining me

General Kleynhaus told the Cape Times yesterday that the cryptic letters, RAU TEM, sprayed on a kitchen wall and refrigerator in red paint in the Smit house by the killers — had not yet been decoded.

In his lengthy statement to the press, Mr Ludorf said:

The security police had on two occasions taken possession of documents containing important information.

Certain documents — some referring to state secrets — were stolen from his client while he was in custody on a charge of attempted murder after firing a bullet of beeswax at his former attorney some time before the Smit murders.

These documents were returned to him at the order of Mr Justice Bekker, the judge who fined the pilot R175 after he had spent 16 months in the Johannesburg Fort without trial on the attempted murder charge. Mr Ludorf came across him while on a prison inspection and within a matter of days he was in court in front of Justice Bekker.

His client's flat was the broken into by use of a skeleton key and important secret documents stolen.

Office
of PM
reacts:
Link

Hitmen

'Killed Smiths'

2/13/79 (257)

denied

THE Office of the Prime Minister has reacted to disclosures made by former Judge Mr J-A Ludorf regarding the Smit murders.

A spokesman for the Office of the Prime Minister said there was no connection between evidence to be placed before the Erasmus Commission by March 31 regarding prior knowledge by his Cabinet of the State's involvement in the Citizen project and other irregularities in the former Department of Information, and the Smit murders.

"Any inference that there is a connection between the two would be totally wrong," the spokesman said.

The spokesman added that the Prime Minister wished to warn newspapers not to make such an inference — Sapa

Late flash 'Absolute nonsense' — chief of police

THE Commissioner of Police, General Mike Geldenhuys, last night described as "absolute nonsense" allegations made yesterday by former judge Mr J F Ludorf, SC, on behalf of a client about the Smit killings.

General Geldenhuys, in a statement to Sapa early this morning, said he knew Mr Ludorf's informant well.

"This so-called client of the former judge, Mr Sidney Excell, is a gentleman we know well."

Mr Ludorf's client, Mr Excell, had told the police that he had heard (not at first hand) the story about the alleged assassination of Mr Smit and his wife from a fellow mercenary, a certain Mr Fortuin, whom he described as "hiding somewhere on the South Coast as he feared for his life."

General Geldenhuys said the police had traced Fortuin on the South Coast and in a sworn statement he had said that what Mr Excell had told the police was "absolute nonsense" and he knew nothing about it.

He had told the police he was having a wonderful holiday and that he was not in hiding

Late flash

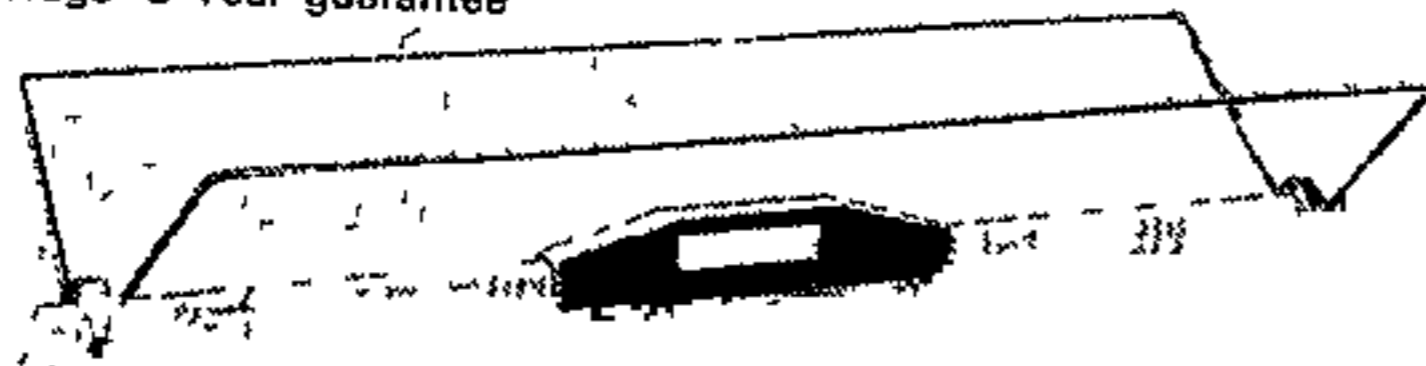
Grand Bazaars

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24⁹⁵



Call for govt action

Political Correspondent

OPPOSITION LEADERS yesterday called for immediate government action following publication of an implied link between the Smit murders and the Information scandal.

The Minister of Justice, Mr J T Kruger confirmed that a police investigation of the allegations was under way. He promised to make a press statement in due course.

The allegations by Mr Ludorf that a client of his knew details of the murders and that this was relevant to the Erasmus commission's investigations of the Information affair provoked immediate discussion in political circles.

Particular concern was expressed at the implications of Mr Ludorf's statement that his client's knowledge was relevant

Ludorf: Pilot will tell all to Erasmus probe

By TED OLSEN

A SOUTH AFRICAN pilot who claimed in a dramatic disclosure yesterday that two German assassins were flown in from Europe to kill Dr Robert Smit and his wife at a fee of R30 000 each in November, 1977, says he knows details which could lead to those who masterminded the murders, and plans to disclose everything to the Erasmus Commission by March 31.

A former Transvaal Supreme Court judge, Mr J F Ludorf, SC, who recently returned to the Bar amid controversy, said his client, the pilot who once flew for South African Airways, was lying low — he is afraid because he knows too much and his life is in jeopardy until the commission has heard his evidence.

Last night, the Minister of Police Mr Jimmy Kruger, said detectives under CID Chief, General D F Kleynhaus, were investigating the evidence of the pilot for new leads on the killings.

While Mr Ludorf has refused to disclose the identity of his client and described newspaper reports which identified him as a Mr Sidney Richard Excell, 61, as untrue, the Cape Times has discovered that details given by Mr Ludorf about his client match the biography of Mr Excell — a veteran pilot and former Congo mercenary who was convicted of shooting a Randfontein attorney, Mr Kas Van den Bergh, with cartridges stopped with bees wax in 1966.

Mr Ludorf said that although his client was not directly involved in the Smit killings, he knew the details of how the double slaying was planned and executed.

I can say that from my own deductions from the evidence which my client provided, I think I know who masterminded the killings and who set the machinery in motion by which the assassins were hired, brought to South Africa and returned after the killings," Mr Ludorf.

Mr Ludorf said the March 31 deadline he hoped his client would be able to meet was "the

date stipulated by the Prime Minister.

Asked if he knew that the date pertained to evidence the commission would hear regarding allegations that certain cabinet members had early knowledge of Information scandal and details of irregularities, Mr Ludorf said "Well, obviously. Why do I refer to it?"

The information his client

had gained "through a chain of events" would provide the commission with a play-by-play account of how

- Two German gunmen were hired in 1977 for R30 000 each
- Were flown by private jet from Luton airport near London.

→→→→

To page 2



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Dr Robert Smit and his wife, Jeanne-Cora

**Who killed the
Smits? Leading
article, page 12**

**Strange world
of Mr Excell,
page 5**

Ludorf lived with death

By DIANA POWELL

MR JOE LUDORF, the former Supreme Court judge, who yesterday made the sensational Smit murders disclosures, was once on a hit-list himself — and probably saved his own life by releasing the information to the Press

In an exclusive interview in 1976, Mr Ludorf told me in detail how he lived with death for six months while on the assassination list of the Ossewabrandwag

He eventually took steps to save his own life in a way remarkably similar to the method he is using to protect his mystery client — the former South African Airways pilot who claims to know who killed Dr Robert Smit and his wife, Jeanne-Cora, on November 22 1977

The death of Mr Ludorf, then an advocate practising in Johannesburg, was ordered in 1941 when the Ossewabrandwag discovered he was spying on the organization for the Leader of the Opposition, Dr D F Malan

He was warned that he was to be killed and unbeknown to him a friend appointed two bodyguards who shadowed him wherever he went

However after six months, "I decided to get the story out", Mr Ludorf told me

He managed to get an affidavit setting out details of the assassination order from Mr Johannes van der Walt, an Ossewabrandwag general and leader of the organization's military wing, the Stormjaers

Mr Ludorf took the affidavit straight to the only person he trusted at the time, Dr Verwoerd, who was then editor of the Transvaler

"Dr Verwoerd got on the train that very night with the affidavit and handed it personally to Dr Malan in Cape Town"

Dr Malan then read the document in Parliament, bringing the death plot out into the open

Mr Ludorf, who was appointed a judge of the Transvaal division of the Supreme Court in 1955, retired from the bench six years ago because of ill health

However, he recovered from his illness to the extent that he decided to return to work. Late last year he announced that he would go back to the bar

Picture, page 2

a scandal 'to rock the nation'

massive currency smuggling racket involving top South Africans, were dismissed by Lieut -General J Kleinhaus, head of the CID, for "lack of evidence"

Proof of smuggling

The reports said Dr Smit had proof South Africans had smuggled money out to buy property in Australia, Europe and Canada.

Dr Smit intended revealing the details to Parliament and was murdered by hired killers

The knife wounds were said to have been inflicted to create the impression the murderers were crazed and the letters scrawled in the kitchen to confuse the police, the report continued.

A report in a European publication, Euromoney, named highly-placed members of the Government were involved in the scheme

The report said a "general rumour circulating in Washington" was that Dr. Smit, who had been the country's representative on the International Monetary Fund, had become suspicious of certain transactions

Senator Owen Horwood, the Minister of Finance, denied the rumours, saying they were irresponsible and untrue

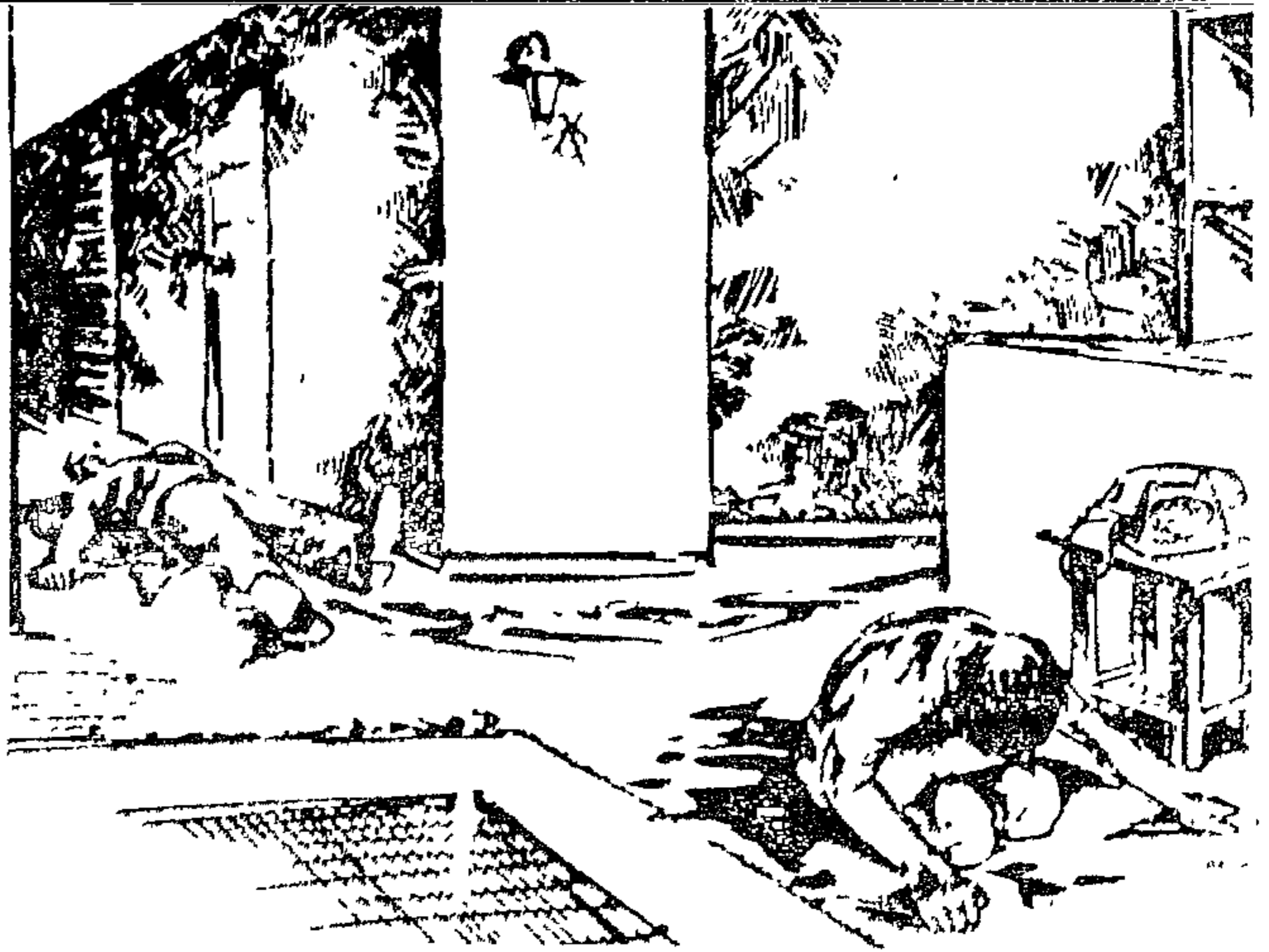
At the same time investigating policemen said they were ignoring the link theory and were convinced the killers were members of a Charles Manson-type sect or maniacs.

Mrs. Liebenberg provided the first positive indication that Dr Smit had explosive information

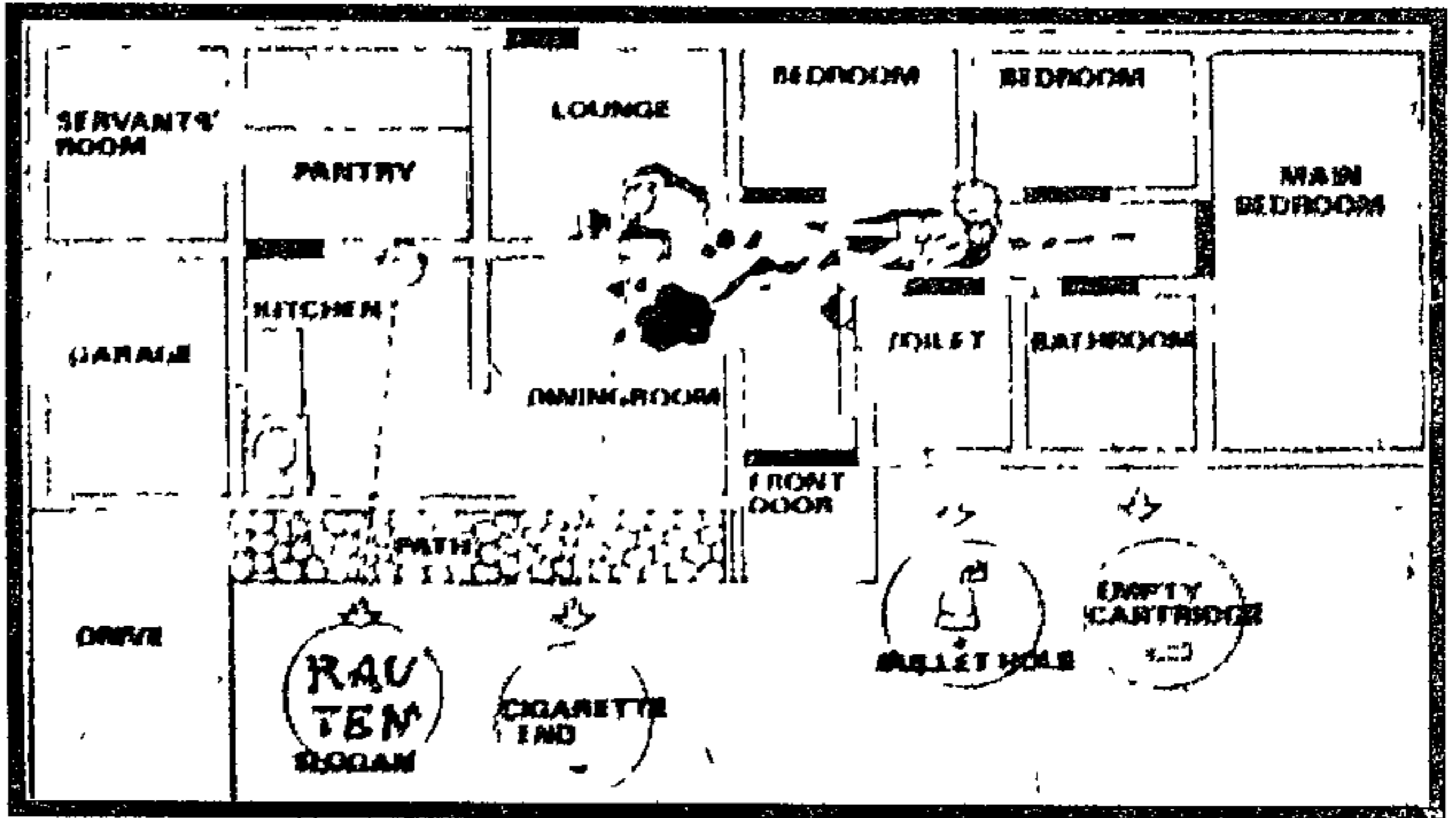
"He told me five weeks before the murders that he had decided to tell a senior Cabinet Minister of a scandal that would 'rock the nation,'" she told a newspaper in November, 1978

Mrs. Liebenberg said she did not know what the scandal was.

Police investigations into the murders included the questioning of ministers and newspaper editors and correspondents.



AN artist's impression of the murder scene Dr Smit's body had been dragged into the passage His wife, Jeanne-Cora was found "kneeling" near the telephone and on the wall, next to the light, police found a bullet hole She had been shot three times and stabbed 14 times



THE scene that greeted the police two bodies, an empty cartridge case, a cigarette end, a bullet hole and six mysterious letters



DR Robert Smit and his wife, Jeanne-Cora slim leads and few clues

The Smit murders . . . Sharon Tate links and

Mercury Reporter

DR. Robert Smit, tipped as South Africa's next Minister of Finance and whose murder has been rumoured to be linked with the Information scandal, was shot dead hours after his wife, Jeanne-Cora, was shot three times and stabbed 14 times in their Springs home on the night of November 22, 1977, eight days before the General Election in which he was standing as a National Party candidate.

Dr Smit, who was found in a pool of blood by a servant, had been shot four times and stabbed once in the back.

Since that day, nearly 16 months ago, police have come up with little evidence and no positive motive — although many sensational theories, centering on Dr. Smit's alleged knowledge of a scandal that would "rock the nation," have been voiced.

Mystery appointment

Slim leads and few clues left by the killer (or killers) — described as "professionals" — fizzled out one by one.

An appointment with a "Mr. MacDougall" entered in

Dr. Smit's diary, after a man calling himself by that name had asked a National Party office receptionist if he could speak to Dr. Smit, came to nothing.

The letters RAU and TEM sprayed on the walls of the Smits' kitchen, created speculation.

An immediate similarity with the Sharon Tate murders was claimed as well as a connection with a Speech by Dr. Smit at Rand Afrikaans University on September 10

First money link

The first linking of Dr Smit's death with money came in a Sunday Times report on December 11, 1977.

The report quoted the wife of a South African businessman, Mr. C. R. Liebenberg, who said Dr Smit was arranging a R1 000 million Swiss bank loan for a group of leading South African businessmen.

Mr Liebenberg had been involved in the deal before his death in April.

Later that month reports speculating that the murders were committed because Dr. Smit may have uncovered a



DR Eschel Rhoadie, left, as seen on British television last night with interviewer David Dimbleby.

British body to take action

22/3/79

Argus Bureau

LONDON. — The Anti-Apartheid Movement in Britain, so far the only organisation named by Dr Eschel Rhoadie as a target for his former Department of Information's 'dis-information' tactics, is considering how to react to what it has always suspected.

Westminster MPs, both Labour and Liberal, are known to be discussing their course of action. An early approach to Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, is likely.

ANGRY

Within the movement itself activists last night were angry that Britain's Labour Government had in the past apparently ignored them when they made accusations such as Dr Rhoadie corroborated in his BBC television interview with David Dimbleby.

Both the general statements made by Dr Rhoadie, what was said

22/3/79 (259)

wide open) in a different way.

The Citizen

Asked by Dumbleby if Mr Vorster had known everything that he himself had known, Dr Rhoodie replied: 'That is correct. He knew of every major project on which we were ever involved.'

That included the establishment of the Citizen newspaper.

Dr Rhoodie also claimed that the South African Government had also been considering the secret purchase of a major British newspaper,

qualm, was much more circumspect about the identities of people abroad.

Union payments

For instance, while not denying that payments were made to trade union leaders in foreign countries, he refused to name the countries.

But he gave clues when pointing out that the countries of major importance to South Africa were the United States, Britain, France and West Germany.

Questioned about the morality of the department's secret actions, Dr Rhoodie said: 'Morality,

employed to disrupt the activities of opponents of South Africa abroad, but he was candid at one point about ways used to ensure favourable publicity.

'If it was necessary for me to influence a particular journalist to stop writing anti-South African articles, for example, Dr Rhoodie said, 'and if it was necessary for me to send him to Hawaii with his girlfriend for a month, then I should be able to do so.'

... and if it was necessary for me to purchase a fur coat for a politician or an editor, I should be able to do so.'

Van Zyl attempt to prevent broadcast

From a Staff reporter
HEERLEN (The Netherlands) — Mr Josias van Zyl made a desperate eleventh-hour plea to Dr Eschel Rhoodie not to make last night's BBC television broadcast.

Mr van Zyl phoned Dr Rhoodie's lawyer in this south-eastern Dutch town and 'reminded' him that he had bought the former Information Secretary's silence in Paris two weeks ago.

The lawyer, Mr E W J van Breukelen, passed on the message that Dr Rhoodie was 'prevented from saying anything to anybody, including the newspapers and the Erasmus Commission.'

IN TOUCH

Mr van Breukelen is in touch with Dr Rhoodie regularly, 'sometimes through an intermediary but also personally.'

He said: 'I have been asked by Dr Rhoodie to handle his interests in Europe and to advise and assist him where possible. That is my job at the moment.'

But the lawyer added: 'I doubt if there is any valid agreement in force (between Dr Rhoodie and Mr van Zyl). The arrangement with Mr van Zyl was virtually a mistake.'

REPUDIATED

'I had thought that Van Zyl and General van den Bergh were acting on behalf of the South African Government.'

'The South African Government in fact did not regard itself as bound by this agreement. It repudiated it.'

'That is how the matter has been put to me — though not by Dr

Rhodie, so I have to be a little careful here.'

Mr van Breukelen declined to specify how he was given the impression that Mr van Zyl was acting for the Government, adding: 'One just had to read the newspapers here.'

MAIN CONCERN

The main concern of his client now, he said, was to make an arrangement with the Government. He himself had not listened to Dr Rhoodie's tapes but knew their content.

'Our efforts are directed at Dr Rhodie publishing only as much as he needs to publish to defend himself.'

'We're trying to do it so that he says nothing that need not be said. It is urgent to arrange something.'

Labour call for EEC to buy tapes

Argus Bureau

LONDON. — The European Council of Ministers should buy the Rhodie tapes and documents for R170 000 and themselves expose South African Department of Information misdeeds in EEC countries, left-wing Labour MP Mr Bob Hughes suggested in a Commons question yesterday.

Mr Hughes, honorary chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in Britain, said the former South African Secretary for Information was in Paris. He did not give details.

A brief reply from Foreign Secretary Dr David Owen managed to steer round the issue.

CO-OPERATION

'South Africa is frequently discussed under political co-operation (of the nine)', Dr Owen said. 'That particular item is not yet on the agenda.'

Mr Hughes's suggestion received vigorous vocal support from his party colleagues.

'Would it not be a major decision of the Council of Ministers to contact Mr Rhodie, who is in Paris, in regard to the very widespread allegations of the use of Department of Information money not only in this country but in other countries of the EEC?' Mr Hughes asked.

by implication and what was directly said concerning the Anti-Apartheid Movement is confirmation of what we have known and suspected for many years. Mr Mike Terry, the executive secretary of the AAM, said last night.

'We have felt the influence of the Department of Information and of the Security Bureau directly and indirectly since their formation.'

NOT STOPPED

'What concerns us in particular is the in spite of repeated warnings to the Government that these operations were taking place, it has neither set up any thorough-going investigation nor taken any effective measures to stop such clandestine operations in Britain,' Mr Terry said.

There is mounting evidence of which last night's programme is confirmation, that South Africa House itself has been used as a centre for these operations in Britain.

'We are at present considering what precise action we would like to see taken by the British Government to put an end to these operations in Britain once and for all.'

DIS-INFORMATION

Dr Rhodie described to Dimbleby how 'dis-information' works.

'If a certain organisation for example was out to arrange an anti-South African rally or was trying to get companies to withdraw investment in South Africa then obviously we would put people in the field to argue against them and we would perhaps send out notices and documents cancelling the meeting so that the other party wouldn't know what was going on,' he said.

259

22/3/79

259
22/3/79

They could have stopped anything if they wished

Argus Bureau

LONDON. — The former Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, knew of every major project in which the Information Department was involved, Dr Eschel Rhoodie said in a BBC television programme last night.

This knowledge included the establishment of the Citizen newspaper, Dr Rhoodie said.

Dr Mulder knew too and, as far as I am concerned, so did Senator Horwood. These matters were reported to them in detail on an annual basis. They could have stopped anything if they wished.

Asked whether the present Prime Minister, Mr P V Botha, was similarly involved, Dr Rhoodie said. 'If the allegation is that the Prime Minister was never involved in a secret project which my former Department of Information had financed, then that is totally untrue because there are at



Dr Connie Mulder

least two or three projects in which he was directly involved

'There were two projects which he had initiated at Cabinet level and which I partially paid for from the secret funds of the Department of Information.'

Earlier Dr Rhoodie told the interviewer, David Dimbleby, that he had decided that under present circumstances he would not release tapes in his possession or documents.

But circumstances could change 'I think I have made it clear already that if I were to die an unnatural death or if I were to be taken back to South Africa against my will or im-

prisoned on trumped up charges, then my lawyers have instructions what to do.'

Dimbleby: 'You mean the material would then be released if anything happened to you?'
Rhoodie: 'Yes.'

SA PUBLIC

Why did he not tell the South African public all about the secret projects?

'To do that now would mean blowing all those secrets and I think the consequences for South Africa would be disastrous.'

This was so because of the type of project undertaken, the methods used and the people involved.

'I think it would have disastrous consequences for our foreign relations within a number of major Western Countries,' Dr Rhoodie said.

People approached abroad included politicians and newspaper people. The politicians included MPs, but he refused to name the countries from which they came.

Had the Information Department found ways of discrediting prominent



Senator Owen Horwood

politicians opposed to the South African Government or removing them from office?

Dr Rhoodie: 'I don't think I should comment on that.'

Asked whether payments were made to politicians in the United States, he said he could state categorically that no such payments were made.

He did not deny payments were made to trade union or labour leaders, but he refused to disclose in which countries.

His feelings towards the South African Government were those of bitter disillusionment, disappointment and an-

ger. He added that he was 'flabbergasted' that members of the Government were 'scared of admitting they knew about secret projects and approved them.'

He would prefer them to stand up as Gary Player had done.

The warrant for his arrest was 'a pure matter of political revenge... it is nothing but political persecution.' He would be prepared under certain circumstances to go back — 'but I don't think I have a snowball's hope of a fair hearing.'

There was no point of appearing before a committee hearing evidence in secret. But in a court of law the entire secret report would have to be published and his lawyers would be able to cross-examine witnesses.

'This would include the State President, the present Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet.'

NEW START

He would not return to South Africa now even if he was allowed to do so, Dr Rhoodie said. 'My wife and I feel we would rather make a new start over here.'

Well-groomed Rhoodie had polished air

Argus Bureau
LONDON. — Polished, thoughtful, articulate — these were adjectives that presented themselves instantly to mind as Dr Eschel Rhoodie answered ques-

tions on BBC television last night.
Most answers were given instantly and smoothly. But Dr Rhoodie's thoughtfulness intensified when he was asked if he

was not afraid of being seized by South Africa's secret police while abroad.
Most questions were met head on and unblinkingly. But when

Dimbleby asked him if threats had been made to him, he looked aside for a moment, before replying.
'I don't want to comment on that,' he replied eventually.

22/3/79

259

Rhodie puts most blame on Vorster

'Top secret' letters to Horwood

Argus Bureau

LONDON. — Mr B J Vorster, former Prime Minister, received the chief blame from Dr Eschel Rhodie in his BBC television interview with David Dimbleby last night but sympathy as well.

After saying: 'I primarily blame the previous Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, because he is in a position to clear up the matter,' Dr Rhodie added:

'He could have done so, but I understand and respect the position of State President — that it would be very difficult for him to get involved now in a matter which is so politically emotional in South Africa today.

'It is a dilemma in which he finds himself. But I blame him because I believe that Mr Vorster could have handled the leaks (that finally led to all of this being blown

which he did not identify.

As far as he was concerned, Dr Rhodie said, Dr Owen Horwood, Minister of Finance, was also aware of the secret projects and thus was as responsible as anyone for them.

'Very dangerous'

After implicating the present Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, in Muldergate, Dr Rhodie was taxed by Dimbleby: 'But he denies that. He says he had no involvement at all in any of this funding'

Dr Rhodie: 'Well, if I were to give details of those projects, then I think it would be very dangerous for the Prime Minister to deny that sort of thing.

'There were at least 20 officials in the Department of Defence and Department of Information who were involved in one of those projects'

Dr Rhodie, while naming politicians in South Africa without

is, I think, like objectivity — in the eye of the beholder.

'If you found yourselves in the position that we found ourselves in, that we couldn't get a fair hearing anywhere in the world, that positive developments were being obscured and that we had no voice in the General Assembly of the United Nations or any important forum in the world, then I think your perspective on morality would change rapidly.'

'Disastrous'

He was clear on an undertaking he had given not to release the tapes in his possession — their release would be 'disastrous' for South Africa's relations with major Western nations, he warned

But he reserved the right to disclose their contents if action was taken against him by the Government

Dr Rhodie avoided for the most part describing specific methods

Argus Bureau

LONDON. — On May 12 last year Dr Connie Mulder wrote a letter to Senator Owen Horwood marked top secret advising him that money he had allocated to the Department of Information would be spent on, among others, 'front organisations,' 'collaborators,' 'lobbyists' and 'distributors and publications.'

A copy alleged by Dr Eschel Rhodie to be of the letter was shown on BBC television last night.

In the alleged letter Dr Mulder asked for an allocation of R7 850 500.

VAGUE

Asked whether the projects listed were so vague as to be almost meaningless, Dr Rhodie replied: 'I don't think it could possibly be described as vague to anybody in the know in South Africa.

'When the Minister of Finance approved expenditure on a secret document for a secret front organisation then obviously in Government circles and terms that means a lot.'

The strange world of Sidney Excell

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Sidney Richard Excell, the veteran pilot who has given an amazing account of the Smit killings to a Johannesburg advocate, has one of the strangest records in the history of South African aviation

The murder of Dr Robert Smit and his wife, Jeanne-Cora, in Springs in November, 1977, exploded into prominence again yesterday with the release of a statement by a former judge, Mr J F Ludorf, SC, who said that a client feared for his life because "he knows too much"

Mr Ludorf would not name his client and described him only as a former South African pilot. Newspapers named Mr Ludorf's client as Mr Excell, but Mr Ludorf would not confirm this. All the details given in his statement point to Mr Excell.

Mr Ludorf said he was in constant contact with his client, who was no longer in fear of his life. "Besides, now it would be pointless to kill him because they could not kill the evidence"

Asked who "they" were, Mr Ludorf answered "Thugs"

He described his client as an adventurous man,

a good hunter and a former Congo mercenary.

The veteran pilot, a known eccentric, flew bombers and VIP aircraft in World War II, launched several airlines after 1945 and survived at least four major crashes

He was accused of attempted murder in two trials in the Transvaal

In March, 1966 he was convicted of shooting a Randfontein attorney, Mr Kas van den Bergh, with cartridges stopped up with bees' wax. He conducted his own defence and was fined R150, which he paid off at R20 a month

About 10 years earlier, Mr Excell appeared in a Pretoria court on a similar charge. This time his victim was Colonel Elliot Wilson, then chief inspector of flying for the Department of Civil Aviation

He told the court that he never intended to kill the colonel. He wanted only to scare him

"The judge contested his claim that he was a dead shot and had him taken to the police shooting-range to prove this. Excell proved his point by hitting the bull with all five shots. He got off the main charge", the friend said

Rhodie puts blame on Mr Vorster — Page 21

Funding of Citizen 'not known'

Political Staff

THE Cabinet knew of secret projects undertaken by the former Department of Information, but not about the State funding the Citizen or that irregularities took place, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said today.

Mr Botha issued a statement through his Press secretary reacting to statements by Dr Eschel Rhodie on British television last night that the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, Senator O P F Horwood, and the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, were involved in secret projects

The statement said that with regard to allegations that the Prime Minister was aware of secret projects, Mr Botha said that knowledge of the existence of secret projects were not denied by the Government

STATE MONEY

What was denied was that members of the present Cabinet knew that the Citizen was financed with State money or that there were irregularities connected with projects.

The statement referred to Dr Connie Mulder's acknowledgement yesterday that the Cabinet had heard about the State funding of the Citizen for the first time on September 26 last year and that secret information projects were never discussed at Cabinet meetings.

The Prime Minister's spokesman said that this acknowledgement was a

'direct repudiation' of Dr Rhodie's statement to opposition newspapers that Dr Mulder had sometimes informed the Cabinet about secret projects with which he and Dr Rhodie were dealing.

The statement referred newspapers to the latest instruction to the Erasmus Commission to report on alleged Cabinet foreknowledge of the Citizen funding and other irregularities by March 31.

The instruction was that an investigation be conducted before March 31 into the question of whether any member of the present Cabinet knew of State subsidisation of the Citizen before the fact was made known as a result of inquiries instituted by the State, and whether the Cabinet had knowledge of any other irregularity in the former Department of Information.

The so-called accusations against the Minister of Finance (Senator Horwood) now appear to be a 'hollow cry,' the statement said

● Question Rhodie, says Schwarz — Page 3.

Erasmus
22/3/79

(259)

22/3/79

259

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22/3/79

259

Excell 'no SAA pilot'

THE SENATE — A newspaper report on Wednesday stating that Mr Sydney Excell had previously been a pilot for the South African Airways, was denied here yesterday by the Minister of Transport, Mr Lourens Muller.

Replying to the third reading of the Railways and Harbours Appropriation Bill, Mr Muller said the person who wrote the report had not done his homework properly. Mr Excell had never been employed by the SAA.

He was perturbed by the mistake and this was something that was frowned on by the SAA, as it had always enjoyed a clean reputation — Sapa

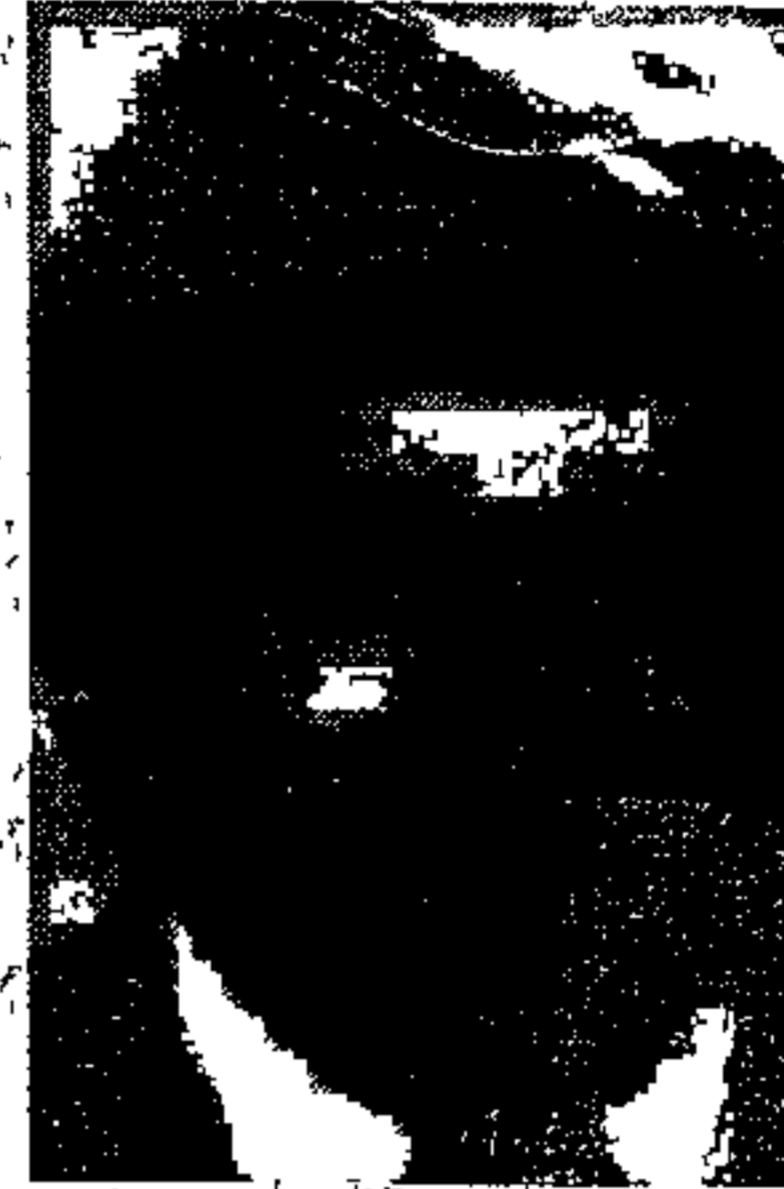
Fantastic world of Excell
— page 2

INDEX

Weather, page 2
 Classified Index, page 18
 Look at Today, page 22
 TV programmes, page 3

Aircraft	22	Motors	13
Arts	8	Out & About	12
Burger	12	Parliament	4
Business	14-17	Racing	22
Cinema	8	Radio	22
Comics	19	Ships	17
Crossword	10	Smalls	18-22
Editorials	10	Sport	23-24
Emergency	22	Womens	7
Horoscope	22	World Report	6

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David Dimbleby

BBC talk bound to cause uproar

From Stanley Uys
 London Editor

(25a)
22/3/79

Horwood's signature on document



Senator Horwood

LONDON — The South African Morning Group daily newspapers are in possession of a photostat copy of a document, signed jointly by Dr Connie Mulder and Senator Owen Horwood, authorizing the payment of R7 850 500 to the Department of Information for secret projects in 1978.

The document also bears a treasury stamp and file number, and is dated May 12, 1978.

It was given to the Morning Group by Dr Eschel Rhoodie, who

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To page 2 **B**

UITERS GEHEIM

Sy Edelo, Senator, P.A. N. 1978
Minister van Finansies
Bendrik Verwoerdgebou 316
KAPSTAD
6001

Geachte Kollega

Kragtens art. 2(11) van die Wet 110 van 1978 vir
Reëlme dienste (1978) deel ek aan u dat die Departement
van Inligting voornemens is om die gril wat u in die
huidige boekjaar aan hom sal beskikbaar stel aan te word
vir die onderstaande kategorie-dienste, nl

- Uitgewers en publikasies
- Konferensies
- Front-organisasies
- Medewerkers
- Advertensies
- Skakeldienste
- Lobbyiste
- Institute en stigtings
- Nuus- en fotodienste
- Reëlme dienste en verspreiding
- Ekonomiese aksies
- Gasie
- Reise en ander aangeleenthede wat hierin in verband staan.

Da sal dit waardeer is u sal dit sal linnaten
tot die aanverdiing van k

Met vriendelike groete
die ons

C.P. MULDER

The 'top secret' document authorizing payment of R7 850 500 to the Department of Information for secret projects and signed by the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, and the then Minister of Information Dr Connie Mulder. The document was discussed in the BBC TV interview with Dr Rhoodie last night.

The importance of this letter

THE letter is clearly a request made by Dr Mulder as minister of information to Senator Horwood, as minister of finance, for funds to be made available from the Secret Services Account to the Department of Information for secret services. In terms of section 2(3) of the Secret Services Account Act of 1978, the minister of finance can make funds available for secret services when requested to do so by another minister if such services have been determined by him and the minister making the request as "being in the national interest".

It is clear from Senator Horwood's signature on the letter that he agreed to make the funds requested available to the Department of Information for secret services. According to legal opinion, it follows that Senator Horwood either approved the request, without satisfying himself that the projects in question were in the national interest or, if he did so satisfy himself, he must have known the nature of the projects for which he was making nearly R8 million available.

Editor, Cape Times

Horwood stands by his earlier denial

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

THE Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, repeated last night that he did not know details of secret projects of the former Department of Information.

After extracts of allegations, Dr Eschel Rhoodie made in a BBC television interview last night were put to him, he said he was not interested in Dr Rhoodie's "lies".

Senator Horwood did not refer directly to the letter dated May 12, 1978, which Dr Rhoodie produced, but could react later to this specific aspect.

In a brief statement, Senator Horwood stood by an earlier statement in which he had categorically denied knowing details of Information secret projects while he was a member of the Cabinet of the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster.

"I made an unequivocal statement about my position in relation to the Information affair on March 9, 1979, and I stand by every word of that statement."

The Erasmus Commission of Inquiry, having heard all the evidence on these matters, exonerated me completely from all blame in the whole affair.

"I am not interested in Dr Rhoodie's lies," he stated.

A spokesman for Senator Horwood said the minister had not yet seen a transcript of the full interview.

"When he has had an opportunity to do so, he will decide whether to respond to any further aspects."

The first opportunity will be in the Senate today, when the third reading debate begins on the Part Appropriation Bill, a financial matter under which policy aspects may be discussed.

259

22/3/79

**From STANLEY UYS
London Editor**

LONDON. — In one of the most dramatic interviews ever seen on British TV screens South Africa's former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie, last night said it was "totally untrue" that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had never been involved in the secret projects of the former Department of Information.

"There are at least two or three projects in which the Prime Minister, the present Prime Minister, was directly involved," Dr Rhodie said. "There were two projects which he had initiated at Cabinet level and which I partially paid for from the secret funds of the Department of Information, so I'm afraid that in that respect it is totally untrue."

When the BBC interviewer, David Dumbleby, said that Mr Botha had denied any involvement in secret projects Dr Rhodie replied: "Well if I were to give details of those projects then I think that it would be very dangerous for the Prime Minister to deny that sort of thing."

"There were outside agencies involved in one of those projects and I cannot see the Prime Minister making such a denial," he said.

"There are at least 20 officials in the Department of De-

partment of Mr P W Botha and are therefore ongoing operations — so at least in the eyes of the new government we didn't do so badly."

A copy of a typed secret letter addressed to Senator Horwood, Minister of Finance, and signed by the then Minister of Information, Dr C P Mulder, listing a number of secret projects and asking Senator Horwood to allocate R7 850 500 for them, was shown to viewers. The letter bears Senator Horwood's signature.

Disclosure of this letter adds

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To page 2



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To page 2



+ THE RHODIE STORY +

Another
FIRST

LONDON — Millions of British TV viewers heard Dr Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary of Information, virtually admit last night that Information Department funds had been used to bribe British politicians to spy on the anti-apartheid movement in the country.

The disclosure is bound to create an uproar in British political circles and to lead to intensified demands for a top-level public inquiry to find the culprits.

Dr Rhodie said there were "certain individual cases where

INTERVIEW:
Full report
pages 5 and 6

we had used money to persuade a person who would perhaps normally have been anti-South African, at least to adopt a more neutral attitude, or if he had been luke warm or neutral towards South Africa, to adopt a more positive attitude, or perhaps to keep us informed of the developments taking place in anti-South African organizations."

The people who were paid money, said Dr Rhodie, were opinion-formers and decision-makers, including politicians, some newspaper men and members of Parliament.

Although Dr Rhodie refused to identify the countries con-

22/3/79

(259)



Dr Eschel Rhöodie on BBC television last night

Allegations known — Geldenhuy

Crime Reporter

THE police could wrap up their investigation into former Judge J. F. Ludorf's statement on the Smit murder within 24 hours because there was "hardly anything new" in his allegations, General Mike Geldenhuy, Commissioner of Police, said last night.

General Geldenhuy said, "Those allegations in the judge's statement directly concerning the Smit murders have been known to us for some time and we have already investigated them."

The ex-judge gave us only one new name — Fortuin. The man who was supposed to have witnessed and told the story to a fellow-mercenary, the judge's client, Excell, who then told it to the judge. He was supposed to be hiding and in fear of his life.

"I immediately flew two detectives to Durban to question Fortuin. They had to drive for miles down the South Coast before they located him. And when they did, he said in a sworn statement that the allegations were rubbish."

"By midnight the detectives were convinced that Fortuin had not told such a story to Excell and I could announce that there was no merit in the judge's statement."

General Geldenhuy said Mr. Fortuin's leave expired shortly and he would return to his Johannesburg employment next week.

He said the ex-mercenary was enjoying his holiday and definitely not in hiding or in fear of his life.

"During the 24 hours the judge and Excell were questioned while other detectives were re-checking the flight plans and other allegations directly involving the Smit murders."

"Detectives questioned the judge and Excell till late last (Tuesday) night. They spoke to Fortuin again this (Wednesday) morning."

"We still haven't been given the names of the two so-called Germans. Neither have we been handed any documents to assist us in the Smit murders by the judge, Excell or Fortuin."

"The other allegations in the statement, not directly involving the Smit murders, are still being investigated."

"And, of course, the wider investigation into the murders will continue. There is no other case in South Africa that I want to solve as much as this one."

fence and in the Department of Information who were involved in one of those projects."

Dr. Rhoadie said that "Mr. Vorster knew of every major project in which we were ever involved — whether it was the establishment of the Citizen in South Africa — he knew all the projects."

"So did Dr. Mulder and, as far as I am concerned, so did Senator Horwood, these (projects) were reported to them in detail on an annual basis. They knew about it. They could have stopped anything if they thought it was immoral or illegal or politically unwise."

Flabbergasted

Referring to Senator Horwood, Dr. Rhoadie said, "I really respect the man's abilities and capacities, and so on, and I am flabbergasted that they are so scared of admitting that they knew about secret projects and approved them, because I would rather like to see a couple of people stand up and say, 'Yes, we approved of the project, but we didn't approve of some of the others.'"

"Or I would rather see them get up like Gary Player has done, and say, 'Yes, I was involved with a secret project, and I am proud to be associated with it, because it had a first-class objective.'"

Dr. Rhoadie's allegations are the most direct challenge the Prime Minister has faced since making his public promise that "it could be shown that he or any members of his Cabinet had not won about the secret projects in which we would resign and call a general election."

Dr. Rhoadie also claimed that he had been told by one of the officers evaluating the secret projects that more than half of the projects — that is, about 60 per cent of them — "have been approved by the administra-



Mr. Eilfa W. Fortuin, at the Port Edward holiday resort where he was traced to yesterday, looks far from hunted.

259

22/3/79

THE RHODDIE STORY THE RHODDIE STORY THE

Full text of Rhodie

FOLLOWING is the full text of Dr Eschel Rhodie's interview with the BBC's David Dimbleby which was broadcast last night.

Rhodie If it was necessary for me for example, to influence a particular journalist to stop writing anti-South African articles — for example anti-investment articles, if it was necessary for me to send him to Hawaii with his girl-friend for a month then I should be able to do so

Dimbleby To send him to Hawaii?

Rhodie Yes, for a month's holiday at our expense and I said if necessary. If it was necessary for me to purchase a fur coat for a politician or an editor I should be able to do so

Dimbleby Is there a possibility that you might be seized against your will and taken back to South Africa?

Rhodie Legally I don't think so. I think that would depend entirely on the country in which I happened to find myself at the moment. I don't think that the South African authorities have any local standing here. I don't think they can order such instructions. The local government can

Dimbleby But I mean you could be snatched by the South African secret service and bundled away

Rhodie I suppose that is possible

Dimbleby Is that a risk you have considered?

Rhodie I don't know whether they are contemplating that — that I really don't know

Dimbleby Already in this whole affair one person has been killed. Dr Smit when he was about to allege currency swindles that led to the first commission being set up. Are you in possession of information which would make it any less likely to kill you in order that you wouldn't speak?

Rhodie Well that is a difficult question because it depends on whoever looks at the sort of information whether they are going to feel terribly embarrassed or be threatened by the disclosure. I would like to think that I don't have that sort of information

Dimbleby What record do you have of the secret projects yourself?

Rhodie Well of course being

as far as I am concerned **Dimbleby** Have any threats been made to you about what might happen if you did reveal what was on the tapes?

Rhodie There were threats made to my family in South Africa. Beyond that I don't want to give any information

Dimbleby Were any threats made directly to you?

Rhodie I don't want to comment on that

Rhodie He heard some of the tapes and he also saw the documentation and certainly the question of selling the tapes should be seen in its proper perspective. I had felt that the only way the public in South Africa could learn of what the Department of Information and particularly in my case had actually been doing. That there was a lot of good things we had done and a lot of important

think the consequences for South Africa would be disastrous. So it is an extremely difficult matter

Dimbleby Why do you say that if you told the story it would destroy the South African government's relationship with other countries?

Rhodie Because of the nature of the operations, the type of projects that was undertaken and the methods that were used



Dr Rhodie during his BBC interview filmed in Europe this week

Dimbleby These tapes that have been much talked about. Is that you describing what you did in your period at the Ministry of Information. Is that what they contain or do they contain recordings of meetings with ministers and with other people?

Rhodie I don't think I should give you any further information on what is contained on the tapes

Dimbleby There did appear to be an attempt. It was said to buy the tapes off you, or to buy your silence by the former head of BSS, the Bureau for State Security in Paris a week ago. Did you give him the tapes or access to the tapes or has he seen or heard the tapes?

achievements that we could put on our records. That the only way to do this was to go to a public forum and say it

Dimbleby If you feel so strongly that the South African public has a right to know, why don't you go out into the forum as you say and tell them what it was that you were doing?

Rhodie Well, the image that exists of course of the Department of Information, and particularly my role in the secret projects, is really an extremely negative one and the public really doesn't know what we really did on an enormous scale that we tried to do and what we had achieved. But to go out to the public now would mean blowing all those secrets and I

and the people that were involved. I think that it would have disastrous consequences for our foreign relations within a number of major Western countries

Dimbleby Was what you were trying to do with the secret project. To buy support for South Africa's policies from people who otherwise wouldn't give their support?

Rhodie I wouldn't put it that way. Let's say that we were using the funds to establish organizations and institutes and to support groups and individuals, to persuade them to back South Africa on certain important issues

Dimbleby When you say persuade them, you mean to get

RHOODIE'S STORY IN THE R

Interview

them to go against their own judgement and for money to come out in favour of South Africa?

Rhodie Not necessarily so. Let me put it this way. There were certain individual cases where we had used money to persuade a person who would perhaps normally have been anti-South Africa, at least to adopt a more neutral attitude or if he had been lukewarm or neutral towards South Africa to adopt a more positive attitude, or perhaps to keep us informed of the developments taking place in anti-South African organizations.

Dimbleby What kind of person would that have been?

Rhodie Well those would be people who you would classify among the opinion formers and decision takers. I suppose that would include politicians and some newspaper people.

Dimbleby Members of Parliament?

Rhodie Members of Parliament.

Dimbleby In Britain?

Rhodie I don't think that I should comment on any particular country and so on, but we were anxious to find out what the anti-South African organizations were very important to us

to counteract whatever they were doing.

Dimbleby Did you attempt any, I think it is called, disinformation. Did you attempt to get rid of anyone or to make an organization's efforts against South Africa useless?

Rhodie Well I hope I misunderstand you when you refer to getting rid of somebody — but disinformation? Yes, that is a tactic that is applied and that is used by almost everybody in this field. If a certain organization, for example, was out to arrange an anti-South African rally, or was trying to get companies to withdraw investment in South Africa then obviously we would put people in that held to argue against them and we would perhaps send out notices and documents cancelling the meeting so that the other party wouldn't know what was going on. That sort of disinformation we were involved in.

Dimbleby Is that the kind of operation that you might have considered?

Rhodie I think you can say so.

Dimbleby Why?

Rhodie Well our assessment that we had made before we



To page 6



Rhodie Well of course, being the man in charge, my memory serves as a record and I have dictated everything that I know onto tapes. I also have other tapes which were not dictated. I also have certain key documentation containing the signatures of, for example Mr Vorster and Mr Horwood and I also have documentation summarising all of the secret projects which the government had undertaken over the past five years including the current project. That includes the code numbers, code names, the file numbers, the amounts of money spent, names of people, the summary of the projects, who received what, the people who were directly involved in the field. All that is contained in one mass of documents and all of that is safely locked away in a safe, actually two different safes, in a bank vault somewhere in Europe.

Dimbleby Are you ever going to release any of that information?

Rhodie Well, I have taken a decision under the present circumstances that I will not release the tapes and I will not release the documentation to anybody. I have taken that decision and I have given my word to it. I have signed for that and I intend to honour that under the present circumstances. But of course the circumstances could change.

Dimbleby What do you mean by that?

Rhodie Well I think I have made it clear already that if I were to die an unnatural death or if I were to be taken back to South Africa against my will or imprisoned on trumped up charges and so on then my lawyers have instructions what to do and I think the circumstances would then be different.

Dimbleby You mean the material would then be released if anything happened to you?

Rhodie Yes, I think the material would be released then.

Dimbleby So you are using the tapes that you have recorded as a guarantee of your own safety in effect?

Rhodie Yes, you can put it that way, that is one consideration. The other consideration of course is that I don't intend to go back to South Africa after what happened and furthermore I don't want to go back against my will either. In those circumstances, or if I am imprisoned on trumped-up charges or so on, then the situation would change.

ty of making itself heard, because you know that we have no chance whatsoever in the General Assembly of the United Nations

Dimbleby How important was the United States as a target for this kind of operation?

Rhoadie Very important. The United States, Britain, France, West Germany, those are the four most important countries far as South Africa is concerned, and, of course, countries such as Japan

Dimbleby You said you had made payments to politicians and people who could influence public opinion and you say that the United States was one of your major targets, so one must assume that you made payments to politicians in the United States. Would that be a correct assumption?

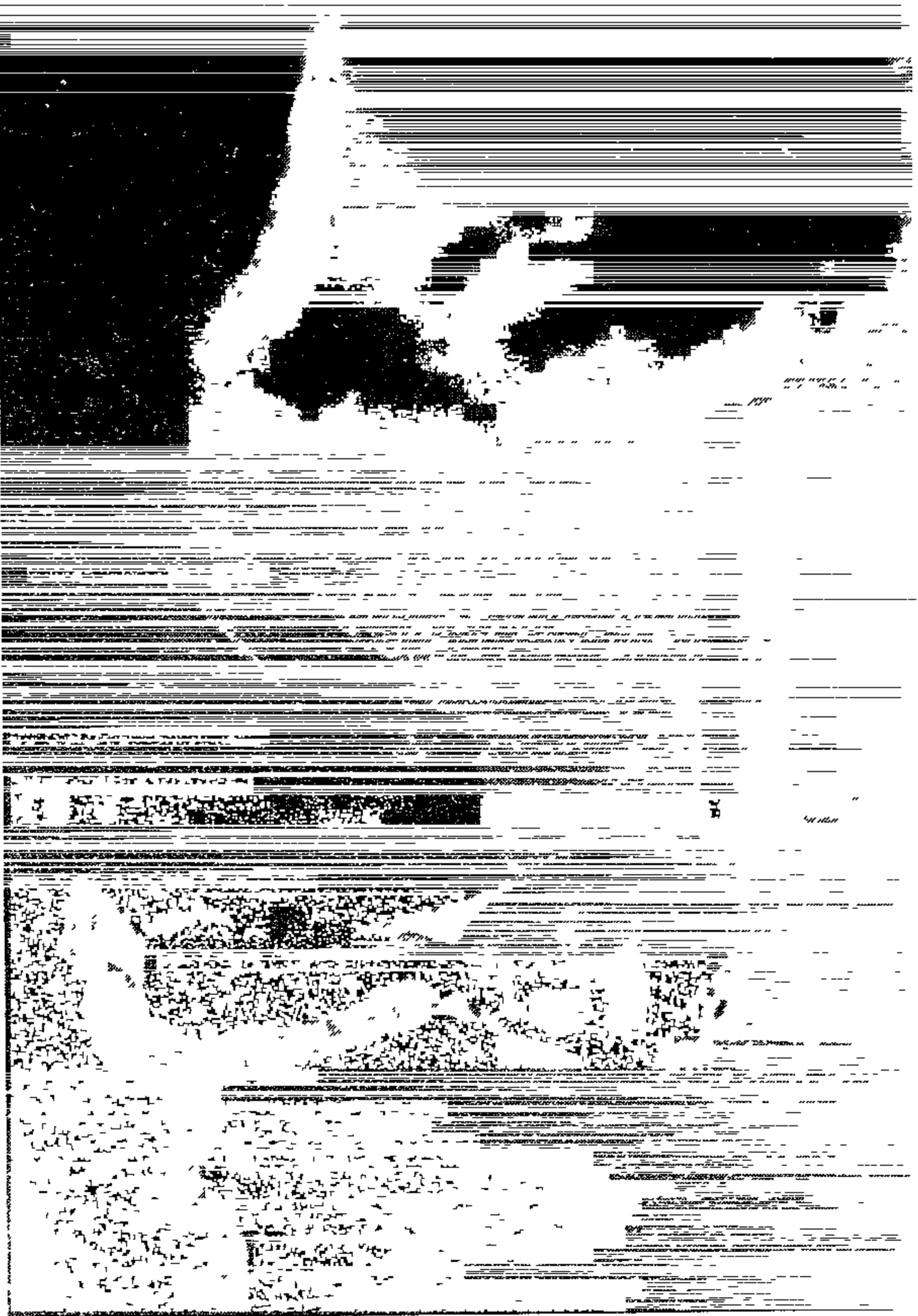
Rhoadie I think in the case of the United States I can say categorically that we didn't make any payments to politicians, but I cannot recall that we ever had such an operation

Dimbleby You can't recall any payments involved in elections or anything like that?

Rhoadie Well, if we were involved in such an operation then certainly it is not something I could disclose so I can't answer hypothetical question there

Dimbleby Did you pay any money to trade unionists people like that who might be wanting to take action against South Africa?

Rhoadie Well, certainly the trade unions anywhere in the world would fall in that group that I would define, broadly speaking as opponents of the



Dr Rhoadie, back to camera, being interviewed this week by the BBC's David Dimbleby

Rhoadie I don't think that is important at the moment. I think the principle is sufficient

Dimbleby You were going to try and secretly buy a British newspaper which then in effect would have been owned by the South African Government?

Rhoadie Well, it had to be done secretly because I don't think there would have been any

he was not a member of such a committee, didn't know of such a committee. He didn't approve of secret projects and so on didn't approve them and yet there is his signature on the latest document approving expenditure for the current financial year, so I think that the point I am making there is that the allegation made in public

attacks on me of course. It's the attacks also on Dr Mulder and General Van Den Bergh. I primarily blame the previous Prime Minister Mr Vorster because he is in a position to clear up this matter. He could have done so but I understand and respect the position of State President that it would be very difficult for him to get involved

Dimbleby Would you be prepared to go back and answer the charges?

Rhoadie Under certain circumstances I would certainly go back and but I don't think that I have got a snowball's hope of a fair hearing in South Africa because first of all it is no use going back to South Africa and appearing before a committee

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THE RHOODIE STORY + THE RHOODIE STORY + THE RHOODIE STO

Rhodie interview continued

A From page 5

launched this programme was based on a very very expensive market analysis which we undertook in 16 major countries of the world and which cost me many hundreds of thousands of dollars. It was obvious that the efforts to isolate South Africa and to silence South Africa was increasing literally by the month, and it was essential that South Africa should have certain avenues of communication with the world through the media so that if drastic action was contemplated against us, then at least we would be able to use those channels to get to the public and to get to the world and to warn them and to tell them what was going on. I think it is very essential for a country such as South Africa to have a

Dimbleby: Are you saying that no payments were made anywhere in the world to trade unions or labour leaders?

Rhodie: No, I am not saying that it wasn't made anywhere in the world. But you are just not saying where? I am not saying where because I don't want to identify them.

Dimbleby: What were your eyes set on in Britain in particular?

Rhodie: Well, we were interested in the communications field, the media, all aspects of the media. We were going to try and buy a national newspaper or something? Rhodie: We were considering that? Dimbleby: Which paper?

regulations don't apply and then I think morality flies out of the window. It all depends on the predicament that you find yourself in.

(Dr Rhodie was then shown a copy of a letter signed by the then Minister of Information, Dr Mulder, and addressed to the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, asking for R7 850 500 to be allocated for certain secret projects, which were listed in the letter. The letter bore Senator Horwood's signature.)

Rhodie: Well, the significance of that is simply that the present South African Government, particularly the Minister of Finance, who was a member of the informal sub-committee of the Cabinet, has virtually publicly called me a liar, that he was never involved in this, that

cause the people who have been betrayed are people like Dr Mulder, General Van den Bergh and myself. We were entrusted, with the knowledge of the Prime Minister and other ministers, with some of the most important and sensitive secrets that South Africa ever had — secrets that I don't even want to hint at. We were entrusted with that, we produced the results and suddenly because it leaked out in the press we are made out to be a bunch of "no-goods" with no responsibility and that we acted all on our own. That is something that is absolutely incomprehensible to me. I cannot understand that attitude on the part of the South African Government.

Dimbleby: Who do you blame for the attacks on you?

Rhodie: Well, it is not only the

your arrest on grounds of fraud and theft involving these very funds and a sceptic might say, of course he is now trying to lay the blame on people who weren't involved to protect his own name?

Rhodie: I think it is the very fact that I am not prepared to accept the situation where I am the only scapegoat that has infuriated the government, and I think it is the very fact that I dared, as an individual, to publicly lay the responsibility at the feet of the people who are responsible, that has evoked this reaction. And as far as I am concerned, this warrant of arrest, that is a pure matter of political revenge that is now being taken on me, it is nothing but political persecution. It has a political motive and nothing else.

solely responsible for the secret operations undertaken, that that is untrue

Dimbleby. Aren't the lists of projects on that paper so vague as to be almost meaningless?

Rhodie. I don't think it could possibly be described as vague to anybody in the know in South Africa — perhaps to the general public who is not aware of this sort of information — but when the Minister of Finance approves expenditure on a secret document for a secret front organization then obviously in government circles and terms that means a lot

Dimbleby. What are your feelings about the present government in South Africa?

Rhodie. There are men in the present government in South Africa for whom I have a great respect as persons and individuals, a man like Senator Owen Horwood, I really respect the man's abilities and capacities and so on and I am flabbergasted that they are so scared of admitting that they knew about secret projects and approved them because I would rather like to see a couple of people stand up and say "Yes, we approved of the projects but we didn't approve of some of the others" Or I would rather see them get up like Gary Player has done and say "Yes, I was involved with a secret project and I am proud to be associated with it because it had a first class objective"

What I feel about the South African Government at the moment is that they have been persecuting me. They have prejudiced my position legally and publically in South Africa. They have harassed my wife to no extent. We have had the spectacle of officials reading through the love letters which I wrote to my wife 25 years ago. We have had the enforced separation of my wife and myself for more than three months. Her passport taken away, a person who knew nothing about these secret projects and was never involved in this and as she put it to some of them, it seems that during Britain's war against the Boer, the Boer republic in South Africa, the British were accused of fighting the women and children. Now it is the Afrikaners in the government who are fighting the women

So my feelings towards the South African Government is one at the moment of bitter disillusionment, disappointment and anger and I am being politically persecuted by them

Dimbleby. Wouldn't some people say that you were betray-

ing in a matter which is so emotional, politically, emotional in South Africa today. So that is a dilemma in which he finds himself in. But, I blame him because I believe that Mr Vorster could have handled the leaks that finally led to all of this being blown wide open in a different way

Dimbleby. You are saying that he knew everything that you knew?

Rhodie. That is correct. Mr Vorster knew of every major project in which we were ever involved, whether it was the establishment of the Citizen in South Africa, he knew all the projects, so did Dr Mulder and as far as I am concerned, so did Senator Horwood and these were reported to them in detail on an annual basis, they knew about it, they could have stopped anything if they thought it was immoral or illegal or politically unwise

Dimbleby. But P W Botha, the present prime minister, according to the Erasmus report, has hands that are clean in all this so why should he be worried about what comes out?

Rhodie. Well, clean hands of course could be interpreted in many ways. If the allegation is that the present prime minister was never involved in a secret project which my former Department of Information had financed, then that is totally untrue because there are at least two or three projects in which the prime minister, the present prime minister, was directly involved. There were two projects which he had initiated at Cabinet level and which I partially paid for from the secret funds of the Department of Information. So I am afraid, in that respect, it is totally untrue

Dimbleby. What projects were those?

Rhodie. These were secret projects

Dimbleby. But you are saying that the present prime minister initiated secret projects and that you paid for them?

Rhodie. Yes, I paid partially for one and paid entirely for the other one

Dimbleby. But he denies that, he says that he had no involvement at all in any of this funding

Rhodie. Well, if I were to give details of those projects then I think that it would be very dangerous for the prime minister to deny that sort of thing. There are at least 20 officials in the Department of Defence and in the Department of Information who were involved in one of those projects. There were outside agencies involved in one of

which he would have to have the opportunity for my lawyers to cross-examine all of the witnesses which include the State President, the present prime minister, the members of the Cabinet and so forth, and I don't think there is any chance of that ever happening. **Dimbleby.** What are you going to do now, you are on the run, your passport has been withdrawn, there is a warrant out for your arrest and you cannot, I suppose, have very many friends in the outside world? What are you going to do?

Rhodie. Well, I do have some friends left in the outside world to whom I am extremely grateful for taking care of me in the past couple of months. Certainly I don't intend to go back to South Africa, even if I could, because the bitterness that has been engendered and the destruction of every bit of idealism that I had in terms of the work that I tried to do, and I can tell you this, I really worked 16 hours for many many years, that, with all of that virtually destroyed and with what happened to me in South Africa, the political persecution, even if I could go back to South Africa today, my wife and I feel that we would rather make a new start over here

Dimbleby. Where do you find the most difficulty in moving around at the moment?

Rhodie. You mean in terms of countries?

Dimbleby. What problems do you face as you move around at the moment?

Rhodie. The fact that it is very difficult for me to cross frontiers unless the governments are willing to let me do so

Dimbleby. What do you think as you come to a border? Do you fear you will be arrested every time?

Rhodie. I somehow believe that the governments of North America and Europe are not taken in by the withdrawal of my passport, that they realize that this thing is totally politically motivated, and consequently I don't fear arrest on the part of the authorities. I think that they would understand my position, that this thing is political

Dimbleby. How many of the projects you were involved in are still going on?

Rhodie. I believe that, this was told to me by one of the officers evaluating the projects, that more than 50 percent, in

22/7/79
259

Ministers 'were unaware' of Citizen funding Cabinet knew of secret projects

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22/3/92



Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the fugitive former Secretary for Information, as he was seen by millions of British television viewers last night in his interview with the BBC's David Dimbleby. Dr Rhoodie has disappeared since the interview was filmed last weekend. ● Picture Barry von Below

, but...

By Hugh Leggatt,
Political
Correspondent

Cape Town

The Cabinet knew of secret projects undertaken by the former Department of Information, but not about the State funding of The Citizen or that irregularities took place, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said today.

Mr Botha issued a statement through his Press secretary, reacting to statements by Dr Eschel Rhoodie on British television last night that the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood and the State President, Mr Vorster, were involved in secret projects.

The statement said that with regard to allegations that the Prime Minister was aware of secret projects, Mr Botha said knowledge of the existence of secret projects was not denied by the Government.

What was denied was that members of the present Cabinet knew that The Citizen was financed with State money or that there were irregularities connected with projects.

The statement referred to Dr Connie Mulder's acknowledgement yesterday that the Cabinet had heard about the State funding of The Citizen for the first time on September 26 last year and that secret information projects were never discussed at Cabinet meetings.

What happened when
Dr Rhoodie talked to
the BBC—See Page 27.

The Prime Minister's spokesman said this acknowledgement was a "direct repudiation" of Dr Rhoodie's statement to Opposition newspapers that Dr Mulder had sometimes informed the Cabinet about secret projects with which he and Dr Rhoodie were dealing.

The statement referred newspapers to the latest instruction to the Erasmus Commission to report on alleged Cabinet foreknowledge of The Citizen funding and other irregularities by March 31.

Hollow

"The so-called accusations against the Minister of Finance (Senator Horwood) now appear a hollow cry" the statement said.

A spokesman for the office of the Minister of Finance said the Minister would deal with the question of his having signed a letter detailing secret purposes for which R7,8-million was requested from him by Dr Connie Mulder in a speech in the Senate later today.

A question was put to the State President, Mr Vorster, through his staff, today about Dr Rhoodie's statement that Mr Vorster knew of every major secret project including the establishment of The Citizen.

Mr Vorster was not available for comment until this afternoon when he would be asked to comment.

The former head of the South African Defence Force, Admiral H H Biermann, testified to the Erasmus Commission which started its special session in Cape Town today.

In an interview today, the commission's chairman Mr Justice Erasmus, refused to comment on allegations made by former mercenary Mr Sydney Excell, about the murder of Dr Robert Smit and his wife, Jean Cora.

Neither would he comment on whether Mr Excell would be allowed to testify before the commission soon.

22/3/79

259

259

RHOODIE INTERVIEW RAND DAILY MAIL, Thursday, March 22, 1979



Dr Rhodie and David Dimbleby a BBC picture taken during the filming of last night's dramatic interview. In the middle is a BBC technician

kind of operation that you might have considered?

RHOODIE: I think you can say so.

DIMBLEBY: Why?

RHOODIE: Well our assessment that we had made before we launched this programme was based on a very very expensive market analysis which we undertook in 16 major countries of the world and which cost me many hundreds of thousands of dollars. It was obvious that the efforts to isolate South Africa and to silence South Africa was increasing literally by the month and it was essential that South Africa should have certain avenues of communication with the world through the media so that if drastic action was contemplated against us, then at least we would be able to use those channels to get to the public and to get to the world and to warn them and to tell them what was going on. I think it is very essential for a country such as South Africa to have a way of making itself heard because you know that we have no chance whatsoever in the General Assembly of the United Nations.

DIMBLEBY: How important was the United States as a target for this kind of operation?

RHOODIE: Very important. The United States, Britain, France, West Germany — those are the four most important countries as far as South Africa is concerned. And, of course, countries such as Japan.

DIMBLEBY: You said you had made payments to politicians and people who could influence public opinion and you say that the United States was one of your major targets, so one must assume that you made payment to politicians in the United States, would that be a correct assumption?

RHOODIE: I think in the case of the United States I can say categorically that we didn't make any payments to politicians, but I cannot recall that we ever had such an operation.

DIMBLEBY: You can't recall any payments involved in elections or anything like that?

RHOODIE: Well, if we were involved in such an operation then certainly it is not something I would disclose so I can't answer a hypothetical question

don't think there would have been any chance of success if the South African Department of Information had made an open approach.

DIMBLEBY: What is the morality of doing that?

RHOODIE: Well morality I think, like objectivity, is in the eyes of the beholder. If you found yourselves in the position that we found ourselves that we couldn't get a fair hearing anywhere in the world, that the positive developments were being obscured and that we had no voice in the General Assembly of the United Nations or any important forum in the world, then I think your perspective on morality changes very rapidly. You then get to the stage, as was said by the Minister of Information, Dr Mulder, that when it came to the future survival of South Africa, then of course rules and regulations don't apply and then I think morality flies out of the window. It all depends on the predicament that you find yourself in.

(Dr Rhodie was then shown a copy of a letter signed by Dr Mulder, and addressed to the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, asking for R7 850 500 to be allocated for certain secret projects, which were referred to in the letter. The letter bore Senator Horwood's signature.)

RHOODIE: Well the significance of that is simply that the present South African Government, particularly the Minister of Finance who was a member of the informal sub-committee of the Cabinet, has virtually publicly called me a liar, that he was never involved in this, that he was not a member of such a committee, didn't know of such a committee. He didn't approve of secret projects and so on, didn't approve them and yet there is his signature on the latest document, approving expenditure for the current financial year, so I think that the point I am making there is that the allegation made in public that Dr. Mulder and myself are solely responsible for the secret operations undertaken, that that is untrue.

DIMBLEBY: Aren't the lists of projects on that paper so vague as to be almost meaningless?

24/3/79

259

Safely locked away . . . all the code numbers, the code names, file numbers, amounts of money spent, names of people, summary of the projects, who received what, the people who were directly involved . . . all that is contained in one mass document . . .

politically persecuted by them

DIMBLEBY: Wouldn't some people say that you were betraying the Afrikaner by talking even as openly as you have been prepared to talk today?

RHOODIE: I think somebody who makes such an allegation should have their head examined because the people who have been betrayed are people like Dr Mulder, General Van den Bergh and myself. We were entrusted, with the knowledge of the Prime Minister and other Ministers, with some of the most important and sensitive secrets that South Africa ever had, secrets that I don't even want to hint at. We were entrusted with that, we produced the results and suddenly because it leaked

22/3/79

259

DIMBLEBY: Did you pay any money to trade unionists, people like that who might be wanting to take action against South Africa?

RHOODIE: Well, certainly the trade unions anywhere in the world would fall in that group that I would define, broadly speaking as opinion formers and decision takers and in some countries of course they are more important than in others and certainly I would say it would be in our interest to make, establish, friendly contact in trade union movements and to try to influence them, for example, not to take any drastic action against South Africa but I am not saying that we made any payments to them.

DIMBLEBY: But Dr Rhodie, when you talk about establishing friendly contacts, people automatically assume, now don't they, that money passed hands?

RHOODIE: Well, I know in this sort of thing that people assume a lot of things but I think you should take it from me, unless I state categorically that such payments were made, they were not made.

DIMBLEBY: Are you saying that no payments were made anywhere in the world to trade unionists or labour leaders?

RHOODIE: No, I am not saying that it wasn't made anywhere in the world.

DIMBLEBY: But you are just not saying where?

RHOODIE: I am not saying where because I don't want to identify them.

DIMBLEBY: What were your eyes set on in Britain in particular?

RHOODIE: Well we were interested in the communications field, the media, all aspects of the media.

DIMBLEBY: Were you going to try and buy a national newspaper or something?

RHOODIE: We were considering that?

DIMBLEBY: Which paper?

RHOODIE: I don't think that is important at the moment. I think the principle is sufficient.

DIMBLEBY: You were going to try and secretly buy a British newspaper which then, in effect, would have been owned by the South African Government?

RHOODIE: Well it had to be done secretly because I

RHOODIE: I don't think it could possibly be described as vague to anybody in the know in South Africa — perhaps to the general public who is not aware of this sort of information — but when the Minister of Finance approves expenditure on a secret document for a secret front organisation then obviously in Government circles and terms that means a lot.

DIMBLEBY: What are your feelings about the present Government in South Africa?

RHOODIE: There are men in the present Government in South Africa for whom I have a great respect as persons and individuals. A man like Senator Owen Horwood, I really respect the man's abilities and capacities and so on and I am flabbergasted that they are so scared of admitting that they knew about secret projects and approved them because I would rather like to see a couple of people stand up and say "yes, we approved of the projects but we didn't approve of some of the others" or I would rather see them get up like Gary Player, has done and say "yes, I was involved with a secret project and I am proud to be associated with it because it had a first class objective". What I feel about the South African Government at the moment is that they have been persecuting me. They have prejudiced my position legally and publicly in South Africa. They have harassed my wife to no extent. We have had the spectacle of officials reading through the love letters which I wrote to my wife 25 years ago. We have had the enforced separation of my wife and myself for more than three months. Her passport taken away, a person who knew nothing about these secret projects and was never involved in this and as she put it to some of them, it seems that during Britain's war against the Boer, the Boer republic in South Africa, the British were accused of fighting the women and children. Now it is the Afrikaners in the Government who are fighting the women. So my feelings towards the South African Government is one at the moment of bitter disillusionment, disappointment and anger and I am being

out in the Press we are made out to be a bunch of "no-goods" with no responsibility and that we acted all on our own. That is something that is absolutely incomprehensible to me I cannot understand that attitude on the part of the South African Government.

DIMBLEBY: Who do you blame for the attacks on you?

RHOODIE: Well, it is not only the attacks on me of course, it's the attacks also on Dr Mulder and General Van den Bergh. I primarily blame the previous Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, because he is in a position to clear up this matter. He could have done so but I understand and respect the position of the State President that it would be very difficult for him to get involved now in a matter which is so emotional, politically emotional in South Africa today. So that is a dilemma in which he finds himself in but I blame him because I believe that Mr Vorster could have handled the leaks that finally led to all of this being blown wide open in a different way.

DIMBLEBY: You are saying that he knew everything that you knew?

RHOODIE: That is correct. Mr Vorster knew of every major project in which we were ever involved, whether it was the establishment of The Citizen in South Africa he knew all the projects, so did Dr Mulder and as far as I am concerned, so did Senator Horwood and these were reported to them in detail on an annual basis. They knew about it, they could have stopped anything if they thought it was immoral or illegal or politically unwise.

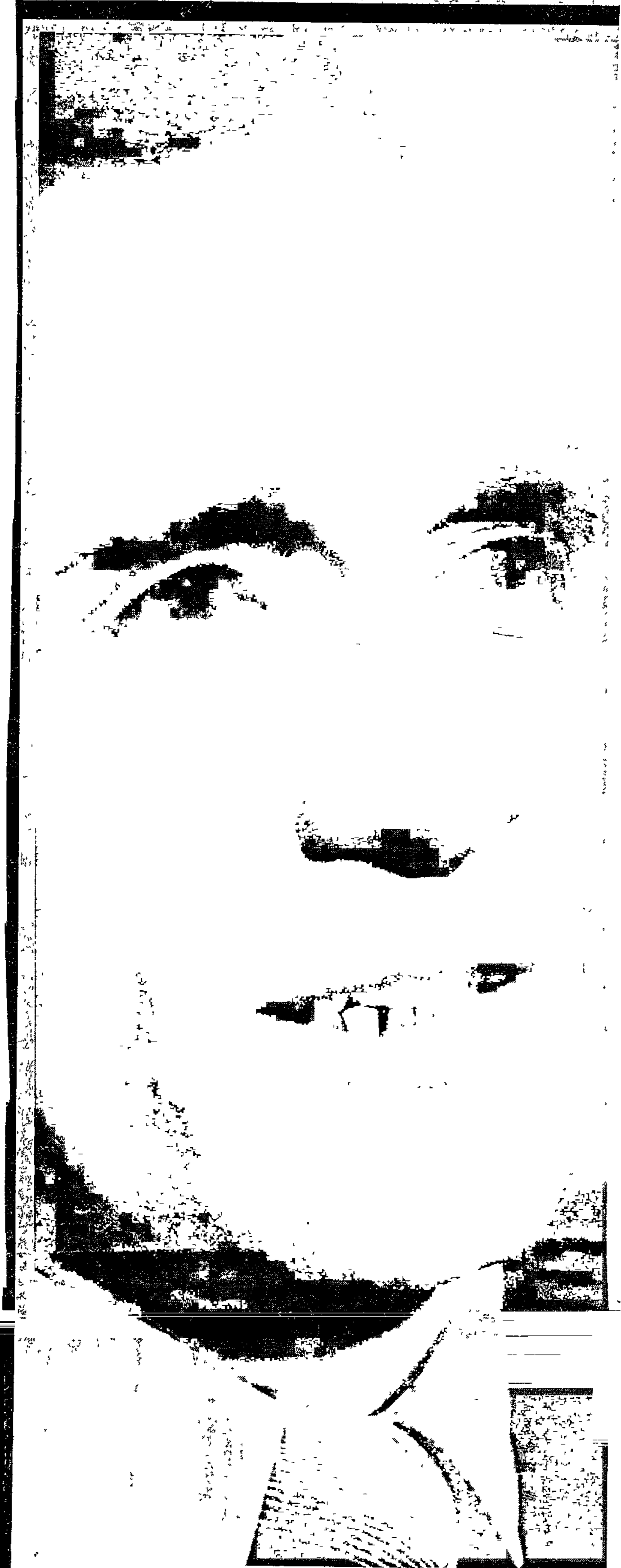
DIMBLEBY: But P W Botha, the present Prime Minister, according to the Erasmus report has hands that are clean in all this so why should he be worried about what comes out?

RHOODIE: Well clean hands, of course, could be interpreted in many ways. If the allegation is that the present Prime Minister was never involved in a secret project which my former Department of Information had financed, then that is totally untrue because there are at least two or three projects in which the Prime Minister, the present Prime Minister, was directly involved. There was two projects which he had initiated at Cabinet level and which I partially paid for from the secret funds of the Department of Information so I am afraid in that respect it is totally untrue.

DIMBLEBY: What projects were those?

RHOODIE: These were secret projects.

RHOODIE INTERVIEW



Dr Eschel Rhoodie... this BBC close-up study was taken during the filming of his interview televised last night. Dr Rhoodie declared it was "totally untrue" that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had never been involved in the secret projects of the former department of information. "If I were to give details of those projects then I think it would be very dangerous for the Prime Minister to deny that sort of thing."

dictated everything that I know on the tapes. I also have other tapes which were not dictated. I also have certain key documentation concerning, containing the signatures of, for example, Mr Vorster and Mr Horwood and I also have documentation summarising all of the secret projects which the government had undertaken over the past five years including the current project — and that includes the code numbers, code names, the file numbers, the amounts of money spent, names of people, the summary of the projects, who received what, the people who were directly involved in the field, all that is contained in one mass of documents and all of that is safely locked away in a safe and actually two different safes, in a bank vault somewhere in Europe

DIMBLEBY: Are you ever going to release any of that information?

RHOODIE: Well, I have taken a decision under the present circumstances that I will not release the tapes and I will not release the documentation to

So on, then, my lawyers have instructions what to do and I think the circumstances would then be different

DIMBLEBY: You mean the material would then be released if anything happened to you?

RHOODIE: Yes, I think the material would be released then

DIMBLEBY: So you are using the tapes that you have recorded as a guarantee of your own safety in effect?

RHOODIE: Yes, you can put it that way, that is one consideration. The other consideration, of course, is that I don't intend to go back to South Africa after what happened and furthermore I don't want to go back against my will either and in those circumstances or if I am imprisoned on trumped-up charges or so on, then the situation would change as far as I am concerned

DIMBLEBY: Have any threats been made to you about what might happen if you did reveal what was on the tapes?

RHOODIE: There were threats made to my family in South Africa. Beyond that I don't want to give any information

DIMBLEBY: Were any threats made directly to you?

RHOODIE: I don't want to comment on that

DIMBLEBY: These tapes that have been much talked about, is that you describing what you did in your period at the Ministry of Information? Is that what they contain or do they contain recordings of meetings with Ministers and with other people?

RHOODIE: I don't think I should give you any further information on what is contained on the tapes.

DIMBLEBY: There did appear to be an attempt, it was said, to buy the tapes off you, or to buy your silence by the former head of BOSS, the Bureau for State Security, in Paris a week ago. Did you give him the tapes or access to the tapes or has he seen or heard the tapes?

RHOODIE: He heard some of the tapes and he also saw the documentation, and certainly the question of selling the tapes should be seen in its proper perspective. I had felt that the only way the public in South Africa could learn of what the Department of Information and particularly in my case, had actually been doing, that there was

projects is really an extremely negative one and the public really doesn't know what we really did on an enormous scale, what we tried to do and what we had achieved. But to go out to the public now would mean blowing all those secrets and I think the consequences for South Africa would be disastrous. So it is an extremely difficult matter

DIMBLEBY: Why do you say that if you told the story it would destroy the South African Government's relationship with other countries?

RHOODIE: Because of the nature of the operations, the type of projects that was undertaken and the methods that were used and the people that were involved. I think that it would have disastrous consequences for our foreign relations within a number of major Western countries

DIMBLEBY: Was what you were trying to do with the secret project to buy support for South Africa's policies from people who otherwise wouldn't give their support?

RHOODIE: I wouldn't put it that way. Let's say that we were using the funds to establish organisations and institutes and to support groups and individuals, to persuade them to back South Africa on certain important issues

DIMBLEBY: When you say persuade them, you mean to get them to go against their own judgment and for money to come out in favour of South Africa?

RHOODIE: Not necessarily so. Let me put it this way, there were certain individual cases where we had used money to persuade a person who would perhaps normally have been anti-South Africa, at least to adopt a more neutral attitude, or if he had been lukewarm or neutral towards South Africa to adopt a more positive attitude or perhaps to keep us informed of the developments taking place in anti-South African organisations

DIMBLEBY: What kind of person would that have been?

RHOODIE: Well, those would be people who you would classify among the opinion formers and decision takers. I suppose that would include politicians and some newspaper people

DIMBLEBY: Members of Parliament?

RHOODIE: Well, I hope I misunderstand you when you refer to getting rid of somebody but dis-information, yes, that is a tactic that is applied and that is used by almost everybody in this field. If a certain organisation for example was out to arrange an anti-South African rally or was trying to get companies to withdraw investment in South Africa then obviously we would put people in that field to argue against them and we would perhaps send out notices and documents cancelling the meeting so that the other party wouldn't know what was going on. That sort of dis-information we were involved in

DIMBLEBY: It was agreed that you did hate the Anti-Apartheid Movement in Great Britain. Is that so?

RHOODIE: Well, I don't have any particular love for the Anti-Apartheid Movement in Britain and on a number of occasions we did that, yes.

DIMBLEBY: Can you remember any particular occasion?

RHOODIE: No, I don't think I want to go into details of any particular occasions

DIMBLEBY: What about opposing prominent politicians who were against the South African Government and its policies. Did you do that on any scale? Finding ways of discrediting them or removing them from office?

RHOODIE: I don't think I should comment on that

DIMBLEBY: Can we talk about one or two of the projects that have become public knowledge, like for instance the attempt to buy the Washington Star through McGoff. Why did the Ministry of Information want to do that?

RHOODIE: I don't think the Ministry of Information has ever admitted that it was going to buy the Washington Star. I certainly haven't done so

DIMBLEBY: It has been generally reported that there was an attempt that McGoff himself was using. I think the Rand Daily Mail said, \$11 500 000 of South African Information money to do it

RHOODIE: That is true, I saw those reports but I don't think there has been any admission on my part or anybody else's part that this is true

DIMBLEBY: Is that the

22/3/79
259

RHOODIE If it was necessary for me, for example to influence a particular journalist to stop writing anti-South African articles for example, anti-investment articles, if it was necessary for me to send him to Hawaii with his girlfriend for a month, then I should be able to do so

DIMBLEBY To send him to Hawaii?

RHOODIE Yes, for a month's holiday at our expense and I said if necessary, if it was necessary for me to purchase a fur coat for a politician or an editor, I should be able to do so

DIMBLEBY Is there a possibility that you might be seized against your will and taken back to South Africa?

RHOODIE Legally I don't think so, I think that would depend entirely on the country in which I happened to find myself at the moment I don't think that the South African authorities has any local standing here I don't think they can order such instructions The local government can

DIMBLEBY But I mean you could be snatched by the south african secret service and bundled away

RHOODIE I suppose that is possible

DIMBLEBY Is that a risk you have considered?

RHOODIE I don't know whether they are contemplating that — that I really don't know.

DIMBLEBY: Already in this whole affair one person has been killed, Dr Smut, when he was about to allege currency swindles that led to the first commission being set up. Are you in possession of information which would make it anyone's while to kill you in order that you wouldn't speak?

RHOODIE: Well, that is a difficult question because it depends on whoever looks at the sort of information, whether they are going to feel terribly embarrassed or be threatened by the disclosure I would like to think that I don't have that sort of information

DIMBLEBY: What record do you have of the secret projects yourself?

RHOODIE: Well, of course, being the man in charge my memory serves as a record and I have

Last night millions of Britons saw Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the former South African Secretary for Information, tell his version of the "Information Scandal" or, as it is known overseas, "Muldergate" Dr Rhoodie, who was interviewed by the BBC's **DAVID DIMBLEBY**, was filmed secretly during a six-hour session in an undisclosed European capital — but the edited version consisted of only 40 minutes. Here is the text of the interview.



Senator Horwood "the document bore his signature"

What Rhoodie told the world last night

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22/3/79
259*

anybody I have taken that decision and I have given my word to it, I have signed for that and I intend to honour that under the present circumstances But of course the circumstances could change

DIMBLEBY: What do you mean by that?

RHOODIE: Well, I think I have made it clear already that if I were to die an unnatural death or if I were to be taken back to South Africa against my will or imprisoned on trumped-up charges and

a lot of good things that we had done and a lot of important achievements that we could put on our records, that the only way to do this was to go to a public forum and say it

DIMBLEBY. If you feel so strongly that the South African public has a right to know, why don't you go out into the forum as you say and tell them what it was that you were doing?

RHOODIE Well, the image that exists, of course, of the Department of Information and particularly my role in the secret pro-

RHOODIE Members of Parliament.

DIMBLEBY In Britain?

RHOODIE. I don't think that I should comment on any particular country and so on but we were anxious to find out what the anti-South African organisations were very important to us, to counteract whatever they were doing

DIMBLEBY Did you attempt any, I think it is called, dis-information? Did you attempt to get rid of anyone or to make an organisation's efforts against South Africa useless?

PW involved, Eschel tells BBC viewers

'SA bribed British politicians

too much of a hurry to take their children out of school, a visitor from and write'

Mr Botha's Cabinet were aware of Muldergate projects

Dr Rhodie declared "I have certain key documentation containing the signatures of, for example, Mr Vorster and Mr Horwood and I also have documentation summarising all of the secret projects which the Government had undertaken over the past five years, including the current project

"That includes the code numbers, code names, the file numbers, the amounts of money spent, names of people, the summary of the projects, who received what, the people who were directly informed in the field - all that is contained in one mass of documents and all of that is safely locked away in the safe, actually two different safes,



in a bank vault somewhere in Europe"

Dr Rhodie said he had decided for the present not to release the tapes or documentation to anybody He had given his word and he intended to honour it But, he said, "of course the circumstances could change"

Asked what he meant by that, Dr Rhodie replied "Well, I think I have made it clear already that if I were to die an unnatural death or if I were to be taken back to South Africa against my will or imprisoned on trumped-up charges and so on, then my lawyers have instructions what to do, and I think the circumstances would then be different"

Dimbleby You mean the

material would then be released if anything happened to you?

Rhodie Yes, I think the material would be released then

Dimbleby. So you are using the tapes that you have recorded as a guarantee of your own safety, in effect? Rhodie Yes, you can put it that way, that is one consideration The other consideration of course is that I don't intend to go back to South Africa In fact, I don't wish to go back to South Africa after what happened, and furthermore I don't want to go back against my will either.

"In those circumstances or if I am imprisoned on trumped-up charges or so on, then the situation would change as far as I am concerned"

By STANLEY UYS LONDON. - Millions British TV viewers last night heard Dr Eschel Rhodie, former Secretary for Information, virtually admit that Government funds had been used bribe British politicians.

The politicians were bribed to spy on the anti-apartheid movement in the United Kingdom

Dr Rhodie's disclosure is bound to create an uproar in British political circles and to lead to intensified demands for a top-level public inquiry

Dr Rhodie said there were "certain individual cases where we had used money to persuade a person who would perhaps normally have been anti-South African at least to adopt more neutral attitude.

"Or if he had been lukewarm or neutral toward South Africa to adopt a more positive attitude, or perhaps to keep us informed of the development taking place in anti-South African organisations."

Opinion-formers and decision-makers, including politicians, newspapermen and British Members of Parliament were paid, Dr Rhodie said.

Dr Rhodie said South Africa "considered the United States, Britain, France and West Germany, "and of course countries such as Japan" as the most important

He denied that payments had been made to politicians in the US, but admitted that an attempt was made to influence American trade unions.

Here's proof — Rhodie

Horwood in November 1977 at a meeting of the informal Cabinet Committee, which he insists approved and monitored Info's secret projects

Dr Rhodie says this meeting took place in the Prime Minister's committee room in the Union Building - and was attended by Mr Vorster, Dr Mulder, Senator Horwood (who left after an hour to sign a R200 000 000 loan agreement) and General Hendrik van den Bergh Senator Horwood, on the



other hand, denies that such an informal Cabinet Committee existed and says he attended no such meeting

What of the discrepancy between the Budget figure of R14 800 000 in the April letter, and the actual sum of R7 850 500 approved by Senator Horwood in the letter of May 12?

Dr Rhodie explains as follows

"The sum approved in the Budget was originally

R14 000 000 At the last minute R800 000 was added for a secret project in Rhodesia

"The difference between the R14 000 000 and the R7 850 500 was the sum earmarked for The Citizen for the 1978-79 financial year.

"That is how they managed to keep the figure for The Citizen away from Mr Dries Pretorius, the Secretary for the Treasury.

"This is because The Citizen was the most secret of all the projects"

ordinary clothes, except the necktie which is generally alarming, being mostly red, why a few poor fellows who lack e

ties - one or two who are bar all happy-looking. There is ragged Kafir, but a nod, a hat All crowd together and pass ne to each other.... The intelle his equal to that of any Briti are amazed to see a native wi century" in his hand, critici givng on the South African l to an article by Sir H.H. John Question in South Africa', pu Century and After, Vol. 52, No advocating the use of migrant to meet the needs of the rapi economy. You are equally e discussing the financial condit and what is more, to see that from their remarks - underst talking about.

The "Stone", declared a regu of an educative nature; they wished by man to a just appreciation of politics. that 'good humouredly breezy manner' fa of local politics but also of education the 'enormous success' achieved by the secret of their success, Mr. J.D. Peters was that 'they were all thoroughly in e another and put their hands in their po which the coloured people were most lax occasion made the point that it 'was qu going to has work at the Docks or where schoolbook or the newspaper, and it was and dinner hour. There was a painful institutions for Kafirs such as Lovedale at Genadendal and Mamre where, so Mr. Pe than a dozen people who could read a new Another criticism of the mission schools another meeting, was that the rules were dogs on a chain. When these young me had liberty for the first time in their into licence.' (24) But coloured parent,



79

Dr Eschel Rhoodie, the fugitive former Secretary of Information, as millions of television viewers saw him in Britain last night interviewed by the British Broadcasting Corporation's David Dimbleby. The interview was filmed in Europe at the weekend — and then Dr Rhoodie disappeared again.

PW involved, Eschel tells BBC

By STANLEY UYS

LONDON — In a dramatic interview on British TV South Africa's former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, last night declared it was "totally untrue" that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had never been involved in the secret projects of the former Department of Information.

"There are at least two or three projects in which the Prime Minister, the present Prime Minister, was directly involved," Dr Rhoodie said.

"There were two projects which he had initiated at Cabinet level and which I initially paid for from the secret funds of the Department of Information. So I'm afraid that in that respect it is totally untrue."

When BBC interviewer, Mr David Dimbleby, said Mr Botha had denied any involvement in "Mulder-

gate" projects, Dr Rhoodie replied "Well, if I were to give details of those projects then I think that it would be very dangerous for the Prime Minister to deny that sort of thing."

"There are at least 20 officials in the Department of Defence and in the Department of Information who were involved in one of those projects."

"There were outside agencies involved in one of those projects and I cannot see the Prime Minister making such a denial," he said.

Dr Rhoodie's allegations are the most direct challenge the Prime Minister has faced since making a public promise that if it could be shown that he or any members of his Cabinet had known about the Muldergate projects he would resign and call a general election.

Dr Rhoodie made the fur-

ther claim last night that he had been told by one of the officers evaluating the Muldergate projects that more than half of the projects — about 60 or 65 of them — "have been reapproved by the administration of Mr P W Botha and are therefore ongoing operations — so at least in the eyes of the new Government we didn't do so badly."

Last night's programme also showed a copy of a typed secret letter addressed to Senator Owen Horwood, Minister of Finance, and signed by the then Minister of Information, Dr C P Mulder, listing a number of secret projects and asking Sen Horwood to allocate R7 850 500 for them. The letter bears Sen Horwood's signature.

Disclosure of this letter adds weight to Dr Rhoodie's accusation that members of

☐ To Page 2

Here's proof, says Rhodie

259

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22/3/79



THE RAND DAILY MAIL is in possession of a photostat copy of a document, signed jointly by Dr Connie Mulder and Senator Owen Horwood, authorising the payment of R7 850 500 to the Department of Information for secret projects in 1978.

The document also bears a Treasury stamp and file number, and contains a handwritten date: May 12, 1978.

It was given to the "Mail" by Dr Eschel Rhodie, who claims it disproves the Government's standpoint that nobody in the Cabinet, other than Dr Mulder, approved the former department's secret projects.

Dr Rhodie also produced a copy of the document in his BBC television interview last night.

It must be emphasised, however, that the document does not itemise the secret projects — and so cannot be taken as proof that Senator Horwood knew about the projects in detail, as Dr Rhodie claims.

However, it does show that Senator Horwood authorised the payment to the former department for its secret projects.

The document, in the form of a letter from Dr Mulder, as Minister of Information, to Senator Horwood, as Minister of Finance, asks him to approve payment of the R7 850 500 to Info from the Secret Services Account for use in the following categories:

Distributors and publications, front organisations, "co-workers", advertisements, liaison services, lobbyists, institutes and foundations, news and photo services, film production and distribution, economic actions, guests, trips and other related matters.

"Mail" reporter Mervyn Rees has also seen Senator Horwood's signature at the end of another Mulder letter, dated a few weeks earlier, in April, which does itemise secret projects (Dr Rhodie did not show Rees the actual project list, in accordance with his undertaking not to disclose secret projects).

This letter asks Senator Horwood to allocate R14 800 000 already approved in the 1978 Budget for Info's secret projects.

The letter also contains a passage, seen by Rees, in which Dr Mulder purports to remind the Minister of Finance that the projects as set out had been discussed with him.

However, this first letter is the subject of a complicated dispute.

Senator Horwood has explained to Parliament and to the Erasmus Commission that Dr Mulder thrust the letter before him and rushed him into signing each page of the schedule, which he did without studying it properly.

He has said that he had misgivings almost immediately, and asked the law advisers whether it was necessary for him to authorise each specific project before payment could be made.

The law advisers said it was not necessary, so Senator Horwood wrote to Dr Mulder on May 4 withdrawing his initials and signature on the letter.

He said he did not want the impression to be left that, by his initials, he had approved the projects. Eight days later, however, he approved the R7 850 500 for secret Info projects in the second letter.

In its report the Erasmus Commission cites the first letter as an example of how Dr Mulder was "a master of the art of rushing somebody into a decision before such a person could check up or think the consequences over".

The Erasmus Commission makes no reference at all to the second letter signed by Senator Horwood on May 12.

Dr Rhodie comments "If Senator Horwood cancelled his signature on the first letter — and I accept his word for it — he still knew what was in the letter."

"Then what about his signature on the second document so soon afterwards, approving secret projects to the tune of more than R7 000 000?"

Dr Rhodie claims the first letter set out nearly 100 secret projects which had been discussed with Senator



INL. 6

Minister van Inligting

Ministry of Information

Privaatsak 9056

KAAPSTAD

8000

~~UITERS GEHEIM~~

Sy Edele Senator O.P.F. Horwood
Minister van Finansies
Hendrik Verwoerdgebou 318
KAAPSTAD
8001

Geagte Kollega

Kragtens art. 2(iii) van die Wet op die Rekening vir
Geheime Dienste (1978) deel ek u mee dat die Departement
van Inligting voornemens is om die geld wat u in die
huidige boekjaar aan hom sal beskikbaar stel aan te wend
vir die onderstaande kategorieë-dienste, nl.:

- Uitgewers en publikasies
- Konferensies
- Front-organisasies
- Medewerkers
- Advertensies
- Skakeldienste
- Lobbyiste
- Institute en stigtings
- Nuus- en fotodienste
- Rollprentproduksie en -verspreiding
- Ekonomiese aksies,
- Gaste
- Reise en ander aangeleenthede wat hiermee in verband staan.

Ek sal dit waardeer as u in die huidige stadium sal inatem
tot die aanwending van R7 850 500,00 vir bogenelde doeleindes.

Met vriendelike groete
die uwe


C.P. MULDER

8/8/5/2

12 Jun 1978



The "top secret" document authorising payment of R7 850 500 to the Department of Information for secret projects and signed both by Senator Owen Horwood, the Minister of Finance, and Dr Connie Mulder, the then Minister of Information. The document authorised payment for projects during 1978 and was dated May 12, 1978. A noticeable feature of the document is that the date was written in by hand, although everything else was typed.

The R8-m document

THIS is a translation of the document published above

TOP SECRET

Dear Colleague

By virtue of Art 2 (iii) of the Law regarding the Accounts of Secret Services (1978) I am informing you that the Department of Information intends to use the money which you are to make available to it in the present financial year for the categories-services listed below, namely

- Publishers and publications
- Conferences
- Front-organisations
- Collaborators
- Advertisements
- Liaison services

- Lobbyists
- Institutes and foundations
- News- and photo services
- Film productions and distribution
- Economy actions
- Guests
- Trips and other affairs connected with this

I shall appreciate it if you will agree at the present stage to the use of R7 850 500,00 for abovementioned purposes

With friendly greetings
yours faithfully
(Signed) C P Mulder.
(Signed) O P F Horwood.
The date "12 May 1978" is written by hand

P-TCO

EX-judge stands by story of Smit killings

STAR 2/3/77
259

Mr J F Ludorf, ex-judge, claimed today the key to the mysterious letters RAU and TEM painted in the Smit murder house, could be found in a book by former Congo mercenary Mike Hoare.

This was Mr Ludorf's response when challenged

again by The Star to produce proof of his statement this week that two former Congo mercenaries had been hired to murder Dr. Robert Smit and his wife in 1977.

Mr Ludorf refused to elaborate on the statement based on information he obtained from an ex-pilot, Mr Sydney Richard Excell, known to be eccentric.

DOCUMENTS

Neither did he produce documents to back up Mr Excell's claims.

"But I now know the name and address of the British pilot who flew the hired killers from Britain to Lanseria airport."

Mr Ludorf denied saying yesterday that Dr Eschel Rhodie might back Mr Excell's claims.

Dr Rhodie was interviewed on BBC-TV last night, but made only passing reference to the Smit murders.

The former judge said he had stated yesterday that corroboration for Mr Excell's statement might be found in the Rhodie interview.

He added that Mr Excell's statement had also dealt with other matters.

Anyway, he said, the Rhodie interview had been "a squib".

Still sticking steadfastly to Mr Excell's account of the murder, Mr Ludorf commented on a statement made by the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, on Tuesday night that there was no connection between aspects of the Information scandal and Mr Excell's story of the Smith murders.

Mr Botha did not know what he (Mr Ludorf) was talking about.

The Prime Minister's statement was based on information that he (Mr Botha) had said the former judge

259
FW 28/3/79

ROBERT SMIT

Who wanted him dead?

President John Kennedy was assassinated in 1963 on November 22. Dr Robert Smit and his wife were murdered in 1977 on November 22. Does the similarity end there? Or is SA, like the US, destined to be tantalised, titillated, and haunted by suspicion, rumour, and speculation for years to come?

Joe Ludorf says "there is undoubtedly a link between the Smit murders and the Information scandal" Obviously, the only person or people who can confirm or refute that are those who know who had Smit murdered — and they are not talking. The same is true of a great many other reports and allegations about Smit that have not been finally refuted any more than they have been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

Less than a month after the murders, *Sunday Express* sleuth-journalist Kitt Katzin reported that police were considering the possibility that Smit was murdered after he uncovered a foreign currency racket and made it known that he meant to expose the swindlers. A number of prominent people were said to be involved. A month later the *Sunday Times* reported that a prominent (but unidentified) Johannesburg businessman feared for his life because of what he claimed to know about Smit.

Last June it was reported that rumours were circulating at the International Monetary Fund in Washington, to the effect that Smit had become suspicious about certain monetary transactions and the activities of some (presumably South African) officials. Smit was said to have begun a personal investigation which uncovered a so-called capital evacuation scheme.

Bodyguards

In November, Katzin quoted another Johannesburg businessman as having said that two years before the murder Smit had surrounded himself and his family with bodyguards on a voyage from Southampton to SA on the *Edinburgh Castle*.



Joe Ludorf . claiming an Info link

Katzin's next disclosure was that, ten days before he was gunned down, Smit had had talks with a prominent cabinet minister. The *Express* claimed to have been told by top Nationalists that they were more convinced than ever that the Smit murders were connected with illegal currency movements.

According to various reports, Smit had told friends some weeks before the murder that something was worrying him. One friend was quoted as saying this was a matter that would "rock the nation and go right to the top." Another said "He had obviously come across something and that was why he was assassinated."

Again, there were references to approaches to a senior minister. The police said that "specific allegations" had been "checked" and "there was no such communication." They would not say whether every cabinet minister had been questioned. At the same time, the police evidently did not feel able to rule out the possibility of a link between Smit and the Information scandal, or between Smit and a foreign currency racket.

The *Express* also reported that Smit had been working day and night on a top-level investigation for the government. "There now appears to be no doubt that Dr Smit saw a senior cabinet minister at the Union Buildings about ten days before he died."

Prime Minister P W Botha, however, denied that Smit was at any time conducting a secret or other investigation for the government. Nor had he had discussions with any ministers in connection with such an alleged investigation. Finance Minister Owen Horwood associated himself with Botha's statement.

Rhodie's denial

The *Express* acknowledged that its report was incorrect in the particulars outlined in Prime Minister Botha's statement.

In March this year Eschel Rhodie was quoted by the *Rand Daily Mail* as having denied any links between Smit and the Department of Information.

Rumours nevertheless persist. Although Botha says Smit was not conducting an investigation for the government, and did not see any minister in connection with such an investigation, that does not exclude the possibility that Smit might have been carrying out an unofficial investigation.

Moreover, even if Rhodie is correct in denying a Smit-Information link, Smit could still have been on to something scandalous that was not itself part of the Info scandal.

In that connection he could well have

seen a senior member of the cabinet, unbeknown to the present PM

So the suppositions and allegations persist. Suspicions have inevitably been fuelled by actions against the press. One such example was when Katzin was hauled before a magistrate to make a statement, although he was willing to give information to the police voluntarily.

Another was the interrogation of a number of journalists on the premises of Parliament — behaviour for which Police Minister James Kruger apologised to the Speaker

Robbery was evidently early on ruled out as a motive for the killings. Nor has there been any credible suggestion that the murders — brutal though they were

— WERE THE WORK OF SOME THREATENED

The obvious conclusion is that somebody wanted Smit dead, to stop him disclosing some dark secret. What was that secret? Who was it that feared he would be in danger?

Until these questions are answered, Smit's ghost will continue to haunt the country

THE BUDGET

Be bold, Owen!

HA
1979/3/29

When Senator Horwood succeeded Dr Diederichs as Minister of Finance, the immediate need was to restore discipline in public finance. That has now been done. What we need next Wednesday is

should bear in mind that the latest oil price hikes will hit the lowest income groups hardest, and the persistent refusal of private consumption spending to act as the generator of economic growth

where this will have an impact on the general cost structure. Let's look at these in turn

State spending. As Barclays National Bank's Johan Cloete has pointed out, in a growing economy an increase in the absolute level of state spending does not necessarily increase the share of the state in total spending.

The experience of the past 18 months has shown that, important as a pick-up in private consumption spending may be, we can no longer rely on it as a leader in general economic revival. We must no longer be put off by the fear that higher state spending will divert a larger share of productive resources into what is inherently the less efficient part of the economy, we must accept that, if we want the economy to reach that 3,5%-4% growth rate over the next 12 months, we need the stimulus of an increase in state spending of 2%-3% above the inflation rate

In the past two weeks, the FM has looked at the financial constraints around next Wednesday's budget, and economists' views on the best budget strategy. This week, it's the FM's turn to give Senator Horwood its own prescription

a shift of strategy.

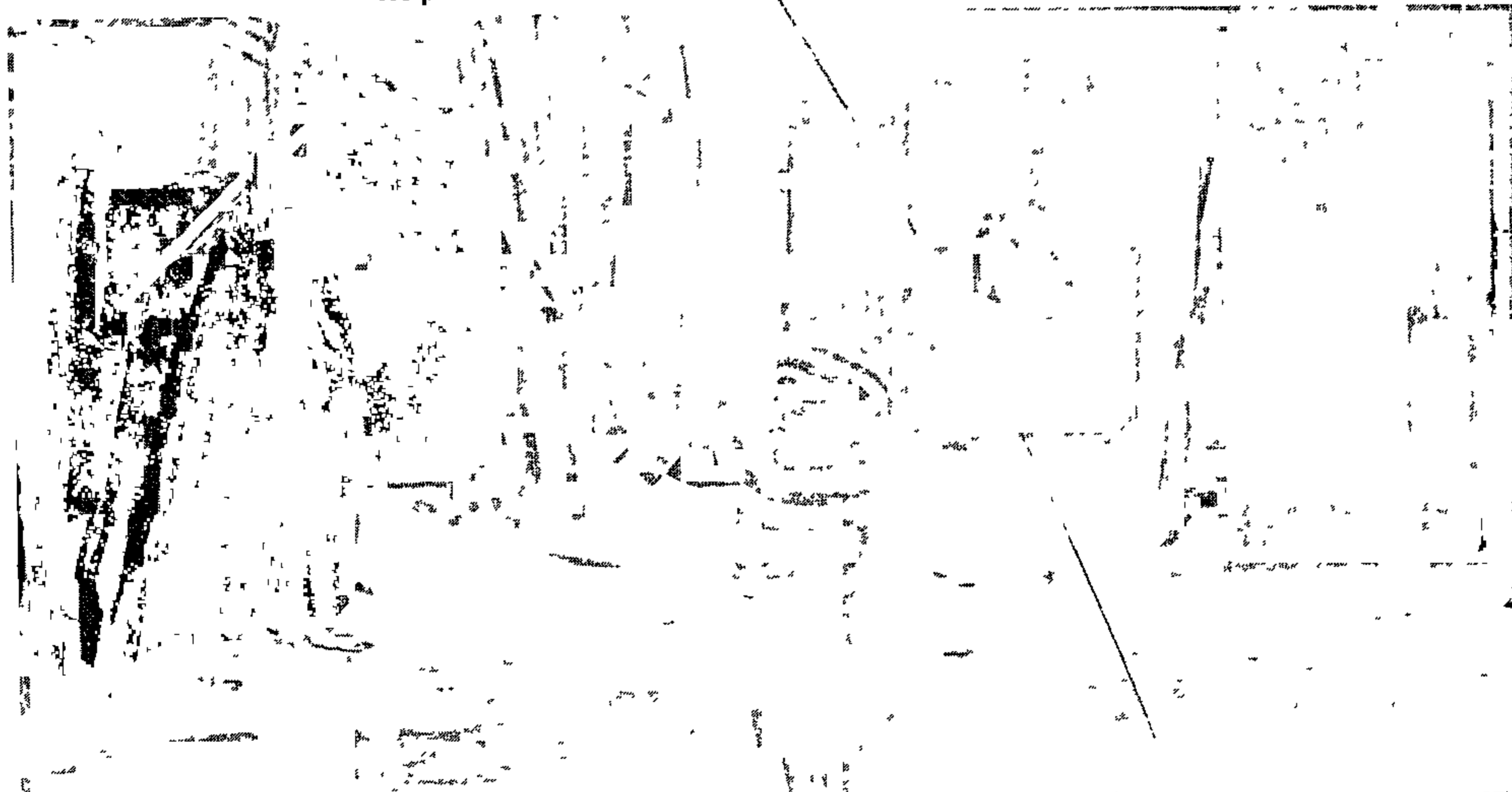
Hesitant economic recovery has been dealt a blow by the latest oil crisis. Go for growth, must be the slogan this year

By the FM's estimates, at current tax rates and with unchanged government spending (in real terms) and a 3,5%-4% growth rate, Horwood should be able to devote about R750m to economic stimulation in 1979-80. In allocating it, he

To meet the required objectives, therefore, the budget should

- Loosen the tight controls on state spending,
- Cushion the lower income groups against oil-induced increases in the general price structure; and
- Encourage consumer spending both by putting more money into consumers' pockets and by cutting indirect taxes

Help him fill the bowl . . . let's put R125m on food subsidies



29/3/79

259

seen a senior member of the cabinet, unbeknown to the present PM

So the suppositions and allegations persist. Suspensions have inevitably been fuelled by actions against the press. One such example was when Katzin was hauled before a magistrate to make a statement, although he was willing to give information to the police voluntarily

Another was the interrogation of a number of journalists on the premises of Parliament behaviour for which Police Minister James Kruger apologised to the Speaker

Robbery was evidently early on ruled out as a motive for the killings. Nor has there been any credible suggestion that the murders - brutal though they were

— were the work of some madman.

The obvious conclusion is that somebody wanted Smit dead, to stop him disclosing some dark secret. What was that secret? Who was it that feared he would be in danger?

Until these questions are answered, Smit's ghost will continue to haunt the country

(254) 7/23/77

The French connection

France's satirical weekly, *Le Canard Enchaîné*, claimed this week that an attempt was made last year to take over the biggest and the best-known of the French weekly newsmagazines, *L'Express* — using SA government slush money.

According to *Canard*, when Stuart Pegg bought half the equity of a small publishing firm which owned *Vacances Magazine* (circulation 60 000) in June 1977, the game began. Later, a Dutch holding, Dabel BV, bought a further 2% of the equity in the name of Abramson and Pegg, who then sent their own man, Christopher Doley, to manage the affair.

Canard alleges that Doley bid for control of *L'Express* (circulation over 500 000) which was then up for sale. But he was overtaken by British entrepreneur Sir James Goldsmith, who paid 31m francs for a 45% interest in the magazine, so becoming its largest shareholder.

Doley later allegedly took over the management of a small monthly called *France-Eurafrique* (circulation 10 000), and finally went into the food guide business.

Le Canard Enchaîné also claims that the Pegg-Abramson-Doley troika was approached by the "Giscardian" youth movement to study the possibility of publishing a political news bulletin in the movement's name. One of the leaders is President Giscard d'Estaing's own son, Henri.

The South African *Sunday Times* recently reported that Eschel Rhodie had had a hand in a speech delivered by French President Valéry Giscard

d'Estaing.

Both Pegg and Abramson came to Paris on December 19 last year to liquidate the publishing firm.

259

DEPARTMENT VAN DIE EERSTE MINISTER

No. 611 23 Maart 1979

VERHOOR VAN DIE GREKKE VAN DIE
KOMMISSIE VAN ONDERSOEK EN BEWERTING
ONKRIJMGEGHEDE IN DIE VOORMALIGE
DEPARTEMENT VAN INDIENING.

Die bylaes word bekend gemaak dat die Staats-
president bylaes het om die opdrag van die Kom-
missie van Ondersoek en Bewerting van die
voormalige Departement van Indiening om te
soek na die Kappelaars van die departement.

Die bylaes word bekend gemaak dat die Staats-
president bylaes het om die opdrag van die Kom-
missie van Ondersoek en Bewerting van die
voormalige Departement van Indiening om te
soek na die Kappelaars van die departement.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER

No. 634 23 March 1979

EXTENSION OF THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY
INTO ALLEGED IRRREGULARITIES IN THE
FORMER DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENEOUS
AFFAIRS.

It is hereby notified that the State President has been
pleased to extend the commission of the Commission
of Enquiry into Alleged Irregularities in the
Department of Information to include the
Commission to—

inquire into and to report on, not later than 31
March 1979 the question whether any irregularities
of the present Cabinet before the Commission were
as a result of irregularities by the Commission and
knowledge of the subsidising of the reporting
of other financial assistance to the Commission
any other irregularities in the Commission's
Information and
dealt in its final report with a view to con-
nection with the above-mentioned matter which is
brought before it after 31 March 1979.

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Jul Horwood statement

the following is the text of a statement read in the Senate yesterday by the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood

The Press has given much publicity of late to statements reporting to have been made Dr E M Rhoadie to the effect at he has in his possession a document showing that I either knew of secret projects in the while Department of Information, or had approved such projects Now the BBC has also put into the act

I want to begin by referring the document dealt with by the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry in pp 84 and 85 of its report published late last year P 133/1978), (the relevant extract of which is appended to this statement)

The circumstances under which I appended my signature April 26, 1978 to an Information document purporting to contain references — in very cryptic form — to certain projects of the Department of Information, are clearly set out in the above excerpt from the Commission's report

The amount of R14,8 m cited in the Commission's report was [redacted] amount [redacted] [redacted]

(even if, as he averred, it was only to allow the Department to draw down certain amounts immediately) it might be held that I was approving any projects that might be listed in the document

Dr Mulder assured me that Information would not place that construction on it, and stressed again the urgency of the matter

I thereupon signed the document and asked Dr Mulder to allow me to take it with me as I intended first thing the next morning to check the procedure with the Treasury and, if necessary, with the law advisers He, however, pointed out that as that was the only document in existence, he could not part with it I informed Dr Mulder that if in fact it should transpire that my signature was not required to have been placed on the document, I would immediately communicate with him

When, within a few days, the law advisers informed the Treasury that, in their opinion, the new Secret Services Act did not require that the Minister of Finance should sign the document referred to above, in order to authorize the Department of Information to draw down

letter of May 12 1978 which Dr Rhoadie made public by means of the BBC, and which he apparently puts forward as proof of my approval of certain of his secret projects This letter, and, indeed, also Dr Mulder's previous letter which I have already discussed, must be read against the background of the Secret Services Account Act of 1978, which I introduced last year with the particular purpose of handing the financing of the secret services of all departments on a new basis

Section 2 (3) of this Act is appropriate I immediately want to do away with any argument about the interpretation of this section, and in particular, about what is expected of me as Minister of Finance in terms of these regulations I quote from a legal opinion which the State's legal advisers gave just after the Act was promulgated, with particular reference to Dr Mulder's first letter to me

We confirm our opinion previously expressed that where section 2 (3) of the Secret Services Account of 1978 provides for the provision of money "for use for services of a secret nature which the Minister of Finance and" the other "minis-

ment by the Auditor-General during last year's sitting)

He has definitely not proved that I approved any specific secret projects of his department, because he cannot do this He has most definitely not proved that I was aware of irregularities On the contrary, the approval which I gave, and which he now puts forward as proof of his point of view, is absolutely regular and in accordance with an Act of Parliament which I myself introduced

All that Dr Rhoadie has succeeded in doing, and thus I find reprehensible, is to peddle a "highly secret" state document around overseas by irregular means — and, I suspect, in contravention of the Official Secrets Act — and to place a misleading interpretation on it

Even the Cape Times, (and I have no doubt other newspapers also) which (are) so enthusiastically promoting Dr Rhoadie's flights of fancy and falsehoods has had to admit (and I quote) "It must be emphasized, however, that the document does not itemize the secret projects, and therefore cannot be taken as proof that Senator Horwood knew about the projects in de-

the Minister of Finance before the Auditor-General permitted payment to be made

11 397 The opinion of the law advisers was that it was not a requirement (see Exhibit 17B) and this was later confirmed in writing Thereupon Senator Horwood immediately got into touch with Dr Mulder and informed him that he wished to cancel his initials and signature on the documents He followed this up with a letter dated May 4, 1978, pointing out to Dr Mulder that he had had no knowledge of the projects when he had signed and that he did not wish the impression to be left that, by his initials, he had approved the project He confirmed once again that he was cancelling the initials and signature and returned the copy of the documents that he had in the meantime received from Dr Mulder on which he had made the cancellation

11 398 It will be noted that, in spite of the fact that the document was so very secret that "Geen Afskrifte" was typed on it, Dr Mulder did not return the letter itself to Senator Horwood, but in fact a photocopy of it It

asury to the Department of formation to finance all its cret projects (the details of which were consistently withheld from me) for the year 78/79, and included in the budget

Normally, once that had been me a department would in the urse of a financial year draw wn amounts, as required, om the Treasury against the obal amount, taking care that er the year its total drawings d not exceed the global ount allocated to it (unless, course, authority is subse- ntly obtained for the exper- ture of additional amounts)

In this particular case Dr ulder pointed out to me that e Department needed to draw tain amounts against the 14,8 m as a matter of great gency — he stressed that cer- in salaries and other contrac- al payments had to be made the latest by early next morn- g. He went further and said at, now that a new Act was in eration — the Secret Services ount Act — the Department d been informed by the Audi- r-General that the only way ch amounts could be drawn wn against the total for the ar of R14,8 m, was by obtain- g the signature of the Minister nance to the document he id in his hand That document s marked "Uiters Geheim — en Afskrifte"

I at once expressed my seri- is reservations on the grounds th as to the necessity of sign- g that particular document, id the fact that, if I signed,

amounts against me approved total of R14,8 m, I immediately notified Dr Mulder by tele- phone, and asked him to return the document I had signed, so that I could cancel my signa- ture on it

The document, which was re- turned to me, I found to my surprise, was not the original I had signed, but a photostat copy of it I thereupon asked for the original, to be informed that it appeared Dr Rhoadie had the original with him and that he could not be found

In order not to delay, I can- celled my signature on the pho- tostat (which, incidentally, con- tained the words on the front page, "Uiters Geheim — Geen Afskrifte") and returned it, to- gether with a letter addressed by me to Dr Mulder, and which is referred to in the Commis- sion's report

What did Dr Rhoadie do?

Dr Rhoadie, knowing full well that I had cancelled my signa- ture on the document, made himself guilty of the fraudulent use of the document. As the Erasmus Commission said in its report (paragraph 11 398) "It appeared subsequently that the original, on which Senator Horwood's initials and signa- ture were not cancelled, were retained in the Department's files This last-mentioned origi- nal was then referred to in evi- dence before the Commission by Dr Rhoadie as proof that Sena- tor Horwood had been informed of the details of all secret pro- jects"

I now come to Dr Mulder's

in the national interest", it is only demanded that they should decide on a kind of or kinds of secret services and are not giv- en a duty to decide on specific services or a specific service.

As with respect to other state departments which receive funds in terms of this section, such as the police, it is only expected of me to decide on the "kind or kinds of" secret ser- vices, and not individual pro- jects Honorable senators who have seen the published letter of May 12, 1978 will know that this is precisely what I did I, name- ly, authorized Dr Mulder to use the whole amount which had been provided for his projects (and here I quote from the let- ter) "for the undermentioned category-services", and then a list of the categories follows There is not one specific project which is mentioned — and thus approved

What does Dr Rhoadie achieve with the publicizing of this letter? If he wants to prove that I was aware that his de- partment handled secret pro- jects, then he is busy proving something which no-one has ever denied Since I have been Minister of Finance, I make provision in a whole amount for the Department of Informa- tion's secret activities in the budget What he must prove is that I approved specific secret projects or that I was aware of the irregularities with respect to the application of secret funds (except of course those which were disclosed to Parlia-

12, as J.R. 7000 e c a m s
Extract from the report of the Erasmus Commission of Inquiry, December 1978

11 393 Senator Horwood said in evidence that one day in April (April 26, 1978) Dr

Mulder had summoned him urgently to his office and laid before him a letter with a schedule in respect of expenditure required in connection with secret pro- jects Dr Mulder told him that it was of urgent impor- tance that he immediately approve the payments to the amount of R14,8 m, since payments were al- ready due Dr Mulder asked him quickly to initial the letter as well as each page of the schedule, because the Auditor-General would re- quire this before payment could be made

11 394 He was not given the oppor- tunity of going through the documents because the matter was too urgent

11 395 Senator Horwood testified that he then, in good faith, complied with Dr Mulder's request as a result of the pressure exerted on him The letter was marked "Uiters Geheim — Geen Afskrifte" On the face of it, the request contained in the letter was in order, namely for authority for the pay- ment of R14,8 m which had already been approved in the Budget

11 396 Senator Horwood testified that he began to have mis- givings almost immediately and then asked the opinion of the law advisers on the necessity of each specific project payment having to be approved and signed by

et sussem 11 1
the original, on which Sena- tor Horwood's initials and signature were not can- celled, were retained in the Department's files This last-mentioned original was then referred to in evidence before the Commission by Dr Rhoadie as proof that Senator Horwood had been informed of the details of all secret projects

11 399 Dr Mulder admitted in gen- eral the course of events as recounted by Senator Hor- wood, but denied that he had exerted pressure on Senator Horwood and al- leged that at that stage Sena- tor Horwood was aware of the true facts in regard to The Citizen Senator Hor- wood emphatically denied that he had been aware at that stage of the true facts of The Citizen There is no reference to The Citizen in the letter itself The Com- mission accepts Senator Horwood's version for two reasons in particular He confirmed in writing to Dr Mulder that he had no knowledge of the contents of the project, and Dr Mulder did not react to this (see Exhibit 17C)

11 400 Dr Mulder sent a copy, as indicated above, back to Senator Horwood for can- cellation, retaining the original on which the can- cellation was not made The only meaningful deduc- tion from this must be that the uncanceled document was retained as proof of Senator Horwood's knowl- edge of, and agreement with, the nature of the se- cret projects

Mr Louw told Spina he had been asked by Dr Owen to discuss the visit and the background to it.

"I naturally told him what the position was as far as we are concerned, this is the final chapter," he said.

The Foreign Office spokes- man said the two men visited that two men, attached to the Erasmus Commission, had on March 15 visited the Foreign Office. The spokesman said that the two men had been in London for a number of days before they had met with a number of private individuals, some of these had asked to talk to someone connected with the commission, and all were up to date with the latest information. He said they had voluntarily provided the spokesman with the names of the two lawyers who had visited the country.

On Thursday the South African head mission in London said the British Government was investigating whether the two men could be regarded as posing a threat to the credentials of South Africa's Ambassador designate, Dr Dawie de Villiers.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, the Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, said in reply to questions that he had asked Dr Owen to "study" claims by Dr Fschel Rhoadie that members of Parliament — unidentified by name or nationality — had been paid to persuade them to support South African race policies.

There is, however, no suggestion of a British inquiry into the matter. Reference in yesterday's Foreign Office statement to the need for a full and open inquiry is understood to refer to the work of the Erasmus Commission.

Mr Louw said last night that his meeting with Dr Owen had been conducted in "a friendly spirit".

Mr Louw said "I pointed out to Dr Owen that the Erasmus Commission could not carry out its task without seeing people abroad".

Mr Louw said he explained that all information given to the two representatives of the Erasmus Commission had been given voluntarily.

"It would be contrary to the laws of South Africa as well as of Britain to have tried to obtain information that was not within these confines," he said.

Sapa-Reuters

Owen queries visit by 2 Erasmus men

24/3/79 CT 209

LONDON. — Britain's Foreign Secretary, Dr David Owen, yesterday sought an official explanation of the visit here by two officials of the Erasmus Commission — and received an assurance that there would be formal notification in future.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Dr Owen called in the South African Charge d'Affairs, Mr David Louw, yesterday morning "to seek an explanation as to the status and function of the two South African officials who had recently visited Britain in connection with the inquiries being carried out by the Erasmus Commission."

The spokesman said Mr Louw explained to Dr Owen that two lawyers, attached to the Erasmus Commission had travelled to Britain on March 15 as private individuals to carry out informal inquiries

"Dr Owen sought and obtained from Mr Louw an assurance that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office would be formally notified of any further visits in connection with the South African Government's inquiries," the spokesman said.

"Dr Owen emphasized to Mr

Louw that the British Government took a serious view of any improper foreign interference with the press or in British public life, but if this had happened it was preferable that the truth should be brought out. He believed it was in the interests of everyone that there should be the fullest impartial and open inquiry into the events that had taken place."

The Foreign Office initially denied knowledge of the visit by the two men, identified in press reports as Mr Hendrik Klem, Deputy Attorney-General for Natal, and Mr Francois van Zyl, a senior State advocate. It subsequently apologized to London newspapers for having done so.

After yesterday's meeting,



Dr David Owen

→ → → →
To page 2 **A**

Info row

24/1
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POL
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yd
FOR
LSD

rages ove

President

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

THE Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, last night supported the State President, Mr Vorster, and rejected Opposition calls for Mr Vorster's resignation.

He denied that Mr Vorster, by defending himself and Cabinet ministers, over allegations about the Information scandal, had acted improperly or brought the office of State President into disrepute.

Mr Botha's statement came at the end of a day of fierce constitutional controversy following Mr Vorster's decision, in spite of the usual restraints of his office, to respond to allegations by the former Secretary for Information, Dr Esché, Rhoadie.

Opposition leaders have attacked both what Mr Vorster said and the fact that, as constitutional head of state, he entered a matter of public debate.

Mr Vorster's personal entry into the dispute surrounding the Information scandal ended any Opposition attempts to mute their criticism of Mr Vorster out of respect for his office.

This, in turn, led to a sharp attack by the Prime Minister, Mr P.W. Botha, rejecting calls for Mr Vorster's resignation, backing the State President's



Mr Vorster

right to defend himself and criticizing "cheap political manoeuvres" of the opposition.

In a day of rapid accusation and counter-accusation

• The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglu, and the New Republic Party leader, Mr Vause Raw, both called for Mr Vorster's resignation as State President.

• The Prime Minister supported Mr Vorster, and denied there was any constitutional crisis as a result of his action

He said Mr Vorster had merely stated the facts and the statements by Mr Eglu and Mr Raw "bordered on the ludicrous"

• The chief Opposition spokesman on Information, Mr Japie Basson, said Mr Vorster had "declared himself guilty" and was trying to evade his own responsibility for the Information scandal while "making scapegoats of others."

• Mr Botha refused a request by Mr Eglu and Mr Basson for an urgent meeting to discuss the situation. He said both Mr Eglu and Mr Basson had joined in an unequalled attack on Mr Vorster and that he had more to do than listen to people "with more time than good judgment"

• The South African Party leader, Mr John Wiley, took a stand contrary to the other two Opposition parties and said Mr Vorster should have the right to state his case

• Mr Vorster gave an inter-

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To page 2

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(15) From page 1

view to SATV in which he said he felt the circumstances warranted a departure from the normal convention that the State President kept out of public controversies. Mr Vorster also repeated his statement that no present Cabinet ministers had known of irregularities in the Department of Information.

The row began when Mr Eglu said Mr Vorster should step down because he had brought the office of State President into the centre of "hectic personal and political controversy."

Mr Raw said Mr Vorster had been, at the office, "emboldened" and his entry into party political controversy "has excluded him from the constitutional protection of his office."

Jacky's

Mr Botha retorted that Mr Eglu, Mr Raw, and their lackeys had for weeks waged a personal campaign against Mr Vorster and he ridiculed their calls for Mr Vorster's resignation.

The State President's action has not created any constitutional crisis, Mr Botha added.

He has by no means participated in the party political but he has defended them often given facts which have brought clarity.

Mr Botha reserved his most scathing comments for the reply to the written request by Mr Eglu following a special Progressive Federal Party caucus decision for a meeting to discuss the constitutional situation.

He released copies of the correspondence in which he denied Mr Vorster's action had given rise to a serious constitutional situation.

Clarity

Mr Botha said Mr Vorster had not acted unworthily, but had brought clarity in a situation which Mr Eglu and his friends had used to make deplorable attacks.

As Mr Eglu had not heeded an appeal not to involve the State President's office in the Information affair, "I see no point in a discussion with you about the matter."

"Your transparent political game will not make any impression on right-thinking people. The public will not be misled by your antics," Mr Botha wrote.

Why Vorster must resign

RDM 24/3/79 259

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN

THE OPPOSITION demanded yesterday that Mr Vorster resign as State President, saying he had damned himself on five separate issues in his extraordinary Press statement this week on the Info scandal.

The call was made after the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, rejected the Opposition's request for a meeting to discuss the unprecedented statement.

Opposition spokesmen said Mr Vorster had brought on a constitutional crisis by dragging the State President's office into a political controversy, and had also damned himself by stating that he knew of The Citizen project in August 1977.

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In contrast, the *Patella granularis* increases its metabolic rate during the day (Fig. 5B). The length of the day and body temperature (up to 32°C) on the shore. Larger individuals exposed more than 10 minutes to air respire faster in air increasing their metabolic rate.

Due to migration of *Patella granularis* are long periods of exposure. Temperatures may rise and minimise metabolic rates during this period because temperatures are low in air (17°C in water and 20°C on shore). Conversely, the drop in respiration rate at 17°C in water (Fig. 5C), the low rate of aerobic activity only keeps down day temperatures are high at night when air temperature is high.

In full knowledge of The Citizen scandal, Mr Vorster had:

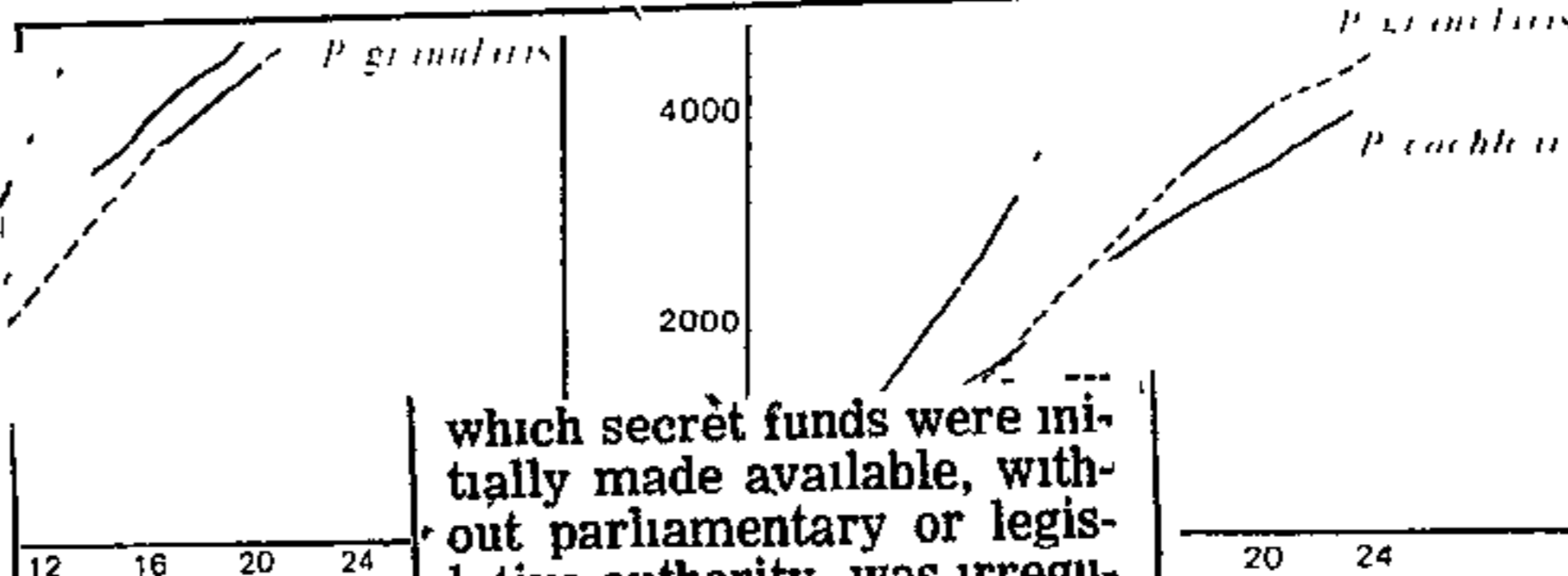
- Sat silently in Parliament as Dr Connie Mulder told the lie that no Government money had ever been spent on The Citizen.
- Failed to brief the Cabinet on the matter, although it was his duty to do so.
- Called a General Election without putting the facts before the public.
- Reappointed Dr Mulder to the Cabinet, and retained Dr Eschel Rhoodie as Secretary for Information.
- Continued to allow The Citizen to be subsidised by State funds.

Because of Mr Vorster's inaction, Dr Mulder and Dr Rhoodie had reason to believe that he was condoning their actions.

Mr Japie Basson (PFP Bezuidenhout) said on behalf of the Opposition that the State President's latest action had left the "regrettable impression" that he was trying to duck his own responsibility while finding other scapegoats.

Mr Ray Swart (PFP Musgrave) accused Mr Vorster of "specious reasoning" in taking full responsibility for the allocation of secret information funds and then denying responsibility for the way they were spent.

The very manner



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which secret funds were initially made available, without parliamentary or legislative authority, was irregular. It has now been clearly established that some of the spending of these funds was also irregular," he said. "It is difficult to understand how he can accept responsibility for the one process and repudiate it for the other."

Mr Swart described as "remarkable" Mr Vorster's disclosure of his discussion this week with Dr Mulder.

"This was, after all, a discussion, presumably in private, between the State President of South Africa and a private citizen. How can it be tolerated that the State Presidency be reduced to this level? Mr Vorster's unilateral disclosure of such a discussion must be viewed very seriously."

The Opposition also recalled that during May last year Dr Mulder had told the House, in the presence of Mr Vorster, that no public money was involved in The Citizen.

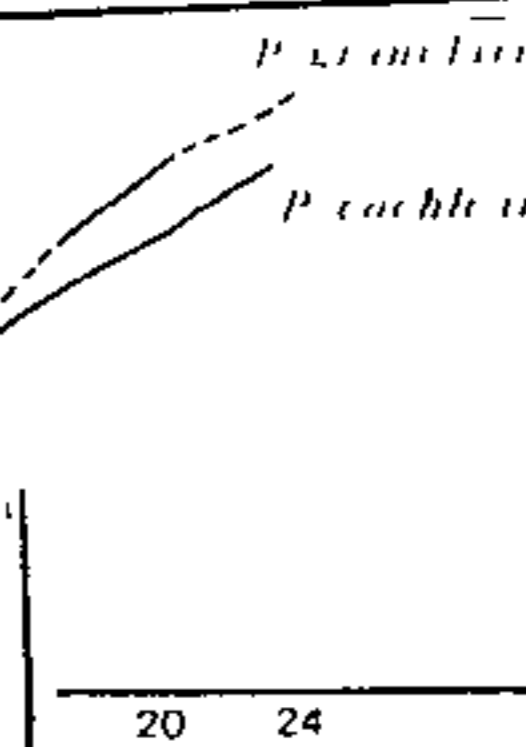
In a strong statement Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, accused Mr Vorster of bringing the office into disrepute.

"We have reached a tragic situation when the State President becomes embroiled with a former official of the administration for which he himself was responsible and whose actions led to the scandal Mr Vorster himself condoned by his silence in Parliament," he said.

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24/3/79

259

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday rejected out of hand a request from the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, for an urgent meeting to discuss the constitutional crisis arising from the State President, Mr Vorster's entry into a political controversy.

"I have got more to do than to listen to you who obviously have more time than good sense," Mr Botha said after Mr Eglin and Mr Japie Basson (PFP Bezuidenhout) had requested the urgent meeting in a letter.

Mr Botha's letter of reply said

"Your letter of March 23, 1979, in connection with the statement of the State President has been laid before me by my staff. I know of no serious constitutional situation that has arisen, as you allege, through the State President's action."

"What I do know is that the Honourable Mr B J Vorster defended himself against the unprecedented personal attacks in which you and Mr Basson participated."

"He only presented facts to bring clarity to matters that have been snatched up

PM rejects Eglin's call for crisis talks

by you and your friends to make deplorable allegations

"I refer you to what I said in the Assembly on February 6, 1979, when I called on everyone not to place the State President's office and person in jeopardy. You in fact took little notice of my call."

"For this reason I can see no value in a discussion with you on the matter. I have more to do than to listen to you, who obviously have more time than good sense. Your transparent political game will make no impression on any right-thinking individual."

Sapa reports that Mr Botha said that the statements made by Mr Eglin and the New Republic Party leader Mr Vause Raw regarding Mr Vorster's

statement "bordered on the ridiculous"

"They thought that because of his high office the State President would not react to all the unworthy utterances that were being circulated against him," he said.

● "A R133-million spectacular, the Ruidiest Show in South Africa, a must for every Citizen; 'n klomp Bols"

That's the sub-title of the latest branch of satirist Pieter-Dirk Uys "Info Scandals", a revue set to open in Pretoria on April 5. Eager Johannesburgers will have to wait for the Uys contribution to the Info story until June, when it is set to open at the Laager in the Market Theatre complex.

● See Page 6

Info visit queried

Own Correspondent

LONDON — Britain's Foreign Secretary, Dr David Owen, yesterday sought an official explanation of the London visit by two officials of the Erasmus Commission and received an assurance there would be formal notification in future.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the South African charge d'affairs, Mr David Louw, explained to Dr Owen that two lawyers at-

tached to the Erasmus Commission travelled to Britain on March 15 as private individuals to carry out informal inquiries.

They were identified in Press reports as Mr Hendrik Klem, deputy Attorney-General for Natal, and Mr Francois van Zyl, a senior State advocate.

Mr Louw said last night all information given to the two representatives of the commission had been given voluntarily.

Erasmus men's UK visit explained

STAR 259
24/3/79

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The Star Bureau
LONDON — South Africa has assured Britain that the Foreign Office will be formally notified of any further visits to Britain connected with inquiries into the Info. affair
The assurance was given to the Foreign Secretary, Dr David Owen, yesterday by Mr D V. Louw, the charge d'affaires at the South African Embassy

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Mr Louw had been called to the Foreign Office to explain the status and functions of two lawyers who recently visited Britain on behalf of the Erasmus Commission

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During the call, which lasted 20 minutes, Mr Louw explained that the lawyers, Mr Francois van Zyl and Mr Hendrik Klém, who are attached to the commission, had travelled to Britain on March 15 as private individuals. They then carried out informal inquiries

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Some of those interviewed had asked to talk to a representative of the commission, while others had been approached by the lawyers. But all information had been freely and voluntarily given

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The Foreign Office said later that Dr Owen had emphasised to Mr Louw that the British Government took a serious view of any improper foreign interference with the Press or in British public life. If this had happened, he said, it was preferable that the truth should be brought out

He believed it was in the interests of everyone that there should be the fullest impartial and open inquiry into the events that had taken place

Dr Owen later told the weekly meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party that, so far as he knew, no British laws had been broken by the visiting lawyers

'Assassin flight': Ludorf names pilot

STAR 24/3/79
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②

By Kevin Murray

Former judge Mr Joe Ludorf has given a British newspaper the name of a South African pilot who he alleges flew Dr Robert Smit's assassins from England to Johannesburg.

He has also named a South African company as the owners of the jet in which the killers are said to have flown from Luton Airport in Bedfordshire.

Mr Ludorf has not given The Star any proof to substantiate his extraordinary allegations concerning the Smit murders, and The Star has not been able to confirm them.

He released a statement this week, which he said was designed to protect his client — former South African pilot Mr Sydney Richard Excell.

The Luton Evening Post spoke to Mr Ludorf by telephone from England on Thursday night, and were given the names of a pilot and company.

Mr Ludorf told Evening Post reporters that he suspected this pilot as the man who flew the two German assassins to Lanseria Airport for the murders.

He also gave an address for the pilot in London.

The reporters went to the address and found it was the home of Mr Stuart Pegg, a director of Hortors. He told them that the pilot, Mr Pat Hewartson, now worked for Hortors in Johannesburg.

Mr Pegg told Evening Post reporters that Mr Hewartson had telephoned

him to say he had heard that his name was being mentioned by Mr Ludorf. But he said the story was untrue.

Mr Hewartson said he could prove his presence in South Africa by means of his passport, among other things.

Mr Ludorf told the Evening Post that the name of the company which owned a Gates Lear jet which was based at Luton at the time of the Smit murders was Strathmore Services and Finance Corporation.

This company was started by South African businessmen Mr Jack Scott and Mr Ben du Preez, who pulled out soon after it was established.

Officials at Luton Airport confirmed that the

jet was seen around the airport in November 1977 — the month in which the Smits were killed.

British Civil Aviation Authorities are now running all flight records at Luton Airport through a computer to try to single out any flights to South Africa at the time of the Smit murders.

Mr Hewartson, who in December 1977 was forced down when flying over Angola, said the Lear jet was sold in October 1977.

It passed through the hands of dealers and wound up in the possession of a Colorado second-hand jet firm.

"It never flew to South Africa after it was sold," said Mr Hewartson. "And

To Page 3, Col 7

said it had no money to assist them... rrica, Needham

he was reported as saying, 'and if he won't help us, we'll help ourselves.'

Monday morning brought yet another gathering on the Parade. Estimates vary

and the number who accompanied the delegation to the Prime Minister's

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By
DICK USHER
and
VIV PRINCE

DOWN in Page Street they call him Uncle Syd.

The key man in the amazing disclosures made this week by former Judge Joe Ludorf about the murder of Dr Robert Smit and his wife Jeanne-Cora has had a chequered career. But times have been hard in recent years.

Mr Sydney Excell, interviewed at Mr Ludorf's home this week, is a softly spoken man whose elegance conceals a deep bitterness against influential people he claims have cheated him out of millions.

He has obviously fallen on hard times. There are gaps between the soles and ladders of his shoes and the flat he lives in is in Doornfontein, one of Johannesburg's less favoured suburbs.

He came to live with us about two years ago after he was thrown out of his flat in Pritchard Street for not paying the rent, said Mrs Cornelia Francis.

We met him at the swimming pool and then when he got thrown out we felt sorry for him and he moved in with us, first at Steewright Street and now here in Page Street.

She said that Mr Excell, who was then being sought all over Johannesburg by journalists wanting interviews about the claims made by Mr Ludorf, had left home one Tuesday, taking nothing with him, and had not returned since.

"But he often does that



... goes away for a week or so without saying anything then he turns up again.

"He worked as a courier on buses to Kruger National Park a year or so ago, but I don't know what he's been doing recently. He didn't talk much and he'd often come home late at night and go out early in the morning."

Mr Excell first met Mr Ludorf when he was in jail on a charge of attempted murder.

Plight

Mr Ludorf said: "He had been held in Johannesburg Fort for 16 months without trial when I — then a judge and visiting the prison fortuitously — came to learn of his plight."

He had shot a Randfontein attorney and writer, Mr Kas van den Bergh, with bullets made of wax and was subsequently convicted of assault, acquitted on the attempted murder charge and fined R75.

This was only one of many episodes in the colourful life of a man whose career includes serving with the South African Air Force and the Royal Air Force in World War 2.

FORMER Judge Joe Ludorf has instructed his attorneys to investigate a possible action for Defamation against the Commissioner of Police.

Mr Ludorf said his claim arose out of newspaper articles this week following his sensational claims about the murder of Dr and Mrs

Robert Smit on November 22, 1977.

Dr Smit was a National Party candidate in the 1977 general election.

An attorney acting for Mr Ludorf confirmed that a claim was being considered, but he has not seen the papers.

trying to stand as a parliamentary candidate for the United Party, a spell as a mercenary in the Congo, almost becoming a founder shareholder in Trek Airways and several criminal convictions.

Excell said this week "My father was at Eton and Cambridge and then came to South Africa, where he married an Afrikaans woman, a Raubenheimer, in Bethlehem, where I grew up," he said.

"Besides fighting in the Congo I also fought for the Israelis and I'm one of only eight non-Jews whose name is in the Golden Book of Israel."

His criminal record includes a strange incident involving Colonel Elliot Wilson, chief inspector of civil aviation in the mid-1950s, who had withdrawn his licence.

Excell stormed into his office, drew a pistol and fired several shots into the wall beside Colonel Wilson's head.

Charged with attempted murder, he was acquitted after testifying that he had not wanted to kill the colonel. He said he was a crack shot and could place a bullet where he wanted

it.

The court moved to the shooting range at the police college where Excell put five pistol shots out of five into the bull. He was found guilty of pointing a firearm,

He has also been found guilty twice of having sexual relations with a girl under 16.

Soon after appearing as a witness in a political trial in Swaziland in the early 1960s, he applied for political asylum but was refused.

Jovial

In the 1950s he ran a pleasure resort at Randfontein and a friend who remembers him from those days described him as jovial, generous and popular.

"He used to roast half an ox and invite all his friends to come and eat," said the friend.

"A strange point was that he kept an SAAF uniform permanently in his lounge. It just hung there and people would come and ask whose it was and Excell would say 'Mine, I was in the SAAF as a pilot.' Excell never bragged

about his exploits."

The friend also spoke on the time when Excell was involved in buying a big piece of ground at Randfontein lake to build an aerodrome there.

"He had a large piece of land flattened for the aerodrome but I don't know what ever happened to the scheme."

This week Excell spoke bitterly about the Press "who have ignored me for eight years and now print half truths about my background."

But, after the claims about the hiring of two German former mercenaries for the killing of Dr and Mrs Smit had been publicised, he said he was not frightened any more.

"I'm not afraid for my life, but I'm afraid that they will hound me again and lock me up again," he said.

He claims to have been cheated out of millions by influential people. "But the documents are in New York and Paris and I don't have the money to go there and get them."

"But I made my story known for the sake of my country. I'm a South African and I'm proud of it and I don't like what's happening to my country."

2 armed guards watched scared Pegg for 11 days

SUN EXP. 25/3/79

259

By KITT KATZIN

RUNAWAY Info millionaire Stuart Pegg, still wanted by the authorities for questioning on the irregular Government-backed Hortors deal, was in "fear of his life" before he fled from South Africa in November — and for 11 days, while he planned his secret departure, hired two armed bodyguards to protect him day and night.

One of them, the Sunday Express established this week, was Captain Sid Excell, the former Congo mercenary who submitted sensational affidavits to retired Johannesburg judge Mr Joe Ludorf, claiming that two German assassins were paid R30 000 each to murder Dr Robert Smit and his wife in Springs in November, 1977.

The man who hired Captain Excell and the second bodyguard — Mr Louis Cole, a former security policeman — is Johannesburg businessman Mr Chris Wentzel, who runs a public relations agency, Wentzel Associates, at the Carlton Centre.

Captain Excell spent 11 days at Mr Pegg's luxury R150 000 home at Khyber Rock, Sandton, and was paid R900 for his services.

On one occasion, just after finishing a night shift, a particular incident took place at the Pegg home and he fled the house, fearing for his own life.

And the man who helped to get him the job was Bill Fortuin, also a former mercenary, and the man whom Captain Excell claims told him the full story about the Smit murders. Mr Fortuin, in a statement to the police, later denied he had discussed the Smit murders with Captain Excell.

Captain Excell told me his amazing story at Mr Ludorf's flat in Florida. The essential parts of it were confirmed by Mr Wentzel in a separate interview.

In the presence of the former judge, from whom Mr Excell sought protection earlier this week, the former Congo mercenary told of how Mr Fortuin had contacted him to discuss the proposition of guarding Stuart Pegg.

"He told me Mr Pegg was looking for a bodyguard and a hitman — and that I would be ideal for the job."

He said he was told to meet Mr Chris Wentzel who would take him to Mr Pegg, but that he should maintain a low profile in the meantime, make inquiries about Mr Pegg's "anti-South African activities", and "have a look" at his British pilots.

(Mr Wentzel, however, contests this, saying this was not part of Captain Excell's brief.)

The next day he met Mr Wentzel and Mr Cole, the

BUT ONE FLED IN FEAR OF HIS OWN SAFETY AT END OF NIGHT WATCH



● Stuart Pegg ... feared for his life

second bodyguard, and was taken to Mr Pegg at his offices in the Bank of Lisbon building.

There Mr Pegg welcomed him and told him to report to his home that evening.

"You will have to look after me," Mr Pegg told him, "as I am in fear of my life."

(At that stage the Reserve Bank was investigating foreign exchange contraventions linked to the successful takeover of Hortors by Mr David Abramson, the chairman, and Mr Pegg, executive director.)

"So I understood why Mr Pegg, who was obviously planning at that stage to leave the country, might have been in fear of his life," Captain Excell told me.

Mr Wentzel told me that he saw Mr Pegg's request to hire bodyguards as a "straightforward business transaction".

Captain Excell, meanwhile, monitored all visitors (including myself, when I had an interview with Mr

Pegg for three hours on a Saturday evening). He got to know Mr Pegg's wife, Gail, their two-year-old daughter, Caroline, and the servants.

Later, however, he began to suspect that his own life could be in danger because of his involvement with certain parties in previous business deals in which, he claims, documents were stolen, and also, possibly, because of what he knew of the Smit murders.

"For these and other reasons, I really believed a 'contract' was out on my life — and I thought it would happen right there and then I was extremely suspicious, and my fears were confirmed a few days later."

"Just as I was finishing off a nightshift stint, a silver-grey Mercedes, complete with sunroof, pulled up outside the house. I was standing on the roof."

"The car pulled up slowly and a powerfully-built Black man got out. He looked around suspiciously and headed for the door."

"That's it," I thought — "and I jumped the back fence and fled." Captain Excell claims he then reported the matter to the police in Pretoria and asked for protection.

● While acting as a bodyguard, he was told that Mr Wentzel, accompanied by Mr Cole, had visited General Van den Bergh for several hours at his home in Waterkloof, Pretoria, one night.

Asked to comment, Mr Wentzel told me "General Van den Bergh is an old friend I went to see him to offer my help as I believed he had been treated shabbily by the authorities and had been made out to be a liar."

"I had always regarded him highly as a friend and public figure, and he is one of the most thorough gentlemen I have known."

Bodyguards on board

LAST year the Sunday Express revealed that bodyguards once also protected Dr Robert Smit.

On a sea voyage with his family from England three years ago the international finance expert was watched on board by two guards, sharing non-stop day and night shifts and shadowing him wherever he went.

Even when Dr Smit went disco-dancing until the early hours of the morning his guards were never more than a few metres away.

Gatsha:

SUN. TIMES
Info 25/3/79

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Sunday Times Reporter

CHIEF Gatsha Buthelezi has a special interest in the Information scandal. He says the former Department of Information and the former Bureau for State Security had tried to topple him as leader of the Zulus.

Chief Buthelezi informed the former Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, of the attempt and even furnished him with an affidavit in which it was stated that R12 000 had been deposited in a bank account of Shaka Spear Party

Untrue

But Mr Vorster denied any involvement of the Bureau or the Department of Information in the party

These were some of the facts that emerged during an interview with Chief Buthelezi during his trip to Cape Town this week, where he had discussions with the Minister of Plural Relations, Dr Piet Koornhof

He said it was untrue that blacks were unaffected by the present Information scandal

"I have a very special interest as BOSS and the Department of Information interfered in an attempt to topple me," he said

Gerald Ford kry 10 000 dollar vir SA praatjie

Van HENNIE PRETORIUS WASHINGTON
MNR. GERALD FORD, voormalige resident van die SA, is verlede jaar 10 000 dollar betaal vir 'n middagete-spraak van twintig minute by 'n ekonomiese seminaar oor Suid-Afrika in Houston.

Dis bygewoon deur wat 300 genooies van Amerikaanse topmaat-lappe

Mnr Ford het 'n sterk toesaak gemaak oor Russiese Kubaanse indringing in Afrika met klem op die belangrikheid om Suid-Afrika vir die Weste te behou. Dit was in die tyd toe die Kubaanse in Afrika sterk in die nuus was, en mnr Ford oorweldigend toegejuig selfs deur manne wat in die vorige verkiesing vir pres Carter gestem het.

* Op navraag sê mnr. Baron van die skakelmaat-lappe Sydney S Baron van New York dis niks buitengewoons dat 'n spesiale gasspreker by so 'n geleentheid so 'n bedrag kry nie. Senatore Kongreslede word gemiddeld 2 000 tot 2 500 dollar betaal. Manne soos mnr. Ronald Reagan en oud-presi-

dent Ford kry minstens 10 000 dollar, sê mnr Baron. Die seminaar is geborg deur Safto (SA Foreign Trade Association) en vyf borge, SA Brouerye, SA Lugdiens, Barlow Rand, Union Corporation en Safmarine. Mnr Baron sê sy maatskappy is versoek om namens sy klient Suid-Afrika volle samewerking te verleen aan die seminaar, aange-

sien die doelwitte in pas by die maatskappy se eie mikpunte op ekonomiese gebied. * In Johannesburg het mnr Wim Holtes gister namens Safto bevestig dat Safto vir pres Ford betaal het, en nie inligting nie. Ek het persoonlik die tjek van tienduuisend dollar aan die oud-president se kantoor gestuur," het hy gesê.

GERALD FORD Toegejuig oor toespraak

SA het vii Kaunda omgekoop Newsweek

Van Ons Korrespondent

LUSAKA

DIE Amerikaanse nuustydskrif Newsweek se uitgawe van 26 Maart is in Zambie verbied oor 'n bewering daarin dat Suid-Afrika aan pres. Kenneth Kaunda van Zambie R870 000 betaal het om die brugberaad by die Victoria-waterval in 1975 te reel.

Die bewering is deel van 'n artikel oor die Inligting-skandaal. Die Johannesburgse sakeman mnr. Josias van Zyl word daarin aangehaal as sou hy gesê het dat een van dr. Eschel Rhodie se bandopnames lui dat Swart Afrika-staatshoofde met goud omgekoop is.

Volgens die artikel het mnr. Van Zyl gesê pres Kaunda is een van die staatshoofde wat omgekoop is. Pres. Kaunda en die Staatspresident van Suid-Afrika, mnr. John Vorster, het albei die beraad bygewoon.

'n Woordvoerder van pres Kaunda het die bewering as onsin bestempel. Hy het gesê die artikel is daarop gemik om pres Kaunda se goeie naam te skaad en die gewapende stryd in Suid-Afrika te verongeluk.

Die woordvoerder het ook ontken dat die tydskrif verbied is en gesê dat dit soos gewoonlik verkoop word.



DR ESCHEL RHOODIE vandeeweek op die BBC

Eschel roer Brittese hartsnare

**Van
GIELIE DE KOCK**

LONDEN
STIPTELIK om 10.15
Woensdagaand het die groot oomblik aangebreek. Dr. Eschel Rhoodie, die man met die 41 hoogs geheime bande wat dan 'n regering sou laat knak, was op die Britse TV-skerm.

'n Groter gehoor kon hierdie netjiese man met sy ewe netjiese Engels maar tog onmiskenbare Afrikaanse uitspraak nie gevra het nie

Hy het die BBC se TV-kamera's en sy miljoene kykers aan sy voete gehad van waar hy „êrens uit 'n hotelkamer in Europa" gesels

Maar wat 'n anti-klimaks was dit nie! Daar het niks uitgekome waarvan ons nog nie gehoor of gelees het nie — niks waarop nie geantwoord kon word nie

Dr Rhoodie was daarop uit om simpatie te win Daar-

in het hy tot groot hoogte geslaag Die man voor die kameras het 'n prentjie geskilder van iemand wat bitter veronreg is die slagoffer van 'n bose sameswering

Hy het sy hande afgewerk vir volk en vaderland — tot sestien uur op 'n dag, jare lank Nou word hy uitgemaak vir 'n misdadiger wat nie eens die kans op 'n billike verhoor in 'n ope hof gegun sal word nie Hy moet ly terwyl die huidige Staatspresident, die Eerste Minister en ander Kabinetslede met skoon hande sit

Maar ondanks al hierdie verontregting, het hy voor al die kykers gesê hy gaan nie die inhoud van daardie bande bekend maak nie Behalwe nou as sake verander, het hy betekenisvol bygevoeg — soos by as hy dalk 'n onnatuurlike dood sterf of teen sy wil na Suid-Afrika terugge- neem word

David Dimpleby, wat die onderhoud gevoer het, kon nooit lekker by daardie bande uitkom nie Maar dr Rhoodie

het aanhou vertel van bewyse van dokumente en name en bande wat hy het — veilig in „twee brandkaste êrens in Europa”.

„Gebruik u die bande as 'n waarborg vir u eie veiligheid?” wou Dimpleby weet „Ja, jy kan so sê” was die antwoord

Dr. Rhoodie het bevestig dat daar dreigemente teenoor sy gesin in Suid-Afrika gemaak is. Hy wou nie die vraag beantwoord of hy persoonlik ook gedreig is nie.

Hy sê die gevolge sal noodlottig vir Suid-Afrika wees as hy die inhoud van die bande bekend moet maak Moontlik het hy nie sulke gevolge in gedagte as hy dalk teen sy sin na Suid-Afrika terugge- neem word nie?

Tog kry 'n mens die indruk dat sy liefde vir sy land nog nie heeltemal dood is nie. Wanneer hy van „ons” praat en Suid-Afrika bedoel, kon jy die emosie in sy stem duidelik hoor

Die feit dat sy paspoort

ingetrek is, is vir hom nie lekker nie Maar hy is dankbaar dat hy nog vriende het wat die laaste maande goed na hom omgesien het.

Na wat gebeur het, het hy en sy vrou besluit dat hulle nie na Suid-Afrika wil terugkeer nie maar hewer elders 'n nuwe begin wil maak

Hy is darem nog trots op die feit dat minstens 50 per- sent van die projekte wat sy gewese departement aange- pak het, steeds deur die Rege- ring volgehou word

* In Londen het mnr. Robert Hughes, Arbeiderlid vir Aberdeen-Noord, vandeeweek glad voorgestel dat Brit- tanje die £100 000 wat dr. Rhoodie aanvanklik vir die onderhoud wou hê moet stoot om sy geheime te bekom „Dit sal die hele netwerk van korrupsie en omkoperie oop- vlek,” sê hy

Dr David Owen, minister van buitelandse sake, het die onderwerp in die parlement omseil deur te sê dit is nie nou op die agenda nie

TWEE ou huursoldate-makkers, hardebaard-vlieëniers, is dié week aangedui as die eintlike bronne van die fantastiese verhaal rondom die moorde van dr. Robert Smit en sy vrou, Jean-Cora wat oud-regter Joe Ludorf dié week die wereld ingestuur het.

Maar die twee stry mekaar nou vuurwarm op, het RAPPORT gevind toe hy dié week die eerste koerantonderhoude met albei gevoer het.

● Mnr Sydney Excell beweert steeds hy weet wie dr. Smit en sy vrou vermoor het. Hy gee mnr. Bill Fortuin as sy eintlike bron aan

● Mnr Fortuin, aan die Suidkus opgespoor, sê hy is dronkgeslaan deur die storie. Hy weet nie waar op aarde mnr. Excell daaraan kom om te sê hy't vir hom gesê nie.

En terwyl ontkennings in die weer is, mnr. Harper Martins ontken ook somner mnr Fortuin se bewering aan RAPPORT dat o a hy, Syd, dr Connie Mulder, mnr Martins, en Lionel Schwarz n slag 'n maatskappy gestig het om vliegtuie te bou

In sy vaste kroeg in Johannesburg, sê mnr Excell Vrydagaand „Ek gee nie om dat mense dink ek is eksentriek nie Ek weet my bewerings is waar en die hele spul gaan nog bewys word”

Netjies uitgevat in 'n pak klere, veelkleurige krawat en blink skoene, sê hy hy kan nou „vir die eerste keer in maande weer asemhaal nadat beweringe in die openbaar bekend gemaak is”. Vroer het hy net deur 'n skrefte na vreemde dinge in sy woonstelgebou in Doornfontein ge-oer

Hy sê — „en dis dié heilige 'aarheid” — dat 'n Learjet an Stratmore Services die ag voor die Smit-moord van te lughawe Luton buite Londen opgestyg het Die vlieg-lig se registrasienommer was L-GLD. Dit is in Maart 1974 Suid-Afrika geregistreer. Mnr. Excell beweert dat hy plan van die beweerde vlug 'n verslaggewer van die 'ndense Daily Mail gekry

Hy ontken dat hy ooit vir mnr. Stuart Pegg, grootbaas n Hortors wat nou in Lon-

den skuil, gewerk het, en dat hy R1 500 per maand betaal is RAPPORT het vasgestel dat mnr Excell in mnr Pegg se diens was, maar hom ná 'n utval oor 'n agterstallige bedrag van R750 verlaat het

Ontken

Volgens die verklaring van regter Joe Ludorf was die vlieënier van die vliegtug wat die moordenaars na Suid-Afrika gebring het, mnr Pat Hewatson, wat tans vir die Hortors-groep in Johannesburg, werk

Met 'n groot beker bier in die hand sê mnr. Excell hy is bereid om voor die Erasmus-Kommissie te getuig, maar dit lyk vir hom hulle is onwilling om hom oordeed aan te hoor Maar vir oud-regter Ludorf het hy die wereld se respek — „hy het die moord van my gewete af gekry”

Aan die Suidkus, waar hy vakansie hou, het mnr Fortuin gesê „Ek ontken dat ek ooit enige besonderhede in verband met die Smit-moord aan mnr Excell verskaf het. Ek was geskok toe die polisie my hier op Port Edward kom ondervra”

Hy sê hy en mnr Excell se paare kruis sedert 1950 voortdurend: Hy het hom die eerste keer ontmoet toe hy, Fortuin, 'n vliegskool op Wonderboom-lughawe gehad het „Syd was 'n wonderlike vlieënier wat bykans elke soort vliegtuig op aarde gevlieg het”

Agterdogtig

Mnr Excell het dikwels groot sake-projekte aangepak In 1953 het sy eerste lugdiens, Phoenix, tot niet

Nou stry hy en Fortuin oor die moorde

Daarna het hy Trek-Lugdiens begin, maar weens sekere bepalinge van die maatskappy geen aandeel meer gehad nie. „Dit was die begin van sy bitterheid,” sê mnr Fortuin.

Hy het hom van tyd tot tyd op plekke raakgeloop en hom die eerste keer in jare weer in Boksburg ontmoet.

„Ons het oor die Inligting-skandaal gesels en ek het aan hom gesê ek is daarvan oortuig dat groot geldmagte agter die oopvlekking van die skandaal sit. Syd was in dié stadium 'n agterdogtige mens Hy het toe aan my vertel dat daar komplotte teen hom is om hom dood te maak en dat selfs die polisie agter hom is.

MNR WILLIAM (BILL) FORTUIN — hy beskryf mnr Syd Excell as 'n briljante man wat nou verbitterd is oor die verloop van sy lewe (Foto Henri Crous)

„Hy het nooit aan my gesê wat die komplotte is nie en elke keer die gesprek in 'n ander rigting gestuur.”

Vandeesweek het kol Mike Hoare, gewese huursoldaat-bevelvoerder in die Konigo, ontken dat mnr Excell ooit onder hom geveg het „Hy het wel aansoek gedoen, maar is afgekeur”

Oud-regter Ludorf se kommentaar was „Die Kommissaris van Polisie het die bal na my kant toe geslaan, maar nou is die bal in sy court.”

(254)

Die dag toe John Vorster nie langer kon stilbly nie

Die buitengewone toetrede van die staatspresident, mnr. John Vorster, op die Inligtingstorm was die verrassende begin van nog 'n hoofstuk in een van die omvangryke dramas in die Suid-Afrikaanse politieke geskiedenis.

Die Staatspresident, konstitusioneel verhewe bo die drifte van die politieke lewe, handel in sulke sake — volgens konvensie — op advies van die Kabinet.

Maar Donderdag had die Kabinet geen benul van sy voorneme nie.

Dié middag is enkele koerantmanne na sy kantoor in Tuynhuys, digby die Parlement, ontbied. Hulle wis net: „Die Staatspresident gaan praat!”

Oor doodgewone, nie-politieke sake sou dit nie gaan nie. En in Volksraadskringe het die wete van wat in die Presidentskantoor gebeur het, eers agterna „ontploff”, en aanvanklik volkome verkeerd.

Ook hiervan vertel JOHAN VOS-LOO, Rapport se politieke beriggewer, in sy persoonlike indrukke van die opsienbare onderhoud in die kantoor van die Staatspresident:

Op 'n drafstap- gebou in Parle-
pie is ek verby die- mentstraat na
H. F. Verwoerd- Tuynhuys. In by
die groot portaal,
links deur die hoë
geelhoutdeure in
die geelhoutgang
af, regs na 'n lang
kantoor waar die
Staatspresident,
in 'n leunstoel met
die een arm oor
die leuning, vir
ons sit en wag.

Weke, maande, weet jy, woed 'n skindery, en was

daar aanvalle binne die parlementêre reëls op hom in sy hoedanigheid as vroeëre eerste minister. En nog eens praatjies op partytjies. Eers agter die hand, later kliphard. Eise dat hy bedank — van die politieke verhoog af.

Dié gedagtes warrel in jou kop terwyl jy opkyk na die rustige man in die leunstoel. Jou indruk op daardie oomblik so formidabel soos die dag toe jy hom van nader leer ken het 'n Ongelukkige dag daardie 'n eensame uittrapdag.

Formidabel ja, en vól veglus soos van ouds. By nabetraging 'n man wat reken tot hiertoe en nie verder nie. Hy't genoeg gehad van swye, kom wat wil.

Dit is die man van The Citizen, Jaap Theron, wat direk aangespreek word.

„Mnr Theron, ek het jou nie aangestel nie. Ek en jy het mos nog nooit 'n woord met mekaar alleen gehad nie” — „Dis korrek, meneer die President.”

Dit gaan om 'n bewering van dr. Eschel Rhoodie, oor wie die President later sê: „Dit lyk vir my hy is soos 'n hoenderhen wat eers uitlé wat in hom is. En as hy dan uitgelieg is, dan sal ek verder in verband daarmee handel.”

Afgemete is die swaar, fors stem Soos van ouds.

Oor die beskuldiging dat mnr. Vorster teen sy sin Afrika ingesleep moes word, sê hy: „Ek was al in Malawi toe dr. Rhoodie nog in Holland rondgelé het.”

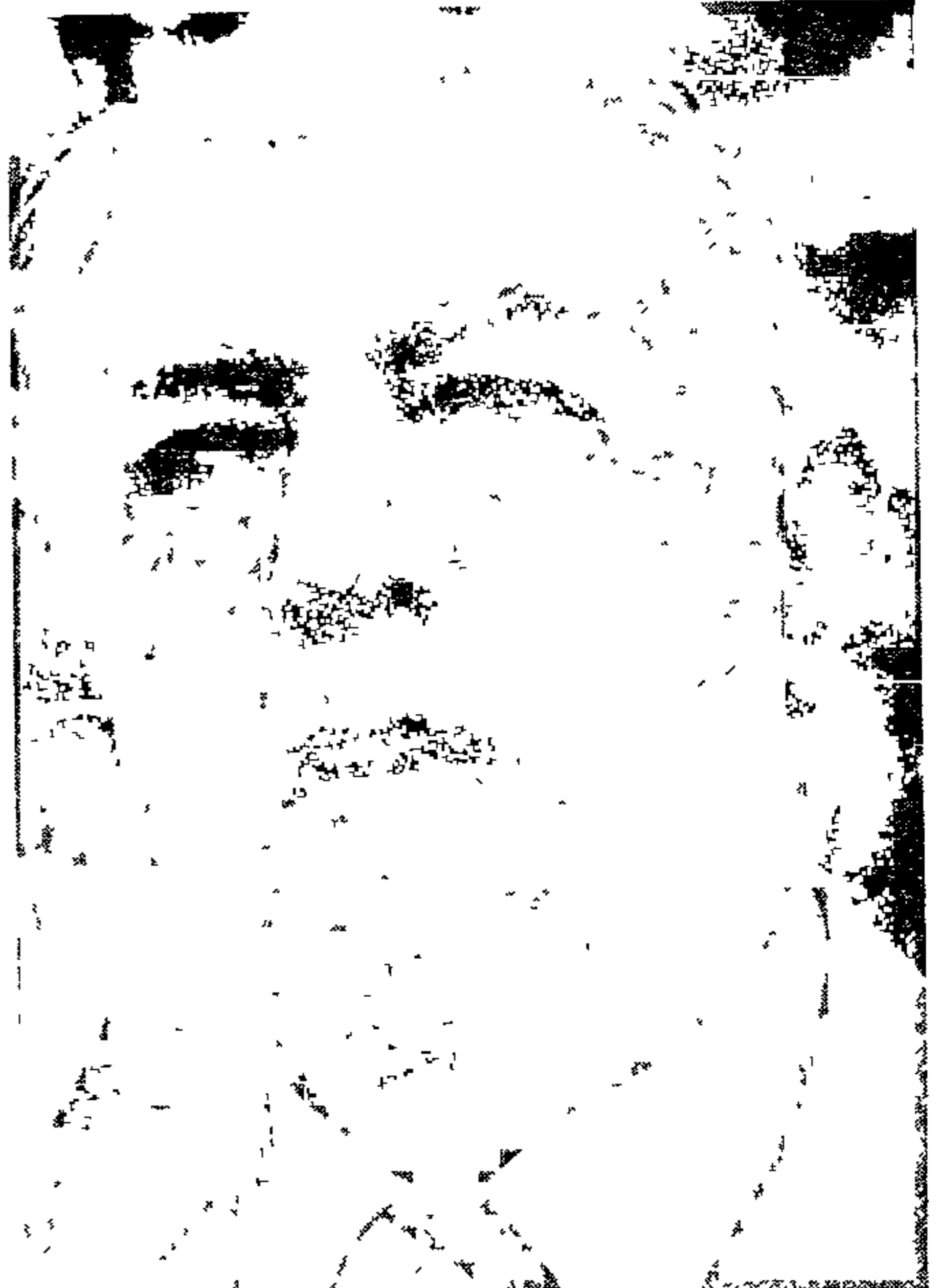
Daar is die onbewoe ver wysing na die boodskap van dr. Rhoodie die dreigement dat vriend Connie in die Kabinet moet bly, anders word die tempel neergetrek.

„Ek het my weinig aan dié teatrale boodskap gesteun.”

Toe kom dr. Mulder, kroonprins van vroeër, aan die beurt. Woensdag is met dr. Mulder in die Presidentskantoor in Kaapstad gepraat 'n Derde man het bygesit.

Dit was oor die Citizen-projek, oor Kabinetskennis al dan nie.

Hier net enkele sinne uit dié „kruisverhoor”. Hoekom het dr. Mulder nie The Citizen persoonlik met mnr.



Vorster bespreek nie? Daar was talle geleenthede. Hoekom moes mnr. Vorster eers in Augustus 1977 by mnr. Barrie (destyds Ouditeur-generaal) hoor wat aangaan? — Dr. Mulder wou mnr. Vorster nie graag kompromitteer deur die saak met hom te bespreek nie.

'n Groot stilte. Net die gekrabbel van penne op notaboeke.

Langs die President is 'n televisiestel wat die verrigtinge in die Volksraad beelddraai. Die klank is afgedraai. Dr. A. P. Treurnicht is juis aan die woord. Geluidloos beduie die opvolger van dr. Mulder. Wie reel sulke „toevallige” ...?

Almal in die Raad is op daardie oomblik nog totaal onbewus van die drama 'n straatblok daarvandaan.

Die President het nie die Kabinet in dié saak geken nie. Hy het net gevoel dié sy plig om nou te praat.

Daar is 'n kort tussenspel aan die einde tussen mnr. Vorster en perssekretaris. Neville Krige. Mnr.

Vorster is nie heeltemal so seker of dit alles konstitusioneel korrek is nie. Neville reken ander staatshoofde doen van tyd tot tyd verklaarings. Die Britse koningin ook.

Nou ja. En terug in die Parlementsgebou merk jy dat mnr. P. W. Botha blykbaar eerste van die merkwaardige onderhoud weet.

Iemand hoor iets van „President . bom ” en neem sommer aan die Staatspresident het bedank.

Ongenaadig soos die politiek is, begin die bespiegeling oor 'n opvolger en Kabinetskommelings. Dr. Treurnicht kry 'n plekkie!

• Slotindruk van die buitengewone geleentheid in Tuynhuys. Die President sê sy laaste woord oor omstrede sake, en hy lyk gesond en verlig, die bors is skoongemaak.

Halfsewe die aand moet hy skaak speel, hierdie super skaakspeler van ons tyd. Hy groet. Hy het klaar gepraat.

(2541)

CONNIE SE KAAPSE DRAAIE

Van Ons Politieke Redaksie

DR. CONNIE MULDER se Woensdag in die Kaap dié week het toe effens anders verloop as wat hy te wagte was.

Dinsdag al het hy aan- gekom vir daardie dringende, delikate same- sprekinge die volgende dag met die dagbestuur van die Transvaalse party. Woensdag het mense hom sien ry met die groen Jaguar van sy ou vriend en geesge- noot, mnr Daan van der Merwe, LV vir Rissik.

Dit was 'n lekker, warme- nige vroeë Kaapse herfsdag met 'n effense lugte. Sy af- spraak met sy oud-kollegas van Transvaal was vroeë, voor die vergadering van die NP- koulkus. Onder aanvoering van sy provinsiale leier, dr Andries Treurnicht, is hoogs delikate

Dit was 'n Woensdag om te ontbou

word gesê hy is danig bedry- vig — vergaderings toespreek nie.

Hy bly lojaal aan die Nasio- nale Party. Hy sal nie party- organe gebruik om sy stand- punt te stel nie...

Vrae in lug

Hy het dr Eschel Rhoadie volmondig gerepudieer oor der dat die Kabinet die eerste keer in September 1978 van die Citizen-projek gehoor het. Hy erken dat geheime pro- jekte noot op Kabinetsvlak bespreek is nie.

Hy self sal nie nou — dis tussenverklingsyd, en daar

nie, word daar uitgewys. Wat word buitendien bedoel met daardie „stand- punt“ van hom? Sake rond- om Inligting, of En wat word bedoel met party-organe? Nasionale koe- ranter?

Die vrae bly in die lug hang, maar dis tog of die storm effens gaan lê het. Maar dr. Mulder het nog 'n afspraak Van die Staats- presidentskantoor het hy ge- hoor dat mnr. Vorster graag met hom wil praat „Niksvermoedend“ — so sê

RAPPORT

hy agterna aan die Tuynhuys kom, sit sen Jaak Steyl sekkie harts van die Transvaalse Party, reeds by mnr Vorster.

Praat nie

Oor die hartlikheid van die ontmoeting is niks bekend nie. Maar binne enkele minute, sê mnr Mulder later is die gesprek by inligting Gesprek? Volgens mnr. Vorster se verklaring klink dit bates soos 'n kruisverhoor, wat min of meer soos volg kon verloop het.

Citizen

Is dit waar dat mnr Vor- ster noot oor projekte in die beplanningstadium geken is nie en dat hy net ingelig is oor die suksesse — Korrek. Waarom laat hy dan toe dat dr Rhoadie sê die Presi- dent het as destydse Eerste Minister alles geweet, d.w.s. deur al die stadiums? — Ek

Verklaring

Daarna, sê dr Mulder aan RAPPORT, is hy daar weg. Die Staatspresident het gevra mnr Steyl moet 'n paar minute agterbly.

onder 'n wolk van verdenking lewe, terwyl hy weet dis 'n infame leuen — Ek praat nie met die pers nie.

„Ek het my baie sterk teen- oor dr Mulder daarvoor uit- gespreek en vir hom gesê dat dit nie vir my aanvaarbaar is nie, die verskoning nie

„Ek dink nie dis nodig in hierdie stadium om te sê wat ek verder vir dr Mulder gesê het nie”

Is dit waar wat dr Rhoadie sê dat hy mnr Theron as politieke korrespondent van die Citizen aangestel het — Nee

Waarom laat hy dan toe dat die President onder 'n wolk lewe — Ek praat nie met die pers nie

praat nie met die pers nie. Het dr. Mulder die Citizen- saak persoonlik met mnr. Vorster bespreek — Nee. Hy het staat gemaak op wat dr. Rhoadie hom gesê het wat genl Van den Bergh (volgens dr. Rhoadie) daaromtrent gesê het.

Hoekom het hy nie The Citizen persoonlik met mnr. Vorster bespreek nie. Daar was talle geleenthede. Hoe- kom moes hy eers in Augustus by mnr. Barrie (die gewese Ouditeur-generaal) hoor wat aangaan — Hy wou mnr. Vorster nie graag kompromi- teer deur die saak met hom te bespreek nie.

Wat daar toe gesels is, weet dr Connie nie. Maar Donder- dagmiddag bars mnr Vorster deur alle presedent en kom sonder medewete van die Kabinet met sy opsieubaa-

rende verklaring aan pers- manne Die land steier, en huwer op die rand van yskle- verligting. Wat nou van die fenks van Transvaal? wonder dié wat me Muldermanne is nie, Sal hy ooit weer 'n vierkie klapp?

Vrydag om middernag reik dr Connie, ná 'n partytjie in Pretoria, by sy huis, in Randfontein 'n handgeskrewe verklaring oor sy kant van die saak aan RAPPORT uit. * Word vervolgd.

Opposition thinks state head should not take part in politics

Move starts to impeach President

259
20/3/79
A.G.S.

Political Correspondent

IMPEACHMENT moves against the State President, Mr B J Vorster, started today when the Opposition decided to draw up a petition asking for his removal from office. The Chief Whip of the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Brian Bamford, said it had been decided to have a sub-committee of the PFP's parliamentary caucus decide on the wording of a petition.

The committee will have to decide whether it will merely recite the grievances the petitioners have against the State President or whether the background to accusations against him must be set out in full.

Mr Bamford said that mechanics of where the petition would be lodged, having regard to privacy and security, would have to be worked out and it would also have to be ascertained whether the constitution or the practices of Parliament sets any limit on the time during which such a petition can lie for signatures.

There were practical problems because it went without saying that there was no precedent to assist in the drafting and lodging procedures.

Nat rejections

The Government has rejected opposition statements that a constitutional crisis has been created by Mr Vorster's statements on the Information affair which were made without reference to the Cabinet.

The New Republic Party's leader Mr Vause Raw, has indicated that his party will support the PRP move.

The attempt is only a gesture as the PFP and NRP between them have only 27 MPs while the signatures of at least 30 are needed to start impeachment proceedings.

Impeachment

(Continued from Page 1)

and the NRP leader, Mr Raw, both declined to react to Mr Vorster's weekend statement, the second he has made on the Information affair.

Mr Raw said allegations and denials served no purpose at this stage because no one was believing anything anymore.

He repeated his call for the resignation of Mr Vorster, for the release of the evidence of the Praguus Commission and for a general election.

Central figure

Regardless of the merit of his natural wish to defend himself, the State President had become the central figure in a controversy and he should stand aside, Mr Raw said.

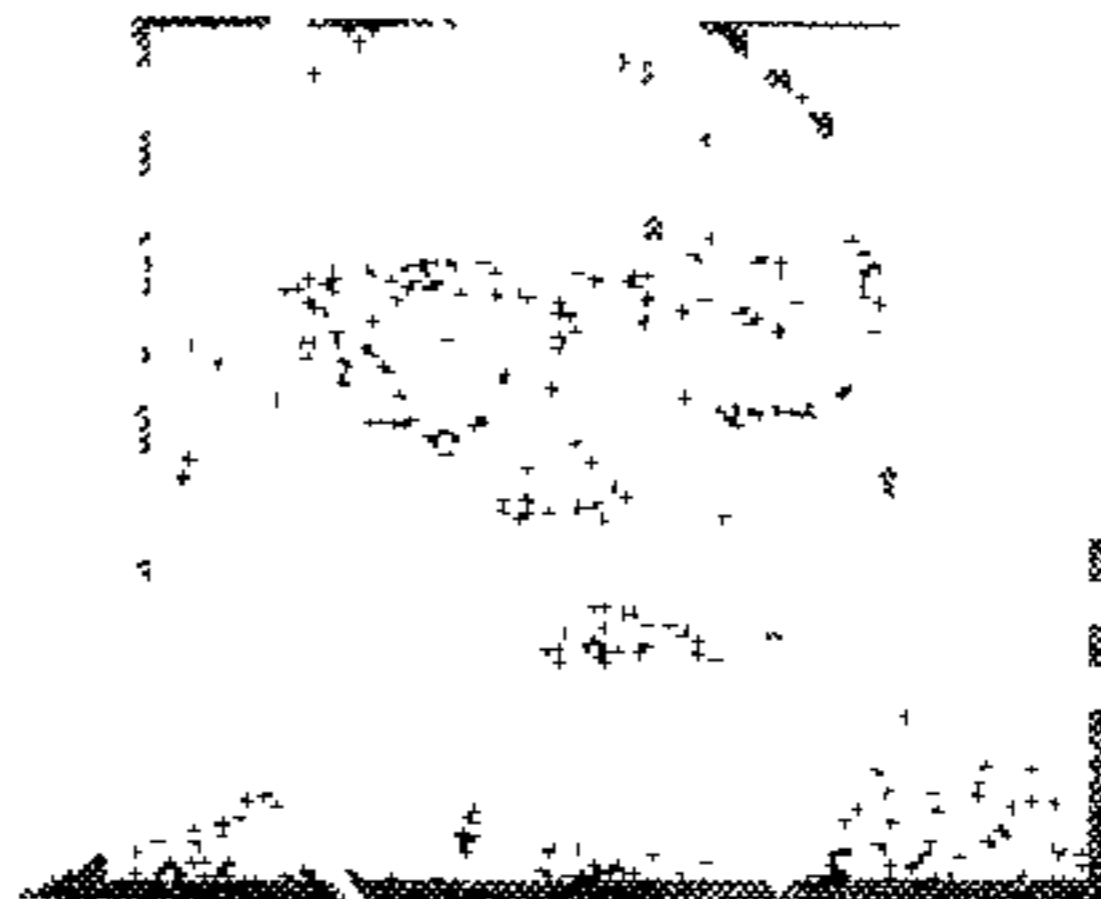
In the National Party today there remained two schools of thought about the actions of Mr Vorster and Dr Mulder.

While most Nationalist MPs appeared to welcome Mr Vorster's efforts in the hope that it would clear the air, there is still a group of Mulder supporters who are prepared to stand by him in the belief that he is being made a scapegoat.

● Mr Vorster stands by his Citizen statements. — Page 4.



Dr Mulder



Mr Vorster

Erasmus may recall Mulder

Argus Correspondent
 JOHANNESBURG — The Cape Town to investigate whether any members of the Cabinet knew of irregularities in the Department of Information before these were disclosed by Government-instituted inquiries.

In a brief interview today, Mr Justice Erasmus was asked whether, in the light of Dr Mulder's Press statement yesterday, Dr Mulder would be recalled to give further evidence.

Mr Justice Erasmus said he did not know whether this would happen. However, Dr Mulder would be called if the commission thought this was necessary.

Judge indicated that the commission had a great deal of work to do. He would not say when the investigation would be completed.

The commission is holding a special session in Cape Town to investigate whether any members of the Cabinet knew of irregularities in the Department of Information before these were disclosed by Government-instituted inquiries.

The commission is to report on this by the end of the week.

Laughingly he said: "I am not a prophet, only a judge."

He refused to answer any further questions.

JOHANNESBURG — The Rand Daily Mail says in its leading article today.

"The only way out now — now the government has got to act. After Dr Connie Mulder's bombshell yesterday it cannot go on stalling the Infogate affair."

"It must lance the boil that is beginning to turn the whole of South Africa septic. To do that, here things are necessary."

"1. Mr Vorster must resign as State President."

"2. The Erasmus Commission's evidence — all of it — must be tabled in Parliament or scrutiny by the public of South Africa."

"3. Once there has been this full disclosure, the government must resign and call a general election."

"Then a cleansed South Africa can start again."

"As far as Mr Vorster is concerned, we are not among those constitutional purists who believe he should resign simply because he broke the non-political tradition of the presidency. Issuing his statement on Friday we have been among those who have criticized his role in the Infogate scandal while he as prime minister, and it could come ill from us to suggest he had no right to defend himself from such criticism."

"But the fact is, by making a statement — and then having its truthfulness so pointedly challenged by Dr Mulder — Mr Vorster has landed himself in the middle of a political storm which will not be of short duration."

"If he remains State President it is inevitable that that speckled office will be damaged by the storm. Therefore, for the sake of the presidency, should step out of it."

"Let him fight to defend his

Government 'must lance the boil' on Infogate affair

place in history by all means, but let him fight for it as the former prime minister. Because it is in that capacity that he stands challenged Infogate occurred during his tenure as prime minister. He is the man who should answer for it, much more so than his successor."

"As for Mr P W Botha and his government, he could, as we have pointed out before, have been the Gerald Ford of this Watergate of ours. Unfortunately, he decided there were certain things which should remain under wraps, and so he opted for a limited disclosure."

"That meant keeping the blame confined to a few — which led him into making commitments about the unawareness of other members of his government which have come more and more under challenge."

"Now Dr Mulder has presented the ultimate challenge, and in doing so has called the credibility of the whole government publicly into question."

"The matter cannot be left there. Nor, we suggest with respect, should it be left to the Erasmus Commission to decide."

"Mr Botha has asked the Erasmus Commission to report on the disputed question of who knew about the Citizen project. But it seems to us the commission is in an invidious position to do so, because it has already

made a credibility finding on this point.

"In its first report it rejected the evidence of Dr Mulder, Dr Rhoadie and General Van den Bergh about when Mr Vorster was informed of the project, and accepted the evidence of Mr Vorster himself."

"It also specifically exonerated Mr Vorster of all blame, saying 'his integrity is unblemished'."

"It exonerated Senator Horwood in eight lines of its 100-page report, saying 'there can not be the slightest doubt about his integrity'."

"And of Mr P W Botha it said 'His hands are clean in every respect and his integrity remains unblemished for his great task as prime minister'."

"How can a commission which has already reached such a finding about the three central government figures involved now be expected to make a second credibility finding involving them?"

"In the light of the new situation which has arisen we believe it is the people of South Africa who should make the judgment — and they can only do so if all the evidence is placed before them."

"That means the evidence — all of it — should be tabled. Let there be no suggestions of holding some back for reasons of alleged 'national security'. An all-party select committee

should sift it rapidly to see whether there is any matter genuinely of a sensitive security nature in what was, after all, a propaganda campaign. Then table it."

"When the public knows everything, then — and only then — there should be a general election."

"It is no good calling an election without full disclosure, because then the leakages will simply continue — polluting the new government as they have done this one."

"And South Africa wants an end to it."

"The Citizen, in its editorial today, said the information affair 'in terms of survival means bokkero!, as the saying goes'."

"The question was whether the government would be permitted to get on with the things that mattered most — 'the South West African crisis, the constitutional plans, and the new dispensation for people of colour' — or whether it will be forced to defend itself endlessly, its back to the wall, over an affair which in terms of survival means bokkero!, as the saying goes."

"The public could be forgiven for not knowing what was going on and who was to be believed. But there was more to it than knowing 'who is right and who is wrong' and 'who, if anyone, is allegedly covering up'."

"The question was also whether

er the 'nation's belief in its institutions, in the credibility of its leaders, in the system of parliamentary democracy, has not been shattered by the daily recital of untested allegations, accompanied by daily disclaimers'."

"South Africa's image was being severely damaged abroad 'while at home the PFP and its press continue their campaign to bring down the government with a reckless disregard for the consequences, projecting South Africa as an immoral country with a special stink about it — an into stink' — 'as if this was the first country where state funds were misused, or the first country where dirty tricks and unorthodox methods were employed by agencies of government'."

"Hell, if these papers that serve, among other things, the cause of the American State Department, were to study the activities, past and present, of the CIA, they would stop bleating about the horror that South Africa could use funds to buy influence or set up fronts abroad."

"Every country 'was involved in 'spying and lying and buying influence in other countries, with cash changing hands and fronts being set up'."

"Possibly the only difference in our case is that we have dirty tricks men who, when the chips are down, turn government down

they find themselves sacrificed (as they knew they would be if caught out) blab and blab and blab."

"Something had to be done. The Erasmus Commission would report this week."

"If it is proved that any existing member of the Cabinet knew of The Citizen's funding, or other irregularities, the government must to to the country, as it has promised to do."

"If the commission did not go beyond its previous findings 'the government must take steps, through the courts or through the Press Council, or through the procedures of Parliament, to bring to an end the denigration of ministers and the government'."

"The State President 'should not resign under the present political pressure,' the Citizen said."

"The commission should evaluate his role. If exonerated, the government should ensure that the 'campaign' against him ceased. If it reported adversely or the President was 'unable to fulfil his functions because of constant harassment, then the government should reconsider his position'."

"The government must make available all the Erasmus Commission evidence — minus state secrets — either to Members of Parliament or to the public."

There "must be as full a disclosure as possible."

"This would help to prove there was 'no coverup'."

"Finally, the government should not continue to react, almost daily, to the charges being levelled against it," the Citizen added."

"The Burger said today the campaign by the opposition to have the State President impeached was just as outrageous as its initial hysterical demand that Mr Vorster should resign because he had reacted to Dr Eschel Rhoadie's allegations."

"More important than the fact that the opposition would struggle to find 30 necessary signatures to the impeachment petition, was the fact that there was no so-called 'constitutional crisis' as claimed by the opposition."

"Reasonable people would allow Mr Vorster the chance of defending himself against the accusations of Dr Rhoadie who threw mud at the government from within the protective embrace of South Africa's enemies."

"The real reason behind the opposition's activities was that it could not, in its own wildest dreams, form an alternative government and instead was using every facet of the Information affair to get at the government."

"In its editorial today the Eastern Province Daily (Port

the rottenness which is devouring the nation's confidence and self respect."

"It called for the retirement from public life of Mr Vorster, who should also resign because he had 'stepped down from his lofty pedestal and entered a major argument in the political marketplace'."

Further, the editorial said, Senator Horwood should also resign unless he could refute Dr Mulder's recent allegation that he (Senator Horwood) knew the government was funding the Citizen a lot earlier than he had confessed so far."

"Mr Botha is the only man who can finally lance the boil and restore the country's health" by fully disclosing the Erasmus Commission evidence after an all-party parliamentary commission had removed any evidence damaging to the national interest."

Mr Botha "came to the premiership on the bandwagon of a previous prime minister who was less than frank with the public," and he had no option but to seek a new mandate from the people."

"If he does not, and simply hopes that the ghosts will go away, he will be forever haunted by the disgrace of others."

"The Beeld, in its editorial today, said that in spite of government action, the 'Information ghost' would not vanish and further steps must be taken to restore the nation's trust in the government."

"The government must let the truth shine on the Information Department affair, and particularly on that of the Citizen, so that fact can be distinguished from fiction," the newspaper said."

"The activities last week of Dr Eschel Rhoadie had given new

Elizabeth) says Dr Connie Mulder's statement published yesterday "flatly contradicts" the denials by the State President, Mr Vorster, and Senator Owen Horwood on the Citizen project

It said Mr Vorster's "decent" into the political arena from an office supposedly above politics has caused a constitutional crisis. Many question-marks hang over his involvement in the Information scandal.

Even if Mr Vorster's version was accepted "why did he permit irregular use of taxpayers' money to continue until the end of his premiership?"

"Why did he allow Dr Mulder to tell Parliament falsely that no State money went in the Citizen project?"

After the summons to Dr Mulder to Cape Town last week — an effort which went awry — Mr Vorster's latest involvement with Dr Mulder poses the question of whether it is in keeping with the dignity of the State Presidency.

"Mr Vorster remains a controversial figure. As long as he stays where he is the constitutional crisis will continue."

"His resignation is imperative," the EP Herald said.

In its editorial today the Transvaler says the continuing "public debate over the Information fiasco" is making it harder for the average South African to distinguish between the truth and lies.

The newspaper says the views and statements of the State President are unfortunately now being challenged in public and Dr Connie Mulder's latest remarks have further confused the issue.

It was equally unfortunate that last week's "public debate" on the Information affair had hampered the functioning of the Erasmus Commission. Its image had been damaged.

And it is not only the greater portion of the English press that is responsible for this transgression, the Transvaler says.

In such circumstances the only orderly way out was for the Erasmus Commission to complete its investigations and make public the relevant evidence regardless of who was involved.

The Natal Mercury said in its editorial today that the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, should call an election at the earliest opportunity "to cut himself and his government loose from all

debacle. The more Dr Rhoadie spoke, the more he branded himself rather than the government, the editorial went on.

Now that Dr Rhoadie had been reduced to insignificance, the statements last week by the State President and Dr Connie Mulder had brought the crux of the information drama to the forefront.

The newspaper said it was unfortunate that the words of "discredited people" had been set against those of members of the government and the former prime minister, Mr Vorster.

It was also unfortunate that it was easier for the hostile English press to make allegations against the government than it was for the government to rebut the allegations.

The editorial said that next week the Erasmus Commission would give its provisional report on whether any cabinet member knew of the funding of the Citizen and other irregularities.

The prime minister had said the findings of the commission's final report, in the widest sense possible, would be disclosed at the end of May.

But until that time when the truth would be known, the old saying applied — "even though the lies are so fast, the truth catches up" — the Beeld said.

The East London Daily Dispatch said the State President should "resign immediately and conduct his battle as a private citizen" against allegations of his involvement in the Information affair.

The newspaper said the call by the opposition for the impeachment of Mr Vorster had little chance of succeeding because the opposition would not be able to muster the 30 parliamentary signatories necessary to make the petition constitutionally legal.

"More likely is that the breach between the government and the opposition will be worsened and that the crisis of conscience affecting the government itself, and indeed the whole National Party, will have serious repercussions in South Africa," the newspaper said.

Now that Mr Vorster's credibility had been dramatically challenged by Dr Connie Mulder, the State President must "consider how this could tarnish the image of the office of the State Presidency, intended to be above and beyond party politics," the Daily Dispatch said — Sapa

26/3/79
259

254

26/3/79

'It was discussed with Mr Vorster before the election'

ET
26/3/79
254

IS is the full text of Dr Mulder's statement to the African Sunday newspaper, Rap-
reproaches directed at me
ve forced me to make this
statement I have always been
the opinion that the caucus
as the best place to say what I
n saying here, because there it
uld be discussed in depth and
confidence by those involved
This opportunity was, howev-
, not afforded me So far I
ave not wanted to get involved
a public debate about this
atter I have always been un-
er the impression that it was
rong and improper to discuss
public matters which are
ending before a court or a
udicial commission, before the
ourt or the commission has
ven its verdict

me, I want to state clearly once
and for all I am not looking for
revenge or protection That is
why I did not react in the press
to every personal attack on me
or other ministers

I confirm the statement is-
sued by the party leadership of
the Transvaal National Party
that the Citizen project was not
discussed at a Cabinet meeting
before September, 1978

I also reconfirmed this before
the State President in my con-
versation on Wednesday

I also deny that I had told Dr
Rhoadie that this matter was
discussed at a Cabinet meeting
before the election in 1977

I can, however, not deny that
it was discussed with Mr
Vorster before the election I
can also not deny that it was
discussed before then with the
honourable Senator Horwood I
confirm that all details of the
planning of the secret projects
were not necessarily discussed
with Mr Vorster beforehand

I deny, however, that I only
told Mr Vorster about the suc-
cesses of the department

Mulder's statement



the end of this last meeting He
left after about half-an-hour and
could not go through all the
projects

I want further to state clearly
that the honourable Senator
Horwood had knowledge before
April, 1978 of the fact that the
Citizen was supported in a spe-
cific way with secret funds
from my department

As far as the Citizen is con-
cerned and Mr Vorster's knowl-
edge of it, I want to deal with
only the aspects mentioned in
the recent statement

General Van den Bergh was
present at the meeting on De-
cember 4, 1975, when the pro-
posed founding of the newspa-
per and the financing of it were
discussed, and I was also pre-
sent

It has already been found by
the Erasmus Commission that
General Van den Bergh reported
to Mr Vorster on the same day
It appears from the report of
the Erasmus Commission that
there is some dispute whether
General Van den Bergh also re-

I want to state as a fact,
however, that on one occasion
after a Cabinet meeting in De-
cember, 1976, I talked to Mr
Vorster in his office about the
proposed change in the format
of the Citizen from the normal
size to tabloid size

On this occasion I showed
him an example of the new
format We discussed the ad-
vantages of the new format and
afterwards I told Dr Rhoadie
that Louis Luyt could go ahead
and change the format

The Citizen then appeared in
the new format from January,
1977

On Wednesday I reminded Mr
Vorster of this conversation in
1976 in the presence of a third
person

It has also come to my atten-
tion that certain sections of the
press are interpreting the state-
ment issued by the NP leader-
ship in the Transvaal as irrefu-
table proof that no member of
the Cabinet knew anything
about the Citizen project before
September, 1978 This is an ir-

na, s way ((noi wan, 10
alk to the press about these
natters I conveyed this moti-
ation to Mr Vorster on
Wednesday.

Whole truth

However, "I am now being
approached because I am con-
sulting with the sub-judice rule
also do not intend to betray
my country now or in the future
by disclosing information which
might be harmful to my coun-
try. In spite of provocation, I
will only deal with matters
which are topical now, or have
been made topical by the events
of the last few days. I think it is
time that the whole truth of
these aspects should see the
light of day.

In connection with the mes-
sage which it is said was sent to
Mr Vorster, and which he right-
ly describes as a theatrical mes-
sage, I want to say the follow-
ing.

If Dr Rhoadie gave the im-
pression in his message to Mr
Vorster that he wanted to
avenge my retirement from the
Cabinet, or wanted to protect

that from time to time Dr
Rhoadie regularly reported on
secret Information projects to
three Cabinet ministers.

On some of these occasions
publications were exhibited to
illustrate the work. At these
occasions projects were some-
times evaluated and it was de-
cided whether to proceed with
them or not.

The prime minister, the min-
ister of finance and I myself
were present, while General
Henrik van den Bergh was also
there on at least two occasions.

Such meetings were for ex-
ample held on October 23, 1974,
at 4 30 pm in the prime minis-
ter's office, on October 10, 1975,
at 9 00 am in the prime minis-
ter's office, and on October 26,
1977, from 2 30 to 4 30 pm in the
prime minister's conference
room in the Union Buildings.
Senator Horwood, as Minister
of Finance, was present at the
last two of these meetings. In
1974 Dr Nic Diederichs was still
the Minister of Finance.
It is also correct that Senator
Horwood could not stay until

Mr Vorster must stand aside — Raw

Jr Connie Vucel

Staff Reporter

THERE was 'total loss of credibility in what anybody has to say'
about the Information affair, the leader of the NRP, Mr Vause
Raw, said in Cape Town yesterday.

Commenting on a statement by the former Minister of Informa-
tion, Dr C P Mulder, which contested a statement by the State
President, Mr Vorster, on Thursday, Mr Raw said "wild attack
and counter-attack will not resolve the problem".

South Africa had been "plunged into a chaotic situation with far-
reaching danger to the country and nation".

Calm, courageous and responsible leadership was needed "to
prevent a breakdown of the national will and confidence in the
future. We require swift and decisive action to make an immediate
end to the entire Info affair once and for all".

He called on the State President to "stand aside" and for the
submission of all evidence to a parliamentary select committee "so
that the whole matter except security issues may be cut open to the
bone", to be followed by a general election "so that the people may
be the final judges".

"Regardless of the merits and the State President's natural wish
to defend himself, he has become the central figure in the
controversy. His greatest service to South Africa would be to stand
aside so as to enable someone totally divorced from the whole issue
to provide a constitutional anchor and avoid the further bitterness
of moves for parliamentary impeachment proceedings."

at the meeting

Everyone agrees, however,
that Mr Vorster, with the
knowledge of the proposed
founding of the newspaper, did
not order me or the officials of
the department who were busy
with it not to go ahead with it.

According to the Erasmus
Commission report, he did,
however, tell General Van den
Bergh that the Bureau for State
Security should have nothing to
do with the publication of a
newspaper.

This is confirmed by evidence
made by General Van den
Bergh, and he adds that he was
ordered by Mr Vorster to keep
his ear to the ground and report
regularly to him.

General Van den Bergh kept
up to date with the development
of the Citizen project — but
whether he reported to Mr
Vorster or was questioned again
by Mr Vorster on the matter,
that I don't know.

According to the report of the
Erasmus Commission, how-
ever, he alleges that he regularly
informed Mr Vorster

The facts are that the me-
of financing the Citizen was dis-
cussed for the first time by a
full Cabinet meeting on that
date.

As already shown in this
statement, the individual minis-
ters mentioned did know about
this matter earlier than Septem-
ber 26, 1978.

I regret that I had to disclose
these facts now in this manner.
I believe, however, that there
has been enough speculation
about these matters and that I,
as the minister involved, owe it
to the public to disclose the
truth without regard to persons
involved.

For nearly a year I remained
silent in spite of all the allega-
tions and accusations and hoped
that the matter would dissipate.

The events of the last few
days have, however, forced me
to give the facts without regard
to the consequences.

South Africa deserves that
this matter should now stop and
that the people involved should
bury the hatchet and find a
collective solution. It has gone
on long enough.

fairly regular intervals.

MULLDER AAN VORSTER: DIE ONWAVARI-

259

Rapport 25/3/79

Deur THINUS PRINSLOO

N 'n verstommende verwikkeling het dr. Connie Mulder /rydag middernag aan RAPPORT 'n verklaring uitgereik waarin hy „ongegag die konsekwensies” vir mnr. John Vorster tot leuenaar uitmaak. Dit kom aan die end van n week van oppeerste Inligtingsdrama.

Reg teen die Staatspresident se eie uitdruklike verklaring in y dramatiese onderhoud met uitgesoekte persmame Donderdagmiddag in die Tuynhuys, beweer dr. Mulder dat mnr. Vorster is Eerste Minister vroeer gëweet het van die Citizen-projek. En nin. Owen Horwood ook.

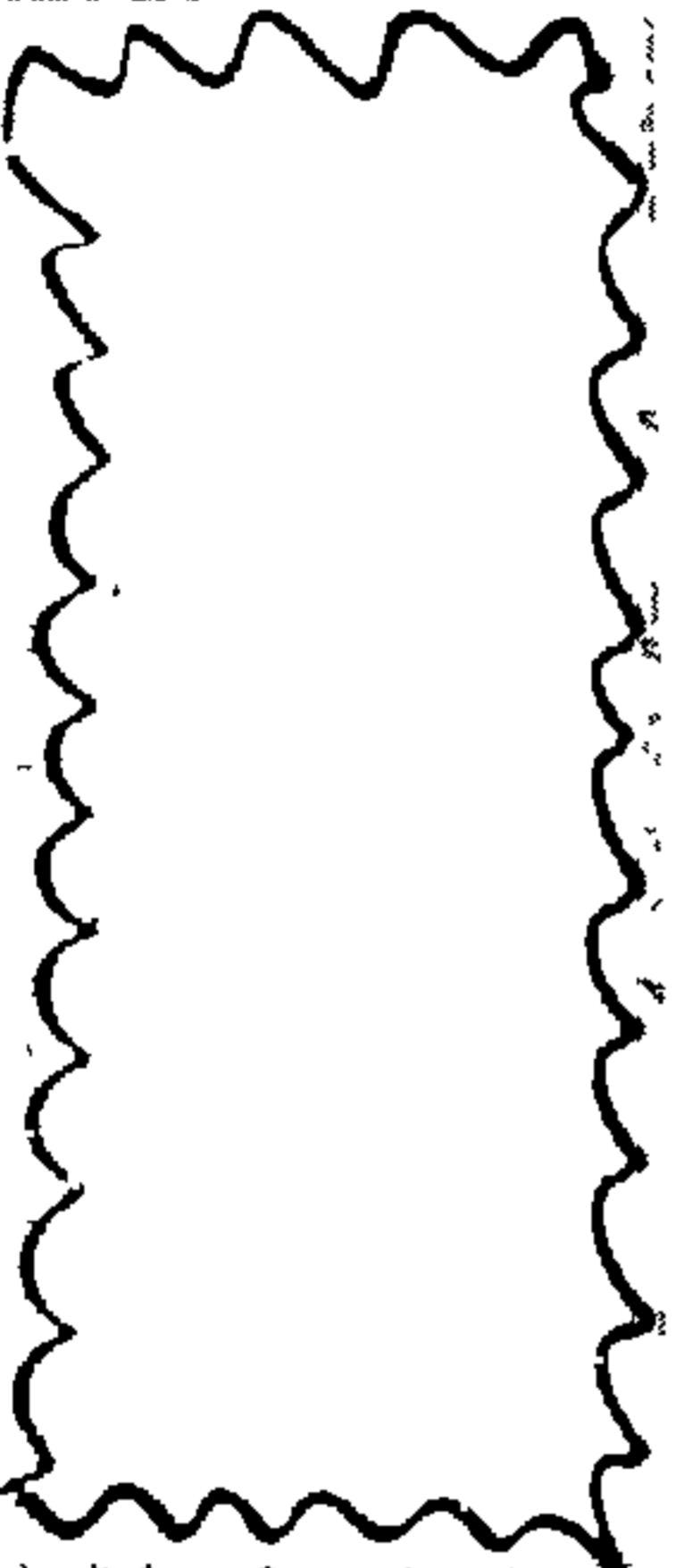
Dok sen. Horwood het oor 'en oor vierkant ken. Die Eerste Minis-

mnr. P. W. Botha, gesê hy sal bedank bewys word dat enige van die huidige Kab-

verskuldig is om sonder aansiens des persoons die waarheid te openbaar. "Vir bykans 'n jaar het ek geswyg ten spyte van beskuldigings en gehoop dat te gee"

die saak homself sal oplos Die gebeurtenisse van die afgelope paar dae het my egter gedwing om ongeag die konsekwensies nou die fete weer te gee"

In 'n eie Inlig



'N DEEL van dr Mulder se handgeskrewe verklaring



MULLDER

Die Grootste Woordeboek

voor September 1978
 e-veet het van die Citi-
 en-projek.

DR. MULDER se volledige verklaring lui soos volg:

In opdrag van mnr. Botha
 moet die Erasmus-kommissie
 oor die end van die maand
 bevinding hieroor bekend
 maak.

Dr. Mulder se verklaring
 is die kwessie van sy posisie
 in die Nasionale Party-waayd
 op.

Die verklaring kom enkele
 dae nadat 'n soort versoening
 bewerkstellig is deur bemid-
 deling van die Transvaalse
 leier dr. Andries Treurnicht
 (laes berig op bl. 8)

V E R W Y T E
 wat my toege-
 slinger word,
 dwing my om
 hierdie verkla-
 ring te maak.
 Ek was altyd
 van 'n mening
 dat die Koukus
 die korrekte
 plek was om te
 sê wat ek hier
 sê omdat dit
 daar tussen
 betrokkenes
 vertroulik en
 in diepte be-
 spreek kan
 word.

Die geleentheid is my
 eger nie gegun nie. Tot
 dusver wou ek nie in 'n
 openbare debat oor die

gereageer op elke persoon-
 like aanval op my of op
 ander Ministers nie.

Ek bevestig die verkla-
 ring uitgeroep deur die par-
 tyleiding van die Nasionale
 Party in Transvaal dat die
 Citizen-projek nie op 'n
 Kabinetsvergadering be-
 spreek is voor September
 1978 nie.

Ek het dit ook herbeves-
 tig voor die Staatspresi-
 dent in my gesprek Woens-
 dag.

Ek ontken ook dat ek
 aan dr. Rhoadie gesê het
 dat hierdie aangeleentheid
 wel op 'n Kabinetsverga-
 ring bespreek is voor die
 verkiesing van 1977.

Ek kan exte-ri-er nie ontken

het ná ongeveer 'n halfuur
 geloop en kon nie al die
 projekte deurgaan nie.

Ek wil dit verder duidel-
 ik stel dat sy edele senator
 Horwood voor April 1978
 kennis gedra het van die
 feit dat The Citizen op
 'n bepaalde wyse onder-
 steun is met geheime geld
 afkomsig van my departe-
 ment.

In soverre as wat The
 Citizen betref en mnr. Vor-
 ster se kennis daarvan,
 handel ek slegs met die
 aspekte geopper in die re-
 sente verklaring. Generaal
 Van den Bergh was teen-
 woordig op die vergadering
 van 4 Desember 1975
 waarop die voorgenome

Desember 1976 met mnr.
 Vorster gepraat het in sy
 kantoor oor die voorge-
 nome verandering in die
 formaat van die Citizen
 vanaf die gewone grootte
 na Tabloid-vorm.

Ek het 'n voorbeeld van
 die nuwe formaat aan mnr.
 Vorster by dié geleentheid
 getoon. Ons het dié voor-
 dele van die nuwe for-
 maat bespreek en daarna
 het ek aan dr. Rhoadie
 meegedeel dat Louis Luyt
 kan voortgaan om die
 formaat te verander.

The Citizen het dan ook
 vanaf Januarie 1977 in die
 nuwe formaat verskyn.

Ek het mnr. Vorster
 Woensdag in teenwoordig-
 heid van 'n derde persoon
 aan hierdie gesprek in



MNR JOHN VORSTER

259

26/3/79

aangeleentheid betrokke raak nie. Ek was nog altyd onder die indruk dat dit verkeerd en onbetaamlik is om sake wat hangende is voor die hof of regterlike kommissie, in die openbaar bespreek alvorens die hof of kommissie daarvoor uitspraak gee.

My verdere probleem was dat dit onmoontlik is om op al dr. Rhodie se onthullings te reageer indien ek een of twee sou ontken, sou dit by implikasie beteken dat ek al die ander bevestig wat weer op sy beurt 'n kettingreaksie sou hê. Daarom wou ek nie met die pers oor die sake praat nie. Hierdie motivering het ek Woensdag aan mnr. Vorster meegedeel.

Ek word egter nou verwyd omdat ek die sub judice-reël nakom. Ek is ook nie van plan om nou of in die toekoms verraad teenoor my land te pleeg deur inligting te verstrek wat skadelik vir my land mag wees nie. Ten spyte van provokasie, sal ek nou ook net handel met sake wat tans aktueel is of deur die gebeure van die afgelope paar dae aktueel gemaak is. Ek dink dit is tyd dat die volle waarheid van hierdie aspekte nou die lig sien.

Betreffende die boodskap wat aan mnr. Vorster gestuur sou gewees het en wat hy tereg bestempel as 'n teatrale boodskap, wil ek die volgende sê:

Indien dr. Rhodie deur sy boodskap aan mnr. Vorster te kenne gegee het dat hy my uitrede uit die Kabinet wil wreek of my wou beskerm, wil ek dit eens en vir altyd duidelik stel: Ek soek nie wraak of beskerming nie. Daarom het ek nie in die pers

dat dit wel voor daardie verkiesing bespreek was met mnr. Vorster nie. Ek kan ook nie ontken dat dit voor daardie tyd bespreek was met sy edele senator Horwood nie. Ek bevestig dat alle besonderhede van die beplanning van die geheime projekte nie noodwendig vooraf met mnr. Vorster bespreek is nie.

Ek ontken egter dat ek mnr. Vorster slegs oor suksesse van die departement ingelig het.

Ek wil dit kategorieë stel dat daar van tyd tot tyd gereeld deur dr. Rhodie aan drie Ministers verslag gedoen is van Inligting se geheime projekte.

By sommige van hierdie geleenthede is publikasies uitgestal om die werk toe te lig. By hierdie geleenthede is projekte soms geëvalueer en besluit of hulle voortgaan of nie. Die Eerste Minister, die Minister van Finansies en ekself was teenwoordig terwyl genl. Hendrik van den Bergh minstens by twee geleenthede ook daar was.

Sulke vergaderings is byvoorbeeld gehou op 23 Oktober 1974 om 4.30 nm. in die Eerste Minister se kantoor; op 10 Oktober 1975 om 9.00 vm in die Eerste Minister se kantoor, en op 26 Oktober 1977 van 2.30 tot 4.30 in die Eerste Minister se konferensiekamer in die Uniegebou. By laasgenoemde twee vergaderings was sen. Horwood as Minister van Finansies teenwoordig. In 1974 was dr. Nic Diederichs nog die Minister van Finansies.

Dit is ook korrek dat senator Horwood nie by hierdie laaste geleentheid end-uit kon bly nie. Hy

stigting van die koerant en die finansiering bespreek is en waarop ek ook teenwoordig was.

Dit is ook reeds bevind deur die Erasmus-kommissie dat genl. Van den Bergh dieselfde dag aan mnr. Vorster gerapporteer het. Uit die verslag van die Erasmus-kommissie blyk dit dat dit in dispuut was of genl. Van den Bergh ook gerapporteer het dat ek by die vergadering teenwoordig was.

Almal is dit egter eens dat mnr. Vorster met die kennis van die voorgenome stigting van die koerant nóg vir my, nóg vir die amptenare van die departement wat daarmee gemeed was, belet het om daarmee voort te gaan.

Volgens die Erasmus-kommissie se verslag het hy egter wel opdrag aan genl. Van den Bergh gegee dat die Buro vir Staatsveiligheid niks met die uitgee van 'n koerant te doen moet hê nie.

Dit word bevestig deur genl. Van den Bergh se getuienis en hy voeg by dat hy in opdrag van mnr. Vorster sy oor op die grond moes hou en gereeld aan mnr. Vorster moes rapporteer.

General Van der Bergh het op hoogte gebly ten opsigte van die ontwikkeling van die Citizen-projek — of hy aan mnr. Vorster gerapporteer het of weer deur mnr. Vorster daarvoor gevra is, weet ek nie.

Hy beweer egter volgens die verslag van die Erasmus-kommissie dat hy mnr. Vorster gereeld ingelig het.

Ek wil egter konstateer dat ek by geleentheid ná 'n Kabinetsvergadering in

Desember 1976 herinner.

Dit het ook onder my aandag gekom dat sekere dele van die pers die verklaring wat deur die NP-leiding van Transvaal uitgereik is, vertolk as 'n onomstootlike bewys dat geen lid van die Kabinet iets van The Citizen-projek geweet het voor September 1978 nie. Dit is 'n verkeerde afleiding.

Die feite is dat die metode van finansiering van The Citizen op daardie datum die eerste keer op 'n volle Kabinetsvergadering bespreek is.

Soos hierin vantevore reeds aangetoon is, het die gemelde individuele Ministers wel vroeër as 26 September 1978 van hierdie saak geweet.

Dit spyt my dat ek hierdie feite nou op hierdie wyse moes openbaar. Ek glo egter dat daar nou genoeg oor die aangeleentheid gespekuleer is en dat ek, as die betrokke Minister, dit aan die publiek verskuldig is om sonder aansiens des persoons die waarheid te openbaar.

Vir bykans 'n jaar het ek geswyg ten spyte van al die beskuldiging en bewerings en gehoop dat die saak homself sou oplos.

Die gebeure van die afgelope paar dae het my egter gedwing om ongeag die konsekwensies nou die feit weer te gee.

Suid-Afrika verdien dat hierdie saak nou sal ophou en dat die betrokke persone die stryd-byle sal hê en 'n gesamentlike oplossing sal vind. Dit het nou lank genoeg geduur.

299
From 76/12/79

ESCHEL RHOODIE

His master's voice

The Rhodie tapes and documents contain details of bribes paid to top-ranking politicians and officials in Africa, the West, "and maybe even the East," says controversial Johannesburg businessman Joe van Zyl.

Van Zyl, who claims to have secured the silence of fugitive Eschel Rhodie at a meeting in Paris last week, reckons publication of Rhodie's information would make the Lockheed aircraft scandal of several years ago "look like a Sunday school picnic."

But while Van Zyl claims to have staved off the "most appalling disaster" for SA by persuading Rhodie to sign an agreement not to disclose details, he believes government's withdrawal of his own passport may create a problem. Since he cannot travel overseas to visit Rhodie to finalise the deal (Rhodie has not yet started work for Van Zyl) he



Van Zyl . . . getting Eschel taped?

fears the agreement may fall through and Rhodie be tempted to publish.

Interviewed in his opulent Carlton Centre suite, Van Zyl told the *FM* the written agreement was "still overseas."

Van Zyl says Rhodie's lack of a valid SA passport will not handicap him. "There are many countries which have offered Dr Rhodie their passports. At the moment he's like a non-European without a pass. If he doesn't betray these friends of his at top level, he can still use them for the benefit of my international operations."

Van Zyl says that what Rhodie has in his possession is "dynamite or worse" — both for SA and the countries involved in secret deals. "The only conclusion I can come to is that Dr Rhodie is going to implicate a number of people throughout the Western world and elsewhere. He runs the risk of having his head blown off thereafter. He might get a staggering amount of money for that information. But, is he going to take the risk of having his head blown off for a fat bank

account?"

The really worrying things, Van Zyl explains, are related to secret, psychological warfare affecting SA and its "international friends."

Van Zyl says his activities do not fall within the ambit of the Erasmus Commission, and he bewails "the fact that the Prime Minister has now lost a golden opportunity to acquaint himself firsthand with the information related to what is going on on the other side. They've described those tapes as a farce, rubbish, and nonsense. But I've seen the documentation."

Van Zyl maintains that the "dynamite" goes beyond bribes. "Bribes form part of it, but they aren't necessarily the key. I have seen staggering things," he says.

2500 A prize and
have modelled in court
of the winter
John B...

RAND DAILY MINISTRI



JOHANNESBURG, MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1979.

Price 12c

John B...

Jonnie Mulder 'forced' to break his silence on the Information scandal

Staff Reporter

HE FULL text of Dr Conne Mulder's statement taking the State President, Mr Vorster, reads: Reproaches which are being hurled at me, force me to make this statement. I was always of the opinion that the Caucus was to say what I say because it could be discussed confidentially and in depth between those involved.

This opportunity was not in fact granted to me. Thus far I did not want to get involved in an open debate over this incident. I was always under the impression that it is wrong and improper to discuss in the open matters which are pending before a court or lawful commission, before the court or commission delivers its verdict.

My further problem was that it is impossible to react to all Dr Rhoadie's disclosures. If I denied one or two, it would mean by implication that I confirm all the others, which in turn would have a chain reaction. Therefore I did not want to discuss these matters with the Press. I told Mr Vorster about this motivation on Wednesday.

I am now being reproached because I complied with the sub-judice rule. Neither am I planning, now or in the future, to commit treason towards my country by supplying information which may be dangerous to my country. In spite of provocation, I will now only handle cases which are presently topical, or through the occurrences of the past few days, have been made topical. I think it is time that the full truth of these aspects sees the light.

Concerning the message which would have been sent to Mr Vorster and which he in turn labelled as, "a theatrical message", I wish to say the following. If Dr Rhoadie by means of a message to Mr Vorster, alleged that he wants to avenge my resignation from the Cabinet or protect me, then I want to state categorically I do not seek revenge or protection. That is why I did not react in the Press to every personal attack on myself and other Ministers.

I confirm the statement issued by the Party Leader of the National Party in the Transvaal that the Citizen project was not discussed at a Cabinet meeting before September 1978.

I also reaffirmed this in the presence of the State President in my discussion on Wednesday.

I also deny that I said to Dr Rhoadie that this matter was in fact discussed at a Cabinet meeting before the election in 1977.

I can however, not deny that it in fact was discussed with Mr Vorster before that election.

I can also not deny that it was discussed before that time with Senator Horwood.

I confirm that all particulars of the planning of the secret projects were not necessarily discussed before hand with Mr Vorster.

I deny however that I only informed Mr Vorster about the successes of the Department.

I want to state categorically that regularly from time to time Dr Rhoadie reported to three Cabinet

To Page 2

UNTRUSTE, SAVYS MULLDER

RJM 26/3/79 (259)

Probe Vorster or charge Mulder call

By PATRICK LAURENCE
Deputy Political Editor

DR CONNIE Mulder should either be charged for insulting the State President or a parliamentary committee should be appointed to investigate his allegation that the State President had lied, Mr Koywe Marais of the Progressive Federal Party said yesterday.

Mr Marais, a former judge, was commenting on the former information Minister's weekend statement which indirectly accused the State President, Mr Vorster, of lying over the Information affair.

"With the State President counsel of lying, you cannot just leave it. The State President has been grievously insulted. His dignity has been impaired. Either a trial must take place or Parliament must investigate."

"The most dignified way is for Parliament to appoint a committee to decide whether Mr Mulder has insulted the State President or whether the State President has lied."

Even before, Dr Mulder's statement, the PFP had initiated proceedings to impeach Mr Vorster on the grounds that his statements to the Press last week on the Info affair violated a convention that the State President should be above party-political disputes and there-created an "intolerable constitutional position."

Mr Marais said yesterday with Dr Mulder's statement, a case for impeachment has been immensely strengthened. Professor Marinus Wachters,

Sacking a President

Deputy Political Editor

THE Republic of South Africa Constitutional Act lays down two grounds for removing the State President from office — misconduct and inability to perform his duties efficiently.

He can be removed by a resolution passed by both the Senate and the House of Assembly in the same session, but before that can happen the law lays down a definite procedure.

Step 1 is to introduce a petition — supported by at least 30 MPs — to the Speaker of the House of Assembly, requesting the appointment of a committee to investigate allegations about the State President.

But submission of a request does not in itself mean the committee will be appointed, as the majority party may vote against it. It does mean, however, that the request will be debated.

If the committee is appointed, that does not mean the issue is settled. The committee may exonerate the State President from charges. Further, even if a resolution calling for his dismissal is introduced on the strength of the committee's report, it may be turned down by Parliament.

The Progressive Federal Party bid to remove Mr Vorster from office — announced at the weekend — has not yet overcome the first hurdle. It is assured of only 27 votes, those of the PFP (17) and the New Republic Party (10).

The State President's dignity and reputation are protected by law. Section 13 of the Constitution Act make it an offence to commit an act calculated to violate his dignity or injure his reputation.

Punishment is a fine of up to R2 000 or jail of up to five years.

the reasons for which a State President can be removed — "inability to perform efficiently" or "the duties of his office".

Dr Mulder's statement affected Mr Vorster's credibility adversely, thereby militating against effective administration of his duties and thus constituting possible grounds for removing him from office.

rule."

Professor S C Jacobs, of the University of Potchefstroom, gave the Rand Daily Mail a carefully worded assessment of the constitutional questions raised by the controversy initiated by Mr Vorster's statements and compounded by Dr Mulder's reply.

On the issues raised by their conflicting versions of the Info affair, Professor Jacobs saw one way out of the impasse. For men to give evidence to the Erasmus Commission under conditions where they would both have the right to legal representation and to cross-examine witnesses.

These conditions did not apply when the two men last year and constituted a "good argument for review" of the commissioner's findings in the first report, Professor Jacobs said.

On the question of whether Mr Vorster's statements last week violated a convention relating to his office, Professor Jacobs said he doubted whether the alleged violation of a convention could be used against Mr Vorster.

He said "Conventions are not legal rules but are rules of conduct. They exist only until they are broken and changed."

But Professor Jacobs went on to point out that the constitution specifically stated that the State President had always to act on the advice of the Cabinet on political issues, except in five specific situations.



Dr Connie Mulder examines a bust of Mr John Vorster, presented to the then Prime Minister at his residence, as Dr Eschel Rhoadie, Mr Vorster and Mr Johannes van Zyl Alberts, publisher of The Citizen before it was sold to Pearskor, look on. General Hendrik van den Bergh is slightly masked.

I knew nothing, nothing, nothing

Political Staff

SENATOR Owen Horwood, Minister of Finance, has consistently denied knowing anything about The Citizen project.

His most strenuous denials were made during the No Confidence debate last month when he was questioned by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin. The debate went

Mr Eglin "He knew nothing when he had to provide that R14-million at the time of framing the 1976 Budget, he says he knew nothing."

Mr Eglin The Minister says he knew nothing.

Mr Horwood I knew nothing about The Citizen, and I said so in public.

Mr Eglin In the transfer of all those loans by Treasury to Thor and all these other funds, in the whisking of money backwards and forwards to secret accounts to finance the

Mr Eglin The Minister who is in charge of finance in this country says he knew nothing. Mr Horwood Correct. Mr Eglin When Mr

he knew nothing. He says he was told nothing.

Mr Horwood Yes, I say that Mr Eglin In the beginning of last year The Citizen was bought by the State from Mr

Finance knew nothing. Mr Horwood That is correct.

Mr Eglin He knew nothing. Meanwhile there was a guarantee by the State to meet that newspaper's costs for the next two years. However, the Minister of Finance knew

Account, but yet he knew nothing.

From March until June R400 000 a month was being paid out of public funds. Yet

He signed a warrant of expenditure of R14 800 000, which he then tried to withdraw. But he knew nothing!

R14-million was transferred from the Treasury to Volkskas, but the Minister knew nothing! He should either resign because of gross dereliction of duty or he should resign the

Untrue says Dr Mulder

From Page 1

Citizen funding in August 1977, by stating categorically that Mr Vorster discussed the establishment and financing of the newspaper on December 4, 1975.

Dr Mulder gave exact times and dates for certain meetings, even mentioning a discussion he said he had with Mr Vorster in December 1976 on a change in the format of The Citizen.

But he avoided specific mention of an informal three-man Cabinet committee which, according to Dr Eschel Rhoadie, oversaw all secret projects carried out by the now defunct Department of Information.

He said only "I want to state categorically that from time to time, Dr Rhoadie reported to three Cabinet ministers concerned with information's secret projects".

He said the three Ministers were Mr Vorster, Senator Horwood, and himself.

Expulsion threat hangs over Connie

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

have to sacrifice his party membership.

memberships



Dr Mulder . . . accuses Mr Vorster

Vorster accused in bombshell Info statement

BY MARTIN SCHNEIDER
Political Editor

DR CONNIE MULDER yesterday threw the National Party into unprecedented turmoil by accusing the State President, Mr Vorster, of lying to the public over his involvement when Prime Minister in the establishment and funding of The Citizen newspaper.

The former Minister of Information, who resigned from the Cabinet because of the R64-million Information scandal, broke his four-month silence on the issue in a statement detailing Mr Vorster's involvement as far back as December 4, 1975.

Supporting key claims by his former Department Secretary, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, Dr Mulder also accused the Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, of direct involvement in the massive R32-million funding of The Citizen with taxpayers' money.

His statement heightened the constitutional crisis surrounding Mr Vorster, leading to renewed demands for his removal from office and for a General Election, and paved the way for a major confrontation between Dr Mulder and the Nationalist hierarchy

The Nationalist newspaper Rapport said yesterday that Dr Mulder was "calling Mr Vorster a liar" in the statement, which follows Mr Vorster's extraordinary Press statement after their confrontation in Cape Town last Wednesday.

Mr Vorster said Dr Mulder had admitted to him that he had never discussed the Citizen issue with him personally.

Making his disclosures, Dr Mulder said it was time the truth came out and declared he was seeking neither revenge nor protection.

He agreed that the full Cabinet was never informed about The Citizen until September last year.

But he named Mr Vorster and Senator Horwood as two Cabinet members who

The only way out now

● See Editorial comment — Page 10

knew about the funding of the English-language Nationalist newspaper before September last year.

He also challenged Mr Vorster's statement that he only became aware of The

Vorster knew about Citizen — General

Staff Reporter

GENERAL Hendrik van den Bergh, formerly Mr John Vorster's right-hand man and chief security adviser, says he told the former Prime Minister about The Citizen on the afternoon of December 4, 1975.

This is nine months before the newspaper was launched — nearly two years before Mr Vorster admits to having learnt that it was a secret Government project.

Questioned by the Rand Daily Mail yesterday, Gen Van Den Bergh said he stood by his evidence to this

effect given to the Erasmus Commission.

He also said he had spoken to Mr Vorster about The Citizen "at least three or four times".

In his evidence to the Erasmus Commission, referred to in its December report, Gen Van Den Bergh said he had attended a meeting in Pretoria early on the morning of December 4, 1975, at which the launching of The Citizen was discussed.

Present were the Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, the Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel

Rhooie, the two Deputy Secretaries, Mr Les de Villiers and Dr Deneys Rhooie, Mr Louis Luyt and his accountant, Mr P F du Preez, and Mr J van Zyl Alberts, who finally became the paper's managing-editor.

Gen Van Den Bergh says he made an appointment to see Mr Vorster at 2 30 that afternoon and reported to him on the meeting.

He says Mr Vorster instructed him not to become involved in the matter, but to keep his ear to the ground.

According to the Erasmus Report, Mr Vorster, said in his evidence that on the strength of what Gen Van Den Bergh had told him, he had no reason to believe the department was involved in the newspaper project.

Mr Vorster also alleged that Gen Van Den Bergh had not

INSURE TODAY - TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE



By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — The State President, Mr Vorster, yesterday retreated behind a blanket of silence once more in the face of Dr Connie Mulder's dramatic allegations — while the Opposition called for Mr Vorster's impeachment and the resignation of the Government.

And the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, reaffirmed that the State President had the full backing of the Government.

With the exception of Mr Vorster, all the major figures in the furore yesterday commented on the amazing statement by Dr Connie Mulder, the disgraced former Minister of Information, accusing the State President and the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, of complicity in

The Citizen scandal — something they have repeatedly denied

In his extraordinary Press conference last week, Mr Vorster admitted he knew about the Citizen by August 1977. Dr Connie Mulder claims he discussed changing the Citizen from full size to tabloid format in December 1976 with Mr Vorster.

In the face of these contradictory accounts, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said he would leave the matter for the Erasmus Commission to decide. He reaffirmed the State President had the full backing of the Government.

Dr Mulder also clearly implied Mr Vorster had given a distorted public version of the discussion between the two men on

Wednesday last week.

Yesterday's developments were

● The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, reaffirmed the Government stood firmly behind Mr Vorster.

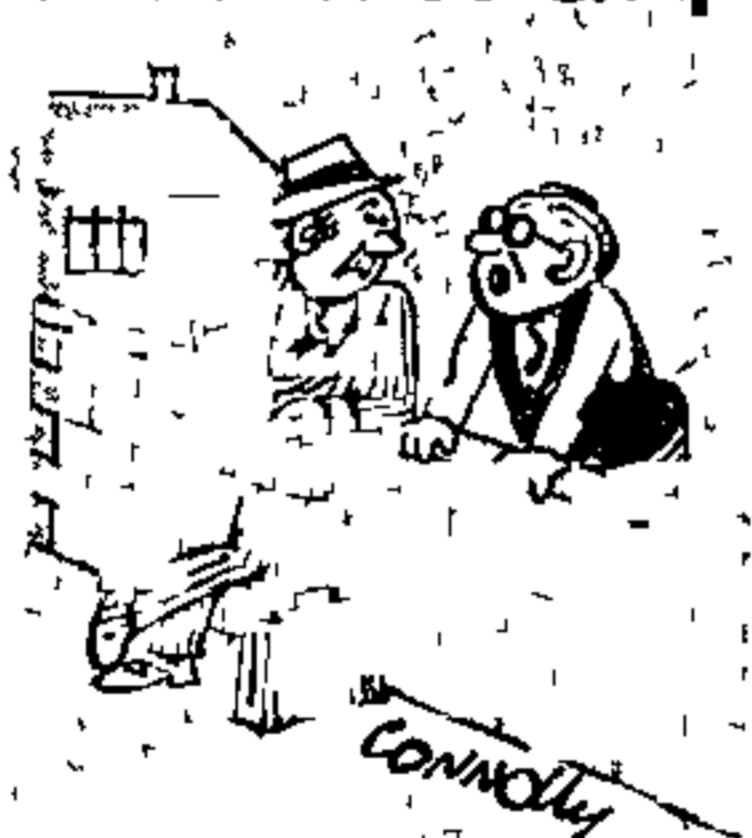
He refused to comment on the allegations against Sen Horwood, saying the matter was the subject of an investigation by the Erasmus Commission which would report on the matter on March 31.

● Sen Horwood said he had given evidence under oath on this matter to the Erasmus Commission and would be content to abide by its findings.

● Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the Opposition, described Dr Mulder's statement as the "last straw" in the scandal and confirmed his

□ To Page 2

Breakfast Quip



"All we need now is to discover Mr Nightingale is involved in the Info funding scandal"

INSIDE

● What Horwood told Parliament about the funding of The Citizen.

● The third man at the Mulder-Vorster confrontation.

● The law regarding the impeachment of the State President.

● What the future holds for Mulder.

Jackpot triple for Mollett

RACING Editor David Mollett tipped the jackpot on Saturday for the third time in four meetings at Germiston.

His recommended R32 permutation won and followers of Racing Mail will receive the useful dividend of R215,10 — a profit of R183,10.

His jackpot winners on Saturday were. Eucalyptus (6-10), Red Robot (6-1), Milord The Red (5-2) and Oswald (4-1)

lar Pollock — again

matches

Pollock, who came to the wicket with two men out for only four runs, was joined by Kevin McKenzie when the third wicket fell for 28 — and these two set about the bowling to add 311 for the fourth wicket in 196 minutes at an average of just under 96 runs an hour.

The world's greatest overhand was rather se-

date at the start, reaching his 50 in 115 minutes, with two sixes and four fours. The second 50 came up in only 46 minutes, giving him his ton in 161 minutes, with eight fours and five sixes.

Next thing, Pollock raced to his 150 in 205 minutes, making his boundary count 18 fours and five sixes. At this stage Pollock had become a rampant batting

maniac, for when he was out caught at mid-wicket for 193, he had scored his last 43 runs in an unbelievable six minutes to take his statistics to 20 fours and nine sixes.

Although overwhelmed by Pollock's stature, McKenzie also played his best innings of the season. He made 104 not out.

● See Page 25

259

26/3/79

259
26/3/79

Professor of constitutional law at the University of South Africa, said "I think the Mulder statement raises the question of whether Mr Vorster can perform his duties efficiently."

But Professor Wiechers did not agree that Mr Vorster's statements to the Press last week constituted a reason in themselves for removing him from office on grounds of misconduct.

To the view that Mr Vorster State President might in time result in the evolution of the convention of a new and more active role for the President, Professor Wiechers said "It has happened before. One thinks of Nigeria in the 1960s before the coups and military

Republic of Constitution Act Professor Jacobs added "On the balance of probabilities, it cannot be said that a Press statement on a political question falls within the ambit of one of the five exceptions." He declined to elaborate

Mr Eglin About The Citizen Mr Horwood I knew nothing Mr Eglin Right! In framing the 1977 Budget, whereby R2-million extra was added to the R15-million, the Minister says he knew nothing?"

Mr Horwood Nothing what was taking place, when Advocate Van Rooyen told Mr Vorster what was happening when Mr Vorster called five men to his house — he felt ill and had to retire through all of this, the Minister of Finance maintain

The Third Man was Sen Steyl

Political Staff THE third person present at the confrontation last week between the State President, Mr Vorster, and Dr Connie Mulder was Senator Jack Steyl, Nationalist sources confirmed yesterday

ers' money of The Citizen, Dr Mulder said he had a discussion with Mr Vorster after a Cabinet meeting in December 1976

He had discussed with Mr Vorster, who was then Prime Minister, a change in the format of The Citizen

Dr Mulder added in his weekend statement that, in the presence of a third person, he had reminded Mr Vorster about the December 1976 meeting at which the change in The Citizen's format was allegedly discussed

No reference to this was made in Mr Vorster's statement on his confrontation with Dr Mulder last Wednesday

Mr Vorster and Dr Mulder yesterday refused to comment further on their dispute

Sen Steyl was not available to confirm or deny Dr Mulder had reminded Mr Vorster of the December 1976 meeting

Mr JOSIAS van Zyl, the businessman who flew to Europe to make a deal with the former Secretary for Information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, said yesterday he intended to take legal action against Newsweek magazine

According to a Sunday newspaper, the magazine quoted him as saying Dr Rhoodie had bribed President Kaunda of Zambia

"I have never spoken to Newsweek I have no knowledge of any connection between Dr Rhoodie and President Kaunda," Mr Van Zyl said

The Sunday paper claimed a report in the forthcoming issue of Newsweek said "Van Zyl told one reporter that Rhoodie's tapes included reports of gold bullion bribes to black African heads of state, including an alleged \$1-million (R850 000) payment to Zambia's President Kaunda to set up the 1975 Victoria Falls conference between the two leaders

"I call again on Mr Botha and his government to resign and call an election," Mr Eglin said

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, said "Nothing can restore the dignity or integrity of Mr Botha's government. All those responsible for the information scandal, and for the disastrous way with which it has been dealt must now get out of public office"

"I call again on Mr Botha and his government to resign and call an election," Mr Eglin said

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Just when did Mr Vorster know about The Citizen?

...N exact y did the for-
mer Prime Minister, Mr
John Vorster, learn of State
funding of The Citizen news-
paper and how much did he
know about it?

This question has cropped
up again, following the
State President's statement
to the Press on the Informa-
tion controversy last week
and his reaffirmation of
that statement on Sunday.

Mr Vorster said in his
statement last Thursday
that he had heard about The
Citizen — "Project Anne-
marie" — in August 1977
But three of the key fig-
ures in the Department of
Information scandal have
maintained that Mr Vorster
knew of the Government in-
volvement in the newspaper
before then.

They are Dr Connie
Mulder, former Minister of
Information, Dr Eschel
Rhoadie, former Secretary
for Information, and Gen-
eral Hendrik van den Bergh,
former chief of the Bureau
for State Security.

Their evidence to this ef-
fect before the Erasmus
Commission was rejected
and the commission accept-
ed Mr Vorster's testimony
to be the truth.

Dr Eschel Rhoadie: Dr
Rhoadie, interviewed by the
"Mail" overseas, said one
of the reasons why he found
it difficult to consider re-
turning to defend himself
was that "when four people
swore under oath that the
then Prime Minister knew
about The Citizen, this was
rejected by the Erasmus
Commission, who accepted
only Mr Vorster's word".

He told the "Mail" in Ec-
uator last month that Infor-
mation Department secret
projects had been moni-
tored by an informal Cab-
inet committee consisting of
Mr Vorster, Dr Mulder and
Dr Nico Diedericks, former
Minister of Finance. Sena-
tor Owen Horwood took the
latter's place when he be-
came Minister of Finance
in 1975.

Dr Rhoadie said The Citi-
zen had been among the
projects approved and moni-
tored by this committee.
He also claimed that oth-
er Cabinet Ministers and
certain senior civil servants

ishment and financing of
the newspaper on that date
Dr Mulder also men-
tioned a discussion he said
he had with Mr Vorster in
December 1976 on a change
in the format of The Citizen
from a broadsheet to a tab-
loid newspaper.

Dr Mulder maintained
throughout his evidence to
the Erasmus Commission
that Mr Vorster had been
aware from the start of his
role in The Citizen and had
approved the application of
public funds in his depart-
ment to finance a party-
political newspaper.

He told the commission
that Dr Rhoadie and Gen-
eral Van den Bergh repeat-
edly assured him that Mr Vor-
ster supported him in con-
nection with The Citizen.
He testified that he was
told by the General that he
had fully informed Mr Vor-
ster and that Mr Vorster's
reaction was that the Bu-
reau had nothing to do with
such a newspaper but that
General Van den Bergh was
to keep his ear to the
ground and inform Mr Vor-
ster regularly. Dr Mulder
said logically he interpreted
this as approval of the pro-
ject by Mr Vorster. Dr
Rhoadie supported him on
this.

General Hendrik van den
Bergh: The General attend-
ed the December 1975 meet-
ing where the founding of
an English-language news-
paper was discussed.
In testimony to the Eras-
mus Commission he alleged
that immediately after the
meeting he reported what
had taken place to Mr Vor-
ster and told him the names
of those present.

General Van den Bergh
said he "kept his ear to the
ground", as he was told to
do by Mr Vorster and be-
came aware almost imme-
diately that Dr Mulder and

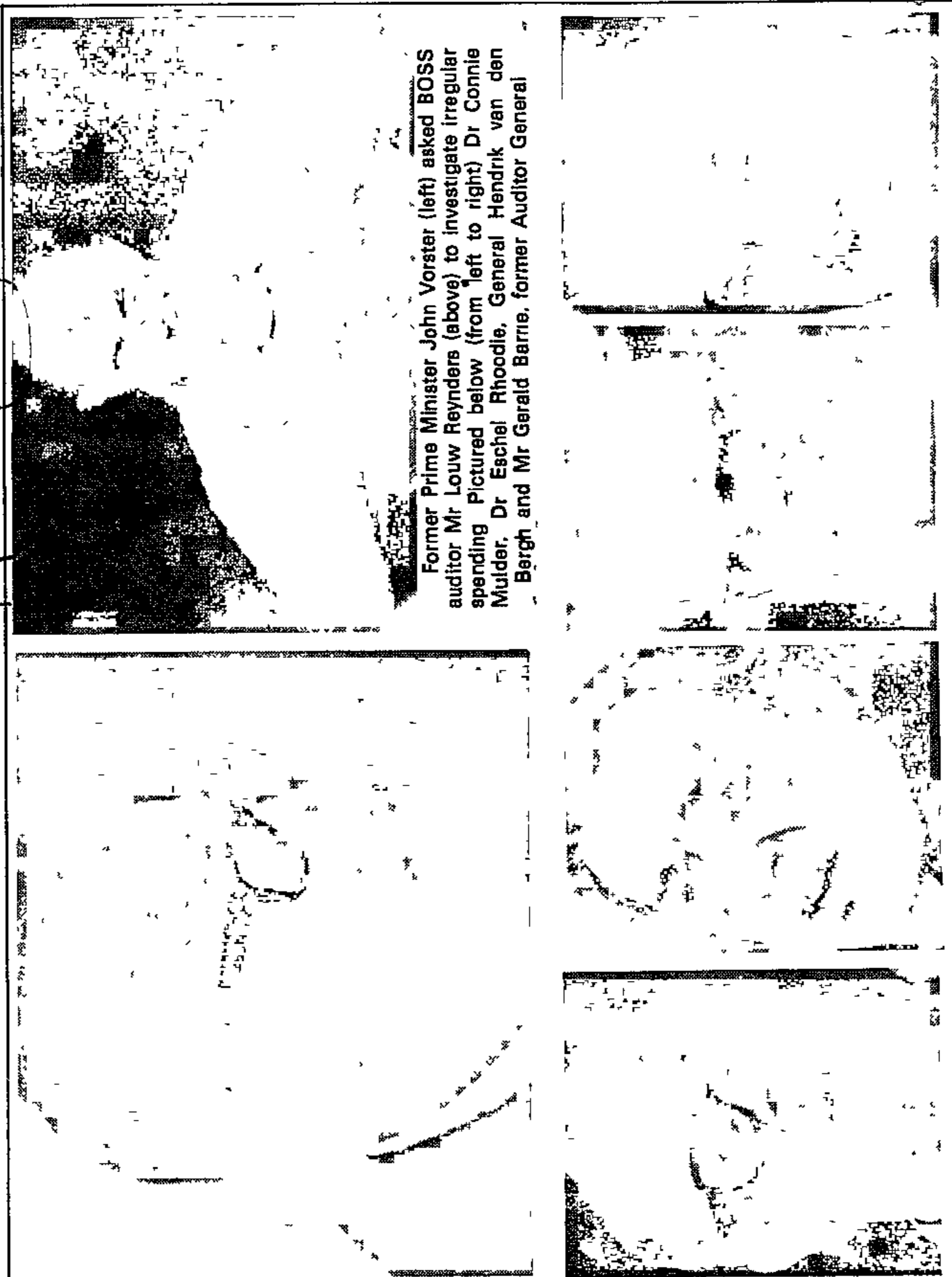
Dr Rhoadie were establish-
ing the newspaper
"He declared that he kept
Mr Vorster constantly in-
formed of this and that he
repeatedly told Dr Mulder
and Dr Rhoadie that Mr
Vorster did not approve
"Dr Mulder and Dr Rhoadie
were said then to have
assured him every time
that Mr Vorster was aware
of their actions and ap-
proved.
"Every time Van den
Bergh then confronted Mr
Vorster with this, Mr Vor-
ster would say: 'I don't
know'."

Dr Rhoadie was shocked
and told him that his find-
ings regarding the affairs of
the department were disqui-
eting.
"Mr Vorster was shocked
at the information which he
received and told Barrie
that he could not prescribe
to him what he should do,
but that he assumed he
would continue with his in-
vestigation," the Erasmus
Commission reported.

Mr Barrie submitted a
secret report to Mr Vorster
on July 29, 1977, referring to
certain irregularities in the

department Two days later
he submitted a second re-
port in which he pointed out
further irregularities in the
department. Mr Vorster
then instructed Mr Louw
Reynders to investigate the
affairs of the department.
Mr Louw Reynders, BOSS
auditor. After Mr Barrie
had reported to Mr Vorster
that he had found irregular
expenditure by the depart-
ment, Mr Reynders was
asked by Mr Vorster in Au-
gust 1977 to investigate and
report to him.

During his investigation
Mr Reynders uncovered
facts about Project Anne-
marie. He was sent for by
Mr Vorster one evening in
September 1977.



Former Prime Minister John Vorster (left) asked BOSS auditor Mr Louw Reynders (above) to investigate irregular spending. Pictured below (from left to right) Dr Connie Mulder, Dr Eschel Rhoadie, General Hendrik van den Bergh and Mr Gerald Barrie, former Auditor General

Rhoadie tried to justify
his actions but no conclu-
sion was reached because
Mr Vorster became ill.
Mr Vorster: In his unre-
cendented move last week
Mr Vorster issued a state-
ment denying Dr Rhoadie's
claim that he knew about
The Citizen "all the time".
He said he been informed
about the newspaper in Au-
gust 1977 by Mr Barrie.
"This is not true and I
gave full evidence to the
Erasmus Commission," he
said. He accused Dr Rhoadie
of lying.

The Erasmus Commis-
sion accepted Mr Vorster's
testimony to be the truth
and rejected the evidence
which directly contradicted
him — "the most important
of which was that of Van
den Bergh, Dr Mulder and
Dr Rhoadie".

the evidence shows
irrefutably that he was
shocked when he learned at
a late stage of the irregu-
larities and that he immedi-
ately had various inquiries
instituted."

It said the only criticism
that could possibly be lev-
elled at Mr Vorster was
that he did not take steps to
get rid of The Citizen during
the following nine months.
But it said realities had
to be faced. There was no
evidence that at the time he
had "all the facts to enable
him to make a correct and
most advantageous decision
to the State on a blunder
which someone else had
committed.

"Had he closed the news-
paper at once the State
could have suffered irreco-
vable damage. What is
more, a possible claim of
roughly R13-million could
have been made by Perskor
as printers for breach of
contract.

While testifying to the
Erasmus Commission Mr
Vorster spoke on General
Van den Bergh's allegation
that he informed him of the
1975 meeting about the
launching of a newspaper.
He contended that he in-
structed General Van den
Bergh not to become in-
volved, to stay away from
the whole thing, but to keep
his ear to the ground.

Mr Van Rooyen Yes
Commissioner: Did he al-
ready know about it?
Mr Van Rooyen: He ap-
peared to me to be very
shocked when I reported
(to him) because look, we
are now in October, more
than a year ago on the basis

of what the general told
him "he had not the slight-
est reason to believe that
the department was in-
volved in the establishment
of the newspaper, and that
he had forbidden Van den
Bergh to become involved
with Luyt in any way" and
that he (the general) was to
keep away from any discus-
sions of the matter.

Mr Vorster said the gen-
eral did not tell him Dr
Mulder had been present at
the discussions on the estab-
lishment of the newspaper.
He alleged that if he had
been told this he would have
spoken to Dr Mulder and
asked him not to get further
involved.

Mr Vorster told the com-
mission that at the Novem-
ber 1977 meeting he had
"put it clearly to Dr Mulder
that it was not morally or
ethically justifiable".
He denied that he had
known before 1977 that Dr
Mulder was officially in-
volved in the newspaper.
Mr Retief van Rooyen: Ac-
cording to evidence given
by Mr Van Rooyen to the
Erasmus Commission, be-
fore the November 1977
meeting was held at Liber-
tas, he too had informed Mr
Vorster of the fact that the
Department of Information
was financing a daily news-
paper.

Mr Vorster told the com-
mission that at the Novem-
ber 1977 meeting he had
"put it clearly to Dr Mulder
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tas, he too had informed Mr
Vorster of the fact that the
Department of Information
was financing a daily news-
paper.

Mr Van Rooyen told the
Mostert Commission last
year that he had first re-
ported irregularities to Mr
Reynders in September 1977
and later to the Prime Min-
ister.

The following extract
deals with evidence he gave
before Judge Anton Mos-
ter.

Commissioner: Did you
report to the Prime Minis-
ter as a result of a request
or of your own free will?
Mr Van Rooyen: I went
of my own free will.
Commissioner: Did you
tell him about... ? (inaud-
ible)

Mr Van Rooyen Yes
Commissioner: Did he al-
ready know about it?
Mr Van Rooyen: He ap-
peared to me to be very
shocked when I reported
(to him) because look, we
are now in October, more
than a year ago on the basis

of what the general told
him "he had not the slight-
est reason to believe that
the department was in-
volved in the establishment
of the newspaper, and that
he had forbidden Van den
Bergh to become involved
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and later to the Prime Min-
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The following extract
deals with evidence he gave
before Judge Anton Mos-
ter.

Impeach Vorster petition nearly complete

CT, 27/3/79 259

Political Staff

THE FIRST formal moves to impeach
dent, Mr Vorster, will take place today
petition to remove him from office is

The petition will then be available for signature by members of Parliament, and at least 30 MPs have to sign it before the impeachment procedure can be instituted.

So far, 27 MPs from the Progressive Federal Party and the New Republic Party have indicated that they will sign the petition — and the PFP is hopeful that some Nationalist MPs will sign it.

The PFP's chief whip, Mr Brian Bamford, MP, said last night that "we are hoping for more than NRP and PFP MPs".

"We have had no positive indications that any Nationalist MPs will sign, but it is still

One has to pick



NEW YORK — The former Deputy Information Secretary, Mr L. E. S. de Villiers, remained unavailable for comment yesterday on the latest allegations by Dr Connie Mulder. An aide said that he was travelling and would be "away all week".

Mr De Villiers is now a senior executive with Sydney S Baron, the Madison Avenue publicist whose contract with the South Africa has just been extended for an undisclosed sum.

According to Mr Baron, the firm will operate for South Africa for another full year, though South African officials will say only that it has been continued "for a period".

De Villiers
unavailable
Own Correspondent

sia was involved in the destruction of Petromoc's tanks

offers you

to impeach Vorster: petition to speaker

STAR 28/3/79

259

less interview last Thursday, without the advice of Executive Council.

● Directly involve the office of the State President in personal and political controversy, and subsequently have sought his office into repute

● Are likely to influence and/or anticipate the findings of the Erasmus Commission

tion, as the PFP and the NRP can raise only 27 signatures between them

The petition will nevertheless be left in the Houses of Parliament for an indefinite time

The text of the petition reads:

(1) Your petitioners are members of the House of Assembly of the Sixth Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, having been duly elected for the electoral division below indicated.

(2) Your petitioners

have freely and voluntarily subscribed this petition, each by his or her own personal signature hereto, duly witnessed and dated as below indicated

INTERVIEW

(3) Your petitioners

(a) An interview held by the State President at the State President's official residence, Tynhuys, in Cape Town with Dr C P Mulder, formerly Minister of Information, on Wednesday, March 21

1979, in the presence of a third person

(a) A conference held by the State President at Tynhuys on Thursday March 22 1979, attended by certain journalists and addressed by the State President

(c) An interview on the television service of the South African Broadcasting Corporation held by the State President in Cape Town on Friday March 23 1979, and

(d) A Press statement made by the State Pre-

sident in Cape Town on Sunday, March 25 1979

(4) Your petitioners refer to the provisions of Section 10 of the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act No 32 of 1961, and in particular to paragraph (B) of sub-section (2), in terms whereof a petition may be submitted to you signed by at least 30 members of the House of Assembly and requesting the appointment of a joint committee of the Senate and the House of

(5) Your petitioners accordingly request that such a joint committee be appointed and be empowered to investigate and report whether the actions of the State President referred to in paragraph 3 above

(A) were taken by the State President, in respect of at least paragraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph 3 above, without the advice of the Executive Council.

(b) directly involve the office of the State President, in personal and

political controversy and consequently have brought this office into disrepute and

(c) are likely to influence and/or anticipate the findings of the Commission of Inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the former Department of Information, which commission was commissioned by the State President on Friday March 23 1979, to investigate and report on the issues to which the State President referred in the above actions

First step in move

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — A petition asking for a joint committee of the House of Assembly and the Senate to investigate recent actions of the State President, Mr Vorster, in connection with the Information debacle was released by the Opposition last night.

It was the first move in an attempt to impeach Mr Vorster.

The petition, which has been drawn up by the Progressive Federal Party

and has the support of the New Republic Party but not of the South African Party, will be placed in the Houses of Parliament to await the signatures of MPs

At least 30 MPs must sign it before it can be submitted to the Speaker who must then, in terms of the constitution, appoint such a committee

The petition refers to recent statements by the State President on the Information affair and an interview he had with Dr

Connie Mulder last week

It also mentions a subsequent SABC-TV interview and his weekend reaction to a statement by Dr Mulder.

COMMITTEE

The petition asks the Speaker to appoint the committee to investigate and report on whether the actions of the State President:

● Were taken by him, in respect of at least as talk to Dr Mulder and his

... of Dr. Sparrow, 1960-... clandestine schemes... led by the Department... Information was the... of "The Club of... in whose name ad-... African Govern-... point of view were... in newspapers in... America and on... Continent

Dr Rhoadie asked Judge... erald Sparrow, a retired... rish lauger and author... vet these political ad-... rtsments for libel and... lace them in the news-... pers

Judge Sparrow sets out... here has impression of Dr... Rhoadie and the South... African Information De-... rartment's campaigns... jies has view on what he... calls "the inevitability of... Muldergate," and tries to... answer a question he set... himself why did some... members and officials of... me of the most strat-... ced governments in the... world suddenly go politic-... ally berserk and lose a... sense of responsibility?

The Club of Ten was... in fact pre-Muldergate... but one of Eschel... Rhoadie's early and... most successful ven-... tures. It was run sim-... ply through the South... African Embassy in... Trafalgar Square by... the Chief Information... Officer, Mr Vlok Del-... port, first and then... by his successor, Mr... Chris van der Walt.

My job, one a British... subject was fully entitled... to accept in time of peace... — was to vet the copy for... libel and place the adver-... tisements in the chosen... newspapers. If was all... very open and a close... check was kept on ex-... diture.

About £30 000 (R51 000)... was spent in each of the... three years I worked for... the club. I never knew

Sparrow judges Muldergate

SMR 28/3/79

who wrote the advertise-

ments

When Dr Rhoadie had... asked me to do the job I... had suggested "friends of... South Africa" as the name... the campaign should run... under. It was not exciting... but it was honest and... clear. But Dr Rhoadie did... not like it.

"The Club of Ten,"... created a mystery, and it... was a mystery that Eschel... Rhoadie in his ivory... tower wanted to create.

I think Eschel Rhoadie... had a megalomaniac quality... and that Dr Mulder was... fascinated by this brilliant... man who so dramatically... over-reached himself.

Did Mr Vorster, Prime... Minister at the time, and... his Ministers know and... "go along with" the secret... campaign of propaganda... that developed into a... huge world of secret di-... plomacy and persuasion... dominated by Dr Rhoad-... ie?

Dr Mulder, the Minister... of Information, clearly... knew it all. Mr Vorster, as... Prime Minister (with spe-... cial responsibilities for... "extra-mural" activities)... must have known the... complete outline if not... the details.

The Ministry of Fi-... nance, likewise, must have... known at least the cate-... gories of undercover acti-... vity. . . . If the Prime... Minister and the Ministry... of Finance did not know... they were unbelievably... negligent. I am sure they... were not.

Correspondence I had... with Mr Vorster's office... suggested to me that he... was meticulous about... comparatively unimport-... tant matters. This able... man had a firm grip on

all that was going on.

Muldergate was very... closely linked to the cha-... racters of Mr Vorster, Dr... Mulder and Dr Rhoadie... Dr Rhoadie, who was the... linchpin, persuaded his... Minister and the Prime... Minister that in the pro-... paganda war "no holds... were barred."

He was most persuasive... His attitude was that if... they were forced to make... their propaganda plans... public they would be shot... down in flames before... getting off the ground.

Dr Rhoadie got this... view accepted overtly by... those closest to the opera-... tions, the Prime Minister... and the Ministry of Fi-... nance, and, covertly, by... quiescent in by the other... members of the Cabinet.

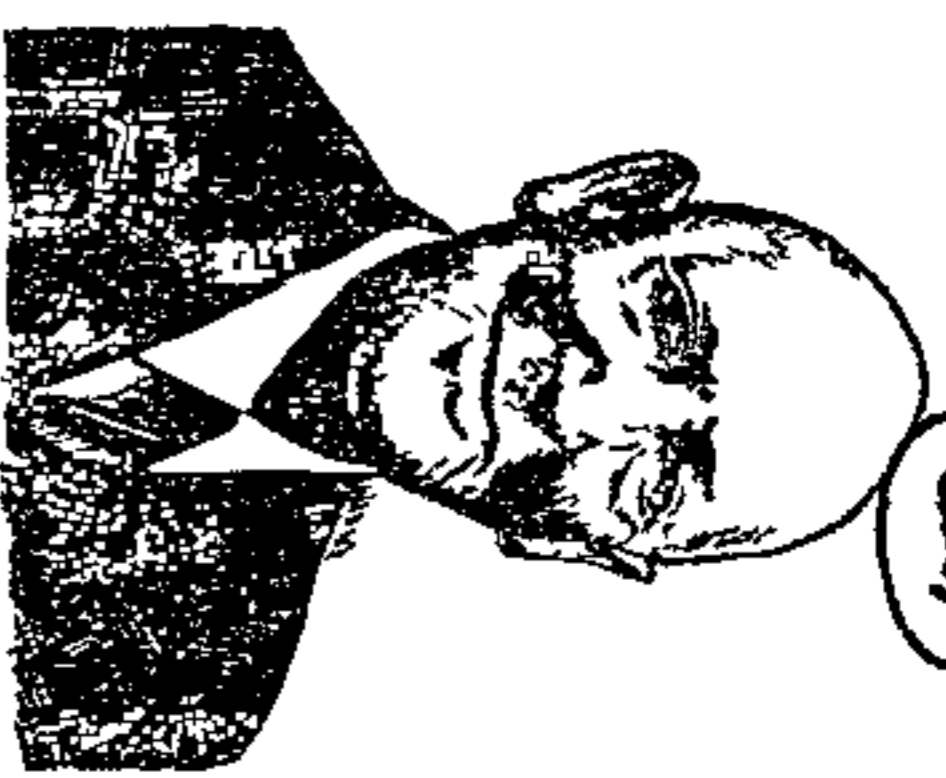
Judge Gerald Sparrow, who wrote the... accompanying article, worked for the... Club of Ten for three years — 1972 to... 1975 — but then had a disagreement... with Dr Eschel Rhoadie.

Judge Sparrow explained it to our... London Bureau: "I made a speech at... Kinross in the Transvaal about appar-... tly held in which I said that many of... those people who had a deep affection... and respect for South Africa thought... the Prime Minister might gain if he... substituted entente — meaning friend-... ship — for delente — meaning tolera-... tion."

"I added that it would have a... tremendous effect on world opinion if... the Government took steps to abolish... petty apartheid over a period as and... when the security situation allowed.

"From that moment I was... shadowed all over by men from BOSS... — always the same dull-coloured over-... coat and belt at the back, brown shoes... and a hat, all tending to look sideways... as if anticipating always that someone... would come round the corner.

"They saw us off at each airport... clearly embarrassed as we were guests... We developed a technique at each... arrival — we gave them our bags to... carry.



Judge Gerald Sparrow... correct explanation.

This responsibility of... other Ministers is another... matter. Did the Cabinet as... a whole know of the ex-... tent and cost of Dr... Rhoadie's activities? They

"When they saw us off eventual-... ly, they gave my wife a posy of flowers... which was very nice of them. . . and... enables me to say that my relations... with BOSS were unique."

He did not regain... confidence and was not consulted... again about advertisements for the... Club of Ten.

A question was asked in the... House of Commons in 1974 about the... Club of Ten.

"I was given a list of five names... one of whom had nothing to do with... the advertising campaign I later dis-... covered," said the judge.

"I handed this list personally to... Miss Joan Lester, then a Minister in... the Foreign Office, and she replied in... the House that, after making in-... quiries, there were no irregularities.

"She placed it in a safe, which... was locked. The list is still there. . . .
Journalists have made efforts to get... hold of it, but to no avail.

"This makes me think that the... extra-guards and lack of restraint in... Muldergate commenced not earlier... than late 1975 or early 1976."

Judge Sparrow knows the names... of the list but even now he will not... disclose them.

should have done.

Mr Vorster, by his ex-... perience and the immense... gravitas of his personality... overawed most members... of his Cabinet. He disliked... one Minister interfering... with the affairs of another... Minister.

So to that extent, re-... sponsibility to the Prime... Minister took the place of... collective Cabinet respon-... sibility for all Cabinet de-... cisions and acts, which is... the basic principle under-... lying the operation of... democratic cabinet rule.

If this explanation is... the correct one — and I... am sure it is — then the... members of the cabinet... outside Information... should have insisted on... being briefed in this mat-... ter.

"When they saw us off eventual-... ly, they gave my wife a posy of flowers... which was very nice of them. . . and... enables me to say that my relations... with BOSS were unique."

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Judge Sparrow knows the names... of the list but even now he will not... disclose them.

of state activity. The same... argument applies to them... Either they knew and did... not care, or they were... kept in the dark and were... not shouldering their... share of the collective re-... sponsibility that all Cab-... inet Ministers have after... taking their oath of office.

In most democratic... countries, the government... would feel compelled to a... position such as this ar-... gument to seek a fresh man-... date from the people by... way of a general election... This would be denounced... both by constitutional... practice and by popular... opinion.

Dr Mulder was a not... unpleasing but, perhaps, in... the circumstances, a fatal... mixture of relaxed Afrika-... ner gentleman and ambi-... tious politician. He was... the heir-apparent, he... could not believe that... "young Rhoadie" would... land them in serious... trouble.

But if Dr Mulder was... ambitious in a quiet way... Eschel Rhoadie was deter-... mined to dominate affairs... quickly and without con-... trol.

I first met him when he... was assistant editor of... To-The Point a magazine... that gave the Government... line on international af-... fairs. It was, I think, typi-... cal of him that he ap-... peared to run To-the-... Point.

His abounding energy... his charm — when he... chose to exert it — and... his ability were exception-... al and dynamic. Shortly... after this, Dr Mulder... waved his wand and, to... his intelligence surprise, Dr... Rhoadie found himself one... of the most important... men in South Africa, the

insprrer and manager of... the ever-growing propa-... ganda machine. It was too... quick a promotion to... power.

Why did some men... crack and allow Mulder-... gate? . . .
I think the men who... were in the front line... reflected the pent-up fury... of many South Africans... who felt that their coun-... try was being savagely... and brutally attacked on... all sides.

They could not see that... the remedy of reform lay... in their own hands.

And so it was that the... Information Department... adopted the policy of tes-... ting each new project not... by its morality or wisdom... but by one measure only... its effectiveness to secure... immediate results.

It was a disastrous way... to run a powerful minis-... try with widespread ram-... pations.

In fact, if South Africa... would make a fresh start... it would have many... friends. In particular... those who oppose apart-... heid are not of necessity... enemies of South Africa... Many are friends.

Certainly in Britain... and I am sure in the... United States as well, the... revelations of Muldergate... give no pleasure at all.

We hope the Govern-... ment will tell the people... the complete truth, call a... general election, and, if... returned to power, will... wipe the slate clean and... start again.

One thing is sure... South Africa will survive... Muldergate and become... once again one of the... most exciting and prom-... ising nations on earth.

mons and to have spied on the activities of anti-apartheid organisations

Information on anti-apartheid activists was allegedly passed on to South African agents in Europe, who then mounted "disruptive operations", like mailing counterfeit petitions and leaflets, to confuse anti-apartheid supporters

⊙ The department is alleged to have had a prominent Conservative MP working for it on a project, code-named "Operation Bowler Hat", to finance secret visits to South Africa by British parliamentarians

The scheme was set up because most British MPs would regard it as too embarrassing to be openly financed by the South African Government

⊙ In America the Department of Information is believed to have played a part in the electoral defeat of two influential senators who were hostile to the South African Government, Senator Dick Clark and Senator John Tunney

Senator Clark was the chairman of the Senate sub-committee of Africa and Tunney his predecessor

⊙ The Department of Information is believed to have spent 250 000 dollars securing Senator Clark's defeat in an Iowa election last year

⊙ In 1976 the department allegedly contributed 120 000 dollars to the defeat of Senator Tunney. The senators who defeated Clark and Tunney have denied any knowledge of South Africa's involvement in the election

⊙ South Africa is alleged to have contributed 20 000 dollars to President Carter's election campaign in New York State. Clark was apparently unaware that the money had come from South Africa

⊙ South Africa reportedly paid two members of the Japanese parliament 200 000 dollars to help gain co-operation for South Africa among Japanese trade unions

⊙ The department is alleged to have spent R60 000 in establishing a right wing political party in Norway which at one stage captured four seats in the Norwegian parliament

⊙ South Africa is alleged to have paid substantial sums to three Rhodesian black nationalist leaders in return for guarantees that they would collaborate with South Africa after Rhodesian independence

The identity of the Rhodesian politicians - two of whom purportedly received R100 000 each - is not clear although they are believed to be involved in the internal settlement

The Department of Information is alleged to have given Mr Mancham R25 000 when he was Prime Minister of the Seychelles, to help him gain the presidency. They also gave him a printing press for the use in the presidential elections and had two technicians trained in Belgium to operate the press

Subsequently, after he had become president South Africa allegedly gave him another R25 000 to help shave off a power bid by the then Prime Minister, Mr Albert René. South Africa also allegedly gave similar help to a Frenchman in an unsuccessful bid for power in Madagascar

⊙ The Department of Information is also believed to have been engaged in an extraordinarily ambitious plan to set up an international propaganda network

As previously reported by the Group, the centre of the network was to have been the British publishing company, Morgan Grampton

Through this company Dr Rhoadie intended buying up a series of financial and other magazines and newspapers in the UK, including either the mass circulation Daily Express, the prestigious Observer or the Liberal Guardian

⊙ In America the Department of Information

John McGoff's unsuccessful bid for the Washington Star for his subsequent purchase of the major Californian newspaper, the Sacramento Union

South Africa also allegedly helped finance Mr McGoff's purchase of a 50 percent stake in the major British-American television news agency, UPI-TN - an amalgamation of the Makoe American news agency UPI and the British television news agency ITN. The department is also believed to have been involved in attempts to take over a television station in America

⊙ In France the department was involved in the purchase of a number of smaller publications, but also tried to take over the famous news magazines L'Express and Paris Match

It also set up a small news agency in Kenya which had to be aborted because one of the journalists involved insisted on playing the role of an intelligence agent among his fellow correspondents

In addition to direct attempts to buy out influential publications, the Department of Information apparently pursued its propaganda activities by setting up a number of pressure and lobby groups

In Britain, for instance, it allegedly established the Foreign Affairs Research Institute which publishes literature warning of the communist peril and stressing South Africa's strategic importance to the west

The institute, headed by a former Tory MP, Mr Geoffrey Stewart Smith, and boasting four sitting Tory MPs and a former Labour minister on the governing council, is believed to have received about R130 000 a year from South Africa

South Africa is also believed to have financed similar pressure groups in France and Germany

⊙ In its attempts to win confidence in South Africa among western businessmen, the department organised major business conferences in America and Britain - one of which was addressed by ex-President Ford and another by the Secretary to the American treasury, Mr William Simon

Mr Simon and Mr Ford were each paid 10 000 dollars in speaker's fees

Mr Ford said in America yesterday that before accepting the engagement, he received assurances from the organisers that South African Government money was not involved

It is also alleged that

South Africa channelled over R400 000 to the Club of 16 in Britain to finance pro-South African advertising campaigns in the Western press

Dr Eschel Rhoadie paid nearly R100 000 to trade union contacts in Europe to sabotage a week long embargo against South Africa planned by the international Confederation of Free Trade Unions

South Africa spent about R1 million a year in Germany to finance public relations and lobbying operations including the funding of a German-South African association to the tune of about R100 000 a year and the establishment of a religious institute at an initial cost of about R30 000 to combat hostility towards South Africa on the part of the Lutheran Church

The Department of Information spent about R150 000 setting up an "Institute of Studies of the Modern World in Paris". The institute collapsed after 18 months, a leading French journalist chosen to handle the project having failed to achieve anything. South Africa is also believed to have contributed several thousand rands a year to the French South African Association

In addition, it is alleged that the Department of Information conducted dirty tricks operations against anti-apartheid activists in Holland and financed secret visits to South Africa by South African

International press probe into Info projects

LT 28/3/79 254



From STANLEY UYS

LONDON — Reporters on newspapers throughout western Europe and the United States are coming together astonishingly new information about the activities of the Muldergate conspirators in foreign countries.

This massive international press probe has been ignited by reports appearing in the South African Morning Newspaper Group in recent weeks, written by this Group's own team of investigative reporters.

The investigations reveal that the tentacles of Muldergate reached into even more countries than was suspected at first — into the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Holland, Norway, Japan, the Seychelles, Kenya, Rhodesia and South West Africa/Namibia. And even this clearly is not the full story.

Activities range from bribing MPs and labour leaders to setting up various front organisations, "influencing" election campaigns and buying publications.

Spearheading the investigations have been world-renowned newspapers and magazines like the Observer, Guardian, New York Times, Newsweek, and Le Canard Enchaîné, with their formidable resources.

The repercussions of these new Muldergate revelations are expected to be profound. One of the most serious aspects of Muldergate is its interference in the internal affairs of friendly countries.

All over western Europe, the United States and Africa, governments are beginning to look closer now into Muldergate "penetration" of their territories.

In black African countries, newspapers and political circles only now are beginning to realise that their countries were a prime Muldergate target. Something like witchhunts are starting now in Zambia, and to a lesser extent, in Senegal, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Kenya.

The international probe into the secrets of Muldergate is only just beginning.

The investigation in the United States, for example, has scarcely begun. Startling new facts are expected to be uncovered if congressional committees get their teeth into Muldergate.

The following is a list of the major areas covered by the international media investigation

details of which have already been published abroad. Only the highlights of the investigation are given:

• In Britain the department is suspected of having had two Labour MPs in its pay. The MPs, who remain unidentified, are alleged to have lobbied for South Africa in the House of Commons.

→ → →
To page 2



Writchmount starts work into

WDM 28/3/79

650

gate the case against the State President

The National Party's overwhelming majority in Parliament is bound to vote against the calling of a select committee, even if the 30 signatures can be mustered

Sapa reports that the Progressive Federal Party's petition will be displayed for signatures in Parliament today

The petition was approved by the PFP Caucus yesterday afternoon and addressed to the Speaker of the House of Assembly

The petition states

1. Your petitioners are Members of the House of Assembly of the sixth Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, having been duly elected for the electoral divisions below indicated.

2. Your petitioners have freely and voluntarily subscribed to this petition, each by his or her own personal signature hereto, duly witnessed and dated as below indicated

3. Your petitioners refer to

(a) An interview held by the State President at the State President's official residence, Tuynhuys, in Cape Town with Dr. C. P. Mulder, formerly Minister of Information, on Wednesday, March 21, 1979, in the presence of a third person,

(b) A conference held by the State President at Tuynhuys on Thursday, March 22, 1979, attended by certain journalists and addressed by the State President;

(c) An interview on the television service of the South African Broadcasting Corporation held by the State President in Cape Town on Friday, March 23, 1979, and

(d) A Press statement made by the State President in Cape Town on Sun-

□ To Page 2

tries, newspapers and political circles are only now beginning to realise that their nations were prime targets for the propaganda projects Official investigations approaching witchhunts in intensity are starting now in Zambia, and to a lesser extent in Senegal, Ivory Coast, Liberia and Kenya

But the international probe is still at the tip of the iceberg.

The investigation in the US, for example, has scarcely begun Startling new facts are expected to be uncovered if congressional committees get their teeth into the scandal.

These are some of the most serious allegations being investigated

● In Britain, two MPs of the ruling Labour Party are suspected of having been on the Info payroll The MPs, who remain unidentified, are alleged to have lobbied for South Africa in the House of Commons and to have spied on the activities of anti-apartheid organisations.

Information on anti-apartheid activists was allegedly passed on to South African agents in Europe who then mounted "disruptive operations" such as

□ To Page 2

Worldwide Info witchhunt under way

RDM: 28/3/79.

259

mailing counterfeit petitions and leaflets to confuse anti-apartheid supporters

- It is claimed that a prominent Conservative MP worked for Info on a project, code-named "Operation Bowler Hat", to secretly finance visits to South Africa by British parliamentarians. The scheme was apparently set up because most British MPs would regard it as too embarrassing to be openly financed by the South African Government.
- In the US, the former Department of Information is believed to have played a part in the electoral defeat of two influential senators who were hostile to the South African government: Senator Dick Clark and Senator John Tunney.
- Sen Clark was the chairman of the Senate sub-committee on Africa and Sen Tunney his predecessor. The former Department is alleged to have spent \$250 000 securing Sen Clark's defeat in an Iowa election last year.
- In 1976, Info agents allegedly contributed \$120 000 to help defeat Senator Tunney. The senators who defeated the two men have denied any knowledge of South African involvement.
- Info is alleged to have contributed \$20 000 to President Carter's election campaign in New York State. President Carter was apparently unaware the money came from South Africa.
- Two members of the Japanese Diet (Parliament) were allegedly paid \$200 000 to help gain cooperation for South Africa among Japanese trade unions.
- Info is alleged to have spent R60 000 establishing a

Rightwing political party in Norway which at one stage captured four seats in the Norwegian parliament

- It is alleged that three Rhodesian black nationalist leaders were paid substantial sums — two of them purportedly received R400 000 each — in return for guarantees that they would cooperate with South Africa after Rhodesian independence. Their identity is not clear, although they are believed to be involved in the internal settlement.
- The Department is alleged to have given Mr James Manchem R25 000 and a printing press when he was Prime Minister of the Seychelles to help him gain the presidency. It is claimed two technicians trained in Belgium were provided to operate the press.
- Subsequently, after he became President, he was allegedly given another R25 000 to help stave off a power bid by the then Prime Minister, Mr Albert Rene. South Africa also allegedly gave similar help to a Frenchman in an unsuccessful bid for power in Madagascar.
- The former Department is also believed to have been engaged in an extraordinarily ambitious plan to set up an international propaganda network.
- As previously reported by the "Mail", the centre of the network was to have been the British publishing company, Morgan Gramplan.
- Through this company, Dr Rhodie intended buying up a series of financial and other magazines and newspapers in the UK, including either the mass circulation Daily Express, the presti-

gious Observer or the liberal Guardian

The Department allegedly lent several million dollars to Mr John McGoff's unsuccessful bid for the Washington Star newspaper.

It allegedly also helped finance Mr McGoff's purchase of a 50% stake in the major British-US TV news agency, UPI-TN.

The department is also believed to have been involved in attempts to take over a US television station.

- In France the Department was allegedly involved in the purchase of a number of smaller publications, but also tried to take over the famous news magazines L'Express and Paris Match.
- It apparently set up a small news agency in Kenya which had to be aborted because one of the journalists involved insisted on playing the role of intelligence agent among his fellow correspondents.

In addition to direct attempts to buy out influential publications, the Department of Information pursued its propaganda activities by setting up pressure and lobby groups.

In Britain, for instance, it allegedly established the Foreign Affairs Research Institute, which publishes literature warning of the communist peril and stressing South Africa's strategic importance to the West.

In its attempts to win confidence in South Africa among Western businessmen, the Department organised major business conferences in the US and Britain — one of which was addressed by ex-President Gerald Ford.

POLITICAL comment in this issue by Allister Sparks, Benjamin Pogrand and John Ryan, newabills by Trevor Bissaker, headlines and sub editing by Mike Stent, cartoons by Bob Connolly, all of 171 Main Street, Johannesburg

By STANLEY UYS
London Editor

LONDON

TOP INVESTIGATIVE reporters on newspapers all over Western Europe and the United States are uncovering astonishing new information about the activities of Info agents overseas.

This massive international Press probe has been triggered by the reports in the Rand Daily Mail written by the "Mail's" own investigative team.

The investigations show that Info's tentacles reached into even more countries than was suspected — and the list is clearly not yet complete.

'Impeach Vorster' petition ready

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The final English version of the first-ever impeachment petition against a South African State President was finalised yesterday.

The petition, which will be placed in a "neutral place" in Parliament, flows from a clause in the Constitution Act which says the State President can be removed from office "on the ground of misconduct or inability to perform efficiently the duties of his office."

The petition will first be translated into Afrikaans and properly bound before it can be signed.

The bid to impeach President Vorster has little chance of success as the petition needs at least 30 signatures before a parliamentary debate can be held.

Activities have been uncovered in the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Holland, Norway, Japan, the Seychelles, Kenya, Rhodesia and South West Africa — and it is clear the list is not yet complete.

Activities being probed range from allegations of bribery involving MPs and labour leaders, to the setting up of various front organisations, "influencing" election campaigns and buying publications.

Spearheading the investigations have been world-renowned newspapers and magazines such as The Observer, The Guardian, the New York Times, the Washington Post, Newsweek, and Le Canard Enchaîné, throwing their formidable resources behind the work.

Profound repercussions are expected from these new disclosures on the Information scandal.

One of the most serious aspects of the secret projects scandal, dubbed "Muldergate" overseas — is the interference in the internal affairs of friendly countries.

All over Western Europe the US and Africa governments are now beginning to look closer into Muldergate "penetration" of their territories.

March 23, 1979, to investi-

CT 28/3/79
259

Petition to impeach up today

By MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

A PETITION seeking the impeachment of the State President, Mr Vorster, on the grounds of his entry into the Information controversy, will be available for signature by members of Parliament today.

The three-page document, drawn up by the Progressive Federal Party, seeks an investigation of whether Mr Vorster's statements and interviews last week

- Were without the approval of the Cabinet as required in the constitution

- Directly involved the office of the State President in personal and political controversy and consequently brought the office into disrepute, and

- Were likely to influence or anticipate the findings of the Erasmus Commission's investigation into cabinet knowledge of the Information scandal

The petition cites Mr Vorster's interview with the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, at Tuynhuys last Wednesday and press or television statements Mr Vorster made last Thursday, Friday and Sunday.

This is the first time that steps have been taken in terms of the 1961 Republican constitution to remove a President from office. The constitution stipulates that this may only be done on the grounds of misconduct or inability of the State President to perform his duties efficiently.

It requires the signatures of 30 members of Parliament before the appointment of a parliamentary committee to investigate the State President's conduct can be considered.

The two opposition parties involved regard the move as nec-

essary in the circumstances, even though it appears to have no hope of success.

It is assured only of 27 signatures from the PFP and the New Republic Party, which has promised to support it. The National Party and the South African Party have endorsed Mr Vorster's action.

Even if the three SAP members were to support it, the all for a joint committee of members of the House of Assembly and the Senate would be rejected by the government majority in the Assembly.

The PFP Chief Whip, Mr Brian Bamford, said last night there was no limit on the length of time the petition was available for signature.

"It will be removed only when it has 30 signatures, or the State President resigns," he said.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, is to send copies of the petition to all MPs, stating where and when the original may be signed.

Mr Bamford said that, depending on the approval of the Speaker, the petition would probably be displayed at the bottom of the stairs leading to the PFP parliamentary offices.

The NRP leader, Mr Vause Raw, said his 10 MPs would sign the petition.

The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, declined to comment.

● **Petition, full text**
page 6

Murders — bullion racket claimed

ARGUS

30/3/79

259

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A claim that Dr Robert Smit was investigating reports of illegal gold shipments from South Africa when he was murdered has been published by the American magazine Newsweek.

Some claim Smit was murdered because he was about to expose the Information Ministry's illegal shipments of gold bullion out of the country to finance its 'influence-buying campaign,' Anthony Sampson said in a report headed 'Pretoria's scandal'

He claimed the violations of South Africa's exchange controls were attracting increasing interest from officials and politicians who saw signs of Government rackets

One of them was Dr Smit, South Africa's representative on the International Monetary Fund, who was murdered with his wife in November 1977.

'DARKEST CORNERS'

'The long trails of the South African influence-buying scandal are now leading not only into the darkest corners of South African politics and the ruling Afrikaner National Party, but throughout the Western world'

'They threaten to involve newspapers, politicians, businessmen —

even hired killers — in America and Europe in the web of plans to buy secret support for South Africa's apartheid policies'

The report also claimed:

- Dr Rhodie and his agents financed the ruling party in South West Africa and set up an off-shore radio station to broadcast bogus reports about terrorists;

CIA MAN

- General Hendrik van den Bergh boasted of his continuing connections with the American Central Intelligence Agency and said he had been lunching with a senior CIA man who was here on holiday.

Commenting, General J F Kleinhaus, chief of the CID, said the Police had no proof of the allegation about the Smit murders.

'This is pure speculation. It has been given as one of the many motives for the killing, but we have no proof,' he said.

Erasmus quizzed Only 4 Ministers

ADM 30/3/79 259

By BRIAN O'FLAHERTY

THE Erasmus Commission, which will report to the State President tomorrow on possible Cabinet involvement in the funding of The Citizen, has taken evidence from only four Ministers.

It has not re-examined the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder, or a number of public servants said to have had knowledge of the former Department of Information's secret projects.

Dr Mulder last weekend released a statement saying the former Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster and the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, were involved in the Citizen project.

Mr Johan Geyser, secretary to the Erasmus Commission, confirmed last night that only four Ministers had given evidence. The rest of the Cabinet had not been summoned to testify and Dr Mulder had not been recalled.

They supported Mulder for PM

By HELEN ZILLE
Political Correspondent

Two days after being informed of the citizen scandal, some members of the present Cabinet voted for Dr Connie Mulder to become Prime Minister of South Africa

Justice Dr Mulder was narrowly defeated by Mr P W Botha.

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, said yesterday Dr Koorhof and Mr Kruger condoned and accepted Dr Mulder's actions in the Info scandal

The Commission's interim report is expected to be tabled in the House of Assembly on Monday or Tuesday next week

Its first report, in December last year, exonerated Mr Vorster, Senator Horwood and the new Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha

Mr Botha asked the commission on March 16 to investigate whether any Cabinet Ministers knew of the Citizen affair or any information irregularities after Dr Eschel Rhoodie, former

... Erasmus Commission - inquiry - investigation - Dr Mulder
... Minister of Information - secret projects - Dr Mulder
... former Prime Minister - Mr John Vorster - Minister of Finance - Senator Owen Horwood - Citizen project
... Mr Johan Geyser - secretary - Erasmus Commission - confirmed last night - only four Ministers - had given evidence - The rest of the Cabinet - had not been summoned - to testify - and Dr Mulder - had not been recalled
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30/3/79

259

This is one of the aspects of the widening Information furore exposed by the State President, Mr John Vorster, in his extraordinary Press conference with selected newspapermen in his official residence, Tuynhuys, last week.

Opposition spokesmen yesterday pointed out the significance of the occasion named by Mr Vorster as the first time the Cabinet was officially informed the Citizen newspaper was funded by Government money.

This date has been pinpointed as September 26, just two days before the National Party caucus members met in Cape Town on September 28 to elect their fifth Prime Minister.

Dr Mulder was proposed by Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of Plural Relations, and Mr J.T. Kruger, Minister of

by supporting him. Mr Harry Schwarz, chief opposition spokesman on the Information scandal, said all members of the present Cabinet had a duty to inform the public if they were at the Cabinet meeting of September 26 last year and if, despite the discussion of the Citizen scandal, they had supported Dr Mulder in the premiership race.

Approached for comment last night, Mr Kruger said: "I have no comment at all on the matter."

Dr Koornhof could not be contacted for comment last night.

National Party sources said no action has yet been taken against Dr Mulder for implying that the State President, Mr Vorster, lied in his Press conference last week.

Secretary for Information, claimed top Nationalists were involved in the scandal.

Mr Botha has offered to resign and call a general election if it were proved that any member of the present Cabinet knew of the funding of The Citizen.

Asked why Dr Mulder had not been recalled to substantiate his claims, Mr Geysler replied: "Perhaps there was a reason but I can't disclose that."

Mr Geysler said the four Ministers who gave evidence this week were Mr P.W. Botha, Senator Horwood, Dr Piet Koornhof and Mr Hennie Smit, Minister of Coloured Relations.

Dr Rhodie claimed in interviews with the Rand Daily Mail that a number of Ministers and civil servants knew about secret projects, including the establishment and funding of The Citizen, before the Information scandal was exposed last year.

They included Mr Vorster, Senator Horwood, Mr Louis le Grange, former Deputy Minister of Information, now Minister of Tourism, Mr J.T. Kruger, Minister of Justice and Police, and Mr Gerald Browne, former Secretary of Finance.

He also named three Information Department employees, whom he claimed prepared a display of Information Department publications, including The Citizen, for a conference at the Union Buildings in November 1977.

Present at the conference, he said, were Mr Vorster, Senator Horwood, Dr Mulder, General Van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau for State Security, and Mr Louw Reynders, the Boss auditor whom Mr Vorster had appointed in August 1977, to investigate the Auditor-General's report of irregularities.

Mr Geysler suggested the commission could still investigate possible Cabinet involvement before making its final report at the end of May.

RDM 20/2/79

Beeld girl questioned on Smit 259

A YOUNG reporter on the Afrikaans morning newspaper, Beeld, was summonsed on Wednesday to appear in the Springs Magistrate's Court yesterday to reveal information contained in a confidential memo she sent to the editor of the paper.

Miss Ingrid Pepler, 25, was summonsed in terms of Article 205 of Act 51 of 1977.

The memo to her editor, Mr. Ton Vosloo, contained the name of a former mercenary allegedly connected with the words "Rau" and "Tem" found painted on a wall in the house in which Dr Robert Smit and his wife were murdered in 1977, Mr Vosloo said in a statement last night.

Mr Vosloo considered the information in the memo a "wild tale" and not worth publishing.

He was "amazed and disturbed" that police had confronted Miss Pepler in the paper's editorial office.

Pik to tell opposition Info's secrets

STAR
30/3/79
259

By John D'Oliveira

The Assembly

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, announced today that he would give Opposition spokesmen on information affairs full access to all current secret projects operated by the South African Information Service - successor to the Department of Information.

Mr Botha made this announcement in the House of Assembly when replying to a question from Mr I F A de Villiers, MP for Constantia. The question dealt with the possibility of the department having offered assistance to the *Courier Austral*.

The Minister was asked whether the department gave direct or indirect assistance to the publication to assist it in the takeover of *Courier Francais* in 1977, whether the department supplied any editorial material or assistance to *Courier Austral* and, if so, what was the nature of this assistance.

In a brief interview immediately after the announcement, Mr Botha said that if the opposition parties' information spokesmen were interested, he would invite them to his office.

He would also fly the director of the South African Information Service, Mr A J Engelbrecht, to Cape Town and he would allow the spokesmen to examine a document detailing all the information service's current projects.

"The document will detail those projects that I have decided to kill, those projects that I will still kill off and those projects which we will continue to implement on the new basis I have already outlined in the House."

The Progressive Federal Party, the New Republic Party and the South African Party all welcomed the opportunity to check the projects.

In their place newly formulated counter measures which will serve South Africa's interests more appropriately will be instituted. In this process the services and expertise of new associates and proven experts and organisations will be utilised.

Interested

"It is the Government's view not to desert those who are working for the interests of South Africa by divulging existing confidential associations. This applies also to projects which will be discontinued."

"I am prepared to give the information spokesmen of opposition parties insight into the state of those projects in force on March 31, 1979."

with his name absorbed in the perfections of Mary. Chartres represents, not the Trinity, but the identity of the Mother and

struction of their has rewarded the Normans to imitate the piety of their neighbours.... Since then

Another matter for which the female taste seemed not much to care was theology in the metaphysical sense. Mary troubled herself little about theology except when she retired into the south transept with Pierre de Dreux.

Son. The Son represents the Trinity, which is thus absorbed in the Mother. The idea is not orthodox, but this is no affair of ours. The Church watches over its own. The Virgin's wants and tastes, positive and negative, ought

Confidential

CT 30/3/79

Smit memo: Reporter 259 summonsed

JOHANNESBURG — A young woman reporter for the Afrikaans morning paper, Beeld, was summonsed on Wednesday to appear in the Springs Magistrate's Court today to disclose information contained in a confidential memo she sent to the editor of the newspaper.

Miss Ingrid Pepler, 25, was summonsed in terms of article 205 of Act 51 of 1977.

The confidential memo to her editor, Mr Ton Vosloo, contained the name of a former mercenary allegedly connected with the words "RAU" and "TEM" found painted in the kitchen of the house in which Dr Robert Smit and his wife were murdered in 1977, Mr Vosloo said in a statement last night.

Mr Vosloo considered the information contained in the memo a "wild tale" (wolhaarstorie) and had not thought it worth publication.

He said he was amazed and disturbed that police had, behind his back, confronted Miss Pepler in the newspaper's editorial office about the memo.

"The memo was not published and its contents were known only to a very restricted circle, yet the police knew about it. I would like to know how they heard about it," Mr Vosloo said.

The conduct on the first visit on Monday of the policemen concerned, Colonel D J de Villiers, assistant district CID officer for the East Rand, and Lieutenant G Viljoen, of the CID at Brakpan, was brought to the attention of the Commissioner of Police, General Mike Geldenhuys and the chief deputy commissioner in charge of the CID, General J G Kleinhaus, before the summons was received by Miss Pepler on Wednesday.

General Geldenhuys told a senior Beeld employee, Mr Jack Viviers, that Miss Pepler's story had been investigated months ago by the police and found to be groundless.

Nevertheless, the police had taken the summons to the Beeld editorial office on Wednesday, but had not advised him of their action, Mr Vosloo said.

"I find that completely unsatisfactory. Beeld has always operated with the police if it is in the public interest. Recently two officers took a statement from me in connection with the Smit murders, as they did with all other editors, and I helped them."

"Last week we immediately brought to the attention of Gen-

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To page 2 A



From page 1

eral Kleinhaus the statement by former Judge Ludorf about Sydney Excell and the Smit murders. I considered the police should know.

"Now a member of the editorial staff is intimidated and summonsed over a confidential memo to her chief without two police officers having the common decency to contact the editor of Beeld on the day in question," Mr Vosloo said.

Miss Pepler gave the memo about the former mercenary and the Smit murders to Mr Vosloo last Thursday.

Mr Vosloo asked Mr Viviers to investigate the matter, telling him at the same time that he regarded it as a wild tale.

Mr Vosloo was in Cape Town last weekend and on his return on Monday was told by Mr Viviers that Colonel de Villiers and Lieutenant Viljoen had confronted Miss Pepler in the newspaper's editorial office that morning.

The officers had demanded a copy of her memo. Mr Vosloo said Miss Pepler handed over a copy over because she thought Mr Vosloo had brought the memo to the attention of the police.

When the police demanded that Miss Pepler reveal the source of the information contained in the memo she asked

for permission to seek guidance from Mr Vosloo.

After the meeting with the two officers, Miss Pepler was telephoned that evening and the following morning by Lieutenant Viljoen.

This was done despite her request that the police approach the editor for more information.

The conduct of the officers was discussed by Mr Viviers on Wednesday over the telephone with General Geldenhuys.

General Geldenhuys had said the allegations that a certain Mr or Colonel Knut Raudstein could have been involved with the Smit murders had been investigated months previously by the police. They had found no grounds for the allegations.

United States

General Geldenhuys said Mr Raudstein was traced to the United States where he was found to be a respected man. Police were convinced he had nothing to do with the murders.

After an attempt by Lieutenant Viljoen to serve a summons on Miss Pepler, Mr Viviers telephoned General Kleinhaus in Pretoria.

When asked by Mr Viviers why the police wanted to know the source of a story they had found to be groundless, General Kleinhaus said the police had to investigate every allegation.

General Kleinhaus asked why Miss Pepler was unwilling to reveal the source of her information.

He was told that according to the police officers themselves it was dangerous for Miss Pepler if former mercenaries found out that she had made allegations.

Miss Pepler will appear in the Springs Magistrate's Court this morning — Sapa

3.1: Nerva ruled so
 ing that would prevent
 ng to private life it
 f, 4.1-2: Nerva did not
 f the state, nor was
 later was a Spania
 as no foreigner had
 le helped to look in

Thus, son and father, you performed a great service reciprocally at one and the same moment: he gave to you the empire, you restored it to him.

The shattered Republic fled to your bosom, and as the empire collapsed it was offered to you over the head of an emperor but on the appeal of the emperor. Your help was sought by adoption and you were brought in, just as in the past mighty commanders used to be recalled from wars abroad to bring aid to the fatherland.

example was set, so that a very good example might be established in contrast; finally the emperor was forced to put to death those he did not want to kill, so that he might present an emperor who could not be pushed around.

Rhodie report false, defamatory — Kruger affidavit

By JANE ARBOUS and STEPHEN WROTTESELEY

THE Cape Times and other SAAN publications were stopped early on the morning of March 12 from publishing a section of a report quoting Dr Rhodie because it was "false and defamatory", the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was claimed by the Minister of Justice, Police and Prisons, Mr J T Kruger, in reply to affidavits filed earlier by the editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Allister Sparks, and the manager of the Cape Times, Mr Leslie Williams.

In his replying affidavit handed into court yesterday morning in which he asked that the rule nisi be made final, with costs, Mr Kruger denied allegations that he had brought the application against SAAN in his official capacity. Saying he had brought it in his personal capacity, Mr Kruger added there were two errors in the heading of the rule nisi.

The errors in the heading which he said was devised by the Registrar of the Supreme Court, described the applicant as the Minister of Justice and not as James Thomas Kruger, and left out Cape Times Ltd, as a second respondent.

'Of no moment'
Mr Kruger submitted these

cf.
31/3/74
251

Press entitled to publish public 'pleasantries'

By STEPHEN WROTTESELEY AND JANE ARBOUS
Court Staff

Rhodie which SAAN intended to publish, deviated in vital aspects from the truth.

He submitted that the first part of the report was false and defamatory in certain respects.

He said the ordinary reader, confronted with Dr Rhodie's bald statement in one of the respects mentioned, "may reasonably have concluded" that the alleged statement had something to do with the so-called Information scandal. It was common knowledge that Dr Rhodie was connected with the scandal, an event which shocked the public.

"This is the reason why I told the reporter, Mr Jeremy Gordon, that I was quite willing to allow the press to publish it, provided I was given the opportunity of putting the full facts before the public. This was denied me."

Continuing, Mr Kruger submitted in respect of the second part of the report that it should be read as a follow-up to the report published on March 10 by the Cape Times.

"The defamatory sting in the said report on March 10 lies in the false statement that the whole Cabinet (including myself) had been fully informed of the

If public figures wanted to conduct controversies in the public press, then the press was entitled to publish these "pleasantries", the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

Mr Sydney Kentridge, SC, for South African Associated Newspapers Limited and the Cape Times Limited, was arguing against the imposition of a final order prohibiting the two companies from publishing a report quoting the former secretary for the defunct Department of Information, Dr Eschel Rhodie.

Judgment was reserved late yesterday after five hours of argument.

In an early morning hearing on March 12, the Judge-President of the Cape, Mr Justice J W van Zyl, granted the Minister of Justice, Police and Prisons, Mr J T Kruger, an order restraining the Cape Times, the Rand Daily Mail, the Natal Mercury and the Eastern Province Herald, or any other newspaper owned or controlled by SAAN, from publishing the report.

SAAN and the Cape Times Limited were ordered to show cause on Tuesday why the order should not be made final. On Tuesday the hearing was postponed till yesterday.



The Editor of the Cape Times, Mr A H Heard, left, leaves court yesterday with the chairman of the Cape Times, Mr D A St C Hennessy.

Deputy State Attorney could act in connection with any matter where in the opinion of the State Attorney or any person acting under his authority, it is in the public interest that such functions be performed at the said office or at one of its branches." He said the present matter simply concerned Mr Kruger's

"personal political career", Mr Kruger was using the State Attorney to pursue a purely personal claim.

Mr Kentridge said if Mr Kruger was complaining of defamation in his personal capacity, in respect of damage to his own reputation and personal political career, it could not possibly be a matter of legitimate interest or concern to the government.

He therefore submitted that "on the face of it", the applicant was the minister of justice in his official capacity and in that capacity he could not sue.

Main reason

Quoting from his heads of argument, Mr Kentridge outlined the main reason why the government could not sue for defamation.

"It would involve a serious interference with the free expression of opinion hitherto enjoyed in this country if the wealth of the State, derived from the State's subjects, could be made to launch against those subjects actions for defamation because they have, falsely and unfairly it may be, criticized or condemned the management of the country."

Dealing with the aspect of whether the report was defamatory.

Continued on page 6

31/3/79 (259)

were technical or formal matters "of no moment".

Mr Kruger disputed Mr Sparks's claim that the Cape Town Supreme Court had no jurisdiction over SAAN. Mr Kruger said although he accepted that the Rand Daily Mail was printed in Johannesburg and published principally in the Transvaal, it was also sold and distributed in the Cape. A copy of the newspaper was available daily in the reading room of members of Parliament and it was also sold to the public by the Central News Agency.

Referring to Mr Sparks's allegation that the Natal Mercury was not owned by SAAN and that the court had no jurisdiction over Eastern Province Newspapers Ltd, which owned the Eastern Province Herald, Mr Kruger said both newspapers were available in the read-

implicated by the publication of an allegation emanating from Dr Rhodie. Although I was available, I had not been asked to verify the contents of the said report," Mr Kruger added.

Mr Kruger quoted paragraph 2(c) of the press code of conduct which reads: "Where there is reason to doubt the correctness of a report and it is practicable to verify the correctness thereof it shall be verified. Where it has not been practicable to verify the correctness of a report, this shall be mentioned in such report."

Every reason

Mr Kruger concluded the Cape Times had every reason to doubt the correctness of the report but it had not approached him to verify it.

Mr Kruger said the version purportedly obtained from Dr

the 1977 election, and that told Dr Rhodie so."

False foundation

"The second part of the report builds on this false foundation and attempts to lend an air of verisimilitude."

Mr Kruger said it must be pointed out that the proposed report to be published on March 12, the alleged report of Dr Rhodie, which, although it did not substantiate the report of March 10, "it is an attempt to do so, thereby indicating the degree of maliciousness."

Referring to Mr Williams's affidavit, Mr Kruger submitted the same statements he submitted in reply to Mr Spark's affidavit.

An affidavit from Mr Anthony Heard, the editor of the Cape Times, was also handed in to the court yesterday.

He said he had read Mr Kruger's replying affidavit and "in as much as it contains new allegations not contained in (Mr Kruger's) original oral evidence I beg leave to reply briefly thereto."

State Attorney

Mr Heard denied Mr Kruger had made the application in his personal capacity and based his submission on the fact that Mr Kruger had been represented by the State Attorney.

"I submit that this would not have been appropriate had he been proceeding in his personal capacity," Mr Heard said in his affidavit.

He also said that while the Rand Daily Mail did circulate in the Cape Province, it did not give the court jurisdiction over SAAN. He denied that SAAN had submitted to the jurisdiction of the court.

Mr Heard also denied that Mr Kruger was "injuriously implicated" by an article published in the Cape Times two days before Mr Kruger's action.

No jurisdiction

Yesterday Mr W Burger, SC, appearing for Mr Kruger, asked that the order be made final except against the Natal Mercury and the Eastern Province Herald. This followed a statement in an affidavit from the editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Allister Sparks, in which he said the Natal Mercury was owned neither by SAAN nor the Cape Times Limited.

He also said in his affidavit that the court had no jurisdiction over the Eastern Province Herald which was owned by Eastern Province Newspapers Limited.

Alternatively, Mr Burger asked for an interdict which would be effective until the date of a trial.

Mr Kentridge, however, asked that

- The rule be discharged with costs including the costs of two counsel.

- Alternatively, all reference to any respondent other than the Cape Times Limited should be deleted as well as all but the first sentence of the prohibited report.

- The respondents should in any event have their costs as they were compelled to come to court either to obtain discharge, or to cut down on the scope of the rule.

Later, Mr Kentridge said while he would prefer no interdict, if there was to be one, an interim interdict was preferable.

Mr Kentridge outlined four reasons why the rule should be dismissed, namely that Mr Kruger had acted as the minister of justice and that in that capacity he represented the government and therefore could not sue.

Alternatively, Mr Kentridge argued that neither of the two parts of the report complained of was defamatory of Mr Kruger in his personal capacity.

He further said that in any event the publication seen

Info publisher's 'Govt' works ¹²⁵⁹

Chris van Rensburg Publications, the Johannesburg publishing firm involved in the Information scandal, has received two new Government contracts.

It is to produce a book on Venda for its independence this year, and also the 1979 RSA Yearbook.

The parliamentary select committee on unauthorised

expenditure by the Department of Information was told that Mr van Rensburg had written a false letter so that advance payments could be made for books that were not yet ready.

He said at the time that he had done so after a request from two of the department's top officials, adding that he regretted it.

Today Mr van Rensburg said he had tendered for the Yearbook contract in competition with "all the big people" like Perskor and Nasionale Pers. He got the contract because his tender was the lowest.

The Venda contract was awarded to him without the invitation of any tenders.

How deep a probe?

RDM 31/3/79
259

HOW MUCH of an inquiry has the Erasmus Commission conducted into these latest, most crucial info issues which touch upon the credibility of both the State President and the Government?

The Government itself has given the impression that it has left these questions to the commission to decide — and that it expects the country to accept its verdict and let the matter rest there.

Yet the public can only have serious doubts about the commission's ability to decide the issues conclusively.

There are two issues involved:

1. Who is telling the truth between Mr Vorster and Dr Mulder?

2. And who is telling the truth between Dr Eschel Rhoodie and Mr P W Botha over whether any members of the Cabinet — particularly Senator Owen Horwood — were in the know on The Citizen project?

On the first point, doubts must arise for the simple reason that the commission's extended terms of reference don't cover the issue.

On March 16, in the wake of Dr Rhoodie's allegations and obviously because of them, the Prime Minister announced in Parliament that he was asking the commission to present a special report by the end of the month (today) on whether any member of the present Cabinet had any knowledge of The Citizen project before the facts were disclosed through State investigations.

Well, neither Mr Vorster nor Dr Mulder are members of the present Cabinet.

Rhoodie allegations

On the second point, we would have thought any thorough assessment of Dr Rhoodie's allegations should involve the examination of people he named as being able to corroborate his story — particularly his allegations that Senator Horwood attended briefings on secret projects as a member of an informal Cabinet committee.

Yet now it appears that the Erasmus Commission has called none of the people named by Dr Rhoodie, since it was given this special assignment on March 16.

Not even, it appears, Mr J T Kruger, about whom Dr Rhoodie made certain significant allegations.

Nor Mr Louis le Grange, whom Dr Rhoodie alleges was shown a dummy of The Citizen while he was Deputy Minister of Information.

Nor any of the people whom Dr Rhoodie says saw Senator Horwood go to some of the Cabinet committee's meetings, or knew of his attendance

It is difficult to understand why these witnesses have not been called. And even more difficult to see how the Erasmus Commission can adequately assess the truth or otherwise of Dr Rhoodie's allegations without questioning them.

There have been doubts expressed already, from the Nationalist as well as the Opposition side, about the commission's ability to report effectively on this matter.

It has been pointed out that the commission is in an invidious position because Mr Vorster, who appointed it and to whom it must report, has already anticipated its findings with his statement.

It is in a difficult position, too, because it has already made a major credibility finding in its first report on witnesses whom it has now been asked again to assess — rather like being asked to sit as an appeal court on its own judgment.

Now come these new disclosures that the commission has apparently not probed Dr Rhoodie's allegations in detail, which can only add further to those doubts.

RDM 31/3/79
SAAN reports were
false, claims Kruger

Own Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — The Cape Times and other SAAN publications were stopped early on the morning of March 12 from publishing a section of a report quoting Dr Rhodie because it was "false and defamatory", the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was claimed by the Minister of Justice, Police and Prisons, Mr J T Kruger, in reply to affidavits filed earlier by the Editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Allister Sparks, and the manager of the Cape Times, Mr Leslie Williams.

In his affidavit, handed into court yesterday morning, in which he asked that the rule nisi be made final, with costs, Mr Kruger denied allegations that he had brought the application against SAAN in his official capacity.

He said two errors in the heading of the rule nisi described the applicant as the Minister of Justice and not as James Thomas Kruger, and left out Cape Times Ltd as a second respondent.

Mr Kruger denied Mr Sparks' claim that the Cape Town Supreme Court had no jurisdiction over SAAN, saying the Rand Daily Mail was sold and distributed in the Cape.

Mr Kruger said the rule nisi was complied with and submitted such compliance constituted a submission to

the jurisdiction of the court.

"In the report of the Cape Times published on March 10, I was seriously and injuriously implicated by the publication of an allegation emanating from Dr Rhodie. Although I was available, I had not been asked to verify the contents of the said report," Mr Kruger added.

He said the ordinary reader, confronted with Dr Rhodie's bald statement in one of the respects mentioned, "may reasonably have concluded" the alleged statement had something to do with the so-called information scandal.

"This is the reason why I told the reporter, Mr Jeremy Gordin, that I was quite willing to allow the Press to publish it, provided I was given the opportunity of putting the full facts before the public. This was denied me."

Mr Kruger submitted the second part of the report should be read as a followup to the report published on March 10 by the Cape Times.

"The defamatory sting in the said report on March 10 lies in the false statement that the whole Cabinet (including myself) had been fully informed of The Citizen undertaking before the 1977 election, and that I told Dr Rhodie so

"The second part of the report builds on this false foundation and attempts to lend an air of verisimilitude."

Mr Kruger also alleged said the second report indicated a "degree of maliciousness".

Referring to Mr Williams's affidavit, Mr Kruger submitted the same statements he submitted in reply to Mr Sparks' affidavit.

An affidavit from Mr Anthony Heard, editor of the Cape Times, was also handed into the court yesterday.

Mr Heard denied Mr Kruger had made the application in his personal capacity and based his submission on the fact that Mr Kruger had been represented by the State-Attorney.

He also said that while the Rand Daily Mail did circulate in the Cape Province, it did not give the court jurisdiction over SAAN. He denied SAAN had submitted to the jurisdiction of the court.

Mr Heard also denied Mr Kruger was "injuriously implicated" by an article published in the Cape Times two days before Mr Kruger's action.

It was not correct Mr Kruger was denied the opportunity of putting the facts before the public, Mr Heard said.

Mr Heard said the Cabinet members against whom Dr Rhodie had made allegations, had made counter-statements through the medium of the Press which had been reported in all major newspapers.

"In the circumstances, I respectfully submit that the respondent's newspapers were entitled to publish the allegations objected to. They would have been published as a matter of genuine public interest, with no intention of injuring or insulting Mr Kruger, and without malicious intent."

The hearing is continuing

Beeld ²²⁵⁹
RDM 31/3/77

reporter cleared in court

Staff Reporter

A SPRINGS magistrate ruled yesterday that a Beeld reporter could not have identified to police her informant on the Smit murders because she did not know his name

Miss Ingrid Pepler, 25, a crime reporter, was summonsed to appear before Mr F D Nel at the Springs Magistrate's Court yesterday in terms of Section 205 of Act 51 of 1977

Explaining why she had refused to give information to the police, Miss Pepler told the magistrate a man had phoned her anonymously in connection with the Smit murders

He had agreed to put her in touch with a mercenary whom he claimed knew about the murders, on condition that he (her contact) did not reveal his identity

Miss Pepler said he gave her a description of himself. She agreed to meet him at the Crest Hotel's reception counter and he would then give her the information

Miss Pepler had written the information in a memo to her editor

The magistrate said: "You knew that a lot of the stories about the Smit murders in newspapers were wild tales?"

Miss Pepler "Yes "

Mr Nel "You also know that if you get valuable information you must be able to follow it up?"

Miss Pepler "Yes "

Mr Nel "You also know that before your news editor can publish information he would like to know where you got it from Why did you not get this source's name?"

Miss Pepler repeated that the agreement with her contact was that he would give her any information if he remained anonymous

She said. "Newspapers cannot exist without informants Just as the police cannot do without them

" this man phoned

Miss Pepler "Yes."

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Miss Pepler repeated that the agreement with her contact was that he would give her any information if he remained anonymous.

She said "Newspapers cannot exist without informants Just as the police cannot do without them

"When this man phoned me, I decided to see him personally. He said he had arranged for me to interview the mercenary but would not give me any information if he was to reveal his identity

"Therefore I would like to make it quite clear that I am not trying to keep back information and that I talk the truth if I say his name is not known to me," Miss Pepler said

Mr Nel said the court had to decide whether she had refused to divulge information As she had not known her informant's name, she had not been in a position to refuse this information to the police

Erasmus Commission: Be patient

THE secretary to the Erasmus Commission, Mr Johan Geysler, would not comment yesterday when asked why only four Ministers had been called to give evidence on possible Cabinet involvement in the establishment and funding of The Citizen.

The commission report will go to the State President today and is expected to be tabled in Parliament early next week.

Asked why civil servants named by Dr Eschel Rhoodie, former Secretary for Information, as knowing of Senator Horwood's presence at meetings at which secret info projects were discussed, had not been recalled or examined, Mr Geysler said: "You must use patience and wait until you receive the report."

Mr Justice Rudolph Erasmus was not available for comment, he said.

Mr Geysler had said on Thursday that only the Prime Minister, Mr P.W. Botha, the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of Plural Relations and Development and Mr Henne Smit, Minister of Coloured Relations, had testified.

Dr Connie Mulder, the former Minister of Information, was not recalled by the commission. He has claimed that both former Prime Minister, Mr B.J. Vorster, and Senator Horwood knew of The Citizen project.

Mr Botha has offered to resign and hold a general election if the Erasmus Commission proves any member of his Cabinet knew about the funding of The Citizen.

Report by Brian O'Flaherty, 171 Main Street Johannesburg

Smit killed to hush up gold shipments—claim

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31/3/79
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A claim that Dr Robert Smit was investigating reports of illegal gold shipments from South Africa when he was killed has been published by the influential American magazine Newsweek.

"Some claim Smit was murdered because he was about to expose the Information Ministry's illegal shipments of gold bullion out of the country to finance its influence-buying campaign," Anthony Simpson said in Newsweek's cover story entitled "Pretoria's Scandal"

● Dr Rhodie said his agents financed the ruling party in SWA/Namibia and set up an off-shore radio station to broadcast bogus reports about guerilla activity

● General Hendrik van den Bergh boasted of his continuing connections with the American Central Intelligence Agency

● Dr Rhodie, Dr Mulder and the general meeting on their farms, played host to visiting black ministers, American oilmen or intelligence agents "with a casualness that often amazed their guests"

● In Britain Dr Rhodie made use of Mr David Abrahamson, who tried to take over two financial papers through which he hoped to stimulate sales of South African gold.

Commenting on Dr Smit's alleged investigation General J F Kleinhaus, chief of the "CIB" said the police had no proof of this allegation

"This is pure speculation. It has been given as one of the many motives for the killing but we have no proof," he said

He claimed the violations of South Africa's exchange controls were attracting increasing interest from officials and politicians who saw signs of Government rackets. One of them was Dr Smit, South Africa's representative with the International Monetary Fund, who was murdered with his wife in November 1977

"The long trails of the South African influence-buying scandal are now leading not only to the darkest corners of South African politics and the ruling Afrikaner National Party, but throughout the Western world

"They threaten to involve newspapers, politicians, businessmen — even hired killers — in America and Europe in the web of plans to buy secret support for South Africa's apartheid policies."

The report also made the following claims

AGENTS

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