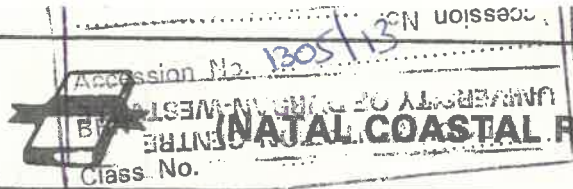


THE BLACK SASH



Repression Monitoring Group BULLETIN 32: NOVEMBER 1 - 15 1991

DEATHS - NATAL COASTAL REGION: 31		MIDLANDS: 9	
<u>NORTH</u>		<u>SOUTH</u>	
Mashana (Empangeni) 2		Folweni 12	Edendale 1
		Umbumbulu 8	Estcourt 2
		Umlazi 9	Magoda 4
			Richmond 1
			Table Mt. 1
TOTAL - (NOV 1-15): 40			
NATAL TOTAL YEAR-TO-DATE: 1128			

Peace Accord

A lack of confidence in the police continues to be a major obstacle in implementing the September 14 Peace Accord.

Although the unrest has not been solely limited to KwaZulu areas, several of the recent flashpoints fall under KwaZulu jurisdiction, including: Umbumbulu, Folweni, KwaMashu K section, Njobokazi, Umlazi and Malukazi.

Importantly, in each of these cases of unrest, there are both allegations by residents of involvement by KwaZulu police members and dissatisfaction with progress of investigations into the unrest.

K section KwaMashu

Members of the amaSinyora gang in K section continue to evade prosecution for committing previous and ongoing criminal acts.

The joint SAP-ZP investigation launched in July into the amaSinyora-related cases of K section KwaMashu has resulted in one case docket involving 6 people on charges of theft and malicious injury to property.

Between Jan 1989 to December 1990, 291 criminal incidents were reported. In 1990 SAP General Coetzee was handed a list of 62 known gang members. At that time he said no action could be taken as the area fell under KwaZulu jurisdiction.

The gang has allegedly burnt 400 homes and killed 100 people in K section. Most targets were ANC/UDF-aligned people, yet all who refused to comply with intimidation tactics also became targets.

The joint investigation was sparked by an expose in late July following the detailed confession of one gang member. His affidavit alleged:

- the gang was trained by an SADF member in warfare methods and building home-made guns to be used against ANC supporters;
- guns and ammunition were supplied by members of the SADF, KwaZulu police and IFP leaders from Lindelani and Umlazi;
- individuals who were members or former members of the SAP and ZP had assisted in attacks with the gang.

Residents from the area continue to report shootings, attacks and intimidation by known amaSinyora members. Residents report that the criminal acts are carried out with the alleged support - through action or negligent inaction - of the KwaZulu police. As many in the community have lost confidence in the police to investigate, and fear that they might become targets by coming forward with information, residents rarely report these incidents to the police.

Focus on Umbumbulu

At least 20 people were killed in the Umbumbulu-Folweni area south of Durban in the last two weeks.

Two people were killed when an anti-VAT march on November 5 was attacked by Inkatha supporters from Folweni Reserve. Five days later, 8 people were killed in another attack by people from Folweni Reserve.

Residents no longer report incidents of unrest to the local KwaZulu police due to repeated allegations of ZP members and 'camouflaged men' involved in attacks. Residents are also dissatisfied with the progress of investigations by the ZP into the ongoing unrest.

Focus on Port Shepstone

No deaths were recorded in the last two weeks from the Port Shepstone area - where 200 people have been killed so far this year. There has been a 71% decline in deaths since September 1 as compared to the 10-week period preceding September.

Local monitors attribute the decline to several factors:

- *an increase in arrests and charges laid against known perpetrators of violence. Observers say that publicly punishing perpetrators is acting as a deterrent;*
- *most areas have either been 'won' or 'lost' by the ANC or IFP. This means that few conflicts for dominance in certain areas persist.*
- *former sites of brutal clashes have been completely abandoned. Large numbers of people are still displaced from their homes - most of which are now looted, damaged and robbed of livestock.*
- *local peace initiatives involving the ANC, the IFP, the SAP and the business community have facilitated greater understanding between these groups. Perhaps more importantly, these interactions have put a spotlight on the police action - who were accused by both the ANC and the IFP of fuelling unrest. Local observers report that the police appear to be acting more accountable and responsible.*

However, local observers report that Murchison residents continue to be forced to attend Inkatha-run nightly 'camps', and many people are still unable to return to their homes.

Midlands

RICHMOND

A consumer boycott was called by the local ANC in response to several refusals of permission to march in Richmond. Other issues surrounding the boycott include: 1) resentment by the ANC of local whites' refusal to consider Richmond and the surrounding areas as one area, and 2) the demand that IFP-supporting Chief Majozi be removed from Ndaleni.

The ANC has only targeted white-owned shops in the boycott, causing Indian-owned shops to be boycotted by whites in revenge. Local whites are publicly heavily armed in Richmond, and allegations were made of their involvement in the killing of 4 people on November 13.

The commercial media can be commended for giving consistent and detailed coverage to the crisis - although this is undoubtedly due to the 'white angle' of the recent tensions.

IMBALI

Tensions are high in Imbali, where clashes between ANC-supporters and a well-known gang continue. Local observers report that the SAP, by failing to take steps to prosecute known perpetrators of criminal acts, are fuelling the tensions.

MAQONGQO (Table Mountain)

Peace talks continue between ANC and IFP supporters, and some of the thousands that have fled the area have begun to return.

An Inkatha member was shot dead, allegedly because he had been perceived as supporting the ANC.

This bulletin is a compilation of information from press clippings from 6 Natal newspapers, 8 unrest monitors in Natal, police unrest reports and follow-ups with journalists, lawyers, and residents of the affected communities. For more information, please contact: Repression Monitoring Group, Black Sash, 27 Ecumenical Centre, 20 St. Andrew's Street, Durban 4001, Tel (031) 3055730, Fax (031) 3016611.