



Repression Monitoring Group

BULLETIN 29: SEPTEMBER 16 - 30 1991

DEATHS - NATAL COASTAL REGION: 27
MIDLANDS: 10
NORTH

Magwaveni 4
Mbhayl 1
Sundumbill 2

SOUTH

KwaMakhutha 2
Qinabout 1
Malukazi/Umlazi 4
Umbumbulu 10

Bruntville 2
Imball 1
Ixopo 1
Ndaleni 6

CENTRAL

Njobokazi 3

Sawpit 1
Ogwagini 1
Mphusheni 8

TOTAL - (SEPT 16 - 30): 37 ALL SEPT: 65
NATAL TOTAL YEAR-TO-DATE: 954

Peace Accord

The September 14 Peace Accord had little effect of curbing unrest in Natal. Clashes between IFP and ANC supporters continued, as did harassment and assaults by members of the security forces. Although the death toll for September was 35% less than the deaths tolls of July and August, incidents of assault, arson and intimidation showed no decline.

SHAKA'S DAY

Shaka's Day celebrations in Stanger, Gamalakhe, Enhlalakahle and Eshowe proceeded peacefully despite fears that clashes would erupt. Fewer spears and battle axes were noted at the celebrations in comparison to recent functions largely attended by Inkatha supporters.

Both Chief Minister Buthelezi and King Zwelithini made strong calls for peace in their speeches. However, on two occasions, there was harsh vilification of individuals during the Zulu versions of speeches and the praising of the King. In Gamalakhe, ANC zonal committee member Vusi Mhlongwa was called insulting names by the King; in Enhlalakahle, local ANC chair Solomon Mzolo was also singled out and insulted during the praising of the King. This type of vilification contravenes the Peace Accord.

The Enhlalakahle ANC branch booked the intended venue for the Shaka's Day celebrations after realising the IFP had failed to do so. This action was contrary to the spirit of the Peace Accord's Code of Conduct.

Walking to the Eshowe Shaka's Day celebration, 300 IFP supporters in Sundumbili began insulting a group of ANC supporters. Clashes broke out and 2 ANC members were injured.

The Gamalakhe celebration was jointly monitored by the security forces and an ANC team equipped with two-way radios throughout the township. Although some tensions arose between the ANC and the local security forces, all viewed the operation as a positive step forward towards improved cooperation.

PRESS

Press coverage of the Accord and the Shaka's Day rallies has been informative and in the spirit of peace, with one exception. A full-page *Ilanga* opinion lashed out at the Peace Accord, stating that 'a large number of IFP supporters at grassroots level do not support the signing of the (Peace) Accord,' and that IFP members 'are convinced that the monitoring structures envisaged by the National Peace Accord will become recruitment mechanisms for the ANC and that violence will flow from them.'

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.

Focus on Umbumbulu

Unrest continues to plague the rural reserve areas in Umbumbulu.

On September 22, a group of men dressed in camouflage went to five different homes in Mphusheni and shot 7 ANC supporters dead in the back of the head. The deceased include a 14-year old boy who was shot in front of his mother.

Several weeks ago, an open letter was circulated in Mphusheni stating that all 'comrades' had 4 days to leave the area. One of the deceased, Reverend Bhekani Mntambo, had recently handed this letter to Amanzimtoti Police.

In addition to 10 killings in September, reports have been received since August of at least 8 people injured in attacks, more than 30 homes destroyed, chickens and cattle of 7 families stolen, and excessive intimidation. Residents report that more than 120 homes have been deserted since August.

Since Umbumbulu falls under the KwaZulu Police, who do not send daily unrest reports to the press, this ongoing violence has continued unreported.

Residents report intimidation by known groups of men. These allegations include:

- * being forced to pay R20 per household, allegedly for muthi;
- * forced attendance of all males above the age of 8 to attend nightly 'camps'. Those refusing or unable to attend are fined R100 per person;
- * people who fled from violence in previous years who now want to return must pay R3000 to local 'warlords'. One person was reportedly killed for paying only R2000.

Courts Update

The inquest into the assassination of Chief Mhlabunzima Maphumulo is adjourned until October 21 after three weeks of testimony by key witness Siphso Madlala. His testimony revealed the following:

- * Madlala was part of a SADF Military Intelligence-operated 'hit squad' involved in Maphumulo's assassination;
- * this 'hit squad' was involved in several operations in the Durban/Pietermaritzburg area since 1987, often along with the SAP Security police or the KwaZulu police;
- * a 2-page 'hit list' existed, which included Harry Gwala and Alfred Ndlovu. Madlala's reference to a prominent ANC leader in Mooi River that was assassinated has led many to believe that Derrick Majola was assassinated by this 'hit squad.'

SAP constable Lucky James Mntambo requested protection by the court after reporting his involvement in attacks on Maphumulo's home and people in his car prior to his assassination.

Rightwingers Piet Botha and Adriaan Smuts were sentenced to death seven times each for the massacre of black bus passengers in KwaMashu in October 1990. Their co-accused, Eugene Marais, has already been handed the same sentence.

Four senior SAP members along with one senior Inkatha official have been implicated in staging the massacre of 11 people at Trust Feed three years ago. Allegations point to five special constables who were selected by the SAP members to carry out the execution.

SAP Sergeant Joseph Kabanyane was paid R3000 by KwaZulu Minister of Police Mangosuthu Buthelezi in an out of court settlement. Kabanyane alleged he had been assaulted by members of the KwaZulu Police in April 1990. This brings such out of court payouts by the KwaZulu Police to individuals to R38 500.

In an out of court settlement, the township manager and superintendent of Madadeni were barred from denying access to the town hall by the ANC, the ANC Youth League, Cosas and other organisations.

Focus on Ndaleni

Three IFP supporters driving in Chief Patrick Majozi's kombi were killed on September 19. Three ANC supporters were killed in a subsequent retaliatory attack.

Several other reports of attacks on IFP members in Ndaleni have been received. A September 25 attack on the home of late IFP leader Ndodi Thusi left several injured, including a KwaZulu policeman who was guarding Thusi's home.

Security Forces

A Mpumalanga resident was shot dead when he opened his door after hearing knocking at 4am on August 28.

When a neighbour opened his door, several white SAP members were pointing guns at him. After searching him, they sat him down next the corpse of his neighbour, handed him a homemade gun, and told him he owned the gun. After a few hours he was taken to the KwaZulu police station, detained for two days, and charged for illegal possession of a firearm.

A Wembezi IFP member was reportedly forced by SADF members to remove his pants because they resembled those of an SADF uniform.

The KwaZulu police have reported attacks on their members and vehicles in KwaMashu, Umlazi, and Umbumbulu.