

# BAOBAB NOTES



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## Mozambique Peace Talks Continue: Second Protocol Signed

On November 13, 1991 in Rome, Italy the Government of Mozambique and RENAMO signed a second protocol on "Criteria and Modalities for Forming and Recognizing Political Parties." The principal points in the protocol upon which the Government and the RENAMO delegation agreed are that: (1) political parties are an expression of the multi-party democracy which all parties seek; (2) all political parties must be registered, must pursue national not divisive ends and will have access to public facilities and some funds so as to disseminate their policies; (3) following the signing of a general peace agreement RENAMO "will begin its activities as a political party" provided that it complies with all legal requirements of the Registration and Political Parties law.

Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi commented that "the signing of the second protocol means that it is possible to obtain a general cease fire before the end of the year." (Mozambique Solidarity Office 11/91)

## South Africa and Israel Tested Nuclear Bomb

Fresh evidence of South African-Israeli collaboration in testing nuclear bombs has emerged in a new book, *The Samson Option*, by Seymour Hersh. According to Hersh, former Israeli government officials confirmed that on September 22, 1979 the Israeli and South African defence forces were involved in neutron bomb tests in the south Indian Ocean. (Weekly Mail 11/1/91)

## SWAPO Holds First Congress

The first full-scale SWAPO congress in Namibia will be on December 7-10 and is expected to attract 1,000 delegates. In line with a central committee decision, one third of the regional delegates will be women. (SouthScan 11/8/91)

### It Is Night

--James Matthews

It is night  
it has long been night  
in the hearts of mothers  
who have seen their fruit  
thrust back into the soil

It is night and the darkness covers  
the shame in the eyes  
of fathers with crushed spirits  
who stand like clipped trees  
stripped of proud foliage

It is night and children stir restlessly  
under night's ebony cover  
the torment that grips them  
shapes their limbs into  
patterns of foreboding

Night will pass  
and mothers accept their pain  
as the shame of fathers  
will be hidden from sight  
but the children will greet dawn  
with a fire of their own

from: *Somehow We Survive*,  
ed. by Sterling Plump

## ANC Hires U.S. Lobbyist

The ANC is to pay an estimated \$200,000 a year to former Congressman Walter Fauntroy's new public affair consulting firm, Fauntroy and Associates, to lobby and raise funds on its behalf in the U.S. (SouthScan 11/8/91)



## Armcor Weapons Deals with U.S., Iraq, Israel and Irish Rightwing

A federal grand jury has indicted South Africa's Armcor and International Signal and Control Corp. (ISC) in Pennsylvania in a massive conspiracy to smuggle U.S. weapons and technology to South Africa. ISC is also charged with providing Armcor with the drawings and technical data to produce a U.S. 40 mm grenade. U.S. intelligence officials have denied ISC's suggestion that the operations were tolerated and allowed to continue for almost ten years without hindrance from authorities. (SouthScan 11/8/91)

Further revelations about covert Armcor deals include:

- A Jordanian arms dealer and major client of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) was the intermediary involved in an attempted \$10 million sale of uranium from South Africa to Iraq. A report in the British Financial Times quoted U.S. law enforcement officials as saying they had "good reason to believe" that some U.S. ballistic missile equipment, shipped illegally to South Africa between 1984 and 1988, was sent to Iraq.

- The U.S. government has confirmed Israel's involvement in the illegal ballistic missile component and technology transfer to South Africa. Administration officials have denied that the decision not to implement similar sanctions against Israel was tied to the Middle East Peace conference in Madrid.

- Three Northern Ireland Protestant extremists and an American arms dealer were convicted in France for trying to sell a British anti-aircraft missile to a South African diplomat in 1989. (Weekly Mail 11/1/91)

## Mozambican Environmental Strategy

After a week-long national conference the Mozambique government has decided to draft a national strategy to protect Mozambique's environment. The strategy will be unveiled at the 1992 World Earth Summit Conference in Brazil. (Mozambique Solidarity Office 11/91)

## UNITA 'Hiding Arms'

The leader of the Angolan Democratic Party has accused UNITA of hiding a large quantity of arms in Luanda in an attempt to seize political power by force. (SouthScan 11/8/91)

## NATO, SADF, MK Together In Military Think-tank

A conference on regional security is expected to take place which would include officers of the ANC's Umkonto weSizwe (MK) army, 'homeland' military commands, NATO, the Namibian government and a delegation from the South African Defense Force (SADF).

The meeting is convened by the newly-formed Defense Institute of South Africa (DISA), a nominally independent forum for defense policy which functions as a lobbyist for the military establishment and South Africa's armaments industry. (SouthScan 11/8/91)

## Belgian and CAR Mercenaries Sent to Zaire

A small group of high ranking Belgian military officers, acting without the knowledge of the Belgian army or government, have set up a network to send mercenaries to Zaire to protect private company property. Meanwhile, President Mobutu has recruited ethnically-related soldiers from the Central African Republic for his Special Presidential Division and the Civil Guard. (SouthScan 11/8/91)

## Two More Political Parties Emerge in Mozambique

The Mozambique People's Progress Party (PPPM) and the National Convergence Party (PCN) were both launched in late August in Maputo. The PCN includes amongst its leadership Luterus Simango, son of Reverend Uria Simango, former Deputy President of FRELIMO, who betrayed the liberation struggle in 1969 and was allegedly involved in the death of Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, founder of FRELIMO. The leader of PPPM, Padimbe Kamate, "helped found RENAMO in the mid-1970's, but left shortly afterwards because he was a Mozambican national." (MSO, 11/91)

## AIDS and Africa: Calamitous Figures

The World Health Organization (WHO) currently estimates that nearly 6,000,000 African adults are HIV positive of whom 800,000 have developed AIDS. Projecting to the year 2000 WHO sees 30,000,000 adult HIV persons, most of whom will be in sub-Saharan African or Southeast Asia. (SARDC Reports 10/23/91)