which represented me at the time. I felt it was now time for me to tell South Africans that the SADF itself played a role in the present availability of AK-47s."

"I only know what went on for 15 months until my arrest in 1983. I don't know what happened afterwards, nor whether there were other supply drops."

Last night an SADF spokesman commented "This is an old story. It is ridiculous to insinuate that the Defence Force is responsible for the presence of AK-47 rifles in residential areas in South Africa."

"This is Mr Hunter's opinion, based on so-called information prior to 1983 – eight years ago – and is designed to draw attention away from organisations in the country."

"Furthermore, they are merely more of the same kind of allegations which have been bandied about by a variety of disgruntled individuals and organisations who for reasons of their own, are trying to use the media to further their own ends and discredit the security forces."