

THE INDEPENDENT PAPER FOR  
A CHANGING SOUTH AFRICA

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## From the people who brought you Renamo

**T**HE full story of the activities of South Africa's Military Intelligence has yet to be told. What is already on record turns the stomach.

In Mozambique, MI's special forces trained and ran Renamo, an organisation that murdered tens of thousands of people, often with unspeakable brutality, and laid waste an entire country.

They trained and backed the Unita movement in Angola, the site of one of Africa's bloodiest and most economically ruinous wars.

MI ran the Civil Co-operation Bureau which focused its sights on anti-apartheid activists. Its depravity sank to the depths of sending operatives to hang baboon foetuses on an archbishop's door.

To this litany of horrors *The Weekly Mail* this week adds the massive backing that MI has provided for the Inkatha Freedom Party through front organisations.

Such support cannot be shrugged aside as "piffling charges", as the IFP did two weeks ago when we reported that the organisation had received police funding for a rally in January — a report now effectively confirmed by the South African Police.

We find it interesting that President FW de Klerk's office should choose to hide behind the inaccurate police claim — that it was not an Inkatha rally — to evade the need to explain why he told the world that covert funding for the IFP ended 10 months before the January rally.

There is no way IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi can claim innocence this time. Dr Louis Pasques, a senior member of the military, dispensed strategic advice at Inkatha Central Committee meetings where Buthelezi was present. Buthelezi personally met the "hit squad" trainees when they returned from their training.

We are not just talking about rallies. We are talking about politicians who do their dirty work in secret and, when found out, justify it with spurious answers, such as: "If we have received covert state funding, so be it."

It is much more. We are talking about violence on a scale that this country has never before witnessed.

We know from what they have done elsewhere what the business of MI is.

We also know that in our townships thousands of families have lost loved ones and millions have been subject to carnage and terror in their homes, on the streets, and in the trains, that not even the worst days of apartheid could match.

The random destruction has touched everyone — including many thousands of law-abiding IFP members.

We have long suspected that behind the slaughter and mayhem is a hidden hand whose aim is to derail the movement of this country towards non-racial democracy. Our motivation in publishing the revelations is not purposely to harm any political party on the eve of talks — or, in the words of the IFP, to annihilate political opponents.

There is no special timing. We are a newspaper and our business is news — news whose accuracy has been borne out.

We are not blind to the fact that delicate talks about the future of the country are in process. But we do not see how openness can harm that process.

Further revelations about the forces that are trying to destroy peace in this country by creating a mountain of corpses can, if anything, only help the negotiations.

After all, it is not *The Weekly Mail* which is attempting to annihilate its opponents.