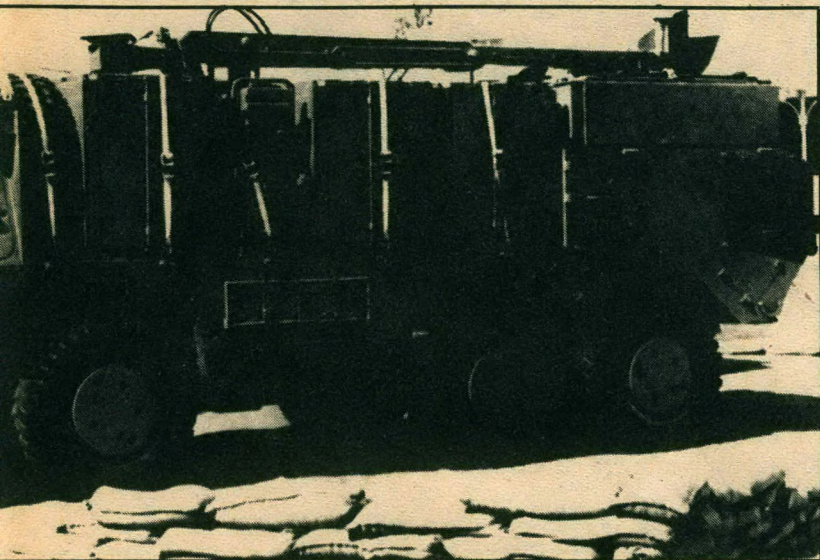


# ation



Many Armscor products developed in response to the arms boycott.

presence of such technicians: the Ratel infantry combat vehicle resembles the Belgian SIBMAS, while the Valkiri multiple rocket may have Taiwanese connections.

Submarine plans were bought from West Germany, but to build them Armscor needs new, expensive techniques.

Not only technicians need bribes; spies are also needed, and two South African diplomats have already been expelled from the USA for espionage (four more spies were caught in Britain in 1984). Where nothing else works, expensive basic research must be done.

To pay for all this, Armscor is trying to win international markets. Yet big returns are needed, so that Armscor's prices can't be too low. Many other developing countries, such as Brazil and Pakistan, are also trying to export low-technology weapons, and they

aren't under the political restraints which South Africa faces. Despite Armscor's claims, arms sales have not been enormous. Meanwhile, South African weapons are growing obsolete. A re-equipment programme is gearing up just as Armscor's costs are starting to skyrocket. This in turn will push up the already bloated defence budget — and do immense harm to the economy.

What if there were no boycott? Then South Africa could simply buy weapons, or the licenses for them, at relatively low cost. If specialised weapons were needed, South Africa could collaborate with other nations and split the development costs. But for South Africa to be saved from the cost of the boycott, there would have to be no apartheid and consequently no civil war and destabilization.

And what would Armscor do then?

## Military discipline Ons vir jou Suid-Afrika

According to the President's Council Social Affairs Committee, the majority of South African youth are degenerate. The term has been expanded to include those "who are incited to insurrection by certain radicals" and the End Conscriptio Campaign has been especially singled out for blame.

According to the President's Council, the ECC "is conducting a well-planned propaganda campaign against the SADF and SAP." Young people are the primary target of the ECC and the success that the ECC has achieved should not be underestimated. The ECC's activities are a form of undermining authority and "the trend towards reducing authoritative guidance and overemphasis on freedom could promote a lack of discipline and lead to permissiveness."

So the PC calls for the extension of military service to all races on the grounds that, through military discipline, South African youth will be enabled to "think positively and to work in the interests of South Africa." The advantages of discipline instilled during military service are extolled and the need for various communities to enjoy such advantages is stressed. In the committee's opinion, "the wide influence that the country's security forces already have should be extended further."

How does military discipline ensure dedication to the government? Over

the years, South Africa has been transformed into a state ruled by the military, from the State Security Council, which, in effect, controls the Cabinet, down to the Joint Management Centres, which have power over local authorities. The rise of the military is directly linked to the idea of the Total Onslaught (courtesy of P W Botha and Magnus Malan) which insists that South Africa is being attacked from within and without by communist foes and if you aren't prepared to be part of the battle against the Total Onslaught you must obviously be part of the enemy.

What are the "advantages" of military discipline? One of the basic aims of military discipline was to instill fear — not so much fear of the enemy as fear of one's commanding officers. In this way, marching directly into enemy fire would seem preferable to breaking one's officer's commands.

In modern society, military discipline is intended to break down the individual and his ability to think for himself and question what he is doing. The aim of such discipline is the creation of an automaton — someone who'll be able to continue fighting despite the dangers or the moral issues at stake. An ex-conscript had this to say about his basic training in the SADF: "They cut you loose from civilian life, disorient you, break you down, and then reconstruct you as a soldier."

It can be seen that military discipline is essentially something alien and artificial: imposed from above on an individual, seeking to twist him psychologically and break him down emotionally and morally. It can be contrasted with self-discipline, something that comes from within and is an expression of an individual's moral beliefs. Self-discipline is viable in a military sense; for example, in the POUM militia in Catalonia during the Spanish Civil War, decisions were taken by all the soldiers together and individuals felt free to challenge their superiors' orders if they felt that they were not viable. Self-discipline is manifested in the functioning of most guerrilla armies. Operating in small groups, far from their home bases and commanding officers, it is above all a personal sense of discipline that keeps them going.

Finally, there is the self-discipline of political activists, which the PC brands as "degeneracy", "permissiveness" and even "immorality". As far as the PC is concerned, the only solution seems to be to break down, in the crudest possible way, an individual's ability to question and challenge. Only then will the absurd philosophies of the Nationalist government be accepted — or enforced on those who don't accept by the newly enlarged army of apartheid.

## depends on justice

by Margaret Nash

population in the world, while 56 percent of all households receive less than R400 per month and 40 percent receive less than the minimum subsistence level of R280 per month.

Comparative explosive nuclear energy

	kilotons
Chernobyl	less than 0.1
Hiroshima bomb	15
1 megaton bomb	1 000
MX missile	5 000
World War II nuclear weapons stockpile	6 000
	16 000 000

Global relations and human attitudes are distorted by the war psychosis between the two "Great Powers", the USA and the USSR. Between them they have only 11 percent of the world's population, yet they account for 23 percent of the world's armed forces, 60 percent of the military expenditure, 80 percent of the weapons research and 97 percent of all nuclear warheads and bombs.

The roots of their mutual distrust bear bitter fruit: the rest of the world is also caught up in the arms race. Military expenditure in constant prices has increased sixfold since 1960; arms imports during 1975 - 1985 amounted to 40 percent of the increase in their foreign debt; and most developing lands

are head over heels in debt or scraping along from crisis to crisis.

This inversion of priorities — military might at the cost of human well-being — is due primarily to a concept of national security which regards force as the foundation of authority. From a democratic standpoint security of the state is a legitimate concept in respect of territorial integrity, stable government and basic human rights of all citizens. Such security depends on popular sovereignty as the cornerstone of state authority. The state's monopoly of force must be limited by a framework of principles that uphold the dignity of human beings and ethical values. Change regulated by law is normal: threat is defined as unlawful use of force. There are clear limits on the role of the military. Principles like these are embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and its Declaration of Human Rights.

But the world of the "United Nations" is anything but united. There are massive gaps between ideologies and — as in South Africa — between haves and have-nots. The west adheres to "free enterprise" in which profit and the accumulation of capital through appropriation (or expropriation) of resources, use of wage labour and control of the means of production are pre-eminent. The east is characterised by varieties of socialist

ideology. Third World countries are enmeshed in east-west conflicts and exist in uneasy relationships with the powers. Wars abound; in this century there have been ten times the number of casualties as in the nineteenth century.

However, the overwhelmingly destructive capacity of modern weaponry results in the problem of "powerless power": in an east-west war there would be only losers and death. Because of this, national security strategists have found alternative ways of waging war through subversion — the people become the enemy of the state, and in turn counter insurgency takes priority over all else.

This is the total onslaught and total strategy subscribed to by P W Botha and his State Security Council, with its national security management system. The enemy is both internal and global, so warfare is total (economic, financial, political, psychological and scientific) and worldwide, indivisible and permanent.

The militaristic regime must rely on repression to contain the conflicts it cannot resolve. The self-destructive logic of such repressive-militaristic security is painfully evident in a film like "The Official Version" (about Argentina under the generals).



Dr Margaret Nash

What is the alternative, for us in South Africa and for anti-militarists in other parts of the world? It seems utopian to campaign for security based on justice, so that we can have a society and a world without war. It is the vision of the Old Testament prophets, of the Christian gospels and of the Greek humanist tradition.

But if we pursue "government by bayonet" and the Star Wars path, what basis of hope is there? The awesome technology of death on which the global great powers and their militarist camp followers depend are ultimately not under their control. They have no way of

ensuring that it will not be unleashed by desperate antagonists prepared to risk apocalypse.

The other risk — of stretching out our hands to our brothers and sisters and working with them for a just democratic, non-racial South Africa, in a world society seeking to live as a family — offers no guarantee of success. But as a goal it makes more sense. It integrates past experience of dependence on others as the very basis of life with present possibilities of interdependence and sharing, and with future hopes of generating new life. That is why I reject gun-based security and work for just peace.



# Call-up Crises

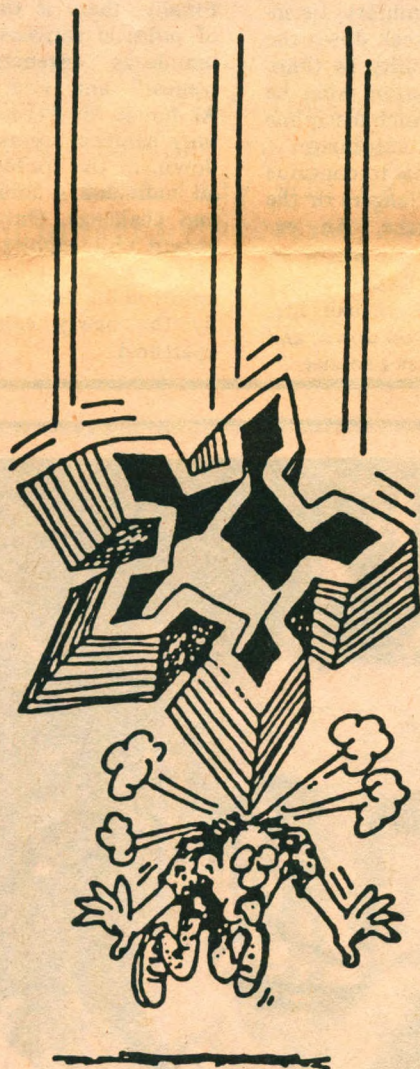
## CONSCRIPTS' RIGHTS

Military service, and basic training in particular, is a time when one usually feels utterly in the power of the army powers that be, with no rights and no protection.

However, soldiers do have some rights, and these are contained in various South African Defence Force Orders (SADFO's). Some of these are:

- Physical training as a form of punishment is forbidden (SADFO 1/6/81)
- Group punishment when only one or more members of the group has erred is forbidden (SADFO 1/6/81).
- Extra drill may not last longer than an hour a day, must be given by an authorised instructor in accordance with the SADF Drill Procedures, and may not continue for longer than 15 minutes without a break. The break must last at least 30 seconds (SADFO 1/6/81)
- Foul language is forbidden (SADFO 1/6/81)
- Threatening physical contact is forbidden (SADFO 1/6/81)
- Initiation of any form is forbidden (SADFO 1/6/81)
- Transport must be provided for attendance at church services or youth activities if these take place outside the camp. No authority is required for such transport, within a radius of 32km of the camp (SADFO 1/21/78)

Copies of SADFOs are obtainable from most chaplains.



Do you have any call-up headaches?

## CONSCRIPTION ADVICE SERVICE

Our service can help you with information about your legal rights, your alternatives and the Board for Religious Objection. We can also refer you to lawyers, psychologists or ministers of religions.

OUR ADVICE IS FREE. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!  
GET IN TOUCH WITH US THROUGH:

Anton 6502827 (w)

David 6851031 (h)

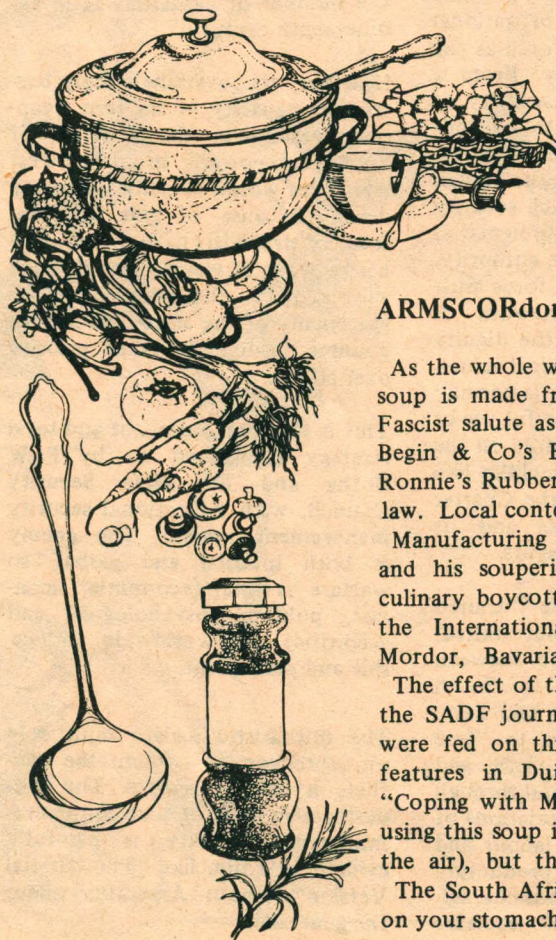


At the 1985 summit of the Organisation of African Unity, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) presented a memorandum outlining estimated costs of South Africa's destabilisation of its neighbours:

(Figures in US dollars)

<b>Direct war damage:</b> Caused by major attacks, and to the region's transport system - railway lines sabotaged, bridges destroyed, locomotives and wagons damaged, etc. Most of this relates to Angola and Mozambique.	1610m
<b>Extra military expenditure:</b> S.A. aggression has forced SADCC states to step up military budgets for armies and people's militias.	3060m
<b>Higher Transport and Energy Costs:</b> Because the region's railways have been a particular target, Angola and Mozambique have lost revenue and the landlocked states have had to pay higher transport costs. Sabotage of power lines and oil installations have forced states to use more expensive fuel.	970m
<b>Lost exports and Tourism:</b> Through the breakdown of transport links, the raid on the Luanda oil refinery, attacks preventing production of crops and cement for export in Mozambique and through destabilisation's adverse effect on tourism.	230m
<b>Smuggling:</b> Diamonds, semi-precious stones, ivory from more than 10 000 elephants and timber are smuggled to and sold by South African firms.	190m
<b>Refugees:</b> In some areas South African and related bandit groups have cut off relief to drought victims and thus made them war victims. The cost of the tens of thousands of refugees to the SADCC states is estimated at	660m
<b>Reduced production:</b> Lost exports, a fall in agricultural and industrial production for local consumption and the delay of development projects, among other things, have deprived the SADCC states of an estimated	800m
<b>Lost economic growth:</b> A lack of investment in development projects has slowed economic growth to a very great extent. This lack is caused by increased military budgets and the need to repair damage, among other things. If all this money could have been productively invested, the SADCC countries would have earned an estimated	2000m
<b>Boycotts and embargoes:</b> Most SADCC cargo passes through South Africa and has been embargoed at times when South Africa has wanted to apply additional pressure on its neighbours. South Africa's boycott of Maputo (a natural port for goods from the Transvaal) has lost much revenue for Mozambique.	260m
<b>Trading arrangements:</b> The SADCC states which have trading arrangements with South Africa have gained revenue from them but have also lost through higher fuel costs and loss of industry. On balance, over the last 5 years, they have lost at least	340m
<b>Total costs of destabilisation to SADCC countries:</b>	<u>10 120m</u>

(From: S A Barometer Vol 1 No 4)



## Recipes for National Security

### ARMSCORDon Blah

As the whole world knows, South Africa is a regional superpower. The soup is made from Pinochet beans (which not only jump but give the Fascist salute as well), bamboo shots (invented by Commandant Marais), Begin & Co's Begev lox (also invented by Commandant Marais) and Ronnie's Rubber Jellybeans (invented by Commandant Marais' mother-in-law. Local content is thus 100%

Manufacturing details are secret, known only to the Commander-in-Chef and his superiors. International Communism has tried to enforce a culinary boycott, but this soup recently made a huge breakthrough. At the International Wasting-Money-on-Guns-and-Uniforms Exposition in Mordor, Bavaria, it won third place in the Cleaning Fluid Section.

The effect of this soup on unit morale is indisputable. As mentioned in the SADF journal Flatus, 200 members of 13 Reluctant Rifle Regiment were fed on this soup for a month without ill effects. (13 RRR also features in Duimskroef, the Military Police magazine, in the article "Coping with Mass Desertion".) Impressive results have been produced using this soup in various townships (both door-to-door and dropped from the air), but these are confidential in terms of emergency regulations.

The South African Army marches on its stomach. If you want to march on your stomach, then this soup is for you.



# "SADF out!" say Namibians

Anton Lubowski, a prominent Windhoek advocate, was the first white Namibian to publicly announce his membership of SWAPO in 1984. He is also the National Treasurer and press spokesperson for the National Union of Namibian Workers (NUNW). He was in Cape Town recently and was interviewed by OUT OF STEP.

**OOS:** Since the SADF's invasion of Sebokeng in 1984, South Africa's townships have come to be regarded as the "border" in an escalating civil war. But what is the situation in the "old" border area of Northern Namibia?

**AL:** The situation on the Namibian border between Namibia and Angola is very tense at the moment. Namibia has been under a state of emergency now for more than ten years. The troop build-up in the northern part of Namibia is quite intense. We, that is SWAPO, conservatively estimate at the moment that the SADF has approximately 100 000 troops stationed in Namibia, which makes it today the most intensified military area in the world. With a total Namibian population, after the last census, of 1,2 million, this means 1 soldier for every 12 people. In the northern part of the country where just over 50 percent of the population reside, the intensity is almost 1 to 6. South Africa is, at the moment, permanently in the southern part of Angola, supporting UNITA, the troops of Savimbi. There is in fact very little difference between UNITA and the SADF at the moment - it has always been like that. The SADF has given figures that of all the troops in Namibia, 60 percent are South West African Territorial Force (SWATF), ie: Namibian citizens. I don't believe that, but even if it is true, SWATF

would not be able to exist without the financial commitment of South Africa. The distinction between SWATF and the SADF is merely a propaganda ploy by the SA government. There is absolutely no difference at all - apart from cosmetic details like certain uniforms. SA is currently pumping over R2 million per day into Namibia, to keep its troops in the northern parts. As I said the situation is very tense. A lot of atrocities are being committed by the SADF. Recently an incident occurred where a Casspir drove right over a rural hut, in which there was a pregnant woman with her other baby. One of the wheels of the Casspir went over the pelvis of the pregnant woman, and another wheel went over the head of her two-year old child.

The attacks by SWAPO, through the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), have also intensified and will continue to do so. This is the reason for the troop build-up by South Africa at the moment.

**OOS:** Is there widespread support for the SADF in Namibia, or is there much resistance within the population?

**AL:** SWAPO would never have been able to sustain the armed struggle for the last two decades without the support of the local population. The local population basically support SWAPO to the full. Of course, there is a lot of intimidation by the SADF, but the spirit of the people is high. In fact, recently there was a public meeting held in Oshakati, which is probably the biggest military base in the southern hemisphere, where about fifteen thousand people (a lot for Namibia) called unanimously for the withdrawal of the SADF. The people don't want them there. They want them to go. There is an almost universal demand for the implementation of United Nations

Resolution 435, the internationally accepted peace plan for Namibia. This calls for free and democratic elections under international supervision leading to a constituent assembly which will then lead to Namibian independence. So there is an absolute demand that SA should withdraw.

**OOS:** What process of conscription applies in Namibia today?

**AL:** There is across-the-board military conscription for whites - the same as in South Africa; and there is selective conscription for people other than white. What this means is that they buy, or co-opt, school principals, or at least those who can be bought, who then give them names of students who might be susceptible to being called up. They are then called up. Secondly, there is an unbelievably high unemployment rate in Namibia. A recent survey conducted by a Catholic group, which I, being active on a grassroot level in the trade unions, personally see as being very conservative, estimated the unemployment rate in Katutura alone (the largest black area of Windhoek) to be about 43 percent. This obviously puts people at a disadvantage. It puts them in a position of great susceptibility to being co-opted into the military system. That's why you find such a thing as the SWATF.

**OOS:** What about conscientious objection?

**AL:** Mostly people have left the country. At present, approximately 80 - 90 thousand people, or about 7 percent of the total Namibian population, live in exile. At the moment, an application for exemption from military service is pending - the case of Binga. There has not yet been any reply by the Appeal Court. Binga is a SWAPO member whose brother is, in fact, fighting for SWAPO, and he has



Anton Lubowski addressing a SWAPO youth rally in Windhoek.

lodged his objection to conscription with the Appeal Court. We feel, and certainly I as a lawyer feel, that this application could go further: it could actually go to the World Court of Justice at the Hague, for the simple reason that according to the mandate that the League of Nations gave to South Africa in 1920, they are not to militarise Namibia. This means that South Africa is acting contrary to that mandate, which breach one could take to the World Court.

**OOS:** What is SWAPO's attitude to conscription?

**AL:** We totally reject conscription. At the moment, we are launching a campaign through the SWAPO Youth League to conscientize people about objection.

Of course, we don't want people to go to the army. No objector should have to go to the army.

**OOS:** What are your feelings about the future of the war in Namibia?

**AL:** Well, all I can say is that South Africa is in a no-win situation. South Africa will never be able to win that war. If it hasn't done so in the last 20 years, it won't do so in the future. Of course, we don't see the war as a solution to the Namibian problem. We want a peaceful, negotiated solution. There is a peace plan on the table. But if the armed struggle has to continue, it has to continue - until such time as South Africa gives in and is prepared to negotiate peacefully.

## Frontline states unite vs SA aggression

Since the South African government had no political answer to the guerrillas opposing it, it tried to provide a military solution instead. South Africa's neighbours were to be turned into allies of South Africa - by using guerrillas to put pressure on them. Many armies were manufactured - UNITA in Angola, "Super-ZAPU" in Zimbabwe, the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) and the Lesotho Liberation Army. These forces were supported by direct raids and economic sanctions. In March and April 1984, Mozambique and Angola signed the Nkomati Accord and the Lusaka Agreement against the ANC and SWAPO. This seemed a South African success.

But South Africa broke its side of the agreements, aiding the MNR and failing to withdraw from Angola. The frontline states saw that Pretoria couldn't be trusted and the much-touted peace collapsed. The Commonwealth's Eminent Persons Group moved in to try and avoid the wider war which had appeared on the horizon.

Behind this pacific facade, South Africa was lobbying for American aid to Unita. This was agreed on in late 1985. South Africa didn't trust the USA, but when the aid arrived in March 1986, it was clear that the day of the militarists had dawned.

The SADF struck in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana on the

19th of May 1986. Seen merely as a snub to the EPG, this was actually the first salvo in a new campaign, directed not at these countries but at their neighbours. No longer would South Africa's allies put pressure on their governments; with luck, they would become the governments.

To this end, thousands of MNR guerrillas swarmed into central Mozambique from Malawi. Mozambique would be cut in half; the MNR and Frelimo would negotiate and join forces. A pliable Mozambique would whip Zimbabwe into line and the ANC would have no bases except in vulnerable Botswana.

This plan assumed that Mozambique would prefer surrender to suffering. Yet Frelimo fought on despite a famine which (due to MNR destruction of food aid) had claimed 400 000 lives. Zimbabwe was encouraged by this stand and allowed her 10 000 troops on the Beira Corridor to take the offensive against the MNR; Tanzania did the same.

Malawi's support for the MNR posed a problem; at a Lusaka conference on October the 19th, frontline leaders reportedly discussed attacking Malawi. This

rumour, along with the indignation caused by President Machel's death in an air crash the following day, alarmed Malawi into co-operating with Frelimo, sending troops to patrol the Nacala railway line. For the first time in history, four African states were allied; South Africa's achievement was great - but not the one it had wanted. Over six months the combined armies advanced; by April the MNR had lost most of its gains and 2 200 troops; in May the MNR's headquarters at Morrumbala and in Cabo Delgado province fell. Frelimo was secure, though Mozambique was in ruins; reconstruction could begin. The MNR fell back on banditry, butchering a whole village at Homoine in late July.

After America began aiding Unita, President Dos Santos of Angola visited the USSR seeking aid. Soviet arms poured into Luanda; Fapla, the Angolan armed forces, prepared for an offensive in the dry season (ending in October). They needed such strength because South Africa was prepared to intervene against them; a successful offensive in 1985 had been smashed at Mavinga by air raids. By mid-1987 Fapla was probing Unita territory; Unita responded by claims that Fapla was using poison gas (a common claim made by American surrogates).

Meanwhile, SWAPO mounted a big rainy-season offensive in Namibia, despite a shortage of troops. It is very likely that SWAPO expects Unita to be weakened; in that case SWAPO will be able to transfer its 4 000 troops now fighting Unita and use them in Namibia; it might even regain bases in Southern Angola. Meanwhile, Angola reported that South African troops had invaded South-Western Angola. They may not have an easy task; the Angolan air force is much larger than the South African air force in Namibia, making South African raids hard to protect.

For all its apparent confidence, South Africa has not deterred the frontline states by destabilisation. Rather than bringing down the governments, destabilisation has given them legitimacy - and they have become implacable foes of Pretoria. General Malan has warned that South Africa may directly aid these "resistance" movements - but it is doubtful that the over-extended SADF can really afford to fight wars all over Africa. It seems very likely that these countries, potentially so rich and yet so ravaged by South African-sponsored violence, shall someday be free both from terrorism and from the dangers of South African military might.

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# Satire Report to the president

Geagte u edele mnr, die President, of Koning, soos u wil. As a byvoegsel (or is it aanhangsel), I would just like to bring to your aandag some of the true reasons for voorsitter Treunicht's proposals about extending the franchise. Nee donner, that's the vote. Ek's jammer, I mean the call-up. Oproep.

Ja. He said a lot of things about discipline for all youthful persons (if I may borrow Oom Pik's BBC phrase), curtailing kommunisme deur 'n bietjie diensplig, and the ECC's undermining of authority. Om die waarheid te se, this is all very lekker for the media. And we know what Nic thinks about them. Maar dis net kak - as you often say about prospects for real reform, u edelagbare majesteit.

The real reasons for the most recent brainstorm of the PC are as multifarious as they are genius materiaal. Just imagine what a universal call-up would do to reduce unemployment figures if not unemployment itself. Magtig, with numbers somewhere between 5 (vyf) and 8 (agt) miljoen our Weermag would be numerically fit to challenge the Red Army. No more headaches about those bliksems in die Noorde, or anti-government research by Labour groups (worker studies, that is, not those Representatives). Minder kans for those arbeidslose to become subverted by UDF propaganda.

And then there's the possibility for relocation/resettlement. Once part of a battalion and subject to the Military Discipline Code, tens of thousands of previously uncontrollable nie-blankes could be based



anywhere in (or out of) the Republiek and made to brasso varkpanne. Ja, let them do a bit of destabilising in Angola, Mocambique, Zambia, Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho for a change and we can focus on the Seychelles. The spin-off could even be effektiewe repatriation to the country of their great-great-grandfathers. En 'n Brandy in a pineapple for me. Miskien. Ek bedoel, then we've only got the lokasies and National Bantustans to worry about. Mind you, some of the roofies we could use in the lokasies to keep things onder beheer. And when a bit of drama occurs, Bob's your oom, - black on black violence. More aanvaarbaar than onse soldate skieting kaffirs. At least to ignorant foreign journalists. Blerrie leuenaars.

En wat nog? Wag net. Die Afrikaans faktor. You can't be in the Weermag and not be heeltemaal

tweetalig. And so we win Soweto '76 deel 2 in 1987. With a bit of Taalmonument and begripstoets, A for away with our kind of sameleving: integration through militarisation. Politiese ambisie deur R4 ammunisie. An understanding of the taal will increase the chance of all those pamflette we drop in the townships being read - before they are used as fuses in petrol bombs. Blikskottels.

Ja-nee, Pee-Wee. I mean my koninklike President. Net soos ou Nic se, only wit malles, er, males, enjoy the advantage of discipline deur diensplig. Now we can mos extend the intake to youthful persons of the "developing groups" and develop them further in the right-wing direction. Then they can take this waardelose d.w.s. invaluable influence back to their own communities and do the shack-demolitions themselves. At least

they have some knowledge of the lay-out of those gebiede. And the Casspirs can be converted into squad-cars for the sentrale business distrik, keeping those armament-crazy polisiemense happy while patrolling Loopstraat and when provoking graduate klipgooiers.

The PieCy report se eintlik that the false perception is that law en orde is being maintained and that the government is paying for the cost of donnering developing groups. Of iets van daai aard. You know that's not true, jou edelagbare ding, considering that you can hardly afford to pay me. (Onthou die 12,5 percent increase?) And if law en orde were being maintained, why would we be suggesting these drain-wave ideas? Now there's 'n goeie craag.

So genoeg argument vir die oomblik. Hopefully you compendo better than before why we should spread military discipline to all races. You had us 'n bietjie bekommerd when you said this report might be nipped in the Budd. Dis niks met atletiek te doen nie. Maar nou moet ek wragtig loop. A meeting with Nic to look into the positive influence on not-so-youthful persons of violence, assault, free sex, sex within marriage (rare in my gemeente), drugs, alcohol and Satanism (of kaal wees in die kerk). You never know what one can use in military opleiding.

Ek bly, soos ewig, joune in die Constitution (beide tale).

ALBERTUS VAN TONDERJARE  
ONDERSEKRETARIS VIR PC  
REPORTS : N.V.T.

## Grens- baasskap

Grensbasis 13 isn't a film you'd want to miss, by some accident. You'd take a lot of care to miss it, if you had more brains than a below-par flatworm, unless you were too lazy to turn the TV off. But why did SATV broadcast it? Didn't they have anything better? (What about the test pattern, or Magnus' speeches played backwards?) Or did they really think it was good?

Heroic SAP ambushed by terrorists. Heroic constable captured by terrorists. Heroic SAP slaughter terrorists but don't find captive. Heroic SAP raid bases, rescue captive, slaughter terrorists again. Dedicated to the men of the SAP who have died defending the country's borders.

Unexciting? You didn't watch it obviously. It was mindbogglingly boring. The love interests were beneath contempt, and let's not discuss the acting. But some of the concepts presented - for instance, there are no black civilians on the border. The war is between clean whites and dirty blacks; for all the reason for fighting, it might as well be on Mars as in Elmo de Witt studios. This is what makes the final dedication obscene instead of inspiring, an invitation to come and get killed.

One more piece of political content. At the end, the ANC terrorists plan a press conference where they will show the world that South Africans are forced to go to the border. The cynic would say that South Africans flee to the border - death, mutilation, anything rather than watch another Elmo de Witt picture-book-plot movie.

## When the wind blows

Take your average retired couple in Somerset West or Sydenham. Let them remember with fondness the great heroes of World War II. Let them listen to SABC radio and believe - in a somewhat muddled way - everything the government tells them. And, in order to keep abreast of the "International Situation", let the old man read The Argus, The Citizen or the Daily News without criticism or understanding.

Then throw these people slap-bang into a nuclear holocaust.

If this should prove too much for your reader to believe in or deal with, use the medium of a cartoon strip and make your characters endearingly silly.

This is precisely what Raymond Briggs has achieved for the United Kingdom in his book WHEN THE WIND BLOWS (published by Penguin). Even the normally sedate Hansard records, "This House welcomes the publication of When the Wind Blows . . . as a powerful contribution to the growing opposi-

tion to nuclear armament and hopes that it will be widely read."

But as far as this reader is concerned, it is not sufficient that the likes of Maggie Thatcher and Lord Carrington should read this book (or meditate on the penultimate page). We in South Africa ought to read it with care and insight. We need to realise

- \* that a nuclear holocaust will affect the entire planet
- \* that South Africa is a major contributor to the nuclear arms race through its production of uranium
- \* that the South African junta would consider using tactical nuclear weapons in the event of a conventional war in the region
- \* that peace in Southern Africa ought to be a prelude to the declaration of a nuclear-free zone in the region, thereby contributing along with New Zealand to a nuclear-free planet.

Thus I would whole-heartedly commend this book to anyone who still believes in the idea of a nuclear deterrent.

## Come to the cabaret



The ECC Cabaret performing at the recent ECC fete.

"We're gonna sing you this song,  
The situation at hand,  
The things we don't hear,  
The things we can't understand"

The ECC Cabaret may startle some watchers. Who would expect the Pointer Sisters' raunchy version of "Fire" to be turned into polemic? But the Venue crowd love it, jeering the militarists and cheering the activists in "I've got a boyfriend in the Army".

These aren't just catchy tunes - they help to spread the ideals of the ECC. This is why the Cabaret has performed widely, with church and school audiences forthcoming. They reach people who mightn't otherwise hear of ECC.

If you're interested in having the Cabaret perform at an event, phone Lisa at 6866320.



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