
South Africa

ANC reaps benefits of funding scandals

by Linda de Hoyos

As South African President Frederik de Klerk was nearing completion of negotiations with the African National Congress and other parties for the dismantling of apartheid, revelations suddenly burst in the South African press July 20 that the De Klerk government had been funneling money into the Zulu-dominated Inkatha movement of Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. By July 21, the charges had been confirmed by then-Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, who said that the government had secretly provided funds for the labor union associated with Buthelezi and upwards of \$500,000 for two Inkatha rallies.

The revelations have rocked the precarious balance upon which De Klerk has attempted to negotiate a multi-party alliance in South Africa leading toward the dismantling of apartheid, a revised Constitution, and national elections.

The immediate gainer from the political explosion is the African National Congress (ANC) of Nelson Mandela, which has been engaged in a fratricidal war with the Inkatha for the last two years.

But behind the ANC stands a scenario pushed by the British-linked financial nexus of Harry Oppenheimer (Anglo-American Corp.) and "Tiny" Rowland (Lonrho), to derail De Klerk's efforts for multi-racial and multi-party unity in South Africa. Oppenheimer's Anglo-American Corp., according to South African sources, owns or controls 50% of all the companies listed on the Johannesburg stock exchange, and also controls most of the nation's newspapers. The aim of Oppenheimer and Co. is to impose the "Rhodesian model" on South Africa, whereby the country is handed over to black majority rule. The reasoning is simple: A government that excludes whites is a far less powerful entity and far less able to resist the escalated looting of South Africa by the Lonrho-Oppenheimer-DeBeers complex. Lonrho, for example, is now extremely prominent in Zimbabwe since the 1976 repudiation of coalition rule, with a total of 25,000 employees in that country alone.

ANC revived

In 1985, according to South African sources, the ANC was languishing in a moribund state with headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, when ANC leaders there were visited by Anglo-American Corp. chief executive Gavin Relly. Ac-

ording to intelligence sources, Tiny Rowland then provided the ANC with \$20 million to move its headquarters to Johannesburg. In addition, as President De Klerk pointed out in his press conferences answering the charges of government funding of Inkatha, the ANC has received \$94 million since the mid-1960s from one country alone, namely Sweden. And Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans promised the ANC \$1.4 million directly from Canberra's treasury when he was in South Africa in June. In short, the ANC is not without resources itself.

It is believed, according to the London *Financial Times*, that half of the "national working committee" of the ANC, which was elected in mid-July, is composed of members of the South African Communist Party. However, U.S. intelligence sources have reported to *EIR* that a deal has been struck between the Soviet Union and the Oppenheimer group that the Soviets will cease to use the ANC as an asset in return for South African cooperation on setting up a gold cartel. South Africa and the Soviet Union combined supply half the world's gold supply.

The ANC is now poised to maximize the political benefit of the revelations, which conveniently give the ANC a boost after Winnie Mandela's conviction on kidnaping charges. Nelson Mandela proclaimed that the "current exposures demonstrate quite clearly that De Klerk and his ministers cannot be trusted to supervise the transition to a democratic South Africa. If the political field is to be truly leveled, a multi-party interim government of national unity should be set up to oversee the transition."

The ANC's backers in London go even further. Writing in the *Financial Times*, Patti Waldmeir floats a scenario under which the ANC would be immediately brought into the government, supposedly to keep the De Klerk government "honest." Waldmeir claimed in an article July 29 that "the government believes confidence in the security forces can only be restored once joint control and supervision of the police and military has been assured. This could include appointing members of the ANC and other opposition parties to key positions in the public service, including the security forces.

"The government in Pretoria has been willing to compromise on the interim government issue but the measures being considered go well beyond earlier proposals. They would involve joint control of the executive branch of government, rather than merely appointments of ANC and any other opposition group leaders to an expanded cabinet."

In part, the scenario is to hand over coalition power to the ANC even before it demonstrates its strength at the polls. That strength may very well be questionable. The Inkatha Freedom Party has a membership of 2 million, while the ANC has only 300,000 members. Although Buthelezi's party is not believed to be strong in the cities, the Zulu chief has made assiduous and reportedly successful efforts to gain votes among the country's white population.