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See Page 10

## Terror threat ahead of Test rattles Proteas

IOBAL KHAN AND SAPA-AP

KANPUR: Security will be increased for the third Test between India and South Africa in Kanpur, police said yesterday, after reports that militants planned to target the game.

The CNN-IBN news channel quoted unnamed police sources in New Delhi as saying they had information that Islamic militants may try to carry out an attack in Kanpur.

Vikram Singh, police chief in India's Uttar Pradesh state where Kanpur is located, declined to comment on the threats, but said: "We are taking no chances and all possible precautions have been taken to ensure a safe cricket match at Kanpur."

Singh said police would deploy extra manpower, equipment and technology and called on the public to "feel free to

To Page 3

## ULTIMATE BRAIN WAVE



**CRUNCH TIME:** Bodyboarder Peter Lambert, 29, from Bergvliet, had to be helped, dazed, cut and bruised, into a boat that was standing by after wiping out in this wave at a secret spot on the West Coast. The wave breaks onto a massive boulder and Lambert was pounded into the rock. For this tumble he won a special prize for the biggest wipe-out in the inaugural Reef-Science Biggest Wave Contest for bodyboarders. The contest, which ran for nine months in South Africa from June last year, was only for paddle-on waves – tow-ins were excluded – and was won by Constantia surfer James Moolenschot, 29, who walked off with R4 000 in cash and an A2-sized canvas print of his ride at Kommetjie's Sunset Reef. Ishmael Grant, 25, of Observatory, came second, and Lambert third. For his wipe-out, Lambert won a big bag of carrots.

Picture: MICHEL DEI-CONT

# 'Kill the bastards'

## Forensics backlog clogging up court rolls

CARYN DOLLEY

ABOUT 15 000 crime scene samples need to be analysed and processed by Western Cape forensic science laboratories and the outstanding forensic reports are clogging up court rolls.

But Safety and Security Minister Charles Ngqula says the backlog is only half that number.

In response to questions by the DA's Dianne Kohler-Barnard on Tuesday, Ngqula said there was a backlog of 10 121 cases across all forensic laboratory sections in the country, but more than half came from the Western Cape biology laboratory where on March 11 there were 7 656 samples waiting to be processed.

But yesterday a top police

source told the Cape Times that, as of January this year, "a staggering" 15 000 drug and DNA samples still needed processing in the Western Cape.

He said "to make matters worse" every month 1 500 new cases were received, but up to 220 could not be dealt with because of a lack of capacity at the laboratories.

The areas worst affected included Mitchells Plain, Khayelitsha and Gugulethu, where large numbers of drug possession suspects were being arrested.

The source said the lack of forensic report results meant some suspects were not being prosecuted within an appropriate time frame and some cases were even being struck off the court roll because of continual

To Page 3



GRAEME HOSKEN

PRETORIA: Police have been given a licence to kill – by a deputy minister.

"You must kill the bastards (criminals) if they threaten you or the community. You must not worry about the regulations. That is my responsibility. Your responsibility is to serve and protect," were the fiery words from fist-waving Deputy Safety and Security Minister Susan Shabangu at an anti-crime imbizo in Pretoria West yesterday.

Shabangu, who received a standing ovation, was responding to a barrage of questions on what police and the govern-

ment were doing to curb the scourge of crime.

Questions included a long list of "pathetic excuses" given to residents of Danville, Pretoria West, Lotus Gardens, Hercules and Elandsport by police allegedly unable and or unwilling to deal with crime.

"I want to assure the police station commissioners and policemen and women from these areas that they have permission to kill these criminals. I will not tolerate any pathetic excuses for you not being able to deal with crime. You have been given guns, now use them.

"I want no warning shots. You have one shot and it must

be a kill shot. If you miss, the criminals will go for the kill. They do not miss. We therefore cannot take this chance.

"Criminals are hell-bent on undermining the law and they must now be dealt with. If criminals dare to threaten the police or the livelihood or lives of innocent men, women and children they must be killed. End of story. There are to be no negotiations with criminals.

"The Constitution says criminals must be kept safe, but I say 'no, no, no'," Shabangu exclaimed.

"I say we must protect the law-abiding people and not the criminals. I say that criminals must be made to pay for their

crimes," she added.

Lashing out at corrupt and incompetent police officials, Shabangu said the community had a voice and that it should use it, "especially when it comes to issues of crime".

"If you feel that you are not being listened to or your rights are being infringed then stand up and make your voice heard.

"A policeman has to help you. He has taken an oath to serve and protect and cannot decide who and when he wants to serve and protect.

"You must not accept excuses from police who say they cannot help you because the crime did not happen in their precinct. They have no

choice. This is not an issue open for debate," she said to Loraine de Vries, who claimed that a Pretoria West inspector had refused to help her because she lived in another suburb.

Responding to questions on police either responding late or not at all to emergencies, Shabangu said if a person was not happy with the response they should take up the issue with the station commissioner.

"You have a right to know why police respond either late or not at all. It is your life on the line. It is another thing that is not up for debate. Police have to respond whether they like it or not."

## Zimbabwe's poll result 'a state secret'

FIONA FORDE and REUTERS

THE Zimbabwean Electoral Commission has been moved to a secret location and is now subject to national security, while it has emerged that high-ranking army officers have been deployed to masquerade as war veterans during the expected run-off campaign.

It is understood the state-run electoral body, which is in possession of the presidential ballot papers, was moved early on Tuesday.

Movement for Democratic Change leader Morgan Tsvangirai and independent Simba Makoni – both of whom ran against President Robert Mugabe on March 29 – have been denied access to the electoral commission team and have been unable to find out where it has been moved.

"Simba asked that some of his team be allowed access to the commission, but he was refused," Kudzai Mdudazi, a member of Makoni's team, said last night.

The MDC was told that it did "not have the right to be present" for the final count of the presidential votes.

This was now a "state secret of national security", the party was told.

Until Tuesday, the electoral commission had been using Rainbow Towers here, site of the former Sheraton Hotel. There had been signs that its operations were being wound down, although confirmation was not forthcoming until yesterday.

"If the verification process is done in private, then nothing they say at this stage can have any credibility as the results will have been so heavily diluted," Mdudazi said.

Other sources think the regime's resorting to such extreme measures suggests desperation in Mugabe's camp.

"Mugabe must have gone down badly if this is what they are doing," said one.

The source believes there will be a run-off, but is unable to say when. "Zanu-PF will take as much time as they want," he said.

Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa said the ruling party's tallies of the results showed a run-off would be necessary between Mugabe and Tsvangirai. "None of the candidates

has been able to secure (the number of votes) required to avoid a run-off."

Meanwhile, a number of well-placed sources claim senior army officers are being deployed to hot spots around the country to masquerade as war veterans during the run-off campaign.

According to a list of names released to the Cape Times, the head of the Defence Forces, Constantine Chiwenga, is to direct the estimated 200 officers who are to mobilise support for Mugabe with the intention, one source said, of "squeezing the space for the MDC".

Also listed are the officers who are to assist in the operation. They include Lieutenant-General P V Sibanda and Major General Nick Dube.

Tsvangirai was in Botswana last night as part of a whistle-stop tour of the region to appeal for urgent intervention.

Zambian President Levy Mwana-wasa, chair of the Southern African Development Community, has called an urgent summit of regional leaders for Saturday. It is unclear whether Mugabe will attend.

## Taliep was planning to divorce Najwa – prosecution

FATIMA SCHROEDER

ENTERTAINER and playwright Taliep Petersen intended to divorce the woman accused of hiring hitmen to murder him and confided in others about the tension in their marriage.

This emerged in the Cape High Court yesterday during the trial of his widow, Najwa Petersen, and three co-accused.

Shortly before calling her first witness, state advocate Shareen Riley applied for the provisional admissibility of hearsay evidence, saying she intended to lead evidence about conversations Petersen had about the nature of his marriage to the accused and his reasons for wanting to divorce her, as well as the couple's financial affairs.

But Petersen's advocate, Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau, objected, saying such evidence would prejudice his client and was not material. However, Justice Siraj Desai said he would allow it.

Petersen and her co-accused, Abdoer Raasiet Emjedi, Waheed Hassan and Jefferson Snyders, all pleaded not guilty to charges of murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances and the unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition.

The first state witness called before the hearsay evidence was Riefaat Soeker, who lived in separate quarters on the Petersen property in Athlone.

Soeker, Taliep Petersen's cousin, said he had an "exceptionally good" relationship with him and he was also very close to Najwa Petersen.

To Page 3

### Crack of Dawn



'It's an old anti-apartheid one I saved from the sixties.'

## Birds of feather vlook together

LONDON: A foul-mouthed parrot, who once told a vicar to f\*\*k off, has been teaching other birds how to swear.

Barney the macaw has refused to clean up his act despite being taken to a language specialist.

His most shocking outburst was when he told a mayoress, a vicar and two police officers to "f\*\*k off" and called them "w\*\*\*\*\*s" when they visited Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary in Nuneaton. And the seven-year-old macaw has now been spreading his obscene vocabulary to two other par-

rots, Sam and Charlie, at the centre.

Owner Geoff Grewcock said: "It sounds like a builders' yard sometimes when we come in here, what with all the abuse flying about."

"They just sit there swearing at each other now, all kinds of foul language – it's unbelievable."

The terrible trio's favourite rude words were "f\*\*k off", "b\*\*\*\*\*ks" and "t\*\*s". Mr Grewcock added: "These birds can live until they are 70 so there are potentially another 60 years of this to contend with." – ananova.com

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