

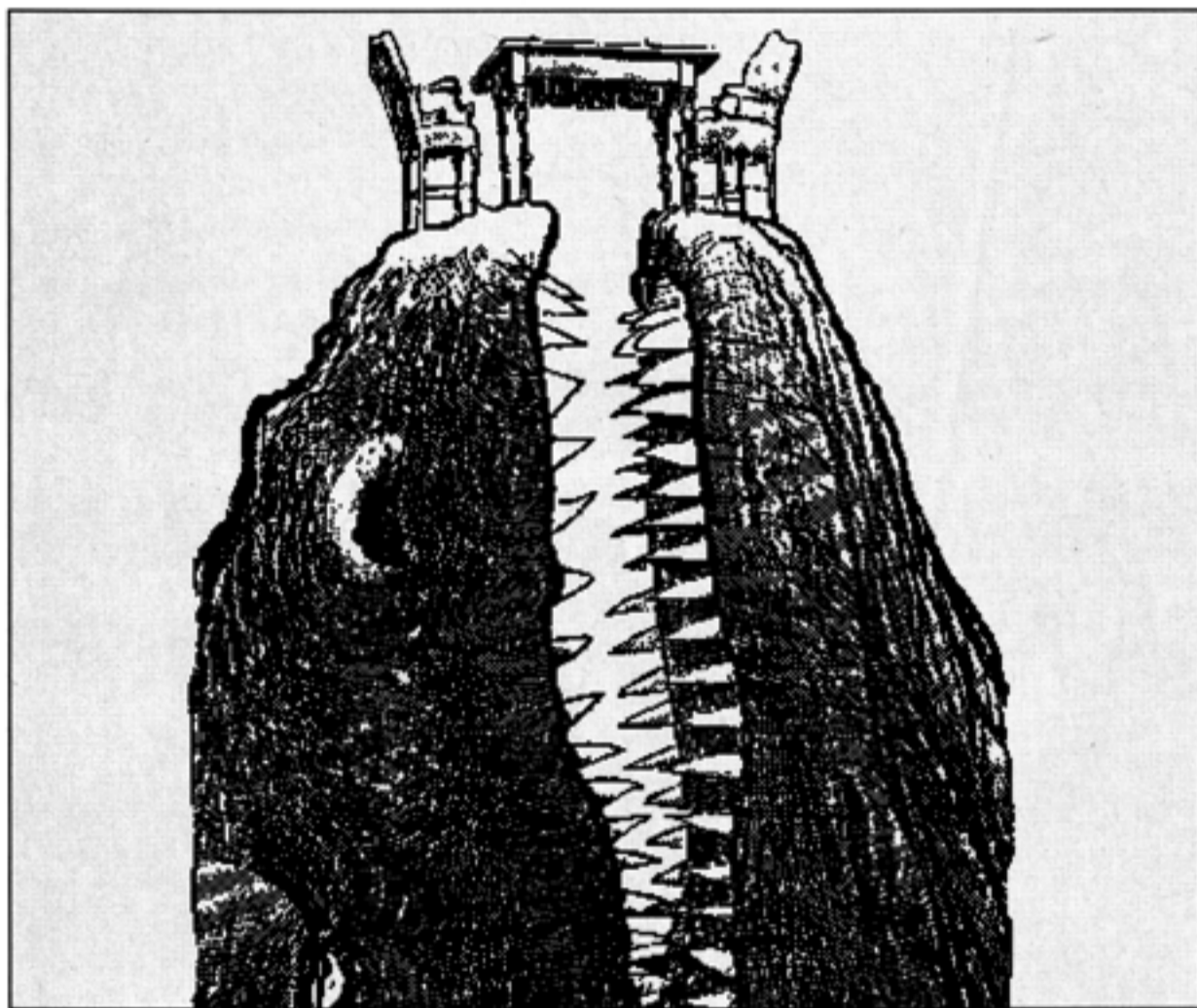
# A tough war, a fragile peace

**W**e are sitting here bogged down by the violence wasting time and resources which could be used in building a powerful ANC", said a speaker at the national workshop on the Peace Accord.

"We must not see the peace process as a technical one of simply setting up structures for resolving disputes.

## POLITICAL PROCESS

It is a political process to gain space to take forward the struggle. This is the spirit with which the ANC has earnestly got down to



## Invisible hand in Cape Town

**T**he violence in Cape Town seems to be a result of conflicts between the "squatter" community and the locations (brick houses); and between rival taxi organisations.

However, as the following accounts show, the "invisible hand" of the security forces and state administration runs through these conflicts. Forces implicated are the police, army, and white municipal administrators (work-

ing through some black community councillors) Squatters from Crossroads were meant to have been moved into Unathi which is a new complex of brick houses separated from Crossroads by a road. The former are aggrieved because a large number of the homes are occupied by "outsiders". Anger reached fever-pitch resulting in the burning of 109 houses in Unathi.

The conflict has been por-

trayed as a clash between two of the Crossroads leaders - Johnston Ngxobongwane and Jeffrey Nongwe. Whilst there are tensions between them, the "peace keeping forces" are seen as contributing to the problem. A case in point is the refusal of security forces to intervene when fighting broke out at a joint rally on 25 August.

Cape Town's Town Clerk, Pill Schelhase, admitted that as administrators of the apartheid system they had been issuing squatter leaders with weapons for dealing with opponents of apartheid. But, according to him, this has been stopped, because South Africa is in transition to a non-racial democracy.

## TAXI WAR

The taxi war represents another layer of the problems faced in the city. Tensions between the Langunya and Webta taxi associations broke out into violence. The township communities decided to boycott all the taxis. After an appeal from the associations they demanded a single taxi body. Joint discussions produced what is known as the Ten Points of agreement. However, Webta reneged because they are reluctant to change their logo. A boycott of Webta taxis began.

In June the violence began once again with taxi drivers being the initial victims. This soon

the task of implementing the National Peace Accord.

The Tripartite Alliance has in the meanwhile established a legal team which is investigating the train killers captured by commuters and allegations of police involvement in the killings in Thokoza.

The Alliance has also established an Operations Committee, a development from the 16-person team which was involved in the negotiations around the Peace Accord.

It will have two sub-committees for:

- **complaints:** an office is being established to handle all the complaints of breaches of the Accord.

changed with passengers being indiscriminately attacked by organised professional squads. Township residents have not been spared the violence. Attacks by youth on Webta taxis in Khayelitsha resulted in shacks being indiscriminately attacked, burned or shot at in the presence of white



riot police. The attacks in Nyanga are confined to the bus terminus area.

But police complicity is evident here as well. For example on Friday 13 October, police with Webta taxi drivers shot at and burned three Langunya taxis. Members of both taxi organisations have weapons ranging from pistols to automatic rifles like R4 and R5. The parallels between the violence here and that in PWV is startling. Attacks are indiscriminate; often aimed at ANC strongholds – as in Khayelitsha; and when the violence subsides in one area it erupts in another. The long arm behind the invisible hand is certainly at work in Cape Town. ♦

Regional and local people will be trained to collect and investigate complaints.

- **organising:** this will act as a catalyst for the establishment of Regional and Local Dispute Resolutions Committees

### CONSULTATIONS

After consultations with the ANC and other signatories, the National Peace Committee put forward the name of Justice Goldstone as chair of the Commission of Enquiry.

In this articles we look at concrete experiences on the ground. ♦

## Port Shepstone

### **D**r Siyabonga Cwele reports on the violence in the Lower Natal South Coast.

More than 250 people have died in the violence in the areas around Port Shepstone. About 80 percent of those killed were ANC members and supporters.

The violence was initiated by a few vigilantes in December last year in the Murchison area. They later identified themselves as "Inkatha supporters". At the time G3 guns had been issued to this group and tribal authorities with the "permission" of the KwaZulu government.

This was also the period when the comrades were forced out of their areas by tribal authorities and warlords with the assistance of security forces.

This was systematically organised and started from the tribal areas until it reached Gamalakhe Township in April this year.

Most of the comrades had fled to Gamalakhe. We have more than 2 000 refugees in the township.

Around the beginning of September the refugees and residents of Gamalakhe were under attack from security forces. ♦

Meanwhile armed Inkatha supporters were holding rallies every week-end in preparation for Shaka Day commemoration.

After the National Peace Accord was signed there was a drastic fall in "unrest related incidents and killings". We also have people moving out of the townships but only to return on 15 October 1991.

The situation at present is as follows:

- the refugees are still at Gamalakhe and around Port Shepstone without food and accommodation.
- the tribal authorities and Inkatha supporters are still reluctant about peace talks on the ground.

Those who risk going back to their homes face the prospect of being killed by vigilantes. That is what happened to Khehla Dlulisa when he returned to Murchison on 10 October 1991.

We hope that the National Peace Accord and Committee will soon leave Johannesburg and fly to our area.

We appeal to all comrades to assist those children and mothers who were forced out of their areas with food, clothing, employment and any other form of donation. ♦