

In the last issue of *MAYIBUYE*, we carried an interview with the Commissioner of Police precisely because, as most South Africans well appreciate, the Peace Accord will not work unless the police comply with its provisions.

Hardly had the ink on the Accord dried when the most blatant disregard for its letter and spirit manifested itself.

At the Thokoza funeral of civic leader, Sam Ntuli, many were killed in the presence of a huge police and army contingent. Everyone wondered how this could happen: until eye-witnesses swore that a Casspir and at least one unmarked police car were involved in the shootings.

Admitting that the car identified by one survivor belonged to the police, a spokesman explained that it did not have number plates because it was new. The affidavit about the role of the police was, according to another spokesman, "pure propaganda and not true". This was before any investigation had been undertaken. And in some twisted logic, the

spokesman warned that newspaper revelations had rendered further investigation useless and undermined all evidence!

Then there was the murder in Soweto of ANC member Vuyani Mabaxa.

Again policemen involved are identified. Again an unmarked police Casspir is witnessed on the scene. Again

The trend is obvious. Systematic action by professional groups is the new name of the game.

The targets are the masses in general and key middle-ranking cadres, influential in their communities and some of them central to local peace efforts.

But, as the recent capture of one of the killers by the people and investigative work by some newspapers have shown, the assassins' work can be made more difficult. In time murder will out.

Besieged communities await the intervention of the National Peace Committee with bated breath.

The decision of the committee to start practical work in the conflict-ridden localities is as timely

as it is correct. Failure to bring any tangible results in these areas can only undermine the public confidence that the accord needs in order to succeed.

These developments confirm once more that it is necessary to move with deliberate speed to an Interim Government of national unity. ♦

Murder will out

flat denials from the men in blue.

The Casspir did not have number plates because they fell while clearing a barricade the previous day, a police spokesman explains!

Examples of this nature abound: in the Western Cape, Eastern Transvaal, Natal and elsewhere.

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