

THE SWANLEY WEAZINE FOR CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS TRADE

CAAT NEWS



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DANCING FOR ARMS SALES



TERRY CRAWFORD BROUKE: CROSS EXAMINATION

The Royals
Disarm Arms

Military Spending

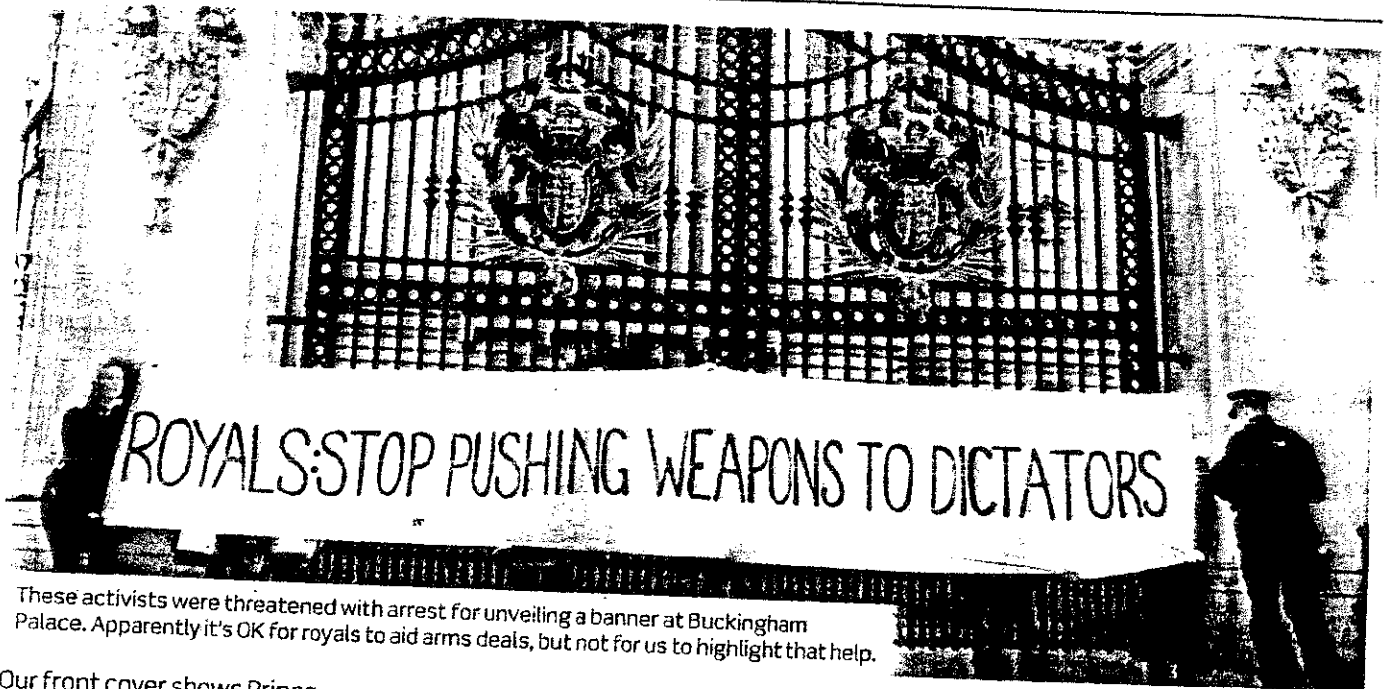
Scotland

RONNIE KERRIS



DANCING TO BAE'S TUNE

Sarah Waldron considers the latest instalment in a shameful record of royal support for arms deals.



These activists were threatened with arrest for unveiling a banner at Buckingham Palace. Apparently it's OK for royals to aid arms deals, but not for us to highlight that help.

Our front cover shows Prince Charles in Saudi Arabia in February. Human rights organisations had urged Charles to use his trip to speak up against Saudi Arabia's appalling human rights record. Instead he joined its autocratic rulers in a ceremonial sword-dance, an image which was particularly distasteful in a country where more than 70 people were executed last year, mostly by public decapitation with a sword.

3y Government request

Charles' last visit to Saudi Arabia, only eleven months before, had been explicitly requested by the UK government to help "enhance military links". This time the trip was billed as a series of private engagements for the prince - although it was then revealed it had actually been made at the request of the UK Foreign Office.

What possible reason could they have had for requesting the visit?

BAE

CAAT pointed out that the visit came two days before BAE was due to issue its latest results and amid rumours that its share price was set to fall unless agreement could be reached on the pricing of

The royal family claims to be apolitical, but these are not apolitical actions ... they are a shameful international representation of the UK

the Eurofighter deal. Sure enough, the next day Saudi Arabia and BAE Systems announced they had finalised their latest multi-billion pound weapons deal.

The UK government had sent in the royals to seal the deal. Saudi Arabia later honoured BAE Systems

for its support of the festival at which Charles had performed his sword dance. BAE commented that such activities "offer us the opportunity to showcase our products and services."

Role of the royals

The royal family claims to be apolitical, but these are not apolitical actions. They are political actions that put the interests of private weapons companies before human rights and they are a shameful international representation of the UK.

Thousands of people have signed our petition to Buckingham Palace and the Foreign Office to say that the royal family should not be promoting arms sales. Add your name at <http://act.caat.org.uk/petition/103>

JOIN US ON 7 MAY AT BAE SYSTEMS' AGM

Last year, the Chairman was overheard to comment "That was much worse than usual," after CAAT took over the meeting with challenging questions for Lord Jockeys. If you can't "Get in on time"

Publication	Weekend Argus
Date	1995-05-20/21
Reporter	Jean Le May

A political row is brewing over the role of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki in international tenders for new corvettes for the South African Navy.

Cabinet Secretary Professor Jakes Gerwel said that at a cabinet meeting this week Minister of Defence Joe Modise asked for the decision on corvettes to be held over.

Ministry sources said tenders had been re-opened to accept late bids from Germany, France and Denmark and that the short-list of two - Scotland's Yarrow Shipyard and Spain's Bazan Shipyard - had been shelved.

Armsecor announced on December 24 that tenders from Yarrow and Bazan would be considered in the next round of evaluations.

It said Frigate Consortium (a German consortium involving Blohm and Voss shipyard and the industrial giant Thyssen), Svenborg Shipyard of Denmark and DCNI of France had been eliminated.

However, Weekend Argus has established that during his visit to Germany between January 6 and January 14 - a fortnight after the Armsecor announcement - Mr Mbeki told German foreign minister Klaus Kinkel and directors of the German consortium that "the race was still open".

Douglas Gibson MP, Democratic Party spokesman on defence, told Weekend Argus that "on the face of it, it appears that there has been some political interference".

"Mr Mbeki should be careful to avoid giving the impression that South Africa is a banana republic when it comes to international tenders", he said.

Mark Wiley, a National Party spokesman on defence, said that "a dangerous precedent was being created with politicians interfering improperly in the state tendering process.

"Politicians are under scrutiny overseas for transgressing the very important principle that state tenders should be immune from political interference", said Senator Wiley.

Mr Mbeki was in Umtata yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

Christoff Hoening, a director of Thyssen telephoned Weekend Argus from Germany yesterday to say that Mr Mbeki had told him and his directors in January that "the race is still open to all contenders".

20 JANUARY 2014

PHASE 1

CHAIRPERSON: Good morning everybody. Advocate Aboobaker.

ADV ABOOBAKER: Good morning Mr Chairman and Commissioners. I'd just like to place on record the team of evidence leaders that are present here today and will be conducting this stage of the hearings. It is Mr Barry Skinner SC, Ms Carol Sibiya and myself T N Aboobaker. Chair, I've taken the liberty of making available an opening address which I understand you and Commissioner Musi now have. Mr Chairman that opening address simply broadly defines the matters that will be raised at this stage of the hearings and hones into some of the issues that will arise. I'll read the opening address into the record:

"The current phase of the hearings of the Commission is concerned with paragraphs 1.3 and 1.4 of the Terms of Reference. These paragraphs provide as follows;

1.3 Whether job opportunities anticipated to flow from the SDPP have materialised at all, and;

1.3.1 If they have, the extent to which they had materialised, and;

1.3.2 If they have not, the steps that ought to be taken to realise them.

1.4 Whether the offsets anticipated to flow from the SDPP had materialised at all, and;

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PHASE 1

1.4.1 If they have, the extent to which they have materialised, and;

1.4.2 If they have not, the steps that ought to be taken to realise them".

5 The programme sets out the list of witnesses to be called. These witnesses are either current or former employees of the Department of Trade and Industry and include Mr Alexander Erwin, the former Minister of Trade and Industry. In order to establish what job opportunities and offsets were anticipated to flow from the Strategic Defence Procurement Package ("SDPP") the logical starting point is an address to Parliament by the-then Minister, the late Mr J Modise on the 10 9th of March 1999 in which he spelled out to Parliament what the expectations were. The relevant portion of his address reads as follows:

15 'In return for our expenditure our economy will benefit by an estimated R110 billion of new investment and industrial participation programmes and the creation of approximately 20 65 000 jobs. The sceptics have suggested this is wishful thinking, the following breakdown has been very carefully calculated with the Department of Trade and Industry. After R110

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20 JANUARY 2014

PHASE 1


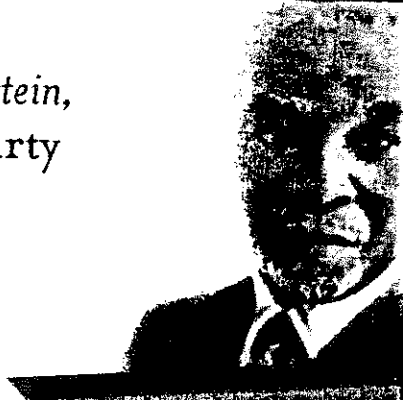
5 billion over R26 billion is made up of direct investment into the project, R25 billion is estimated revenue from local sales stemming from the business projects that will be established and R59 billion will be derived from export sales'.

10 On the basis of Mr Modise's address to Parliament the expectation raised was that the economy would benefit by R110 billion of new investment and industrial participation programmes and that 65 000 jobs would be created. What was actually delivered by the SDPP in terms of said offsets and jobs has therefore to be tested against this benchmark. The SDPP offsets were divided into two components:


- 15 (a) The National Industrial Participation Programme ("NIP"), which was administered by the DTI, and;
- 20 (b) The Defence Industrial Participation Programme ("DIP"), which was administered by the Department of Defence and ARMSCOR.

25 The DIP component of the offsets will be dealt with at a later stage when the ARMSCOR witnesses will be called to give evidence. The question as to whether the offsets contemplated by the SDPP had been realised is not one which is without difficulty,

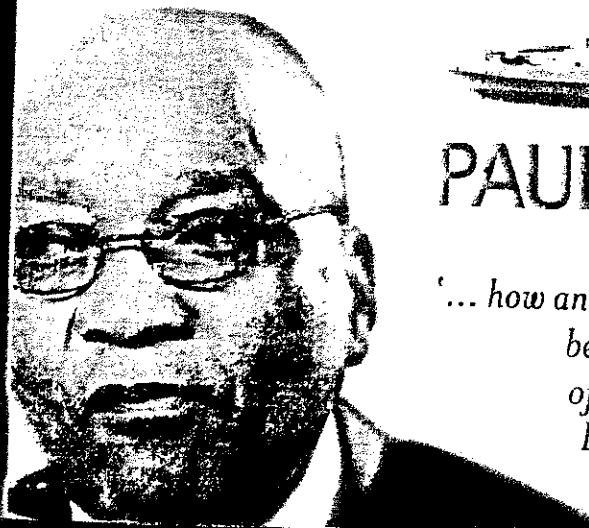
*Foreword by Andrew Feinstein,
author of After the Party*



THE
Arms Deal
IN YOUR POCKET



PAUL HOLDEN



*'... how and why the arms deal has
become the poisoned well
of South African politics.
Fluent and informative.'*
Mark Gevisser

Threshold of New Renaissance Speech 20 August 1997

THE ARMS DEAL IN YOUR POCKET

the same year, where it received the same stamp of approval. Speaking in Parliament, Kasrils waxed poetical as he lauded the Defence Review and its new shopping list as the road to Renaissance:

This house stands on the threshold of a bold new age.
You have the power to define our nation's destiny.
Your decision will affect generations to come.
Your endorsement of this historic Defence Review will invigorate the Renaissance.
And your support will put us in the vanguard of Africa."

In the same speech, Kasrils held out the seductive carrot of counter-trade, while taking a sidelong jab at the one minister who could stop the whole process:

There will be substantial off-set agreements so that, for instance, South African steel and other local components and equipment will be used in production. There will be major off-set or counter-trade agreements, so that for every rand spent abroad, the same amount will be invested in South Africa.

Such packages will be of enormous benefits to our GEAR Strategy. It will bring in investment and create jobs. Therefore Defence acquisition will be Trade and Industry led. Far from being a drain on our resources, it will provide a tremendous boost to our economy and Treasury.

It will delight the Minister of Finance."

Cabinet and parliamentary approval of the *Defence Review* meant that, once again, the SANDF could start shopping around for *matériel*. Towards the end of 1997, Thabo Mbeki,

ANC MAYURA ANGELINE PAIN



Govt denies link
ANC
PRESIDENT
Treatment
HIV/AIDS

ANDREW FEINSTEIN

**A Personal and Political Journey
inside the ANC**



Shaik
RUPTION CHARGES
Govt
Modis R60 Bn
Arms deal
Investigated

expedition. In any circumstances, I had never seen any circumstances that would lead to such a death.

to explain the prima facie case. Following within a few days, a diatribe, spluttering about the integrity of the government. Pointing aggressively at the resolution, I couldn't do that. I had to water down the Unit was excluded.

the meeting to continue in the room changed. The session had moved to another room. Moments, for the first time, that he felt the Speaker's authority, that the original intention and that now the Speaker Judge Heath was presiding over another meeting to put our concerns.

ent Smith, who had been a patronising smile next to the Parliament. He uttered but defiantly on the floor. Yes, the Island couldn't.

er the newspapers. Pahad described it as 'a litany of lies'. I had to have lunch with

I had greatly admired his robust intellect and his courage during the struggle, and was encouraged by rumours that he had never supported the arms deal in Cabinet, primarily concerned with its impact on fiscal stability.

We sat down at the appropriately named Speaker's Corner, a favoured haunt of parliamentarians. Trevor was friendly, warm, almost intimate. He summarised the extensive work the Treasury had undertaken before agreeing to the financing package, and suggested I talk directly to those officials. Towards the end of the meal came his real point: 'We all know JM [as Joe Modise was known]. It's possible that there was some shit in the deal. But if there was, no one will ever discover it. They're not that stupid. Just let it lie. Focus on the technical stuff, which was sound.' I responded that there were even problems with the technical aspects, and warned that if we didn't get to the bottom of the deal now, it would come back to haunt us – a view I expressed over and over again within the ANC.

Another senior member of the ANC's NEC invited me to his house one Sunday. Sitting outside in the sunshine, he explained to me that I was never going to 'win this thing'.

'Why not?' I demanded.

'Because we received money from some of the winning companies. How do you think we funded the 1999 election?'

I didn't know what to say. I tried to think of a reason why this comrade might want to mislead me, but couldn't.

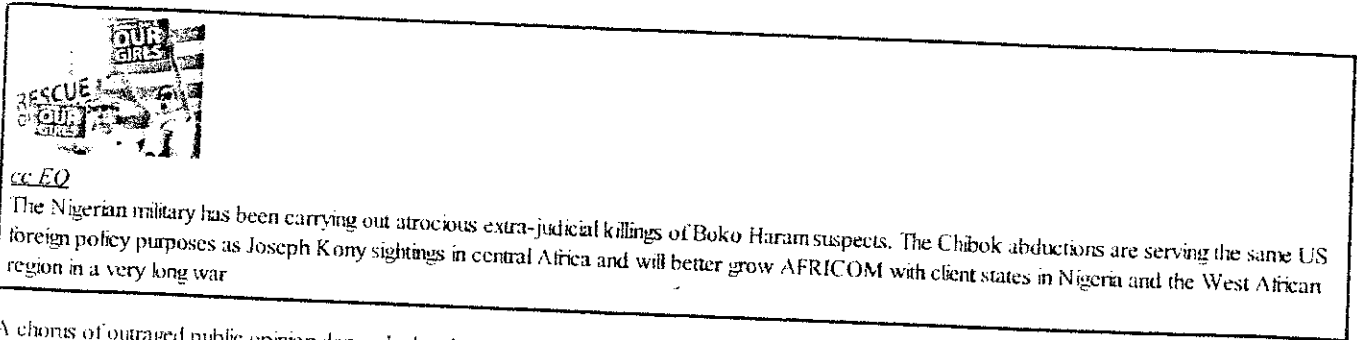
A few days later, with Pahad's harangue still ringing in our ears, members of the committee made our way to Pretoria for a meeting with the agencies we had recommended for the investigation. The Chief Whip initially refused to authorise our travel expenses, but we went anyway. Before the meeting got under way one of the investigators asked to speak to Gavin and me. He led us down through labyrinthine corridors, past rows of desks, into a basement and up to the gate of what looked like a prison cell. This was the secure storage area. He unlocked the gates and asked us to take a seat. Opening a safe he withdrew a sheaf of different-sized pages. We looked at the series of bank statements, signed letters, deposit and withdrawal slips. 'This,' said the investigator, 'is a substantial part of the paper trail linking money from a number of the successful bidders to Joe Modise.'

Kidnapped girls become tools of US imperial policy in Africa

Glen Ford

2014-05-21, Issue 679

<http://pambazuka.org/en/category/features/91842>



cc EO
The Nigerian military has been carrying out atrocious extra-judicial killings of Boko Haram suspects. The Chibok abductions are serving the same US foreign policy purposes as Joseph Kony sightings in central Africa and will better grow AFRICOM with client states in Nigeria and the West African region in a very long war

A chorus of outraged public opinion demands that the "international community" and the Nigerian military "Do something!" about the abduction by Boko Haram of 280 teenage girls. It is difficult to fault the average US consumer of packaged "news" products for knowing next to nothing about what the Nigerian army has actually been "doing" to suppress the Muslim fundamentalist rebels since, as senior columnist Margaret Kimberley pointed out in these pages, last week, the three US broadcast networks carried *not a single television news story about Boko Haram* in all of 2013. (Nor did the misinformation corporations provide a nanosecond of coverage of the bloodshed in the Central African Republic, where thousands died and a million were made homeless by communal fighting over the past year.) But, that doesn't mean the Nigerian army hasn't been bombing, strafing, and indiscriminately slaughtering thousands of, mainly, young men in the country's mostly Muslim north.

The newly aware US public may or may not be screaming for blood, but rivers of blood have already flowed in the region. Those Americans who read — which, presumably, includes First Lady Michelle Obama, who took her husband's place on radio last weekend to pledge US help in the hunt for the girls — would have learned in the New York Times of the army's savage offensive near the Niger border, last May and June. In the town of Bosso, the Nigerian army killed hundreds of young men in traditional Muslim garb "Without Asking Who They Are," according to the NYT headline. "They don't ask any questions," said a witness who later fled for his life, like thousands of others. "When they see young men in traditional robes, they shoot them on the spot," said a student. "They catch many of the others and take them away, and we don't hear from them again."

"When they see young men in traditional robes, they shoot them on the spot."

The Times' Adam Nossiter interviewed many refugees from the army's "all-out land and air campaign to crush the Boko Haram insurgency." He reported:

"All spoke of a climate of terror that had pushed them, in the thousands, to flee for miles through the harsh and baking semi desert, sometimes on foot, to Niger. A few blamed Boko Haram — a shadowy, rarely glimpsed presence for most residents — for the violence. But the overwhelming majority blamed the military, saying they had fled their country because of it."

In just one village, 200 people were killed by the military.

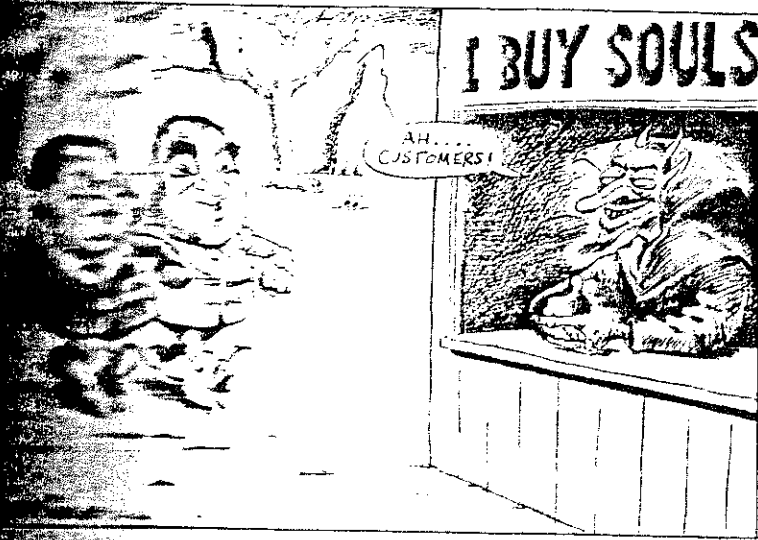
In March of this year, fighters who were assumed to be from Boko Haram attacked a barracks and jail in the northern city of Maiduguri. Hundreds of prisoners fled, but 200 youths were rounded up and made to lie on the ground. A witness told the Times: "The soldiers made some culls and a few minutes later they started shooting the people on the ground. I counted 198 people killed at that checkpoint."

All told, according to Amnesty International, more than 600 people were extra judicially murdered, "most of them unarmed, escaped detainees, around Maiduguri." An additional 950 prisoners were killed in the first half of 2013 in detention facilities run by Nigeria's military Joint Task Force, many at the same barracks in Maiduguri. Amnesty International quotes a senior officer in the Nigerian Army, speaking anonymously: "Hundreds have been killed in detention either by shooting them or by suffocation," he said. "There are times when people are brought out on a daily basis and killed. About five people, on average, are killed nearly on a daily basis."

Chibok, where the teenage girls were abducted, is 80 miles from Maiduguri, capital of Borno State.

In 2009, when the Boko Haram had not yet been transformed into a fully armed opposition, the military summarily executed their handcuffed leader and killed at least 1,000 accused members in the states of Borno, Yobe, Kano and Bauchi, many of them apparently simply youths from suspect neighborhoods. A gruesome video shows the military at work. "In the video, a number of unarmed men are seen being made to lie down in the road outside a building before they are shot," Al Jazeera reports in text accompanying the video. "As one man is brought out to face death, one of the officers can be heard urging his colleague to 'shoot him in the chest not the head — I want his hat.'"

These are only snapshots of the army's response to Boko Haram — atrocities that are part of the context of Boko Haram's ghastly behavior. The military has refused the group's offer to exchange the kidnapped girls for imprisoned Boko Haram members. (We should not assume that anyone detained at Boko Haram's security compounds — boys and old detainees face imminent and arbitrary execution.)



As early as 1995 the seeds were being sown by defence minister Joe Moate and his secretary Ronnie Kasrils for the massive equipment upgrade for the SANDF, which would fall into the tawdry web of the still unresolved Arms Deal scandal.

