
Interview: Tienie Groenewald

If ANC wins 60%, no one will invest here

Major General Tienie Groenewald is the former head of the Department of Military Intelligence of the South African Defense Forces, a founder of the "Committee of Generals," and a leader of the "Freedom Alliance" comprised of the Inkatha Freedom Party, the Conservative Party, several of the black homelands, and other smaller parties. He has been a central figure in negotiations between the Freedom Alliance and the African National Congress (ANC), and between the Alliance and the ruling National Party over the past several weeks. He was interviewed on Nov. 29.

EIR: The London *Financial Times* recently has spoken of "temporary repression" after the April elections, while Project Democracy figures in the United States talk openly of civil war. These same people also say that the elections are not expected to be free and fair, yet they should go ahead. You have been dead center in the middle of developments in South Africa recently. Could you give us your overview?

Groenewald: If we look at the planning by the ANC, then there is no doubt whatsoever that they plan a three-phase strategy. I am looking at a document here. It is quite significant that in the latest ANC documentation, they realized that they would have to make concessions to get the different parties to participate in the elections. And the participation in the elections is aimed at legitimacy.

Now, Phase 1 of their planning will go up until the date of the election. In this phase they plan to be the de facto government through the Transitional Executive Council [TEC]. Secondly, they plan to carry the "national democratic revolution," as they call it, through the election by a 60% majority, which is all they require to write their own constitution. To deal with what they call the "reactionaries," they will use the mechanism of the TEC, which is the Department of Defense, Department of Law and Order, and Intelligence Departments, over which they will have control. And then to divide the security forces from their political power base. This means to destroy the loyalty of our own security forces for our own government, and also the security forces of Bophuthatswana, the Ciskei, and the police in KwaZulu. They do this also by a very hectic propaganda campaign, whereby they tell them if they do not indicate their loyalty now, when the new government is appointed, they will have no place in the new defense force or the new police force.

So, these people, to be assured of a career, must join up with the ANC. Phase 2 starts on April 27. Here, their aims are as follows: to take over the government *fully*, to write their constitution through what they call "mass participation." In other words, to involve Cosatu [the ANC-allied Congress of South African Trade Unions] and other workers' organizations, so whenever there is the least bit of opposition from the other members within the constitution-writing body, they plan mass actions and so-called "workers' actions." As soon as the constitution is then finished, to start a program of reconstruction and affirmative action, which is basically taking away from the whites and giving it to the blacks. This is reverse apartheid. Then to empower the workers, they should have complete control in all the factories, all the corporations, to institute "commissions of truth" and thereby getting rid of the National Party members and other so-called reactionary members within the government.

I read a very interesting document. They plan to use the South American example, whereby by means of commissions of truth, they indicate what crimes were conducted by people like [President F. W.] de Klerk, Roelf Meyer [cabinet minister and chief government negotiator], and myself under apartheid, and thus neutralize them in the Parliament, and of course to charge certain people, and hold their own Nuremberg Trials. I have complete documentation on this.

EIR: Are you sure the documentation is valid?

Groenewald: Oh, yes, very much so. And then, of course, to transform to socialism. Now Phase 3, according to them—they are not quite clear when it should begin—but a certain part of Phase 3 should begin the moment they have political power. And that is 1) render all opposition irrelevant, 2) form a classless society conducive to communism, and 3) form the SACP [South African Communist Party] as the "head" and the workers as the "body." In other words, the Communist Party should then take over the leadership.

EIR: Are these SACP documents or ANC documents here?

Groenewald: These are SACP documents, but naturally, supported by the [ANC] National Executive because most of the members are members of the SACP. Of course certain elements of the documents, when presented to the National Executive, do not say that the SACP should take over the leadership. What they say is that the "workers should take over the leadership." This is the kind of terminology they use.

EIR: So the documents you have in your hands are SACP documents?

Groenewald: They are SACP documents, but also documents presented to the National Executive of the ANC. So there is no doubt whatsoever that they would have a repressive regime, and the reason for this is the following. First of all, they have made *enormous* promises and created enor-

mous perceptions among the people. And most of the black people believe that as soon as the ANC wins the elections, they will get nice houses in fancy areas, a Mercedes-Benz, and a checkbook. So there are these expectations which must be met.

Secondly, they have created nearly two generations of children with no discipline and no schooling, who cannot hold any jobs. They have created, through economic sanctions, enormous unemployment. They have no control over the SDUs [Self Defense Units in the black townships], or the youth organizations, or the women's organizations. In other words, to discipline the people, they would have to institute draconian measures never seen under the "apartheid regime." And also, through the so-called truth commissions, to control their own people, they will also institute, in the Vietnam-style, "people's courts." They will bring people before so-called people's courts and have them executed for so-called crimes committed during the liberation struggle.

EIR: Have you seen documentation to this effect?

Groenewald: This is basically what has come out even during our negotiations with the ANC.

EIR: That is what they said?

Groenewald: Yes. They said that the truth commissions will also be employed amongst black people to determine what black people have been involved in so-called "illegitimate activities," such as necklacing. But you see, these tactics were used in Vietnam, too. They used criminal elements to terrorize the people, and then once they are in control, these criminals are normally hated by the people. Then they ask the people to point them out, and they hold people's courts, and they get judged and executed in public. So this is to establish their authority.

So there is no doubt whatsoever that besides the fact that there will be enormous socialist measures, they will have to have very draconian measures to control their own people.

I think slowly this is starting to come through, where people begin to realize the kind of situation they will have. But although people abroad see it, South Africans don't yet realize what is going to happen. The ANC is still the good guys.

But from the point of view of the Afrikaner people, who were devastated in the Anglo-Boer War in the beginning of this century and had to flee the farms which had been burnt and devastated and gain employment in the mines, in the civil service, in the various government-created companies and corporations, we were really a people impoverished. But we created after the Anglo-Boer War our own organizations which mobilized the poor people and created job opportunities, even supplied them with food. And then through a secret organization like the Broederbund, we created Afrikaner organizations, big banking institutions, and financial institutions such as Sanlam, in which we mobilized the remaining

capital and financed Afrikaner businesses. And then when we gained control over the government, we also got the government to supply jobs through the railways, and through the roads department, even though we used pick and shovels. We also created ISCOR [the state iron and steel corporation], ESCOM [the state electricity commission], SASOL [the state oil-from-coal corporation], these kinds of large state corporations with the aim of giving our people employment.

Now, I am saying this because the ANC's current planning for the economy and for so-called "reconstruction and affirmative actions," is that, first of all, where 80% of all state employees are Afrikaners at the moment, they will be placed on unlivable pensions, and, with a high inflation rate, those pensions won't be worth anything, and they will be replaced with black people over a four- or five-year program. You also find that the pressure on these large corporations such as the railways, ESCOM, and ISCOR, is for very quick replacement of these people by black people. So we expect in about four to five years time, we will have unemployment among the Afrikaner people of possibly 60-70%. But now the problem is, because we will have a socialist regime, we will not be able, for the Afrikaner, to create institutions whereby we can see to the socio-economic uplifting of our own people. Because anything which is seen as white is seen as racist and won't be allowed. If you create any kind of organization, or even a company, to provide employment, you will have to provide employment on the basis of the population distribution. In other words, through socialist programs and so-called anti-apartheid legislation, the right to uplift our own people is lost. And this is a very devastating move.

Now, I am saying this because that is not going to leave our people with any other alternative, and if people have lost everything they have, then basically the only thing left to do is to fight. I am saying this to indicate that we already have a civil war between Inkatha and the ANC in which, in the last two and a half years, more than 10,000 people have been killed, and we are really on a knife edge at this stage.

I should point out that the negotiations with the Freedom Alliance have been going quite well. We've had enormous concessions by the government, and today we seem to have reached agreement on quite a number of points. But the government must now negotiate this with the ANC. And I don't think this is possible. I don't think that the ANC is going to agree, for example, to the states having their own police forces and that kind of thing. If they do not agree, then basically there is only one alternative. We will have to boycott the elections and we will slowly move into a position of ungovernability. And this will eventually, in this kind of Bosnia situation, lead to secession, and once we do apply secession under those kinds of conditions, I think it will be accepted by the international community. Because it will be the only way in which you can get peace in the country. And this is the kind of scenario I see developing. Mainly because



Durban, the capital of Natal, the stronghold of Inkatha. The Freedom Alliance here would support Inkatha in the elections.

the ANC, with victory in their grasp, is not going to release it at this stage. And the Afrikaner and the Zulu people will never accept that kind of domination.

EIR: The argument in the press of course is that there are some sour grapes from some so-called "disgruntled whites," and from Inkatha, but ultimately they will be forced to go along with the elections, or get nothing. Even the IFP has started taking out ads for the election in the papers.

Groenewald: The conditions which we want for participation in the election, were the conditions agreed to by the national executive of Inkatha yesterday. And these conditions are the ones which the government broadly agrees to at the moment. They believe they can convince the ANC to accept these conditions, but I don't believe they can do it, or if they *do* convince them to accept them, the program of intimidation during the elections will gradually blow up into a greater degree of violence.

I should point out that if we can have a free and fair election, although the Freedom Alliance at this stage is only a negotiating alliance, we haven't announced a so-called election alliance, but opinion polls already indicate that we have more support than the government and the Nationalist Party and that we could even at this stage get up to 35% of the votes. This would be 35% of the total votes, black and white. The important thing, if we can get the kind of money which the ANC gets, and which our government, although I can't prove it in public, that the government takes from the taxpayer to wage an election campaign. We have no money and if we can get \$50-100 million to wage this campaign, we have a very good chance of beating the ANC. Because, the

Freedom Alliance has created enormous expectations and is extremely popular. Saturday, for example, although [Mangosuthu] Buthelezi would not agree to this, local Inkatha supporters and other members of the Freedom Alliance, even the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement], had a very big meeting in Vereeniging yesterday, a rally and a march, with thousands of people there. Here you had blacks and AWB members parading together and attending joint meetings. This is a sign which is extremely encouraging. What people are saying is that if such diverse organizations as the Conservative Party and Inkatha can become allies, then the Alliance has a formula which makes it possible to bring even ANC members and Nationalist Party members within such an alliance. So there is a formula which provides for a solution.

EIR: The Freedom Alliance would itself run as a political party?

Groenewald: Yes. This decision will be taken in the next week or two. But what will happen is that at national level, the Freedom Alliance will run as a political party, but at the regional level, the different members will support the dominant Freedom Alliance partner within that particular state. For example, in Natal, we will all support Inkatha. In the Transvaal, Inkatha and probably hundreds of thousands of other black people will support the Afrikaner Volksfront. In the western Transvaal, they will support the Christian Freedom Movement of President Mangope [of Bophuthatswana].

EIR: You were saying that the national executive of Inkatha had agreed to certain things, in which case they would partici-

pate in the elections. What were their demands?

Groenewald: These were the exact conditions laid down by the Freedom Alliance. In other words, first of all, our proposals as far as the functions of the states and the central government should be accepted, which gives the states sufficient power to control their own destiny. That is so-called Clause 118 of the Constitution. Secondly, Clause 121 of the Constitution, where we determined that we would like powers to tax our people so that the states are not entirely dependent on the central government for financial grants. Thirdly, that the constitutions of the states should be completed and accepted before the elections, in other words on April 27, the election should be both for the national government, as well as the governments in the different states. Fourthly, that the boundaries of the different states should be finalized by April 27. Fifthly, that the deadlock-breaking mechanism should be changed to the international standard of 66% to change any clauses in the constitution—two-thirds, which is the accepted norm. Both to change the constitutions of states and of the present constitution, so that the ANC would need at least 66% within Parliament to change the constitution, or to accept the new constitution. This would give some guarantees. Sixthly, that the so-called constitutional principles should be amended accordingly, as far as functions are concerned, as far as finances are concerned, and so forth. That the private ownership of property should be enshrined in the constitution, which it is not at the moment, and that the principle of self-determination should be accepted. And these basically are the conditions which we have also set.

EIR: I would think there is very little chance the ANC would actually agree to this.

Groenewald: Actually, I don't think so. We have also had extensive talks with the ANC, and because they realize we might end up in a complete bloodbath, I think there is a good chance they might agree to this, but only so that they can get control over the central police and defense forces, and in this way use them to establish their position of power according to the three phases.

EIR: Even though you see that to be the case, you still think that the several points you elaborated above would be sufficient against that sort of activity?

Groenewald: Yes. I think when it comes to the functions of the different states, it has basically been accepted that the police forces will be the responsibility of the states and that the so-called territorial forces, which means in South Africa the commandos and the local regiments, will be under control of the states, and also that certain elements of taxation, such as the income tax for example, will be the complete responsibility of the states. And the other functions which they have already agreed to is all cultural matters and sports matters and things like that. It seems to be moving very much in the

direction which we had hoped it would. And in that particular case we would probably participate in the election. The only question then is, can we prevent intimidation? That is a vital question.

EIR: Everything we have seen, at least in the terms in which the constitution is written now, the states, or provinces as they are called, have no power to tax, and the central government has the right to intervene on virtually anything, particularly where security matters are concerned.

Groenewald: That was what they had agreed to previously. And it would appear at least that the *government* assures us that if we provided them with this package, which we did today, and which they were very happy with, that they have an agreement with the ANC that the ANC would accept such a package, under the condition that we then participate in the process. To sum it up, it would appear that there is a possibility that we could end up in a constitutional dispensation which was relatively free and democratic, but in a situation where there is already a very high level of violence, and where there is no indication that the ANC is decreasing this level of violence, they might be paying lip service to such agreements for the purpose of carrying out such massive intimidation. For example, in the last two days, 17 Inkatha political organizers were assassinated in Tokoza, on the East Rand, east of Johannesburg. Seventeen. And it wasn't even mentioned in the press. Now this will lead to retribution and the whole cycle of violence will start all over again.

EIR: So you are saying that they could agree to these things, but with massive intimidation get 60% of the vote, and therefore vitiate precisely the agreements they had made?

Groenewald: Yes. Also because in the Transitional Executive Council, they will have the dominant share. So they could basically dictate the actions of the police and the security forces in that particular period, which is a very worrying factor.

EIR: As has been mentioned in numerous places, no matter what political agreements are arrived at per se, the essential question is what the economy is going to look like, whether there is any kind of program to get large-scale economic growth. How much has this been discussed? As you know, Lyndon LaRouche had proposed the program that the PLO and the Israelis largely adopted as the cornerstone of that major political breakthrough there. Is there anything like that afoot here?

Groenewald: That's an absolute requirement and the ANC is not looking at anything like that, and neither are we at this stage. We are hoping we could have some discussions with *EIR* on exactly that. Now, I would like to stress that *no one* abroad is going to be involved in investment in South Africa under the current conditions. Specifically, if the ANC gains a 60% majority, no one is going to invest in South Africa.