

branch of Kahane Chai, called the ban "an obscene, anti-democratic, anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist witchhunt." After the bloodletting at Hebron, Guzofsky had warmly praised Goldstein, whom he called "a good Jew, a healthy Jew who understood that the Arabs of Israel want to destroy the state of Israel and drive the Jews into the sea."

In Tel Aviv, 30,000 right-wing demonstrators clashed with police at a rally denouncing the government on March 15. Such developments underline fear of broader radicalization of the settlers movement, whose leaders are threatening the government with the specter of a civil war in the territories and the launching of an armed opposition movement modeled on France's extremist Secret Army Organization. The Anglo-American-backed OAS attempted to assassinate and overthrow the government of Charles de Gaulle during the Algerian war for independence.

Hebrew University professor Aviezer Ravitsky, an expert on these organizations, expressed fear in recent interviews that the Gush Emunim will become even more radicalized. Gush Emunim, which interfaces with Kach, is much larger and one of the principal organizations in the settlers movement. Its supporters number in the tens of thousands and are represented in the Knesset through the National Religious Party.

Playing into right-wing Jewish provocations, the militant Islamic Hamas movement issued a warning to the 13,000 settlers in the West Bank settlement of Ariel and four other settlements in the West Bank and Gaza to move out or face attacks in revenge for the Hebron massacre.

### **Saving the Gaza-Jericho accord**

Israeli supporters of the peace process underscore the need for the government to act quickly if the peace process is to be saved. One Israeli professor involved with the peace process pointed out that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat needs all the support he can get, and that implementation of the Gaza-Jericho accord should be accelerated as quickly as possible. Another Israeli from a joint Israeli/Palestinian political research institute said, "On the ground the situation is very tense. The Occupied Territories have been beefed up so much that it looks like one huge military camp." He added that everyone is expecting acts of retribution by both Jews and Palestinians. He pointed out that a 24-hour curfew is still in effect in Hebron and the territories still remain closed, barring Palestinians from their jobs in Israel. While this source believed all the settlements should be dismantled, he pointed out the necessity to immediately dismantle the Kach stronghold in Hebron, an obvious flashpoint once the curfew is lifted.

Although Rabin continues to act cautiously on the settlements, this source reported that public opinion would support the government if it acted forcefully. He pointed out that over one-third of the settlers would leave the territories if offered compensation for their investments.

## **South Africa faces bloody times ahead**

by David Hammer

The events of March 12-15 in the black homeland of Bophuthatswana are a harbinger of things to come in the "new, democratic South Africa." The government of President Lucas Mangope had decided not to participate in the April 27 national election, deeming it "illegitimate." The African National Congress threatened Mangope that unless he decided to participate, he would be overthrown. In a joint deployment by the ANC and the South African government, in which dozens were killed, he was overthrown.

Periodically throughout the negotiations on a new constitution, which took place during 1992-93 at the World Trade Center in Kempton Park, the African National Congress had threatened to "send in the tanks" to Bophuthatswana as soon as they had the power. On Dec. 6, the ANC became co-rulers of the country through the Transitional Executive Council. After various meetings and negotiations with Mangope, ANC head Nelson Mandela declared on March 8, "It seems I'm talking to a stone. I think we've given him enough time. . . . If he continues to be arrogant, we will have to take action against him, it's a matter of time."

### **Mangope forced out**

The "action" began Thursday afternoon, March 12, after an "all-clear" signal delivered by South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha, who announced on radio that Pretoria "would not rescue [Mangope] again," but would intervene only if South African lives were threatened. Civil servants began demonstrating with a series of impossible demands, such as immediate salary increases of 50% and full payment of pensions before April 27, while students from the University of Bophuthatswana took to the streets. It was generally acknowledged, particularly in the South African electronic media, that the ANC had orchestrated the events. Widespread rioting soon broke out, led, according to some accounts, by cadre of the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

Amidst chaos and the defections of part of his police force and army, Mangope fled the capital the night of March 12. The South African government sent in the South African Defense Force to "restore order." Despite Mangope's announcement on the evening of March 13 that he had agreed

to the elections, the South African government appointed a caretaker, Tjaart van der Walt, to replace him. "The interim government was established," noted Reuters on March 14, "at the insistence of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress."

### **Free and fair elections?**

Bophuthatswana was overthrown to help force the Freedom Alliance, of which it is a member along with the Inkatha Freedom Party, KwaZulu homeland, and the Afrikaner Volksfront, to participate in the election, so that the most likely outcome of the election—an ANC government—could be stamped "free and fair." But until the very last minute to register for the elections, a date which has been repeatedly pushed back, Alliance members had refused to do so.

The Alliance's reasons for nonparticipation were that 1) the ANC and the National Party government had entirely dominated the negotiations process on a new constitution under which the country will be ruled after the election, ignoring anyone else's proposals, specifically for a federal system; and 2) the ANC, the probable new government, is dominated by the South African Communist Party (SACP), and the SACP and ANC have a very bloody track record of suppressing dissent, including within their own membership. Unless they were given a significant degree of autonomy, both in financial and in police and military functions, reasoned Alliance members, they would be sooner or later slaughtered. Three hundred and fifty of the IFP's leadership have been assassinated in the last few years.

The SACP domination of the ANC is hardly a secret. The ANC's election slate reflects this fact, as even the South Africa correspondent of the pro-ANC London *Times* recently noted:

"Argument is currently raging about how many communists there are in the top 50 places on the ANC election list. Some analysts say it is as high as 27, but nobody doubts that the Communist Party, as the most cohesive and disciplined group within the ANC leadership, will continue to act as the main initiator of African National Congress policy.

"Voting for the ANC list also means supporting some notably illiberal spirits, including Umkhonto officers accused of atrocities against their own men in the Angolan camps, [and] radicals who openly call for other parties to be prevented from campaigning in the townships."

### **Longstanding British-Soviet assets**

A hard core of SACP leaders around Joe Slovo, for decades the SACP's general secretary and now a senior ANC official, have been longstanding joint assets of British intelligence and Moscow. And whereas some leading ANC members, including some who were SACP members as well, had recently offered to concede a great deal of autonomy to Zulu and Afrikaner-majority regions in order to avert the likelihood of a bloody civil war, Slovo's faction repeatedly nixed

such compromises, as per British policy, à la Bosnia, to provoke civil war.

And it was Slovo who was the acknowledged mastermind of the entire years-long negotiations process, including the drafting of the new constitution. As Slovo crowed in his report to the SACP Central Committee, as reported in the SACP journal *The African Communist* (No. 136, Fourth Quarter 1993), "The negotiated package that was finally signed on the night of Nov. 17-18 at Kempton Park is a famous victory. . . . It represents . . . the culmination of decades of struggle."

Slovo stressed that the key to this victory was the complete "bilateralism" of the ANC and National Party negotiators, which enabled them to "completely demoralize" all opposition.

That the elections will not be free and fair was acknowledged even by a spokesman for the Project Democracy apparatus, known as the "secret, parallel government," in the United States. Patricia Kiefer of the National Democratic Institute told the *Washington Post* already last November, "I don't think by any standard it is going to be free and fair—there's too much intimidation and violence already in the political culture." South Africa's current President, F.W. De Klerk, cannot even campaign freely—his security forces recently had to use tear gas and rubber bullets to stop an assault on him by ANC supporters during a campaign appearance. Meanwhile, whole areas of the country are off limits to one or another party at the risk of their lives. Ballots for the April 27 voting are being printed by a British company which reportedly has ties to the ANC, according to several sources in South Africa.

### **Troubles just beginning**

Though they have ostensibly won their liberation struggle, the SACP and ANC's troubles are just beginning. The African National Congress has promised to build 1 million new homes, provide water, sewage, electrification, and health services for all South Africans, provide ten years of free education, and other things. In order to meet the tremendous expectations aroused by these promises, South Africa's physical economy would have to grow dramatically.

However, the initial moves the African National Congress has made on the economic front—negotiating an \$800 million loan with the genocidal International Monetary Fund, pledging to shut down the country's only nuclear reactor, and to drastically cut back basic scientific research—augur disaster. Under conditions of International Monetary Fund-ensured economic collapse, dissent will grow rapidly. Barring the sort of large-scale infrastructure and industrialization program funded by a Hamiltonian national bank of the sort proposed by Lyndon LaRouche, the new South Africa faces one of only two possible scenarios: either a brutal, police-state crackdown on the growing dissent, or a rapidly escalating civil war.