

Mercenary Trial Creates Row Over Intelligence Agencies

[AN] New allegations about South Africa's rival intelligence agencies have surfaced in the trial of 43 mercenaries accused of hijacking a plane to Durban after an aborted coup attempt in the Seychelles Islands last November.

The testimony of mercenary leader Mike Hoare in the hijacking trial earlier this month implicates Prime Minister P.W. Botha's government and the South African Defense Force in the bungled coup attempt.

According to Hoare, the South African Cabinet approved plans to topple the socialist government of Seychelles President Albert Rene, and Military Intelligence supplied the mercenaries with weapons for the operation.

In his testimony, Hoare said he first approached and then received support from the National Intelligence Service but the preparations for the coup were put in the lap of the Division of Military Intelligence by the prime minister's office.

There has been widespread speculation about the ascendancy of the Division of Military Intelligence (DMI) over the civilian National Intelligence Service (NIS) ever since former Defense Minister P.W. Botha became prime minister in 1978. Under Botha's predecessor, John Vorster, the NIS (then the Bureau of State Security, or BOSS), became embroiled in an international scandal that eventually toppled Vorster's government. Upon coming to power, Botha renamed the agency and reportedly reined it in to some extent.

Hoare's testimony, then, fits in with Botha's alleged policy of permitting the DMI a freer hand in its activities to undermine governments in nearby states. His disclosures also followed those of two other mercenaries who turned state's evidence and the statement of a NIS agent captured in the Seychelles. Martin Dolinck, who told of South African involvement in the plot.

In December, Botha denied any knowledge of South African involvement in the operation, but Hoare's allegations have not been rebutted in detail by the government.

The speaker of the South Africa parliament will not allow debate on the issue until the adjournment of the trials.

According to the *Financial Mail*, the ascendancy of the DMI, and its style of operation is causing resentment in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The military's recently expressed doubts about a negotiated settlement in Namibia are thought to have created uncertainties over the South African position in the peace negotiations. And a Defense Force White Paper on Defense and Arms Procurement which labeled Zambia and Zimbabwe "Marxist satellite states" along with Mozambique and Angola is thought to have lacked tact as it was released while plans for a meeting between Botha and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda were being formalized.

In a move which was

expected to curry favor in the West and enhance the image of the NIS, which is receiving adverse publicity for the coup failure, South Africa exchanged a Soviet agent for eight German agents and a South African soldier in early May.

In announcing the swap, Botha said he hoped that Western nations that have "displayed a sharply hostile attitude toward our country" would take notice of South Africa's "good will" in negotiating the exchange. The NIS reportedly held talks directly with the KGB, with help from West Germany.

High School Students Win A&T Alumni Scholarships

GREENSBORO — Four talented high school students have been selected by the A&T State University National Alumni Association to receive scholarships worth up to \$12,000 each.

Winners of the awards were Riley A. Hamilton, III, Springfield, Virginia; Ms. Tonya Annette Crawford, Reidsville; Ronald Kenith Lawrence, Jr., Gainsville Florida; and Ms. Gail Spaulding Frasier, Columbus, Ohio.

Announcing the scholarships was Dr. Velma Speight, president of the A&T State University National Alumni Association.

According to Dr. Speight, the students comprise

association's first National Alumni Scholars. The awards will be worth \$2,000 per year for an in-state student and \$3,000 per year for an out-of-state student. The scholarships are renewable for four years providing the students maintain at least a "B" average.

Hamilton will graduate from West Springfield High School in June. He is a member of his school's football team, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Students Concerned About Minority Affairs and the Hi-Y. He will major in industrial engineering at A&T.

Ms. Crawford will graduate from the prestigious North Carolina School of Science and Math in

Durham. She is active in the band and chorus and will major in biology at A&T.

Lawrence, who hopes to major in business administration at A&T, has been active in the Esquire Service Club, the French Club, choir, jazz ensemble and drama club.

Ms. Frasier will study electrical engineering at A&T. She has served with the Student Council, Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Junior Olympics, Student Eastmoor Symphonic Band, and softball and track teams.

Dr. Speight said the alumni association will add four National Alumni Scholars to the program until a total of 16 is reached. These will be

sustained through four years of study at A&T. Heading the scholar-

ship committee is James Bridgett, Columbia, S.C. Others on the com-

mittee are Howard Bar-nhill, Charlotte, and John Maye, Troy, NC.



Ms. Tonya Annette Crawford (center), a student at the North Carolina School of Science and Math, has been awarded a scholarship valued at \$8,000 by the A&T State University National Alumni Association.

With her are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin C. Crawford of Reidsville. She will major in Biology.

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