

Vigil supporters were interested to see that Morgan Tsvangirai has at last admitted the violent truth about the constitutional outrage programme, now nearly a year behind schedule, gobbling donor money and going nowhere.

We at the Vigil are not surprised by Mr Tsvangirai's comments. Nothing he says surprises us any more. His inconsistency can be relied upon just as can the consistency of Mugabe; Tsvangirai can be trusted to vacillate just as Mugabe can be sure to use violence to cling to power.

We human rights activists, basking in the autumn sunshine outside Zimbabwe House, are caught between a sponge and a hard place. Ever since the formation of the 'unity' government the Vigil's task has been particularly difficult simply because there has been no real 'opposition' party in Zimbabwe. 'Why are you cluttering up the Strand?' we are asked. 'Your Mr Tsvangirai has tea every Monday with his friend Robert'.

It's been a challenge to answer this so we were relieved when the famous Zimbabwean helicopter inventor Daniel Chingoma announced the formation of the Zimbabwe Integrated Revolutionary Party (ZIRP) especially for intellectuals like us.

Mr Chingoma said 'there are no parties for intellectuals in Zimbabwe and that is why things are going down, especially the infrastructure. This is very bad and that is why I have formed my own party.' (see: http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep19a_2010.html#Z12 Chingoma's toilet party set to fly like his chopper –).

Mr Chingoma certainly has a revolutionary approach to political campaigning: 'Since the ZBC TV and Radio only allow Zanu-PF to advertise I will do so in toilets. Everyone goes to the toilet and so I have decided to put up my posters in the toilets for both men and women'.

The Vigil now understands the reason why Professor Mutambara has not been seen for the past month – preventing any progress in the GPA negotiations: he has been putting up

intellectual posters in lavatories.

At the Vigil we have huge reinforced plastic portable male urinals delivered by lorries when we pack up on Saturday evenings. We would be only too happy to display Mr Chingoma's posters on them.

As well as multi-brained Mutambara, another well-known 'intellectual' seems to have been attracted by the revolutionary Zimbabwe lavatory project. He is Beamish Branson, Britain's billionaire Virgin chief, who is urging the world to invest in Zimbabwe

. (Zimbabwe helicopters are the way forward – see: Richard Branson urges world to invest Zimbabwe

, http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/sep22_2010.html#Z4).

The Vigil is beguiled by the prospect of Branson leading his Virgins to save Zimbabwe. Surely he must know that Zimbabwe is ranked as one of the most corrupt countries in the world, run by gangsters who enjoy impunity from prosecution and that there is no rule of law or respect for property? Welcome to the jewel of

Africa , Mr Branson.

Other points

. During the week the Vigil sent the following message to the South American so-called Anglican cleric who invited Mugabe to Ecuador to receive an honorary doctorate. 'Dear Revd Dr Walter Roberto Crespo: the Zimbabwe Vigil wishes to add our support to Genocide Watch in protest at your proposal to honour Robert Mugabe. We are exiled Zimbabweans who are have been protesting outside the Zimbabwe Embassy in London every Saturday for the past 8 years in protest at human rights abuses by the Mugabe regime and in support of free and fair elections which seem as far away as ever. Many of us are Anglicans who have been locked out of our churches in Zimbabwe by Mugabe. As an academic institution we would hope that you would do some research into

the situation in

Zimbabwe

before honouring a despot. We would be only too happy to help you. As it is, your proposed action does you no credit within the Anglican community who have been praying day and night for the suffering people of

Zimbabwe

to be delivered from the hands of the murderous Mugabe regime. You will be aware of the Old Testament reading from last Sunday 'The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved'.

We have since learnt that Dr Crespo is a friend of the notorious Zimbabwean renegade Bishop Nolbert Kunonga. He has also been in jail for gun-running (see:

<http://geoconger.wordpress.com/2010/09/04/questions-over-anglican-honours-claim-for-robert-mugabe-the-church-of-england-newspaper-sept-3-2010-p-7/>

).

• The Vigil is marking its 8th anniversary on Saturday 9th October. Please come and join us. More information to follow.

• Congratulations to long-term supporters Agnes Zengeya on the birth of her baby last week.

For latest Vigil pictures check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwewigil/> . For the latest ZimVigil TV programme check the link at the top of the home page of our website.

FOR THE RECORD: 141 signed the register.

EVENTS AND NOTICES:

• **The Restoration of Human Rights in Zimbabwe (ROHR)** is the Vigil's partner organisation based in Zimbabwe

we ROHR grew out of the need for the Vigil to have an organisation on the ground in Zimbabwe

which reflected the Vigil's mission statement in a practical way. ROHR in the UK

actively fundraises through membership subscriptions, events, sales etc to support the activities of ROHR in Zimbabwe

• **ROHR Woking general meeting.** Saturday 2nd October 2010 from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: Ravenswood Court

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Written by Administrator

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Hillview Road

,
Woking
GU22 7NR

. Contact:

Isaac

Mudzamiri 07774044873, Sithokozile Hlokana 07886203113 or P Mapfumo on 07915926323 / 07932216070

- **Zimbabwe Vigil's 8th Anniversary.** Saturday 9th October from 2 – 6 pm.
- **ROHR Liverpool Vigil.** Saturday 9th October from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: Church Street (Outside Primark), Liverpool City

Centre. For details please contact: Anywhere Mungoyo 07939913688, Trywell Migeri 07956083758, Panyika Karimanzira 07551062161. Future demonstration: 9th

October. Same time and venue.

- **ROHR Stevenage general meeting.** Saturday 16th October. Venue: Poplars Bandley Hill Community Centre, Stevenage

, Herts SG2 9RZ from 1.30 – 5.30. ROHR Executive present. Contact Jemitas Mare 07570191705, K Mashonganyika 07962383872 or P Mapfumo 07915926323, 07932216070.

- **ROHR Wolverhampton relaunch meeting.** Date to be advised. Venue: Heath Town Community Centre, 208 Chevril Rise, Wolverhampton

WV10 0HP. It's time for you to join in the Struggle for Peace, Justice and Freedom for Zimbabwe

. Contact P Chibanguza 07908406069, P Nkomo 07817096594, P Dunduru 07958386718, D Mtendereki 07771708800 or P Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070.

- **Vigil Facebook page:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8157345519&ref=ts> .
- **Vigil Myspace page:** <http://www.myspace.com/zimbabwевigil> .
- **'Through the Darkness', Judith Todd's acclaimed account of the rise of Mugabe.** T

o receive a copy by post in the UK please email confirmation of your order and postal address to

ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk

and send a cheque for £10 payable to "Budiriro Trust" to Emily Chadburn, 15 Burners Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 0QA. All proceeds go to the Budiriro Trust which provides bursaries to needy A Level students in

Zimbabwe

- **Workshops aiming to engage African men on HIV testing and other sexual health issues.** Organised by the Terrence Higgins Trust (www.tht.org.uk). Please contact the co-ordinator

Mukiwa

akudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk

if you are interested in taking part.

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