

ANC plans report on Zuma arms deal

by UPI

CAPE TOWN, South Africa -- The African National Congress planned to introduce a report on a controversial arms deal involving its President Jacob Zuma in an effort to support his tenure. The ANC Secretary-General Gwede Mantashe said the party had no intentions of reopening the arms probe but needed a detailed report to proceed, (Johannesburg) Business Day said Wednesday. "We don't want thumb sucking, we want to get information from all sources, including official sources," Mantashe said. Zuma is implicated in fraud charges involving the French arms company Thales while serving as deputy president of South Africa in 2005. The National Prosecuting Authority filed charges against Zuma following his nomination as president of the ANC. The committee examining the arms deal includes members of the ANC and the National Election Committee. ANC Treasurer Mathews Phosa criticized the "inconsistencies" in the NPA's probe and pointed to "political spin" in the press. "The consistent press leakages in this case ... are aimed at pushing a trial by media ... or a trial in the court of public opinion," Phosa said. Zuma is to deliver a state of the party address Saturday.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

ANC plans report on Zuma arms deal by UPI