Legal bid to oust Mugabe begins

Kevin Stuff

A DAY after Zimbabwe’s military urged President Robert Mugabe to give up power, the man who ended his regime 40 years ago has vowed to fight on.

The military commander who briefly took office to preserve the power of the Mugabe family in 2008 was at the center of efforts yesterday to negotiate a peaceful transition.

The latest offer to push Mugabe into retirement ended with force, perhaps confirming a fear that Zimbabwe’s ousted ruler will refuse to push the presidential door.

House arrest and detention seem the best guarantee of a prominent role for the 93-year-old leader, who is looking to leverage its position in the capital and to be allowed to continue to speak – even if by telephone.

Government insiders yesterday said Mugabe’s resignation would be “one of the most difficult processes in Africa.”

But one of the key opposition groups said yesterday that it would not renounce the “well-recognized and internationally-accepted concept of leadership.”

Although Zimbabwe’s military and Mugabe’s immediate family members are in a high-level meeting, military sources said last week that the “well-recognized concept of leadership” would be for the “best interests of the country.”

The country is in shock following the weekend’s shock arrest of Mugabe’s wife, Grace, from its ranks.

Over the weekend, a string of events, including a tearful resignation yesterday, with an appeal to the people, was accompanied by a move to break the stalemate, former vice-premier Lovemore Matuke, as a widely expected resignation, with former vice-premier and Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba, as the party’s new chief whip.

The country is still in shock following the weekend’s shock arrest of Mugabe’s wife, Grace, from its ranks.

Over the weekend, a string of events, including a tearful resignation yesterday, with an appeal to the people, was accompanied by a move to break the stalemate, former vice-premier Lovemore Matuke, as a widely expected resignation, with former vice-premier and Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba, as the party’s new chief whip.

The country is still in shock following the weekend’s shock arrest of Mugabe’s wife, Grace, from its ranks.

Over the weekend, a string of events, including a tearful resignation yesterday, with an appeal to the people, was accompanied by a move to break the stalemate, former vice-premier Lovemore Matuke, as a widely expected resignation, with former vice-premier and Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba, as the party’s new chief whip.

The country is still in shock following the weekend’s shock arrest of Mugabe’s wife, Grace, from its ranks.

Over the weekend, a string of events, including a tearful resignation yesterday, with an appeal to the people, was accompanied by a move to break the stalemate, former vice-premier Lovemore Matuke, as a widely expected resignation, with former vice-premier and Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba, as the party’s new chief whip.

The country is still in shock following the weekend’s shock arrest of Mugabe’s wife, Grace, from its ranks.

Over the weekend, a string of events, including a tearful resignation yesterday, with an appeal to the people, was accompanied by a move to break the stalemate, former vice-premier Lovemore Matuke, as a widely expected resignation, with former vice-premier and Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba, as the party’s new chief whip.