

Emmerson Mnangagwa: “The Crocodile”

■ **1942:** Born in Zvishavane, mining town in then British colony of Southern Rhodesia

■ **1960s:** Joins fight against white minority rule, receiving military training in Egypt and China. Nicknamed “the crocodile” due to political shrewdness and ruthlessness

■ **1965:** Tortured by Rhodesian forces after his “crocodile gang” blows up train. Jailed for 10 years with other nationalists including **Robert Mugabe**

■ **1975:** Starts practising law after completing degree in Zambia

■ **1977:** Named Mugabe’s assistant, heading both military and civil divisions of **Zanu-PF** party

■ **1979-80:** Accompanies Mugabe to London for talks that lead to birth of independent Zimbabwe

■ **1983:** As spymaster, he oversees security services during brutal campaign by North Korean-trained **Fifth Army** brigade against supporters of Mugabe rival **Joshua Nkomo**. ▶

Mnangagwa denies any role in massacres in Matabeleland that kill thousands of civilians

■ **2001:** Named in UN investigation into exploitation of mineral resources in Congo for which he is reputed to have amassed considerable fortune



■ **2008:** Accused of masterminding deadly attacks on opposition supporters of **Morgan Tsvangirai** during presidential election

■ **Nov 2017:** Sacked as vice-president in move seen as clearing path for Mugabe’s wife, **Grace**, to presidency. Flees to South Africa

■ **Mugabe resigns days after military takes control. Mnangagwa becomes president**

