

Revolution 'would bring counter-revolt'

MERCURY

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MUNICH—South Africa would reel under attack by thousands of highly trained white saboteurs if revolution produced a one-party socialist state there, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi said here yesterday.

The white activists would have a degree of communication and mobility never experienced by revolutionaries anywhere else in Africa and there would be 'moles' in every important facet of economic and political life, he said.

The KwaZulu Chief Minister and Inkatha president was addressing the Hans Seidel Foundation Institute for Foreign Relations' 9th International Symposium on Policy and Strategy.

He said that if President Botha did not change his attitude towards proper negotiation with blacks, he would have to be replaced by somebody who would.

The big hurdle to be jumped was Mr Botha's refusal to accept that there was a black majority. This led to his insistence on retaining laws which made human distinctions on the basis of ethnicity — 'real or imposed'.

The prospect of moving away from confrontation towards dialogue depended on the eradication of apartheid

without destroying the country.

Apartheid South Africa grew stronger where it was most attacked by revolutionaries, he said.

The fact that Mr Botha faced a Right-wing backlash arose from the necessity to move towards power sharing.

If 'by some chance' revolution succeeded in establishing a one-party state and a socialist economy, any future South African government would face internal dissent.

There were about six million whites who could produce thousands of saboteurs who would already have received training, unequalled in Africa, in the use of arms.

Scorched earth

'The very nature of things would determine that this group of white saboteurs would have means of communication (and a mobility) unheard of in revolutionary Africa.

'Revolution would also only achieve its objectives after scorched-earth policy had met scorched-earth policy to destroy the very foundations of economic growth.

'Nowhere in Africa was there the concentration of the millions in urban areas when revolution succeeded that there are now in South Africa

can urban areas.

'These possibly 10 million people can only eat if they can buy, and they can only buy if they work, and they can only work if the foundations of mining, banking, commerce and industry are left intact by the struggle for liberation.'

Blacks, like anyone else, would blame the government of the day for a vast spreading of mass poverty, Dr Buthelezi said.

There would be not only a white backlash against successful revolution but a black one, and the two would reinforce each other.

Foreign governments could talk about the prospects of revolution succeeding in South Africa, but they should not hope for any lasting benefit from it.

'I know my countrymen, and I tell you bluntly that revolution will never succeed in establishing a just society.

'The prospect of moving away from confrontation to dialogue depends on the eradication of apartheid for the scourge that it is. We have to destroy apartheid without destroying South Africa.'

The hurdle to be overcome now was Mr Botha's 'adamant refusal' to accept the reality of a black majority. — (Sapa)

Mandela mania at fever pitch

Mercury Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—The media's Mandela mania has reached fever pitch in the past week as journalists spend tens of thousands of rands in a bid to secure details of his 'imminent' release.

More than 40 journalists have arrived in Cape Town — some by Lear jet — following what they described as 'the strongest rumour for many years' of Mandela's release.

At least six television crews representing all the major British and American networks, correspondents from wire services and international photographers joined the 'Mandela watch' in Cape Town a week ago.

Correspondents who have since had to return to Johannesburg are being replaced promptly, while crews continue to keep a constant watch on all entrances and exits at the Constantiaberg Clinic, D F Malan Airport, and Pollsmoor Prison.

Photographers are working non-stop on schemes to secure a picture of Mandela — before he is actually released.

While some photographers believe an exclusive picture of 'the most famous prisoner in the world' could fetch at least £100 000 (R430 000), others say it would be 'priceless'.

Although media organisations have not calculated the exact cost of the current Mandela watch, representatives said 'tens of thousands of rands' had been spent in just seven days.

It costs about R3 000 a day to have a major foreign television crew, including a cameraman, soundman, producer and correspondent, on 24-hour standby.

In addition most of the journalists fly business class and stay at five-star hotels, many in R260-a-night rooms.

Journalists, however, have been unsure of the identity of the source of this latest expensive rumour.

Mrs Winnie Mandela has told close associates that her husband said he did not expect to be released until early next year.

Control war-like leaders first, responds UDF's Gumede

Buthelezi calls for urgent peace talks

The Natal Witness, Monday, February 15, 1988

Witness Reporter

KWAZULU'S Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday called on the joint president of the United Democratic Front, Mr Archie Gumede, for urgent talks to solve the crisis in the city.

However, Mr Gumede said last night that while there was no objection in principle to discussions with Chief Buthelezi, "there can be no talks until he can control those war-like leaders of his".

The president of Inkatha was responding to a 19-page letter sent late last year and described by Mr Gumede as "reconciliatory".

Chief Buthelezi stressed the urgency of a meeting "no matter our differences" but said he did not find any "humility" or "generosity" in the letter.

He said last night "that the time has come for us to rise above the dialectic that divides us".

"In some way, however tentatively, is it not possible for me to stand back, pause and think positively as to how we can motivate the considerable constituencies around us into action for the common good?"

"We will not be dictated to and neither will you. But this does not mean, Mr Gumede, that people must die because of our intractability... I put it to you that it is possible for us to join forces if and when it is mutually acceptable."

Chief Buthelezi said Mr Gumede's letter "displayed all the trappings of those who somehow believe they have all the right answers and are beyond reproach". He said there was no acknowledgement of accountability for what is happening.

"I find this very strange indeed. Is the UDF blameless? We do not claim to be and we also acknowledge crucial factors that are beyond the control of us both.

"Please, Mr Gumede, let us stop this nonsense," he concluded.

Commenting on the contents of his letter, Mr Gumede said: "What I said was that we had no objection in principle to discussions with Inkatha, but while there were all these attacks on UDF members and while the state of emergency was in force, we just didn't see how this was to be done.

"What hurt him most in the letter was a list we compiled of statements made by him in the past in which he had made virulent attacks with regard to the UDF. We also made up a list of the attacks by Inkatha on UDF members in the townships."

Mr Gumede said his letter was not intended as an attack on Inkatha "but we must be practical... I wanted to explain the problems that must be solved before we can talk".

New venue for warlords' conference

THE press conference arranged by the so-called township "warlords" is to be held at the Imperial Hotel at 2 pm today.

The venue was changed after the Chamber of Commerce said it was unable to grant permission for the meeting to be held in the Chamber boardroom as the "warlords" had failed to comply with a condition imposed by the Chamber.—WR.

Government won't allow chaos through 'each following his own course'

PW's warning to Treurnicht

NATAL WITNESS 15 Nov. 1988

IN a veiled threat to the Conservative Party and its drive to reintroduce petty apartheid in the Transvaal, President P.W. Botha warned last night that the government "would not allow chaos to develop".

Opening the Transvaal National Party congress with a public meeting in the Pretoria city hall, he said the government was bound to the principle of representative government and the devolution of authority but it would not allow chaos to develop, with each one following his or her own course.

Since the CP took control of a majority of city councils in the Transvaal, it has begun putting up "whites only" signs in some public places.

When one member of the audience shouted, "prohibit the signs", the President responded by saying the CP would impoverish those towns where they implemented a policy of separate amenities.

"I hope they reconsider," he said.

He asked CP leader Dr Andries Treurnicht whether he had considered the international repercussions of his party's campaign.

He said it was easy for someone to get on to a platform and beat his chest bravely but it was different matter to defend South Africa's case abroad and keep sanctions at bay.

"It is not so easy to look your persecutors in the eye in the conference halls of the world but those things the leader of the opposition does not have to do.

"He just crows every morning and we have to keep South Africa safe."

Despite intense media speculation that he would address the issue of Nelson Mandela, Mr Botha made no reference to freedom for the African National Congress leader.

However he did say the ANC knew it could simply lay down its arms and it would be given safe conduct back to South Africa to negotiate for peaceful change.

"But the ANC is not seeking negotiation, it is seeking capitulation and that will not transpire under this government," he said.

"If it appears that this struggle must be fought to the bitter end, then I say, let's fight it to the bitter end."

He did not expand on the nature of negotiations, but ruled out the "sort of Lancaster House conference" that brought an end to the war in Rhodesia.

The date of the next election has also been the source of much media speculation, but Mr Botha would reveal nothing.

"When the election will be, I will say when the time is ripe," he said, smiling at the press tables.

He said the NP had something to offer the

country in the field of constitutional development and what it wanted to do it would do in Parliament and the voters would give their verdict.

He was confident that results of the recent municipal elections showed the NP in the Transvaal had overcome its setbacks and could regain lost ground.

He confirmed that the Free Settlement Areas legislation would be signed into law as recommended by the President's Council as it was an improvement on the rigid concept of group areas which had not worked satisfactorily. — Sapa.

Media may be forced to disclose sources



HEUNIS

PRETORIA — The government should give serious attention to the possibility of laws compelling disclosure of "responsible sources" which were quoted in the media and maligned or slandered people in public life, President P.W. Botha has said.

Last night he gave his backing to Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis in the face of recent media speculation on a cabinet reshuffle and the possible sidelining of the minister. Mr Botha singled him out for praise as the man who had done more than anyone else for reform.

Mr Botha said he was disappointed that the two major Afrikaans press groups, Nasionale Pers and Perskor, had allowed "an Afrikaans weekend newspaper (a clear reference to Rapport) to become a poor edition of the Sunday Times".

Referring to a recent Australian High Court judgment, which obliged the disclosure of sources quoted by the media which slandered or maligned other people, he said: "I think our government should take this possibility seriously". — Sapa.

Sanctions: CP warns it will not sit back



DERBY-LEWIS

JOHANNESBURG — The Conservative Party will not sit back and watch other countries destroy South Africa with sanctions, CP MP Mr Clive Derby-Lewis warned yesterday.

"The powers-that-be in these countries must know that they cannot survive without certain of South Africa's strategic minerals which are not obtainable anywhere else in the world, (not) even from the Soviet Union," he said in a statement.

"The Conservative Party appeals to the U.S. State Department and other governments who continually threaten South Africa with sanctions whenever the whites act in their own interests, to get off the sanctions bandwagon."

Mr Derby-Lewis said that the inference by the U.S. State Department with their call to the National Party to "stop" the CP was a "flagrant breach of normal international behaviour".

Although the CP did not believe in trade boycotts, it was "not prepared to allow trade boycotts and selective sanctions against this country", he said. — Sapa.

Mpumuzu NATAL family WITNESS flees 15/11/88 attackers

Witness Reporter

AN extended family of about 25 — including 15 children — slept under the stars in Edendale last night after they fled their house in Mpumuzu when it came under attack by vigilantes on Saturday night.

"We have brought all our possessions from the house and this is where are going to stay for now. It's safer," family spokesman Ephraim Cebekulu said.

The Natal Witness found the Cebekulu family camping at a firewood yard in Malinyana, Edendale, last night. They had all their household goods with them, including a lounge suite, tables, chairs, cupboards, mattresses and other items.

Mr Cebekulu said the vigilantes had first attacked his brother, Siphso, at about noon on Saturday when he was driving home.

"They threw stones at his car. He drove straight for home but they chased him. They then took a van from the yard, and set it alight. When I came home later I saw the burnt-out van and the same people threatened to stone me.

"Unfortunately my car broke down before I reached home ... By the time I had finished (fixing the car) it was dark ... some shots rang out. One bullet went straight through the windscreen ... Then the attackers set the car on fire. My whole family came out, including the children, and started throwing stones at them. They left, but came back later and attacked the house, using high-powered rifles and shotguns."

Mr Cebekulu said Siphso was wounded in the attack and was still walking around with a bullet in his side because he was "too frightened to go to Edendale Hospital because there are too many Inkatha people there".

Edendale community leader Mr Deda Hlophe was last night trying to find somewhere to house the family and appealed for assistance.