AP1987_12_11_25

STAR AFRIC

Anglicans 'recognise force is necessary'

Lusaka Document accepted by church

MODDERPOORT — The top executive body of the Anglican Church in southern Africa yesterday voted to accept the Lusaka Document, the declaration issued earlier this year which recognises that liberation movements are "compelled" to use force.

However, the church's Provincial Standing Committee (PSC) qualified its acceptance of the document by making a powerful plea to church members to develop non-violent strategies for achieving change in South Africa.

All the church's dioceses in southern Africa are represented on the PSC by bishops, priests and lay members. The resolution on the Lusaka Document was adopted with no one voting against it.

A key section of the document, issued in Zambia in May this year, says: "While remaining committed to peaceful change we recognise that the nature of the South African regime which wages war against its own inhabitants and neighbours compels the (libera-

tion) movements to the use of force along with other means to end oppression."

The SA Council of Churches adopted the statement in July and referred it to member churches, including the Anglican Church.

Yesterday's resolution said the church understood the pressures "which have led the liberation movements to respond to violence with violence".

It also said the church recognised the commitment to peaceful change laid out in the Lusaka Document.

The PSC said in a three-point declaration that it:

"Accepts the Lusaka Document and stresses the need for further meetings with the ANC and PAC to discuss the nature of the 'South Africa-beyond-apartheid' to which we are committed."

 Implored members to explore fully ways in which they could demonstrate Jesus's way of non-violence.

• Appealed "in the strongest possible way" to members to pledge change. — Sapa.

SA 'doesn't have much time left'

By Martin Challenor
South Africa did not have a
great deal of time left to
build a just society, Mr Kurt
von Schirnding, director-general of the South Africa
Foundation (and Pretoria's
former ambassador to the
UN) said yesterday.

He was addressing a public meeting arranged by the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of South Africa, in Johannesburg.

"The future of this country must be far from rosy," Mr Von Schirnding said. "But there is a tremendous underlying tolerance which transcends political issues quite remarkably.

"We have all lived cheek by jowl in relative harmony for the past 300 years or more. So I refuse to believe that it is beyond the grasp of statesmanship in South Africa to achieve a truly non-discriminatory system acceptable to all our people — if we have the will and vision to do so.

SILENT MAJORITY

"I believe that there is a broad spectrum of moderate South Africans of all races who form the vast, perhaps silent, majority who wish to live and work together and are prepared to come together to build a new South Africa which we all want to see."

It would be an immeasurable tragedy and irony if the outside world hindered this process by adopting measures that would destroy the country's economic foundation, Mr Von Schirnding said.

This would encourage forces of violence and chaos, not those of moderation and goodwill. "For our part, we in South Africa have to demonstrate in unmistakable terms that we will not be deterred from establishing that more just society. I do not believe that there is a great deal of time left

no:

me

"We must not be surprised that
there is a great deal of criticism and antagonism against
South Africa because we are
basically the only society
which still contains statutory
discrimination in its legal
system.

DIFFICULT

"Until we get rid of that, it is very difficult to argue a case for support of the South African system."

Mr Von Schirnding said South Africans interested in their children's future would recognise that recent reforms were not nearly enough.

But it was a very myopic stategy to adopt punitive mea sures against a Government that in the past three years had "adopted reforms which are of a great significance and cannot be written off as cosmetic or window dressing."

There was, Mr Von Schirnding said, great disappointment internally and internationally that the reform process had ground to a halt.

The world did not appreciate that the way to encourage further political, social and economic reform was not to adopt punitive measures such as sanctions and disinvestment, as these had precisely the opposite effect to what was intended.

No moral justification to have mercy, says judge

SOWETAN 25/11/87

REGKLAGE: 3TO HANG

ONE of the three men sentenced to death in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday told the judge: "I do not want a prison sentence, I want to hang".

Thomas Malahlela (26), clad in khakhi bermuda shorts, takkies and a sweater, said this after being asked whether he wanted to address the court before the death penalty was pronounced.

Malahlela, Bookie Mahlangu (34) and Johannes Molefe (21), all of Masimong Section, Tembisa, had pleaded not guilty to the murder of Dorah Abanantho (25), of Kopanong Section in Tembisa. She was necklaced on the morning of June 28, 1986.

Mahlangu and Molefe were also sentenced to death.

Mr Justice A J le Grange said their evidence was full of lies and did not extenuate them. He said: "We find no moral justification to have mercy on the accused."

Evidence led earlier in the trial revealed that Miss Abanantho was murdered for allegedly poisoning Miss Verina Mabusela over a boyfriend. Miss Mabusela died.

Mr Justice le Grange had remarked that he found it strange that the accused could murder Miss Abanantho when they were not even related to Miss Mabu-

Indaba 'has split the NP'

African Affairs Correspondent

THE KwaZulu/Natal Indaba had caused a split in the National Party in Natal, with members supporting and rejecting its proposals. Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Chief Minister of KwaZulu, said in Cape Town yesterday.

Addressing an Afrikaanse Sakekamer luncheon, he said President Botha and his senior colleagues were more open minded about the Indaba than was indicated by some backbenchers and other party leaders who had displayed a 'negative' attitude towards it.

He said, however, that all the surveys undertaken by the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba through independent sgencies had shown a 'remarkable' degree of support for the Indaba proposals among members claiming allegiance to the NP.

The State President had accepted the region's Joint Executive Authority and the Government had also announced its willingness to negotiate with the KwaZulu and Natal Provincial authorities about the possible establish-

The Natal Mercury, Wednesday, November 25, 1987

form programme

Guns

If this reform programme failed, so would the economy and the free-enterprise system along with it, and South Africa would become a banana republic in which guns replaced ballot boxes.

'If this happens,' he said, 'a failed South African economy will make it logistically impossible for the Afrikaners' cultural identity to be protected by the politics of prescription.'

Change, which had to come, had to be endorsed by blacks as well as whites and would have to reconcile all groups.

The West would accept whatever it was that brought about the reconciliation.

Dr Buthelezi called on Afrikaans business leaders to help the ruling National Party unshackle itself from apartheid, which he warned was still very much alive and would remain so as long as the Group Areas and Population Registration Acts were on the Statute books.

ment of a joint legislative authority.

Willingness

It is one of the signs of hope today that while the South African Government's indicated response to the constitutional recommendations of the Indaba as conveyed by backbenchers and some party leaders is negative, statements by the State President himself and his senior Cabinet colleagues are far more open ended,' he said.

They have endorsed the politics of negotiation as important and declared their willingness to discuss the constitutional proposals which the Indaba formulated.

Dr Buthelezi said the Indaba contained a set of proposals which would make the Group Areas and Population Registration Acts redundant.

He said there were no authoritative Afrikaner economists who doubted that the return of confidence as a vital factor in the economy was shackled to the political re-

4576

Manzon Journe