BUSINESS DAY, Monday, March 26 1990

3 - COMMENT: B

- Softly,
HE arrival of the first members of the ANC negotiating team to prepare for a meeting with the government on

»Aprll 11 emphasises, if any empha-

 $a\200\234$ sis be needed, the transformation of

South African politics and South

â\200\234African society in the short period

since February 2. Foreign ambassa-

.dors, misled by the conventional

 $a\200\230$ wisdom fed to newspapers and tele-

.vision abroad for a decade, still ask $\hat{a} \geq 00 \geq 30$ anxiously whether the process might be reversed.

. There is no chance of that. The pass laws cannot be brought back; the labour unions cannot be dismantled and ordered out of existence; the millions of new urbanites cannot be driven back to the land; nor can the surging population growth in the black community be undone. The forces that drive change in South Africa are demographic and economic, and the folly of apartheid was precisely that intellectual primitives like Hendrik Verwoerd thought they could stand against the tide.

That tide is sweeping aside all

their works, herding the remnants

of Verwoerdian ideology into a mythical white homeland between Hotazel and hell-and-gone, somewhere beyond the Great Gariep. All $\hat{a}\200\230$ that is left is the bitter taste of atrocity and oppression.

These great changes cannot be

 $_$ $\hat{a}\200\230$ reversed. What can happen is that ,theprocwsofthangecanendin

disaster. Apartheid is yesterdayâ $\200\231s$

_issue; todayâ\200\231s concern is the shape softly

of the future, and the perils that lie along the way.

â\200\230The first problem to be overcome on April 11 is to decide who should be released from prison, or granted an amnesty or pardon and allowed to return home, and who should be regarded as simply a killer. The line is often a fine one, and the political risks may be considerable if the

" release of people convicted of spec-

tacular or singularly brutal township crimes triggers a right-wing demand for the release of, say, Barend Strydom, or amnesty for members of the $\hat{a}\200\234hit\ squads \hat{a}\200\235$.

The second problem is to decide who will be included in the negotiations. The unbanning of the ANC and the release of its more famous leaders has already exposed the limits to the authority of the ANC; it does not, plainly, represent all black opinion, but neither is it a simple matter to identify the proper representatives of the black communities.

The ANC, which has always defended most fiercely its status as the pre-eminent liberation movement, looks to a national election which will enable it to sweep all rivals from the board before the talking starts. The consequences, if the strategy succeeded, might be quite disastrous, as would the exclusion from negotiations, whethe®by

political trick or not, of the Conser-

vative Party. All circumstances therefore seem to call for measured and careful progress; there is too much at stake to risk mistakes through impatience.

South Africa

PRESIDENT F.W. de Klerkâ\200\231s diplomatic success at Windhoek has placed him in a strong position to meet the ANC on April 11.

The diplomatic isolation of Pre-

toria, and the economic sanctions which it has brought in train, have been perhaps the most telling weapons in the ANCâ $200\231s$ armoury in the last decade.

Now, in the De Klerk era, the ANCâ\200\231s remarkably effective diplomatic campaign is for the first time facing a similarly effective counterattack which is reducing the ANCâ\200\231s advantage on the diplomatic front.

In some ways, in fact, President de Klerk is beginning to look like the most subtle and resourceful South African leader since General J.C. Smuts. And at last there is some hope that this countryâ\200\231s standing in the world community will some day again reach the levels it attained in General Smutsâ\200\231s heyday as a world statesman.

So how do we stand as the first NP-ANC talks are in prospect? President de Klerk, in making such rapid strides, has shifted the onus back to the ANC \hat{a} 00\224 who now must take care not to appear before the world to be holding up the movement towards

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negotiation. '

In Mr Nelson Mandela the ANC $\hat{a}\200\224$ and South Africa $\hat{a}\200\224$ have a leader of exceptional stature who continues to make a strong impression on everyone he meets. In Windhoek last week Mr Mandela was as active on the diplomatic front as Mr de Klerk, with world statesmen beating a path to both their doors.

Pressure on both for negotiations to begin is becoming irresistible, with the United States in particular playing an even-handed yet increasingly insistent role in encouraging the parties to talk to one another.

In truth neither party would start talking just yet if they had a choice. Both the ANC and Pretoria have formidable problems in their respective constituencies, the NP having to soothe jittery whites and the ANC being confronted by radicalism, rank indiscipline and mindless violence among a lost generation of black youth. :

In Natal/KwaZulu the violence has become sheer unmitigated horror, going way beyond politics into the realms of nightmare. It may well have to run its course. No politician or leader seems able to do anything at all tostop it.

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Meanwhile, the NP and the ANC are still working out their negotiating positions, with Mr de Klerk planning another strategy session in the Transvaal bushveld with his Cabinet. So far his position in the party is unchallenged. Yet there is still confusion and even some bewilderment in the white suburbs, where people have yet to catch up with political developments, and the far right is making mischief.

The ANC, a broadly-based: coali- .

tion, has for its part had hardly any time at all to set up internal struc-

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ith J. C. Smuts

tures, sort out its political line and communicate it to the masses. There is also considerable scope in its ranks for tensions over tactics and strategy.

In fact, once the pre-negotiating obstacles have been cleared, the ANC and the NP might find it mutually convenient to settle for a buffer or transition phase of five years or more, setting up an ad hoc government of national unity in which they would include Inkatha and the other significant players $\hat{a} \geq 00 \geq 24$ to govern while \hat{A}° confidence builds and a democratic constitution is constructed.

The latest statement of the case for a phased transition, coming from Lawrence Schlemmer*, is very convincing.

Yet there is another point of view which holds that a protracted transition would prolong uncertainty, with negative effects on stability and business confidence. Much better get on with it, according to this school, and forge ahead to the new South Africa.

This approach, let us call it Plan A, favours the immediate election of a constitutional assembly on a basis of universal franchise, as in Namibia, and the use of the excellent Nami-

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Tutu criticises

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n leaders

- By MUTHUI MWAI South African Archbish-0 D; smotggda Tl;ltll ¢ ed yes that th::g wag less frZedom ~in some independent African countries than

during the colonial era.

Speaking to a huge congre-

ation at Nairobi's All Saints

athedral, the clergyman likened some of these leaders to dictators and despots and urged them to give their peâ\200\231(1) Ele freedom.

"he outspoken archhishop.is in - Nairobi to preside over the general committee meeting of the All Africa Conference of Churches opening at Silver Springs Hotel today .

Archbishop Tutu. who is the Anglican Bishop of Cape Town saw Africa as both a blessed and cursed continent. And he hoped for the day â\200\234when Africa will be truly free ... when people can say anythillr without being hauled into jailâ\200\235,

The prelate declared: $a\200\234$ *When they are free. people release all kinds of energies and they will give everything and suffer for

BACK PAGE - Col 3

A beaming Archbishop Desmond Tutu meets a yo $\$ lg faithful outside Nairobiâ $\200\231$ s All Sain ts Cathedral

yesterday. (Picture by NNY MBUGGUSS)

oâ\204¢

â\200\230utu criticises

FROM PAGE 1

eir country. Let them be free and they will be ready to protect | vou and die for you.â\200\235

The clergyman gave a 25-

minute sermon. He saw in Africa God's children suffering because of ignorance, poverty and natural disasters like drought and Aids.

 $\hat{a}\200\234$ It is equally true that God's children in Africa suffer because there is less freedom in their countries than during the colonial times, $\hat{a}\200\235$ he said.

Freedom, he said. was cheaper as it did not require the deployment of thousands of security personnel to protect the ruler.

He told these African leaders: $\hat{a}\200\234$ When your people are free you can also walk freely and you will not need huge security to proteet you.

He added: $\hat{a}\200\230\hat{a}\200\234$ African leaders need to be reminded that there is totalitarianism and despotism nearly everywhere in Africa. But we leave it to God who sees, cares and delivers. $\hat{a}\200\235$

Archbishop Tutu told rulers that they were not demi-gods. $a\200\234$ When you tell somebody he has made a mistake, it is because you love him and he should not put you in jail," he said.

He related peopleâ\200\231s waverin faith in God to the injustices an oppression they suffered and offered as an illustration the parable of a man who grabbed at a

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twig on a cliff face as his vehicle rolled down to the bottom.

As he hung on the cliff face for dear life, the man started crying. $a\200\234$ Help!" $a\200\235$ he wailed. * $a\200\230$ Is there someone up there? Help! $a\200\235$

The archbishop said that the man then heard a reply: â\200\234Yes, there is someone up here to hel

you. Release the twig and I wi ci!!flfu'!â\200\230 for you at the bottom of the cli

The man paused to consider the proposition then resumed his cry for help. $\hat{a}\200\234$ Help! Is there somebody else up there? Help! $\hat{a}\200\235$ the prelate said as the congregation broke into laughter.

Archbishop Tutu said this was what people, when they were in

roblems, sometimes felt about 10d. They would like to hear the voice of another more sympathetic being than God.

â\200\234This is what people who have suffered as victims of oppression and injustice feel in Latin America. That is what peorle behind the iron curtain have felt for suffering_injustice and totalitarian rule. Can you imagine the injustice and colonia orpression people suffered in Africa?,â\200\235 he said.

 $\hat{a}\200\234$ Archbishop Tutu said people had asked God: $\hat{a}\200\234$ Oh Lord! For how long should we continue to suffer? Are you God who is blind and can $\hat{a}\200\231$ t see how we suffer so

grievously? $\hat{a}\200\235$ Thel\; had asked e

where was God when their hu-

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manity was being tramplgd
u"iil'e rfm:ti South Africa, the
e said in rica, t!
apartheid regime had tried its
best to separate races at birth, in

school, in marriages and in death. \hat{a} 200\234For South Africans the level of

injustice has been so much so that people have asked God where He is, $\hat{a} \geq 00 \geq 35$ o \hat{A} £ Ot

The archbishop likened the plight of the African black to a man who was travelling in the desert and was stage by stage expelled from the shei{er of his tent into the cold by a smooth talking camel.

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overseas who later disinherited us from our land, $\hat{a}\200\235$ he said.

But the archbishop declared that oppression could not last forever and South Africans would one day become trulg free.

 $\hat{a}\200\234$ People marched in Cape Town and elsewhere and freedom broke out everywhere while des-

pots tumbled to the ground. This

1s what brought Nelson Mandela out of prison, $\hat{a}200235$ he said, adding, $\hat{a}200234$ th"is is because God truly loves us.

The archbishop recalled that Mr Mandela, why had been incarcerated for 27 years, had confounded his critics when, immedlatee;;y, after being released, he called for a new South Africa where all races could live in racial harmony and equality.

litho at Changamwe Road, Nairobi, by Nation Newspapers Limited, Box 49010, Nairobi. Tel: 33 7691. Registere

% 'HARARE, Sunday The National Organising Secrelary of the opposition Zimbabwe TInity Movement (ZUM), Mr Patrick Kombayi, has been shot in political violence ahead of general elections this week, the official Ziana news agency reported The agency said Mr Kombayi had been admitted to hospital in the town of Gweru, some kilometres west of the capital Harare, where he had undergone two hours of surgery to remove \hat{a} \200\234some bullets \hat{a} \200\235.; It quotes sources at the hospital as saying that the ZUM director of elections, Mr Jerry Nvambuya, was also in the surgiil ward at the same hospital af-:er being injured in what it de- \hat{A} «+ibed as \hat{a} \200\234the Gweru political apheavai \hat{a} 200\231 \hat{a} \200\230 3 1t said there had been two days ¢ political violence in the town, ceatred on a business complex wnerd hi¬\201;Mr Kombayi, but gave no details.

ZUM, led by the former Secretary-General of the rulin Zanu (PF) Party, Mr Edgar Tekere, is coutesting parliamentary elections scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday.

Mr Tekere is the only candidate challenging President Robert Mugabe for the presidency in a parallel poll over the same two

days. (Agencies)

CUOTMHARARE, Sunday resident Robert Mugabe was to-day accused by his rival for the presidency of inciting litical violence after a top official of the opposition Z Movement (ZUM) was shot and wounded in the final stages of a general election campaign.

Mr Mugabe told a rally m Harare that ZUM national organising secretary Mr Patrick Kombayi, had provoked ihe incident in which he was shot yesterday night in the town of Gweru,

"some 290 kilometres from the

capital.

7UM leader, Mr Edgar Tekere, the only candidate challenging Mr Mugabe, told AFP the President was â\200\234talking rubbishâ\200\235 and accused him of encouraging his supporters to intimidate opponents.

Mr Kombayi is in Gweru Hos-

imbabwe Unity.

Mugabe accused

pital aï¬\201aï¬\201naergoing two hours of surgery to remove $a\200\230a\200\230some$ bullets $a\200\235$, the official news agency ZIANA said.

 $\hat{a}\200\234$ Government security agents have issued a directive barrin Kombayi from being interview by the Press, $\hat{a}\200\235$ Ziana said.

" Parliamentary and presidential
elections are scheduled for Wed-

esday and Thursday and voting or Loth will take place simultaneously.

Mr Mu told a campaign rally that Mr Kombayi had been the first to shoot. \hat{A}°

He said members of the ruling - ZANU (PF) Party had driven a truck belonging to Vice-President Simon Muzenda past a shop. in Gweru, owned by Mr Kombayi, who had followed the truck and shot the tyres before setting it on fire. (AFP)

eSee earlier story on Page 2

Kasizwa bekhuza

IZIGIGABA ezibalulekile eziyohlala zikhunjulwa njalo emphakathini wabo-

- Mdabu njengeSharpeville Day, Workersâ\200\231

Day noJune 16 nezinye, sekuyizinsuku eziyohlala zlkhon_a minyaka yonke, kube

kufanele futhi.

Kodwa njalo uma kukhunjulwa izinsuku ezifana nalezi, kusuke kufanele konke
kwenziwe ngesizotha nokuthobeka, kwenziwe ngendlela yokuzila nokukhuleka,
kujatshulwe uma kudingekile. Kepha
okumangalisayo izinsuku ezinjengalezi
sekuze kwaba sengathi ngezokuba
oMnyama abulale oMnyama kuhlukumezeke nomphakathi kucekelwe phansi nempabhla.

Kwezinye izindawo ufica intsha kuthiwa iyokhempa ize ilale endle, kanti ye-

nzela ukuvuka iyovimba ngamatshe emiqwaqeni ishaye abazali bayo abaya em-

-sebenzini. Isizwe masifundiswe ukwenza

izinto ezingamagugu ngendlela ehloni-

_phekile, hhayi lndlovuyangena. _ Ngeledlule kade kukhunjulwa isigiga-

ba saseSharpeville. Kubekuningi ukuhlukumezeka komphakathi uvinjwa ukuyosebenza, kwafiwa kwezinye izindawo. Sibona sengathi sesifikile isikhathi lapho abaholi bezinhlangano kufanele babakhuze ngokusobala abalandeli babo, ba-

-batshele okudingeka kwenziwe. Lokhu

kungazanywa ngokuba ezinhlanganweni zabasha nakweminye imibuthano, kufundiswe ukuthi uma kukhunjulwa isehlakalo esithile kudingeka sighutshwe kanjani.

ISharpeville Day ka-1991 kanye nezi-

nye izehlakalo bekudingeka zithi zifika lezozinsuku bese kuhlelwe indlela enhle

yokwenza lokho, kungahlukunyezwa umphakathi. Kodwa uma abaholi bethula, intsha izoghubeka nokucabanga ukuthi

ukukhumbula izinsuku ezinje, kusho isi- .

hluku emphakathini kanti akunjalo.

Inkolo yobuKristu inesibonelo esihle esingafundwa yibobonke abathanda uku-khumbula izinsuku ezithile. Amakholwa

ngePhasika nanxa ekhumbula ukufa kukaJesu, kodwa kawaphumi umkhankaso wokuhamba ebulala abantu. Mhla kuza-

Iwa uJesu kwabulwa izingane, kepha

Khisimusi amakholwa kawaphumi ina yokubulala izingane nabanye. Nathi masizifundise ukukhumbula ngendiela efanele. Khuzani baholi. Uma

abaholi nabo badinga ukukhuzwa.

l%ijokwenz'ekaydxkuï¬\202nnndo.. yabanye

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zangaPhandle eRussia, Africa. ayo.

I-ANC ihlangabezane

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ECAPE TOWN: - i-African National Congress ) UMnuz. Baker yena .
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(ANC) ngesonto eledlule ihlangabezane ne Klatk fobsatiate ok thi
nkulu imbibizane ngesikhathi abaholi ba- | 5,1 Africa ko ion:
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Mongameli F.W. de Klerk. lf;utl.u. 1Emtshele nokuthi
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TILavea /MekeH 26-28 299p

MHLELI, - Ngicela un i.shiwo ngabaqashi ezi

20 emsebenzini

giphe isikhala ken ezisebenzini zabo n (stayaway days). Oko

kamhlophe ukuthi izisebenzi eziya ems
- hlukunyezwa yilabo abajika lezizinsuk

kufeza ubudlova nobulelesi.

Okwesibili abaqashi mina ngingababiza ngabaqhathi abafuna isizwe esiMnyama sibhuqabhuqane sodwa. Abaya emsebenzini baya ngoba behehwa yimali, bebalekela lokungakhokhelwa phela

uma ungayanga emse- benzini (no work, no
pay system). Ngalokho
abanye bayalimala, balahlekelwe nayimpilo
yabo, bashiselwe koku-

nye nemizi yabo. Konke lokho wukungaqondi nokungaboni ngaso linye kithina bendlu eMnyama. Kulabo abangaqondisisi kahle hhayig abangaxi ningizwe $kahle - amaâ\200\230stayawaya\200\231 ka$ wayona neze impoqo. Kuphela lowo ocela kumqashi wakhe - enzela ukuhlonipha lolo nalolosuku oluhlonishwayo bezwana angahlala angayi, uma bengezwani makaye emsebenzini ukuze kudle kufunde izingane

gibeke uvo lwami ngokuezinsuku okungayiwa ngauqala abaqashi bazi kahle ebenzini ngalezinsuku ziyau bazenze izinsuku zabo zo-

_kuthuthuke isizwe. Aku-

kuhle neze lokhu kokulibala ukubukelana phansi.

Ngiyazi abanye bayakhokhelwa ngawo lamaâ\200\230stayawayâ\200\231, ngani, ngokuhlala phansi kuboniswane nabaqashi babo bebachazela kahle izinsuku zisekhona. Okudabukisa kakhulu wukuthi abanye

bethu abazazi lezizinsu- -

ku. Abazi nanokuthi i'stayawayâ $\200\231$ nje siqondene nasiphi isigameko.

: - J.M. Gigaba, QUEENSBURGH. dozen years ago I sug-

gested brightly that every

house in Soweto should be

given, free and for nothing,

to its occupant. Louis Rive, who

"was at the time gravely studying

The Problem of Soweto, told me not to be-silly.

Looking back, I canâ\200\231t but think that the government, Soweto, and Louis Riveâ\200\231s reputation would all be in better shape if the houses had been given to the tenants. Soweto might by now be dominated by a prlciperty-owning class of do-it-your-selfers, mortgaged to the ears to pay for improvements to their houses, and fighting to uphold the tone of the neighbourhood.]

As it is, government has been try-

those houses, at diminishing prices, but Soweto remains the bureaucratically controlled compound which it was built to be, its people querulous and aggrieved, which is the nature of tenants.]

In those days, the word â\200\234privatisa-tionâ\200\235 was not yet in vogue, but that was essentially what I had in mind. The motive was not primarily economic, but political: the less the government owned, the fewer bureaucrats there would be, and the less they would be able to control other peopleâ\200\231s lives. Control of property gives government the means to control its people, and make them serfs.

Besides, at that time Professor Sampie Terreblanche, later to become a powerful commander of the SABC

young Nationalists that the way to | solve the countryâ\200\231s social problems was to tax the rich Jews and the English, and use their money to â\200\234up-liftâ\200\235 black J:eoPle. For reasons not obscure, I didnâ\200\231t like the idea then, and I donâ\200\231t like it now.

Since then, Maggie Thatcher has educated us all to the possibilities of

persuaded to dispose not only of Iscor and Soweto, but of the control

boards, and the Department of Development Aid, and Sats, and the

Parks Board, and possibly even the

ing desperately since then to sell .
ought police, was telling g:ivatisation. If the government can -

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Business DAY

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KEN OWEN

This is a fearsome Mierisiy $\hat{a}200\224$ let $\hat{a}200\231s$

somethirlla%w silly

Reserve Bank, all of which are institutions intended to enable a minority to control the majority, we shall all be much better off.

That is why it alarms me when the ANC threatens to increase the reach of government by taking over those

' few remaining corners, like 44 Main

Street where the Anglo American Corporation has its headquarters, where one can still shelter in a bureaucracy that survives only because it makes a profit.

The Nationalists*pretended after

1948 that they wanted their immense powers, derived from public ownership of houses and airlines and railways and guns and police vans and offices and computers and telephone taps, for the good of their serfs. As

Czechoslovakiaâ\200\231s new poet-President Vaclav Havel, formerly a political prisoner, says, the depressing

- thing about centralised power is that

it must be upheld by lies.

The ANC and its supporters, at least, are more honest: they accuse the Nationalists of trying to sell off the government property before the ANC gets its turn at the trough. They make no secret of their desire to get their hands on the countryâ\200\231s resources, and the power that such control confers, so that they can

sp'read the goodies among them-

. selves.

 $\hat{a}\200\230$ The Afrikaners, they are saying, used the power of government to $\hat{a}\200\230$ make Verwoerdburg the richest community in the country, so why should black l;:eo le not use the same $\hat{a}\200\230$ power to make why not extend the power of government by nationalising the commanding heights of the economy, so that the money can be gathered faster $\hat{a}\200\224$ presumably from Afrikaners, Jews and English $\hat{a}\200\224$ and scattered to the waiting throngs? $\hat{a}\200\230$

Every revolutionary government mimics its predecessor. The Soviet Union copied the Czars in setting up

their secret police, and Mozambique -

has been wondrously faithful in copying Portuguese colonial bureaucracy. But it will be a great pity if the first non-racial government of South Africa copies the abuse of power and the corruption of the apartheid era.

The problem is immune to rational discourse. Black people, like the

Afrikaners before them, suffer from

a terrible and legitimate sense of

weto rich? Indeed, .

deprivation. They believe, rightly,

that they were robbed of their land

(as Kipling said, we had the Gatling gun and they had not) and then exploited in the development of this industrial society. They believe they have been assigned an inferior status which they fear may become

permanent.;

They demand reparations, and simple justice supports their claim. The question is how that claim is to be met. The ANC leaders still talk of nationalisation, but Thabo Mbeki

has invited whites to suggest alter-natives, if they can. Unhappily, most

whites can think of nothing better than to recreate the follies of the British welfare state, now abandoned even by the Labour Party. The better answer to Mbeki is to

unleash the power of economic

growth, which not only doubles everybodyâ\200\231s wealth in a short time (10 years at 7% growth a year), but transforms the lives of individuals by opening thousands of new opportunities, and alters the relationships between classes in ways that undermine the power elite in semifeudal societies like ours.

To achieve rapid growth it is necessary to privatise as much as possible so that the market, rather than

some dolt in Pretoria, can apportion resources; it is necessary to deregulate, so that clerks are not perpetually interfering with the work of creative geniuses like Sol Kerzner or Anton Rupert, and lower taxes in order to release capital for

" development.

These things are true, but it does no good to say so. The membership

- of every union is strutting impa-

tiently across the shopfloor, saying in effect, $a\200\234$ Mandela is free, where $a\200\231$ s my money? $a\200\235$ The demand for economic justice, deeply emotional, is generating irrational responses that threaten the wealth-creating mechanisms of the successful capitalist state. :

. The situation calls for a grand gesture. It calls for a response that will assuage the sense of grievance, and remove the deep suspicion among black people that privatisation is a white manâ\200\231s trick to empty the larder before he hands it over.

That suspicion could be overcome, I believe, if President de Klerk were to make a public pledge to devote all proceeds of privatisation â\200\224 every penny â\200\224 to achieving economic justice. President Roose-velt, in the face of a great political crisis generated by proverty, promised a chicken in every pot; South Africa might promise a patch of soil for every family, or a school desk for every child, to be paid for from the systematic sale of government assets.

The new R3bn fund to overcome $a\geq00\234$ backlogs $a\geq00\geq235$ is a start, but it has been gracelessly done (why not talk of economic justice instead of $a\geq00\geq234$ upliftment $a\geq00\geq235$, which is-insufferably patronising, or $a\geq00\geq234$ backlogs $a\geq00\geq235$, which is disingenuous?), and anyway the fund is

- hopelessly too small.

ere is no way known to man to overcomie poverty in this decade, and. the more we load the system

- with a $200\231$ wealth-sapf)ing welfare bureaucracies, the

onger it will take. What we need is a dg%ture of good-will, both grand and convincing, the sort of thing that Louis Rive would think altogether silly.:

Ghe Star-

 $< \hat{a}\200\231M&FW .\hat{a}\200\230 -$

Is SA at last comi out of the cold?

AS THE dust settles over the Namibian celebrations, South Africa settles down to living with a new â\200\234front-lineâ\200\235 neighbour amid portents that, thus far, look gratifyingly posntive Although the new Namibia now joins black Africa, and will no doubt fall into line on many of the standard attitudes towards Pretoria, President Nujomaâ\200\231s stance seems likely to be tempered by a great deal

of pragmatism regarding economic links and perhaps

others as well. .

More: South Africa can look with satisfaction on the valuable international spin-off from its attitude on Namibia. By happy coincidence independence day there followed closely upon President de Klerkâ\200\231s watershed â\200\234new South Africaâ\200\235 speech of February 2. The beginning of major political reforms, inclu the release of Nelson Mandela, brought some radical reassessments of South Africa in world capitals. Last weekâ\200\231s Namibian celebrations provided the

opportunity to help cement

these changed perceptions. The large presence of world

statesmen in Windhoek allowed Mr de Klerk to engage in direct dialogue with a good

many of them. There, he had fruitful meetings with the influential President Mubarak of Egypt, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union and others; discussions in Cape Town included meetings with

British Foreign Secretary Hurd and US Secretary of State James Baker. A couple of African leaders even followed Mr de Klerk to Cape Town for talks which his crowded schedule in Windhoek hadnâ\200\231t permitted.

It is important to note that these meetings took place openly, unlike some past furtive ex es which Pretoria has enjoyed with black Africa, and they took place in defiance of the expressed wishes of the ANC and PAC. It has been said before that the road to South Africaâ\200\231s reacceptance in the world is through Africa. Last weekâ\200\231s encounters must have helped open the way.

It is too early to talk of the end of isolation, but the new fluidity in international attitudes carries more promise than we have known in decades. Freedom for Namibia, home, is helping to set South

ome, elp set Sou Africa free as well. Mandela and Buthelezi agree to meet in Ulundi

Natal

come as

by CARMEL RICKARD

PROSPECTS for peace talks on Natal violence were given a boost when Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi confirmed at a rally in Durban yesterday that he and King Goodwill Zwelithini will be meeting with ANC deputy

president Nelson Mandela in Ulundi

 $soonâ\200\224$ possibly even this week.

The Inkatha rally was called to give thanks for the release of political |

prisoners and the unbanning of organisations.

The peace talks meeting was to have

followed talks between the king and ANC executive member Mr Walter Si-

sulu. However, Chief Buthelezi said

yesterday the Sisulu talks had now

been $a\200\234$ put on ice $a\200\235$, following a stale- |,

mate over the venue.

The king wanted the talks to be held in Ulundi while Mr Sisulu thought the kingâ $200\231s$ capital of Nongoma would be more appropriate.

Mr Sisuluâ\200\231s view has been rejected by Chief Buthelezi and crowds at the rally chanted $a\200\234$ Ulundi, Ulundiâ\200\235 after speakers said it was unheard of for visitors to tell their hosts where they should m

Last nned talks between the leaders of the UDF, Cosatu and Inkatha came unstuck When Chief Buthelezi in- sisted they should take place in Ulundi, while the other side urged a \(\frac{200}{234} \) neutral venue \(\frac{200}{235} \) should be chosen.

Eventually this meeting was called off, but senior officials $\hat{a}\200\224$ not leaders $\hat{a}\200\224$ ofthe two sides met in Durban.

At yesterdayâ\200\231s rally Chief Buthelezi said it was $a\200\234$ tragicâ\200\235 that $a\200\234$ this important meetingâ\200\235 (between the king and Mr Si-sulu) might now not take place. $a\200\234$ My

peac;

' nof BZ judged by posteriiy as having [

 $\[\]$ 201ddled while South Africa was burning. $\[\]$ 200\235

During his speech at the rally, Chletâ $200\230$ Buthelezi also formally declared himself and Inkatha â $200\234$ now ready to negotiate -with the South African Governmentâ $200\235$. The audience, undeterred by pouring rain and ankle-deep mud, shouted their approval.

Between 5 000 and 8 000 people from all over Natal attended the rally, held on the fields next to Kingâ\200\231s Park Stadium. However, an Inkatha spokeswoman said the crowd numbered at least 60 000.

Many were waving the new Inkatha flag, adopted about a fortnight ago, which adds a red and a white stripe next to the green, gold and black colours which Inkatha shares with the ANC. Officials said the new flag would distinguish the ANC from Inkatha: the red stripe â\200\234represents all the blood which had been spilled and the white stands for peaceâ\200\235.

Organisers said the crowd would have been larger if it had not been for the weather and incidents of intimidation involving buses. Mr David Ntombela of Inkatha Central Committee member from Elandskop and KwaZulu urban representative Mr V.V. Mvelase said a number of buses had been

stoned on the way to the rally. Some

buses were badly damaged and had to return home.

Sapa reports that after a special meeting of KwaZulu chiefs at Ulundi on Saturday, Chief Buthelezi issued a statement outlining a resolution which called on the ANCâ\200\231s national executive

to recogmse that $200\230$ ng Zwelithini was a king and should be afforded the dignity

< ofaking.

 $\hat{a}\200\234$ An insult to one Zulu is an insult to all Zulus, an insult to His Majesty is an insult to the whole nation and an insult to the Chief Minister is an insult to the whole body politic, $\hat{a}\200\235$ said the statement.

e talks

Marun 170

tep closer

â\200\230LONDON, Sunday Archbishop â\200\234of Canterbury Robert Runcie, a controversial church leader who drew fire for his comments on religion and British Government policies, will retire next year, his office said today.

The announcement from *he archbishopâ\200\231s Lambeth Palace residence came on the 10th anniversary of his en-:hronement as leader of the sorldâ\200\231s 70 miltion Anglicans.

The statement said Dr Runcieâ\200\231s resignation. which had been tendered to Queen Elizabeth, would take effect rom January 31, 1991. The uchbishop had been due to vetire on his 70th birthday in October rext year.

Or Runcie said in the statement that he thought the beainning of 1991 was the right

the next-Archbishop of Canterbury. B et $\frac{3}{200}$ first half of next year will be a time of 7vesh initiatives for the Church -of. England and for the churches of the .state-

the British Isles, \hat{a} \200\235

ment said. = Lpitgaing
*â\200\234The public announcement

tuday will give sufficient time

for the name of my!succÃ@Sgor to be known well before the: end of:this year. $\hat{a}\200\235$ he'said. - . Runcie, an ardent $\hat{a}\200\230$ proponent of Christian unity and a .

 $a\200\234$ ierce critic of Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcherâ\200\231s Conser-

\ative government, had to enlure strong criticism during 10 years as Archbishop of (Canterbury despite preaching 4 message of conciliation. His support for closer ties with the Catholic Church

touched off a storm of plibtest"
from fellow churchmen, and

his critics accused him of

meddling in politics with his"

attacks on government policies, which he said bred greed and intolerance. .;

- _ There has been speculation within the church. that
- " Runcie wanted to ensure that his_successor was chosen be- -
- fore the next Bishop of Lon-
- don, traditionally an impor-

tant appointment, is selected in May next year. .- % . *Runcie is know to have been hoping to see the release of his special envoy, Terry Waite, held hostage in Beirut, before his retirement. Waite was kidnapped in January 1987 while trying to negotiate the release of Western hostages in Lebanon. (Reuters)

~Moi in church

oy - SR ¢
" 'President Moi sings a hymn
dvring a church service at Sacho
+ High School in Baringo District
yesterday. The President had

 $\hat{\mathbf{A}} \ensuremath{\,^{\mbox{\tiny $\mbox{\tiny }\mbox{\tiny }\mbox$

service. The preacher was the schoolâ $200\231s$ chaplain, Pastor David Nthiwa. (KNA)

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