

Millions will take to the streets: Mandela

VASANTHA ANGAMUTHU Political Reporter

MR Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, has warned that the ANC plans to take millions of people out onto the streets to force an end to the deadlock in negotiations.

Mr Mandela was speaking on the ANC plans for mass action at Newspaper House, the home of The Saturday News, on the first day of his weekend visit to the Southern Natal region.

He said the ANC was determined to call out even more than the three million people who observed the ANC call for the VAT stayaway last November.

At a luncheon meeting with staff and management at Natal Newspapers, he said the Government "had the key" to move towards national democracy and that "if it fails to unlock that door, we will teach it how to use that key".

He said while the ANC would have preferred to negotiate South Africa's future, negotiations had reached a dead end

held throughout the country on Tuesday to commemorate June 16 and this would be the launch of the ANC/Cosatu/South African Communist Party mass action programme.

He travels to Umtata, Port Shepstone and Phoenix tomorrow.

Mr Mandela said the total onslaught strategy, in terms of trade union, the Democratic In-

tegrated Municipal Employees Society, yesterday softened its previous headline approach to threatened mass action and gave the assurance that disruption to municipal services next Tuesday - Soweto Day - would be kept to a minimum.

The union voted last weekend to support the African National Congress's call for a nationwide campaign of mass action, and major disruption to services was feared, leading Durban City Council to criticise the decision.

After talks between union and



MR NELSON MANDELA leaving the West Street mosque yesterday.

Union softens line on action

NATAL'S biggest municipal council representatives late this week, a compromise appears to have been hammered out.

The union has undertaken to soften the impact of Tuesday's action while the council has agreed not to deduct leave or pay from employees who stay away from work on June 16.

In a joint statement today, the council's Management Committee and Dimas said the decision had been taken because of the significance of Soweto Day.

The council had decided to suspend its policy of "no work, no pay, no discipline". - Muntlali Reporter

of ANC dissidents imprisoned in ANC camps if an independent commission of inquiry did not bring these leaders to justice.

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Mr Hlongwane had threatened to assassinate those ANC leaders which his organisation holds responsible for the torture

leged assassination threats against African National Congress leaders by the REC.

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People will die, warns Buthelezi

JOHANNESBURG: Inkatha Freedom Party president Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi condemned the planned mass action by the African National Congress and warned the campaign would cause "people to lose their lives".

Addressing a news conference at Jan Smuts Airport on his return from the United States, Dr Buthelezi said the mass action would be accompanied by intimidation and was an irresponsible and ill-timed move.

He said he had cut short his American trip because of the "mass mobilisation" planned by the ANC. He added that President F.W. de Klerk was to address the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly in Umtata on Tuesday.

Dr Buthelezi said he was very disturbed by the ANC's planned mass action and believed the organisation's demands should be negotiated.

"I foresee our members clashing with those who are organising the mass action," he said.

"People will lose their lives, they will be threatened and lose their homes."

Dr Buthelezi said the portrayal of the ANC as a "saintly knight in shining armour was a farcical abuse of what was going on". He was apparently referring to Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists reports which blamed the police, and to some extent the IFP, for the violence.

Dr Buthelezi warned that no free democratic elections could take place in South Africa until the violence in black townships was defused.

He said the IFP central committee would meet tomorrow to decide on strategy in the wake of the mass action decision.

Dr Buthelezi visited five states in America and held talks with black leaders there on the South Africa Education Fund.-Sapa

Exile leader retracts ANC assassination claims

RETURNED Exiles Committee chairman Pat Hlongwane yesterday retracted statements about plans to assassinate African National Congress leaders.

Mr Hlongwane said the state-ments were made because of all the publicity the ANC received, and the REC decided to put into practice what the ANC had taught them - disinformation.

It worked, said Mr Hlongwane. Within hours the organisation had reached a dead end

He said the committee had no intention of killing the ANC hierarchy unless provoked to do so. It merely wanted the world to take notice and the ANC to answer for alleged atrocities in ANC detention camps.

His announcement came a few hours after the South African Police announced it had completed an investigation into al-

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Big demo threat at Simon gig

STAR GIVEN WARM RECEPTION
BY ANC (AND FRIENDS) AT PARTY

Saturday News 11-01-92
reassuring message of solidarity to Simon.

JOHANNESBURG: The Youth League of the Azanian Peoples Organisation (Azapo) has threatened huge demonstrations at today's Paul Simon concert at Ellis Park stadium — but won't say if they will be held inside or outside the stadium.

"But if our plans are carried out skilfully the concert will be a non-starter," he said.

Speaking about the "programme of action" to be followed today, Azapo president Mr Thami Mcerwa said he expected violence because he thought ANC and Inkatha concert-goers would want to retaliate.

Those two liberation movements support the tour.

Azapo, its mother body Azapo, the PAC, the South African Congress on Sports (Sacos), Workers' Organisation for a Socialist Azania (Wosa) Imbeleko (Azapo's women's wing), Azanian Students' Convention and the Azanian Students' Movement are all against the show.

The SA Police yesterday appealed to all people opposed to the Paul Simon shows at the Ellis Park stadium to be calm and to exercise restraint.

In a statement, Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said the police viewed the threats of violence by groups opposed to the show in a very serious light. There would be strict security at the show, he said.

■ Meanwhile, in contrast to recent controversy over his tour, Simon was given a warm welcome at a star-studded banquet hosted by the ANC last night.

A gathering of political heavyweights and high profile showbiz personalities gathered at the Carlton Hotel in central Johannesburg in the most

Inkatha an SADF front, says ex-official

Saturday News Correspondent Jan-11-92

JOHANNESBURG: The Inkatha Freedom Party was an "SADF front" and not an independent political organisation with its own agenda, Mbongeni Khumalo, former organiser of the Inkatha Youth Brigade, claimed yesterday.

Speaking at a news conference hosted by Weekly Mail — which yesterday ran another series of articles detailing the alleged links between the IFP and military intelligence — Mr Khumalo said: "Inkatha does not exist as an organisation. It is controlled by the security forces."

Mr Khumalo raised a counter-allegation from the pro-Inkatha Ilanga newspaper that he was "an ANC agent paid to leak damaging information to Weekly Mail" to deny the allegation.

Noting that he had instructed his lawyers to deal with the allegation, he added: "Inkatha and Ilanga will live to regret (their) ill-conceived move."

Asked whether he had any relationship with the ANC, Mr Khumalo said: "I have no relationship with the ANC. I have no intention of joining it... I am going to resign from Inkatha and sit down and observe the situation."

As a former member of the IFP central committee, Mr Khumalo is the highest-ranking IFP man to break ranks and endorse allegations that the IFP has been the recipient of taxpayers' money, channelled via the police and the SADF, and of advice and training from military intelligence.

Government suspends all capital punishment

Saturday News 28-03-92

MARTIN CHALLENOR
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN: The Government has suspended all hangings. The future of capital punishment will now be decided in ongoing negotiations at Codesa.

Last night there were 274 murderers, rapists and other criminals on Death Row, 17 of whom had already exhausted all legal appeals and had been refused clemency by President de Klerk.

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, issued a statement last night which said: "The Government has deemed it fair, pending the outcome of discussions on an interim Bill of Fundamental Rights which will be applicable in the transition phase, to suspend the execution of death sentences which have not been commuted."

The last hanging in South Africa was on November 14, 1989. President de Klerk initiated a reform of the death sentence laws on February 2, 1990, which did away with the mandatory death sentence.

An automatic review of death sentences by the Appellate Division and pleas for clemency were introduced.

While the Government has been under pressure lately to re-instate capital punishment, particularly because criminals have seemed to be even more brutal in recent years, there is still a powerful anti-hanging lobby in South Africa.

World laws

At this stage there are only 35 countries in the world whose laws do not provide for the death penalty for any crime.

Mr Coetsee said: "The courts will continue to apply the law as it stands and pronounce death sentences where this is appropriate. The State President will also continue to consider possible reprieves in those cases in which the Appellate Division confirms the death sentence, because it would be grossly unfair to keep prisoners who may benefit from a reprieve on Death Row."

Mr Coetsee said: "In this process decisions may be taken in the most extreme cases under the present law not to commute sentences of death. However, these sentences will not be carried out pending the outcome of negotiations on an interim Bill of Fundamental Rights."

Reforms introduced by President de Klerk have resulted in 66 reprieves being granted to condemned criminals.

Opinions on the death penalty differed substantially, Mr Coetsee said.

"There are those who feel that the death penalty is a cruel and inhuman form of punishment. Others are of the opinion that it is, in some extreme cases, the community's only effective safeguard against violent crime and that it gives effect in such cases to the retributive and deterrent purposes of punishment.

"The Government is not insensitive to the divergent views on the death penalty," Mr Coetsee said.

ANC announces new rolling mass action plan

Saturday News

Edge of the

17-04-93

abyss

The Government and the ANC are once more at loggerheads after the ANC announced six weeks of mass action while the State rejected ANC pleas not to declare unrest areas on the Rand. This report by **Sapa** and **Saturday News** Correspondents in Johannesburg.

Africa catching the democracy bug

AST week President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, under heavy domestic and international pressure, finally agreed to follow Zambia and take the route to multi-party democracy. Nobody has protested as loudly against democracy in Africa as President Moi. His utterances about the vices of multi-party politics — which Kenneth Kaunda had tried to mimic — were well known in Zambia and his sympathy with the Zambian leaders' predicament much resented. President Moi had hoped his Zambian counterpart would hold the line against the tide of multi-party politics and therefore divert attention from Kenya. That failed.

Now a combination of internal and external factors has conspired to force Mr Moi to embrace what he had insisted all along was the greatest evil after Satan.

Kenya's decision is likely to have ramifications on the continent, especially in East and Southern Africa. Kenya is the most powerful economy in East Africa. Also a U-turn by President Moi, the champion of the one-party state, is bound to influence those with similar views.

There is already evidence that the authorities in Malawi are for the first time thinking aloud about democracy. President Kamuzu Banda

last week told his parliament to make a final decision on one-party rule. It is, however, not clear whether the ageing President is himself in favour of a new dispensation.

The opposition in Malawi is banned, the media is government-controlled and the President's foes are in exile in Zambia. Last month President Banda was the first head of state to congratulate President Chiluba on his defeat of Dr Kaunda. It did not seem to occur to him that such a poll would be impossible in his country at the moment.

If Western countries apply the sort of pressure that was brought to bear on Kenya, Malawi will be in no position to resist.

There are stirrings in Tanzania, still the one-party state that former president and guru of African socialism Julius Nyerere created. The ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi of President Ali Mwinyi still remains the sole organised political force in the country.

But a National Committee for Constitutional Reform has been formed by Abdulla Said Fundikira, at one time Dr Nyerere's Minister of Legal Affairs, to campaign for political reform.

In nearby Uganda political parties have been banned since President Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army shot its way into power in January 1986, with a promise to hold elections within four years. The promise was not kept but two years ago the government held elections to what it calls local resistance councils.

PRESIDENT ARAP MOI: about to turn after rejecting democracy.



DURING an after-poll celebration in Zambia last month a demonstrator brandished a placard with a message whose prediction was to prove spot-on within a matter of weeks. "Next stop Nairobi", it said.

Ugandans are still grateful to Mr Museveni's NRA for rescuing them from Milton Obote's murderous armies. But support for Mr Museveni could erode if he fails to crush rebel activity in the north by the Uganda People's Democratic Army and Alice Lakwena's Holy Spirit Movement.

The removal or attempts to remove despots in many countries has simply plunged those countries into anarchy, as is happening in Somalia. Zaire as well as Togo, where many soldiers tried to expel an interim government.

Zaire is walking the same path, with the wholesale looting by government soldiers and President Mobutu Sese Seko's inability to agree to terms with the opposition plunging the country into chaos, which Angola so far offers a ray of hope. The peace accord signed by the MPLA and Unita in Lisbon in May has ended 16 years of one of the bloodiest civil wars on the continent. All the parties are committed to multi-party elections in late 1992.

Mozambique is also edging towards multi-party politics. The coun-

The biggest test for democracy in Africa is yet to come. The military government in Nigeria, the continent's most populous nation and potentially the most powerful, is committed to handing over the reins of power to a civilian government next year.

A successful transition in Nigeria would provide the biggest fillip yet for democracy to take over in Africa.

the democracy bug

EXTREMIST views in the African National Congress and Government camps have taken control, once more driving the political process to the edge of a confrontational abyss.

This was evidenced by a Government rejection of ANC pleas not to declare unrest areas on the Witwatersrand and a retaliatory decision by the ANC's national working committee to embark on another campaign of national rolling mass action until the end of May.

The State President, Mr F.W. de Klerk, said last night he viewed the ANC decision to go ahead with mass action as "irresponsible and unjustified".

He said in a statement the decision by the alliance was at variance with the interest of every South African.

"The Government remains committed to negotiations. It will not, however, be blackmailed."

An ANC spokesman countered by saying "the negotiation process can no longer be left to an elitist group sitting at the World Trade Centre".

Campaign

An extended ANC executive council meeting yesterday declared a new campaign of two-phased mass action lasting through the rest of April and May. The Congress of South African Trade Unions would ignore prohibitions on marches and specific actions would be aimed at disrupting white schools.

The first phase of mass action will start on Tuesday, April 20, and continue through to the end of the month. The action will take the form of demonstrations and protest marches.

The second phase of mass action will start on May 1 and continue until the end of May.

Cosatu's general secretary, Jay Naidoo, said any attempt to prevent people from participating in legal marches, demonstrations and pickets would be ignored and defied by the people.

He said this included regions that had been declared unrest areas.

He said the decision to declare the regions unrest areas was a unilateral one taken by Mr de Klerk.

The National Party said it was shocked by the ANC's decision.

NP spokesman Marthinus van Schalkwyk said yesterday: "This is a recipe for disaster. Already the signs are clear of the hardening of attitudes on all sides of the political spectrum, plummeting business confidence and South Africa's international image as a country sliding towards chaos."

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07-03-92

Saturday

THE PROPAGANDA WAR

BY now, probably every white voter knows in their hearts what their choice will be on referendum day, although political parties report that they are getting many "don't-know" responses.

It is this uncertainty that is spurring party propagandists to pour hours and thousands of rands into their campaigns in the hope of possibly attracting that one extra voter who, in a simple test of a majority view, could be absolutely decisive.

The most publicised aspect of the battle so far has been President de Klerk's road show to meet white voters in their homes, on their streets and at their places of employment. Because of its high profile, this is winning a lot of points for the Yes campaign.

From the National Party's side, their propaganda has undergone a 180-degree turn, and must cause some of their new-found allies in the Democratic Party to smile to themselves at times. President de Klerk is unashamedly using "swart gevaar" tactics.

"South Africa's 26 million black people will rise up in anger at a no-vote win," he told the enraptured Pietermaritzburg city hall this week. Well, the NP have taken over much of the DP's policy, pinched many of their supporters, so why not use their war cries as well? For decades the DP and its predecessors warned what would happen if the NP continued with its apartheid policies. For years the NP angrily snapped back.

For years the NP said dislike for military service was something akin to treason, and definitely most unpatriotic and un-South African. Now suddenly President de Klerk, no less, is warning that a win for the No vote would mean five years national military service — choosing

Treason

Some have been simply too wordy. Pointing out the probably hostile response of black South Africans to white political isolation is probably counterproductive. The country has had so much strife and hostility that warning of more to come is not going to win any votes.

Much of the NP's campaign has been carried out in the form of newspaper advertisements. The NP have taken over the DP when it pointed out the link between apartheid and compulsory national service. To forget how the NP attacked the DP when it pointed out the link between apartheid and compulsory national service would probably welcome the claim: "Open schools. Vote No." "Mixed suburbs. Vote No." "F.W.s blank cheque. Vote No." "Stop the poster implores. To honour these would be really turning the clock back. Many white voters have children at mixed schools. The best NP newspaper advertisement against the NP.

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STUDENTS at the Boland Teacher's College in Wellington with a "We say Yes" poster greet President de Klerk.

ing so far to see whether President de Klerk will get the process of opening the schools has not been as traumatic as some feared. Indeed, this CP cry could actually cause a few problems in schools unturbed by racial mixing. There is also, probably not a suburb in South Africa that is pure white and it was up to whites to accept or reject it.

In fact right now President de Klerk has the majority of his political opponents all sown up. The ANC would love to attack in case it stam-pedes whites into the arms of the AWP/HNP/CP alliance. DP opponents would love to have a crack at the grievances this government is unable to remove, but again dare not.

Over and above the issues, this is a tight future to: President de Klerk or CP leader Dr Andries Treurnicht. President de Klerk seems to be growing in confidence as the campaign unfolds, but Dr Treurnicht must be most pleased with the crowds he is pulling. And Dr Treurnicht can claim to be doing it all by himself. Mr Duncan du Bois, the CP's national information committee member, annoyed by editorials warning the No vote that they could condemn white nationalism as the CP advocates it has been universally condemned by international business and foreign governments. CP supporters tried to brush off remarks by Mr Herman Cohen, the US Assistant Secretary of State, that a CP government would be as acceptable as Saddam Hussein's Iraq government, but it hurt them. Some CP members insist that under their control, South Africa would not return to full-scale apartheid. Maybe they should tone down this point because many of the people who will vote for them actually want

REFERENDUM CALENDAR														
15	16	17												
8	9	10	11	12	13	14								
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	7							

He insists there is already consensus among the negotiation partners that the new constitution will include a multi-party democratic system, a parliament consisting of a lower house and an upper house, a Bill of fundamental rights, a separation of powers in the authority of the state, an independent judiciary, proportional representation, a strong regional basis in the future dispensation, the maintenance of language and cultural rights and community-oriented education for those who desire it.

President de Klerk has said that consensus still has to be hammered out on the maintenance of values, specifically in the economic sphere, that were important to millions of South Africans as well as the prevention of domination and abuse of power; the effective protection of minorities; the securing of property

Consensus

Against this the Conservative Party have some rather effective posters on street polls. They proclaim: "Open schools. Vote No." "Mixed suburbs. Vote No." "F.W.s blank cheque. Vote No." "Stop the poster implores. To honour these would be really turning the clock back. Many white voters have children at mixed schools. The best NP newspaper advertisement against the NP.

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rights; security for all in the public service; a market-orientated economy with free enterprise and the capacity to finance the vast social programmes lying ahead; the maximum devolution of powers to regional and local government and the enshrining of this principle in the constitution and the distribution of the powers currently concentrated in the hands of the State President.

All the same, however, there is something premature about this test of public opinion. The CP harped on about his mandate for so long that President de Klerk is going to the voters a lot earlier than he might otherwise have done. The outcome could have been a lot different if a draft constitution was in existence and it was up to whites to accept or reject it.

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to return to full-scale apartheid, with its mass removals, mass arrests, and a police force with a reputation for donnering opponents of the Government.

Win

So, who is going to win?

If people follow the voting patterns of 1989, the NP will poll 1 080 624 votes, the CP/HNP 717 141 votes, and the DP 451 897 votes. Allowing for Dr Treurnicht's claim that there was an 11 percent swing from the NP to the CP, this would give the CP 118 865 extra votes this time. Other observers have said there has been a two percent swing from the DP to the CP, so this will add another 9 037 votes to the CP/HNP.

Allowing for swings, this means that the combined NP/DP Yes vote will poll 1 404 616 votes, or 42 percent of the voters, while the CP/HNP/AWB will poll 845 046 votes, 25 percent of the voters, to give the Yes campaign a win by 559 570 votes.

Anybody who put money on these figures, though, would be silly. News by R.M. Challenor, Press Gallery, Parliament.

THE PROPAGANDA WAR
From pg 1

SPECTRUM

Saturday
15-08-92

What shape new SA?

A key question facing South Africa's leaders when they return to the negotiating table is: Where will the levers of power be placed and how must we prevent abuses of power by a future government? Saturday News Correspondent FRANS ESTERHUYSE reports.

Deadlock

Researcher Richard Humphries and Khehla Shubane, of the Centre for Policy Studies, indicate that the deadlock between the major parties Codesa in May pushed the issue of regionalism to the forefront of political debate.

Although agreement had been reached in principle that regional institutions should exist in a post-apartheid order, it was partly over the nature of the regions that the part as deadlocked.

The broad agreement between the parties had also offered little clarity on the regions' powers and functions, their boundaries, and their relationship to central and local governments.

Even before the Codesa deadlock, there was a gulf between the National Party and the African National Congress positions on such issues.

The NP's proposals to create regions vested with their own powers are seen as a democratic device to prevent a concentration of power in any one state institution. The aim appears to be to restrict the options of a government elected by the majority.

There is, in fact, a body of opinion inside the NP and Government which favours a reduction in the number of proposed regions. Political scientist Professor Pieter Potgieter, of the University of Potchefstroom, has suggested a reduction from the present nine regions to six or seven, with a maximum of eight, and the national deputy chairman of the Rapporteurs, Louis Swanepoel, has also argued for six regions.

One suggestion is that the NP may see a redrawn Western Transvaal/Northern Cape region almost as a political quid pro quo for accepting the ANC's Border/Kel region.

The most detailed thinking on redrawing boundaries is said to be taking place within the newly-established Department of Regional Matters and Land Affairs. Officials in the department have suggested a drastic redrawing of South Africa into six regions. Their proposals are designed to produce regions with almost equal tax-generating capacities.

On the question of regional powers, there appears to be little difference between the NP's position and that of many of the homelands. Whatever difference there may be is more likely to be found on the question of boundaries.

However, an ANC discussion document has been interpreted as indicating the ANC is unenthusiastic about entrenched regional government powers. Further doubts about the ANC's commitment to strong regional government arise from a claim in the document that regions "will not be able to contradict national policy as expressed in national laws".

Meanwhile, some of the most ardent proponents of regional government are to be found among key members of the NP and Government which favours a reduction in the number of proposed regions. Political scientist Professor Pieter Potgieter, of the University of Potchefstroom, has suggested a reduction from the present nine regions to six or seven, with a maximum of eight, and the national deputy chairman of the Rapporteurs, Louis Swanepoel, has also argued for six regions.

Opinion

plan.

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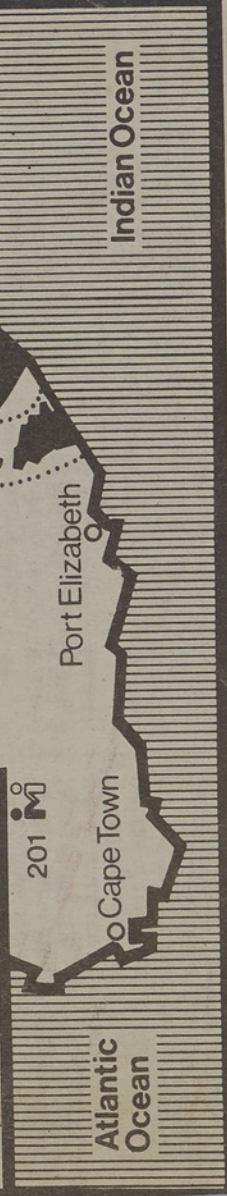
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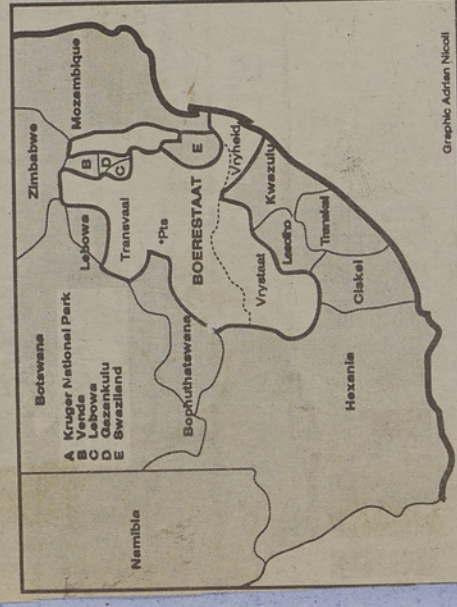
SOUTH AFRICA

THE 'BANTU HOMELANDS'

HOMELAND	PEOPLE
1 Boputhatswana	Tswana
2 Lebowa	North Sotho
3 Ndebele	Ndebele
4 Gazankulu	Shangaan & Tsonga
5 Venda	Venda
6 Swazi	Swazi
7 Basotho-Qwaqwa	South Sotho
8 Kwazulu	Zulu
9 Transkei	Xhosa
10 Ciskei	Xhosa



THE above map is the present South Africa showing the area occupied by the homelands.



ROBERT van Tonder's right-wing Boerestaart Party shows the area of South Africa they would like to make a "haven for whites".



The first white independent state

ANOTHER right-wing group, the Afrikaner Volkswag, led by Professor Carel Boshoff, shows the area of South Africa they want.

Now or never for ANC

Multi-party negotiations are due to start again in earnest next month. These deliberations should lead to an all-in, democratic election. The African National Congress set out its political plan for the way ahead this week.

MARTIN CHALLENOR, Saturday News Political Correspondent, reports.

"N, OU is die tyd."

With these words, the African National Congress is setting out to win seven out of every 10 votes cast in South Africa's first one-man, one-vote elections. Following a meeting this week of the ANC's national executive committee, the instruction from the ANC leaders to all levels is to gear for that election campaign "which we will wage under the slogan Now is the Time, Ke Nako Sekunjalo, Nou is die Tyd".

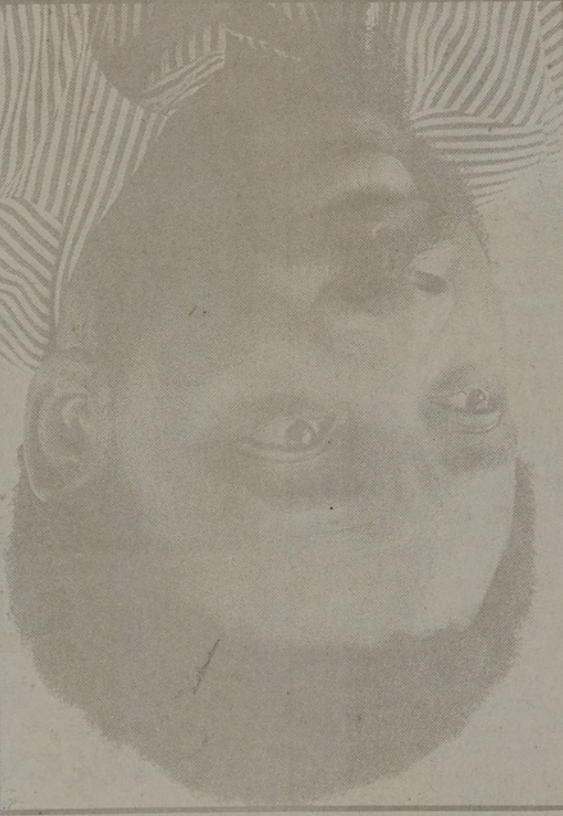
These elections will mark a historic turning point as the culmination of decades of struggle for a democratic franchise.

The ANC has decided to run its election campaign as "the most important mass action" it and other democratic forces will wage in coming months. However, by equating an election with mass action, it may well be pegging its support at its present level, restricting it to people who support mass action. The ANC could thus alienate the as yet undecided voters who might back it because they thought it had the best chance

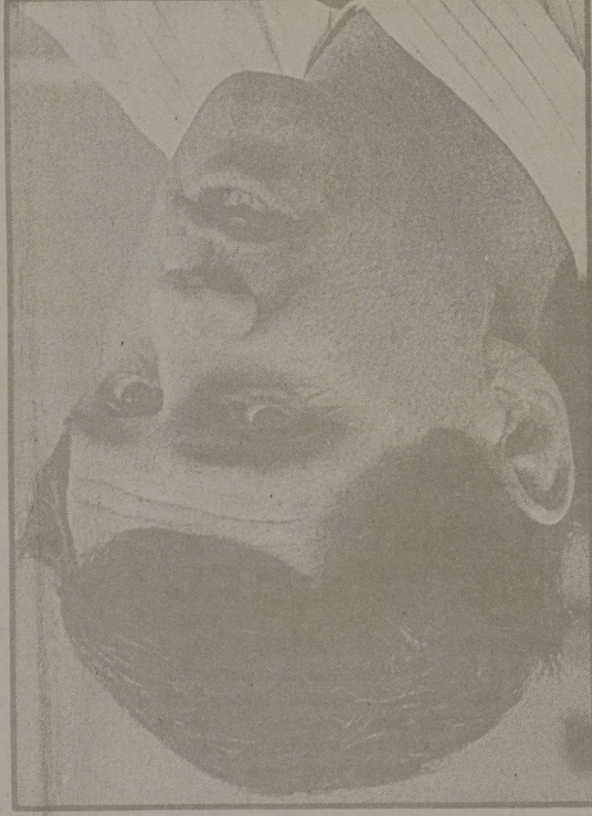
of providing an acceptable future self in favour of an interim government of national unity, to take office following the adoption of a new constitution. This constitution would presumably be agreed on at multi-party talks, and would be the first step away from minority rule. As part of this stage, elections would be held for a constituent assembly to draw up the final constitution.

The IGNU would, in the ANC's view, entail a Cabinet where seats would be allocated in proportion to the votes they had drawn. To qualify for a Cabinet post, parties would have to secure at least 5% of the votes cast.

Political experts have estimated 21 700 000 potential voters, of which 15-million would actually vote. This means a party would have to win at least 750 000 votes for a Cabinet seat. The constituent assembly would be a sovereign constitution-inet seat.



CYRIL RAMAPHOSA
Leading the ANC delegation at next month's multi-party negotiations



ROELF MEYER
Leading the Government delegation at next month's multi-party negotiations

making body, bound only by "agreed general constitutional principles". These would presumably also be set at the multi-party talks.

It would be composed of representatives elected on the basis of national and regional lists. It would take decisions by a two-thirds majority. Issues like the powers and functions of regions would also need an additional two-thirds majority of the regional representatives sitting as a whole.

The ANC wants to "build a national consensus on the question of future regional government" through discussions with other parties and organisations.

All decisions on the powers, functions, boundaries and structure of regional government should be decided by the constituent assembly. "Any commission on regions that may be established by a multi-party forum would, apart from delimiting electoral regions for the Constituent Assembly elections, only make recommendations to this Assembly."

The Constituent Assembly should complete its work within nine months, the ANC said. The ANC proposes that the IGNU would then become a Government of National Unity and Reconstruction (GNUR).

The GNUR would "continue in the same form as the IGNU". Its term of office would end with the first election under the final constitution, "which would be held no later than five years after the election of the Constituent Assembly", the ANC said.

The ANC said the GNUR "shall be governed by the overriding principle of national unity".

The President would have to consult the Cabinet. "In the event of a disagreement, the President's decision shall require support from two-thirds of the members of Cabinet." It is this requirement of a two-thirds endorsement that is spurring the ANC to win 70% of the votes cast. If the ANC wins about 55% of the vote, as some surveys have indicated, it would leave the ANC dependent on the support of probably the National Party to rule, making very real the term "government of national unity".

March negotiations likely to be 'bruising encounter'

CAPE TOWN: African National Congress, Inkatha Freedom Party and Government negotiators have agreed to meet together again at a multi-party planning conference on March 5 and 6 — but it is likely to be a bruising encounter.

Originally the planning conference had been pencilled in for late next week. However, the IFP asked at its bilateral meeting with the Government in Richards Bay this week that the conference be held over for a week. This would give the IFP negotiators an opportunity to consult fully with the IFP central committee, and to acquire a new mandate and responsibility with which to carry on negotiations.

Mr Roelf Meyer, Minister of Constitutional Development, said last night: "This is a reasonable request which will result in enhancing the negotiation process." Mr Meyer spoke to ANC general secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa on the telephone about the delay and was able to report that the ANC had agreed to this.

"The Government will now also pursue this viewpoint with other parties."

While these are encouraging signs, there will be hard bargaining even at the planning conference, which is scheduled to take place at the World Trade Centre, Kempton Park. There are major differences between the parties on issues like federalism, time tables and forms of government in the various transition stage.

Multi-party negotiations could still be resumed before the end of March, Mr Meyer said.

The IFP is going to the planning conference with the main intention of having delegations decide on the form of state in the new era: unitary or federal. The IFP wants delegates to agree on a federal form of government, and for the planning conference to appoint a constitutional making body comprising constitutional experts, with some political input.

The IFP suspects that the Government wants the planning conference to be just a quick step to Codesa 3, concerning itself with kitchen arrangements.

The IFP is also opposed to a government of national unity holding office for five years before elections are held under the final constitution, as has been mooted by the Government and the ANC. Instead, the IFP wants the first constitution to be put to voters in the form of a referendum, and if acceptable, for elections for a new government to then be held in terms of the constitution. This would see a new government in place by the end of next year.