

ArGrt?

NATIONAL 23 . /0 - 1 |

JOHANNESBURG. â\200\224 A visiting group of prominent North Americans have expressed shock at the â\200\234devastatingâ\200\235 poverty they saw in Soweto and Alexandra townships.

Speaking at a media conference at Jan Smuts Airport soon before leaving South Africa after a three-day trip, leader of the 33-member delegation Mr Randall Robinson said the tour of the two townships was one of â\200\234heartbreaking devastationâ\200\235.

The Democracy Now delegation came to South Africa at the invitation of the African National Congress to â\200\234listen and learnâ\200\235. The tour included labour, business, cultural, political and sports leaders.

Mr Robinson, director of the anti-apartheid lobby group Trans-africa, said political discussions with ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela had centred around violence.

He accused President De Klerk of complicity in the violence.

â\200\234When you examine the records of numerous incidents of violence, police complicity and the absence of prose-

cution one is led to believe De Klerk is involved with the violence.â\200\235

US Congresswoman Maxine Waters said that in spite of sanctions being lifted against South Africa, â\200\234our word and local sanctions operationalâ\200\235.

â\200\230Devastatingâ\200\231 township poverty shocks US visitors

from Mandela is to fight to keep stateâ\200\231

A 500-million dollar housing and education programme proposed by New York Congressman Stephen Solarz was still being considered by the ANC, Mr Robinson said.

â\200\234Mr Mandela has authorised me to

say that in principle it is a good idea, but the proposal would send up to 500-million dollars to the De Klerk government.â\200\235

Responding to accusations by Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha that the group did not carry much weight, Mr Robinson said the delegation had considerable influence and had been responsible for imposing sanctions against South Africa in the 1980s.

@ Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha sharply criticised the American activists, calling the leader of the delegation Mr Randall Robinson a â\200\234clownâ\200\235 who was attempting to use South Africa to boost his own political credibility, reports political correspondent Michael Morris.

A spokesman for Mr Botha said the Ministerâ\200\231s remark about Mr Robinson ngni a clown was made tongue-in-cheek.

â\200\234The point that Mr Botha wished to convey was that there was no importance or credibility to be attached to the statements of the American activ-

ists,â\200\235 he said.-

CAPE/NATIONAL

d,'~3'/m 2Â¢:J0: /4

alks about

move to Round

PETER FABRICIUS
Political Staff

THE government and the ANC meet today for the second round of discussions on the all-party conference expected to take place by early cember.

Todayâ\200\231s meeting will continue talks begun last week.

Discussions have covered prepa-

rations for the conference â\200\224 the date, venue, agenda, decision-making procedure and the question of who should convene the conference and who should attend it.

Although no firm agreements have been reached, some sources believe the first meeting of the conference will take place in the Johannesburg/Witwatersrand area â\200\224 and not in Pretoria.

out because of its strong associations with the government. Later meetings could take place in Cape Town, sources said.

There is still disagreement about who should convene the conference.

The ANC favours an independent convenor â\200\224 perhaps a church or business group â\200\224 while the government favours joint convenors from political parties.

There has been speculation that the ANC is against this idea because it may involve Inkatha.

Government sources believe that the ANC will object only if the state, the ANC and Inkatha form a â\200\234troikaâ\200\235, but will not mind if Inkatha is a party co-convening the conference.

The government and the ANC have provisionally agreed that the conference should centre on broad

constitutional principles behind the constitution-making process and transitional mechanisms.

Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa, member of the ANCâ\200\231s national executive committee and its negotiating team, said the broad principles had to be agreed upon by the parties.

If not, there was no point in discussing the mechanisms for negotiating the constitution itself, or transitional mechanisms.

He said the ANC believed the all-party conference should only agree only on very broad principles such as the need for a united non-racial democracy, a universal franchise and an independent judiciary.

The ANC did not believe the conference should be concerned with contentious principles such as federalism.

Pretoria will probably be ruled

A1

SA ambassador

S OVG Erg~ gy 23101 0

Cr iï-\201C'SeS Mandelg

SYDNEY - South African Ambassador However, the ANC itself recognises David Tothill criticized African National that it is not the only spokesman for Congress leader Nelson Mandela YESter- black opinion, Their level of support can-

day for Playing on the heart-strings of not be quantified yntj| an electi on js the Western- democraciesâ\200\231 ip fund- held,â\200\235â\200\231 Tothijl said. _ raising efforts around the world. He referred to Mandela as 3 â\200\234â\200\234creation

Only hours before Mandela was of the international media,â\200\235â\200\231 scheduled to arrive jn Canberra, the feg- Mandelaâ\200\231s itinerary includes a public eral capital, for a four-day visit, Tothilj rally outside Sydneyâ\200\231s Opera House on told a Foreign Correspondents Associa- Wednesday and a fund-raising dinner tion luncheon that Mandela is not the that evening at a downtown hotel. clear-cut leader of ajl blacks in South Af. Australian Foreign Affairs Minister rica. : Gareth Evans, however, said in Canberra

â\200\234Many Australians seem lo believe gy sanctions against Sourh Africa that the negotiations (for a new South wouiq not be lifted because â\200\234â\200\230not en ough African Constitution) are 3 subterfuge has ch: e g that will bring about 2 handover of power Tothill said those who believed sanc- to the ANC, whereupon Mr Mandela Will tions were the reason for South African

the countryâ\200\231s first black presi- reforms were â\200\234â\200\234captives of their p olitica]

dent,"â\200\235 said Tothill, fontases.â\200\235Sapa-dp PO

2 i [r]â\200\231rr?m

INKATHA

Was this a

deliberate

leak?

NICHOLAS Myburghâ\200\231s defence of Inkathaâ\200\231s role in Inkathagate (The Argus, August 19) was the most convoluted piece of obfuscation I have ever read. -

Mr Myburgh argues that the government has

been plotting to discredit Inkatha so it can hog the political limelight along with the ANC. If this is the case, then why did the government secretly Baâ\200\230z millions of taxpayersâ\200\231 rands to Inkatha and USA, and why was the SABC news department told to run Inkatha puff-pieces after any big ANC news story? . -]

. Is Mr Myburgh seriously trying to tell us that the De Klerk government deliberately leaked the Inkatha funding documents, subjected itself to international ridicule and demoted Ministers Vlok and Malan, just so it could discredit Inkatha?

And why would the NP want to discredit Inkatha anyway? NP congresses have been full of delegates wanting an NP-Inkatha alliance and Inkatha, instead of producing and debating its own policy documents, has simply mirrored new Nat policy. !

At least Mr Myburgh admits that Inkatha does not have anything close to 40 000 Western Cape members.. But he claims that Inkathagate has â\200\234rallied even greater supportâ\200\235 for Inkathaâ\200\231s â\200\234excellent leadershipâ\200\235. Come on Inkatha, letâ\200\231s see evidence. Letâ\200\231s see if you can organise a regional congress, a public meeting, a policy programme. If Mr Myburgh is to be believed, this will be much easier now that the state has withdrawn the massive funding that is part of its alleged campaign to discredit Inkatha. s

Another thing: if the government really does use cash injections to discredit its opponents, how come they have never funded the DP or any other party that does its democratic duty and criticises the government? Not that the DP would accept devious pay-offs of taxpayersâ\200\231 money. Incidentally, the DP Youth were unable to hold a national congress this year due to lack of funds.

Why is it that Inkatha members seem incapable of arguing their case in a rational, logical and honest manner. Letâ\200\231s see if they can give a straight answer to the following questions:

Are parties opposing Inkatha given full free-

dom of speech and organisation in KwaZulu? Are any opposing parties represented in the KwaZulu legislative assembly? Did any delegate at any stage in the recent Inkatha congress publicly disagree with Chief Buthelezi? Does Inkatha really need â\200\234traditional weaponsâ\200\235 if it is a peaceful political party committed to democracy?

COLIN DOUGLAS

National Vice-Chairperson
Democratic Party Youth
+ Cape Town

R 7 T - S O
Fresh questions on Inkathaj/w

THE â\200\234Inkatha-gateâ\200\235 state funds scandal raises fresh questions about the Inkatha Freedom Partyâ\200\231s authenticity as a political party. I would like to put to Inkatha the following questions about their activities in the Western Cape.

Inkatha officials in Ulundi say there are 40 000 Inkatha members in the Western Cape. That would presumably mean that Inkatha is a large and active organisation in the region. But in my two years in Western Cape politics I have | heard from, seen, met or debated with Western Cape representatives from %vust about every organisation in existence except Inkatha. Why?

One would expect that such a large organisation would hold public meetings, house meetings, street tables, pickets, gress conferences, even marches, in abundance. There has,

however, been absolutely no sign of any of these activities at any time. Why not?

One would expect that, with 40 000 members, Inkatha would have many branches and local structures with committees and chairpeople. Again, there has been no evidence at all of any such structure.

Political organisations have a tradition of making contact with each other to meet, debate issues and share common interests. The Western Cape Democratic Party has to the best of my knowledge had no such approach by Western Cape Inkatha, and the only member I have ever debated with was specially imported from Natal for the occasion.

The other thing that my political organisaion should surÃ©-ly do is promote its policies, but that too is missing from Inkathaâ\200\231s Cape programme. Incredibly, the recent Inkatha Â° Ulundi Congress did not even produce an economic policy.

In fact, the only Inkatha activity I have ever seen in the Western Cape was one press advertisement. I wonder who paid for it â\200\224 the 40 000 members, or some other, secret source?

Inkathaâ\200\231s claim to 40 000 Western Cape members begins to look as believable as Chief Butheleziâ\200\231s denial that he knew anything about the SAPâ\200\231s R250 000 payment to Inkatha. '

Is Inkatha anything more than a phony party with phony

.members and phony policies, paid by the government to
prop up the Nat power base? â\200\231

COLIN DOUBLAS
National Vice-chairperson

My Democratic Party Youth

Â¢ cofleern. i AT
s difficult

of all citizens impart rope

ed f-:gÃ@:!i&ty for
~ those who are using violence
bstruct the road jowasds

v He qoridemned the country-
- Wide violence and said he told
~ 211 political leaders of his

He called on people responsi-

- for the _:r:'a&â\200\234lt', 'feâ\200\230._nanlc"g of |
including the police and

orcesâ\200\235 to rout out â\200\234all