

Right-wing, ANC cordial

JOHANNESBURG—Signs of a thawing of relations between the ANC and right-wing Afrikaner groupings emerged here yesterday.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela described as cordial two hours of talks with Afrikaner separatist leader Carel Boshoff.

And Andries Beyers, leader of the Afrikaner Volksunie, said yesterday that the AVU had amended its policy on self-determination to such a degree that it would now be acceptable even to elements within the ANC.

Careful not to alienate SA's right-wing before this week-end's conference to plan the resumption of democracy talks, Mr Mandela told Mr Boshoff the ANC was "sympathetic" to the Afrikaner's dream of self-determination.

— (Sapa-AFP)

Govt, PAC in deadlock

GABORONE—The South African Government and Pan Africanist Congress were still deadlocked late yesterday on the question of continued attacks by the PAC's armed wing against security forces and civilians.

This was revealed by PAC organiser Maxwell Nmadzhanani, who said the SA authorities had demanded the organisation declare a moratorium on the armed struggle until the PAC's next national conference — its supreme policy-making body — or submit a recommendation to its national executive committee that the armed struggle be ended.

Talks between PAC officials and the Government delegation were due to end last night. — (Sapa)

Six gunned down in AK-47 ambush

The Natal Mercury 3 March '93

Please don't shoot, plead bakkie pupils

THE police and the SADF using helicopters and tracker dogs are involved in a massive manhunt for the killers of six schoolchildren who — screaming and pleading for their lives — were gunned down in the Mboyi district near Table Mountain early yesterday.

The children were among 14 passengers travelling in a bakkie which was ambushed at 7.20am by seven gunmen while on the way to school. The men had AK-47s and .303 rifles.

Witnesses said the children, pupils of the Mbabangalo School, were screaming and pleading with their attackers not to shoot them.

Another six children and the driver of the vehicle were injured in the attack, which took place only 1km away from the school.

The IFP identified Wanda Ngubane, 12, Nomusa Gwala, 12, and Ngce Mkhize, 10 as being among the dead. The other three dead were the children of local IFP chairman Bernard Mkhize. They were Thulani Mkhize, 19, Thule Mkhize, nine, Nduna Mkhize, 13.

Yesterday the scene was a hive of activity as more than 100 police and army personnel, with the help of tracker dogs and supported by three helicopters, combed the mountainous terrain in search of the assailants.

By Grant Robbins
Pietermaritzburg Bureau

A police spokesman said the bakkie had been making its way slowly up a winding dirt road and had rounded a corner when it was fired upon from all sides in "a well planned ambush".

Bakkie driver Phikalithethwa Ngubane, 23, said he had just negotiated the corner when several men, one of them wearing brown clothes similar to an SADF uniform, appeared in the road and began shooting at him.

"Gunmen then ran to the side of the (vehicle) and started shooting at the children. I stopped the bakkie and jumped out and ran down the hill towards some bushes and hid until the shooting and the screams of the children had stopped.

"I think they started shooting at me because they know I'm an Inkatha (member). I know they are ANC. I have never caused any trouble," he said. "Today was only my second day transporting the children to school."

Mr Ngubane's brother, Fihlukusa, 25, a front seat passenger in the bakkie, also described the attack.

"One bullet hit the windscreen above my head. We swerved and came to a stop. I saw a man standing beside the bakkie shooting at the children.

"One man started to fire at me and I opened the door and ran into the bush. The shooting carried on for about 10 minutes and I could hear the

screams of the children as they pleaded with the men not to shoot them."

A policeman who arrived on the scene shortly after the attack said he was shocked by the brutality of the shooting. "There were bodies lying everywhere. Children, obviously on their way to school, were covered in blood and not moving. A young schoolgirl about 10 years old was sprawled on the ground. She had been shot several times."

Police recovered 24 spent AK-47 cartridges on the scene as well as two live .303 rounds of ammunition.

The killings have sparked fears of revenge attacks and a heavy police presence will remain in the region.

"There is no doubt at all that those responsible for the for this heinous deed intended to carry out an attack so horrific that the last vestiges of hope for peace in the Natal Midlands would be destroyed," the IFP said in a statement last night.

The IFP blamed the ANC Midlands leadership's "policy of violence".

ANC Natal Midlands chairman, Mr Harry Gwala, condemned this as the "... propaganda of the IFP in attributing every death to the ANC".

"There are no ANC members living in the area any more because they were all chased out by the IFP in 1992. Furthermore, we are aware that there is presently a great deal of friction and animosity amongst the IFP people in this area," Mr Gwala said.



ABOVE: The scene of yesterday's attack in which six children were killed and six were injured when attackers opened fire on the bakkie, which was taking the children to school.

RIGHT: Natal Midlands deputy Regional Commissioner, Major-General Wynand van der Merwe, inspects the bakkie in which the children died. He is heading the search for the killers.

Pictures by GRANT ROBBINS



PAC spells out land grab policy

LLOYD COUTTS

A PAC government would pay no compensation for expropriated farmland but be prepared to make reparations for structural developments.

In an interview published in *Barometer on Negotiation*, PAC department of land and environment affairs director Peter Mayende said his organisation had targeted a substantial amount of land controlled by white farmers for redistribution.

"The first step will be the expropriation of white controlled land. This will be the first and major source of land for redistribution."

Under-utilised land and state-owned land lying idle was also available for habitation, agricultural production and other forms of economic enterprise.

Land taken through forced removal would be returned to original communities who inhabited it. He said land was originally obtained through colonial conquest and its ownership therefore had no legitimacy.

"However, on moral grounds we are prepared to pay compensation for developments on the land, for example physical structures, dams, fencing, silos, trees planted, but not for the land itself."

Owners of residential properties would be compensated in a similar way. Housing would be provided under a leasehold and rental system. The PAC believed land, as a national resource, could not be owned.

Merger under spotlight

THE Sandton Town Council set up a section 59 committee to study the implications of a merged Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra, management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said yesterday.

The committee, which will consist of Sandton civic and ratepayers' organisations and the local chamber of business, would look into new systems of local government, and specifically a merger between the councils.

Stewart stressed that as yet Sandton had no official standpoint on the merger, but that its position would be clearer once the committee had made its findings. He expected the first reports to be ready in the next three to six months.

GAVIN DU VENAGE

Stewart said the committee would be canvassing the public as well as experts to compile its reports.

The merger will be one of the topics on today's agenda of the Northern Joint Negotiating Forum, but Stewart said the council would most likely not support any proposals put forward by any of the parties involved until Sandton's position was established.

The forum is a body consisting of a number of parties including the TPA, Alexandra civics, the Development Bank of SA, ratepayers associations, business, and the Sandton, Randburg, Alexander and Marlboro management committees.

SA gesprek staan voor 'n mynveld

33 93
Burger

Rand-kwessies kan beplanning laat vashaak

Politieke Redaksie

DIE beplanningskonferensie môre en oormôre vir die hervatting van veelparty-onderhandelings voor einde vandeemaand sal deur 'n mynveld van ernstige probleme gestuur moet word.

Talle rand-kwessies soos die voorsitterskap van die konferensie, wie almal toegelaat word en die Inkatha-Vryheidsparty se aandrang dat nou reeds op 'n toekomstige staatsvorm besluit word, hou die potensiaal in om die konferensie op 'n dooie punt te laat eindig.

Die Regering is egter vasbeslote om die konferensie te laat slaag.

Mnr. Roelf Meyer, Minister van Staatkundige Ontwikkeling, het gister gesê dit is van die uiterste belang dat volwaardige onderhandelings so gou moontlik hervat word. "Suid-Afrika het dit nodig en die oorgrote meerderheid van die inwoners verwag dit." 'n Toestand moet geskep word om te verseker dat geeneen van die deelnemers uitstap nie. Hy het gesê daar behoort geen struikelblokke te wees nie, omdat die nodige voorbereidings getref is.

Hy het gesê rand-kwessies moet nie die konferensie se hoofsaak



Mnr. Roelf Meyer

oorskadu nie. Dit is om die hervatting van veelparty-onderhandelings te beplan. 'n Datum moet môre en oormôre bepaal word waarop die veelparty-forum sal begin. Sowat drie weke sal nodig wees om op dié forum voor te berei.

Die forum hoef nie as Kodesa bekend te staan nie. Die naam is onbelangrik. Dit moet vir die meeste partye aanvaarbaar wees, 'n meer vaartbelynde raamwerk as Kodesa hê en meer partye insluit.

Die voorsitterskap van môre se konferensie kan aan die aanvoorgroep van sewe mense toevertrou word wat die reëlins gekoördineer het. Hulle is mnr. Meyer, mnr. Cyril Ramaphosa van die ANC, dr. Frank Mdlalose van die IVP, mnr. Colin Eglin van die Demokratiese



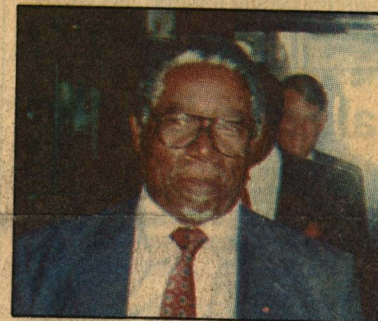
Mnr. Cyril Ramaphosa

Party, mnr. Chris de Jager van die Afrikaner-Volksunie, en verteenwoordigers van Transkei en die Dikwankwetla-party.

Dit is egter moontlik dat ander voorstelle oor die voorsitterskap môre met die begin van die konferensie gedoen kan word. Die verstandhouding tussen die deelnemende partye is dat die voorsittersgroep praktiese kwessies sal hanteer soos wat dit opduik.

Geen party is formeel na die konferensie uitgenooi nie. Enige party "met bewese steun" kan daar opdaag. In Regeringskringe word verwag dat 'n afvaardiging van die KwaZulu-regering namens die Zoeloe-koning sal opdaag.

Hoewel die ANC gekant is teen die koning se deelname, word ver-



Dr. Frank Mdlalose

wag dat die ANC sy afvaardiging sal aanvaar. Insgelyks aanvaar die Regering dat hy nie 'n PAC-afvaardiging sal kan verhinder om die konferensie by te woon nie.

Oor die PAC se deelname aan die nuwe onderhandelingsforum einde vandeemaand skop die Regering egter vas. Ander groepe en instansies kan ook môreoggend opdaag en eis om aan die beplanningskonferensie deel te neem. Dit kan regse volkstaat-groepe buite die Parlement en klein opposisie-partye uit die tuislande insluit.

Die konferensie sal moontlik gevra word om te beslis of enige van dié groepe bewese steun het en toegelaat kan word.

• Regering, PAC kan nog bots oor Aplā - bladsy 2.

The safeguards of

POST NATAL, MARCH 3-6, 1993

diffusion

A Bill of Rights is open to abuse if total power is in one party's hands

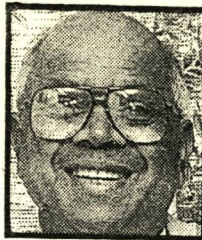
AFTER President FW de Klerk was given a massive mandate by the white electorate to pursue reform, some of his lieutenants allowed this to go to their heads. Furthermore, because of the quaint manner in which Codesa was structured, the Nationalist Government and their *chelas* which then included Solidarity, wielded clout within Codesa quite out of proportion to their actual support within the nation.

Although Chief Buthelezi himself did not attend because King Goodwill was not permitted to be there, Inkatha was not only well represented but its delegates played a meaningful role.

But when the ANC found that, due to their own mistake in agreeing to such a lopsided structuring of Codesa, the Nats were being unduly obdurate, they scuppered Codesa. The ANC appeared to believe that the Berlin and Moscow syndromes, (in which large masses on the streets forced the communist government of Honecker to make concessions and in which the masses once again thwarted a coup by the communist hardliners) might be repeated here against the Nats.

They had previously believed that they could take power by force. This time round, it was not physical force but massive non-violent demonstrations upon which they relied.

Not quite the passive resistance of



In the aftermath of Codesa, the battle for power is hotting up. Guest writer PAT POOVALINGAM analyses the arm-wrestling and comes to the conclusion that political power must be diffused if a culture of democracy is going to be established in this country.

1946 or the Defiance campaign of 1952, but something similar to the barricades that heralded the French Revolution.

Some very bombastic and yet very heady pronouncements were made. These were so heady as to intoxicate many innocent people with mere words. It was such a group of innocent fighters for freedom who were led by the SACP's Ronnie Kasrils into the live bullets of the Ciskeian dictator. The fact that he is a carbon copy the ANC-supporting Transkeian dictator made him neither worse nor better. But the shock reverberated throughout the world. And it evidently made its salutary imprint both upon Mr De Klerk and the Nationalists as well as Mr Mandela and the mainstream of the ANC. And from that time onwards there has been negotiation. By common consent, all parties agreed that a *luta* must not *continua* (the fighting must not continue).

That is precisely what both Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi hoped to achieve at the then proposed Tayler's Halt meeting scheduled in 1990 soon after Mr Mandela was released from jail. But as he himself confessed in public, certain Natal ANC leaders put a stop to that. Which makes one wonder why the normally honest Mr Mandela persists in excoriating Chief Buthelezi, who wanted that meeting to be held, instead of his own supporters who prevented that mission for peace.

However, negotiations have continued on a somewhat strange basis of numerous bilaterals, almost as if Mr De Klerk is a latter-day Henry Kissinger trying to bring about peace among contending parties. Whereas in fact, it is the Nats who have been doing their best to keep necessary and inevitable concessions to the barest minimum, and to concede them one at a time as slowly as possible.

But face-to-face multi-party talks appear to be imminent, and not a moment too soon. The country needs it. Inkatha needs it. The Nats need it. And the ANC needs to wrap up the results of its own secret parleys with the Nats before all sanctions are removed and the ANC is deprived of its last remaining international lever. It is noteworthy that Sweden, among the strongest and most generous of the ANC supporters, has given notice that it intends to get rid of anti-SA sanctions by the end of March.

At the forthcoming conferences, there will be the formalisation of secret agreements reached. Such a conference will at once be strengthened by reason of being joined by Dr Treurnicht's Conservative Party, the Afrikaner-Unie, the Pan Africanist Congress, and possibly Azapo. But their presence at this stage may also impede progress somewhat and lead to some irritation on the part of the "veterans". But the larger the partici-

pation, the greater the legitimacy, as the political scientists put it. There will also be a transitional council leading to a unity government and all the other trappings of co-operative government. Despite the fulminations of ANC spokesmen, there is not much difference in the draft Bills of Rights of the ANC, the Government and of the DP and Inkatha. But we know that the USSR as well as Zimbabwe and Bophuthatswana have excellent Bills of Rights. In the USSR the communist regime routinely mur-

dered opponents or had them sentenced to insane asylums or to prison camps by corrupt judges applying iniquitous decrees.

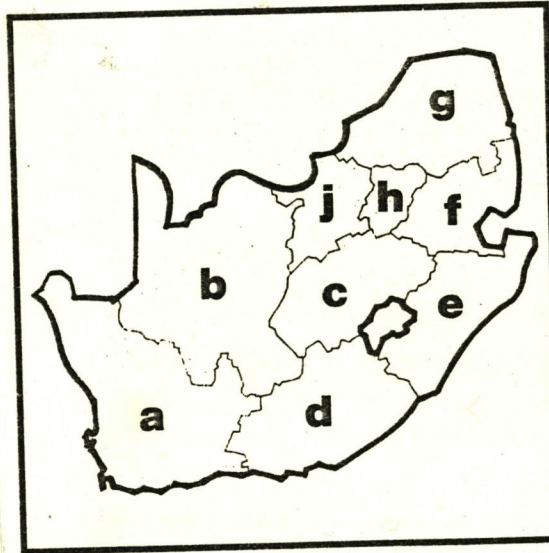
In Zimbabwe, even after the then Chief Justice Dumbuthwena ordered the release of prisoners, they were redetained and kept in jail. When students spoke out of turn, they were assaulted and the university was closed. In Bop, freedom of assembly is restricted.

It follows that in the absence of a culture of democracy and honest adherence to the basics of a Bill of Rights by whoever is in power, that could be observed in the breach.

Which is all the more reason why political power needs to be diffused. Hence the very cogent demand for a federal state with over-arching but not total power in the central government. The map published here sets out the nine main economic zones in South Africa which many constitutional experts believe could well form the bases for geographical, non-racial regions or provinces or states, whatever one calls them. There are sound arguments as well for regional administrative structures.

Every one of these zones will have a black majority population and may well have black or black majority legislatures and executives. But the smaller the area, the better will be the chances for true co-operation.

THE SAFEGUARDS OF DIFFUSION



SA's nine economic zones

- a. Western Cape
- b. Northern Cape
- c. Orange Free State
- d. Eastern Cape
- e. Natal/Kwazulu
- f. Eastern Transvaal
- g. Northern Transvaal
- h. PWV triangle
- i. Western Transvaal

(Note: The bantustans simply disappear.)

Six pupils die in ambush

By Sapa and Rika
van Graan

SIX pupils were killed when the packed bakkie taking them to school at Table Mountain, outside Pietermaritzburg, was ambushed early yesterday.

Police immediately began an air and ground search for the killers, but had not arrested anyone by late Tuesday afternoon.

The driver and six other scholars were injured in the 7.20 am ambush, said Pietermaritzburg police spokesman, Capt Henry Budhram.

Fihlukusa Ngubane, 25, was driving a bakkie packed with 23 pupils from the Mboyi area to Mbabangalo school when five to seven attackers opened fire from both sides of the road.

The gunmen sprayed the van with AK-47 and .303 rifle bullets before fleeing. Twenty-four spent AK-47 cartridges and two live .303 rounds were found at the scene.

Capt Budhram named the dead as Ngce Malo Mkhize, 15, Thulani Mkhize, 20, Thule Mkhize, 10, Wonderboy Ngubane, 11, Noema Mkhize, 13, and Nomusa Gwala, 11.

Most of the children were seated at the back of the bakkie, covered

by a canopy, as the vehicle travelled slowly up an incline on the gravel road.

Horrificed children jumped out and sought refuge under the bakkie

to escape the gunfire, police said.

The bakkie was riddled with bullets and all the windows in the

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6 die in ambush

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canopy were shattered.

Except for the driver, all the injured were seriously wounded, but in stable condition, police said. The name of the hospital where the wounded are being treated is being withheld for safety reasons.

The Inkatha Freedom party said three of the dead were children of local Inkatha chairman Bernard Mkhize.

Midlands African National Congress chairman Harry Gwala denied IFP allegations the gunmen had been ANC supporters, saying ANC members were no longer living in the area.

It was disgraceful that the IFP had made "wild allegations" without evidence.

The IFP warned the shooting would have catastrophic consequences for peace in the volatile Midlands region.

Capt Budhram said an investigation headed by the Natal Midlands deputy regional police commissioner, Maj-Gen Wynand van der Merwe, and the head of Natal's Crime Combating and Investigation Unit, Maj-Gen Johannes Meintjies, was underway.

Helicopters, tracker dogs, soldiers and police were involved in the operation and Capt Budhram said police ex-

pected arrests soon.

The Table Mountain area has been riddled with political violence in the past few years, but fewer incidents have been reported since ANC supporters fled the area last year.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman, Capt Craig Kotze, issued a statement on behalf of Minister Hernus Kriel, fresh from talks in Gaborone, expressing his "utter shock and outra-

ge" at the killings.

"No effort will be spared by the South African Police to bring those responsible to justice."

He urged no one to take the law into their own hands and to give the police a chance to find the perpetrators of the attack.

Mr Kriel also appealed for maximum co-operation from the community with the police.

**WORLD
BRIEFS**

Ambush in Natal kills 6 children

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Six schoolchildren were killed and seven others injured in South Africa's violence-torn Natal province Tuesday when a pickup truck taking them to school was ambushed by gunmen wielding AK47 assault rifles.

The attack came days before the scheduled resumption Friday of multiparty talks on creating a new nonracial political system — the first such talks to be held since May.

Three of the dead were children of the head of the local chapter of the Inkatha Freedom Party, and Inkatha spokesman Kim Hodgson accused his party's blood rival, the ANC, of carrying out the massacre.

The ANC dismissed the charge as "disgraceful" and condemned the attack.

PAC refuses to halt armed struggle

GABORONE — The political schism between government and the PAC widened last night when the PAC refused to end its armed struggle unilaterally.

At the same time, government said it would not support any move by the PAC to attend a multiparty conference once a date had been set by the multiparty planning conference this week. The PAC said while it would assess the question of attending a future multiparty forum, it would attend the planning conference regardless of government and NP feelings.

At the end of a day of formal talks, government delegation leader Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said all parties except the PAC had laid down their weapons and agreed to a multiparty conference. "We firmly believe the PAC has an important role to play in SA's political restructuring. We have gone out of our way to bring them to the negotiation table."

Kriel said the government delegation had proposed a phased approach to end the PAC's armed struggle: that Apla declare

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PAC

an immediate moratorium, to be reviewed by the PAC's national congress, and that priority talks on the future of all the armed forces be held at a multiparty forum.

"The PAC/Apla delegation was not prepared to accept this," said Kriel. But he felt there was a ray of hope as the PAC had promised to submit the proposal to its national executive council.

At a later news conference, the PAC's Willie Seriti said the organisation would attend the planning conference. "The majority of the people of this country have the right to be represented at something that could lead to a constituent assembly."

PAC member Gora Ebrahim said the organisation had full control over Apla.

□ From Page 1

"The PAC pledges to enter into a mutual cessation of hostilities. But we told the regime we have no mandate to declare a moratorium here at this meeting. We state categorically that the PAC has never said it would suspend the armed struggle and then allow its members to start killing people like other organisations."

Ebrahim said the PAC wanted an end to all violence, "including state-sponsored violence through units such as Koevoet, 31 Battalion and 32 Battalion, the Selous Scouts from the former Rhodesia and the Askaris (turned MK cadres)".

He envisaged the PAC NEC meeting before the end of March to discuss government's proposals. — Sapa.

Merger under spotlight

THE Sandton Town Council set up a section 59 committee to study the implications of a merged Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra, management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said yesterday.

The committee, which will consist of Sandton civic and ratepayers' organisations and the local chamber of business, would look into new systems of local government, and specifically a merger between the councils.

Stewart stressed that as yet Sandton had no official standpoint on the merger, but that its position would be clearer once the committee had made its findings. He expected the first reports to be ready in the next three to six months.

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The merger will be one of the topics on today's agenda of the Northern Joint Negotiating Forum, but Stewart said the council would most likely not support any proposals put forward by any of the parties involved until Sandton's position was established.

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Apartheid likened to affirmative action

THE policy of apartheid had been an ambitious affirmative action programme and in spite of its all-encompassing nature, it was still a dismal failure, former Pacific Research Institute policy analyst Jim Peron writes.

In a monograph — Affirmative Action, Apartheid and Capitalism — published by the Free Market Foundation and released yesterday, the author claims to debunk "widely held myths about economic power, discrimination and affirmative action".

He places affirmative action in a historical context in SA in order to show how this policy proposal is not new, but a revised form of apartheid.

This means that affirmative action in SA will help relatively well-off Blacks, not poor blacks, and it will come at the expense of those whites

BILLY PADDOCK

who are relatively less well-off," Peron said.

Another major contention in his study is that economic power and political power are not the same thing and that poverty is an economic problem that needs economic, not political solutions.

"Affirmative action is a political solution to an economic problem and that is one reason it doesn't work," Peron said.

He said the business community had to foot the bill for apartheid which "kicked it in the teeth and now because of the injustices of that system, advocates of affirmative action are suggesting we kick business in the teeth again".

He concludes with an analysis of

the economics of discrimination and claims to show why the free market would tend to discourage discrimination and why politics tends to increase it.

However, he defends affirmative action from a classical liberal perspective, stating that businesses have the right to voluntarily establish affirmative action programmes.

In another study on Industrial Policy, Wits University's Industrial Economics Prof Duncan Reekie contends that competition policy perversely penalises success.

He argues that state-owned firms be handed over to a unit and that units be given away to all South Africans to either keep or sell for cash. Units could also be sold by government for rands or foreign exchange to fund infrastructural projects.

Mandela sympathy for self-determination

MR NELSON Mandela, ANC president, held lengthy talks yesterday with Professor Carel Boshoff, leader of the Afrikaner Freedom Foundation and said afterwards he had sympathy for White self-determination.

"We concentrated on

the demand for self-determination for Afrikaners," Mr Mandela told reporters after two hours of talks with Professor Boshoff.

"We pointed out that we are sympathetic to this demand," Mr Mandela said, adding that his African National Congress wanted to reassure Whites that one-man-one-vote did not mean Black domination.

Prof Boshoff's group has established a Whites-only settlement at Orania, an abandoned construction town on the Orange River in the northern Cape.

He sees the town as the nucleus of an independent Afrikaner state stretching west to the Atlantic coast, its economy based on agriculture, minerals and diamonds.

Prof Boshoff said his talks with Mr Mandela had not gone into details like the possible boundaries of a White state, but he expected further discussions with the ANC.

"We want to take part in negotiations on the future of South Africa and we want to put

our proposal for self-determination forward as a peaceful way of solving the country's problems," Prof Boshoff said.

"The whole history of the Afrikaner is a history of striving for freedom. Therefore, we appreciate the freedom struggles of other peoples."

Mr Mandela said he had told Prof Boshoff that the ANC had backed non-violent change for the first 40 years of its existence until the government had forced it to take up the armed struggle.

"We hope that whatever happens at multi-lateral negotiations, those who demand self-determination will show the same patience that we did," Mr Mandela said.

He questioned the compatibility of a race-based state with the religious ideals Prof Boshoff's followers hold dear, and noted that the Afrikaners had never clamoured for their own homeland under White-ruled South Africa.

A member of Prof Boshoff's delegation

said the talks were about the possibility that an area of a future federal South Africa could become the Afrikaner homeland as an interim solution to eventual secession.

Prof Boshoff said the Afrikaner people's fight against the British empire had always been a quest for a homeland.

He called yesterday's talks "fruitful", and said both sides had agreed to set up a bilateral committee to further the discussions. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Funeral killing: 'SAP failed to intervene'

Citizen Reporter

THE ANC in the Western Transvaal yesterday accused the police of deliberately failing to intervene on Saturday when shots were fired at residents of Tigane, near Hartbeesfontein, from within the ranks of mourners attending a double IFP funeral.

A woman, who was identified at the weekend as Ms Angelina Jwili, was killed, and three people — Ms Kedilatile Kraai, 17, Mr Cecil Masoeu, 22, and Mr Lebogang Masie, 24 — were wounded in the shooting.

About 100 mourners formed a procession from the Ned Geref Kerk in Tigane to the graveyard, almost a kilometre away, during the double funeral of Mr Koos Seokolo, 19, and Mr Andries Khozo, 20, members of the IFP who died on February 12 and 13.

Mr Khozo was gunned down in the street, and a wounded Mr Seokolo was subsequently murdered in his hospital bed by a group of men who shot him four times.

Ms Kraai, Mr Masoeu and Mr Masie are relatives of ANC Youth League member, Mr Oupa Kraai (20), who was shot by police on January 14. Police said he had died after being identified as a suspect in the killings of the IFP members. He had tried to run away from them.

Mr George Mathusa, regional secretary of the ANC in the Western Transvaal, told The Citizen yesterday there were two shooting incidents on the day of the funeral — about 500 m apart.

There should have been more policemen at the funeral to ensure its peaceful progression and

the mourners should have been prevented from deviating from the agreed route of the procession, he said.

"When the shots were fired, pandemonium broke out, but the procession continued. The police did not stop and search the mourners."

Mr Mathusa said the group of mourners was seen by bystanders to disperse at one point — when a man with what appeared to be a .38 Special revolver opened fire — and then to close ranks around him before proceeding.

Ms Jwili had been shot in the head while practising with her choir in her yard. The other three victims had been sitting under a tree in their yard, according to Mr Mathusa.

"The mourners were only searched by the police when they left the graveyard."

Afrikaner states?

CAPE TOWN. — The Afrikaner Volksunie and the Government yesterday established a mechanism to examine the possibility of Afrikaner states in a federal South Africa, Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf

Meyer said yesterday.

In a statement issued in Cape Town after talks with the AVU, Mr Meyer said a committee would inquire into the common ground between the AVU and the government on the autonomy and borders of the regions.

Mr Meyer said the AVU proposed regional governments of which two would have Afrikaner majorities.

The AVU has proposed Afrikaner states in northern South Africa, with Pretoria as its core, and in part of the Cape Province. — Sapa.

Kaunda visits FW, meets old friend Zach

CAPE TOWN. — Former Zambian President Dr Kenneth Kaunda paid a courtesy call on President De Klerk at Tuynhuys yesterday.

A spokesman for the President's office said the brief visit had taken place at Dr Kaunda's request.

Dr Kaunda also visited Parliament where, ac-

companied by the Secretary to Parliament, Mr Robin Douglas, he sat in on the debate on the Post Office budget briefly before meeting Democratic Party leader Dr Zach de Beer.

"We are old friends from before, so we talked about old times and not very much about poli-

tics," Dr De Beer said afterwards.

As chairman of Anglo American Central Africa he had lived in Zambia from 1972 to 1974, and had dined with the then-president regularly.

Dr De Beer said Dr Kaunda mentioned having spoken to the President of Bophuthatswana, Dr Lucas Mangope, and Inkatha representatives during his visit to SA.

He had said that although SA faced considerable problems, he believed from his talks with various leaders that he detected a real desire to overcome them. — Sapa.

ANC and allies gear up to lift all sanctions

NAIROBI — The ANC and sympathetic international pressure groups have prepared co-ordinated plans to lift remaining sanctions on SA once a date for nonracial elections has been announced, ANC economic planning chief Trevor Manuel said yesterday.

Manuel told an investment conference the ANC was confident that the point of irreversibility in SA's transformation to democracy was in sight.

"So confident are we that the prospects for transformation are real that the ANC has already communicated to its vast network of international solidarity organisations that the remaining financial sanctions should be lifted as soon as an election date is announced.

"It is also anticipated that the ANC, supported by the international anti-apartheid movement, will be pro-actively engaged in securing the lifting of these sanctions," Manuel said.

He placed strong emphasis on the tightening of competition policy in SA, saying one of the SA economy's structural deficiencies was "the phenomenal stranglehold" conglomerates had on the economy.

The conglomerates' position excluded the indigenous population from the economic mainstream and created an investment climate that was hostile towards foreign investors, he said. "It is necessary thus to enhance overall economic performance through the introduction of a competition policy that is likely to unbun-

SIMON WILLSON

die the conglomerates."

Black entrepreneurs had been relegated to the fringes of the economy by apartheid, and SA business had to be deracialised if it was to be sustained. "The development of a black managerial class is one of the fundamental elements of an affirmative action programme to be undertaken in the context of justice and the utilisation of human resources on a wider scale than before."

Trends in the world economy made it essential for countries outside the major trading blocs of the advanced industrial economies to forgo greater co-operation. A democratic SA would therefore be compelled to promote economic co-operation in southern Africa. It was likely that a democratic SA would seek membership of the African Development Bank in pursuit of such a pan-African commitment and to forgo greater economic linkages across the continent.

Expectations that SA would become a regional manufacturer as a locomotive of growth for southern Africa were unrealistic, Manuel said. A strategy to address regional imbalances should instead grant other countries greater access to the domestic SA market and thus bring about a more equitable pattern of visible trade.

Regional solutions would also have to be found to problems arising from the historic distortions to transport flows and from labour migration.

More Dutch police to research SA violence

THREE more members of a delegation representing Dutch police unions will arrive in the country tomorrow to research violence and its control, according to their hosts, Peace Action.

The delegation's administrator, Mr Vons Geerlings, has been in the country for two weeks while another member, Ineke van Kessel, is expected in the country tomorrow, Peace Action co-ordinator Ms Venetia Govender said yesterday.

The mission is part of a series of working visits by Dutch police unions to South Africa, all dealing with violence and the possibility of contributing to the "democratisation" of the South African Police.

Controversy surrounded the visit when Dutch Foundation of Middle and High-Ranking Policemen (VMHP) president member Gert van Beek last month announced the delegation had been refused visas.

The delegations subsequently reapplied for visas and they were granted, said Ms Govender.

Their report will be presented to the Goldstone Commission and to Parliament and the media in The Netherlands.

A South African delegation is meanwhile visiting Paris to study crowd control and police training methods.

The delegation — comprising two members of the African National

Congress, two university academics and four South African Police officers — met French Interior Min-

ister Paul Quilès on Monday. The visit will last two weeks. — Sapa.

NEWS

**Huge manhunt
for killers of
six children**

POLICE and the SADF, using helicopters and tracker dogs, were involved in a massive manhunt for the killers of six schoolchildren gunned down in the Mboyi district in Natal early yesterday.

The children were among 14 passengers in a bakkie which was ambushed while on the way to school by about seven gunmen. Six other children and the driver were injured.

In another incident, Johannesburg businessman Cassim Desnath was shot dead at the side of the N3 highway near Maritzburg. He and his wife had stopped their car to sleep when an armed man broke in and robbed them.

GOVT TALKS WITH PAC FAIL

APLA continues 'armed struggle'

GABORONE. — The schism between the South African Government and the Pan Africanist Congress widened dramatically last night when the PAC refused unilaterally to end its armed struggle.

At the same time, the government said it would not support any move by the PAC to attend a multi-party conference once a date had been set by the

multi-party planning conference on Friday and Saturday.

The PAC said, however, that while it would assess the question of attending a future multi-party forum, it would attend the planning conference regardless of the government and National Party's feelings.

At the end of a day of formal discussions, the head of the government delegation, Law and Or-

der Minister Hernus Kriel, said all parties, with the exception of the PAC, had laid down their weapons and agreed to a multi-party conference.

"We firmly believe the PAC has an important role to play in the political restructuring of South Africa. We have gone out of our way to bring them to the negotiation table," he said.

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Govt talks with PAC fail

FROM PAGE 1

Mr Kriel said the government delegation had proposed a three-phased approach to end the

This was an immediate moratorium declared by the Azanian People's Liberation Army, the moratorium to be reviewed by the PAC's national congress, and then priority discussions on the future of all armed forces within the country at a multi-party forum.

"The PAC/APLA delegation was not prepared to accept this," said Mr Kriel.

But he felt there was a ray of hope as the PAC had promised to submit the proposal to its National Executive Council for consideration.

In response to a question, Mr Kriel said his government did not fear

The PAC could not join the negotiating process, which was on its way despite attacks on civilians by APLA.

At a later Press conference, the PAC's Mr Willie Seriti, said the organisation would attend the planning conference on Friday and Saturday.

The majority of the people of this country have the right to be represented at something that could lead to a Constituent Assembly.

Another PAC member, Mr Gora Ebrahim, said the organisation had full control over APLA — hence the presence of three APLA commanders, chief political commissar Romero Daniels, and two commanders who used aliases, Willie Brown and Raymond Martin.

"The PAC pledges to enter into a mutual cessation of hostilities. But we told the regime that we have no mandate to declare a moratorium here on this meeting. We will consult on the issue with our NEC, but the regime did not want to consult our respective organs.

"We state categorically

that the PAC has never said it would suspend the armed struggle and then allow its members to start killing people like other organisations."

AS FOR APLA'S military plans, Mr Ebrahim said: "The question of accelerating or decelerating the armed struggle by APLA depends on the situation, but we want to emphasise that we want an end to all violence, including State-sponsored violence through units such as Koevoet, 31 Battalion and 32 Battalion, the Selous Scouts from the former Rhodesia and the Askaris (turned MK cadres)."

He envisaged the PAC National Executive Council meeting before the end of March to discuss the government's proposals.

At the Press conference, the PAC refused to have the three APLA commanders on the podium, saying questions should be fielded through the political leadership.

No formal channel of communications was set

up between the two parties, but both sides said they were free to call each other as the political need arose.

It is understood the PAC position will be conveyed to the Cabinet today for a formal response from State President De Klerk.

Mr Kriel was accompanied by Deputy Constitutional Affairs Minister Farus Schoeman, Deputy Justice Minister Danie Schutte, the Police Commissioner, Gen Johan van der Merwe, and Gen Jan Erasmus, from South African Defence Force headquarters in Pretoria.

Apart from Mr Seriti and Mr Ebrahim, the PAC delegation included political affairs secretary Jaki Seroke, national organiser, Maxwell Nemaadzhivanani, secretary for Transport Economics Mofe Liteko, and publicity secretary, former London barrister, Barney Desai. — Sapa.

Preparations finalised for crucial planning talks

JOINT government and ANC subcommittees met yesterday in an attempt to resolve outstanding problems on constitutional matters and a "phased approach to bringing all armed formations under joint control".

The committees are under pressure to reach agreement before this afternoon when delegates gather for a plenary session at the World Trade Centre to finalise the agreements which are to be referred to principals for adoption.

Today's meeting is a continuation of last week's two-day bilateral meeting which failed to make significant progress "as there was insufficient time set aside for discussion and the subcommittees had not completed their work", ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said.

One issue that was likely to be resolved was the acceptance of a new policy for an independent SABC board. Other issues were the powers and duties of the transitional executive council and its sub-councils and working out a draft proposal for an elections commission and how elections should be conducted.

In Cape Town, government met an Afrikaner Volksunie (AVU) delegation to discuss the possibility of a regional state for Afrikaner self-determination.

Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer and Manpower Minister Leon Wessels represented government, while the AVU delegation was made up of party leader Andries Beyers, his four Parliamen-

BILLY PADDOCK

tary colleagues and six other AVU members, including former SADF head Gen Constand Viljoen.

A government source said yesterday the heads of most parties' negotiations teams due to participate at the planning conference had made progress yesterday in finalising the arrangements for Friday and Saturday. No further meetings were planned.

It has also been learned that the PAC's national working committee decided 10 days ago to participate in the planning conference. But, a government source said, this was dependent on agreement being reached on Apla and the armed struggle during yesterday's meeting between government and the PAC in Gaborone.

□ In Johannesburg yesterday, ANC president Nelson Mandela held two hours of cordial talks with Afrikaner separatist leader Carel Boshoff, Sapa-AFP reports.

Mandela said the ANC was "sympathetic" to the Afrikaner's dream of self-determination. "We hope whatever happens in multiparty talks, those who are demanding self-determination for their group will show the same patience which we in our own struggle have shown throughout."

A member of Boshoff's Afrikaner Freedom Institute (Avstig) delegation said the talks were about the possibility that an area of a future federal SA could become the Afrikaner homeland.

Most want hostels converted

THEO RAWANA

FOURTEEN of the 19 townships in the Eastern Transvaal had opted for conversion of hostels into family units, Transvaal MEC for physical planning and development John Mavuso said yesterday.

Mavuso was speaking in KwaGuqa, Witbank, at the opening of the first family unit area converted from a hostel complex since government's upgrading/conversion programme began late last year.

Government set aside R194,6m last year for the upgrading of Transvaal hostels or their conversion into family units.

Mavuso said the R2,5m project in KwaGuqa had produced 279 family units.

In the 93 hostels in the Transvaal, consensus among concerned parties had already been reached at 21 hostels on the manner in which the upgrading or conversion should be conducted, he said.

Negotiations were proceeding at a further 42 hostels and interested parties at six hostels were still being identified and urged to negotiate on the matter.

Mavuso said it was important that conversion or upgrading should be the result of consensus reached between hostel residents, residents in surrounding areas, hostel owners and all interested parties.

"KwaGuqa has set an example for role players in other areas where the negotiation process is still in the starting blocks.

"It is in the interest of hostel residents and surrounding communities to participate in negotiations in order to reach consensus on this important matter," Mavuso said.

He thanked the local civic association for its input in the negotiations.

There were two types of accommodation in the complex.

Units of a minimum of 34m² would be rented at R13 a month and the service charge for sewerage, refuse removal, water, roads and street lighting would be R48,40.

The larger units would rent at R20 a month with the same service charges as the smaller units.

A flat rate of R13 would be paid for electricity and consumption would be charged according to units.

Mavuso said he saw upgrading and conversion of hostels as one means of addressing the housing need, which also included accommodation for single people.

About 1 993 ha of land had been bought for nearly R10,5m.

A total of 42 655 erven costing more than R213m had been made available to low-income groups in the Transvaal, he said.

In the last two years the hostels have been a bone of contention between the ANC, Inkatha and government. The ANC claimed hostels were launching pads for attacks on township residents.

Inkatha strongly rejected suggestions that all hostels should be demolished and converted into family units. Through negotiations, compromise arrangements were reached where some would be upgraded and others converted into family units.

Peace committee targets 'out of line' signatories

RAY HARTLEY

THE national peace committee is investigating ways of strengthening the peace accord and reining in those signatories who disregard its code of conduct.

Committee chairman John Hall said yesterday that 159 complaints about breaches of the accord's code of conduct for political parties and organisations had been received to date.

A committee looking into the strengthening of the accord had called for submissions from political organisations, as well as the UN, EC, OAU and Commonwealth monitors, he said.

"Many avenues are being explored and even, for example, the paying of a bond — say a sum of R1m — to guarantee the parties uphold the peace accord and focus their minds more closely," he said in an interview. "There is a fine line between robust politicking and making inflammatory statements."

Hall said greater dedication from peace accord signatories and "hundreds of millions of

rands" in funding for development projects were needed if the peace accord was to be made more effective.

He said a new national fund, which co-ordinated "operational expenses" and funding for socio-economic development projects in strife-torn areas, was needed if violence was to be dealt with effectively.

"Our clear objective is to make the peace accord more effective. We need greater dedication from the signatories (to the accord) to push its provisions and obligations down to the grassroots level," he said.

The envisaged fund, which was still in the very early stages of discussion, would collect money from donors and allocate this to development projects with the existing national peace accord trust acting as a catalyst.

This would remove the problems currently

created by the "random injection of aid" by many development agencies.

Hall said moves were being made to "de-link" peace accord structures from government to increase their autonomy. "While I have the greatest respect for Justice Minister Koble Coetsee and his department, the issue of our relationship with them is sensitive," he said.

The existing trust would provide bridging finance to cut through bureaucratic red tape, while funders were being lobbied for money for projects, he said.

Adequate funding was also needed to run regional and local peace accord offices, and for overheads and the salaries of permanent staff.

Hall said: "If I have one desperate concern, it is the socio-economic violence that's turning our country into one of the most criminally violent countries in the world. This, more than politics, is leading to a loss of business confidence, a brain drain and a cash drain."

Screams of dying children ignored by gunmen

THE STAR
03 MARCH 1991

10 minutes of horror

By Bronwyn Wilkinson
and Own Correspondent

Merciless gunmen ignored the screams and pleas of 14 children as they mowed them down in an ambush on the bakkie that was taking them to school in the Table Mountain area near Maritzburg early yesterday, witnesses said.

At the end of the 10-minute horror, six children including three sons of the local Inkatha Freedom Party chairman were slaughtered. They were shot at close range.

The ages of the dead ranged from nine to 19. Six other children were injured.

The children killed have been identified as brothers Thulani (19), Nomsa (13) and Thule Mkhize (19) — the sons of IFP regional chairman Bernard Mkhize; Wanda Ngubane (12), Nomsa Ngubane (12) and Ngce Mkhize (19), who was not closely related to the three Mkhize brothers.

Injured were Cynthia Ngwenya (14), brothers Lloyd (16) and Godwin Majole (13) — sons of a prominent local IFP women's brigade organiser, Thule Mkhize (23), Thokozani Gwoshe (16) and Sydney Ntsh (15).

Police spokesman Captain Henry Budhrani said the gunmen had sprayed the bakkie with AK-47 and 303 rifle fire in what was a "well-planned ambush" about 1 km from their school in the Mboyi district.

Witnesses said the 14 children in the bakkie, all pupils of the Mbabangale School in Mqungqo, screamed and pleaded with their attackers not to shoot them.

The driver of the bakkie, Phikaliethwa Ngubane (33), said he had just driven around a corner when several men appeared in front of the vehicle and opened fire.

"Other gunmen then ran to the side of the car and started shooting at the children."

Bushes

"I stopped the bakkie and jumped out and ran down the hill towards some bushes, and hid until the shooting and the screams of the children had stopped," he said.

It was the second day he had taken the children to school.

Ngubane's brother, Phikali (25), was also in the front of the bakkie.

"One bullet hit the windscreen above my head. We swerved and came to a stop. I saw men standing beside the bakkie shooting at the children," he said.

"One man started to fire at me and I opened the door and ran into the bush. The shooting carried on for about 10 minutes and I could hear the screams of the children as they pleaded with the men not to shoot them," the shocked passenger said.

A policeman who arrived on the scene shortly after the attack said he was stunned by the brutality.

"There were bodies lying everywhere. Children were covered in blood and not moving. A schoolgirl about 10 years old was sprawled on the ground. She had been shot several times," he said.

According to a statement released by the IFP's information centre in Durban yesterday, an IFP investigating team arrived at the scene to find total carnage. Sweets lay scattered in the pools of blood surrounding the bullet-riddled bakkie, the statement said.

Budhrani said some of the children had crawled out of the bakkie under heavy fire and scrambled under the vehicle in a desperate bid for shelter.

Peace monitor Bill Fairbairn, a Canadian, told The Star last night he would never forget the scene at the ambush site at about noon.

The van was riddled with

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Jacky Phikaliethwa Ngubane, brother of bakkie driver Phikaliethwa Ngubane, was slightly injured but managed to get away when attackers opened fire on the vehicle, killing six schoolchildren.

Six children massacred

● From Page 1

bullet holes, particularly towards the rear, where the children had been parked in under a fibreglass canopy.

Police quickly launched a manhunt for the killers.

More than 100 police and army personnel were called in and, using tracker dogs and three helicopters, combed the mountainous terrain.

By mid-morning today, Budhrani said, police were still searching for the killers, but no arrests had been made.

The IFP said the survivors had identified their attackers as

local ANC supporters.

ANC Natal Midlands chairman Harry Gwala said ANC members no longer lived in the area. He dismissed the IFP's claims as wild allegations.

A statement today from the ANC's Department of Information and Publicity said there was a clear pattern of increased violence before important negotiations and the massacre was a deliberate attempt to destabilise the scheduled multiparty planning conference.

Democratic Party MP for Maritzburg, Robin Carlisle, said the war between the ANC and IFP in Natal had brought the province to the brink of ruin.

Six pupils die after van ambush in Natal

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

SIX school pupils were killed yesterday when a crowded van was ambushed in the heart of the Natal Midlands where there is a virtual civil war between adherents of the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom party.

Three of the pupils killed were children of a local Inkatha chairman, Bernard Mkhize. Another six, including the driver, 25, were injured in the hail of bullets that raked the vehicle at Table Mountain just outside Pietermaritzburg.

Inkatha officials said last night that the early morning attack would have "catastrophic consequences" for peace in the area. They blamed ANC supporters for the attack, but Harry Gwala the local chair-

man of the ANC accused Inkatha of making "wild allegations" without evidence. There were no longer any ANC members in the area, he said.

Last night police and soldiers, with tracker dogs and helicopters were conducting a sweep for the killers, reported to have been five in number.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu of Cape Town last night described the killing of the six pupils as "sickening" and "beyond the limit". He said: "In the past there has been shocking and repeated failure by the police to get the perpetrators of similar massacres convicted. This time the police must find these people, put them on trial and bring the evidence to make the charges stick."

South African exodus could flood Britain

BY MICHAEL HAMLYN

IF, as some fear, life for whites becomes intolerable in South Africa over the next few years in the transition to black majority rule, Britain can expect a flood of people to swell its dole queues or advertise their skills to compete for scarce jobs.

As many as a million people have the absolute right to emigrate to Britain under present rules. If the new South Africa, ruled by an African National Congress-Communist Party alliance, goes wrong, many may make use of this opportunity.

And they may be only the first wave: if the new non-racial South Africa is allowed to rejoin the Commonwealth, different immigration rules will apply, and anybody with

patrial links to Britain will be able to move there. A patrial is anyone with a British paternal grandparent.

Officials in South Africa have discovered about 350,000 people with British passports. Since each of them will have a number of dependants, diplomats believe the number entitled to arrive in Britain could reach a million.

Whenever there is a crisis of confidence, the number of people renewing their British passports goes up. There is no way of checking how many people with British passports leave permanently, but their non-British dependants need a letter of consent (which is more or less automatically granted) before they can live in the United Kingdom.

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Right, Left and centre will all have their say

By Peter Fabricius
and Esther Waugh

The full political mainstream will be represented in negotiations for the first time when more than 20 parties and administrations sit down together at the World Trade Centre near Kempton Park on Friday to plan for the future.

All the main parties — including, for the first time, the Conservative Party on the Right and the Pan Africanist Congress on the Left — are due to attend the multi-party planning conference.

Its aim is to review agreements made to date and to plan the resumption of full-scale, multi-party, CODESA-style negotiations.

One top negotiator said the purpose of the conference was to form a bridge between past bilateral and future multilateral negotiations.

Bringing such a wide range of views together is bound to be a delicate operation and fireworks have not been ruled out.

Other participants were still not sure last night whether the Inkatha Freedom Party might not spring a surprise by demanding the conference make a binding decision

that the future South Africa become a federation.

However, IFP and other sources close to them said they did not think this would become a make-or-break issue at this stage.

They said this conference was mainly the brainchild of the IFP, which wanted it to review ANC-Government "deals". Thus the IFP would like it to succeed.

It appeared that other parties had accommodated the IFP's concerns to an extent by agreeing to include an agenda item on whether negotiations could take place regionally.

Panel

Arguments were still continuing yesterday about who should serve on the multiparty panel to chair the conference.

There was provisional agreement that the Government, ANC, IFP, Democratic Party, Afrikaner Volksunie, KwaZulu government and Transkei government should be represented.

A panel drawn from these groups met in Cape Town yesterday to make final arrangements for the conference.

However the conservative Concerned South African Group (Cosag) was still arguing that Hopatutswana Government

minister Rowan Cronje should be appointed to the chairing panel to represent their interests.

This problem was not expected to cause a major upset nor was the expected arrival of KwaZulu government and PAC delegations at the conference — even though this had not been agreed to by all parties.

The ANC has not approved the KwaZulu government as such being there and the Government is still officially observing a ban on contact with the PAC until it distances itself from violent acts by its armed wing the Azanian Peoples Party.

"Both will probably just pitch up and no one will chase them away," a negotiation source said.

The source added that first prize at the conference would be agreement on a date for full multi-party talks.

But it would be enough if the process of arranging the conference was just kept on track.

Parties will be represented by five-person delegations headed by their chief negotiators rather than their leaders.

Apart from the PAC, CP and KwaZulu government, the other principal newcomer to negotiations will be the Afrikaner Volksunie (AVU) which split from the CP last year.

Commuter tells trial of train killing

By Susan Smuts

A man burst into a train coach and fired on commuters before three other men — armed with a kerrie, a hammer and a tomahawk — attacked passengers and threw them from the train, a witness told the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Alfos Lekhuwane told Mr Justice J Els he saw Albert Dlamini walk into a coach on the Katlehong-Germiston train on October 9 1991 and fire a shot at a man reading a newspaper. He said Dlamini walked through the coach while commuters ran to the back of the compartment and tried to hide under seats.

Dlamini (30) of Katlehong has pleaded not guilty to murdering three commuters, attempting to murder nine others, and to the illegal possession of arms and ammunition. The State alleges he was part of a gang which injured and killed passengers.

Lekhuwane said Dlamini had shot him in the leg. Three other men entered the coach and started to assault passengers. He did not mind being beaten as this was "better than dying". He said he saw Dlamini throw one man out of the train.

When Lekhuwane was asked to point Dlamini out to the court, he identified a man sitting in the public gallery, not Dlamini, who was seated in the accused bench. Lekhuwane explained he had earlier seen Dlamini in the public gallery talking to the man.

The hearing continues.