

# 'Solution could be consolidation area for Natal'

The Natal witness

Jan 30 1980

the lines of a federation.

"This, I believe, will bring stability and prosperity, not only to the whole region (the greater part of Natal) but also to the present modes of development within that region, such as Pietermaritzburg.

He added: "It also will save a tremendous amount of money because there will be no need to buy out White farmers, lands and White towns; they will merely stay exactly where they are and continue to function under a new administration."

## Wider look

Mr Atkinson, whose subject was Pietermaritzburg in the 1980s, said that in 1970 the total population of the City was 115 000. Twenty years ahead, the anticipated population would have grown from the present-day total of 157 000 to 225 000 people of all race groups.

In planning and engineering it was necessary to look wider afield, and to look not only at the City but the metropolitan area and region. Unless this was done, decisions would be taken and action implemented that in the medium to long term would be disastrous for Pietermaritzburg and for its metropolitan area.

Mr Atkinson said the total population in the Pietermaritzburg metropolitan area now was estimated at nearly 450 000 people of all races.

Of these 450 000, no fewer than 250 000 were Africans. Apart from a relatively small number of about 35 000 living within the borough boundaries, the balance of the Africans lived mainly in the Edendale and Swartkop valleys.

The 250 000 Africans living in the metropolitan area required from 50 000 to 60 000 housing units.

"It is not correct to talk of a future problem; the problem is here now," said Mr Atkinson.

"The present population of over 250 000 Africans means that in theory there are 50 000 to 60 000 families in the area. Even assuming a relatively low activity ratio of 33½ per cent, there are about 80 000 potential workers

turn, this population would need over 60 000 houses.

"Thus, over the next 25 years in this City we are going to see a tremendous housing development proceed in the Edendale valley, whether we like it or not, and these houses will either be by Government subsidised funds, or else by the people themselves."

Mr Atkinson said that in the overall national interest it would be essential for the industrialisation to proceed fairly rapidly in Pietermaritzburg now that it seemed that the economy was taking off once again.

He emphasised the importance of the central area of the City.

"The place to shop, the central place to shop, will be our central area providing it can remain attractive both physically and financially."

## Shoppers

He said the first thing that would have to be done (and it was one of the greatest challenges to the City Council and to the business undertakings in the central area) was to improve the quality of the environment in the central area to ensure that shoppers came there; that more and more people flocked there; and that steps were taken to accommodate them and their forms of transportation satisfactorily.

Mr Atkinson said that in this part of the world, South Africans were living in exciting times, and the next 10 years would be just as exciting, if not more so than the last.

"They will be just as challenging, if not more so, but I venture to say that we will see change in the next 10 years that 10 years ago we would never even have thought of or envisaged," he said. "I believe that it will be change for the better."



# MINISTER: 'IF YOU DON'T ACT, I WILL'

## Training Black miners must be solved, MWU warned

By KEN MACLEOD

THE Government and the Mine Workers' Union would head for confrontation if they started questioning each other's bona fides, Mr F W de Klerk, Minister of Mines, said in Johannesburg yesterday. This would lead to the destruction of law and order and create problems for everybody, including the mineworkers.

Speaking at the opening of the Mine Workers' Union General Council congress in the city, Mr De Klerk warned White mineworkers that it was part of the strategy of the country's enemies to exploit labour unrest.

He also warned that there was danger of an escalation of terrorism, such as that at Silverton on Friday, and in the total strategy against South Africa. As a result, the Government had to formulate a policy giving greater labour freedom to everybody, while ensuring the maintenance of the rights of interested groups and unions.

### Alternatives

In a speech interrupted by cries of "skande" and "nooit", Mr De Klerk said the country was faced with two alternatives: economic growth or mass unemployment.

Black, Coloured and Indian workers had to be trained to do jobs they had not done previously, simply because there were not enough White workers to do the jobs.

This was the only way to ensure economic growth.

While he was prepared to accept the Mineworkers' Union's bona fides to fight for the rights of its workers, the union in its turn should accept the Government's bona fides to act responsibly in ensuring labour freedom and economic growth.

Mr De Klerk said talk of a lack of discussion with the Government, and of one-sidedness by the Government, was a distortion of the truth. The labour legislation passed last year had been the decision of the entire Government and not merely that of the previous Minister of Mines, Mr S P Botha.

The Minister assured White mineworkers in the Black States of continued job work opportunities, but at the same time he called upon the union to reconsider its earlier decision "not to be involved in any way with the training of Blacks as able-bodied mineworkers, in or outside the Republic".

The Minister warned the union that if it did not reach an acceptable solution on the issue of the training of Black mineworkers, he would take such a decision himself.

There were 3 000 White mineworkers, of whom 1 500 were members of the MWU, in Bophuthatswana's mines alone. It was part of the Government's mutual agreements with independent States like the Transkei and Bophuthatswana to assist them with technical advice and control, and with skill regarding their mining ac-

These agreements could only be cancelled after one of the parties had given two years' notice.

The Minister said the Government of Bophuthatswana was eager to promote its own citizens in the mines, although it realised that such promotion should not occur at the cost of White miners.

Bophuthatswana also realised that its mines could not operate without the White mineworkers know-how for many years to come.

However, it could not be expected from Black independent governments permanently to reserve the better jobs in mines and in other fields for Whites.

The South African Government had led those countries to independence and it was not Government policy that a ceiling should be placed on the promotion of the citizens of such States.

He and the South African Government were not prepared to put stumbling blocks in the way of promotion and training of the citizens of States like Bophuthatswana and Venda.

Mr De Klerk said he was looking forward to mining in 1980 with great confidence, but he warned that "rosy figures" from mineral sales should always be considered against the background of negative factors.

Such factors included the high inflation rate, the uncontrollable international oil price, the fact that large companies had to plough profits back into development, unemployment, existing boycotts and sanctions as well as the ever-present terrorism and Marxist military threat.

He asked the union to consider self-control and

long-term planning, rather than to exploit short-term flourishing mineral prices. He further pledged that he would always be prepared to consult the union regarding legislation and changing working conditions that would affect them.

## Union boss lashes training scheme

THE fact that Black apprentices were being permitted in the Republic for the first time would lead to the problem of unemployed skilled workers instead of the existing problem of unemployed unskilled people, Mr P C C de Jager, President of the Mineworkers' Union, said at the congress.

This would make the union's task of obtaining a more acceptable salary for its members more difficult, owing to supply and demand.

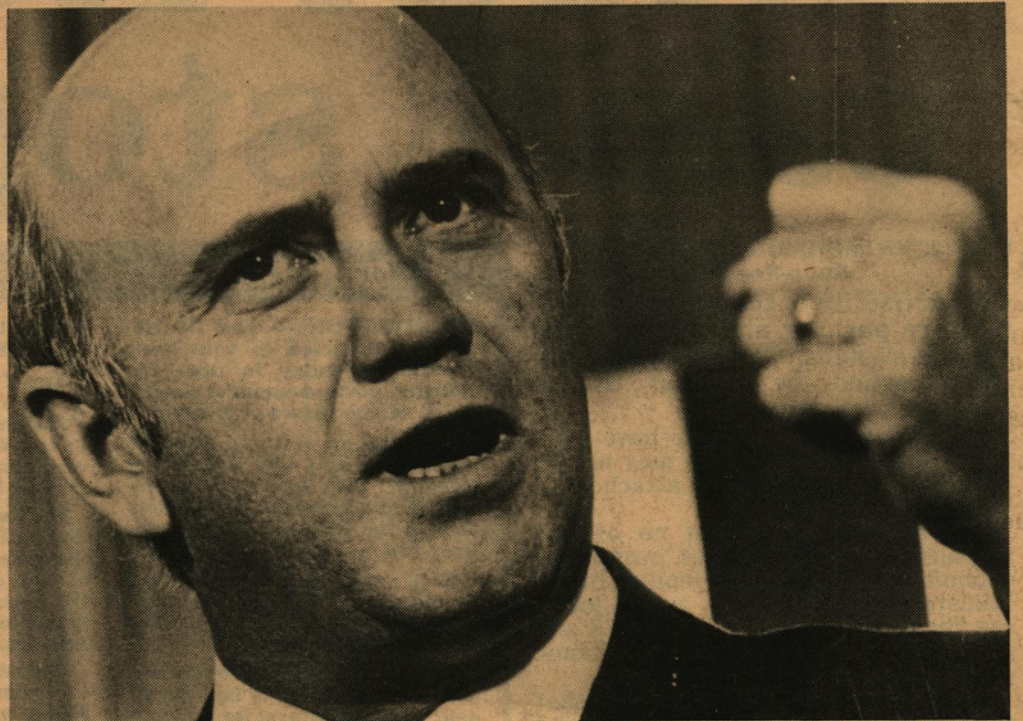
Employers would train Blacks as fast as possible "and the source of supply is inexhaustible".

This would result in salaries becoming more difficult to adjust.

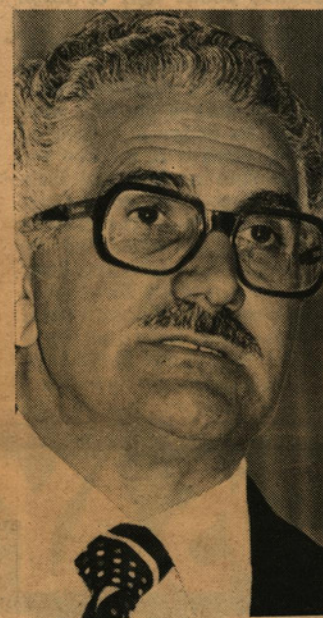
### Tax request

Mr De Jager appealed to the Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, to try to remove direct taxation.

He said if the general sales tax had exceeded expectations, the time was ripe for further adjustments in the tax structure. It was tragic that Senator Horwood had made no announcement about relief for Whites living below the breadline.



MR F W de Klerk, the Minister of Mines, hammers home a point while opening the congress of the General Council of the Mineworkers' Union yesterday.



MR COR DE JAGER  
... call for tax relief

Mr De Jager appealed to the Minister of Social Welfare and Pensions, Dr Lapa Munnik, to review the means test. As a result of the high inflation rate, former miners who had helped to build this country's economy were living in deplorable conditions.

He went on to criticise the former Minister of Mines, Mr S P Botha. Relations between the union and Mr Botha had not been very good because there had been many occasions in which Mr Botha had not stood by his word to the Mineworkers' Union, as well as the Confederation of Labour.

The union had made many attempts to gain Mr Botha's cooperation, but without success.

Mr De Jager said that during the by-election in Rustenburg, when the miners' vote was very important, Mr Botha had announced that he was the man who had managed to recover the miner rights for them.

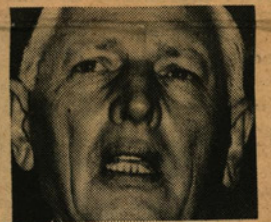
He accused Mr Botha of being the instigator of the labour revisions introduced in Parliament last year. Mr Botha had been directly responsible for the scrapping of job reservation from the Industrial Conciliation Act.

But, he said, a few years ago job reservation had been the motto of the National Party and was used as a counter-measure against communism.

## Tired of being attacked

THERE would be a head-on clash between the labour movements and the Government in South Africa if politicians continued to attack the movements, Mr Attie Nieuwoudt, president of the South African Confederation of Labour, said at the congress.

The labour movements were tired of being attacked by politicians, he said. They were determined to fight for the workers and remain outside politics. But the Confed-



MR NIEUWOUDT

eration of labour would present a united front in the fight for workers' rights.

However, Mr Nieuwoudt emphasised that South Africa had to be economically strong and the fight for workers' rights should not be detrimental to the country's economic strength.

## Mineral production up 45pc

WHILE the final figures for 1979 were not yet available, estimates indicated that South Africa's total mineral production last year would be up by 44,83 percent over the 1978 figure — a record R9 960-million from R6 876-million, the Minister of Mines, Mr F W de Klerk, said

at the congress.

Gold's contribution was estimated at R5 600-million as against R3 900-million in 1978, which represented an increase of 43,59 percent.

Together with Bophuthatswana's production, which in 1979 totalled R350-million, total mineral

production was set at R10 310-million, compared with R6 876-million for 1978, which included Bophuthatswana's figures.

The combined increase in the value of mineral production therefore reached R3 434-million, or nearly 50 percent.

"From these few statistics it is clear that 1979 was an exceptionally prosperous and successful year for the mining industry."

"The gold price rose phenomenally and reached unheard-of heights at the end of the year. What was once regarded as near-

impossible was achieved in the first few days of this year, when new record levels were reached.

"At the same time the price of platinum rose considerably, diamond prices jumped sharply and the price of copper started showing signs of recovery. — Sapa



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# IUEF probes its SA contact network

GENEVA — A Swiss-based international aid organisation said yesterday it was temporarily blocking funds to White anti-apartheid groups in South Africa while it made thorough examination of its contacts — two of whom have been named as South African agents.

The move by the International University Exchange Fund follows the discovery last week that its former deputy director, Captain Craig Williamson, was a member of the South African Police. Subsequent newspaper reports said a second man, Mr Karl Edwards, was a South African agent.

Mr Piers Campbell, IUEF associate director, said the organisation was launching a number of separate inquiries to check the validity of its current contacts and, where necessary, to "rebuild our network" inside South Africa.

He said the investigations were being carried out with the help of authorities of Scandinavian countries, which provide most of the funds for IUEF-backed anti-apartheid projects in South Africa.

Mr Campbell said the inquiries could take several weeks, during which time all assistance to the groups concerned would be cut off.

He said the funds would

start up again "when we and our donors are satisfied that the groups we support are all bona fide".

Mr Campbell said the IUEF, whose main function is granting educational scholarships to Blacks in Africa and Latin America, was anxious "not to slip up again" in choosing contacts through whom to channel funds to scores of anti-apartheid movements.

Under the Fund-Raising Act of 1978 that came into effect last year, it is illegal in South Africa for anyone to collect funds from abroad without authorisation from the State. The law was instituted primar-

ily to make sure funds are not used for movements that could undermine State security.

"We want to make sure that none of our contacts are either Boss agents or are slipping funds into the pockets of the South African authorities," Mr Campbell said.

"It just means that for the next few weeks, we will not be engaged in channelling money. We hope to be back in business as quickly as possible."

He said the temporary freeze would not apply to IUEF's other projects in the country. These include support to underground

Black activist movements, legal aid to Blacks and prison education.

"We are only investigating the groups about whom Mr Williamson and Mr Edwards might have information," Mr Campbell said. "It is possible they could know as many as two-thirds of our contacts in some areas."

Mr Campbell said the groups concerned were involved in illegal anti-apartheid publications, leadership training and community development.

Mr Campbell said Mr Edwards, whose spying activities were alleged in a British Sunday newspaper, had been working

with IUEF "on and off" as a fund distributor since 1976.

More recently, Mr Edwards disappeared from his home in Johannesburg and had apparently "not been seen since".

A former leader of the National Union of South African Students, Mr Edwards lately worked as a director of an environmental development agency. He was helping with a wide range of group development projects.

Mr Edwards also worked occasionally with several other Geneva-based non-Governmental organisations, Mr Campbell said. —Sapa.



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# KwaZulu homeland siting plan 'should be rejected'

## Business Editor

THE KwaZulu homeland proposals, if ultimately adopted, would mean that the Pietermaritzburg metropolitan area would consist of two independent states side by side on the southwest boundary of the City, an impractical situation which should be rejected out of hand, said the City Engineer, Mr Graham Atkinson, yesterday.

He told a luncheon meeting of the Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Commerce in the Capital Towers Hotel that services for such an area such as water purification, sewage disposal and transportation would need co-ordinated thought, planning and development and careful control after implementation.

## Consolidation

"This cannot be done, I believe, taking all the practicalities into account, in our part of the world. I believe similar sentiments would apply to other parts of Natal, particularly nearer the larger cities and towns," Mr Atkinson said.

He said that in his view there was one solution — a complete and meaningful consolidation of the homeland to take into its ambit virtually the whole of Natal, including the so-called White cities, and for such a consolidated area to have the status of a presentday province with enhanced powers, along



• Mr Graham Atkinson... homeland siting proposals should be rejected out of hand.

in the area whereas the number of Africans in employment in the City is at present only about 42 000."

Mr Atkinson emphasised that industrialisation in this region must proceed and development must continue if only to provide the work opportunities.

"If we do not, the alternative is too horrible to contemplate," he said.

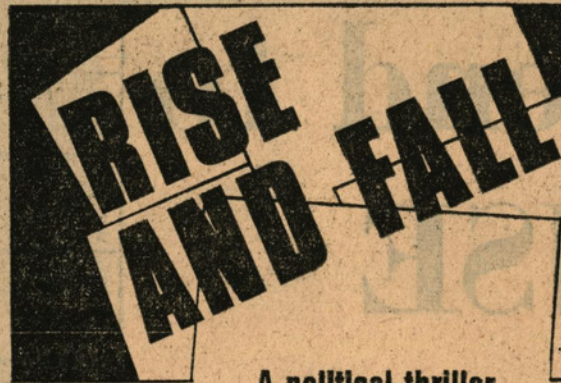
Accepting a figure of 120 000 African workers by the year 2000, a population of about 360 000 Africans would be required to generate these workers if normal stable family conditions were to pertain. In



## BACKGROUND TO THE NEWS



General Hendrik van den Bergh . . . had his suspicions.



A political thriller



# ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE

Pretoria Central. The paper cited this as an example of the "good spirit" in which the election was being fought.

Nationalist MPs approached that day also gave the assurance it was a "clean fight," but with certain background knowledge of the intense lobbying it was anything but.

Unknown to rank-and-file caucus members, the events put in train by Van Rooyen's disclosures were continuing their traumatic course.

In Cape Town P. W. Botha gave Louwrens Muller, Minister of Transport and a close friend of many years standing, an outline of what had transpired and of the abortive attempt to get Mulder to withdraw. Muller was to play an increasingly important role as peace-maker and mediator in the events to follow.

It meant that apart from Mulder and Vorster only six of the 18 Cabinet members at this stage knew the extent of the Department of Information activities, and the effect this was having on the premiership election. A number of the ministers who didn't know were Mulder supporters.

Meanwhile, in General Hendrik van den Bergh's Pretoria office, the weekend turn of events also had repercussions.

Louwtjie Reynders, speaking to Retief van

Rooyen later that day, told him the general arrived at his office in a foul mood. Van den Bergh had told him somebody had been to the Cape and gossiped. He even mentioned Van Rooyen's name, but Reynders said he assured him it could not have been the lawyer.

Indeed Reynders did not know it was Van Rooyen. Van Rooyen had not told him because he was still worried about the way in which Reynders' still-secret report had been used by Die Transvaler.

Reynders told him Van den Bergh proposed to go to Vorster that same day to report that his investigation into Information's secret projects had been completed, and that he found Rhodie and Mulder to be, in the clear.

He intended to demand that Vorster make a public statement to this effect, or else he would resign at 24 hours' notice and call a Press conference at which he would declare his investigation had been completed and that, instead of Rhodie being under suspicion, a monument should be erected to him for what he had done for the country.

"I tell you, hell had broken loose at the general's office," Reynders told Van Rooyen.

It left Van Rooyen more worried than ever.

He realised only too well the power of the forces with which he was contending, and he knew his own role in the affair could not remain a secret. He thought of the consequences for himself and his family, the possibility of attacks on his credibility and the effect of his career. But in the situation there was little more to be done than wait.

From the developments the next day, it appears Van den Bergh may have been to see Vorster.

Ministers were ar-

iving back in Pretoria that day to prepare for the following day's last Cabinet meeting under Vorster.

In the afternoon the Prime Minister received a request to meet some of his Cabinet colleagues privately. The meeting was arranged for that evening at his residence. Those who drove up to Libertas, the imposing official residence of the Prime Minister on the crest of Meintjes Kop, were ministers P. W. Botha, Pik Botha, Alwyn Schlebusch, Chris Heunis and Louwrens Muller.

They told the Prime Minister what they had heard at the weekend and gave him a rundown of all the main issues raised, ranging from property purchases and the Seychelles trip to the state-funding of The Citizen. They wanted to know the truth.

Vorster listened patiently. He confirmed he knew about the matters raised, and after some discussion it was suggested he deal with them at the next day's Cabinet meeting where Mulder and the other ministers would be present.

The group left Libertas late that night.

The same evening Mulder, once again unaware of the latest developments, was walking a tightrope of a different nature.

Months previously he had been invited to open the congress of the South African Bureau for Racial Affairs (Sabra), conservative pro-Nationalist academic body meeting in Stellenbosch in the heartland of Cape Nationalist verligtheid.

As minister in charge of the black affairs portfolio, then called Plural Relations and Development, it offered him a platform for a major policy speech on the eve of the election. Mulder, a persuasive and articulate public speaker, made good use of it. Aware of the background of ideological differences

against which he spoke, he maintained a careful balance.

He made it clear that, given the sceptre of power, he would strive to establish a "constellation of states", which had long been an appealing thought to Nationalist verligtes. And reassuring to his conservative power-base, would be his point that the concept was first mooted by no less a person than Dr H. F. Verwoerd.

He announced that the long-awaited 99-year leasehold scheme for blacks had been completed. He believed ownership of homes would give this community an interest in their environment and contribute to the creation of a happy and stable black middle class in urban areas.

He mooted the idea of extra-territorial powers for independent black homelands over ethnic-based black townships in the "white areas". But then again to reassure his conservative supporters, he said there would be no more land for the black homelands over and above that provided for under the 1936 Land Act.

The Transvaal's Nationalist "Crown Prince" had played his cards adroitly.

**TOMORROW** — Tension mounts as Vorster prepares to hold his final Cabinet meeting.



Louwrens Muller . . . role of peacemaker and mediator.