

Gloom returns as ANC-Zulu summit fails to end conflict

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By R.W. JOHNSON in Durban

THE euphoria of last week's peace "summit" between the leader of the African National Congress, Mr Nelson Mandela, and rival Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi has been followed by a return to pessimism about the chances of conflict between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party being solved by personal diplomacy.

Pessimism is compounded not only by the weekend massacre of 11 ANC supporters near Durban in Natal, but also by the failure of the black homeland Bophuthatswana to register for April's election and the decision of the white right-wing Afrikaner Volksfront to reverse Friday's registration by its leader, General Constand Viljoen.

Inkatha also registered at the 11th hour on Friday — on the condition there is "international mediation" on constitutional amendments.

It is difficult to see what Chief Buthelezi's concession amounts to. His "provisional registration" implies no promise that Inkatha's boycott will actually be reversed.

Both Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi have been under intense Anglo-American pressure, so talk of international mediation only means more of what has been going on.

Chief Buthelezi has always promised freedom of political campaigning within the KwaZulu homeland.

This seems highly improbable. Whatever Chief Buthelezi says, ANC campaigners enter Inkatha strongholds at risk to their lives.

Meanwhile, there has been no let-up, in the intense ANC pressure against Inkatha members in Rand townships.

It is hard to discern what the ANC offered Chief Buthelezi. He has denied reports he was offered a vice-presidency or even a Cabinet post.

Mr Mandela is, in any case, severely constrained in what he can offer. Some within the ANC leadership have begun to feel, belatedly, that the ANC's position is strong enough for it to be able to afford a degree of generosity towards Chief Buthelezi, but the leadership will veto any concession which gives him real leverage.

Yet it is only by acquiring such leverage that Chief Buthelezi will feel secure.

Already his reiteration of the demand for a separate Zulu kingdom has caused settlement hopes to dim but the demand symbolises the degree of security he requires.

In fact, Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi had complicated agendas to juggle at their meeting.

They were under immense diplomatic and domestic pressure to hold such a summit and both wanted to appear reasonable, to avoid blame for the failure of a deal.

Both also had to deal with divisions within their own ranks. Mr Mandela's nominee as the head of the Natal ANC, Mr Jacob Zuma, seems disposed to accept the idea of a constitutional Zulu monarchy while the erstwhile Natal ANC leader, Mr Harry Gwala, has indignantly rejected such a notion.

Mr Zuma is conscious of King Goodwill Zwelithini's enormous popular appeal to ordinary Zulus, but Mr Gwala also speaks for many.

Similarly, Chief Buthelezi has to keep in check those Inkatha elements who favour electoral participation.

Had he simply announced an election boycott three months ago, these elements would have launched a breakaway. As it is, the strategy of protracted talks has forced them to stay on board until it is too late for such a venture.

Much the same is true for Chief

Right urged to take part in election

PIETERSBURG, South Africa: The leader of the African National Congress, Mr Nelson Mandela, repeated yesterday that he would go down on his knees to persuade those boycotting South Africa's first all-race election in April to take part.

Mr Mandela, speaking hours after gunmen killed 11 blacks in an ANC section of the Bhambayi shack settlement outside the Natal province port of Durban, called for extra registration time to enable all white and black right-wingers to sign on.

"I am prepared to go down on my knees to ensure there is peace in this country," Mr Mandela told a campaign rally in the northern Transvaal town of Pietersburg.

The ANC suggested the Inkatha Freedom Party was responsible for the attack by about 20 gunmen and said such massacres were the worst possible intimidation.

"The massacre was allegedly perpetrated by the IFP," a statement said. "There can be no talk of freedom of political activity while (massacres) continue and the guilty persons are not apprehended... the killers and selfish spoilers must be isolated and defeated once and for all at the ballot box."

Mr Mandela said there would be no peace if some players remained outside the electoral process. "I am prepared to talk to those who have refused to register... We must develop absolute patience and the ability to understand the fears of others."

He said he would urge the Independent Election Commission to extend the election registration deadline, which expired at midnight on Friday, so as many parties as possible could take part. "As far as registration is concerned, there should be no deadlines. Even after Friday night, we should still be prepared to extend the registration date," he said.

Most major groups have signed up for the election from April 26 to 28, but not the Afrikaner Volksfront (AVF) or the Bophuthatswana black homeland.

AVF co-leader General Constand Viljoen registered on Friday "to keep our options open", but the full AVF leadership voted on Sunday to withdraw the registration.

Reuters

Buthelezi's allies in the Freedom Alliance, the Afrikaner Right and the Bophuthatswana homeland. For all these groups, the Rubicon was probably crossed some while back.

Logic suggests, then, that the Mandela-Buthelezi deal will turn out to be no deal at all.

What doubt remains exists largely because no one can be quite sure what the old Mandela charisma may have achieved.

If his movement would allow it, Mr Mandela is probably of a mind to bestow all that Chief Buthelezi wants. But the more impersonal logic of the entrenched Inkatha-ANC feud runs so deep and strong that it would take a brave man to argue that it will not prevail.

The Times

8.3.94 The Randburg

Bitter right-wing schism looms

Freedom Front to fight election

Mercury 8/3/94 Hefim

PORT ELIZABETH—The Freedom Front will contest the April elections.

The front, registered by Gen Constand Viljoen minutes before the cut-off date of midnight on Friday, will submit lists of candidates before tomorrow's deadline — thereby almost certainly precipitating a split in the right-wing.

And in another development yesterday it was learned that Prof Carel Roshoff, leader of the Afrikaner Freedom Foundation and son-in-law of Dr H F Verwoerd, had joined the group who will contest the election.

The decision to go ahead and fulfil requirements to contest the poll followed yet another dramatic day which began with a group of Conservative Party MPs and the

Political Staff

generals meeting secretly to make a final decision on participation.

It was decided that hardliners should be approached again in a final attempt to prevent a split in right-wing ranks.

Late last night, the meeting was apparently still in session.

But OP leader Ferdi Hartzenberg has made it clear he will not participate and he has the backing of a majority of volksraad members who voted on Saturday against participation.

The decision by the breakaway group leaves them with a hectic race against time to finalise their candidates' list by tomorrow.

It is understood the front will not field a full list of candidates, but will put in enough names to

cover the percentage of the vote it believes it can win.

The decision by the group to go ahead will mean they will either quit the OP or be expelled for going against party policy.

And it will set the scene for another bitter Afrikaner war, with feelings already running high.

The pro participationists, however, have no regrets about the decision and are adamant that what they are doing is right "for our people".

They argue that the only way to achieve a volkstaat is by negotiation and that any attempt simply to declare any area of the country a volkstaat is impossible because of financial and logistical implications.

(Report by P. Oll, 19 Eastline Street, Port Elizabeth)

IFP and ANC meet today

INKATHA and the ANC meet today to pave the way for international mediation in their constitutional dispute amid pressure from Dr Mangosuthu Buthelez to have the election date postponed.

The IFP leader told a meeting in Port Elizabeth yesterday that "everything possible" had to be done to secure his party's participation in the poll.

For the first time, Dr Buthelez has nearly stated his desire for the election to be delayed.

Both President De Klerk and ANC leader Nelson Mandela are opposed to a postponement, although Mr Mandela believed the IFP and right-wing should be given more time to submit their candidates lists for the poll.

Political Staff

But Dr Buthelez said the country would "slide into the abyss" if the election was not all-inclusive.

"If the IFP is to take part in the election, attention will have to be directed to possibly postponing the election," he said.

There was "no chance" the gap between the IFP and the government and ANC could be bridged by the election.

"It is far better to spend a little more time in ensuring we achieve an all-inclusive constitution that works, than to rush a settlement which will not be worth the paper it is written on," he said.

Dr Buthelez said if the plan for

mediation succeeded, the IFP would contest the election.

When IFP national chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose and ANC secretary-general Jacob Zuma meet in Johannesburg today, the key issue will be seeking a mutually acceptable mediator.

Among those who have been mentioned are ex-US president Jimmy Carter, former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher, former Zambian president Kenneth Kaunda, former Nigerian head of state Olusegun Obasanjo, former British ambassador to SA Sir Robin Benwick and commonwealth ambassador Lord David Owen.

(Report by S. Muthukrishnan, 19 Eastline Street, Port Elizabeth)

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Washington Letter

8/3/94 HELM
Mercury

Neil Lurssen

SA will stay a US priority

UNITED States assistant secretary of state for Africa George Moose has assured Congress that South Africa will remain a priority of the Clinton administration after the April election.

Mr Moose's statement, made during congressional testimony on post-cold war US policy toward Africa's four regions, comes at a time when some analysts are expressing concern that there could be a fall-off of interest once a black-majority government is in place.

In a recent paper, Dr Walter Kansteiner, former African affairs director in the US National Security Council, wrote that there was no single

issue in Africa more important to US national interests than South Africa's transition.

In his testimony, Mr Moose said the US was committed not just to a democratic South Africa but also to an economically strong South Africa that could contribute to the economic strength and political stability of the region.

He noted that in addition to continuing development assistance, the Clinton administration was preparing a US initiative with other government agencies to strengthen democratic institutions and to aid the disadvantaged.

In his paper, Dr Kansteiner said the US — with other Western and Asian nations — would

be able to influence the coming ANC leadership toward market-orientated economic policies as well as political tolerance.

Dr Kansteiner said the Clinton administration, the US Congress and private American organisations all had roles to play in encouraging all South Africans to take part in the elections which were threatened by problems such as intimidation.

Apart from its importance for South Africans themselves and the region, the success of South Africa's political and economic transition was crucial for American race relations, Dr Kansteiner said.

Neil Lurssen is standing in for Simon Barber who is in South Africa for two months

KwaZulu rejects 'cover-up' claims

THE KwaZulu Police has rejected claims by one of its lieutenants that it "covered up" the alleged involvement of a senior IFP leader in the massacre of 11 ANC supporters in rural northern Natal last year.

It was reported this week that police quashed an investigation into the murders of Ngqutu outside Dundee, after it was apparently found that IFP Transvaal organiser Themba Khoza had ordered the massacre.

The Goldstone Commission confirmed that the policeman, Lt Westleigh Mbata, and his family were in protective custody.

Lt Mbata told the commission he was booked off sick by his superiors when he asked permission to arrest two suspects who admitted taking part in the attack on the orders of Mr Khoza.

But police commissioner Roy During said yesterday that he was satisfied "from a preliminary investigation" that the reports were unfounded.

The investigation is being given all the necessary attention and at this date, one arrest has been made and a person has appeared before the court several times," he said.

Political Staff

After the massacre on November 7, 1993, the district detective officer immediately assigned the case to the special investigation unit. Lt Mbata was never involved in the investigation, according to Gen During.

Gen During said Lt Mbata had sought early retirement for health reasons since 1991 and was referred to an Empanipeni doctor at his (Lt Mbata's) request for a medical report after the department of health refused to board him.

He refuted "with contempt" the suggestion that Lt Mbata was ordered off sick to prevent the investigation.

(Report by S. Makhosho, 18 Osborne Street, Grahamstown)

Mercury 8/3/94

HEIM

Thebe 'weakens' its links with ANC

THEBE Investment Ltd yesterday announced a reshuffle of its board and the board of its main shareholder, the Batho-Batho Trust, in a move which appears to weaken, although not break, Thebe's controversial link with the ANC.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela has stepped down as Batho-Batho trustee, although his deputy, Mr Walter Sisulu, remains on the board. Mr Mandela recently hinted at distancing the ANC from Thebe.

Independent businessman Sam Montsi has replaced Enos Mabuza as chairman of Thebe.

Thebe yesterday announced the changes following the resignation of three directors.

Mr Mabuza and Mr Lester Mase have left the board to pursue personal business interests and Tokyo Sexwale resigned after being nominated for the

FWV provincial government premiership.

The new board, which has expanded to reflect the growth in Thebe, consists of chairman Sam Montsi, managing director Vuusi Khanyile, Mr Ismail Ayob, a lawyer with strong connections to the Mandela family, Prof Dennis Davis, a constitutional adviser to the ANC, Stanley Goldstein, Gary Harlow, Wendy Luhabe, Kenneth Mqamango, Gabriel Mkgoko, Gary Motolo, Sizwe Nxasana, Litha Nyhonyha, Israel Shosana and Linda Zama.

Thebe spokesman Ntshabang Mmadi said the changes did not reflect any shift in company policy. There was a misconception that Thebe was ANC-aligned because some board members were sympathetic to the organisation. (Finance Correspondent)

THE NATAL MERCURY

Deathly politics

POLITICS QUITE clearly was the motive for the brutal massacre and gutting of homes in Bhambayi on Sunday. And while similar atrocities happen virtually daily in other parts of Natal and the rest of the country, allegations by a KwaZulu policeman about high-level political involvement in last year's slaying of 11 ANC supporters near Dundee have led to the Goldstone Commission reopening its investigation into the case.

Yet, while the killing and destruction go on, the response from the politicians is a raging argument over whether the SAP's Internal Stability Division or intolerance among opposing political factions is to blame. In fact, they seem almost to be more concerned about political propaganda than about the terrible human tragedy tearing our society apart.

One would have thought that with so much evidence already of what the causes are, with the Nats and the ANC practically running the country together through the TEC, and with negotiations going on between the ANC and the IFP, the politicians would by now have been able to produce a far more coherent response. What hope is there of stopping the violence when they themselves fuel the flames through public disputes over who's to blame?

'Blatant lie'

JOHANNESBURG—ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa's claim that the internal stability division was responsible for the death of thousands of people was a "blatant lie", minister of law and order Herman Kriel said yesterday.

The claim showed how blind the ANC was to the real causes of violence, Mr Kriel said. — (Gapa)

(Report by C. Makhosho, 18 Osborne Street, Grahamstown)

South Africa

Chance boost for the PAC

by Wyndham Hartley

Witness 8/3/94 HE/Im

WITH each unobserved deadline the South African political scene becomes more confused. Negotiations deadlines have come and gone, but for months the talks between the Freedom Alliance, the government and the ANC have continued regardless. Frustration and the march of time towards the April poll caused the government and the ANC to change the interim constitution without political agreement with the FA.

This, with a change to the Electoral Act, made last Friday the final date for registration for the election. There was a degree of seriousness about this deadline, for it saw Inkatha and moderate Afrikaner Volksfront leader Constand Viljoen register "provisionally".

Inkatha particularly have given notice that their next objective is the shifting of April 27 as the date for democracy. While ANC president Nelson Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk have declared that the election date is absolutely non-negotiable, observers by now can be forgiven a little scepticism. Too many other absolutely non-negotiable issues have been conceded.

Yet it does seem unlikely that the ANC will buntenance a change in the election date. Developments over the weekend, determined by the fall of a dice, have made it even less likely that the ANC will concede on the election date. Independent Electoral Commission chairman Johann Kriegler, live on national television, made the draw for the order in which parties will appear on the ballot paper. At the top came a P — the Pan Africanist



CLARENCE MAKWETHU

Congress of Azania will top the list. This is a nightmare for the ANC.

The ANC always wanted a single ballot for both national and regional elections for two reasons. Firstly, it would have seriously disadvantaged smaller regional parties (to the benefit of the larger ones) and, secondly, there was real concern that voters would see the

second ballot paper as the time to vote for their second choice, the PAC.

Thus the dark horse of the elections, which has a simple Africanist policy which sells itself, now has by chance been given the single most important advantage in the election, the first position on the ballot. Vote number one for freedom, vote number one for the party that will return the land which the evil white "settlers" took from you. What a wonderful election filip for the PAC. The significance was not lost on PAC leader Clarence Makwethu.

A delay in the date of liberation will enrage many of the ANC's younger supporters. Both Mandela and De Klerk have predicted dire consequences for the country if the election is postponed. The ANC's position now will harden; a delay will further favour its most significant opponent in the contest for black votes. Any perception that the ANC has failed to deliver the promised liberation on the promised day will be avoided with all the determination the ANC can muster.

While the Football Party and Kiss might be amusing, the number of parties now registered for the election has serious implications.

Another reason favouring a single ballot system was that with a huge rate of functional illiteracy in the country there would be many spoilt ballots or voters could simply make a mistake and cast their vote for the wrong party. With 29 or so parties on the lists, many with odd and lengthy names, the problems for illiterate voters are even more intense.

The heavyweight ANC and National Party find themselves among unknowns in the middle of the list. It will take considerable effort for voters to find them in spite of the appearance of a photo of the leaders and the party's emblem.

All this dramatically helps the PAC, of course, but it also means that the percentage of spoilt papers will increase. Voter education research at the moment puts the potential for spoilt papers at between 10 and 15%. The myriad of choices on a ballot paper that could be half a metre long can only increase the number of spoilt papers. Most of these will come from the ANC's potential share of the votes giving its organisers further cause for concern.

Some might argue that in the short term this will be good for the government of national unity which will take office after the election. The ANC will not have the two thirds majority they need to control the writing of the new constitution (within the bounds of the agreed constitutional principles) and may not even have a decisive majority in the national assembly. There will be a balance of parties and the ANC will have to deal with others to get their way.

Through its chance first selection from the hat, the PAC could threaten both the ANC's overall majority and the National Party's chances of being the second largest party and earning a deputy president's slot. April 27 looks set to be the deadline that will hold in spite of the increased pressure to have it postponed.

ANC deserved massacre'

Witness 8/3/94 HE/Im

'SADF would solve violence'

TZANEEN — African National Congress president Nelson Mandela yesterday blamed township violence on the government's refusal to deploy troops in affected areas.

Commenting on the massacre in Bhebe, he said the ANC's recommendation that the police Internal Stability Division be withdrawn is being "opposed at the highest level".

"The government is moving very slowly on this issue. That is because it is still a white minority state."

Men identified only as Mthembu was killed. Attackers killed Sithembile Mchunu (16) on Friday and on Saturday morning, wounded Beatrice Masinyana.

Another IFP member, S'bu Ntuli, said IFP chairman Mandlondolo Dhlomo has been driven out of his shop by ANC supporters. While the ANC said attackers

the ANC on a joint patrol group made up of ANC, IFP and the police said the community believes the ISU was behind the attack.

He said that at about 9.30 pm, a shot was fired in the ANC section. When the joint patrol went to investigate they found a man who had been dead for hours. The patrol then heard gunshots all over the Ezifuthini section. Hadebe believes the corpse, with hands tied with a rope, had been placed there by people who wanted to distract the peace monitors and keep them away from the planned action.

A car was also mysteriously burnt on the same night.

Members of the ISU, stationed in the area, said the allegations are lies. Responding to claims that they might have brought the corpse to distract peace monitors, one member replied: "Even the worst of cops would not do that... the ANC hates us, the IFP likes us; what are we supposed to do?"

The IFP's Bhengu said complaints against the ISU are part of the ANC's national propaganda campaign against the unit.

by KHABA MKHIZE and LAKELA KAUNDA

ANC has "reaped the fruits of labour" with the killing of 11 of its supporters in Bhebe outside Tzaneen on Saturday night, an Inkatha Freedom Party official said today.

IFP's Bonginkosi Bhengu said the attack was "not unprecedented" and it is "nothing compared to the suffering IFP members have subjected to by the ANC".

Saturday night groups of men attacked the ANC section and killed many morning and one person was wounded and seven injured. Men used as women were patrolling ANC section saying they were participating attacks. On the IFP men said they had been attacked in the morning but there were no injuries.

Bhengu said five IFP supporters were attacked last week. Last Monday Joe Mkhize and Sipho Khumalo killed on their way to work. On

they have no quarrel with IFP members and that the violence is fomented by the Internal Stability Unit. They say Bhebe was quiet while the ISU remained outside the township and entered only when called. ANC chairman Peter Mkhwanazi said a fortnight ago, the ISU killed Sayvise Shumba and wounded a man known as Makepaul. Sinho Hadebe, who represents

DP: poll can be delayed

THE Democratic Party can live with a limited postponement of the elections for the sake of a freer and fairer poll, but only if all parties agree to it.

This was the message from DP leader Dr Zach de Beer yesterday at the start of his three-day tour of the coastal and southern regions of Natal.

However, De Beer warned that such a move does not enjoy blanket support and therefore "should not be done". Later, in Umhlali, he took a stronger line and said such a step will, in the light of current violence, be "disastrous".

This means mediation to bring dissenting parties such as Inkatha and the Freedom Alliance into the elections has little chance of success, said De Beer.

De Beer said he will, however,

in the interest of a more inclusive, freer and fairer election, support the extension "by a couple of days" of the registration deadline for parties that are still undecided about contesting the elections.

De Beer predicted violence in the province "will be maintained" and may increase before the elections, but should decline after April.

At a lunch hour meeting in Umhlali, an existing DP constituency represented by MP Kobus Jordaan, De Beer said elections are, for the first time, not about apartheid, but the standard of living that can be provided in SA.

• De Beer returns to Natal in about three week's time to visit the midlands, Zululand and northern regions. — Durban Bureau.

Report by T. Oosthuizen, 457 Smith St, Dbn.

Coloured Nat MP Kuiler joins IFP

CAPE TOWN — For coloureds to serve the National Party is to consent after three centuries of history to dig their own grave, the Inkatha Freedom Party's newest parliamentary recruit, James Kuiler, said yesterday.

Kuiler, MP for Manenberg since 1989, resigned from the NP yesterday to join the IFP.

"I say to the coloured people: 'Wake up before it is too late'. The Nats have nothing to offer you," he said.

He is leaving the NP to campaign for the IFP's version of federalism which will empower coloured people in the Cape and "put them firmly in the seat".

Kuiler said the African National Congress is "just as power-hungry to govern".

"The coloured people must also not allow the ANC to ride roughshod over them." — Sapa.

(Report by D. van Zyl, Press Gallery, Parliament)

IFP official denies he armed Nqutu assassins

JOHANNESBURG — The Inkatha Freedom Party's Themba Khoza on Sunday night expressed outrage at allegations that he armed assassins to murder 11 people in Nqutu, northern Natal, last November.

The London-based *Observer* newspaper said earlier in the day that it had uncovered evidence suggesting Khoza, the IFP's political director in the Transvaal, had organised the massacre in Nqutu. The newspaper charged he had used assassins from the Kwesini hostel in Kaitshong, east of Johannesburg.

As a result of its investigations, the *Observer* said an inquiry had been opened by the Goldstone Commission.

Reacting to the report in the *Observer*, KwaZulu Police commissioner Lieutenant-General Roy Doring yesterday rejected any suggestion of a cover-up in the investigations into the Nqutu massacre.

— Sapa.

IFP denies taking IDs

THE Inkatha Freedom Party yesterday strongly denied taking ID books from its members in Elandskop and said the idea was simply "ridiculous".

IFP Natal midlands chairman Jabulani Khanyile was responding to an article in last week's *Natal Witness* that said the ANC's Women's League protested about the alleged confiscation of the ID books.

Khanyile said there is only one chief in Elandskop and his organisation is confused by the ANCWL's claims. "The IFP is going to go for the elections... so how can we take the ID books of our own members." — WR.

Report by Y. Grimbeek, 244 Longmarket Street, Pmb.

N.J. EDWARDS of Hilton asks Inkatha MP Mike Tarr for clarity on whether he still upholds the right of all South Africans to vote, how he would recommend his constituents vote if the IFP stays out, and how he reconciles his commitment to democracy with "the policies of those advocating resistance to the election". Tarr replies that of course he upholds the right of all to vote. To the second he said the IFP is not yet out of the election process and if they are in he would advise constituents to vote Inkatha, if not, they should vote according to their conscience. He said Inkatha has made a principled stand against the ANC — "I believe the IFP is right and if the writer believes that I am wrong I invite him/her to get in touch with me".

Witness 8/3/94

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Bop cabinet decides against poll

MMLABATHO — The Bophuthatswana cabinet has decided not to participate in the April elections a Bophuthatswana government spokesman said yesterday.

However, the cabinet decided to call the full parliament together next Tuesday to discuss the issue.

Later Bophuthatswana President

Lucas Mangope said he is optimistic that international mediation could lead to a constitutional agreement before the election. The Bophuthatswana Information Service quoted Mangope as saying at a news conference in Mmabatho that the homeland government is 100% behind the Freedom Alliance's call for a mediated

settlement.

The implications that participation in the election would have on Bophuthatswana's 16-year-old independence must be considered, he said.

Meanwhile, AVF constitutional committee chairman Fanie Jacobs said he is not aware of pro-election AVF leaders lobbying secretly to take

part in the election.

This means General Constand Viljoen's registration of the Freedom Front will lapse if no list of candidates is submitted by tomorrow, and the AVF will continue to set up democratic alternative structures to secure a votebank, he said.

But reports and AVF sources said there is agitation for right wing participation in the elections.

The AVF sources said yesterday that pro-election elements in the right-wing front argued that participation in the polls would not constitute an endorsement of the interim constitution.

AVF directorate member General Tienie Groenewald yesterday ruled out participation in the elections "at this stage". He rejected talk of AVF participation in the polls as speculation and issued a statement saying suggestions are aimed at driving a wedge in right-wing ranks. — Sapa.

Reports by J. Saunders and G. Molten, 141 Commissioner St. JHB & G. Ardie, 33, West St. Dur.

Reports by N. Patterson, E. van Ryt, M. Schaefer & P. Bulger, 141 Commissioner St. JHB

Buthlezi: election must be delayed

PORT ELIZABETH — The elections should be postponed to ensure a fair and inclusive settlement, Inkatha Freedom Party president Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday.

But he gave no indication of when he had in mind.

"Without an all-inclusive election we really do run the risk of our country sliding into the abyss... if the IFP is to take part in the election, then attention will have to be directed at possible postponing the

election to a later date," he said at a function in Port Elizabeth.

Buthelezi said that the IFP will not participate if international mediation does not take place. A meeting was underway in Cape Town yesterday to decide the kind of mediation the IFP wants, and the IFP meets the ANC in Durban today to work out details.

IFP spokesman Ed Tillet said yesterday that there is a "strong likelihood" the IFP will not observe tomorrow's deadline for

the submission of its election candidate list to the Independent Electoral Commission.

The party's registration lapses if the list is not submitted by 4.30 pm.

ANC deputy secretary-general Jacob Zuma yesterday said ANC president Nelson Mandela has requested a meeting with King Goodwill Zwelithini about his demand for a constitutional monarchy in Natal. — Sapa.

WITNESS 8/3/94 HE/IN