

Thatcher was 'bullied' by world leaders

LONDON — Former UK prime minister Margaret Thatcher felt "bullied" by the world's leaders over her refusal to impose sanctions on SA, she said in her memoirs released yesterday.

Isolated at the Nassau 1985 Commonwealth meeting, Thatcher drafted "modest concessions". In the library where a draft committee on SA awaited her proposals, the world

CHRIS BATEMAN

leaders were "all glaring at me".

"It was extraordinary how the pack instinct of politicians could change a group of normally courteous, in some cases even charming, people into a gang of bullies.

"I began by saying that I had never been so insulted.

"At once the murmurs of

surprise and regret rose: one by one they protested that it was not 'personal'. I answered that it clearly was personal and I wasn't having it — the atmosphere immediately became more subdued. They asked me what I would accept. I announced the concessions (unilateral action against Krugerrand imports and withdrawal of support for trade promotion)."



Alliance negotiates

THE Freedom Alliance formally begins negotiations with government and the ANC this week, optimistic that a constitutional deal is only weeks away.

"I am very optimistic that we will find a solution," alliance chairman Bophuthatswana's Rowan Cronje said.

"If there is equal determination on the part of the other parties, we could have a constitutional agreement within a month."

The alliance met government last night and is due to meet the ANC today.

Because of today's meeting, as well as a meeting between the ANC and government, there will be no World Trade Centre talks. — Sapa.

WILSON ZWANE

situation in Katlehong could result in hostel residents doing "what they won't tell to anyone, including me".

SA Rail Commuter Corporation spokesman Rudie Hollenbach confirmed that the railway line between Katlehong and Kwe-sine stations was tampered with. Train services had to be suspended for 30 minutes yesterday morning after rocks had been put on the track, he said.

ANC PWV spokesman Vusi Gunene could not comment on attacks on vehicles carrying Kwesine hostel residents, saying he did not have the necessary information.

He did, however, comment on the delivery of food to Kwesine by right-wingers at the weekend. "This kind of a thing fans existing tensions," he said.

Ndlovu said: "Aid is aid. Be it from the Red Cross or whoever, we will accept it."

Prize idiots picked Mandela

CRACKPOTS on the Nobel Peace Prize committee have dished out their latest gongs with all the madness that money can muster.

The prize this time has been awarded jointly to convicted terrorist Nelson Mandela and South African State President F.W. de Klerk.

For anyone who doesn't remember or never knew why Nelson Mandela was jailed for 27 years, the facts are chillingly simple and easily checked.

He was found guilty of plotting to bathe South Africa in the blood of thousands of innocent people. Even Mandela has never

said that his trial was unfair. Mandela and a group of South African communists were arrested before they could blow up bus stations, trains, schools and power lines.

Their aim was to cause so much horror that the South African government would "overreact" by arresting hundreds of black activists.

This, they figured, would anger the rest of the world and bring sanctions to cripple their country.

And it worked, even though Mandela and the other plotters were grabbed before they could blow up South Africa.

Left-wingers persuaded the world's do-gooders and weak politicians to swallow the propaganda that Mandela was a good man. And the rest is history.

De Klerk is hell-bent on giving away his country under the banner of democracy to the communist-dominated African National Congress of which Mandela is the puppet leader.

Since he freed Mandela three years ago more than 12,000 South Africans, most of them black, have died in bloody battles.

Elections are promised for April but the awesome spectre of civil war haunts the land. Some Peace!

Some Prize

Daily

STAR.

19/10/93.

Human rights: Amnesty's appeal to C'wealth

LONDON. — Commonwealth leaders whose summits regularly condemned South African apartheid were told yesterday to put their own houses in order on human rights when they meet this week.

International human rights group Amnesty International said Heads of State of Britain and 49

former colonies in the organisation should make human rights a priority when they meet in Cyprus from Thursday.

"The Commonwealth has taken a number of positive steps in the past two years to promote human rights," London-based Amnesty said in a statement.

"But much remains to

be done. That is why we are renewing our appeal to take actions as a matter of priority."

Less than half the Commonwealth states have ratified two key UN international covenants on civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights.

A mere 11 have become parties to the United Nations Convention against Torture, and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Amnesty said.

Britain, the former colonial master of the other 49 members from the developed and developing world, has signed the three conventions.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyaoku has said he hopes the summit can address the promotion of democracy and economic

development in South Africa — which pulled out of the Commonwealth in 1961 — and elsewhere.

He has also said the Commonwealth must practise what it preaches, and is proud that only three member states remain under military or one-party rule, down from eight in 1991 when the last summit was held in Zimbabwe.

That meeting had made some progress in getting all members to pledge to protect as well as promote human rights but had not agreed on any real action, Amnesty said.

The pressure group also called on the Commonwealth to strengthen the role of non-governmental organisations such as itself and to improve human rights training. — Sapa-Reuter.

Violence 'without motive' kills 33

INDISCRIMINATE killings in Natal and on the East Rand continued at the weekend, with 33 more people losing their lives since Saturday in what police called motiveless violence.

Two assistant constables, killed by AK-47 fire in Tembisa on the East Rand on Saturday, were named as Petros Funeka and Diamand Nqohube. Both were 23. Their service pistols were missing.

Thirteen bodies were found in the Katlehong/Tbokozo/Vosloorus area and two in Daveyton. They had been burnt, hacked or shot, police said.

There had also been several attacks on police, particularly on Katlehong's internal stability unit.

The shooting of the Rev Johannes Nhlabathi, a minister of Katlehong's Church of Christ, in front of his seven-year-old son last week has prompted the SA Council of Churches to host a summit in Benoni on Thursday to tackle the chronic violence.

In Natal 11 people were killed at the weekend. The dead included two policemen who police suspect were killed by Apla, and a one-year-old child was who was burnt to death.

Kwazulu police said six bodies had been discovered in the greater Durban area at the weekend.

An SADF member was shot in KwaMashu, north of Durban. His firearm and ammunition had been stolen, police said.

In Isipingo a one-year-old child was

burnt to death and a woman stabbed to death in an attack by 20 men on a house.

Two have died in fighting between Umlazi hostel residents and residents of the neighbouring Uganda and Zamani informal settlements south of Durban, it was reported yesterday.

In Cape Town, police found the body of police Sgt David Galant, who they believed had been thrown from a moving train, on the Bellville railway line.

Police are offering a R10 000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the 29-year-old policeman's killers. Galant's 9mm pistol is missing.

A policeman was shot dead while walking in NU 9, Mdantsane, on Sunday night and his service pistol was stolen.

Meanwhile, the national peace committee has endorsed the Peace Train concert, which will begin in December.

The organisers say the concert will feature international performers and local artists such as Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Afrika Soul.

A 250-voice, multicultural youth choir from Natal will also take part.

□ The ANC said a witness to the Mamelodi taxi rank shooting earlier this month had come forward and made a statement to the police. Five people were killed and 15 wounded in the attack.

Two people arrested in connection with the shooting will appear in the Pretoria North Magistrate's Court today. — Sapa.

● **Comment: Page 18**

BUSINESS DAY, TUESDAY 19 OCTOBER 199

Webb gets top post

MICKEY Webb, Ciskei's negotiator at multiparty talks, has been appointed Foreign Minister for the homeland. He was sworn in yesterday by Ciskei Supreme Court Judge Willem Heath.

ANC off to summit

ANC national chairman Thabo Mbeki and NEC member Mendi Msimang are to attend the Commonwealth heads of government conference in Cyprus this week. Foreign Affairs says government will not be represented.

Buthelezi: No to referendum

ULUNDI. — KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi has rejected the proposed referendum as a deadlock-breaking mechanism in the democracy talks.

Addressing the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly yesterday, Chief Buthelezi accused State President De Klerk of attempting to substitute consensus with a referendum, which would empower a majority to

silence the aspirations of the minority.

"We say that if we are serious about reaching an all-inclusive solution, the fundamental needs of both the majority and

TO PAGE 2

No to referendum

FROM PAGE 1

the minority must be accommodated ... elections and the empowerment of a new government ought not to take place until such solutions are fully negotiated."

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KwaZulu to choose and regulate itself. Chief Buthelezi said.

KwaZulu must have the power to adopt its own rules governing subjects such as family law, labour law, commerce and industry and criminal law, he added.

"If the rest of South Africa rejects our offer to be included in the new South Africa as a federal state, then we will consider our options."

KwaZulu negotiators had scratched the bottom of the negotiations barrel in bilateral talks both with the government and the ANC.

Chief Buthelezi vowed to stick to a non-violent solution.

"In spite of the growing climate of civil war, which is affecting our people, killing our friends and comrades, destroying our communities and destabilising our political structures, we shall never abandon our fundamental policy of non-violent form of negotiations."

Now was the time for action which could no

longer wait, he said.

"Our action is going to be within the parameters of our tradition and will be characterised by non-violence, reasonableness and defence of our rights."

"We will not destroy, intimidate or resort to disruptive mass action, for the protection of law and order is of too great a value to us."

"Today we say to Mr F W de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela that they cannot go it alone without us, and that consensus with us must be achieved through the recognition of our right of self-determination."

Chief Buthelezi urged the immediate suspension of negotiations to seek consensus-based agreement on the form of state and the process from which an expeditious finalisation of a final constitution would proceed to the holding of elections.

He said the Zulu nation did not recognise the legitimacy of the interim constitution and would not be bound by it. — Sapa.

Mbeki seeks Dutch aid

AMSTERDAM. — African National Congress chairman Thabo Mbeki yesterday visited The Netherlands to seek economic support for South Africa, the Dutch Foreign Affairs Ministry said.

"Mr Mbeki discussed the need for both government and private investment in the South African

economy during a wide-ranging meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister Pieter Kooijmans, a spokesman said.

"The aim is to make sure Western countries continue their interest in and commitment to South Africa," the spokesman said. — Sapa-Reuter.

E Rand violence: 18 killed at weekend

Citizen Reporter

AT least 18 people, including two policemen, were killed and three were wounded in violence on the East Rand at the weekend.

East Rand police spokesman, Lieutenant Deon Peens, said a man was found hacked to death in Mandela Park, Katlehong, and another was found fatally stabbed in the Ncala Section, Katlehong, on Sunday morning.

Police later discovered the body of a man hacked and burnt and another man burnt to death in the Twala Section, Katlehong.

A man was found shot dead in the Radebe Section, Katlehong, and another was discovered shot and killed in the Mngadi Section, Katlehong.

Police found four men shot dead and one burnt to death in Tokoza on Sunday.

Two more men were found shot and killed in the area on Saturday and one died of bullet wounds there on Friday.

Two men were found shot and killed in a house in Mocke Street, Daveyton, on Saturday.

Unknown gunmen shot and killed two off-duty Kempton Park policemen, Assistant Constables Petrus Funeka, 23, and Diamand Ngohube, 23, in Tembisa on Saturday night. The policemen were walking in the Esawgeni Section at the time of the attack. Both were robbed of their service pistols.

Lt Peens said spent AK-47 cartridges were found at the scene.

Two women were found with shot and hack wounds at the Katlehong Cemetery on Saturday and a Mr Paulus Khumalo, 18, was shot and wounded in Tskana on Friday. All three were

hospitalised.

Police arrested three men and seized two AK-47 assault rifles ammunition and magazines and .22 ammunition in raids in Tokoza and Tembisa at the weekend, and confiscated a 9 mm Browning pistol found in a street in Alrode.

FW pocket-book Jan Smuts, says Jaap

RIGHT-WINGERS continued to criticise State President De Klerk yesterday following last week's announcement that he would share the Nobel Peace Prize with African National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela.

Herstigte Nasionale Party leader Mr Jaap

Marais charged that Mr De Klerk appeared increasingly like a pocket-book version of General Jan Smuts who courted aliens and enemies, while becoming increasingly hostile towards his own people.

"The praise Mr De Klerk currently receives from foreigners and enemies is obviously the

reward for treason against his own nation," Mr Marais said.

The Nobel peace award had long ago become a "mere gadget" for stroking the egos of Leftist political figures, but the latest award, made while South Africa was the crime mecca of the world, had made the prize nonsensical, he said. — Sapa.

Reconsider Nobel Peace Prize to FW: Holomisa

DURBAN. — Transkei military ruler, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, has urged the Norwegian Nobel Committee to reconsider awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to State President De Klerk.

Mr De Klerk was awarded the prize jointly with African National Congress leader Mr Nelson Mandela last Friday.

In a letter to the Director of the Nobel Institute yesterday, Gen Holomisa said the SA Defence Force raid on an Umtata home 10 days ago should

lead to a reversal of the decision to honour Mr De Klerk.

As Commander-in-Chief of the SADF, and in conjunction with senior Ministers, Mr De Klerk had authorised the raid resulting in "the sordid, callous, cold-blooded murder of school-going children," charged Gen Holomisa.

The South African Government has alleged some of the victims were linked to the Azanian

Peoples Liberation Army (APLA) and claimed the house was raided as it was used as an APLA base to spring attacks on innocent South African civilians.

Gen Holomisa said the majority of South Africans interpreted the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Mr De Klerk as a "snub", adding the decision to honour the State President may have been taken before the Umtata raid.

He said the raid had been roundly condemned

by the United Nations, European Community and Organisation of African Unity Observer Missions to South Africa, as well as by South Africa's Lawyers for Human Rights.

"In the interests of South Africans, whose consciences are revolted at the recent orgy of the violent raid, you are kindly requested to reconsider your decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize to President De Klerk," read Gen Holomisa's letter.

He added that South Africans were "baffled by the apparent tenacity of the (Nobel) committee to honour President De Klerk as a champion of Peace and reconciliation in South Africa when many thousands of Blacks have died under his presidency".

The awarding of the peace prize to Mr De Klerk was thus a mockery of the ideals of peace and justice. — Sapa.

11 killed in weekend violence across Natal

DURBAN. — Violence claimed the lives of at least 11 people in Natal at the weekend, including two policemen suspectedly killed by APLA members, and a one-year-old child who was burnt to death.

According to the Kwa-Zulu Police, six bodies were discovered in the greater Durban area at the weekend. All six men were either stabbed or shot to death.

The KZP said among the dead was an SA Defence Force member.

The SA Police reported a gang fight in the Makhalithini area of Stanger, on the Natal north coast, during which one man was fatally shot.

A year-old child was burnt to death, a woman was stabbed to death and a second child "sustained

chop wounds" after an attack by 20 men on a house in Isipingo on Sunday.

In Bhongweni, near Kokstad, two policemen were abducted and weapons were stolen by assailants who scribbled "APLA" on the police station wall. The bodies of the policemen were found in Transkei on Sunday. — Sapa."

Strike proposal: COSATU talks to ANC/SACP

Citizen Reporter

THE Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), representing more than a million workers, yesterday met with its tripartite allies, the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, to discuss calls for a national strike on November 17.

In a brief statement the ANC said the meeting discussed COSATU's concerns about clauses limiting worker rights in the draft constitution being discussed at the World Trade Centre.

COSATU has called for a national strike on November 17 to force negotiators to accede to its demands.

COSATU is demanding that multi-party negotiators agree to remove a proposed constitutional clause guaranteeing the tenure of civil servants and remove an interim Bill of Rights clause, enabling employers to lock-out striking workers.

The ANC said yester-

day the meeting had agreed to refer the matter for the attention of the broader tri-partite alliance leadership.

ANC spokesman said yesterday the meeting had not discussed COSATU's efforts to meet with the multi-party planning committee to discuss its objections to the draft constitution.

COSATU wants the objections to be discussed at a full meeting of the Negotiating Council.

COMMENT

Cosatu's agenda

COSATU's threatened work stayaway next month has immediately prompted speculation about a hidden agenda. Is the new leadership wanting to show that it is as tough as its predecessors — especially since Cosatu has so far not staged its traditional annual stayaway? Or is the federation trying to demonstrate its independence from its larger ally, and sending a signal that it is unhappy with some ANC policy positions?

We would not pretend to know precisely what Cosatu is up to. What seems clear, though, is that there is some unstated goal.

For a start, any company worth its salt has by now worked out contingency plans for stayaways which minimise or eliminate production losses. The only effect of a stayaway is the psychological one which discourages new investment.

Further, Cosatu's objection to the proposed clause in the Bill of Rights which affords employers the right to lock out as the counterpoint to the unions' guaranteed right to strike seems hardly worth the trouble. It is purely symbolic and, embarrassingly for Cosatu, National Manpower Commission officials insist that Cosatu officials agreed to the clause in closed meetings.

Practically, lockouts and strikes are covered by the Labour Relations Act and by Industrial Court guidelines. The only effect of the clause is to make it impossible to scrap from the Act the provisions which make lockouts (and strikes) legally possible. Cosatu surely does

not have that in mind.

Security of tenure for public servants is a more serious issue. On the one hand, a future South Africa cannot continue to be administered solely by the senior officials of the old regime. Blanket, guaranteed security of tenure is inconceivable. The country cannot afford the growth in numbers which would result if all existing officials were to remain in office along with their replacements.

Nevertheless, it will do South Africa and its transition no good at all if wholesale, destabilising purges of the public service are carried out, and if those unfortunate enough to lose their positions do not receive fair compensation in line with standards set by the private sector.

We remain confused at Cosatu's ire. World Trade Centre drafts on the issue, while they include a clause designed to ensure continuity between the present constitution and the next, do not appear to guarantee permanent security of tenure. Indeed, they specifically envisage a process of "rationalisation" and talk about state employees' conditions "for as long as they continue to perform" state functions — implicitly recognising that their term of office is finite. And even if this interpretation is less accurate than Cosatu's, an impetuous stayaway threat, made out of the blue, seems hardly rational at this stage.

The question remains — what is Cosatu up to?

4

BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, October 19 1993

Buthelezi rejects the proposed referendum

ULUNDI — KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi has rejected the proposed referendum as a deadlock-breaking mechanism in the democracy negotiations.

Addressing the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly yesterday, Buthelezi accused President F W de Klerk of attempting to substitute consensus with a referendum, which would empower the majority to silence the aspirations of the minority.

"We say that if we are serious about reaching an all-inclusive solution, the fundamental needs of both the majority and the minority must be accommodated ... elections and the empowerment of a new government ought not to take place until such solutions are fully negotiated."

An interim constitution would not allow KwaZulu to choose and regulate itself, Buthelezi said.

KwaZulu had to have the power to adopt its own rules governing subjects such as family law, labour law, commerce and industry and criminal law, he added.

"If the rest of SA rejects our offer to be included in the new SA as a federal state, then we will consider our options."

He said KwaZulu negotiators had scratched the bottom of the negotiations barrel in bilateral talks both with both the government and the ANC.

But he vowed to stick to a non-violent solution.

"We will not destroy, intimidate or re-

sort to disruptive mass action, for the protection of law and order is of too great a value to us.

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He said the Zulu nation did not recognise the legitimacy of the interim constitution and would not be bound by it. — Sapa.

Filipinos laud FW and Mandela

MANILA. — The Philippine Government yesterday hailed the selection of South African President De Klerk and Nelson Mandela for the Nobel Peace Prize, and said it was "seriously considering" the opening of diplomatic ties.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo said in a statement that the award "should serve

as further inspiration for the people of the world to continue to support efforts at achieving a democratic and non-racial government in South Africa."

He added that Manila was "seriously considering the opening of diplomatic relations with South Africa", but did not elaborate. — Sapa-AFP.

Train murder trial of five on November 3

Court Reporter

TWO women and three men appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday before Mr P Griessel on charges of murder, arising from recent train violence.

The prosecutor, Miss K Neethling, obtained a postponement to November 3 for further investigation. She said the num-

ber of dead still had to be specified.

The Zulu-speaking accused were Miss Thembeni Domo of Doornkop, Miss Dorris Ntsele of Mofolo North, Mr Edford Platt of Dobsonville, Mr Petros Phenyane of Mofolo North and Mr Osborne Mdaono of Snake Park, Soweto.

They are being held without bail.

Federal option

PRESIDENT De Klerk has threatened to hold a referendum. If the question on the referendum was "Should a federal constitution be considered for South Africa?", there would be no threat.

The reason that the IFP walked out of the Kempton Park negotiations was

precisely because the ANC/Communist alliance refused point-blank to consider this option, even though they had not even consulted their own electorate on the matter.

Comrade Mac Maharaj unilaterally decided there was sufficient consensus and as usual, the Nats

buckled under.

Why not allow South Africans themselves to decide the type of constitution they want rather than leave the matter in the hands of a handful of politicians of uncertain legitimacy?

DR E BENARD

Pinegowrie

Winnie case: Detention backed

LUSAKA. — United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees representative in Zambia Mr Abou Moussa has defended Zambia's detention of South African exile Mr Katiza Cebekhulu.

Mr Moussa said the detention was in Mr Cebekhulu's own interests as no other country was prepared to guarantee his safety.

He said in an interview: "The Zambian Government has granted Cebekhulu refugee status in order to protect him from any danger — it is up to the Zambian authorities to determine whether Cebekhulu would be granted safety if he returned to South Africa."

Mr Cebekhulu was a key witness in the Winnie Mandela kidnapping case in which she was convicted and sentenced to a six-year jail term, which was subsequently suspended on appeal earlier this year.

"UNHCR has approached many countries to receive Cebekhulu, but all have declined to assist him because he was allegedly difficult to protect," Mr Moussa said.

The UNHCR chief also said everything had been going well for Mr Cebekhulu outside prison until he made careless statements which exposed him to danger.

Mr Cebekhulu last week told the Bruce Mnyama Human Rights Commission of Enquiry that he wanted to be sent back home because he

could not stand the bad prison food.

Mr Moussa, however, argued: "He is an exceptional case who can't be kept with other refugees — those are not the best conditions under which he can be protected."

Mr Cebekhulu was granted political asylum by the defeated United National Independence Party (UNIP) government in 1991 when he was reportedly smuggled out of South Africa via Mozambique and Angola. — Sapa.

Violence 'without motive' kills 33

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□ The ANC said a witness to the Mamelodi taxi rank shooting earlier this month had come forward and made a statement to the police. Five people were killed and 15 wounded in the attack.

Two people arrested in connection with the shooting will appear in the Pretoria North Magistrate's Court today. — Sapa.

Homeland system 'falling apart'

THE increasingly bitter dispute between Transkei and the South African authorities over the Umtata raid is a further sign that the homeland system, one of the last vestiges of apartheid, is falling apart, writes Alec Russell in Johannesburg.

Set up by Pretoria in the 1970s as part of the ruling National Party's dream of separate development, the 10 homelands were, for many, more myth than reality.

They were touted as areas where tribes could flourish in undiluted harmony.

In fact they served as dumping grounds for unwanted black labour, with their leaders depen-

dent on Pretoria for finance, advice and muscle.

Since President de Klerk announced the lifting of a ban on the African National Congress in February 1990, the homelands have remained as stark testimonies to the corruption and poverty suffered by blacks under apartheid.

But in recent weeks there have been signs that with a democratic South Africa possibly only six months away, homeland leaders may at last have to account for their actions.

In Ciskei, one of four supposedly independent homelands, Brigadier Oupa Gqozo, the military dictator, has been formally charged with the

murder of Charles Sebe, the brother of the man he overthrew.

Since toppling President Lennox Sebe in a coup in 1990, Brig Gqozo has run Ciskei as a totalitarian state; in his most notorious abuse of power, his soldiers shot dead 28 African National Congress supporters and wounded 200 during a protest last year.

Brig Gqozo, an ally of the far Right, has granted indemnity to soldiers involved in the massacre and may attempt a similar action to escape the murder charge.

But the decision by the Ciskei Attorney-General to charge Brig Gqozo is seen as a sign that the pro-

tection cocoon provided for the homeland leaders by the National Party is starting to crumble.

Pretoria officials have assumed control of the financial affairs of Lebowa, one of six self-governing homelands, following disclosures of mass corruption, which is believed to have cost the South African taxpayer more than £12 million.

Pretoria's intervention follows the passing of a law allowing the government to rescind decisions taken by homeland leaders.

The Self-Governing Territories Constitution Amendment Bill appears to be acknowledging that the homelands were all form and little substance;

in the past decade the government has funded some of them to counter spreading ANC influence.

The homelands are expected to abide by the rulings of the Transitional Executive Council, a multi-racial body which is intended to "level the political playing fields" in advance of next April's election. Such submission will herald their reincorporation into the new South Africa.

Of the six self-governing homelands only Kwa-Zulu, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, may finesse a special agreement because he is a national politician with potential to disrupt the elections.

London
19/10/73

Transkei dispute threatens talks

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

A DISPUTE between the military dictator of the nominally independent black homeland of Transkei and the South African government is beginning to threaten the constitutional talks.

General Bantu Holomisa, the chairman of the Transkei military council, has ordered the expulsion of Harold van Rensburg, the South African ambassador, and 12 South African soldiers who guard the embassy after the killing of five youths in a suburb of Umtata, the capital of the homeland, by a squad from the South African Defence Force. The general claimed that the embassy was used as a base for the attack.

In return, R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African foreign minister, has indicated that Transkei's ambassador in Pretoria will also be expelled, and

General Holomisa has said that he will ask for the matter to be taken up at the talks. Failing a satisfactory answer, he said: "We will seriously consider our presence there."

Although no one outside South Africa has ever recognised the black homelands, which were given a spurious independence under the apartheid policies of H. F. Verwoerd, all four — Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei — maintain the full panoply of states, with flags and armies, and formally exchange ambassadors with South Africa proper.

Relations between Transkei, which was founded as one of the two tribal homes for the Xhosas, and South Africa have steadily deteriorated since General Holomisa seized power in December 1987, and took a turn for the worse last Christmas when attacks against civilian targets in the border region were said to have been launched by the Azanian People's Liberation Army, the armed wing of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, from the homeland.

The general has firmly allied himself with the African National Congress, although he has still not held the elections that he promised when he seized power.

