

HF 1 750_1_2

40 to PWâ\200\231's co
60,...;(93 Express FÃ© 3
plan, yes to a

MAJOR Afrikaans papers
seem united in believing
there is no future for the
constitutional plan being
considered by the Schle-
busch Commission or that
South Africaâ\200\231s salvation can
only lie in frank talks be-
tween races.

Beeld Editor Ton Vosloo said
in his personal column that the
Schlebusch Commission had
now got the message from all
quarters that a political system
adopted without the participa-
tion of all elements in our soci-

ety was condemned to failure.

â\200\234â\200\230Among prominent National-
ists,â\200\235 said Vosloo, â\200\230â\200\230there is an
awareness that our dilemma
will grow to the point of war-
fare if the commission comes
â\200\230out with a final constitution
that ignores, for instance, the
claims of the urban Black.

â\200\234The wise men among the
Nationalists are therefore
championing what is called a
constitutional council or com-
mittee. Such an eminent body
could tackle and try to solve
constitutional problems by de-
grees while the Government of
the day pursues its task of gov-
erning.â\200\235

The Progressives, continued
Vosloo with remarkable frank-
ness, could say that this consti-
tutional committee or continu-

-ous national dialogue was an-

other name for their national
convention. â\200\230â\200\234Let us leave the
semantics aside; we need a full
debate at the highest level to
get out of our one-way street.â\200\235

Die Vaderland said a new political dispensation for South Africa needed more than glancing attention and lightning execution. It was a matter that must be tackled at the national level in the widest sense of the word.

Die Transvaler columnist Dirk Ligter said perhaps one should discard all the vagueness and say outright that for

nstitu

r 9380

one or two population groups to take decisions in the name of all did not look like the ultimate solution.

ooo

PRESS comment on the Silverton incident combined praise for the police and stern condemnation of terrorism with a warning that the only long-range counter to terrorism was a contented, united people.

Die Transvaler said the political and constitutional counterweight to terrorism remained the highest priority.

There must be enough motivation

for White, Brown and Black South Africa to fight against terrorism as one man.

Rapport said the breeding ground of terrorism could be reduced by creating a dispensation that would satisfy the majority politically, economically and socially, but experience taught that even the most favourable circumstances were no guarantee against conscienceless blackmail and terrorist tactics. Urgent attention must be paid to better security in public places.

8. 0-C

THE police did not emerge from the Silverton episode without Press criticism. After paying tribute to their decisive

tional b/
ll-race talks

action, Beeld went on to deplore the way they had handled the Press.

Nowhere on the scene, said Beeld, was an officer to be found who was prepared to talk to the Press. The result had been an uncertainty that had given rise to wild rumours that spread like a veld fire through the community.

The authorities should realise that in times of crisis the Press had a vital part to play and should be treated as co-workers.

oo
THIS week's least elegant contribution to public debate came from Mr Koos van der Merwe, MP for Jeppe.

Criticising Rapport for publishing a news story about the break-up of the marriage of Afrikaans radio announcer Gerhard Viviers, Mr Van der Merwe declared:

I have only one word for that kind of journalism
sies!

@ Pik in his shirt
... bad taste

MANY people, said Die Transvaler, telephoned to complain about a cartoon in last week's Rapport showing Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha wearing a bush shirt covered in a variety of fanciful insignia.

It was described as an exaggerated caricature of the Minister and its bad taste and assailed his dignity.

Die Transvaler said Mr Botha's bush shirt in fact bore only a few insignia. The symbol on his shoulder tabs had been given to him by a sporting organisation.

JOHANNESBURG, FEBRUARY 3, 1980 38c Plus Sales Tax 2c Prices elsewhere on Back Page.

s FUTURE: -

Â® The Prime Minister, Mr P W
Botha with the leader of the
Coloured Labour Party, the Rev
Allan Hendrickse, and its forme
&% leader, Mr Sonny Leon â\200\224 two
men who-could be closely ;
involved with Mr Botha in the oo

drafting of a new constitution for 3

South Africa if representatives .

of the African people are also

allowed to take part.

SECRET BATTLE

Political fate of
Africans at stake

i

' A BEHIND-the-scenes campaign is being
waged by some of the countryâ\200\231s most
influential Nationalists to expand the
Schlebusch Commission investigating the
constitution to include Africans as well as |
Coloureds and Indians.

interest, to Stop Dr Rhodie
dead in his tracksâ\200\235 from re-
leasing the substance of the
strategic documentâ\200\235. .

At that stage, he considered
doing so because of his bitter-
ness about the â\200\230g ing wayâ\200\235"
the authorities had treateq his
wife, Mrs Katy Rhodie, and
their children at home,

Switzerland, Dr was
approached by Americaâ\200\231s CBS
television to sell his secrets for
\$250 000. ST1 A2

_ He had told General Van den

and added he was
the offer because of the perse-
cution of his family.

]

Doo
â\200\234I have noi¬\202,jq to j Â»
ilhe told :he mī¬\202lī¬\201g.
em all to pieces . . ' ; d to
hell 'ith ī¬\202.e rā\200\234t"_ e o B

â\200\230â\200\234Yes,â\200\235 said Dr Rhodie.
| â\200\234You are right.â\200\235 ;
According to the General, Dr
oodie told him he was not a
traitor and would not discuss
Erojects with anyone that could
arm the country, but that it
â\200\230Ishould be known his rt-
ment had also done a lot of
good for South Africa.

After the Van den mis-
sion returned, Mr Van Zyl, al-
though not aware of the content
of the â\200\234strategic documentâ\200\235â\200\231,
described as â\200\234â\200\230absolute dyna-
miteâ\200\235 the contents of Dr Rhoo-
dieâ\200\231s remaining tapes and docu-
ments. He was â\200\234shocked and
bewilderedâ\200\235â\200\231.

He immediately stepped in to
beat the \$250 000 TV offer for
Dr Rhodieâ\200\231s documents and
undertook to pay the former

Hendrikâ\200\231s

Meanwhile, in Paris and in
Bergh this on the telephone,
That is what decided the is.
seized on return

et e e =

T e e M e o gl

The documents, he said
would have to be buried for all
time. A public disclosure
would blow the lid off South
Africa, he said. :

General Van den Bergh re-
turned home, and reported on
his talks to the same three
members of the Cabinet.

One week later, however,
both his and Mr Van Zyl's pass-
ports were seized by the police.

In the light of the fresh dis-
closures on the Paris mission,
political observers recalled this
week that the authorities had
declined to prosecute General
Van den Bergh for refusing to
testify to the Erasmus Com-
mission, and that no further
charges were brought against
him subsequently.

passport

KRR

20277 SR bl Sniiagen