

16/1/11

X ANC to launch mass action campaign to free prisoners

JOHANNESBURG—The ANC is to embark on a mass action campaign in a bid to force the Government to speed up the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles.

The launching of the new campaign comes amid increasing tension between the Government and the ANC over the organisation's continued commitment to 'mass mobilisation'.

Campaign

Announcing the new campaign, the chairman of ANC's PWV region, Mr Kgalema Motlanthe, said it would be launched by the staging of marches through Johannesburg and Pretoria on December 6. This would be followed by other forms of mass action, he said.

Mercury Correspondent

In a statement issued yesterday, which Mr Motlanthe said had the backing of ANC head of office, the PWV region called for the release of all prisoners and return of exiles as well as the suspension of political trials before Christmas, the establishment of an interim government and the reincorporation of Bophuthatswana into South Africa.

The announcement of the campaign came just a day after the Minister of Constitutional Development, Mr Gerit Viljoen, attacked the ANC for not distancing itself from destabilisation, mass mobilisation, boycotts and intimidation. Mr Viljoen said these actions prejudiced and opened to question the

ANC commitment to peace.

Mass mobilisation and violence flowing from various campaigns are expected to be the subject of heated debate when President de Klerk and ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela meet next Tuesday.

Rallies

The ANC has rejected Government suggestion that mass mobilisation runs contrary to the spirit and letter of the Pretoria Minute.

In an interview earlier this week, the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Mr Stoffel van der Merwe, said the Government did not object to the ANC holding mass marches and rallies.

But when these were

accompanied by elements of violent coercion, as was evident in the attempt to destroy black local government structures, the Government regarded this as a related activity of armed action.

Members of the executive of the ANC PWV region argued yesterday that their call for the immediate release of all political prisoners did not contradict agreements reached by the political offences working group.

The new campaign, they said, was intended to strengthen the hand of ANC representatives on the working groups who were encountering a reluctance on the part of the Government to remove obstacles to negotiation.

16/1/11

ANC warning on conmen

by Khaba Mkhize

THE Mpumalanga branch of the ANC warned people to guard against conmen who go about collecting money using the name of the movement following the distribution last week of a typed pamphlet urging "comrades" to contribute R20 towards transport and food expenses for a rally in Johannesburg.

The pamphlet signed "S.M. Ndlovu" as chairman of the branch was circulated in Mpumalanga last week for a meeting to be held on November 10 and the collection date was set for November 9.

The real chairman of the ANC is Meshack Radebe and the secretary who spoke to Echo this week, Noel Nsele, said the branch did not know anything about the pamphlet.

"Conmen are having a field day since our movement was unbanned and people must be warned that they have to be sure that when money is solicited in the name of the ANC it is an above-board exercise," warned Nsele.

The pamphlet reads: "There will be a big rally in Johannesburg where Comrade Nelson Mandela will read out a message from Lusaka by Comrade Oliver Tambo."

It ends with slogans such as "Viva Comrade; Amandla awethu".

•• The Toronto Sun, Thursday November 22, 1990

PETER
WORTHINGTON



Media snub Zulu chief

We had an example in Toronto last week of the sort of bias and prejudice that does a disservice to all Canadians and hampers the cause of justice, peace, harmony.

It was the brief visit of Zulu Chief Gathsa Buthelezi as guest of honor at a black tie dinner given by Conrad Black, who seems to be specializing in giving a platform to controversial people of substance who have something to say, but whom the media and "establishment" tend to ignore. (His hosting of a dinner for Preston Manning recently, was a signal that the Reform Party is more than a Prairie aberration and that it has potential for growth — and popularity — in Central Canada).

The bias against Buthelezi was *not* the street demonstrations in favor of the African National Congress, but the media's assessment of him — especially the *Globe and Mail's*, whose reportage reflected ignorance, dishonesty or incompetence.

The *Globe's* coverage focused on an unnamed "Canadian official" saying Buthelezi is "the prime instigator" of the violence sweeping black South Africa these days, "because he's terribly afraid of being marginalized in the negotiating process . . ."

The unnamed official is quoted as saying that ever since Nelson Mandela was released from prison and the ban on the ANC lifted, Buthelezi has lost much of his influence: "Now he's trying to make a role for himself by killing enough people that (other political leaders) will have to pay attention to him."

The Buthelezi story was next to a Reuter/AP dispatch about 10 blacks being killed in tribal fighting in South Africa — three of them by necklacing, the speciality of the ANC, exalted in the past by Winnie Mandela, self-styled mother of the nation who is charged in connection with the murder of a teenager.

For the *Globe*, posing as Canada's "national" paper, to give such a distorted assessment of Buthelezi from the lips of an official it won't identify, verges on malice and deceit. It is a theme its own African correspondents would refute and be embarrassed by.

In fact, far from being diminished by events of the past year, Buthelezi has grown in stature — witness the Canadian government wanting to consult with him on this trip, where a couple of years ago Joe Clark and Brian Mulroney pretended to be out of town to avoid seeing him. A year later Clark met Buthelezi, on condition it be a secret meeting — a snub that still rankles Buthelezi, and should offend all Canadians.

This time, Buthelezi refused to see a junior cabinet minister. Surely, it is the ANC which fears Buthelezi, who over the years has fought apartheid longer and more effectively than the ANC, with its tactic of violence and civil disorder. ANC violence has been mostly aimed at other blacks who reject boycotts and sanctions as the best way to achieve democracy and equality.

For years, when others were silent, Buthelezi was urging that Mandela be freed. The two used to be friends — are friends, were Mandela permitted to meet Buthelezi. It is the ANC that prohibits their living symbol from meeting with the leader of seven million Zulus.

In Toronto, Buthelezi urged multi-party democracy, equality, investment and compromise in his country. He said freedom means nothing without a decent standard of living, and that in "free Mozambique" people flee into South Africa so they can work, be secure, and have enough to eat.

He called poverty the enemy of democracy: "We have seen democracy being destroyed time after time because political victories have been won at the cost of the destruction of economies." Those most hurt by sanctions are blacks. He drew a quaint analogy: "If you deprive a fat and a thin man of food — the thin man will die first. In South Africa the whites are fatter than the blacks, who are the main victims of sanctions."

Anyway, apartheid is dead. This should be a time of co-operation, not bloodshed.

The reality — which few in the media stress — is that regardless of individual biases or preferences, no peaceful solution is possible in South Africa *unless* it involves the Zulus.

In its 15 years of existence, the Inkatha Freedom Party of the Zulus has grown to some 1.8 million. Since Mandela's release, it has gained in importance, as the ANC has been revealed as a party rife with dissension and captive of an exiled leadership that is out of touch with modern South Africa — hence the need for violence to intimidate those who have doubts or disagree.

Those (like the *Globe*) who once tended to the view that race war was inevitable in South Africa, have turned out to be wrong. The ANC negotiates comfortably with the architects of apartheid — but seeks to crush anti-apartheid blacks who reject its leadership.

The Zulus also negotiate with Pretoria. Without capitulating, they have managed to thrive — with the help of foreign investment, schools, training, independence, co-operation.

Mulroney and Clark erred through basic ignorance when they snubbed Buthelezi and treated the ANC as if it were a government in exile (letting Mandela address Parliament, something forbidden to the leader of the Zulus, and even forbidden to the Dalai Lama).

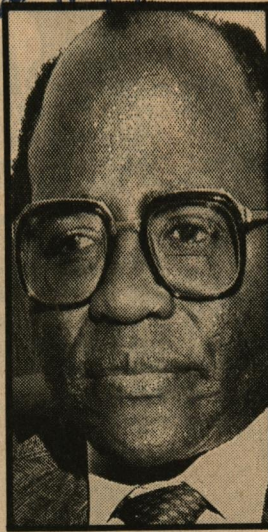
If Canada wanted to atone for past misjudgment, it would take a lead in ending sanctions now that apartheid is dead. But it would take courage to oppose all those Jamaican protesters and the loony left who are captive of ANC mythology.

Meanwhile, far from losing credibility, Buthelezi has become the paramount black leader of South Africa, who has the best chance of ending apartheid with peace and justice for all.

Violence figures a national tragedy, says Methodist bishop

Sunday News 22/11/90
**MARTIN
CHALLENOR**

Political
Correspondent



Bishop Mogoba

THE death of 10 people a day on average in political violence was a national tragedy, Bishop Stanley Mogoba, presiding Bishop of the Methodist Conference, has said.

The South African Institute of Race Relations released this figure this week.

They said that in the first 10 months of this year, 3 038 people died in political violence, an average of 10 a day. The corresponding average last year was 3,25 people killed a day.

By comparison, 30 people a day die on the country's roads, 31 people die of heart attacks, and 32 people are murdered in all crimes.

Between September 1984, when the present cycle of political violence erupted, and the end of October this year, 8 577 people lost their lives in political violence, the institute said.

South Africa is poised to go one of two ways, political observers have pointed out.

President de Klerk could lead the country into negotiations quickly. This would hopefully dry up the violence. More importantly though, negotiations would produce a government with legitimacy that could act against the causes of the violence and the protagonists with a measure of public support that the present whites-only Government does not have.

Alternatively, for as long as negotiations are delayed, political and criminal violence will continue to spread to more areas, becoming more irrational. All the while the economy will continue to deteriorate, political observers point out, and more and more facets of South African society will simply stop working.

Bishop Mogoba has been one of the thousands of South Africans who has repeatedly raised his voice against what he sees as the "seriousness of the violence". Defending the sanctity of life, he has spoken out against the "casualness with which some of our leaders are looking at the situation".

The deaths should be on the agenda at every political meeting in the country. Leaders and members of different groups had to meet to try to curb political violence, he said.

"I call on all leaders, whether political, religious or social: the moment has come that we really have to apply our minds to this. I call very strongly for very urgent attention to be given to the national situation. I know it is an old call, but it needs to be said again.

"The nation must not allow leaders to be casual about the political violence. This is a national tragedy."

Mr Paul Graham, of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa, said: "For

years, South Africans of all political persuasions have been unable to express their political aspirations in a democratic manner. An unfair system policed by increasingly harsh and arbitrary measures has reduced the political debate to a clash of power at every level.

"We are convinced that the political violence is a legacy of the past and not a foretaste of the future. The faster we move towards a democratic system in which political debate is allowed, leaders can test their support through free and universal elections, and organisations can convene and educate their members without fear of disruption and with the protection of the police, the sooner the violence will end," Mr Graham said.

"In the meantime, leaders in every community should discourage rumour, ensure that their supporters conduct themselves in a disciplined way, and encourage political tolerance. The police should act vigorously in investigating and prosecuting known inciters of violence and begin to rebuild community trust, which is essential to protect the first small movements our country is making towards an as yet fragile democracy."

Dr Zach de Beer, leader of the Democratic Party, said the townships, where the majority of people lived, were in crisis.

"There is a political crisis in that we have, with few exceptions, local government which is not recognised or accepted by the people. These are major causes of political violence.

"There is a socio-economic crisis, with about 16 people living in each dwelling, with grossly inadequate services.

"There is a law and order crisis, with intolerably high crime rates.

"There is a threatening health crisis because of the inadequate water and sewerage services, notably in the squatter camps. Epidemics are a real danger.

"The first essential," Dr de Beer said, "is for the township people to elect local representatives in whom they have confidence. The second essential is for the white authorities to meet these representatives urgently and to act to relieve the crises. The resolution of the township crisis cannot wait for a general constitutional settlement."

16/1/20

16/1/20

WCC funding to ANC, PAC under fire

SOWETAN 22/1/90

GENEVA - The World Council of Churches' controversial "programme to combat racism" is continuing to give large amounts of financial aid to black groups in South Africa despite reform progress.

The programme, or "PCR," was established in 1970 and has been widely criticised because it concedes that it has no control over how its grants are spent.

The PCR stipulates that money should be used for humanitarian and educational purposes but has never denied that funds could be used to buy arms or at least free other money for weapons.

This year, an official PCR statement said, that a total of R1,4 million is being granted to 69 groups.

Money

Including this amount, the total disbursed since 1970 is now more than R22 million.

Money for the grants - which are approved by the executive committee of the world council of churches - is contributed by member churches, individual congregations, anti-racism groups, and also some governments.

Sources said this week that about two-fifths of the 1990 grants of R1,4

million is going to the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress.

College

The ANC will receive R425 000, with the funds earmarked for helping in the reorganisation of the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Mazimbu.

That is necessary because of the ANC's return to South Africa, the PCR explained.

For its part, the PAC is getting R250 000. Funds are required, it was explained, to develop PAC publications on the organisation's policies and positions.

"Although the PAC has so far taken a position against negotiations with the South African Government, it nevertheless is committed to establishing its operation inside South Africa and will be seeking to return its

exiles to South Africa once the conditions to do so are suitable," according to an official PCR document.

Both the ANC and the PAC have received similar grants since the programme was begun.

Grants

Other grants to organisations involved in combating apartheid were R6 250 to the "action committee on Southern Africa" in Belgium, R10 000 to the "anti-apartheid movement" and the "information centre on Southern Africa" in Germany, R7 150 to the anti-apartheid movement of France, R6 250 each to Switzerland's "South Africa boycott action" and "anti-apartheid movement," and R25 000 to the "Washington office on Africa" in the United States. - Sowetan Correspondent

UDF upset by 'cabal' accusation

Mercury 22/11/90

THE regional leadership of the United Democratic Front wants a copy of a message from serving Robben Island prisoners to delegates at an ANC conference at the weekend, which described the local UDF leadership as a 'cabal'.

The message, read out at the southern Natal regional conference of the ANC at the weekend, slammed the leadership of the UDF in Natal during the state of emergency, describing them as a 'cabal', and a 'clique'.

Mr Yunus Mahomed, regional secretary of the UDF, said yesterday he could not respond to the allegations until the UDF had seen the Robben Island paper.

'We don't know upon what evidence the con-

Mercury Reporter

clusions were made, and until we know that, we cannot comment,' he said.

'The UDF as it existed in the region was plagued by in-fighting, factionalism, cliqueism and uneven distribution of resources,' the 'Robben Island paper' states.

Abuses

The ANC was strongly advised to be seen as 'an independent political organisation, and not to appear as the UDF in another form'.

The paper says the leadership of the UDF 'was not to be found' in areas where political conflict took place.

According to the

Robben Islanders, during the state of emergency a number of 'excesses and abuses' were committed by militant UDF-supporting youths.

But, they added, the state of emergency was 'not a good enough excuse' for the abuse.

The prisoners' message to the Southern Natal regional committee of the ANC urged them to find common ground with Inkatha members who were 'genuinely committed' to solving the problems of the region.

They called for the growth of political democracy, saying all parties, including the Inkatha Freedom Party had the right to publicise their viewpoints.

16/1/14

~~Sowetan~~
22/11/90
**New row
over
Mandela
capping**

16/1/11

A NEW row has erupted over the capping of ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela with an honorary degree next week.

The Azanian Students' Convention announced yesterday it was boycotting a graduation ceremony at the University of the Western Cape where Mandela is to get an honorary doctorate on November 29.

This follows the settling of the controversy over who will confer a degree on Mandela at the University of Cape Town the following day.

Vice-chancellor Dr Stuart Saunders announced yesterday that Mandela would be capped by the Chancellor, Mr Harry Oppenheimer.

An unsigned letter to UWC rector, Professor Jakes Gerwel, accused the university of being biased in favour of "congress politics".

The author wanted to know why UWC was honouring Mandela and not the late Mr Zeph Mothopeng, former president of the Pan-Africanist Congress, or former Robben Island prisoner Dr Neville Alexander.

No bias

Gerwel said UWC had no "institutional bias towards any political orientation except to be officially and firmly committed to the anti-apartheid struggle and the creation of a non-racial democratic order".

Azasco spokesman Mr Xolani Kalaote said the organisation would boycott, but would not demonstrate against the UWC ceremony.

He said: "We are discussing the wisdom of making heroes of people in the process of struggle. In our position, we believe . . . UWC should be given special consideration. - *Sowetan Correspondent.* in the process of struggle."

Mr Rashid Seria, the UWC graduation committee convener, said the ceremony had been organised along non-sectarian lines.

"While we respect Azasco's anti-graduation

ANC would have to rid itself of SACP, says Pik

By Tony Stirling

THE African National Congress (ANC) would have to rid itself of its ties to the South African Communist Party (SACP) in the same way as the National Party (NP) had done with regard to Dr Andries Treurnicht and Conservative Party elements in its midst.

This was stated yesterday by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, on his return to

South Africa from a visit to Eastern Europe.

He said the NP had "got rid of our albatross", and the ANC would now have to do the same, by severing its ties with the SACP, no matter how painful this might be.

Questioned at a Press conference at Jan Smuts Airport, Mr Botha said he had conveyed this message to "my ANC friend" at a conference of the Hans Seidel Foundation in Munich on Tuesday, and had told him that at the very least it would be wise of the SACP to change its name.

He said there was a clear message coming out of the "new Europe" to the effect that any attempt by the ANC to install any form of Communism, Socialism or Marxism would be unacceptable.

Europe was expecting the ANC to change its policy in the way Mozambique's President Joaquin Chissano had done.

Mr Botha expressed the view that the "new Europe" would accept nothing short of "real democracy" in the Western sense and that it would expect this to apply in South Africa and the rest of the continent.

Turning to economics and the question of sanctions, Mr Botha said that the Germans, British, French and Italians would not invest until the ANC unequivocally rejected any form of Socialist system.

He said he believed the time when the ANC could rely on compassionate and humanitarian support, because of apartheid was over, and that it would now have to start to vouch for and defend its own policies.

On his visit itself, Mr Botha said that the process of establishing relations with the countries of Eastern Europe was now basically complete.

His trip had been more extensive than originally envisaged because of the necessity he found to visit places such as Slovakia and Latvia, which it appeared were either going to emerge as independent states or part of federations.

Mr Botha said that barring sudden change, he expected some form of relationship with the Soviet Union to emerge in the foreseeable future, possibly within the next six months, but that the time was not ripe now.

While there was interest in investment from Europe in South Africa, most of this was being held back because of the impression that the country was saddled with conflict, violence and fighting.

As he had stated in Munich, divisions in the ANC were being reflected by conflicting statements from its leadership, and some of these statements contradicted commitments in terms of the Pretoria Minute.

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Thursday 22 November 1990

THE CITIZEN

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