

The Natal Witness

28 - 04 - 89

Towards peace? ✓

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The killings, assaults and mindless destruction of property have gone on too long. The full impact of their horror has been withheld from the eyes of the public because of severe censorship regulations imposed under the state of emergency. There is scarcely a black family in the province that has not been affected by the violence that has been steadily undermining the social framework of this area. Now we have a groundswell of mass public support for a programme that will remove the fear of death and destruction from the hearts of the people. The mood of the people is ripe for the implementation of a practical plan that will bring about a cessation of the violence. It is the rank and file who are suffering, and it is they who are now demanding the negotiating of an effective and permanent peace.

Frontline 'a two-eyed solution to a one-eyed problem'

Bees in Beckett's bonnet

THE N. WITNESS

28-04-89

A BEE in the bonnet becomes a pain in the bum, according to Denis Beckett.

He admits, though, that he has a whole lot of bees in his bonnet. Whether those who work with the maverick journalist have extremely painful behinds is uncertain; more likely they have tough hides — the 42-year-old Beckett and his two-person team have been slaughtering sacred cows for a living for the past 10 years.

Disillusionment both with the black and the white press led him to launch his controversial Frontline magazine in December 1979.

"The press then was one-eyed and short-sighted. I felt there was a need for two eyes," he said in an interview this week.

This "two-eyed" approach has opened Beckett up to criticism both from the left and from the right — and a lot of people in between.

"I used to believe the South African conflict was incapable of a peaceful resolution," he told a university audience this week.

"I used to believe liberals had to persuade non-liberals to be liberals. I used to believe one-man-one-vote would result in a drastic change to life as we know it. I used to believe South Africa was the world's worst society."

Then he revealed one of the bees lurking in his bonnet: "I've come to the conclusion that the simple missing link in the South African equation is how to reconcile whites to the fullness of black citizenship. But this question has not been addressed. It has not even been brought into the scope of the South African debate."

Another bee: "We're bogged down in the good/evil dialectic. Many people, including those in the anti-apartheid movements, have the approach... that if you're to the left of the government, you have to be for the ANC."

His "queen bee", however, has been an urging of white South Africans to accept the

In December 1979, a youthful Denis Beckett launched his pot-stirring magazine Frontline. Now, 10 years later, Beckett's hair is greying and his magazine is folding. The reason, according to Beckett: if there is room in our land for a free-thinking journal, Frontline has failed to find it. BRYAN PEARSON speaks to the man who, even as his empire crumbles, still refuses to toe the popular line.

inevitability of one-man-one-vote, because an "active and intensive democracy would lead to an orderly and stable society, with no one group dominating and all South Africans having full citizenship".

Other stingers in his beehive include:

- Whites erroneously believe that each advance made by blacks is a defeat for them.
- It is possible to create a society involving a massive number of interlocking institutions at grassroots level.
- It is possible to create a socio-political system which would see political power "truly and fully" flowing back to the people with voting power.
- Racial exclusivity will be with us long after apartheid has been dismantled.
- Most people are more interested in jobs, housing and the education of their children than in political ideologies.
- For a long time to come whites will play a leadership role in South Africa, simply because they have had a "head start".
- There are a large number of right-wing blacks in the country.
- One-man-one-vote won't spell the end of life as whites know it.
- Liberals labelling Afrikaners as "stupid and incapable of seeing reason" is as racist as the large amount of prejudice that exists

against blacks.

• Liberals are foolish to dismiss the fears of the white "verkrampes".

Having bees in one's bonnet, of course, also opens one up to stinging criticism — and Denis Beckett has endured plenty of that.

But criticism isn't the reason he's announced the demise of Frontline in October — it's more, as he puts it, "an inherent barrier against breaking established moulds".

"We sell 10 000 copies a month, which should be a viable proposition. But we sell to disparate characters — ranging from Andries Treurnicht to Harry Oppenheimer and Adriaan Vlok. This is too diverse and variegated an audience to be effective in the eyes of advertisers.

"We also have a left-wing image which has scared off the big companies. A further trap is that readers want to pigeonhole Frontline — but it's not that easy to label us."

Lack of advertising has resulted in "nine years of financial fiasco", according to Beckett. "We lose maybe R1 000 or R2 000 an edition. Sometimes we make a profit, more often a loss. Even if the losses are small, they're still losses. I want to be a journalist, not a business manager."

Is there life after Frontline for Beckett? Even he's not sure. Life, of course, will continue, but it may take a very different form — perhaps even advertising or public relations.

"I have five mouths to feed (he's married with three children) and journalism just doesn't pay. I may be forced into PR. But since I've announced Frontline is to close I've had some interesting offers."

The best scenario would be someone else taking care of the running of the magazine while he dons his "journalist" cap. Beckett is crossing his fingers for such an offer.

"Meanwhile I have five more editions, and by golly, I'm going to give them all I've got."

SA Bill of Rights 'will bring international acceptance'

Witness Reporter

LAWYERS for Human Rights (LHR) intends to make representations to the South African Law Commission's recently published working paper on Group and Human Rights.

This was disclosed by Mr George Bizos SC, an executive member of the LHR, at the annual meeting of the city branch on Wednesday.

When the Minister of Justice asked the commission to sit, no one would have been blamed if they assumed that the commission would attempt to produce a new definition of human rights, Mr Bizos said.

"At the time thousands of people were in detention without trial, including many children, there were numerous judgments of the Natal Supreme Court on the emergency regulations that

were being appealed and reversed," he said.

However, the Bill of Rights that was drawn up would "if adopted and applied . . . surely enable us in South Africa to say to the world that we must be accepted in its community of nations". It compared favourably with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Charter of the United Nations, Mr Bizos said.

"We in the LHR intend availing ourselves of this opportunity (to give oral representation to the commission before August 31)," Mr Bizos said. He pointed out that the LHR and numerous other anti-apartheid organisations had for years been campaigning for the granting of human rights.

• The State President, Mr P.W. Botha, should immediately set up a judicial commission of en-

quiry to uncover the basic causes of the violence in the townships around the city, it was resolved at the meeting.

The Pietermaritzburg branch of the LHR said that it noted the action taken by Mr Adriaan Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, in ordering the strengthening of a police presence.

"While the meeting accepts the desirability of maintaining law and order in the townships it believes that the basic causes of the unrest must be uncovered and for this reason reiterates its support for the petition submitted by Chief Maphumulo for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry," the resolution stated.

At the meeting Mr Mike Cowling was again elected chairman of the Pietermaritzburg branch of the LHR.

Mr GEORGE BIZOS . . . 'draft Bill of Rights compares favourably with UN Charter'



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Buthelezi hits back at Derby-Lewis in town hall row

THE Chief Minister of KwaZulu and president of Inkatha Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said yesterday Mr Clive Derby-Lewis was a nominated Member of Parliament and one must therefore assume that when he speaks, he speaks for the party that nominated him.

"His voice must be more than the voice of somebody with his or her own local constituency. I take what he says as representing thought and sentiment in the Conservative Party," the KwaZulu leader said in a statement yesterday.

"When the decision was made to bar my entourage from entering the Krugersdorp Centenary Hall, it was made because they were Black. The Conservative Party have taken action against Blacks using the facilities of towns which the CP controls. It is action against Blacks because they are Black that we are talking about. Mr Derby-Lewis plays with words, hypocritically. Having the right to place conditions on the use of a city hall is one thing. Nobody disputes that a city council has the right to do so in the sense that it commands the decision-making machinery which can make such a decision.

"Those who were in command of prisoner of war camps, whether they were camps in the Boer War or in the Second World War, had this same kind of right to ill-treat people. The Gestapo acted within what was

their right in this sense of the word. The rightness in this legalistic sense of the word is totally divorced from rightness in the moral sense of the word.

"Were I a White, I and my entourage would not even have to receive city council permission to be in the city hall. It is sheer naked racism which is applied against us. I want to assure Mr Derby-Lewis that when we in KwaZulu could possibly be facing conditions on visits to this region, they will not be decided on with any regard whatsoever being paid to race.

"No, Mr Derby-Lewis, you are racist and your party is racist, wanting as it does to turn the clock back and reintroduce a political era in which it was decided by the South African Government that no White can buy property in KwaZulu. That was

not a KwaZulu decision.

"The total damage that this kind of re-emerging racism is doing to South Africa and therefore to the interests of Whites as much as to the interests of Blacks, can hardly be over-stated. When the polecat makes the smell, all are affected except himself."

May 1: a day of controversy

Sowetan 28-04-89 f

FOCUS

By LEN MASEKO

MAY 1 — or is it **Workers Day?** — has become such a "hot potato" for the Government that it would probably have preferred to blot the day out of the country's calendar.

First, the Government — in the face of pressure from the labour movement — announced that the first Friday in May would be granted as a paid public holiday for workers throughout the country. Then, in an apparent turn-about, it shifted the controversial Workers' Day from Friday to the first Monday of May — ostensibly in line with countries such as Austria, Denmark and several other countries.

Explaining the back-and-forth shift, the then Minister of Manpower, Mr Pietie du Plessis, said these countries commemorated the day on the first Monday of May and that the Government wanted to grant workers a long weekend holiday.

Legal

The Minister said the legal position was that shops and offices, excluding factory offices,

workers would be entitled to a normal day's pay in terms of Section 11 (1) of the 1983 Basic Conditions of Employment Act. In these cases, an employee who worked on this holiday would be entitled to increased compensation in terms of Section 11(2) of the Act.

In other sectors, he said, the granting of a paid holiday was a matter of negotiation be-

tween employers and workers, unless it was already determined in a wage or industrial council agreement.

However, the Government's position is seen in labour circles as an attempt to strip May Day of its "revolutionary content" as it believes that it is a "communist" inspired fight against the capitalist establishment.

"The position has prevailed for two years largely because, in the first year of the proclamation, it (May Day) coincided with a Friday while in the second year it fell on a Sunday, says Mr Mandla Seleane, a labour analyst.

He says the Government will change its "labour day" from year to year, depending on the pressure exerted on it.

Massive

In recent years, May Day has been marked by massive work stayaways in spite of managements' refusal to recognise the day as a paid public holiday. Unions have pressed ahead with the demand that the day be recognised as a holiday.

This has led to the day becoming a notable feature in negotiations between employers and unions every year.

According to the Labour Monitoring Group, a significant number of employers were indicating their willingness to recognise May Day as a paid holiday.

Rallies

At May Day rallies, workers have gone beyond shopfloor issues to challenge the status quo. In the past, they have called — among other things — for the scrapping of the bantu education system, the lifting of the state of emergency and withdrawal of troops in the townships.

On Monday (May 1), millions of workers will again — in a demonstration of unity — join hands worldwide to decry the exploitation of the working class at the workplace.

It will also be an occasion when workers reiterate their resolve to achieve what their colleagues in other parts

of the world have died for. Their demands will revolve around the recognition of May Day as a paid holiday, a 40-hour working week and a call for a just society where they will control the means of production and an end to exploitation in the workplace.

The historical significance of the day can be traced to 1856 when Australian workers decided on April 21 as a day in which to mark their demand for an eight-hour working period.

On May 1, 1886, American workers demanded an eight-hour working day. This campaign by about 200 000 workers was later to be followed every year, by millions of workers throughout the world.

18 hours

Their demand for a shorter working period was understandable, considering that in England before and after the Industrial Revolution the average working day was 12 to 18 hours. As if that was not enough, workers had to toil for as many as 20 hours on days like Christmas and Good Friday.

Today May Day is widely accepted as symbol of the working class while, for the Government, the day has meant designing and re-modelling the Public Holidays Act every year so that it should not be seen to be bowing to pressure from the local labour movement.

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SOWE TAN

28-04-89



WORKERS at a May Day rally.

INKATHA CHIEF'S YES TO TALKS

**'But no
outsiders
must
come'**

KWAZULU'S Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi has welcomed the move to call a peace conference involving warring factions in Natal's townships but has objected to "outsiders" attending such a meeting.

Chief Buthelezi told

By **LEN MASEKO**

the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly: "If they want to talk to us, the United Democratic Front and Congress of South African Trade Unions must do so, but they must not bring outsiders."

He was responding to

an invitation to peace talks sent to him by UDF affiliates and Cosatu.

The KwaZulu leader said he could not see any possibility "in any circumstances" that the first meeting should include Catholic Archbishop Dennis Hurley and other peace convenors.

It appeared, he said, that he had been misunderstood in letters he had written to Archbishop Hurley and Cosatu official Mr Jay Naidoo.

Referring to the organisations' suggestion that each group send a small delegation to constitute a working committee, Chief Buthelezi said: "While I am all for a combination of initiatives, I am not prepared to do that on any terms. I did not mean that they should impose what they have decided on their own on us."

Inkatha's central committee would discuss the matter at Ulundi tomorrow.

UNIONISTS OFF THE TRACK

SIR — Politics of accusation seem to be infiltrating our black workers unions. Besides accusations, our unions spend most of their time galvanising irrelevant radical support. This has led the direction of our struggle for freedom to confusion and, in the process, to lose its momentum.

We are supportive to the fact that the people of Namibia will be obtaining independence soon. We acknowledge that Swapo has played a part towards achieving this goal. Yet, we cannot commit ourselves to the claim that Swapo alone is the legitimate and authentic representative of all Namibian people.

Unionists, in general, have an inkling of calling the shots, to the employers, the government and to the workers. As an ordinary worker in South Africa I do not agree with this manipulation by these office-bearers.

Our black unions are becoming international political havens, and we seem to forget to pursue immediate problems faced by the workers.

The Namibians have their own unions which are capable of attending to their workers' problems.

Virtually, all the speakers, so far are inclined to give political speeches as if we are now being indoctrinated. All big brass with political aspirations are formulating ideas of how to go about organising against apartheid.

We as workers know that equality on the factory floor will enable us to restore our dignity and pride. The past has taught us many lessons. We are wary of being used and pushed around like goats.

SEFTON MOGOMOTSI

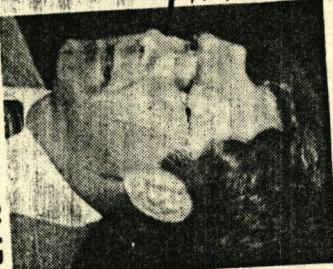
Alexandra.

VETERAN government opponent Mr Harry Schwarz (DP, Yeoville) lashed out in Parliament at the ANC's use of violence, and took Idasa to task for describing the congress as a "major and misunderstood actor on the South African scene".

Mr Schwarz rejected the ANC's "kind of democracy" and stated: "We are in competition with that organisation".

Speaking in the Law and Order Budget Debate, he quoted an Idasa document which described the ANC as "a major and misunderstood actor on the South African scene".

"What do I tell people in my constituency when a bomb goes off? What do I tell people about this



DR VAN ZYL SLABBERT... Idasa leader.

Mr Schwarz was also critical of the ANC's view of post-apartheid society.

He said: "We need to look at what kind of society is being proposed in South Africa and whether the constitutional proposals are what we want."

"They are not in favour of the kind of democracy we want and we are in competition with that organisation."

Replying to debate, Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok said: "I agree 100 percent with (Mr Schwarz). The ANC must decide what it wants. I cannot sit on two stools."

What do I tell my people when a bomb goes off?

MP'S OUTBURST AGAINST ANC

WHAT has happened between the 1976 explosion and the year 2000 that has turned black men into their own worst enemies, enemies of the much aspired after "new" South Africa?

In the late 70s there was only one echo promoting black interests, desires and aspirations. To be black meant a mental attitude, espousing black dreams accommodating all Africans as brothers and sisters.

To make it, you had to be a front for most of the interests of your communities and further their attainment of equality and brotherhood. You were largely backed by your own people.

The dominant political philosophy of the time embraced national interests. It was unleashed to overcome the inferiority complex forced on blacks. The resounding success of this movement is indicated by the high esteem Steve Biko is held in by sane thinkers in all the spectrum of politics.

In the 70s the mortal enemies were the oppressive whites and their "black" supporters. Their chief supporters could easily be identified by promoting entrenchment of "the system."

Inheritance

But what has the last decade inherited or given birth to in terms of the emerging "new" society? Black men have turned against themselves — killing each other, jailing each other, detaining each other. Become their own oppressors.

There are black men, so-called "high achievers," who see the future in terms of making the best of the bad situation. At whose expense? Their own, of course.

They tenaciously embrace the tenet of "every man for himself, and Africa for us all."

These men are in a strong position because on their side is the entire coercive State machinery which holds up "the system." And their own can helplessly watch on

as the guns are stuck up their noses with their backs against the wall.

These black men have been nurtured and grown in the wombs of "the system," and the warmth has been so cosy that their only wish is to keep their own out in the cold.

It is now an open secret that the so-called "black middle class" is alive and kicking its own.

The defence that they are also oppressed, they have no vote sounds hollow today. The regime has found long lost friends in black politicians, university graduates, entrepreneurs, professionals, the elite.

These black men do to their own what other people do to them.

GUEST COLUMN by SANDILE MEMELA

"What is wrong with buying shares?" they ask. They admit it themselves that they are token, but they cannot turn them down because they are personally lucrative.

In return, big business and Government offer them a "package," an offer that no selfish black man can refuse. Unrestricted freedom to travel abroad, facilities to squander money in restaurants and hotels, and to continue to exploit and oppress their own, unmolested.

These men and women's consciences are not gnawed when their own friends, relatives and family are exploited by others.

They do not want the return of the land, but mansions only for themselves in the suburbs. These men and women do not mind to spend thousands per annum to educate their children, while hundreds of others in their neighbourhood cannot

go to university because "their parents have no money."

They believe it is far better to spend millions on the education of a few, rather than spend it on the majority.

To these men and women the purpose of education is now to instil love for your neighbour and motherland, but to equip one with qualifications so that one can get a cosy job and live off the fat of the land.

To these men there is nothing wrong if after graduation a black child does NOT take his rightful place in the pursuit of freedom, justice, equality and brotherhood of man.

One dreads the future, fears the "new" society

as the "achievers" continue to plunder not only their own people, but their country, too.

These men and women are a fact of South Africa. They are here today and will be there tomorrow in the "new" society. And they will have inherited the State machinery.

What does the future hold for the people? As the number of these men and women increases, it's accompanied by deafening silence to the violation of human rights in the country.

They do not even pay lip-service to the promotion of the truth, justice and equality. One believes that this self-castrating introspection is necessary for the people to know why we are where we are, and where we are going.

These men and women are comfortable in their cocoons, have their rehabilitated to see "changes" take place in the country and doors

open for blacks. These men and women have, and continue to, remain "neutral" as the struggles intensify.

But they are transformed into instant national heroes who spearhead black achievement by television, magazines and newspapers. The sleeping people are encouraged to believe in breaking down the obstacles by working hard to become "high achievers."

Parasites

But these successful men and women are dependent and parasitic. They are people who cannot stand on their own. In essence, most of what they have belongs to big business and management who, of course, own and distribute the wealth of the country among their favourites.

These men and women have no political mission. In fact their political utterings and roles stem from within "the system."

These men and women are black, only because of their skin colour.

There is very little that other people do that they don't do. Mostly they import clothes or buy from exclusive boutiques.

Their families own time-sharing units, go on holidays abroad. Their children are taught from an early age what their destiny is: to live off the fat of the land, drink Coke and enjoy life.

One must remember that these very children are from the most expensive schools in the country or do "A levels" abroad.

All that these men and women do is willfully inherited from "the system."

It nurtured them but they consciously allow themselves to tramp

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The black middle class is part of the 'system'

FIRST 100 YEARS OF ZULU HISTORY - Renewed Border Disputes and the Approach of War

A. de V. Minnaar H.R.S.C.

This is the 13th Part in the series on Early Zulu History

AFTER the Natal government's blocking of the projected Swazi raid trouble flared up in the disputed territory on the north-eastern boundary of Zululand where the Boers were still encroaching on Zulu tribal land. The situation very nearly resulted in war when President Joubert of the Transvaal Republic issued a proclamation annexing the whole Disputed Territory even though arbitration had been agreed upon at the time of Lt-governor Keate. The Boers proceeded to occupy this territory, exercising all the functions of government, even levying taxes upon the black inhabitants. The Zulus were furious at this act and war appeared imminent. Fortunately Sir Henry Bulwer, the newly appointed Lt-governor of Natal, appointed a commission of inquiry to arbitrate upon the whole border question. His prompt action averted war.

But by 1876 the Boers of the Transvaal had had to retreat after being humiliated by Sekukhuni and the country was in a state of near chaos. The Zulus encouraged by the successful resistance of Sekukhuni mobilised their forces on the borders of the Transvaal and were poised to strike at the first available opportunity.

It became obvious to the Natal authorities that the ostensible threat of Zulu might would have to be broken. For this reason an excuse would have to be found for a confrontation with Cetshwayo. At the same time the British government through the British colonial secretary, Lord Carnarvon, had formulated the idea of federating the independent states of Southern Africa.

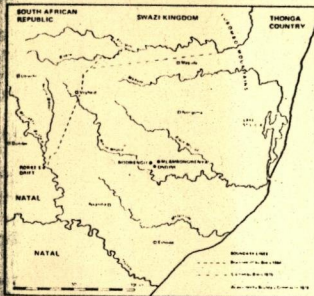
Transvaal annexed

Carnarvon sent Theophilus Shepstone to the Transvaal. Shepstone, to effect the federation plan and to keep the Zulus in check, decided to annex the Transvaal for then the Zulus fearing the British would not attack the Boers. Accordingly on 12 April 1877 the Transvaal was officially annexed by Britain. The main consequences of this act was that the border dispute, which up to that time had been a dispute between the Zulus and the Boers of the Transvaal now became a dispute between the Zulus and Britain. Shepstone as administrator of the Transvaal had somehow to settle the dispute. Accordingly Shepstone arranged a meeting with the Boers and the Zulus at Conference Hill, near the Blood River. The Zulus demanded that the Buffalo River to its source in the Drakensburg should mark the boundary as it had done in the past. But the Boers refused to accept this and there was no compromise so the conference ended in failure.

Cetshwayo later requested the withdrawal of British protection of the Boers so that he could deal with them. Shepstone replied that there must be no war. Cetshwayo nevertheless decided to take the initiative and sent an impi to occupy the disputed area. Fortunately the Boers hastily withdrew and left the Zulu forces in full possession. On 8 December 1877 Sir Henry Bulwer proposed that arbitration should take place. However, Carnarvon had appointed Sir Bartle Frere as governor of the Cape and High Commission in 1877. It was Frere's task to complete the federation plan. Frere felt that the subjugation of Zululand would remove the threat of Zulu military might not only to Natal but also to the Transvaal and would also open northern Zululand to the Boers thus keeping everybody except the Zulus, happy. Frere began a series of in-accurate reports to England. He misrepresented various deeds painting a very black picture of Cetshwayo and Zululand in an effort to prepare the authorities for any possible action he might have to take to bring about Carnarvon's federation plan. This might even include war with Zululand.

Commission of inquiry

Sir Henry Bulwer now informed Cetshwayo that a commission of inquiry would begin its



Map 1: The Zulu Kingdom in King Cetshwayo's reign, 1872 - 1879.

deliberations at Rorke's Drift on 7 March 1878. In due course they ruled in favour of the Zulu claims. The report of their findings was sent to Sir Bartle Frere on 20 June 1878. But these findings were only released to Cetshwayo on 11 December 1878. By delaying the publication of the findings Frere hoped that Cetshwayo, ignorant of the findings in his favour, would become impatient and be forced by his military advisors to commit some indiscretion that would allow Frere to blame Cetshwayo for any hostilities which would then take place.

Events helped Frere in his scheme. In July 1878 two women, the unfaithful wives of the sons of chief Sirayo, had fled to Natal, followed a few days later by their angry husbands, who were escorted by an armed band of Zulu warriors. These men illegally crossed the Buffalo River into British territory, seized the women by force, took them back into Zululand and there put them to death.

Cetshwayo was reprimanded by Bulwer and instructed to surrender ringleaders to the British authorities for punishment. Cetshwayo offered to pay an immediate fine of £50 but this was refused by the Natal government who sent a stern note to Cetshwayo who replied that he could not hand over the guilty parties till the whole matter had been discussed by the Great Council. Frere immediately used this incident and in a highly exaggerated dispatch to the Colonial Secretary maintained that it would be, Smith, a surveyor, and Deighton, a trader, had gone to inspect a road which had fallen into disuse near Kranskop. The Thukela being at a low water level at the time the two men had wandered onto a small island in the river unaware that it was regarded by the Zulus as their territory. Cetshwayo had ordered his impi to guard all the river crossings with a view to its being used for an invasion on Zululand. Consequently some of Cetshwayo's warriors surrounded them for about an hour and a half. Frere took this to be 'a most serious insult and outrage'.

Swazis attacked

On 7 October 1878 there occurred an attack on some Swazi kraals by an ex-Swazi chief, Mbilini, who had been allowed by Cetshwayo to live in the disputed territory but had soon turned freebooter plundering the Swazis, the Boers and the Zulus. After the attack Cetshwayo had attempted to kill Mbilini but as having been made with the connivance, if not under the orders, of Cetshwayo.

Frere continued to provoke Cetshwayo publishing a memorandum stating that a British resident would be appointed in the territory allotted to Cetshwayo. (But months before the whole disputed area had been allocated to Boers by the Transvaal government.) All the Boers had to do was to claim their farms, which according to Frere, they would be able to occupy under British guarantee. Tensions were running high and Frere was able to provoke war with his ultimatum demanding the abolishment of the Zulu military system.

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THE ZULULAND OBSERVER

28-04-89



Chief Zibhebhu of the Mandlakazi (standing).

KwaZulu Legislative Assembly — Ulundi

Action Year for Peace

Zululand Observer Reporter

THIS week has been an eventful one in the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly.

Firstly, the Chief Minister, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has declared 1989 as a Year of Action for Peace. Secondly, the Minister of Finance for the Region, Dr Dennis Madide, tabled the highest ever estimates of expenditure for KwaZulu. Thirdly, the former Prime Minister of Rhodesia, Mr Ian Smith, met Dr Buthelezi and members of the KwaZulu Cabinet.

Appalled

In his statement committing Inkatha to peace, the KwaZulu Chief Minister said the whole world was appalled at the violence that was taking place in the greater Pietermaritzburg area and which was spreading.

Dr Buthelezi said people were tired of talk in the midst of violence.

They were tired of spokesmen condemning violence while they actually looked the other way when their own colleagues and the fellow members of their organisations continued killing.

'Every Inkatha branch should meet and should meet urgently and repeatedly to establish what can be done in its area to bring about peace' he said.

The KwaZulu Chief Minister said major government, semi-government and private agencies in the most affluent Western countries would be able to direct very substantial resources to assist any real initiative that took place to curb violence.

Churches

'Let the churches see our Year of Action for Peace as a people's initiative. I will raise whatever money I can from the world's churches', he said.

Dr Buthelezi said the offices of Inkatha's secretary-general, Dr Oscar Dhlomo and deputy secretary-general, Chief Simon Gumede, would be clearing houses for the ideas that people at branch level came up with to combat violence and to bring about a final end to black-on-black confrontations.

'If we now set ourselves the objective of eliminating violence, then neighbour must act with neighbour,

regardless of the political organisations to which different neighbours belong', he said.

The KwaZulu Minister of Finance, Dr Dennis Madide, this week tabled a record budget of nearly R2.5-Billion.

Delivering his Budget speech, he said that education was getting the biggest share, namely, R775-million or 32 percent of the total.

Dr Madide said the Department of Welfare and Pensions would receive R496-million, or 20 percent of the total.

Between these two departments an amount of more than R1-Billion had been allocated.

Dr Madide said KwaZulu's own revenue for the financial year was estimated at R400-Million. The major share - R309-million - had come from taxes.

During the week Mr Ian Smith paid his first ever visit to Ulundi.

He described Dr Buthelezi as a 'leader with courage who had been subjected to very unfair criticism'.

Mr Smith said it had been a 'stimulating experience' to meet the KwaZulu Chief Minister and his Cabinet.

'He is doing a tremendous job to produce a system to enable all of us - black and white - to live in peace', the former Rhodesian Prime Minister said.

Mr Smith said he was 'appalled' by war and it would be a wonderful thing if countrys could stop inat and build the future together.

SANAB dagga haul

Karen van der Merwe

MEMBERS of the SA Narcotic Bureau (SANAB), working in the Ingwavuma District, last week destroyed 40 tons of wet dagga and confiscated about 100 kilograms of dry dagga in an operation which involved 30 members of the SAP, including some from Richards Bay.

Information of the swoop somehow got to the local community in advance and massive harvesting activity led to the police action lasting only one day. Despite attempts by offenders to hide the dagga, a total of 10 kilograms of dagga seed was confiscated along with huge quantities of the harvested weed.

A total of four men were arrested and charged with dealing in the drug. They appeared in court at Ingwavuma soon afterwards but the case was postponed. A police helicopter was used during the raid and 'crops' were destroyed with chemical sprays. According to the SANAB Branch Commander at Richards Bay, Lt 'Lieb' Liebenberg, this is far more effective than the burning method since it prevents much of the 'replanting' of seed that automatically occurs when dagga plants are uprooted.