

AP1992-1-1-28

16/1/11

## X ANC regrets 'threats to garageman' by official

By Clyde Johnson  
Lowveld Bureau

NELSPRUIT — The ANC's Eastern Transvaal region yesterday said it regretted the alleged violent threats made by a senior official to blow up a White River service station and kill the workshop manager.

The Star on Friday revealed that the regional general secretary, Joe Nkuna, had made these threats during a heated telephone conversation with the workshop manager after an unlicensed firearm had been found

in the ANC man's car and handed over to the police.

A taped recording of the angry conversation — in which Mr Nkuna allegedly threatened to call a boycott of the service station, shoot the manager and bomb his property — is in The Star's possession.

ANC Eastern Transvaal deputy secretary Jacques Modipane said in a statement yesterday the regional leadership had investigated the threats.

It was clear that a "spirited altercation"

which was far from courteous had taken place between Mr Nkuna and the garage owner.

"Without admitting liability the ANC Eastern Transvaal region regrets the conversation between Mr Nkuna and the garage owner," Mr Modipane said.

Mr Nkuna had taken his car for a service at the garage, where a mechanic allegedly found a 9 mm Makarov pistol which had dropped out from behind a dashboard panel during a test drive on a bumpy road.



# 'No quick fix for disparities'

Political Staff

ARGUS 28 JAN 1992  
THERE was no quick fix to the disparities created by apartheid in the agricultural field and the restitution of land did not undo the tangle, said Agriculture Minister Dr Kraai van Niekirk.

Briefing journalists in Cape Town yesterday Dr van Niekirk said the matter should be solved by developing existing areas and enabling people to improve themselves.

The normalisation of agriculture in the "new environment" was one of the Department of Agriculture's top priorities and the training of all South Africans in the field would become important in the future, he said.

Dr Van Niekirk said equal opportunities could only be utilised if equal abilities existed.

Referring to the fact that 87 percent of the land was owned by whites, Dr van Niekirk said the 13 percent in the possession of blacks fell in higher rainfall areas. When one then considered the production potential of the land, the ratio became 75 percent to 25 percent, he said.

Redressing apartheid-created disparities by taking from some and giving to others only amounted to the redistribution of wealth. This process should be accompanied by upgraded training of all South Africans in the agricultural field, he said.

In addition to training, disparities were also being addressed by giving blacks access to credit extensions offered by financial institutions.

It was estimated that there were 1 700 black farmers in the country and 50 000 subsistence farmers in the homelands and trust areas.

Asked whether the government was assisting inefficient white farmers, Dr Van Niekirk said Land Bank loans were given on one strict basis: the debt must be serviced by the income of the farmer. If this was insufficient, he was not given further aid.

The department was restructuring and reorganising itself and the 14 departments of agriculture were trying to consolidate their activities to avoid duplication. *and corruption!*

## SA improved, but not enough — UN

GENEVA. — A United Nations report on human rights in South Africa hails "positive changes" in 1991 but urges the world to keep up its economic and political pressure.

The report, released on Friday by the UN Commission for Human Rights, commends South Africa for freeing political prisoners, repealing apartheid laws, unbanning political parties and lifting the state of emergency.

But — without mentioning the word sanctions — it says pressure must be maintained.

African National Congress President Nelson Mandela made a similar appeal while speaking to reporters on Friday in Switzerland.

"Sanctions had two objectives: to bring the total dismantling of apartheid and the installation of a democratic government. Neither have yet been fully achieved," he said.

The six human rights specialists who wrote the report asked for but were not given an invitation to South Africa to carry out their investigation. They had to rely instead on expert witnesses, human rights organisations and Press reports.

The six said they were "shocked" by violence in Natal and Transvaal and expressed concern at the reported partiality of security forces "which was implied by the admitted government funding of the Inkatha Freedom Party".

They also attacked the homelands as "an element of the apartheid system which remains untouched". — Sapa-Reuters.

*How long are they still talking about that!?*



# Key talks for SA's Big Three

PETER FABRICIUS, Political Staff

DAVOS. — President De Klerk, ANC president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi will be given a brief but crucial opportunity here today to prove to the world's most powerful businessmen and politicians that the future South Africa is a country they can do business with.

How the three leaders perform before the extremely high-powered audience of 1 300 at the World Economic Forum could have long-lasting consequences for the country's prosperity.

"It is a very important gathering. But it could also be very dangerous," one source close to the forum said.

Outside on the breathtakingly-beautiful slopes of this fashionable Swiss Alps ski resort — just up the mountain from the royal haunt of Klosters — the rich are at play.

But inside the World Economic Forum the rich are engaged in serious work. Some 800 chief executives of the world's largest companies have gathered to quiz 35 heads of state and about 150 Cabinet ministers about their economic policies and needs.

It is an awesome gathering — probably the single largest concentration of economic and political power ever assembled anywhere — and the stress is on financial clout.

The financial power concentrated here could probably buy out most of the countries represented.

As one senior government official said: "This is a businessmen's club. The politicians come here like zoo animals to be scrutinised."

And this afternoon the specimens under the harsh microscope will be Mr De Klerk, Mr Mandela, Mr Buthelezi, Cosatu's Jay Naidoo, the Na-

■ Turn to page 3

Weekend Argus, February 1 1992

3

## SA in key talks

■ From page 1

tional Peace Committee's Mr John Hall and Lebowa's Mr Nelson Ramodike.

Mr De Klerk will kick off the discussion on South Africa — one of the seven areas of special focus for this year's assembly — with an address on "the contribution of a post-apartheid South Africa to the new world order".

Mr Mandela will follow with a speech on the "the integration of those on the fringes of society into the new world".

Then all the panelists will be quizzed on how to stimulate growth in the new South Africa.

South African and other observers here are on tenterhooks, hoping there is no flare-up between the three volatile leaders.

The forum expects them to present proof of a united purpose on the country's future which will inspire investment.

But this is by no means assured. Even within the government there is concern that Mr De Klerk may not realise how important it is that he and the other leaders on stage should present a united front.

For South Africa stands in line at Davos as just one of many underdeveloped nations and regions hoping to attract investment.

With them in the line will be heads of the former Soviet republics, the former East Europe bloc nations and many others hoping to impress.

Initial reaction from the government to a copy of Mr Mandela's speech released yesterday has been good.

They believe it is a moderate statement with no severe threats of nationalisation and no direct attacks on the government which could provoke a damaging row.

In his speech Mr Mandela said South Africa's political transformation was part of the "truly phenomenal process of renewal" being experienced in the world today.

He said this meant the end of white-minority dictatorship.

In its place would be built a new nation of "many colours", languages and cultures, bound together by a common South African patriotism, a shared spirit of nationhood and bonds of mutual dependence.

"As in other parts of the world, we too will establish a society based on respect for human rights, to ensure the freedom and dignity of every individual as an inalienable condition of human existence," Mr Mandela said.

"We are determined to end apartheid and liberate ourselves as a matter of urgency.

"We are as equally determined that this transformation should bring with it real changes in the material conditions of life of the people.

"This is dictated both by the fact of the widespread and endemic poverty that affects millions of black people in our country and the need to guarantee the success and permanence of democratic change," the ANC president said.

Turning to the international scene, he called on the world to listen to its inhabitants:

"We believe that those voices must be listened to and the concerns they express addressed.

"If the political transformations taking place across the globe are anything to go by, it would seem clear that these masses will not allow themselves to be silenced," Mr Mandela said.

"They will not be fobbed off with polite and courteous but meaningless responses. Nor will they accept the promise of jam tomorrow if they see nothing being done today to deliver the promised jam tomorrow."



Boys, 28.1.92

PARLIAMENT

# FW's bid to woo rightwing fails

28-01-92

PRESIDENT De Klerk's attempts to draw the rightwing into negotiations were shot down right at the start of a four-day debate of a joint session of parliament.

In the debate, on Mr De Klerk's speech at the opening of parliament, Dr AP Treurnicht, leader of the Conservative Party, dismissed the president's suggestion as "opportunistic" and a transparent ploy.

He was only paying lip service to the concept of self-determination, while in the same breath saying that the idea of a sovereign state with its own territory was not practically possible.

A speech by Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the Minister of Constitutional Development, showed that the government was not going to abandon its efforts to draw in the rightwing. He stressed that the discussion of issues such as self-determination in Codesa had not been excluded.

Dr Treurnicht maintained that Mr De Klerk's party had, in fact, become a party for all which had abandoned nationalism. Through its open membership it had abandoned its role as the front for the Afrikaner and the whites.

Political power sharing did not rhyme with self-determination.

To place self-determination on the Codesa agenda was misleading, cynical and a transparent plan to get certain parties to Codesa.

According to Codesa's declaration of intent the government had committed itself to an undivided South Africa with just one nation.

Principles such as the identity of nations with own territories and the right to govern themselves were being rejected.

Dr Viljoen said the success of the negotiations depended on the participation of all political parties with proven support.

Invitations to rightwing parties, including the CP, the HNP and the AWP, stood.

There was no dogmatic finality in Codesa's declaration of intent.

The CP could therefore prepare itself for participation in Codesa and for negotiations on the principle of self-determination as well as the practical application of this, especially within the reality of the South African situation.

Dr Viljoen said he was certain that the majority of CP supporters expected it to have the courage to try to promote their policy in negotiations.

Reasonably speedy agreement on the first phase would in the short term aid political stability and investor confidence.

**TOS  
WENTZEL**  
on the debate  
on the  
President's  
speech



Referring to a transitional government, Dr Viljoen said the government was in favour of a phased approach to a new constitutional dispensation instead of one giant leap to a new system.

Negotiations leading to a final new constitution would be a long and time-consuming process.

Valuable experience in joint government would be obtained in such a transitional period and additional urgent attention could be given to the handicaps of the less-privileged.

The ANC's interim government was unacceptable because it implied a total transfer of power to an undefined body, the suspension of the constitution and parliament and an executive government governing by decree.

A referendum for all would place the legitimacy of a new constitution beyond doubt. A positive climate and atmosphere regarding the new constitution would be created by such convincing proof of general acceptance.

In an emotional speech Mr Willie van der Merwe, CP MP for Meyerton, said Afrikaners could not go to Codesa to subject themselves to people who had already expressed themselves against white self-determination.

Negotiations about South Africa's future with terrorists and heathens could not contribute anything to the country's welfare.

Mr Van der Merwe pleaded with the government to make a move and to talk to the rightwing.

Dr Dawie de Villiers, Cape Nationalist leader, said the pressure for full democratic rights for all, regardless of race, was a worldwide phenomenon which was irreversible, also in South Africa.

The CP could not turn back the clock in order to restore apartheid.

He warned the CP leadership that if it did not choose the responsible way of negotiations, it would enter the cul-de-sac of violence.

Giving his party's vision for the future, Dr Zac de Beer, leader of the Democratic Party, said it had become apparent a year ago that only a government which included both the National Party and the ANC could succeed to at the same time maintain law and order and create investor confidence.

At that stage this idea may have appeared to be far-fetched, but at meetings of Codesa there had been indications to the contrary.

The two movements, both aware of their responsibility to the people of South Africa, were also aware of the decisive role they would have to play.

*How can he dare to ignore the JFP!!!*



# FW out of the cold to a warm welcome

WEEKEND ARGUS

1 FEBRUARY 1992

## JEREMY BROOKS

Weekend Argus Foreign Service  
and Sapa-Reuter

**LONDON.** — The South African flag was run up at the Savoy yesterday for the first time as President De Klerk arrived for talks with British Prime Minister John Major.

That gesture, and the red carpet rolled across Downing Street's pavement, stressed again Mr De Klerk's emergence from the cold outback.

It contrasted starkly with the fog and freezing temperatures settling on London.

Both men fitted the hour-long private fireside chat, followed by rugby at Twickenham, into frenetic schedules.

Mr Major — at whose express invitation Mr De Klerk had arrived — flew in only an hour before from New York where he addressed the UN Security Council on Friday.

Mr De Klerk's Falcon jet, forced to circle Heathrow Airport at the same time because of poor visibility, took off again for Switzerland at 7am today.

Embassy staff had already put a helicopter on standby when they feared the presidential flight might be diverted to Bournemouth.

Mr De Klerk left immediately for the Savoy for tea with old friends — Margaret and Sir Denis Thatcher.

South Africa, which took a backseat on the British agenda after Mrs Thatcher's heady days, is coming to the fore again.

Mr Major is clearly eager to appraise himself both on the progress of Codesa and thoughts uppermost in Mr De Klerk's mind.

These, according to aides, focus on the economy and a desire to involve Britain in efforts to re-stimulate foreign investment.

Sanctions — quietly lifted by the European Community last Monday — might be past, with only US sanctions and UN arms and oil embargos still to go.

But the world still awaits persuasion that South Africa is a "safe" bet, especially in a week in which it was found that only one in 20 business fund managers here feel the time is right to invest in the country.

It was a sign of the times that a lonely but still vocal anti-apartheid group of 15 were outnumbered by the police sent to guard them.

Mr De Klerk, whose accommodation previously has been at hotels chosen more for security rather than location, found himself in a suite 100 metres from his embassy.

The Anti-Apartheid Movement was also in force at Twickenham, where Mr De Klerk lunched with Mr Major and Irish Prime Minister Mary Robinson, before watching the England-Ireland match from the royal box.

Protesters outside the grounds handed a letter to the Rugby Football Union.



□ **PROTEST:** A policeman watches demonstrators protesting outside Downing Street where President De Klerk met Mr John Major.

AAM executive secretary Mike Terry said: "We don't object to official talks between Mr De Klerk and Mr Major but this kind of friendly socialising is a silly move on Mr Major's part, especially when it involves rugby, one sport in South Africa which has yet to become nonracial."

During yesterday's 50-minute meeting at Downing Street, Mr De Klerk told Mr Major of his determination to forge ahead with

reforms leading to a nonracial democracy.

A British official said Mr De Klerk briefed Mr Major on progress in integrating sports in South Africa, saying he was "committed to full integration of rugby in the same way as cricket".

"He said that by late March the unification of control of rugby would be formally consecrated," the official said.

Arriving at Heathrow earlier, Mr De Klerk told reporters the reform process was "alive and well and everything is going according to plan".

Mr De Klerk was making a six-nation European tour including visits to Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland — his first visit to former Soviet bloc countries.

He is to spend tomorrow and Tuesday in Paris.



# 'Secret talks with jailed Mandela'

## Political Staff

FORMER National Intelligence head Dr Niel Barnard has disclosed that secret talks between ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela and government officials began in May 1988, nearly two years before he was released from jail.

In a Nationalist press interview, Dr Barnard said the government had at that stage given permission for the talks to ascertain whether Mr Mandela

could play a role in bringing about a political settlement.

Four officials were assigned to have talks with him. They were Mr Fanie van der Merwe of the Department of Constitutional Affairs, General Willie Willemse, the head of prisons, Mr Mike Louw of the NIS and Dr Barnard.

From May 1988 there were long talks, first in Pollsmoor Prison and then at Victor Verster.

Mr Mandela consistently said that he personally was not a communist but that certain elements of the communist ideology attracted him. He also pointed out that when the ANC started its struggle the Communist Party had offered its help and it had since then co-operated closely with him.

Mr Mandela stood for one undivided country where there would be no place for autonomous states. He had under-

standing though for the existence of different groups and a constitutional dispensation that made provision for their fears.

Mr Mandela had on a number of occasions asked to see the then president Mr P W Botha. For a long time Mr Botha struggled with the question of whether he should grant this.

When Mr Botha agreed to a meeting, Mr Mandela was brought to Tuynhuys in great secrecy.

## Four commuters die in grenade explosion on train

### The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Three commuters died and a fourth was found dead next to a railway line at Kwesini Station, near Katlehong.

According to a police spokesman, the train driver said he heard a loud noise at 6.10 last night. When he stopped the train it was discovered that a grenade had exploded in a carriage.

The man found next to the railway line may have jumped off the moving train to escape the blast.

Police said today the four all had bullet and shrapnel wounds.

Two other men were admitted to hospital in a serious condition.

● Sapa reports from Maritzburg that six people, including a one-year-old child, were killed in an ambush at Tugela Ferry, near Greytown.

A police spokesman said a family of eight were travelling in a bakkie from one kraal to another when they were gunned down. Police found 27 spent AK 47 spent cartridges and several 9mm cartridges at the scene.

The driver was identified as Mr Bhekeshewe Mchunu who owned a fleet of minibus taxis in Durban.

The injured were taken to the Church of Scotland Hospital.

## ANC softens on nationalisation

### TOS WENTZEL Political Staff

THE African National Congress is to consider an investment code to reassure potential investors, says its president Mr Nelson Mandela.

But he has made it clear the ANC has not completely broken with the idea of nationalisation.

Addressing the President 100 Club in Cape Town Mr Mandela again pointed out he had come across strong opposition to nationalisation from top businessmen on his recent visit to Europe.

The businessmen had made it clear the country would not attract foreign investment if nationalisation continued to hang over investors.

"We have to create a climate suitable for investment. Investors must know they can have a safe return on their investments and can repatriate investments and profits.

"We have to consider our attitude to nationalisation because there can be no doubt it has become a very unpopular concept.

"The difficulty for a leader is to take society from one point to another. We have been telling our people our solution is nationalisation. If now we have got a different perception it is going to be quite a difficult task taking them from one point to another.

"If, however, this is the best way of addressing the problems of our community that issue has to be faced."

The possibility of such an investment code would be considered at a policy conference of the ANC leadership. His report on his overseas trip would be placed before the power structure of the movement.

Mr Mandela also indicated the ANC would not abandon nationalisation or some state intervention completely. Nationalisation remained a basic policy of the ANC.



WEEKEND ARGUS, FEBRUARY 1, 1992

tarianism (for example, if the ANC won 80 percent of the vote in the election for the transitional government, it would wield 80 percent of the power), would be ruled out.

It seems probable that voters would elect representatives to a national assembly (one-person-one-vote via proportional representation), which would develop into a permanent house. They would also elect delegates to a temporary "senate" — which would hold final power in the transitional government — and which was weighted to ensure the representation of minorities. The rotating presidency would be filled from this house. For the purposes of the transitional government election, the country would probably be divided up, as a temporary measure, into many small geographical regions. Based on the number of voters in each, the number of representatives would be calculated.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha this week advocated a transitional bicameral parliament "with one house elected, one-person-one-vote, on proportional representation, and the other on a regional basis. A party (in this house) with more than a certain number of votes will be entitled to send the same number of representatives as other parties."

The question is whether such an arrangement will satisfy the ANC — this will decide how soon agreement can be reached in Codesa. The ANC has not yet set out a detailed proposal for interim government, but an obvious difference in its percep-

tion is that it has appeared to favour an appointed interim structure, ruling by decree. The government's concession to the principle of shared transitional rule might, however, be good enough to tempt the ANC into it.

It is up to the politicians, therefore, to come up timeously with an agreed package. For as long as they haggle at step one, the process cannot move forward substantively. It is thought likely that this agreement could be achieved by June. Codesa 2 would meanwhile have taken place, simply providing progress reports.

Assuming that agreement is forthcoming by mid-year, the hurdle at step two could then be confronted — and here the pace of change would lie in the hands of the people, not the politicians. The people would be asked to endorse or reject the transitional government package.

It seems certain that a referendum would be held — possibly in September — in which votes would be counted both universally (i.e. non-racially), and also in terms of the four existing racial categories.

The ANC has loudly opposed any form of "white veto", but it is now thought increasingly likely that the organisation will quietly soften its stance on this. The government fully expects the support of the international community on the question of keeping its promise to white voters.

But even if the ANC agrees to this formula, there is the very real possibility of a "no" vote from whites. Ministers

have conceded that the NP would be "in trouble" if this happened, but Dr Viljoen's deputy, Dr Tertius Delpoort, made it clear this week that a defeat in a referendum would provoke a "political dilemma" rather than a "constitutional crisis".

What this means is that the government would not face a structural imperative to resign — but it would face a most acute political problem. For this reason, President De Klerk must keep his options open until the last minute.

His commitment to white voters is to "consult" them on the proposed constitutional change.

A great deal therefore hinges on the result of the white referendum.

If it is a positive result, however, the way would be clear for the implementation of the transitional government. In the best scenario, parliament could probably reconvene in November to pass the enabling legislation.

Some time would be required to implement the dismemberment of the existing structures, and to make arrangements for the country's first all-inclusive elections. Nevertheless, it would be possible to hold the elections early in 1993, and have a new government functioning thereafter.

The magnitude of change contained in this scenario is breathtaking. It is almost unre-

cognisable from earlier NP formulations, and has therefore caused some suspicious observers to ask the question: Has the government really accepted the necessity for joint interim rule, or is it devising a scheme whereby it can retain ultimate power without being seen to do so?

Senior NP politicians, gathered in Cape Town, have been at pains to convince critics that the former is the case. Prominent among these was Dr Van der Merwe:

"Some time ago we talked of bringing black people in (to the existing parliament)," he told journalists. "This has mellowed. Because it is clear now that it is no use bringing in black people, just because they are black, if they are cut off from their power bases."

"We have changed our position on an interim government, on a formula for transition. Non-responsible government is no good."

He went further: "The whole idea of a transitional government is that the NP would be a partner in government, but would not be that government. We can discuss this much more concretely once the NP proposals are on the table."

"But we are dispelling the notion that the NP is trying to cling on to power at all costs. We are prepared to take our chances with the electorate of South Africa."

## Argus 'become biased'

THE Argus was once my favourite newspaper, but how it has become so biased. It's really so unfair that the only English papers in Cape Town have gone so controversial.

You know how many people you are hurting? I used to buy the Argus and the Cape Times every day, but now only once a week.

The reason is that it seems that everything you publish favours the ANC. Why?

In the Weekend Argus of January 25, you praised ANC supporters, mentioning, good crowd, even the way some dressed.

But worse of all, under the heading: "All private forces must be dealt with", you referred to Inkatha, AWB, PAC, but you failed to mention Umkonto we Sizwe.

Your paper is not fair any more.

Parow

MRS DU PONT







## \*Regionalism: ANC's shift 'victory for SA'

THE National Party welcomed the ANC's shift in favour of strong regional government as a "victory for South Africa". The party's secretary general, Dr Stofel van der Merwe was reacting to a statement by his ANC counterpart, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa yesterday that there was nothing wrong with having strong regional government for areas such as Transkei and Natal.



Cyril Ramaphosa

Mr Ramaphosa had said in answer to questioning at a breakfast briefing of the foreign media that strong regional government brought government closer to the people and that there was nothing wrong with it as long as it was not being proposed in order to establish some form of ethnic self-determination.

The apparent shift away from the strong centralised constitutional position advocated by the movement was described by Dr Van der Merwe as "evidence of a growing together of positions".

The shift brings the ANC closer to the federalist line adopted by the NP and Democratic Party in their constitutional proposals.

This did not mean, however, that the ANC had adopted NP policy, Dr van der Merwe said. It did show flexibility and was a most productive shift in the negotiation process.

"We are not crowing or regarding it as a victory for the National Party," he said. "It is a victory for the people of South Africa if any of the parties take a more flexible rather than a more rigid position on any of the issues." — Sapa.

## Rethink on press curbs

### Political Staff

LAWS that restricted press freedom were currently under review by the government, said Minister of Home Affairs Gene Louw today.

The Newspaper Press Union had been asked to study laws affecting the press and findings had been sent to government departments to act on them or not.

He said the government was committed to ensure the free flow of information, a free press and also a free, independent and impartial broadcasting organisation.

## Nat Party's plea to mineworkers

THE NP congratulated Mr Kgalema Mothlante on his appointment as secretary-general of the National Union of Mineworkers and appealed to the union "not to sacrifice its solid achievements" in political posturing.

Mr Tjaart Kruger, head of the NP study group on manpower, urged the NUM and employers to "get together and employ creative means to resolve the problem for the benefit of the industry as a whole". — Sapa.

## \*Euro sanctions move seen as blow for ANC

### Political Staff

THE European Community's abandonment of sanctions against South Africa is being viewed in government circles as further evidence that the African National Congress and its allies are fast losing the sanctions battle.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha today welcomed the lifting by the EC of its remaining sanctions on gold coins, iron and steel.

"It is another step in the crumbling of sanctions," he said.

President De Klerk expressed regret in opening parliament on Friday that elements in South Africa were still persisting in delaying the normalisation of the country's international relations.

"Those who are doing so are swimming against the tide," he said. "In spite of a temporary success here and there, they are rapidly losing the grip they once had on the foreign policies of many countries towards South Africa."

Mr De Klerk said the end to the country's isolation had become irreversible.

Mr Colin Eglin, MP, Democratic Party spokesman on foreign affairs, said the EC decision was good news for the South African economy. "It will not solve the problem overnight but it is a shot in the arm for our overseas trade and should give a boost to internal investor confidence."

He said it would also help create jobs for the millions of unemployed in South Africa.

## \*'Not clever enough?'

THE Leader of the Democratic Party, Dr Zach de Beer, said he was not sure he was clever enough to understand what President De Klerk was proposing with regard to a transitional government.

Speaking yesterday in the debate on the State President's address at the opening of parliament, he said the most interesting part of the speech was where he referred to the inclusion of blacks in parliament during the transition phase and therefore before the new constitution came into operation.

"Naturally we have no problem in principle: we have been calling for universal voting rights in this parliament for years.

"But we do not understand very well what he has in mind."

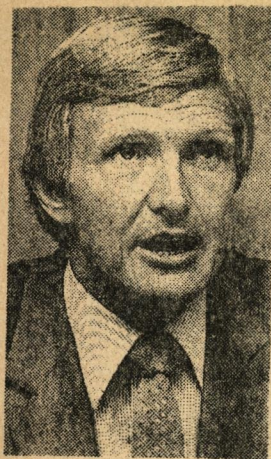
The English version of the State President's speech contained the fascinating idea that the whole population should be represented in parliament in "an equitable manner". — Sapa.

## Government 'playing games'

EVERY right-thinking person could see the government had a double agenda and was playing games, Mr C J Leander (LP, Daljosaphat) said in Parliament yesterday. The bitter truth and, past sins of the NP were being re-wrapped and baked with nice words. — Sapa.

How is not it into practice?





Dr Dawie de Villiers

# Interim rule: 'Codesa agreed'

ESTHER WAUGH, Political Staff

THERE is general agreement on the need for an interim government among Codesa participants, says National Party negotiator and Minister of Economic Co-ordination Dr Dawie de Villiers.

Several good reasons existed for an interim government, he told a National Party media briefing at a meeting of the five Codesa working committees.

The present government was not fully representative of all South Africans and therefore it lacked credibility.

An interim government was needed to promote stability, Dr De Villiers said.

The NP and Labour Party yesterday submitted their constitutional principles to the working group charged with the matter.

The NP constitutional proposals did not differ from those unveiled at the NP federal congress last year.

The LP placed strong emphasis on constitutionally entrenched regional authorities.

It proposed that the constitution should reflect a process of constitution-making beginning simultaneously from the national and regional levels of government.

The geographical demarcation of the regions should be based on demographic, economical and political considerations and the existing nine development regions could be used as the basis for negotiation.

"The central government must not have the power unilaterally to revoke or undermine the exercise of political power at a regional level. A formula will have to be devised for the equitable financing of all regions and the rehabilitation of economically weak ones," the LP said.

The working group on constitutional principles yesterday debated regionalism and federalism and the discussion will be continued at its meeting on Monday.

Dr De Villiers said the NP did not commit itself to federalism per se but its proposals contained el-

ements of federalism, and a constitution appropriate for the country's circumstances should be developed.

The NP wanted the powers and functions of regions entrenched in the constitution.

On the other hand, in the ANC submission to the working group, it said: "Within the context of an undivided South Africa, government will function at national, regional and local levels; the appropriate division and decentralisation shall be such as to encourage non-racialism, democratic participation and administration at all levels."

The SACP proposed at last week's meeting of one of the sub-committees of the working group dealing with the creation of a free political climate that the release of political prisoners should be discussed at Codesa.

The IFP yesterday proposed that the release of all political prisoners, and not only those allegedly held by the government, should be debated by Codesa.

The IFP said the principle of general amnesty was desirable but it recognised that common criminals could be released along with political prisoners under such an amnesty.

It also submitted a letter by a former ANC prisoner, Mr Patrick Hlongwane, to the working group in which it claimed that the organisation was still holding prisoners in Uganda and Tanzania.

"The IFP believes that all political prisoners, including those allegedly held by the ANC, must be released," it said.

The IFP proposed that a sub-committee be appointed to hear evidence from former ANC prisoners to determine whether the ANC was still holding prisoners.

"The ANC and the South African government must be seen to have clean hands on this matter," the IFP said.

The ANC released 32 prisoners last year and said it was no longer detaining any prisoners.

The working group postponed the issue until after a scheduled bilateral meeting between the ANC and government was held next week.

## Doubts over ANC language proposal — Viljoen

Political Staff

THE government has expressed reservations about an ANC proposal that no official languages should be defined in the constitution.

A recent report by the ANC's language commission recommended that instead the State should designate regional languages for official, administrative and judicial use.

Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen said yesterday the government was opposed to a change in the status of English and Afrikaans.

However, he welcomed the "high premium the ANC put on the importance and status of all languages and the desirability of multi-linguism".

But he said the government had reservations about the practicality of the ANC proposal.

"The designation of a language or languages, whether on national or regional basis, is an extremely sensitive matter.

"It could not be left to 'the State' or 'the government' without constitutional stipulations on how this should be done.

"The practical functioning of State administration also requires the existence of national official languages," Dr Viljoen said.

## Makwetu vow on Goldstone evidence

PETER FABRICIUS and MICHAEL MORRIS, Political Staff

PAC leader Mr Clarence Makwetu vowed today that he would go to prison rather than appear before the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry into political violence to answer questions about the PAC military wing, Apla's campaign to kill policemen.

At a press briefing today, Mr Makwetu rejected a second appeal from Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, chairman of the commission, contained in a statement issued yesterday.

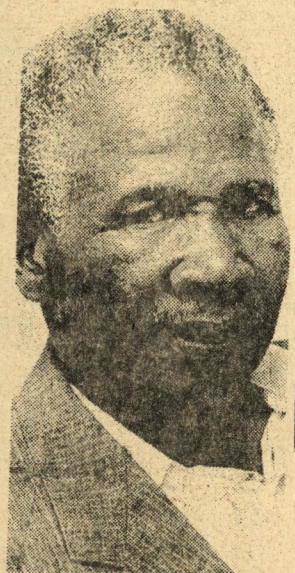
"I reject the invitation to the Goldstone Inquiry. If coerced by way of an order, I will refuse to attend.

"If I am threatened with imprisonment because of my actions, my answer must be that I have suffered many years in prison for my beliefs."

He said it was clear that the principal perpetrators of violence had not been brought to book and asked

whether Mr Justice Goldstone planned to summon the "Commander-in-Chief of the SADF, Mr De Klerk, to answer widespread allegations that his army is engaged in the most notorious activities against my people".

He asked whether Mr De Klerk would be summoned to answer for not making full public disclosures of the covert activities of about 40 state-financed destabilising agencies, whether the Commissioner of Police would be summoned to explain the SAP's possible involvement in train massacres on the Reef, whether the presidents of principal political parties in violence were being invited to explain why violence continued to rage despite their signing of the peace accord, and whether AWB leader Eugene Terre-Blanche would testify on his "One Boer, one roer" movement.



Mr Clarence Makwetu