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SOWETAN, Friday

# COMMENT

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# Shocking Carnage

THE CARNAGE in Duduza, with some of the most horrifying pictures of torn flesh and broken bodies we have had the misfortune to see (we did not publish them lest we offend the public) should bring shock and dismay to all right thinking people.

As is usual in such cases there are too many curious and plain surprising elements in what some people call an incredible fiasco. The trouble is to prove who was actually behind the incredible mess.

The use of hand grenades (whether they were made in Russia or Timbuctoo just does not impress us; the subsequent of even simultaneous pounce on homes of political activists who are fighting the system; the dastardly attack on Bishop Simeon Nkoane, by some men; the presence of strange people who have been seen, even prior to this incident in East Rand townships; the blowing up of bodies in one place; and at a place far removed from the target or so-called target areas.

The situation simply bristles with imponderables and some of us have the feeling we are entering the most critical and most dangerous part of the struggle of the people. This is when there is the backlash from rightwing elements, who are not only cruel men, but also badly frightened racists.

We have knowledge of the type of carnage that went on in Zimbabwe when the struggle there reached this particular stage. We have knowledge of some of the terrible things that happened in Namibia. It is almost on the cards that similar things will happen in black townships.

You can build a solid case against the bland assertion that the people who had their arms blown off were "terrorists". We are amazed at the simplicity. There has hardly been an investigation except for weapons made in Russia found on the scene that declares this an ANC plot.

As for the usual story trotted out that weapons found after a particular fight or attack are from Russia or Timbuktoo, that leaves us just as highly suspicious.

It may well be that the ANC and other black organisations get their weapons from Russia, but that organisation is not that stupid, that it would leave Russian hardware lying all over the place as evidence. We are also surprised that "terrorists" should blow themselves up so easily.

This newspaper tries, as far as is possible, to reflect the feelings of the black community. There are too many people asking too many questions about just what happened in Duduza and in KwaThema the other day. The sooner these mysteries are cleared the better we will feel.

This foreboding that there might be a backlash against political activists is ugly. People will be getting even more desperate than they are now. The violence that we have been deploring all along, will really get out of hand.

#### -Dozens of UDF members apply to join PFP as Inkatha also moves closer



**DHLOMO** 



BUTHELEZI



### OR TAKE-O

#### By DAVID BREIER, Political Correspondent

THE Progressive Federal Party this week seemed set to become a major political force in the country as applications for membership came in from United Democratic Front supporters and the giant Inkatha movement moved closer to the PFP and further away from the Government.

According to Dr Alex Boraine, dozens of United Democratic Front members have applied to join the Progressive Federal Party within days of the party launching its campaign to recruit all races.

Dr Boraine who is chairman of the national committee directing the PFP's recruiting campaign, said applications had been received from UDF affiliates in the Western Cape and Natal.

This follows the repeal of the Prohibition of Political Interference Act by Parliament this week and the simultaneous launch by the PFP of a vigorous campaign to recruit all races.

Dr Boraine disclosed that the first UDF applications for membership were from affiliates which wanted to join as a group. But as the PFP accepted only applications from individuals at this stage, dozens of UDF supporters had filled in application forms to join the PFP, he said.

However a spokesman for the UDF in the Western Cape scoffed at Dr Boraine's claim. "I find it difficult to believe," she said, discounting any possibility of widespread defections to the

The PFP and the UDF could be heading for a collision course as the PFP becomes actively involved in coloured, Indian and black politics.

A UDF spokesman has warned the PFP that if it stands for election in the coloured or Indian Houses of Parliament or black councils, the UDF would mete out the same treatment to the PFP as it gave the Labour Party and Indian parties in last year's stormy elections.

The PFP leader, Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, reacted this week to possible antagonism from the UDF to his party's new campaign, by saying: "We cannot expect everybody will like the PFP.
"We appreciate there will be possible

conflict with other groups who do not share our ideals. We are not spending time finding out how many people do not like what we are doing. We are

rather looking how many like it."
The PFP's federal congress in August will make the final decision on whether the PFP is to contest black, coloured and Indian elections when they occur.

Meanwhile, Inkatha, which boasts a paid-up membership of one million, has cemented its already cordial relation-ships with the PFP.

In a major snub to President PW Botha and the Government, the Kwa-Zulu Legislative Assembly this week resolved to ask Mr Botha to defer his visit to KwaZulu due to be made later this year, until there were better prospects for reaching a consensus on a shared future for all South Africans.

This came within days of a meeting between Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu and head of Inkatha, with Dr van Zyl Slabbert.

The two leaders agreed there must be a Government declaration of intent on power-sharing before negotiations on new constitutional models could begin.

Both parties believe in the need for a national convention to negotiate a new system based on a single constitution. one citizenship for all, and one franchise for all.

By contrast, Chief Buthelezi said this week that Mr Botha showed no signs of being prepared to negotiate outside the "four corners of apartheid" or of discussing the Buthelezi Commission's plans for Natal/KwaZulu. In fact, the Government had advanced no further since Mr Owen Horwood, the former National Party leader in Natal, rejected the plan

Analysing this week's trends, Inkatha's general secretary, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, said a stalemate with the Government had been reached.

"We cannot really agree on anything yet, but we have left the door open.

Mr Botha's visit had been deferred to "give him time to think this over and come up with something," he said.

At the same time he predicted there would be greater sharing of political strategies with the PFP.

# In closing, Mr Louw said that his whole

"It would be cheaper

and better to allow spon-

taneous location of in-

dustry, which would then

lead predominantly to

existing industrial com-

"Those left to work the

land should then become

free-hold commercial

farms," he said.

plexes.

#### Witness Reporter

THE real challenge for town and regional planners and policy makers is not to debate over how things should be, but rather to devise strategies for getting there.

Mr Leon Louw, director of the Free Market Association, guest speaker at the Natal branch of the Institute of Town and Regional Planners' annual conference at Shongweni on Wednesday night, said he dis-counted the common problems facing Kwa-Zulu such as lack of capital, infrastructure, education and training as these were not problems in a sense but constraints on development.

"The biggest problems facing KwaZulu are under-development, unemployment, dependance on agriculture as a means of providing a living, the fragmentation of the country and political problems in South problems Africa," he said.

The only solutions to these problems would be to scrap influx control, as well as the many other contraints on job seeking such as obstacles to selfemployement licence laws and labour market regulations with its apprenticeships and minimum wage laws.

#### 'Fragmentation'

Speaking on fragmen-tation he said: "Fragmentation is a problem if one tries to have a unitary system.

"But, on the other hand, fragmentation becomes a virtue when one decentralises power, for example the cantons in Switzerland.

"South Africa must realise that unity is not strength but diversity is."

He said political prob-lems could be solved "Depolitise life by deregulation and privatisation.

"For example if black transport and housing was privatised, we would not have the current wave of unrest."

The agricultural problem could be solved by regarding urbanisation and the centralisation of industry as a virtue.

strategy could not be implemented over night: "Not because it should not, but because of socalled 'political reality'
— which means vested "It is wrong to try and take industry to the interest will obstruct the people because it is recent reforms. costly and ineffective.

"Accordingly, the real challenge for planners and policy makers is not debate.

"Capital infrastrucand education ture therefore do not become problems but opportunities which would be forthcoming as a result of these recommended changes," he said.

## **FARMING FRIDAY**

Edited by GLYN WILLIAMS

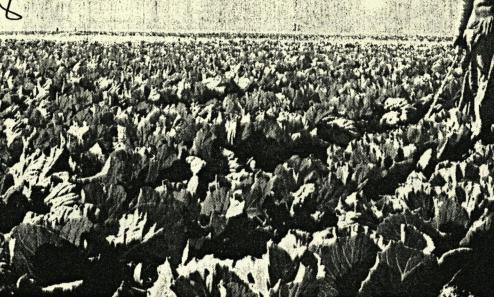
Ncora irrigation scheme situated mid-way between Umtata and Queenstown can be rated as a going concern even though development has just passed the halfway stage.

From the air the fields of Ncora are as a multicoloured patchwork of various shapes and sizes. Many shades of green crops and pastures blended with the soft yellow of the drying maize contrast sharply with the craggy backdrop of the Tsomo mountains on the one side and the dry dusty undulating veld on the other.

The otherwise desolate landscape with its haphazard dryland maize production is confirmation that this multi-faceted irrigation scheme is an oasis of hope in this densely populated, poverty stricken backwater of Western Transkei.

In the surrounding region erosion has scarred the gently sloping hillsides, and periodic dust and rain storms remove, in increasing amounts, precious topsoil.

Ncora irrigation scheme is a project of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry. The consultants, Loxton, Venn and Associates and the managing agents, Inter-Science Transkei Services, respectively Ncora is hope



plan and manage the scheme in close collaboration with the department.

Ncora is the largest scheme for smallholders in Southern Africa and annual sales in excess of eight million rand bear witness to the fact that what was an unproductive resource in the 70s

is now benefiting the government and people of Transkei.

The Scheme has created many jobs for the local community. There are more than 1 600 self-supporting small scale farmers on irrigated plots; 150 Transkeians are in full time employment, and more than 800 labourers work on the scheme every day.

The expansion of the scheme has brought with it

easily quantifiable. The satisfaction of family food requirements, coupled with job creation and the consequent increase in disposable income is having a ripple effect on surrounding community. Traders and entrepreneurs, both formal and informal, have taken advantage of the opportunities presented.

Training is an indispensable part of any rural development and at Ncora an ongoing training programme, involving life skills and managerial training, continues to have a large beneficial effect on the local community.

Understanding and mutual co-operation between scheme management and the local people is probably one of the most important many social benefits not aspects of the training pro-

gramme. More than 140 participants were involved in training programmes in 1984. Enthusiasm and willingness to attend and dowell on training courses ity and almost all producmade for a high degree of in-tion is exported to Germany. volvement by participants.

the sheer productivity of the scheme in physical terms is impressive. In any one day 2 000 pockets of cabbages are sent to market and 11 000 litres of milk are produced, processed, and sold throughout Transkei.

Seasonally 1 750 tonnes of potatoes, 1350 tonnes of wheat, and 1250 tonnes of maize are produced. Two la-

140 tonnes respectively were produced and canned on site. Asparagus grown at Ncora is of the highest qual-

In addition to commercial production a small research For all the social benefits, section at Ncora undertakes valuable investigations. In 1984 trials were run to test crop cultivars and varieties, as well as fertiliser and management practices applicable to Ncora conditions for the following summer crops : dry beans, gooseberries, maize, sorghum, soyabeans, sugarbeet and sunflowers. Winter crops investigated included dry peas, potatoes and wheat. The findings established at bour-intensive crops of high Ncora will also be applicpotential earning power are able to the surrounding reasparagus and gooseberries. gion which is not served by is in the region of R400 000

services are an integral part of the plotholders production package.

Extension officers pro-vide daily advice on fertiliser application, irrigation regimes and other related cultural procedures. Continuous extension, training, and liaison with the people is an overall policy prin-

ciple of the scheme. It is anticipated that the procedures adopted will ultimately provide the Transkei with an able, self motivated core of food producers who will be able to allocate and manage the scarce resources to best advantage.

at present and will increase Comprehensive extension with subsequent development in the future.

> Vertical integration with its associated job creation is an important aspect of the economics of the scheme. The existence of dairy factory, cannery, legume packaging and a proposed mill attests to this.

> An economic cost-benefit analysis done recently resulted in a favourable internal rate of return (the rate of return on investment) of 16 per cent and confirmed apart from the social benefits that Ncora is one of the best possible areas for investment in agriculture in Transkei.