cwabe is d bail

Witness Reporter

IMBALI town councillor Mr Jerome Mncwabe and a co-acussed Mr Themba Mtshali were refused bail by a city magistrate yesterday, on the grounds that their presence in the township would intimidate witnesses.

A third accused, a 17-year-old youth, was released on R300 bail as the magistrate, Mr A. Groenewald, said that there was no prima facie case against him and the interests of justice would

be furthered if he were released.

Mr Mncwabe is charged together with Mr Mtshali and the youth with the murder of Mr Sifiso Zondi who was shot dead on December 2.

In refusing bail to Mr Mncwabe and Mr Mtshali, Mr Groenewald said that while there was evidence to show that the accused would not intimidate witnesses or not abscond, it would not be
in the interests of society, especially
the Imbali community, to release them.
Mr Groenewald said there was a

"continuous spiral of violence"

The investigating officer, Captain Upton, related two incidents in which

witnesses had been killed, and Mr Groenewald said that while this might be a small percentage, it was a "disturbing factor and must be taken into account'

Referring to the murder charge, the magistrate said it was obvious from Captain Upton's evidence that the killing was a well-planned, "mafia-style" one and from the blatant way in which it was carried out, it seemed as if the intention was to instill fear in the people in the township.

Referring to a recent Supreme Court judgment in which Mr Justice Didcott upheld a city magistrate's decision to deny bail to Mr Mlungisi Zondi on the grounds of passive intimidation, Mr Groenewald said that the circum-

stances were very similar.

Mr Groenewald said that in spite of evidence to show that Mr Zondi would stand trial and would not intimidate witnesses, it was important to note that a Supreme Court judge still found fit to keep the accused in custody.

The case was adjourned to December 28.

Inkatha and UDF meet in secret By Nicola Cunningham-Brown

INKATHA and the UDF met in secret in Durban this week amid specula-tion that stalled peace talks between the two were to be reconvened.

Sources' said another meeting was scheduled for early today to dis-cuss possible reopening of the peace accord.

They said issues which would have to be discussed were not only the ideological conflict between the two organi-sations but the root causes of the violence which were largely socio-economic.

Meanwhile Manco chairman Jan Venter said he believed a toplevel economic development conference, which was being arranged by the Durban City Council for early next year, would help to settle un-rest in the greater Dur-

ban area.

He said experts from all over the country would pool their ideas and would plan for the future.

President de Klerk and KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi met again yesterday at Botha House on the Natal South Coast, in a follow-up to a meeting in Pretoria on November 30.

In a statement the State President's office said a variety of matters of mutual concern were discussed, which includ-ed administrative as-pects as well as the violence in KwaZulu and Natal

• See Editorial Opinion

Three die in Natal unrest

Mercury Reporter

THREE men died in un-rest-related incidents in Natal during the past

24-hours, according to the official police report. One of the men was shot dead at Molweni, near Durban, and in the other incident, two men died after a group of men opened fire on a house at Mgoba, near Richmond, with a shotgun.

The house was badly

damaged.
On Wednesday, at 125 am, a grenade was thrown at a policeman's house in Guguletu, near Cape Town.

No casualties were re-ported and the damage to the house was 'not

serious'

At Imbali, outside Pietermaritzburg, petrol bombs were thrown at two homes, causing fair-ly serious damage.

Kerzner's Transkei problem

Mercury Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH— Transkei could be the Achilles heel in what ap-Achilles heel in what appears to be a move by hotel tycoon Sol Kerzner to regain the crown at the Sun International gambling empire which he left a year ago.

While Mr Kerzner was at his Cape home last night promising a statement on his future in the new year Transkel

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YEAR IN REVIEW/THE MAJOR ISSUES



inkatha members arrive for the funeral of Zakhele Nikhehil, an inkatha central committee member who died after being shot in the neck

Picture: CLINT ZASMAN

LMOST no family has been untouched by the violence of-the last three years in Natal's grief-stricken townships.

To visit these townships is to be overwhelmed by the bitterness of repeated failure to end the conflict.

To live there is a constant night-mare, in which the chase, the attack, the gunfire and death are the reality of every day and every night.

The murder-rate in the Durban townships has more than doubled each year in the last three. The total dead in 1987 was about 100, in 1988 about 230, and this week the total so far stands at 560.

In the Pietermaritzburg townships the picture is similar, and there is little doubt that more than 2 500 people have died in three years of what amounts to an unofficial civil war.

Compare this to Northern Ireland where about 2,500 people have died in 20 years of conflict.

In addition, many people have been injured, up to 20 000 homes destroyed, unknown numbers of vehieles damaged or burnt out and goods looted on an unprecedented scale.

Thousands of refugees have moved out, leaving large areas of the townships deserted, and opening the way for further looting and destruction.

The picture is one of almost devastation; and much of it occurred in 1989, declared by Inkatha as a "year of peace" for Natal townships. The ANC expressed similar hopes at the end of 1988.

It was the year in which a number of new attempts were made to halt the violence, and the year in which peace efforts came closest to success

But just as it seemed the mid-year talks between the United Democratic

In Natal's 'year of peace', more and more devastation

NATAL VIOLENCE CARMEL RICKARD

Front, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and Inkatha were poised to produce results, the peace process came to a sudden stop. Inkatha pulled out.

While the talks lasted and there were regular bulletins announcing progress, the level of violence dropped significantly - from 47 in April to nine in June. But when hopes of a peace process were dashed at the last minute, the killings soared again and have increased month by month.

The message of the statistics seems almost to be that it is better not to have peace talks, than to have talks that fail.

John Aitchison of the Centre for Adult Education at Natal University in Pietermaritzburg believes that of the four major parties involved, Cosatu has generally been the honest broker in peace attempts.

UDF members, he says, appear on the whole to be keen on peace, though they have been consistently disorganised, partly due to state pres-

Inkatha has put out a lot of rhetoric about favouring peace, but, says Aitchison, "whenever there is a need for a decision, or when it appears an agreed solution is close, Inkatha moves the goalposts."

As for the State, it locks up one of

Each time progress is being made with peace talks, the state interferes in some way, putting the talks at risk.

There have also been consistent claims that the state's policing agencies are not neutral.

Again and again cabinet ministers, government officials and senior police officers have made public statements blaming "the radicals", "the UDF" or the "UDF/ANC alliance".

Despite the outcry when it was discovered that Durban magistrates and prosecutors were given private briefings putting the blame solely on the UDF, it would seem likely this message is still being passed on behind the scenes by state officials at every opportunity.
Police behaviour, as described re-

peatedly by residents in many areas, would bear this out.

has restricted the UDF, meeting and

Just this week we saw the Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok, who



In down-town Pietermarktzburg, running street battles are increasingly common. Here a young 'comrade' narrowly escapes death from an assaliant who stabs at him - but misses

Picture: JONATHAN KAPLAN

sharing a press conference with Inka-tha's Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Cynics believe the state operates on the premise that it is cheaper to let people go on killing each other, than to deal with the underlying socioeconomic problems like housing, poverty and unemployment.

Aitchison suggests this approach allows the state to kill two birds with one stone: "For one thing it gets rid of the 'radicals'. But deep down the state is scared of Inkatha as well, and so it suits them for the Zulus to be oc-

cupied killing each other.

"This would help explain why we hear so many reports of the police sitting on hilltops watching the fighting instead of stopping it."

If this explanation of police behaviour and state action seems unreasonable, consider what would have been the response if 2 500 people had died in white Johannesburg over the last three years, shotgunned, stabbed, burnt and stoned, and if some 20 000 houses were destroyed in the suburbs by fire or stoning.

The conflict exacerbates the already serious problem of "common crime" not being adequately policed in the townships. Residents have years of

experience showing crimes commit-

ted in the townships are far less likely

to be solved than in the white areas. It is even more unusual for "political crimes" to be solved. Perhaps it is not surprising then that so many people are resorting to violence and retaliation: what other response is there if the police are not catching criminals and if the courts are not sending them

In the townships where the main road is often the dividing line between warring groups, the horror stories of constant murders and attacks on one side of the road are the mirror image of those told on the other.

Some political analysts believe the root of the problem is the fact that Inkatha is losing ground and is trying desperately to hold on.

However, without elections it is difficult to verify the size of either side's support. That is why attendance at rallies becomes a crucial issue.

The future looks even more bleak than the past.

Over the next month, if past figures are anything to go by, the death rate will continue to climb as workers are available during the holidays for the full-time work of revenge killings. It is possible the heavy police presente in the northern townships will act as something of a brake on the fighting, but so far there are few signs of suc-

This week there were rumours that groups sharing the black consciousness ideology of the restricted Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo), had begun recruiting in Inanda, currently the area around Durban worst hit by the violence.

If this is true, it would introduce a new element and could result in even more splits and conflict than before

Of more concern however, all the signs indicate 1990 will be the year the killings spread to the rural areas between and around Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

Democratic Party regional director for the Durban and coastal area, Roy Ainslie, said the urban townships are virtually "tied up".

'Allegiances have been formed and most areas are committed one way or

"Now the rural and peri-urban areas are up for grabs and the competition is beginning to move out into these places."

The formation of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa), and its growth in Natal have presented local chiefs with a choice. They have to decide which is more costly: to align themselves with Inkatha or with Contralesa (and by implication the Mass Democratic Movement).

Ainslie says previous experience has shown that conflict in the rural ar eas spreads like wildfire. Once begut it will be extremely difficult to moni tor and to report and even more diffi cult than in the urban townships to

Praise for \downarrow FW de Klerk

FW de Klerk should be praised and honoured for what he has done within the short period of time since he has held the reins. He has done what previous state presidents were afraid to do; ducking and diving with shadow boxing tactics

We thank him for releasing our leaders who have spent more than 26 years not only behind bars but their entire lives waiting for a new day; because the struggle did not begin and end with 26 years. It goes far beyond that when the pages of history were turned into bitterness; when the Union of South Africa was formed.

These guys are our true leaders, they never accepted being used for white intentions. When I turn the pages of South African history, I take note that President FW de Klerk stands head and shoulders above the rest of his predecessors.

But there is still a lot of cleaning to be done; such as the returning of the so-called homeland states.

It is high time that our counterparts across the barrier lines stood up and produced a oneness of sound reasoning and built up a new nonracial, unitary South Africa.

We must all fight apartheid. Let there be protection and security for all, not reservation. Let evey person in this country be proud of being South African. Let the doors and privileges be opened to all.

LEN MORGAN

Let there be peace in our land

ALLOW me to express my view on these senseless killings which are happening at Imbali, Mpumalanga, Inanda, Mtuzuma and kwaMashu.

Just what exactly is wrong with us Africans? Instead of facing "the enemy" we keep on killing each other

Even "the enemy" is now laughing at us. One day I was at Market Square and I wanted to relieve myself and I used the toilets next to the traffic offices near the bus rank for whites, and guess was I was inside the door.

Big writing was on the door and it read thus: "Blacks are fools, they know only to kill each other"! This writing hurt me all the way home.

Please ma Afrika amahle let there be peace in

our land.

When I say let's face "the enemy" I don't mean we must fight him because there's one thing for sure we will never, ever conquer him. Families at Inanda and Mtuzuma have fled their homes because of these killings. What hurts more is that most of the killers know little or nothing at all about politics.

Recently I was in Malawi to visit a friend with whom I studied at Fort Hare university. Almost the whole neighbourhood came and they asked me many

questions, including:

1. Just why exactly are you killing each other in South Africa.

2. How many have been brought to book for these kil-

lings?
3. Who is really responsible for this black on black confrontation?

Obviously there were no answers to these questions. Their messsge to the whole of South Africa was "Stop killing each other. Education is the key to the future becuase one day you will be free, so prepare vourself for that time."

MARK, Edendale

Unhappy about council system

ALMOST if not all the people in Imbali own their dwellings. They possess title deeds or deeds of grant over them. Even the Department of Development Aid cannot dictate to them with whom to stay.

They can stay with whites if they like. So who are the councillors to dictate to them? I know someone who works for the DDA and I know that the figures of those who did vote for them during the recent election show that Imbali residents do not want these

Concerning these wards with councillors who were not opposed, the truth is that people simply say they did not have the time to oppose people they did not recognise. People do not favour the council struc-

Lastly I would like to remind Mr David Ntombela that things are bad in his area and it is time he attended to them and leave Imbali matters alone.

ZABA KHUMALO, Plessislaer

by Nomusa Cembi

"IF I was someone who takes liqour, I would have done so when I heard of my unbanning."

These were the words of Dr Simon Gaubule. who was banned under emergency regulations for 21 months, when he received a letter at the beginning of December advising him of his unbanning.

Dr Gqubule - a Methodist church minister and principal of John Wesley College at the Federal Theological Seminary in Edendale is one of 17 people who were banned on February 24 last year. Others included Mr Archie Gumede and Mrs Albertina Sisulu.

Dr Gqubule is the second of the 17 to be unbanned. The first was Mrs Sisulu who was unbanned just after the release of her husband. Walter.

He could not be quoted by the media, could not write letters for publication to the press, could not leave his house between 6pm and 5am and had to report to police when leaving the magisterial district of Pietermaritzburg.

Dr Gqubule said that the life he had led for the last 21 months was tantamount to being in prison.

"Feeling like you are being followed does not provide a sense of being secure You do not feel safe at all.

"I could not take my family to hospital if they got sick after 6pm. One time one of my students had to be rushed to hospital but I could not help him as it was after 6pm, Dr Gqubule unbanned after 21 months



Dr Simon Gqubule and his wife Miriam

although I had a car. I had to rush around asking for people to take him to hospital.

"If my daughter Phumla, who is at varsity, stayed at home until after 6pm I could not take her to varsity.

"But the worst blow was when I could not attend my son's graduation at Aberdeen University in Scotland in July last year. I did not like it at all but could do nothing

about it as I was refused permission to go there."

Dr Gqubule said he did not think bannings served any purpose.

"Instead they serve to politicise the family of the banned person. I know of a family which was not politically active until one member was banned. It made the family ask questions, thus making them more politically aware."

Dr Gqubule spoke of another incident when he had to report to police eight times in one day in order to attend a church conference in Delmas. "I had to report to Alexandra police station just before I left, then at Louis Botha airport and Jan Smuts airport on my arrival and departure. the local police station in Delmas on my arrival and departure, and again the Alexandra

police station in Pietermaritzburg on my arri-

Dr Gqubule said during the 21 months he recieved a lot of support from his wife. Miriam. son and two daughters.

"I felt very encouraged when my son said 'You stood by us when we were in detention we are now going to stand by you." All his children

had once been in detention.

He does not know why he was banned as, according to him, he had not done anything wrong. The only encounters he had had with the police before had been in connection with his children.

Born in the Eastern Cape in February, 1928, he did not come from a highly religious family although they church members. He studied at Heraldtown Missionary Institution

where received his senior certificate and teaching qualification, but in 1951 he received a call to take up ministry.

As a church minister he spend most of his time in an educational environment that required him to attend Fort Hare. Rhodes and Edinburgh universities and colleges as far as Geneva and Birmingham, UK.

He was elected president of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa in 1981. Although he is not a full time minister in the church, his work as principal of the John Wesley College is part of God's work, he

Molweni chief gunned down outside his kraal

Witness Reporter

GUNMEN attacked and killed a Mol-weni chief outside his kraal, police said yesterday.

Captain Coert Marais said that Chief Mbambo (60) of Molweni, near Hill-crest, died shortly after he was hit by shotgun fire at 5 am on Tuesday. He had just walked out of his kraal when

the assailants gunned him down. His death came shortly before a combined plea from Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi for an end to the violence.

A 23-year-old man, Mr Msayinelwa Dhlamini, who lives in the same kraal as Chief Mbambo, was wounded.

Captain Marais said a small calibre firearm had been used to shoot Mr Dhlamini. He was taken to King Edward Hospital in Durban where his condition is said to be "satisfactory

Three other men were killed and three injured in unrest-related incidents in the Transvaal and Natal in the 24-hour period ending on Tuesday night, according to the official police unrest report.

Two black men were killed at Mgoba in Natal when a group of men opened fire at a home with a shotgun. In a clash between strikers and non-strikers at Tembisa, East Rand, one man was killed and three seriously injured.

'Prince shooting': witnesses subpoenaed

Witness Reporter

POLICE yesterday subpoenaed two witnesses to the murder of Prince "Hlele" Makhaye to make statements before a Hammarsdale magistrate concerning the shooting of the youth.

Prince was fatally shot in the stomach outside Ingede Higher Primary School in Mpumalanga on Thursday, November 30. According to a teacher, his friends, and family, Prince was waiting with other children to collect his end of year school report.

Two of his friends made statements to the KwaZulu Police.

Police 'reluctant' to attend inquest

Witness Reporter

SENIOR police officers, impli-cated in claims of a police hit squad, showed a "discernable reluctance" to give evidence to a Durban inquest, counsel for the families of four dead youths claimed yesterday.

Mr Guido Penzhorn was commenting on the fact that the three officers did not appear in court despite being officially requested to do so.

Counsel for the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Gideon Lotz SC, strongly denied there was any reluctance on the part of the three to appear in court

Each day this week, the court has heard a different reason for the non-appearance of Brigadier Willem Schoon, Major Eugene de Kock and Lieutenant

Paul van Dyk.

On Monday the prosecutor said they could not be "tracked down". They were on "voluntary suspension" and did not have to leave their addresses.

However, the magistrate authorised subpoenas to be issued.

On Tuesday the court was told they would not appear the following day because of "time

Yesterday the court was told their non-appearance was due to a "misunderstanding"

Mr Lotz, who was himself not at court on Monday and Tuesday, told the court yesterday he had been given to understand that the case was not going to proceed this week.

Yesterday Mr Penzhorn read out a letter written by the attorney acting for the families. Mr Bheka Shezi, to Natal's Attorney-General asking for the A-G's help in securing the attendance of the police.

He said that in the light of their absence despite a police "departmental directive" to attend, the only inference was that they were "playing fast and loose with the court".

The magistrate, Mr Ben Olivier, has now ordered that the three officers, as well as three "turned" ANC members, be subpoenaed to appear from January 24 to 31 next year.

The inquest follows an incident in which police opened

dent in which police opened fire on a group of youths in June 1986, killing four.

Inquest into death of policeman

Witness Reporter AN inquest is to be held into the death of a Kwa-Zulu policeman, Special Constable Thembinkosi Shange, who was shot and killed by a member of the SA Police in Mpumalanga on November

The commissioner of the KwaZulu Police, Brigadier Jac Buchner, said the constable had been "accidentally" shot by a member of the S.A.P.

A murder docket was initially opened by the KwaZulu Police, but the case was taken over by the S.A.P. riot investigation unit. A spokesman for the unit said no criminal charges were being investigated.

Despite inquiries, no details re-garding the incident specific have been released by the S.A.P.

De Klerk, Buthelezi hold talks

STATE President F.W. de Klerk and KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi met yesterday at Bothahuis on the south coast, in a followup to a meeting on November 30.

The State President's office said a variety of matters of mutual concern were discussed, which included administrative aspects as well as the current violence in KwaZulu and Natal.

The main point of discussion was, however, ways and means to enhance the process of negotiation and how to address the obstacles impeding negotiations. -Sapa.

The year Mandela took shape

As the year draws to a close, one ponders on how to characterise it. Future historians may well identify 1989 as the year in which Mr Nelson Mandela emerged from the legend surrounding his name to take on a more definite shape.

The year was marked by a series of talks between the jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader who last month commemorated his 27 th year in prison — and a series of eminent South Africans.

His interlocutors included Messrs F W de Klerk and P W Botha, South Africa's present and immediate past presidents.

The stream of visitors to Mr Mandela's bungalow in the grounds of the Victor Verster prison embraced a wide range of people; they included Mr Japhta Masemola, of the rival Pan-Africanist Congress, Mr Richard Maponya and Mr Sam Motsuenyane, two black business notables, and, of course, leaders of the pro-ANC Mass Democratic Movement (MDM).

The first point to emerge from these meetings is that Mr Mandela is still a loyal member of the ANC. It is an important, if self-evident, point.

Judging from comments emanating from ruling circles, starting with President de Klerk, the view persists that Mr Mandela is less committed to armed struggle and an altogether nicer and more reasonable fellow than his comrades in Lusaka or even in the MDM at home. It may be a geniune view; it may be a Machiavellian attempt to drive a wedge between Mr Mandela and the leadership corps of the ANC-MDM camp.

A careful reading of Mr Mandela's statement after his meeting with Mr Botha shows that his position is the same as that of the ANC's.

Mr Mandela stressed that his position had not deviated for the last 28 years, "namely that dialogue with the Mass Democratic Movement, and in particular with the ANC, is the only



Mr F W de Klerk . . . ANC leader wants to pre-empt his plans.



Mr Sam Motsuenyane . . . visited Mr Mandela in prison.

There is some anxiety in extra-parliamentary circles that Mr Mandela may have been outmanouevred by his captors into unwittingly compromising the ANC. But it seems Mr Mandela is striving to form as broad an alliance as possible between anti-apartheid forces. PATRICK LAURENCE reports.

way of ending violence and bringing peace to our country".

His choice of the phrase "the last 28 years" is important. It takes him back to 1961 when the ANC, despairing of a peaceful solution after it had been outlawed and its leaders denied the opportunity of organising peaceful protest, formed its underground army, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), and, on December 16 of that year, embarked on armed resistance.

There was nothing in his statement of July 12 or in subsequent events to contradict the declaration he made throught his daughter, Ms Zinzi Mandela, on February 10 1985: "I am a member of the African National Congress," he said then in response to Mr

Botha's offer to free him if he renounced armed struggle. "I will remain a member of the African National Congress until the day I die. Oliver Tambo (the ANC president) is much more than a brother to me. He is my greatest friend and comrade for nearly 50 years . . .

"It was only when all other forms of resistance were no longer open to us that we turned to armed struggle. Let Botha show that he is different from Malan, Strijdom and Verwoerd. Let him renounce violence."

Give or take a sentence or two, Mr Mandela's statement of July 12, read in conjuction with his last public declaration of February 1985, amounts to endorsement of the ANC's present position on negotiations as

outlined in the Harare Declaration.

These elementary deductions are necessary because of anxieties in extra-parliamentary opposition circles — and even the MDM — that Mr Mandela may have been outmanouevred by his captors into unwittingly compromising the ANC.

There is another side to Mr Mandela, however; it may have fuelled concern that he has somehow strayed from the true path. He has increasingly emerged in the past few months as the elder statesmen of black nationalism. He is emphatically nonsectarian in outlook; his loyalty to the ANC does not preclude co-operation with anti-apartheid forces of a different ideological hue.

Extrapolating between the lines, it seems that Mr Mandela is striving to form as broad an alliance as possible between anti-apartheid forces. His strategic objective, it appears, is two-fold: to pre-empt any plan by Mr de Klerk to deploy the age old stratagem of divide and rule and to forestall a debilitating internecine struggle in black ranks.

It is in that context that his talks with Mr Masemola and black business leaders should be seen; it is against the same background that his letter to the Zulu leader and Inkatha president, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, should be viewed.

Where Chief Buthelezi and the ANC have been involved in a public exchange of insults, Mr Mandela wrote to the Inkatha president, welcoming his role in fighting for the release of political prisoners.

He then added: "The most challenging task facing the leadership today is that of national unity."

Mr Mandela's quest to see whether the road to a negotiated settlement can be opened up again, and his pursuit of a united front of anti-apartheid forces, is in line with his imminent public re-entry into the political arena as the non-secetarian sage of the struggle.

Conference on Natal unrest being planned

DURBAN — A top-level conference to which representatives of the central and Kwa-Zulu governments, commerce, trade and industry will be invited, is to be arranged by the Durban city council to find solutions to the unrest in Natal.

The council's management committee chairman Jan Venter said yesterday he supported statements by Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi that the killings would not be stopped by political solutions but rather by goodwill and co-operation.

He said a recent survey in the squatter settlements showed the people themselves regarded employment as their highest priority, followed by transport, water, education and housing, in that order.

For this reason, he agreed the city of Durban should play an active role in the economic development of the region, reports Sapa.

Venter said the conference would be an active meeting place for all people and organisations committed to finding solutions, from where plans would be spelt out to the province.

A steering committee to arrange the conference would be formed on January 9, he said.

Our Durban Correspondent reports that Inkatha and the UDF met in secret in Durban this week amid speculation that the stalled peace talks between the two organisations are to be reconvened.

Sources said yesterday another meeting was scheduled for early this morning to discuss the possible re-opening of the peace accord.

Critical

They said the issues to be discussed were not only the ideological conflict between the two organisations, but the root causes of the violence, which were largely socio-economic.

These sensitive negotiations have come at a time when the violence in the townships has reached critical proportions, according to DP MP Peter Gastrow.

Gastrow said he agreed with Vlok's statement that a change of

heart was needed to end the killing, but that it should not apply to township dwellers only.

"An end to hatred must start at home for all South Africans, and in particular in the government's own backyard," he said.

"You cannot enforce the Group Areas Act, withhold political rights and discriminate widely on the basis of race, and then expect everyone to be happy.

"For any longer-term solution peace talks need to be held, economic upliftment and infrastructure need to be provided, and the community of the greater Durban area needs to take the collective responsibility in working for peace and stability in the area."

Sapa reports that President F W de Klerk and Buthelezi met yesterday at Bothahuis on the Natal South Coast, in a follow-up to a meeting in Pretoria on November 30

The President's office said a variety of matters of mutual concern were discussed, including administrative aspects and the violence in KwaZulu and Natal.



ANC leader Walter Sisulu, 77, released from prison in October, works out on an exercise bicycle in his home in Soweto.

Defaulters must pay or face uncooked turkey

TODAY is the last chance for 527 Johannesburg households, who have had their electricity cut off, to settle their arrears before Christmas.

These people run the risk of having cold baths, uncooked turkey and Christmas by torchlight unless they settle their accounts today.

A Johannesburg Treasury department spokesman said the power to 1 600 households with accounts in arrears was cut off from November 20 to December 13.

The total amount in arrears was about R5m and about R1m has since been paid by 973 households whose electricity had subsequently been reconnected.

He said the council did not expect the full amounts to be paid before the electricity was restored.

People could come to the City Hall today or tomorrow to make some arrangement. They would have to pay 50% of their account and then

EDYTH BULBRING

make arrangements to pay the rest, and the accruing amounts over a certain period.

The spokesman said he felt the electricity cuts had been justified as offenders had been repeatedly warned over a number of months to pay their accounts

pay their accounts.

He said the department used to seal the power box in the individual homes. However it was discovered that some residents broke the seals and continued to have a power supply.

ply.

The council had thus resorted to breaking off the power supply at the pole, which would require a bit more work to reconnect, he said.

If debts were settled today, residents could expect their electricity supply to be restored by Christmas. The chances were remote tomorrow on Friday.

Mercury

WANTED: A MIRACLE

TUESDAY'S visit to the strife-torn black townships round Durban by the Minister of Law and Order, the Chief Minister of KwaZulu and police commissioners is a welcome sign that the lawlessness that has claimed hundreds of lives and left thousands homeless may now get the attention it deserves.

There is no doubt that what Law Minister Adriaan Vlok saw on the scorched and fear-haunted hillsides of Inanda made a deep impression on him.

'Brother is killing brother. South Africans are killing South Africans. If we don't stop hating each other, the killing will continue. It will not end until there is a change of heart', said Mr Vlok.

For a Government minister that is quite an impassioned statement, as far as it goes. But citizens anxiously guarding their lives and property, as well as refugees who have fled from what is virtually a zone of anarchy terrorised by warlords and rival gangs, will be looking for something more concrete and reassuring than that from the Government, whose first responsibility is to maintain law and order.

Assurances that police and security reinforcements will do all in their power to protect lives and property are less than convincing when it is admitted in the same breath that the violence, which has deep socioeconomic and political roots, will be solved only 'when the people in the

areas rid themselves of their mutual hostility'.

In the face of such resounding truisms, it may be that the way out lies in the response an Israeli general gave when his back was to the wall: 'Be realistic' — believe in miracles!'

Mr Vlok and Dr Buthelezi, not being Jewish, don't have quite the same chutzpah. But there is little doubt in our editorial mind that they — and all others who are accepted as political, community, trade union or religious leaders, right across the spectrum — will have to pull a few miracles out of the bag if peace and order are to be restored to the black townships of Natal.

But miracles don't happen by themselves. The first duty of leaders is to lead, to set an example to their followers. Some have done so. But too often influential voices that should be speaking out strongly for tolerance, moderation and cooperation have been muted, ambiguous, or seeming to utter soft war-cries in the wings.

Is a representative 'peace summit' on township violence too much of a miracle for Natal's agonised black communities to hope for?

The Churches have already done much to promote peace and negotiation. As the putative specialists in miracles, a fresh initiative by them could provide the elusive catalyst for a meeting of minds. The alternative hardly bears thinking about.

The Star— Mugabe is riding two chargers

AS THE ruling Zanu (PF)
Party met this week to chart a
future course for Zimbabwe,
President Mugabe called on
his countrymen in ringing
tones to keep following him
along the road of socialism.
But he seemed to be pointing
in two different directions.

Socialism in Zimbabwe, he said, had to be built on Marxist-Leninist principles. But then he said that account must also be taken of the realities of history and the positive gains made by the old order — by which he presumably meant the capitalist regimes of Rhodesia.

Viewed kindly, Mr Mugabe's remarks suggest he favours a continuation of the relatively moderate socialism his party has promoted since it won power in 1980, which amounts to a form of compromise between Marxism and free enterprise.

But a different interpretation might be made by some observers, notably the potential foreign investors who have been singularly unwilling to risk their capital in a Zimbabwe preaching Marxism loudly.

There is no good evidence that this situation has been much improved by the recent liberalising of Zimbabwe's investment code. Foreign exchange remains desperately short. It is unlikely to be helped by Mr Mugabe's speech this week. If anything, investors will be made even more nervous than before by his references to Marxism-Leninism which does, after all, require the means of production to be placed in the hands of the State.

Mr Mugabe is thought by knowledgeable observers to be spiritually dedicated to Marxism but to be realistic enough to know that its immediate application in Zimbabwe would ruin the country. Hence his pragmatic approach.

Elements in his own party, noting the social disasters that have resulted from Marxism elsewhere in Africa and in Eastern Europe, are believed to favour backing away from extreme socialism. Mr Mugabe may have been reflecting this dissension in his challenge to his party to commit itself to socialism and his rhetorical question: "Are our paths going to go in different directions?"

His own attitude suggests he chooses, if not to ignore the lessons of Africa and of Eastern Europe, at least to temporise with them. But he does so at his peril — or, worse, at the peril of his country and his people.

Undermanned police NATAL MERCURY, 21 DECEMBER 1989. cannot stop violence

Political Reporter

IF 2 000 whites had been shot, stabbed, burned and mutilated in the continuing Natal violence, then surely something would have been done about it.

This point is made by Mr John Aitchison, of the Centre for Adult Education at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg, in the latest issue of Indicator, a project of the Centre for Social and Development Studies based at the University of Natal in Durban.

Mr Aitchison says that one of the most damaging effects of the conflict is the perception that it is because black life is not valued that the violence has been allowed to continue.

He says the State seems paralysed and unable to contain the violence.

Mr Aitchison says commentators have ascribed this to various reasons, including the State keeping the radicals and Inkatha busy destroying one another and using 'dirty tricks' to halt promising peace initiatives.

In addition, there is the view that official sources look on conservative tribalists, however well armed and murderous, as, by definition, good, and radicals, however reasonable and peace-loving, as working for the African National Congress, he says.

Commentators also blame the inertia of the State on sheer official incompetence and a hopelessly undermanned police force, Mr Aitchison asserts.

He says the business sector appears similarly paralysed.

paralysed.

This is partly through the habit of not offending the security establishment and partly through an inability to believe that their 'temporary ally', Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, might have 'feet of clay' at the local level, Mr Aitchison writes.

'The system of justice appears to be paralysed as well,' he says.

as well, he says.
'In spite of a conservative estimate of 2 000 deaths in Natal over the last two years, the murder trials can probably be counted on one's fingers and toes.

'It is not hard to understand why, in the townships, direct action to gain revenge seems overwhelmingly more effective.'

Writing in the same issue, Mr Gavin Woods, director of the Inkatha Institute, says recent research into the violence, drawn from 2000 interviews with township residents, shows that almost 90% of the incidents of township violence investigated were perpetrated, but not necessarily instigated, by youths.

'89 gave hope that South Africa has turned the corner

All but the loony Right felt an exhilerating fresh breeze blowing through politics as President de Klerk seized the helm from the ailing President Botha and set a new course for South Africa.

And there was general relief that at last the country seemed to be out of the doldrums.

Perhaps the most important development was the SA Government's recognition at last that it would have to deal with the African National Congress (ANC) and other resistance movements politically and not just militarily.

Though by year's end this had not been explicitly stated in public, it was implicit in President de Klerk's actions such as the release of unrepentant ANC leaders headed by Mr Walter Sisulu, allowing mass marches, rallies and conferences, and in the meetings between Mr Nelson Mandela, first with President Botha and then with President de Klerk.

Similarly, in the courts heavy jail sentences for pursuing the aims of the ANC were drastically reduced or done away with on appeal.

Clear signal

And President de Klerk's abolition of the National Management System (NMS), the securocrat-run secret Government which conducted a counter-revolutionary strategy of harsh security action coupled with welfare measures, gave a clear signal of a new approach to the ANC.

These actions in effect unbanned the ANC and presaged the release of Mr Mandela.

The new approach had many

● The ousting of the autocrat President Botha released pent-up reformist energies becoming evident inside the National Party.

• The collapse of communism reduced the threat of the ANC.

 Sanctions pressure on South Africa as well as international pressure. By PETER FABRICIUS, Political Correspondent

The year will surely be remembered as a watershed in South African politics. It was one of the most eventful in recent times and seemed to carry us, at last, to the threshold of real change.

on Pretoria and the ANC for a political solution both increased.

At a June meeting in London British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher apparently told Mr de Klerk bluntly that he would have to make real changes if he wanted her to continue fighting sanctions.

The successful Namibian experience also boosted confidence in negotiations and the South African Government probably took heart at Swapo's failure to win a two-thirds majority in the elections for a constituent assemly, preventing it from writing the constitution alone.

The ANC was rapidly stepping up the pressure for negotiations, probably because it was also under pressure from the Soviet Union.

On August 21 an OAU committee endorsed the so-called Harare Declaration, which set out the ANC's stance on negotiations.

It declared that apartheid could be ended through negotiations if the South African Government met the familiar conditions of lifting the state of emergency, unbanning political organisations, etc, etc.

And though the MDM/BCM Conference for a Democratic Future in Johannesburg in December declared that the South African Government was not ready for negotiations, and that mass defiance action should continue, it also significantly endorsed the Harare Declaration.

The ANC moved rapidly to have the Harare Declaration approved by the world community and by year's end the UN General Assembly had endorsed it, with some excisions.

This put the pressure on the South African Government and in private it expressed fear that it might be losing the initiative to the ANC.

It also declared itself ready to meet all the usual conditions for negotiations and in several year-end special Cabinet sessions began to thrash out a constitutional package it could reasonably put on the table.

Though details were skimpy, Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen made it clear Government's group-based approach was no longer non-negotiable. He accepted that right at the start of negotiations, the Group Areas Act and Population Registration Act would be done away.

Already Mr de Klerk had announced the scrapping of the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act, another great pillar of apartheid.

These developments seemed to have set the stage for the release of Mr Mandela, the lifting of the emergency, the unbanning of the ANC, and hence a dramatic political contest in the 1990s with the 77-year-old organisation emerging from 28 years underground.

President de Klerk's rapid moves in just three months from his inauguration on September 20 wholly overshadowed the events of before.

PW's stroke

But none of it would have been possible without the stroke which President Botha (remember him?) suffered on January 18.

The stroke forced him to resign the leadership of the National Party on February 2.

After Parliament adjourned earlier than usual, late in May, the NP set off to the hustings in low spirits.

The leadership of the party was unclear, the economy was rapidly sliding into recession and the brandnew Democratic Party, a merger of three anti-apartheid parties, was now up and running.



Former president P W Botha . . . bowed out ungraciously by going on television to criticise the party.

The NP unveiled an election manifesto — the Five Year Action plan — which included the usual protection of group rights though within a more flexible approach, but also stressed the NP's intentions of creating a real democracy and breaking our world isolation.

breaking our world isolation.

The NP's election speeches mostly played on the reformist aspects of the manifesto and many political observers concluded that the Government was competing for the DP support and more or less ignoring the Conservative Party.

In the election it became increasingly obvious, even to the Government, that it was going to lose support to both the Left and the Right.

The NP's majority in Parliament was slashed by 60 votes to 21 as the NP won 93 seats, the CP 39 and the DP 33. So many seats became mar-

ginal that just a few thousand votes going the other way would have realised a hung parliament. But despite gaining 17 seats, the CP fell short of its expectations in an election that should have favoured it, and seemed to be peaking.

Shrewd move

In any event, Mr de Klerk made a shrewd move by taking the NP and DP combined support as a 70 percent mandate for reform, rather to the annoyance of the DP, and set off on his new course.

Many loose political ends remained untied as the year ended.

But at least President de Klerk had begun seriously to unravel the tangled knot of SA politics. Prisoner sent regards to Mugabe

Mandela spoke to ANC leaders over the phone

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — Imprisoned ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela has been talking to the exiled secretary-general of the organisation, Mr Alfred Nzo, and the organisation's secretary for external affairs, Mr Thabo Mbeki, on the telephone, it has been disclosed here.

Details of the telephone conversations were first given yesterday by President Mugabe of Zimbabwe who said Mr Nzo had passed on to him a message from Mr Mandela on the occasion of the inaugural congress of the new united Zanu (PF) party. Mr Mugabe said: "We have received

Mr Mugabe said: "We have received a mesage from Comrade Nelson Mandela and Comrade Nzo informed me at dinner last night that he had been talk-

ing with Mandela.

"We of this congress feel very grateful and delighted and very pleasantly surprised at this message from Mandela."

Today The Herald newspaper reported that the telephone contact between Mr Nzo and Mr Mandela was the first they had had for more than 30 years.

It added that Mr Mandela had also held a telephone conversation with Mr Thabo Mbeki.

Mr Mandela was reported to be in high spirits and good health.

Yesterday the ANC said in Lusaka it fully supported the series of talks being carried out by Mr Mandela.

A spokesman for the ANC condemned accusations that Mr Mandela was conducting the talks without consulting the ANC leadership.

"Such charges are completely out of context because people fail to understand that Mr Mandela has been consulting the Mass Democratic Movement," the spokesman said.

He said, however, that it was wrong to label the talks being carried out by Mr Mandela as negotiations because no negotiations had yet started.

Israeli security

BETHLEHEM: For some Israeli security officials, black South African anti-apartheid leader Archbishop Desmond Tutu will be an unwelcome Christmas guest when he preaches to Palestinians in Bethlehem this weekend.

Tutu, a Nobel peace laureate and head of South Africa's Anglican church, is due to arrive tomorrow and lead Christmas masses in Jerusalem and the traditional birthplace of Jesus, Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank.

Israeli security officials say they fear the outspoken churchman, sure to be followed by an army of television cameras, could provide a boost to the Palestinian uprising.

"He should make clear that his visit is to make peace, not to arouse feelings," said Yossi Olmert, director of the Government Press Office.

Tutu's Christmas visit to Bethlehern and nearby Beit Sahour seems certain to raise parallels most Israelis reject between Pretoria's apartheid system of white supremacy and Israeli rule over 1,75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The 70 000 Palestinians who are Christians face a third gloomy Christmas since their uprising against Israeli rule began on December 9, 1987.

Many say they feel trapped between Jewish occupiers, whom they resent, and a resurgent Muslim fundamentalist movement known as Hamas, which they fear.

Hamas angered Christians this year by calling a general strike on Christmas Day in honour of an obscure Palestinian Muslim cleric killed in Pakistan.

Residents are contemptuous of the three rows of police barricades in the middle of the plaza, to be used for checkpoints and roadblocks during Christmas.

Nearly 600 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis in the uprising, most shot by troops.-Sapa-Reuter

the last few months of the year — the first a defeat for the trade union and the second apparently headed the same way — have temporarily drawn attention away from the fact that the labour movement has made substantial progress in various fields in 1989.

This year the unions emerged even more strongly as the pivotal political force internally among the militant anti-apartheid organisations. Cosatu went further, exerting a strong influence on the banned ANC and SACP.

With all the talk of political negotiation, it is worth remembering that the first hints of what was to come emerged from union conferences.

Back in May, at its annual conference, Numsa became the first organisation seriously to address the question, laying down the six now well-known preconditions for negotiation that were to become part of the Harare Declaration.

The document, which has now attained international prominence, was finalised at a meeting in Lusaka in July between Cosatu, the UDF, the

ANC and the SACP.

nion influence on these organisations is reflected in policy as well as strategy. The ANC constitutional guidelines, unlike the Freedom Charter, entrench the right to strike.

Charter, entrench the right to strike.

The recently published, SACP-drafted, Workers' Charter does the same and makes further concessions to independent trade unionism and other "workerist" concerns that the SACP stood for a centralised state where workers would have not many more rights than they enjoy today.

This development is also a reflection of the fact that the old charterist versus workerist conflicts within Cosatu have all but been resolved. Those formerly labelled workerists can now say they are satisfied the labour movement is to be an equal partner in the Cosatu/MDM/ANC alliance, rather than a mere appendage.

At the very least, the two groupings have reached a "strategic compromise" which will, in the medium term, take them undivided through the critical political times ahead when unity will be paramount.

Nactu, the number two federation,

Unions are now leading players in many arenas

ALAN FINE

has taken its place as a leader of the Africanist sector of the anti-apartheid movement. Several members of the newly-formed Pan Africanist Movement executive are also prominent officials of Nactu and its affiliators.

Nactu, however, has been less successful than Cosatu in resolving internal divisions. Conflict between the Africanists and BC adherents has come into the open — in disputes over attending the March Worker Summit and the December Conference for a Democratic Future, and the resignation of general secretary Piroshaw Camay. Next year is likely to be a troubled one for the federation for this reason.

As anticipated, the Labour Relations Act again proved to be the main focus of union attention. Joint Cosatu/Nactu action, in the form of work stayaways, overtime bans and consumer boycotts were conducted with varying degrees of effectiveness.

But probably the most effective part of the campaign was conducted by Numsa in April and May when, during a rash of wildcat strikes, it refused to allow union officials to intervene, citing fear of section 79(2) which simplifies damages actions against unions for losses sustained during unlawful strikes.

This exacerbated the disputes, and forced government and employers to concede the law was not serving its purpose of minimising unlawful

strikes. As a result, this section will probably be repealed next year.

Agreement between the unions and employer federation Saccola on changes to the Act remains elusive, and the Manpower Minister's request to the National Manpower Commission for recommendations on restructuring the law is unlikely to be finalised in 1990. Further industrial action by the unions can be anticipated.

The Industrial Court faced its own upheavals, with former president Daan Ehlers being relieved of his duties.

Despite the tightening up of the economy from mid-year, the labour movement managed to keep wage increases appreciably above the inflation rate. An Andrew Levy, Johan Piron & Associates survey for the first nine months of the year found average negotiated increases to have been 17.4%.

or the first time since 1983, the two major sets of negotiations in the metal and mining industries were both concluded without strikes.

But 1990 is likely to be more difficult, especially in those sectors serving the local consumer market. Indications are that real, and possibly even nominal, consumer spending will decline and the bottom lines of retail sector companies and their suppliers will be hard hit.

Thus, companies will resist acceding to demands for increases in the 16% to 20% range as unions have come to expect in past years — a recipe for intensified wage conflict.

Apart from Sats and SAB, the most prominent strikes of the year occurred in the motor industry and at De Beers.

In contrast to the actions at SAB and Sats, the De Beers strike was conducted by both management and the NUM with a degree of coolness seldom seen before in the mining industry — a good omen for the

future.

The two-week motor industry strike in August, while its purpose was less clear, was nevertheless linked to an issue which will probably become another major flashpoint of 1990 — plant-level versus national collective bargaining.

Business is tending towards decentralised bargaining, purportedly to create more rational negotiating forums suited to the needs of individual companies and plants. The unions, on the other hand, see this as a cynical industrial equivalent of a divide and rule policy — to weaken their industrywide bargaining power.

Numsa won its struggle for a national collective bargaining forum in the motor industry. But union victories on this issue were far less frequent than defeats.

The Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers' Union suffered a major setback with the closure of the printing industrial council. The Chemical Workers' Industrial Union made no progress in its efforts to create a single bargaining forum for the petroleum sector.

There is now a great deal of union talk about a major campaign against Barlow Rand, the leading corporate proponent of decentralised bargaining. Should the relevant unions get their act together, we will see a bit-

ter test of strength.

The unions have had greater success in beginning to address the problems of building adequate health and welfare structures. The NUM and the Chamber of Mines established a new provident fund and Seifsa yielded to a long-standing Numsa demand for converting the industry's pension fund into a flexible benefit fund.

The CWIU, meanwhile, is begin ning to see signs of progress in it, efforts to establish its own retire

ment benefit fund.

transformation of medical aid systems, led by Numsa on the union side, is another development which will gain momentum in the years to come. Numsa is busy negotiating with Seifsa the establishment of a sophisticated health care system.

The unions, in co-operation with community groups, are also making an important contribution to finding solutions to the housing shortage.

In 1990, privatisation and deregulation policies will require a sophisticated union response. Numsa's interventionist response to the Iscor share offer, and economic studies led by its education officer Alec Erwin, reported on recently, suggest the seeds of such a response are there.

Finally, the CWIU and Numsa, through their agreements with Mobil, Goodyear and Gillette, made significant progress in efforts to make the negotiation of terms of disinvestment an entrenched factor in SA industrial relations.

In the 10 years since black unions were officially recognised, the labour movement has become unrecognisably more sophisticated. It has moved far beyond simple concerns of wages and working conditions to take the lead in the political, com-

munity and social arenas.

DDA explains why Contralesa DEG. had to pay for hire of stadium

INKATHA did not pay to A hire Wadley stadium on June 25 for their peace prayer rally because a specific law relating to the payment of fees for the use of sporting facilities had not been detailed, said the regional representative of the Department of Develop-ment Aid Mr Neville Wiggill. "Proclamation 1878 of

1989 came into effect on September 1 and laid down minimum fees for the hire and deposit of the stadium for sporting events," said Mr Wiggill.

"That is why Contra-lesa paid R700 for the use of the Wadley stadium on December 3 and Inkatha and Cosatu did not pay a cent," he said.

However, Mr Wiggill pointed out that amounts charged for the hire and deposit of the stadium were discretionary, the final decision being based on the recommendation of the township manager Mr Len Koch and setttled between himself and the Director-General in Pretoria.

The claim from in-formed sources within the DDA that Mr Koch wanted R1 000 from Contralesa were dismissed by Mr Wiggill who said he could not comment on that allegation.

He repeated that the full amount paid by Contralesa would be refunded.

President of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa, Chief Mhlabunzima Maphumulo said: "It just showed us that the powers that be were against us holding our rally. We were not surprised that the acting magistrate and Lieutenant Colonel Victor refused us permission. We had a hunch they would do this, that the authorities were going to ban our meeting, so we made alternative arrangements.

"We are not the dar-ling of the government, we are not a sweetheart organisation," he said.

Inkatha recently held their meeting in Johan-nesburg and there was no harassment there. We were told that between 2 500 and 3 000 people attended it, yet thousands of our members were turned away by the police," he said.

Buthelezi and Vlok in peace move

A PEACE move, initiated by Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, brought Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok to Durban on Tuesday in a joint venture to end the violence in which 150 people have already died in Inanda, Natal, this month.

Mr Vlok described the peace aim as

"a stop to the hating of one another".

And after Mr Vlok had visited the troubled township, he conceded the circumstances under which people were living in Inanda were appalling, adding thaT something should be done about it.

After Mr Vlok and Dr Buthelelzi had conducted an air and ground survey of Ntuzuma, the area where the violence has been worst, they issued a joint statement at a press conference.

Mr Vlok and Dr Buthelezi both blamed South Africa's socio-economic situation, unemployment following a move to the urban areas by blacks, plus the dispute between UDF-Cosatu and

Inkatha as the main causes for the jump in violence.

Politics, faction fighting and squatters squabbling over territory were also listed as causes for the violence in Natal.

Mr Vlok was accompanied by General Johan Van der Merwe, Commissioner elect of the SAP, who takes over from General Hennie de Witt at the beginning of the 1990.

The two leaders agreed the South African Police and kwaZulu Police would work together and do everything in their power to protect threatened people and to solve these "underlying problems"

This would be done in an impartial manner and by means of due process of the law with the purposes of maintaining order.

They appealed "leaders of the local population to ensure their followers refrained from violence" for, if the community itself was not involved in the peace process, law and order could not be restored.

At the press conference, after his tour of Inanda, Mr Vlok called for a change of heart ... away from hating one another because if we don't stop the hating the killing won't stop, he said.

Mr Vlok described the present situation as one where South Africans were killing South Africans - brothers killing brothers.

He was not sure how many people were killed

in the unrest-linked violence in Inanda this month.

But Major General Johan van Niekerk, regional commissioner of police for Natal, said 141 bodies were pre-sently in Durban mortuaries. It was believed 39 of these deaths were unrest related.

General van Niekerk confirmed the deaths of four members of the SAP. - Sapa.