

# Botha faces revolt

*Guardian 5/6/86 Regime E*

## on security powers

From Patrick Laurence  
in Johannesburg

The Coloured and Indian chambers in South Africa's tri-racial Parliament agreed on joint action yesterday which could delay the granting of emergency powers to police until after the 10th anniversary of the 1976 black student revolt on June 16.

The leaders of the majority and opposition parties in the two chambers agreed to refer

from the rank of Lieutenant Colonel upwards to order the detention of any person for up to 180 days.

The bills are already being debated in the white chamber, where they have evoked strenuous resistance from the opposition Progressive Federal party. To become law, however, they have to be passed by the Coloured and Indian chambers or, failing that, declared law by the President's Council.

The decision by the second and third chambers to refer the bills back to the standing committees will delay their passage through Parliament.

It may lead to a deadlock, in which the bill is passed by the white chamber and rejected by the Coloured and Indian chambers. Alternatively, the Coloured and Indian chambers may fundamentally amend the bills, meaning that two versions of them will then come before President P. W. Botha — one passed by the white chamber, where President Botha's National Party has a majority, and another by the Coloured and Indian chambers, where the NP is not represented.

● The American Chamber of Commerce in South Africa said yesterday it was urging its corporate members to consider breaking the law to help ease racial discrimination against blacks.

TWO members of the ANC and a third unidentified person were shot dead at close range near Swaziland's capital of Mbabane on Tuesday, Swazi police sources said yesterday. They were found dead in a house riddled with bullets in a suburb frequently used by members of the ANC. — Reuter.

two bills granting the police sweeping additional powers back to standing parliamentary committees, a move which could thwart government plans to have the amendments on the statute book by June 16.

An amendment to the Public Safety Act empowers the Minister of Law and Order to declare any area an "unrest area" in which police will have virtually unfettered power, while an amendment to the Internal Security Act authorises a police officer