

WEEKEND

MERCURY

2 MARCH 1991

**PARADISE IN
THE HIGHLANDS**

A TOTAL of nearly 7 000 000 hectares of South Africa's total area has been declared 'formally protected' by the State, meaning it has been placed off-limits for all but the conservation of the flora and fauna for which this country is famed world-wide.

Kruger Park, equal in size to Israel and the third largest game park on the continent, accounts for a large slice of that, while the next largest is the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park, a little under half the size of Kruger.

On the face of it these and the host of smaller parks in South Africa are large areas to have been set aside for purposes that many still consider nonproductive, though these critics would be foolish to ignore the revenue-producing capacity and great tourist potential of such parks.

Nevertheless, South Africa has been criticised for devoting a comparatively low proportion of its total land area to conservation, estimated by some to be as little as 4%. In comparison with some of its neighbours it does lag behind; Botswana, for example, has several times that figure turned over to the preservation of wildlife, while even some of the independent states within South Africa have made great strides of their own.

It is not as if South Africa is new to taking care of its national heritage.

Attempts at implementing formal conservation in South Africa go back almost to the dawn of white settlement of the Cape, Jan van Riebeeck being the first to take steps to control the wholesale slaughter of game, while the first forest reserves were proclaimed in the Transvaal in 1888, the first game reserve at Pongola in 1894.

Nevertheless, South Africa and its neighbours continue to move in the right direction. Already there are moves afoot to mirror-image the Kruger Park on the Mozambique side of the shared border, although nothing can come of this until peace has been secured in that embattled country.

Likely to become a reality long before the Kruger plan is the Drakensberg/Maluti Conservation Programme, launched in 1982 and which took another significant step towards fruition this week.

A joint venture between South Africa and Lesotho, the trans-frontier scheme will see the creation of a Lesotho Alpine corridor stretching the length of the border between Natal and Lesotho, from Oxbow in the north to the Transkei border in the south, and mirroring in Lesotho the protected areas already declared in Natal.

The vegetation occurring in this Lesotho Alpine zone occurs nowhere else in Africa and is among the finest of its type in the world.

It contains the principal watershed for the Highlands Water Project now taking shape in Lesotho and boasts some of the finest trailing and freshwater fishing areas in southern Africa.

More important by far, though, is the fact that cross-border co-operation has been raised to such a level that agreement has been reached on a matter that is vital to the preservation of species of flora that would otherwise be threatened or even extinguished.

Assassination attempt

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condemned

Pietermaritzburg Bureau

KWAZULU's deputy minister of works Velaphi Ndlovu has condemned the attempt on the life of KwaZulu Legislative Assembly member David Ntombela, and appealed to local leaders of all organisations to try to 'stop the violence now'.

In a statement yesterday Mr Ndlovu said violence and the assassination attempt would 'cause a lot of hardship for everybody'.

Shots were fired at Mr Ntombela's car while he was driving along the Edendale highway towards Pietermaritzburg, on Thursday.

A police spokesman said Mr Ntombela was driving past Machibisa store when he saw a group of blacks. Three or four shots were fired at him and he stopped and got out of his car. The group then ran away.

The spokesman said a charge of

attempted murder was being investigated.

Mr Ndlovu said buses were being stoned and attempts were now being made to kill people.

'The organisations — to which the people who are doing these things belong — must work at stopping these actions,' he said.

Discuss

'Everybody's life is important and precious and it will be hard for leaders who want peace to convince their people to forgive and forget when actions such as these are carried out almost every day... I appeal to local leaders of all organisations to endeavour to stop the violence now.'

Mr Ndlovu held talks with the Mayor of Pietermaritzburg, Mrs Pat Rainier, yesterday to discuss 'matters of mutual interest' but neither would elaborate.

'Comrade hunters' get 18 years for murder

NATAL MERCURY MARCH 2 1991

Court Reporter

TWO Inkatha supporters who went on a 'comrade hunt', killing three people, including an ANC activist, were each sentenced in Durban's Supreme Court today to an effective 18 years in jail.

The Court heard that Peter Mdluli, 43, and Velaphi Sibiya, 18, had gone on a two-day spree of murder, attempted murder, arson and robbery.

Both were found guilty of three counts of murder, two of attempted murder and one of arson.

Sibiya was convicted on two counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances.

The first three murders were committed on March 2, 1989, when the two killed three mem-

bers of the Inanda Taxi Owners' Association.

The two accused had launched a 'surprise attack' on their victims, executing them 'swiftly and suddenly'.

Evidence was also heard that Sibiya had allegedly been sentenced to death in a 'bush court' by a political activist named Christy Thandazani Ntuli.

Shortly afterwards the Sibiya's family home had been set alight.

The two accused carried out a revenge attack, killing Mr Ntuli and another man on April 14, 1989.

Passing sentence Mr Justice McLaren said

the attacks had been 'swift and brutal'. The victims had been unarmed and had been murdered 'in broad daylight'.

'The society in which the accused lived at the time was, unfortunately, permeated with violence.'

'This Court has a duty to that society and has to protect their interests.'

He said the two accused had been convicted of serious crimes and there was the very real risk that should the sentences be too lenient, others might be encouraged to take the law into their own hands.

'If that happens, society will become completely ungovernable.'

Umgababa folk to meet in bid to end violence

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Mercury Reporter

the Hibberdene area, who was at the meeting, to inform Chief Luthuli about a decision to call a meeting of all Umgababa residents.

The statement said the meeting — the date of which will be announced after consultations with local leadership — would be addressed by Dr Mdlalose, Mr Zuma and Chief Luthuli.

The parties further resolved to call for more security forces in the area and that all possible steps be taken to inform residents about the decisions taken by the two delegations.

Throughout the meeting several residents waited outside to hear the outcome.

DELEGATIONS of the Inkatha Freedom Party and the African National Congress yesterday resolved to call a meeting of all the residents of Umgababa after consulting the local chief in efforts to end violence in the area.

The meeting was held at the Umgababa Holiday Resort and involved delegations led by the chairman of the southern Natal region of the ANC, Mr Jacob Zuma, and the national chairman of the IFP, Dr Frank Mdlalose. The local chief, Phathiswa Luthuli, did not attend.

Reading a statement drawn up by both parties, Dr Mdlalose said the meeting had asked Chief C Khawula from

Inkatha's power base threatened by land laws

N / WITNESS

2 MARCH 1991

by WYNDHAM HARTLEY
Political Editor

TRIBAL land in KwaZulu is soon to be privatised with freehold title replacing traditional tenure in a move which could seriously threaten the political power base of Inkatha president Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

It is understood from senior sources in the Government the granting of freehold will be phased in to avoid exploitation because "you don't just throw people into the deep end if they don't have the financial means to hold what they have".

The source said something had to be done about the granting of freehold rights in tribal areas because "you cannot do it in one area and not in another", in a clear reference to the intended repeal of the Land Acts and the Group Areas Act.

The privatisation will be made in terms of the KwaZulu Land Act, which was made law by the State President recently, and recommendations of the Law Review Pro-

ject which are at present with the cabinet.

During the months of debate in the Kwa-Natal Indaba the issue of tribal land was one of the thorniest and the political and other interests of the tribal leaders has always ensured that freehold in their areas was avoided.

It is understood senior Government politicians have suggested money from the Independent Development Trust be used to get the freehold base of tribal land in motion as a matter of urgency.

One of the primary reasons for the shift in emphasis is that no matter how attractive other conditions may be in a tribal area, significant development for the people on the ground is impossible until entrepreneurs are guaranteed freehold title to the land in which they are expected to invest money.

Some political observers have said that the removal of the semi-feudal system of tribal land tenure will remove the power from the chiefs and indunas of the present system and this was one of the main

reasons for the launching of Inkatha as a political party.

One private sector source, close to the land issue, said that the "chiefs are with their backs to the wall" because the people want to own their own land.

He suggested that procedures were being looked at which would urgently speed up the process of land and home ownership and simplify title for first generation owners "to get the market going".

The suggestion that a feudal power structure based on the administration of land was central to Inkatha was dismissed by another senior Government source, who said that Inkatha had moved away from the traditional role and should be commended for moving towards private ownership.

Parties in opposition to Inkatha have for some time suggested the numbers which Inkatha are able to mobilise are as a direct result of people being afraid of losing their access to the land. Privatisation would mean a significant loss of power for the KwaZulu chief minister they said.

ANC underground intact: Kasrils

FUGITIVE African National Congress leader Ronnie Kasrils has announced from hiding that the ANC "underground" will not be disbanded, despite the latest agreement between President de Klerk and ANC deputy-president Nelson Mandela on the cessation of armed activities.

In the first public reaction from the underground leadership since the agreement, Mr Kasrils told Saturday Star in a telephone interview: "We maintain our underground structures, intact and in place. The maintenance of the existing underground structures is an insurance, in case things go wrong."

Mr Kasrils insisted that, contrary to widespread speculation,

SHAUN JOHNSON

he and his underground colleagues were fully committed to the negotiations process and the leadership of Mr Mandela and the organisation's national executive committee.

They did not regard the agreement — announced on February 15 — as a "snub" to underground cadres.

"Our understanding is that the existing underground is not at issue in the latest agreement — rather the ANC has undertaken not to create new underground structures. We don't feel isolated."

The ANC's was a justifiable

concession, he said, in that it "places the ball in De Klerk's court. The Cape Town agreement binds the Government to the release of prisoners, the return of exiles, progress on indemnity and the suspension of security laws".

Mr Kasrils said the ANC's underground structures were distinct from its military structures. The underground was primarily for political, not military work and was "perfectly legal".

"We're not doing anything treasonous, and we're not acting as a secret force to sabotage negotiations."

Political groups like the Broederbond, some businesses, and

"even Government in aspects of talks with the ANC", felt the need for some secret activities, Mr Kasrils said. "It's not a crime to conduct certain activities in secret where prudence is demanded. And in view of the maintenance of the Internal Security Act, prudence is a necessity."

Mr Kasrils said he and his colleagues would "love to come out of the shadows and be part of healthy democratic debate and activities — but we remain in place until instructed to surface by the ANC leadership, and until indemnity is granted".

The ANC leadership had in-

● TO PAGE 2.

Kasrils

● FROM PAGE 1.

structed him to remain underground until further notice, he said.

There was still deep concern in ANC circles about the Government's capacity to "return to the use of violence and repression", Mr Kasrils added. "There are now signs that De Klerk and his government are to a certain degree moving away from those methods, but they've got a long way to go."

"For example, our sources are picking up information that might suggest use of the 'low-intensity conflict' tactic developed by US strategists, whereby so-called 'reformers' justify the use of force against 'radicals' who are alleged to be flies in the ointment of transition."

"This is a cloak to camouflage repression as reform, and I believe it poses the greatest threat to the democratic process in the coming years."

Surface

Mr Kasrils, a member of the ANC's NEC and a former intelligence chief who has been sought by police since the middle of last year, suggested some of his underground colleagues might be able to surface before he did.

He was still named in the "Operation Vula" trial, he said, and was also concerned about recent political assassinations. "In some ways I feel more secure where I am than I would if I was out in the open," he said.

Mr Kasrils bitterly attacked recent newspaper reports depicting him as "a sinister figure waiting in the wings" saying this was irresponsible and could be an incitement to violence against him.

"I wouldn't like to think that these people would countenance the use of violence against so-called radicals like myself, who are simply putting forward ideas which the Government might find a challenge to their agenda."

He said the changing political scenario meant that the underground was less prominent than before, but it remained important.

Nelson home-hunting in Bryanston?

2 MARCH 1991

JOVIAL RANTAO

NELSON Mandela is apparently interested in buying property in Bryanston, one of Johannesburg's most affluent suburbs.

Residents of Mount Road told Saturday Star Mr Mandela was believed to have been house-hunting in the area.

Also, it is believed he has looked at and offered to buy a house in nearby Eccleston Crescent.

"Although the Mandelas have

Surge in black home purchases

THERE is an upsurge in black property buying ahead of the imminent abolition of the Group Areas Act. A leading real estate group reports the sale of a R1,3 million property to a black buyer in Bryanston.

● See PROPERTY GUIDE.

not been seen looking at any property, we heard that they looked around here and had bought property near the Anglican Church in Mount Road," said a resident, Patricia Winter-ton.

Most residents spoken to would not mind having the Mandelas as neighbours.

ANC president Oliver Tambo is believed to be on the verge of buying an R850 000 property in Sunnyside Avenue, Westdene,

Benoni.

Jill McQueen, the owner of the luxury house that overlooks the Korsman Bird Sanctuary, confirmed the Tambos had shown interest in her property but nothing had been finalised as yet.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus confirmed that Mr Tambo had looked at Westdene properties after unnamed benefactors volunteered to buy him a house.

She did not have any information of Mr Mandela house-hunting in Bryanston.

6 councillors killed, 404 have quit

CAPE TOWN — Six black councillors have been murdered and 404 have resigned as a result of intimidation since February 2 last year, the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs and Housing, Herinus Kriel, said yesterday.

Six Indian and eight coloured councillors had also resigned during the same period, he said in a written reply to Mr J Chiole (CP Pretoria West).

The Government held regular consultations with the councillors who were encouraged and morally supported to remain in office until a new system had been established. "Support is also given to councillors during their negotiations with residents' associations and concerned citizens' groups in their areas."

This was so they could remedy shortcomings before township residents became frustrated and resorted to violence.

Specific arrangements had been made with the security forces to protect the lives and property of councillors and members of coloured and Indian management committees.

The Government had been informed of alleged threats of an intimidation campaign against white councillors and this had been brought to the attention of the security forces.

"If the threat is carried out, most of the white local authorities have protection services to protect their council members," Mr Kriel said. If these services were inadequate, the SAP could be asked to help.

Mr Kriel also reported that almost a billion rand in unpaid rents and service was outstanding in the Transvaal in December.

In a written reply to a question from Peter Soal (DP Johannesburg North), Mr Kriel said the total owed to black local authorities for house rents and service charges in the Transvaal was R996 572 389.

Mr Kriel, in answer to another question, said the Free Settlement Areas Board had cost R739 541 since its inception.

The eight-member board had held a total of 111 meetings.

The chairman, Hein Kruger, had been paid a total of R243 671 while total payment to the other members ranged from R19 000 to R22 000.

Practical reasons behind police merger

DAILY NEWS 2 MARCH 1991

PRACTICAL reasons — and not the change in South Africa's political climate — have led to the Security Branch being incorporated into the ordinary detective branch from April 1.

This is the view of informed sources who dismiss allegations that the move is to change the Security Branch image of "villain" to one of "Mr Nice Guy" to fall in line with the Government's vision of a new South Africa.

But the political overtones cannot be denied.

Generally regarded as a cloak-and-dagger operation to combat the "swart gevaar" or the "total onslaught", the Security Branch was a source of comfort to securocrats and a source of fear to many others (notably blacks).

The Security Branch was long perceived — rightly or wrongly — to be a police force on its own, with its own set of rules, or even a lack of rules.

Certainly South Africa's security in the face of internal and external forces was often over-emphasised, especially in the John Vorster and P.W. Botha eras.

The National Party fought its election battles in large measure on a security ticket, warning voters against the dangers of negotiating

Daily News correspondent **ERIC JANSSEN** investigates the significance of Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok's announce-

ment this week that the SAP's Security Branch will be incorporated into the Detective Branch.

with the African National Congress, let alone allowing these "subversives" to roam the streets.

But times have changed. For many people the ANC, unbanned, is no longer a terrorist opponent but a political opponent, or even a potential member of a "partnership" government.

Police firmly believe this transition has led to a new threat — not one of political revolutionaries, but one of criminal revolutionaries running wild.

There can be no denying that lawlessness and the already high crime rate have spiralled dramatically since a host of political organisations were unbanned in February last year.

Violent deaths have more than doubled, while armed robberies have become a daily occurrence.

Police make no bones about their belief that the almost out-of-control crime rate went hand in hand with the unbannings.

Of the many arms caches and weapons brought illegally into South Africa for the "armed freedom struggle", a large percentage is now being used for "ordinary" crime which affects every law-abiding citi-

zen.

Thus, whereas the threat of political terrorism against the State has diminished, a number of political factors such as sanctions, unemployment and the deteriorating economy have turned crime into an ever-more-profitable option.

The amalgamation of the CID and the SB is to address the policing needs of all South Africans — not only of a privileged sector as in the past — and to fill a gap which has existed for a long time.

In practical terms, the tasks and methods of the Security Branch will not change much.

Regrouped and renamed, the Crime Combating and Investigation Unit (CCI) will combine the expertise of the Security Branch and the CID to address current problems and prepare the entire SAP for a new South Africa.

Sources indicate that if the current negotiations stay on track, the political tasks of the SB will diminish over the years and make way for even greater emphasis on curbing daily crime.

General Basie Smit, head of the Security Branch, will take charge of the CCI, comprising some 12 000

detectives — of which 4 000 belonged to the SB.

The move will effectively not change the structures of either the CID or SB, nor will it entail security policemen taking up posts at police stations. It boils down to a pooling of resources and skills.

Another step in the major SAP overhaul is that the training section, up to now an auxiliary service, will become a fully-fledged branch under the command of the present CID chief, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie.

As the Security Branch was a secretive organisation, documentation of its history is difficult.

It was known in the 1940s as the Special Branch, and concentrated on investigating subversive activities.

A spate of sabotage acts in the early 1960s developed the then-renamed Security Branch into an almost independent force. This was compounded by intelligence that many ANC members were receiving training overseas to commit acts of terrorism on their return.

It was during the 1960s, with John Vorster as Minister of Justice, that South Africa gained its "jackboot" image at home and abroad: Mr Vorster used tough tactics to try to crush the mainly black resistance to apartheid.

He introduced various Acts and the necessary machinery to "obliterate" the "subversive activities" of

"enemies of the State".

In the early 1970s the SB made headlines by arresting most of the 19 Moumbaris Group members who infiltrated South Africa by boat via the Wild Coast.

And 1976 was marked by investigating nationwide riots and school boycotts, and a renewed spate of people undergoing military training in foreign countries.

Probably the darkest moment in SB history was its detention of black consciousness leader Steve Biko, who died while in custody in 1977.

Mr Jimmy Kruger, Minister of Police, vented the prevailing feeling within the SB with his infamous remark: "It leaves me cold."

The SB also embarked on an intensive campaign to infiltrate student bodies and keep a close eye on people serving banning and restriction orders.

The period 1984-86 was generally one of unrest — the ANC deploying its "people's war" with the alleged intention of rendering South Africa ungovernable.

Announcing the amalgamation on Thursday, Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok warned that it did not imply a softening on security matters but was more a shift in priorities.

Whatever the semantics, it appears he has taken a hint or two from President de Klerk.

Agriculture union slams ANC farm plan

Citizen Reporter

THE South African Agricultural Union last night rejected as "ill considered and totally absurd" the African National Congress agricultural land redistribution plan.

At the same time the union's president, Mr Nico Kotze, said the body demanded that the government give proper consideration to the views of organised agriculture when it came to compiling the White Paper on land ownership.

Commenting on the ANC masterplan, Mr Kotze said that it conflicted directly with principles of a market economy, created a necessary uncertainty and confusion, and would in no way ease the minds of farmers on the issue.

The union was "absolutely opposed" to any artificial redistribution of agriculture land, no matter how it was done — whether by confiscation, expropriation or nationalisation.

The selling of land, among other things, should only be permitted on a basis of voluntary buyers and sellers. There must be uniformed conditions for financing land purchasers; natural resources must be conserved, and pollution, pests and diseases controlled. Squatting must be prevented and nothing be allowed which could threaten agriculture's ability to meet its vital responsibility to feed and clothe the growing nation, said Mr Kotze.

ANC reveals plans for land reform

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

The ANC has proposed a comprehensive Land Reform Act and the establishment of a Land Claims Court to handle the emotive demand for the redistribution of land in such a way that farming productivity is not disrupted.

Imaginative proposals on land reform are contained in a discussion document, released yesterday by the organisation's Land Commission.

At a press conference, spokesmen Derek Hanekom and David Cooper said the document would be widely distributed for debate by the ANC's 14 regions. A final policy document would then be drawn up and presented for adoption at the ANC's national conference in June.

Imbalance

The document stated that carefully planned state intervention was needed to ensure equal access to land and to address the current imbalance whereby 80 percent of the population occupied 13 percent of the land.

However, land nationalisation would be expensive, would scare off foreign investment and was "not the easy solution that we used to think it was".

The ANC's publicity director, Pailo Jordan, said that land nationalisation had never been ANC policy.

"The ANC never spoke of the nationalisation of land, only the nationalisation of industry. There is a strong demand for



Pailo Jordan... 'Land nationalisation has never been ANC policy.'

the nationalisation of land, but what people usually mean by that is that the State should intervene to get back their land and then give it to them in the form of private plots."

The document carefully argued the thorny issue of compensation for white farmers, and offers some controversial solutions:

- Certain landowners, such as Anglo American, could afford, and might be willing, to donate their land for redistribution or accept modest compensation.
- Some farmers might disqualify themselves from compensation by refusing to abide by labour laws, being guilty of human rights violations or abandoning their land.
- Cash compensation would

burden the state budget, limit the speed of redistribution and contribute to compensation. Instead, owners could be partly paid in cash and partly in bonds to be cashed over a 10-year period. Payment in foreign currency would not be considered.

Another controversial suggestion contained in the document was to introduce a land tax "to ensure productivity".

It said: "A progressive land tax means that those who own more land pay more and should encourage large landholders to give up or sell land."

Other suggestions included were that:

- A Land Claims Court be set up to devise fair procedures and criteria for the adjudication of land claims. These guidelines would take into account birth-right, historical claims, ancestral graves, present occupation rights, inheritance and people's need to have a place to live and farm.

Grants

- To ensure fast redistribution, the state could nationalise all land, with or without compensation. Thereafter, it could give land grants to people, rent out the land to tenants or sell land to individuals and co-operatives.
- Some form of reparation should be given to people who had been unfairly removed from their land.
- Land reform should ensure better use of natural resources, increased productivity and create job opportunities. Rural and agricultural productivity must be stimulated through government-sponsored programmes of affirmative action to ensure equal access to resources, credit, infrastructure and training.

Police and

Nelson home-hunting in Bryanston?

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2/3/91

SAT STAR

Viva capitalism S/T

THE ANC's Pallo Jordan says the ANC has never spoken of nationalising the land. All its followers who believed the phrase in the Freedom Charter that promised land to the people were mistaken.



What they can hope for, says Jordan, is private plots.

On that basis, Hogarth supports the establishment of a special judicial tribunal to investigate the claims of people dispossessed of land by

apartheid, and proper compensation, in land or cash, for the victims. Justice under capitalism.

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Saturday SPECTRUM

OPTIMISTIC COMMUNIST

YES — he does wear red socks occasionally. No — he doesn't have a hammer and sickle tattooed on his chest. He likes snook and boerewors, contemporary novels and classical music. In fact, South African Communist Party general secretary Joe Slovo looks as though he could be anybody's grandfather.

In Durban for the launch of the SACP in Natal tomorrow, Mr Slovo (65) epitomises an affable middle-class elderly gentleman.

For years the South African Government's Public Enemy Number One (for a long time he was chief of staff of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, as well as being involved in the SACP), it is hard to believe that this man — whose schemes and actions no doubt caused the deaths of many people, including innocent civilians — is now engaged in discussions with the National Party.

The least of his worries, he says, is the fact that he has been demonised by so many in South Africa.

"I am a contented man," he said. "If white South Africans have hated me, it has always been counterbalanced by the fact that I am much loved by the majority of the population — and they are the people that count for me."

"In fact, the more the Government has attacked me, the higher my stakes have risen in the eyes of the majority."

"Margaret Thatcher had Saatchi and Saatchi to handle her public relations. I had Botha and Botha."

Mr Slovo was born in Lithuania in 1926, but lived most of his early life in South Africa. When he was nine years old his father (a fisherman on the lakes) and mother emigrated to South Africa.

"I don't remember too much about that early period; just a vague recollection of living in ghetto conditions in relative poverty."

On arriving in South Africa, his father worked as a fruit hawker and then as a bread delivery man for a bakery in Johannesburg, eking out a living for his family who stayed in Doornfontein and later Bellevue.

He attended school at Observatory Junior, Yeoville Boys and Observatory High and left school in Standard 6 aged 13 to go to work, first serving as a dispatch clerk for SA Druggists for three years. He became actively involved in politics at the age of 15.

During World War 2 he joined

the South African Army and fought in Italy, returning only in 1946. He then received an exemption for matriculation and studied law at Wits University.

He became an advocate and practised law at the Johannesburg Bar until 1963, when he was sent out of the country by the ANC to have discussions with exile lead-

ership. While overseas, the Rivonia trial blew up, the ANC's underground in South Africa was destroyed, "and there was no purpose for me to come back. A journey which should have lasted three months lasted 27 years."

During those 27 years he lived on the run. He seldom slept in one place for two nights in a row.

And his life has not been without personal trauma as well. His wife, Ruth First, was killed by a parcel bomb in Maputo in 1982, for which he still blames South African agents.

And he still feels the pain of loss sharply. "One can't expect bitterness to disappear. In my case, it's a wound that will never be healed."

"But the future of a country cannot be guided by that kind of emotion. If one were guided by the events of the past, there would never be a settlement. And that applies to both sides."

The struggle in South Africa is still the most important thing in his life, occupying him 24 hours a day. But he still manages to fit in a swim every morning "to try to keep fit" goes to as much theatre as he can and reads and listens to music for relaxation.

"When I can I read, but not all serious stuff. I'm a great fan of John le Carré and I like listening to Mahler, Beethoven and Mozart."

Mr Slovo is adamant that the SACP will remain separate from the ANC and represent working-class interests in South Africa. Although the SACP has not yet begun to recruit members in earnest, he claims it has already had more than 10 000 applications and, once the party is officially launched throughout the country, it intends to begin signing up people.

However, he says it is unfair to expect the SACP to have a precise economic blueprint at this stage or a timetable for the socialist transformation of capitalist South Africa.

"It's only in the past 1½-2 years that we smelled the possibility of moving towards a post-apartheid South Africa. Until recently we've concentrated on how to get there."

"What I will never see in my lifetime, and I'm not sure if it will be in my children's lifetime, is proper communism, simply be-

cause the material base for an egalitarian society is not there."

He says it is a fact of historical progression that capitalist development is a prerequisite for socialism by raising the material base of a society.

What he believes is needed is an economic system that encourages private initiative but with a state mechanism ensuring that economic forces serve the interests of the majority.

"Personally I believe the market in current world conditions is

the most efficient means of realising a surplus and of realising growth. But the market is simply not the most efficient means of apportioning that surplus."

The SACP, he says, has no clear concept of just how far the State should intervene in the economy. He says ANC working groups are engaged in studying each sector of the economy to work out a multi-sectoral approach to the issue.

And he is realistic about the role of capital in a post-apartheid society. Capital, both local and foreign, will continue to be needed.

"We believe that the reality of South Africa suggests that certainly in the immediate post-apartheid era there will be a mixed economy with a place for the private and public sectors."

"Capital is not a charity. It needs stability and it needs a guar-

OPTIMISTIC COMMUNIST FROM PG 1

antee that it won't be confiscated," he acknowledged.

He said that although the SACP's ultimate goal was to see a true socialist state emerge in South Africa, this could not be achieved in a lightning flash.

And the SACP is not as dogmatic in its beliefs as the general white public believes. It has learned from mistakes made in socialist states in Africa and Europe, Mr Slovo says, and has no intention of repeating mistakes of the past.

For one thing, the SACP is firmly committed to the idea of a multi-party democracy: "I firmly believe that the electorate must be able to choose between different, competing political parties. That is an important ingredient of democracy. As far as the SACP is concerned, multi-partyism is valid for the present, for a transition period, and for what we hope will be a socialist future."

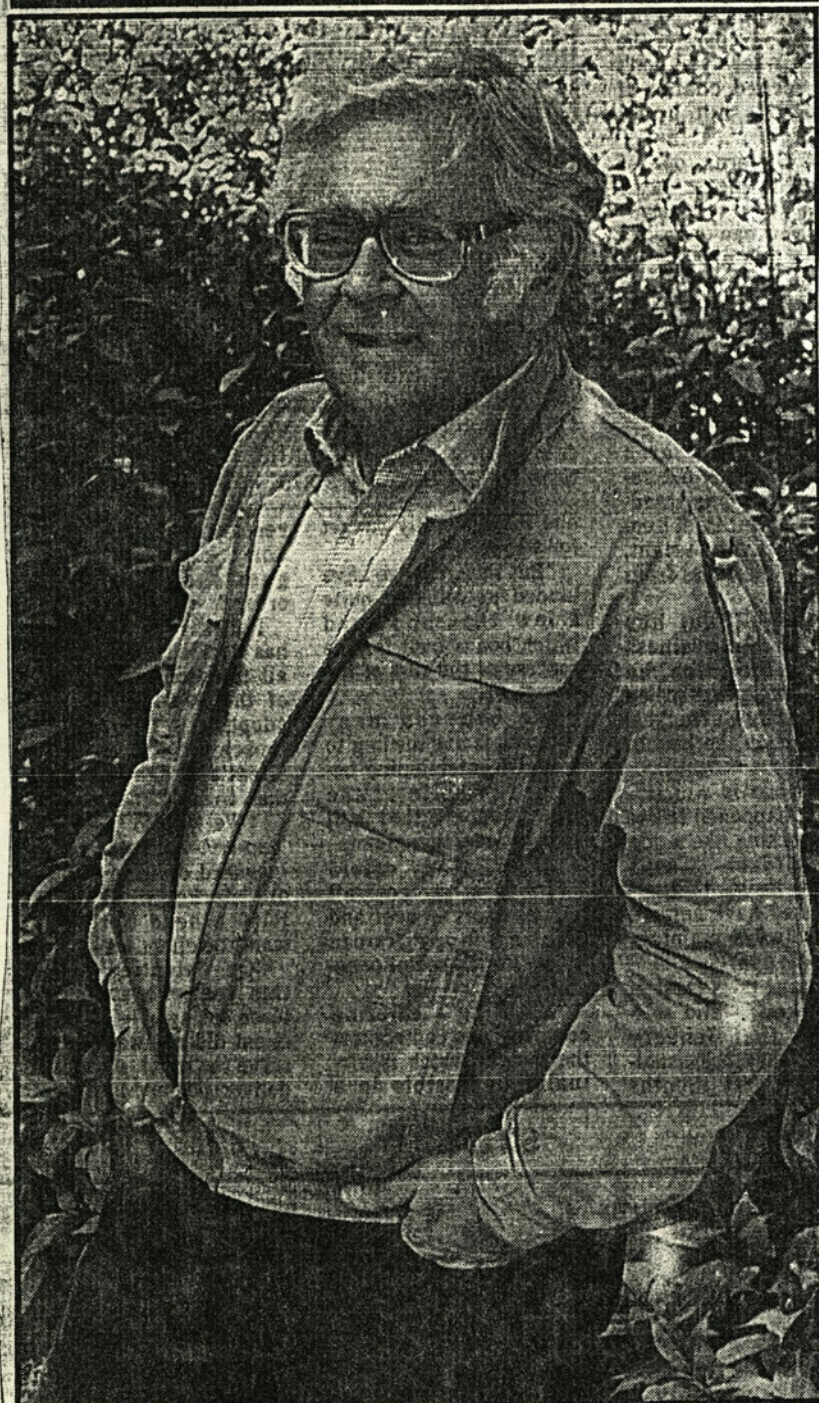
And what of South Africa's future? Is the SACP optimistic or does it feel that the country is on a downward slide?

"None of us could have survived without drilling ourselves to be optimistic," Mr Slovo said. "I think there is no way in which anyone can go back to before 1990, and although it's not written in the stars that there will be a democratic South Africa one day, I think the prospects of getting there are good."

■ The launch of the SACP in Natal will take place tomorrow at Currie's Fountain at 9am. Speakers at the event will be: Mr Slovo, Umkhonto we Sizwe chief of staff Chris Hani, ANC Natal Midlands chairman Harry Gwala and SACP stalwart Billy Nair.

THE launch of the South African Communist Party in Natal takes place at Currie's Fountain, Durban, tomorrow. Party general secretary Joe Slovo is in Durban for the event. Daily News Politi-

cal Reporter **NICOLA CUNNINGHAM-BROWN** spoke to him and found there's room for sneek as well as The Struggle in the life of a man many whites have "demonised".



JOE SLOVO: SACP being launched in Natal tomorrow

Apartheid's fires still burn brightly

SATURDAY STAR 2 MARCH 1991

**THERESE ANDERS
and ABBEY MAKOE**

"THE fires of apartheid are still burning strongly out here," said a waiter at Bethal's Selbourne Hotel this week as he apologised to a black reporter for not being able to serve him.

Doctors, dentists, restaurateurs, hairdressers and others are continuing to discriminate against people of colour in many parts of the platteland.

This week the Saturday Star did a survey of what services and facilities were available to black residents in Bethal and Middelburg, two Eastern Transvaal strongholds of the Conservative Party.

It found that recent political reforms on the national level seem to have left these two towns behind. Segregation is still widespread and racist attitudes are strong.

Alley

These were some of the experiences during a day spent in the heart of conservative country:

At the large Middelburg medical centre of Drs Hofmeyr, Joubert, Terblanche, Bodemer, Raath, Alberts and Piek, colleague Abby Mokoe first followed a sign pointing him down a back alley.

There he found a waiting room with rows of benches on a concrete floor. Makoe then went to the comfortably furnished and carpeted "white" reception area leading off the street.

The receptionist's response to his smile was: "What's the matter with you?"

He replied that he came to see the doctor. "It's written in your own language outside the building. Can't you read? Get out and you'll see the

passage — follow it and you'll find 'your people' waiting for the doctor," she said to the giggles of young men in khaki shorts and long socks.

When Makoe said he was not satisfied with the conditions in the other waiting room, she warned him he could stay there until midnight, but the doctor would not see him.

At the Bethal consulting rooms of dentist Dr Francois Nel, Makoe could not find any back entrance. So he went into the main reception area again and asked the receptionist if he could make an appointment for dental treatment.

She told him it would be impossible. She said the dentist was fully booked for two weeks. When Makoe said he could wait until then, she became more direct. "Please go away, he will never be available."

Take-aways

Bethal's restaurant owners wasted no time in shunting Makoe off their premises. The manager of the Country Grill took Makoe by the shoulder and forced him into the street to point to a small "reserved" sign in the window. "This place is

for club members only," he growled.

The nearby Pizza Den restaurant refused to let Makoe sit down to eat, although he was welcome to buy take-aways. Nor would the manager of the one-star Selbourne Hotel let Makoe enjoy a cool drink on the hotel's stoep.

He explained: "You know how these CP people are. If they see a black they won't buy here again."

At Maggie's Restaurant in Middelburg's OK Centre, all went well for about two minutes. Makoe sat down at a table and was fascinated to find a tract from the

Bible on the menu.

"Math 24:42. Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming."

No sooner had he read that than a angry white woman appeared behind him bellowing: "You know very well that julle mense are not allowed in here!"

At Middelburg's Burger Hut an aggressive owner told Makoe he had to pay R1 000 to eat there. "That's what it costs to become a member of my restaurant."

When Makoe asked if the other white patrons present had paid their R1 000 membership fee,

the owner wagged his finger PW-style and warned: "Don't push me!"

At Middelburg's pricey Chuck Wagon, Makoe was told the restaurant was fully booked for the whole week. However, when a white reporter later phoned she was told she could book that night.

At Middelburg's Inch by Inch body toning clinic he was told the business would not be open for some months. Meanwhile a white reporter was told there were bookings for that day.

At the Bethal branch of Volkskas bank most black customers contin-

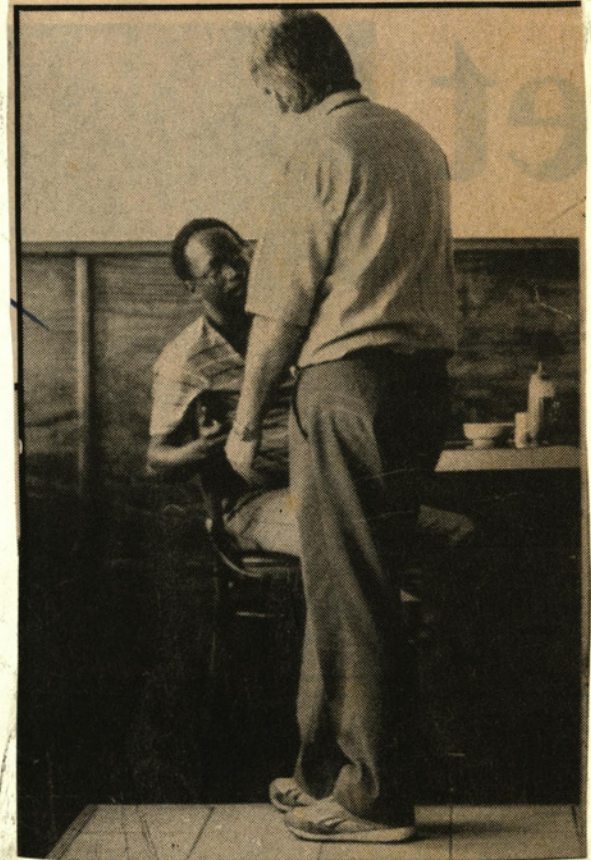
ued to use a poky "back counter service".

When asked why they did not join other blacks in the front hall who were having no problems, they replied they were "too scared".

Given up

A Middelburg Indian woman told of her struggle to find a non-racial professional hairdresser in the region. "I've given up looking," she said.

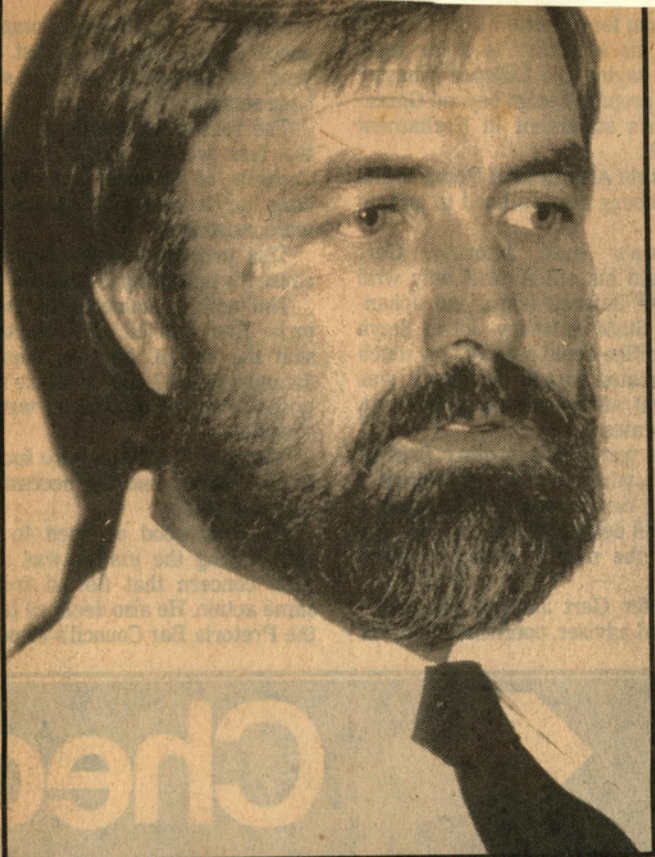
"One hairdresser said I could come on Saturday afternoon after her last customer, but I decided it was against my dignity to tip-toe around like that."



NO WELCOME AT THE INN: Reporter Abbey Makoe is told by a waitress that 'julle mense' aren't served.

The restaurant's menu cover carried a quote from the Bible. Inset: At a hamburger joint he is offered a meal if he first pays a R1 000 "membership fee".

Pictures: Brian Hendler.



KEITH MATHEE: Former BOSS spy is now Ciskei's Minister of Justice.
● Photograph: Ken Vernon.



DEREK BRUNE: Former police spy and NIS agent is now Sam Nujoma's head of security in Namibia.



CRAIG WILLIAMSON: Former security branch superspy has now quit the President's Council.

STAR 2 MARCH 1991

Former campus spies come in from the cold

THREE former South African campus spies who operated in the early 1970s appear to have come in from the cold and performed complete turnabouts in their political careers in the past two decades.

The most recent case was that of the newly appointed Ciskeian Minister of Justice, Keith Mathee.

A former self-confessed Bureau for State Security spy, Mr Mathee operated at Durban's University of Natal.

He made headlines when, as president of the Durban campus SRC, he confessed he had spied for Boss.

Similarly, Derek Brune confessed in 1976 he was a police spy throughout his student career at the Univer-

sity of the Witwatersrand.

Soon after Namibian independence he was appointed head of Swapo President Sam Nujoma's security department — the people he had been fighting!

Mr Brune was once a senior officer in Pretoria's National Intelligence Service and is cousin to former captured spy, Lieutenant Olivia Forsyth.

He was recently transferred to become acting commander of the Namibian police college, according to a Namibian police liaison officer.

The Saturday Star was unable to speak to him. A colleague said he was away on holiday.

PAT DEVEREAUX

Meanwhile, former Security Branch superspy Craig Williamson — who during his student days posed as a Nusas portfolio holder and became an ANC member — resigned from the State President's Council last year with a liberal message for State President de Klerk.

"One can't have a sole monopoly on power".

He also said it was time for some form of interim power sharing.

Asked about his spying activities, Mr Williamson said this week: "We

were the young and foolish."

He said the trio had all known each other while on campus.

"At the time I viewed my activities as a job which I was doing like a lot of other young white South Africans," said Mr Williamson.

"I was committed to the National Party but I didn't analyse who was right and who was wrong. It's not that simple now.

"In 1989 I was one of the few NP members who stood for the elections saying we should be talking to the ANC.

"I left the President's Council in 1990 because we need new people to run the country. I don't think it's productive to have the same people

who were killing each other at the negotiating table."

He added that he was currently involved in business outside South Africa — specifically in Mozambique — but he declined to elaborate.

This week Mr Mathee said he had repented of his spying activities.

"I was only 18 at the time. I had been raised in a conservative community in the Orange Free State. I was approached to spy for Boss before I entered university in 1973.

"But my ideas changed while I was at university and I finally made a public confession in 1976. My action dismayed my family, especially my father, who had been with the police force for 40 years."

6 councillors killed, 404 have quit

STAR 2 MARCH 1991

CAPE TOWN — Six black councillors have been murdered and 404 have resigned as a result of intimidation since February 2 last year, the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs and Housing, Herrius Kriel, said yesterday.

Six Indian and eight coloured councillors had also resigned during the same period, he said in a written reply to Mr J Chiole (CP Pretoria West).

The Government held regular consultations with the councillors who were encouraged and morally supported to remain in office until a new system had been established. "Support is also given to councillors during their negotiations with residents' associations and concerned citizens' groups in their areas."

This was so they could remedy shortcomings before township residents became frustrated and resorted to violence.

Specific arrangements had been made with the security forces to protect the lives and property of councillors and members of coloured and Indian management committees.

The Government had been informed of alleged threats of an intimidation campaign against white councillors and this had been brought to the attention of the security forces.

"If the threat is carried out, most of the white local authorities have protection services to protect their council members," Mr Kriel said. If these services were inadequate, the SAP could be asked to help.

Mr Kriel also reported that almost a billion rand in unpaid rents and service was outstanding in the Transvaal in December.

In a written reply to a question from Peter Soal (DP Johannesburg North), Mr Kriel said the total owed to black local authorities for house rents and service charges in the Transvaal was R996 572 389.

Mr Kriel, in answer to another question, said the Free Settlement Areas Board had cost R739 541 since its inception.

The eight-member board had held a total of 111 meetings.

The chairman, Hein Kruger, had been paid a total of R243 671 while total payment to the other members ranged from R19 000 to R22 000.

Bloody 'justice' at people's court

STAR

2 MARCH 1991

ABBEY MAKOE

A PEOPLE'S court sentenced four men — including one over 60 — to 500 lashes each after they were accused of ignoring a call for a work stayaway.

The four, Simon Mothapo (63), Sakkie Mokone (52), Witness Gaji (45) and Christopher Kraai (34), "stood trial" in Jouberton near Klerksdorp this month. They were "convicted" after a 3 am hearing in a shanty town called Joe Slovo.

Awakened

The men had been forcefully awakened in the early hours and made to walk about 4 km, escorted by "comrades". Said one of the men: "As if we were a herd of cattle, they drove us from behind like devoted herd-boys."

The four were then "tried and sentenced" inside a small, dim shack, occupied by members of the jury. It had no furniture, except for a few make-shift chairs on which "court officials" were seated, the men said. They were not given a chance to state their case.

A gathering of men, women and children — some as young as 10 — waited outside the shack.

The men said that shortly before the floggings began they were told: "This is the era of Mandela, not De Klerk."

"Court officials" left the shack and ordered the "flogging team" to get ready. The victims said almost everyone was wielding a plastic zoro (another term for sjambok).

Soon after being stripped naked, the 45-year-old Mr Gaji was spreadeagled over a drum and flogged on the buttocks, thighs and back. He said "comrades" held his feet and hands tight.

Then the three others were flogged. They said they received more than 50 lashes each. "Everyone wanted to lay a hand on us."

The victims started to bleed. "Little girls fetched water in buckets and poured it over us".

The men thought their ordeal was over, but

were then seated on the ground and forced to sing. Said the 63-year-old Mr Mothapo: "We clapped hands and responded to the conductor: 'Rona re Dimpimpi' (we are informers)."

They were then forced to play with a tennis ball. Mr Mothapo, who found it difficult to kick the ball, was later told he was "manager-coach" of the impromptu football team. Mr Mokone was the goal-keeper.

Each time Mr Mokone conceded a "goal" he was lashed. Mr Kraai and Mr Gaji were lashed when they missed a shot.

Soon before being released at 5 am they were shown a long sharp knife and warned that should they become habitual offenders of the "people's rules", their ears would be cut off.

Fire threat

"We were also shown chemicals," said one of the men. "A small amount was spread on the ground and set alight. A small boy told us we would get burnt if we were stubborn."

Said Mr Mothapo: "What kind of society is it going to be if blacks take over government?"



PEOPLE'S COURT VICTIMS: From left: Christopher Kraai Sakkie Mokone, Witness Gaji and Simon Mothapi.

ANC youth reacts to claims

THE regular column by City Press editor Khulu Sibiyi, published on February 24, warrants an official response from the ANC Youth League.

This is because of the seriousness of some of the insinuations made in the article.

Two erroneous and several inaccurate statements were made. Our concern is the errors that were made, namely:

■ That "against the will of ANC members, Mandela led an ANC delegation to meet Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi"; and

■ That "disregarding the militant stand of the ANC Youth League and members of Umkhonto weSizwe, Mandela forged ahead and opened discussions with FW's government".

With regard to the first allegation, the National Executive Committee of the ANC established a special committee to deal with violence in Natal in early 1990.

One of the duties of the committee was to hold discussions with Inkatha.

The work of the committee was endorsed by the National Consultative Conference which was held in December 1990.

Prior to the conference the NEC announced its intention to hold a full sitting with the Inkatha central committee.

This detail is intended to illustrate the extent to which the processes of achieving peace in Natal had become the property of the membership of the ANC, including deputy president Nelson Mandela.

As editor of a prominent newspaper like City Press, Mr Sibiyi is expected to at least do preliminary research so his articles can be informa-

tive and authoritative.

The insinuation that Mandela met with Inkatha against the wishes of ANC members is incorrect.

On the second point, it is important Mr Sibiyi acquaints himself with the processes that have unfolded regarding negotiations.

The Harare Declaration, which serves as our lodestar for negotiations, was adopted in 1989 after lengthy discussions within the mass democratic

movement and the liberation movement.

The ANC Youth League had not been established yet.

But youth organised under Sayco, the ANC Youth Section, Umkhonto weSizwe and other youth organisations which became the ANC Youth League, were part and parcel of deliberations that led to the drawing up of the Declaration.

Subsequent meetings that took place between the ANC and the govern-

ment went ahead with the full blessing and support of the Youth League.

To suggest that negotiations began with total disregard for the Youth League is not only incorrect, but false.

In conclusion, we wish to warn against sweeping generalisations and unscholarly journalism.

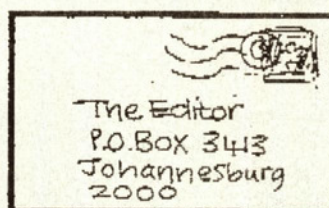
It is important for men of Mr Sibiyi's standing to weigh their facts so as not to erode the respect they still command among critical readers.

This letter is not intended to pass judgement on the credibility of City Press and its editor but is an appeal to our journalists to improve their work so their newspapers are worth reading. — Parks Mankahlana, secretary for information and publicity, ANC Youth League

PEOPLE'S PRESS

Where City Press readers speak out

Preference will be given to short, neatly written or typed letters. While pen names will be used on request, all letters must include the writer's full name and address.



Inkatha left out again

THE Inkatha Freedom Party noted with interest your editorial of February 10 and the reference to, we presume, another "peace initiative" to be hosted by Archbishop Desmond Tutu at Bishoppoort.

We have not been advised of such a forthcoming event but feel the point should be made — in view of your insinuation that there may be a problem — that the IFP is in favour of constructive and appropriate peace initiatives arranged impartially in

the best interests of all concerned.

What we do emphasise, however, is that we view programmes and agendas which are foisted upon us without democratic consultation as being manifestly unfair.

Is it not reasonable to expect to be advised at the outset and not when decisions have already been finalised?

In other words, like others, we too have a constituency to whom we are responsible. When we are the last to hear about meetings, they want to know why.

If the "unity" and freedom of political choice we all desire is to become a reality, then all those who wish to play a meaningful role should be sensitive to the fact that well-meaning endeavours should not be dictated but discussed. — Dr FT Mdlalose, national chairman, Inkatha Freedom Party.

Overhaul education system

SHOCKING results in black schools are the most obvious sign of the rottenness of our school system. What else is wrong?

First, inequality of funding. Second, a system which does nothing to prepare pupils to live together in one country. Third, conformity and intellectual timidity.

These problems cannot be cured by flinging money at the existing system. Nor can they be cured by a mere method or recipe for teaching.

The system is over-controlled, over-centralised and unequal. How can it be right?

What we want of schools is that they produce literate, numerate and socially aware students. — AS Tshabalala, Bethal.

City Press 2/2/91

High stakes in murder probe

ONE significant contribution to peace the South African Police can make at this time is to apprehend quickly those responsible for the brutal murder of Chief Mhlabunzima Maphumulo in Maritzburg this week. Murders and assassinations are always ill-timed, but this murder, in particular, has the potential to strain or even derail the fragile peace accord between Inkatha and the ANC. One is left wondering if, in fact, it was not the intention of the murderers to achieve just that.

Already rumours are flying around and fingers are being pointed. This disturbing development threatens to get worse and it appears to me that the SAP could save us if they were to throw in their best professional men to investigate this crime and apprehend the murderers as quickly as possible.

It took time, effort and patience on the part of our leaders to craft the Inkatha-ANC peace accord and it would be a great pity if the Maphumulo murder were to lead to its disruption.

Somewhat I have a feeling that,

Through
My Eyes

OSCAR
DHLOMO



if the police were to try harder, progress could be made in solving the case. I also suspect that leaving the matter in the hands of local police is causing the aggrieved parties to doubt that it will be solved.

As they have done in the past, the ANC and Inkatha leaders could also help defuse the tense atmosphere if they were to handle this sensitive matter jointly.

It might eventually turn out that this was not a political murder, as many sources tend to confirm that Chief Maphumulo did have many enemies, even within his tribe. That is why quick police work is crucial.

If the murder is not speedily resolved an extremely precarious situation will develop and the daunting task of selling the peace accord to the grassroots will be made even more difficult.

STAR
15.2.91