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Acrimony dilutes plans for joint Afrikaner front

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Pretoria rally turns out to be a damp squib as moderates and far-rightwingers fight over burning of SA flag

BY MOLIKI MAKHANYA Political Reporter

The birth of a united Afrikaner front is being threatened by internal wrangles among Afrikaner activists over the programme of such a movement.

While the Foundation for Equality before the Law's protest meeting at the weekend was endorsed and attended by most predominantly Afrikaner organisations, strong tensions still exist between rightwing militants and moderates.

This division was played out at the FEL Pretoria protest on Saturday where far rightwingers and moderates clashed over the attempted burning of the South African flag. The FEL was set up recently to campaign against the trials of former defence minister Magnus Malan and other security force members and fight perceived discrimination against Afrikaners and their language by the authorities.

And even though there has been outrage among Afrikaners over the scaling down of their language on the SABC and the public service and perceived discrimination against them, the rally turned out to be a damp squib. Only about 1 000 people turned up, far fewer than the 3 000 the organisers had expected.

The militant section of the front, consisting of the Conservative Party and what is left of the "boerekommandos" and "resistance movements", wants strong action to be taken to halt the downgrading of Afrikaans. It totally rejects the new order.

The National Party-leaning side - represented by the likes of former health minister Dr Rina Venter, former Police Commissioner-General Johan van der Merwe and other former civil servants - wants to fight the Government within the ambit of the constitution and that the group intends taking the SABC to court. Reuters reports that President Nelson Mandela on Saturday sharply attacked the group formed to protect Afrikaner rights, accusing them of trying to turn the clock back to apartheid.
NP pondering new name and direction

National Party leader FW de Klerk yesterday attempted to quash reports that the NP was on the verge of dissolving itself.

He admitted, however, that a secret document leaked to the press had been discussed on the highest level in the NP but said no decision had been taken on it.

According to the reports the executive committee of the NP Federal Council had decided last Monday to disband the party and spearhead the formation of a new Christian Democratic political movement.

A name change for the party had also been approved, the reports said. The Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Rapport, which has traditionally had close ties to the NP, said members of the party's parliamentary caucus were not yet aware of the decision.

NP sources last night said they did not know of the decision but suspected there was "some truth" in the reports.

APP reports the leak of the policy document to Rapport had upset senior party members who said they had not been aware of its contents.

It is expected the issue will be discussed when the full NP caucus meets in Cape Town today.

The NP has been dogged by an identity crisis and internal disension since it was ousted from power, seemingly unsure whether to play an opposition role or that of coalition partner in the Government of National Unity.

There has also been pressure within its ranks for a total revamp of image and structure.

Leading figures from the party's increasingly powerful coloured support base have stated publicly and internally that the party is still far too white to grow significantly in the coloured community and make even modest inroads among black voters.

De Klerk said the reports were "a total misrepresentation" and that the NP was not involved in the formation of a new political movement.

"A name change and the abandonment of organisational identity at this stage is by no means under consideration."

De Klerk strongly criticised the people who leaked the document, accusing them of trying to "maliciously sabotage" a comprehensive long-term initiative of the NP which had the support of the parliamentary caucus.

And he emphasised that the NP would not deviate from its course because a few individuals had their own agenda.

De Klerk added that the initiative involved the formulating of a vision aimed at breaking South Africa out of the present stereotyped political patterns.
NP is prepared to take leave of its old image to guarantee its survival

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

In a last ditch effort to distance itself from a bloody past and attempt to re-invent itself by putting on a new outfit, the National Party is about to effect a number of changes to its identity.

After months of speculation that the party was discussing a new identity – with a strong Christian focus, it now emerges that it will disband as the NP and emerge with a new name, structure and vision. The decision came out of a NP management committee meeting last week that discussed a document containing proposals for restructuring.

Not many outside the management committee had an inkling of the plan to change. One NP organiser in the Cape told Sowetan that he was unaware of changes to the NP but “I welcome what is being suggested”.

Observers say the move has a bearing on the NP’s failure thus far to capture the hearts and minds of black communities which are not willing to eradicate the association of the NP with the bloody trail left by apartheid.

The document, quoted in the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Rapport says the NP is prepared to take leave of its identity if this move will guarantee its survival and vision. The restructured organisation will also look towards effecting changes to its branches and councils.

The changes to the NP will be announced by party leader Mr FW de Klerk at its smart new R4 million headquarters in Pretoria on February 2.

Six years ago De Klerk announced the unbanning of political organisations like the ANC, PAC and SACP on this day. Rapport says that the new document was drawn up by De Klerk, Dr Dawie de Villiers, Mr Roelf Meyer, Mr Leon Wessels, Mr Fanus Schoeman, Mr Nic Koornhof and Mr Hermus Kriel.

The document sketches the building of a new political party grounded on “Christian principles”. The name “Christian Democratic Party” has been suggested strongly from quarters particularly in the Western Cape where the NP’s majority support base is.
NP faction forces
denial on shake-up

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

A FRACTION in the National Party which firmly opposes changes to the party’s name and structure has won an early victory by forcing top leadership to deny that major reorganisation of the party is on the cards.

While there is some support in the party for long-term proposals to consider the formation of a new alliance, possibly along Christian democratic lines, a hardcore group is vehemently opposed to significant changes to the party structure.

At most, it will agree only to gradual, evolutionary change to the party.

Party leader F W de Klerk has hit out at individuals “with their own agenda” who leaked secret proposals for reorganising the NP.

Differences in the party about the proposals were to be aired today at a meeting of its parliamentary caucus, where it was expected the leaking of the proposals would be discussed.

While Mr De Klerk has denied reports that his party is on the brink of dissolution, proposals for a name change and restructuring are known to be supported by some top Nationalists.

Tertius Delport, a member of the Eastern Cape cabinet, last year publicly called for a change in the NP’s name.

Among reasons for a name change is, it is understood, a renewed effort to rid the party of its apartheid-era political baggage. The notion of considering a name change was given new impetus by the party’s less than spectacular performance in last year’s local government elections.

But Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel is said to be concerned that the timing of any changes could work to the disadvantage of the NP in the May local government elections in the Cape metropole and rural districts.

Extracts from a confidential NP document published in Sunday newspapers said the NP should be willing to abandon its name and existing structure under certain circumstances.

Mr De Klerk said the leaking of the document was a malicious attempt to sabotage a comprehensive and long-term initiative by the NP. It was a working document on which no final decision had been taken. Proposals made at a meeting on January 8 had yet to be considered by the federal council of the NP.

Mr De Klerk said the NP, as a non-racial party and the second largest political party in the country, saw for itself a leading role in stimulating fundamental change to the political scene.

“The starting point of this process is to bring about co-operation across political lines regarding key issues of the day.”

Amalgamation of existing political parties was not under consideration.

“The NP believes that a broad approach is necessary and that ways and means have to be found to involve in any new political dispensation the millions of South Africans who are dissatisfied with the present political dispensation.”
Restructuring of NP essential and troublemakers must go, says De Klerk

By PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Cape Town – Deputy President and National Party leader F W de Klerk said yesterday he wanted to rid the party of "troublemakers and saboteurs" who leaked a confidential strategy document to the media.

De Klerk was speaking at a media conference at Parliament after a party strategy paper discussed last week by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council of the NP was leaked to the media. The paper proposed that the NP change its name and structures and attempt to emerge as a political alternative to the ANC.

De Klerk has already denied that the NP is on the brink of dis-solution but said the NP realised the necessity for breaking out of the present stereotyped party political patterns.

Yesterday the NP's parliamentary caucus met and decided that "restructuring in South African politics is an essential process that will require fearless leadership".

"The NP accepts this challenge and intends playing a leading role in this inevitable process. A strong NP that is the voice of millions of South Africans is a prerequisite for the successful completion of political restructuring."

The caucus expressed its "strong disapproval of the undisciplined behaviour of persons who ignore the internal democracy..."

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Troublemakers must go, says FW

From Page 1

De Klerk denied that any changes to the party would be delayed by the leak and said he intended to make an announcement on the party's future, as scheduled, on February 2 when the new NP headquarters are opened in Pretoria.

He said political restructuring was essential if South Africa was to have a successful multi-party democracy. The NP would ask voters in the upcoming local government elections in the Western Cape metropole and KwaZulu Natal to support its vision of a restructuring of the political scene to break out of the racial voting patterns evident in the 1994 elections.

But a mere name change would not serve this purpose. Instead, a new political force could emerge from common Christian values.

He could not put a time-frame on this development.
FW wants to rid NP of 'saboteurs'

NATIONAL PARTY leader Mr FW de Klerk wants to rid the party of "trouble-makers and saboteurs" - the "disgruntled individuals" responsible for leaking a working document on the NP's vision for a political realignment.

"I want them out of the party," he told a press conference yesterday, after a meeting of the NP's caucus mandated him to take immediate steps "to ensure that undisciplined actions do not disrupt further initiatives".

The caucus also expressed full support for Mr De Klerk's initiatives, saying it was "convincingly that restructuring in South African politics is an essential process that will require fearless leadership".

"The National Party accepts this challenge and intends playing a leading role in this inevitable process," the caucus said.

Dismissing reports that the NP was on the brink of dissolution, Mr De Klerk said the party was looking at a vision for the future and the role it could play in transforming the whole political scene.

If the present divisions continued, there was little hope for a successful multi-party democracy as this required "winners and challengers".

Mr De Klerk said the NP supported a vision of the future that would bring people together and break down old historical barriers.

However, he stressed, amalgamation of political parties was not a consideration.

A starting point was to identify crucial issues and establish common ground in talks with other parties.

The policy document would go ahead as planned at the "fastest possible pace". The full text would be released on February 2 for further discussion by all NP structures.
Blue days for whites

Many Afrikaners feel that President Nelson Mandela is trampling on their rights and have started demonstrating. Robert Block of The Independent, London, explains why...

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General Johan van der Merwe ... Afrikaners will not allow their rights to be trampled on.

Pioneer Museum attracted a crowd of 1 000. Yet, despite the turnout, the meeting was important because it offered evidence of increasing discontent with the Government, even among moderate Afrikaners.

Speeches at the rally – which all focused on the raw deal that Afrikaners believed they were getting from the Government – were notable for their mild rhetoric when compared with the threats of all-out war issued by pro-apartheid whites in the run-up to the 1994 elections.

"I want to tell Mr Mandela with the necessary respect that people involved in this effort are not fools who long for the past," said General Johan van der Merwe, a retired apartheid-era police commissioner.

"We want to play a constructive role and we accept change, but we want to put it very plainly; we will not allow our rights to be trampled on or our people to be hijacked."

But the moderate tone adopted by the speakers was undermined by the failure of the Afrikaners to bridge the differences among themselves.

The rally got off to an inglorious start when a group of right-wingers tried to set fire to South Africa's new flag, which they said was a symbol of black oppression of Afrikaners.

Rally organisers stepped in and grabbed the flag back after a short scuffle.

"There are many people who respect this flag and who are also good Afrikaners," said Dr Theo de Jager, the chairman of the Foundation which called the rally.

If the Afrikaners harboured any hope that Mandela might be moved by their display, it was quashed only hours after the rally when the President met a leading group of Afrikaner intellectuals, including De Jager.

Mandela accused them of seeking to maintain their "unjustly privileged position" and warned that unless they embraced the new dispensation, they would find themselves "on the political sidelines" for ever.

President Nelson Mandela ... Afrikaners will find themselves on the sidelines unless they embrace the new dispensation.

The inability of the NP and other Afrikaner groups to defeat many ANC-driven changes perceived to be threatening to Afrikaner interests has led to the creation of a new organisation, calling itself the Foundation for Equality before the Law.

Characterising itself as a "civic movement", the group has started a campaign to defend Afrikaner rights. Last Saturday, it convened a gathering of Afrikaners from across the political spectrum to air their grievances.

Perceived attack

Of particular concern was the perceived attack on the Afrikaans language which, starting next month, will have to take its place alongside black languages on television, and be demoted from its equal prominence with English, the country's lingua franca.

Whereas Afrikaner rallies in the old days of apartheid drew tens of thousands of the volk, Saturday's demonstration in front of Pretoria's
Strategy by National Party malcontents backfires

BY KAIZEN NKATSUMBA
Political Editor

Seldom does an ill-considered strategy backfire so badly. The leading to the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Rapport, at the weekend of a National Party discussion document about the future of the party cannot but have been a preemptive strike.

The person or persons responsible for drafting it, like those in the ANC who whispered in my ear in December 1994 about President Nelson Mandela’s controversial proposal to have the organisation’s new leadership hand-picked to ensure racial and geographical representativeness, must have wanted to get the document publicised so that it would meet with internal NP resistance and the discussion be abandoned before it got too far.

That is a common enough strategy in politics, often employed by dissenters to discredit an idea or proposal to which they are opposed. Only last year IFP members opposed to that party’s “20-point plan” advocating open confrontation between the KwaZulu-Natal government and the National Government over provincial powers, leaked the document to the Natal Witness.

And the strategy sometimes works, too: the IFP’s “20-point plan” was quietly abandoned and at the ANC’s 49th national congress in Bloemfontein in December 1994, Mandela suffered perhaps his biggest internal defeat when delegates roundly rejected his proposal, arguing that it would “interfere with the democratic process” of electing National Executive Committee members.

However, the NP malcontents have not had similar luck. Not only has the party leadership come out openly to admit that such a discussion document does indeed exist, but it has also got the NP’s parliamentary caucus to endorse the paramount need for the party to restructure itself if it is to survive. Not only that, but the caucus also mandated party leader FW de Klerk to rid the NP of “troublemakers and saboteurs”.

Surely the malcontents could not have foreseen such a scenario. It must be said, too, that the proposed restructuring of the NP details of which will be announced by De Klerk in Pretoria on February 2, is absolutely vital for the continued survival of the NP as a viable party. For in a country in which whites are so thoroughly outnumbered by blacks, a political party which sees itself as the home of only whites – let alone one which considers itself the political home of one white ethnic group, such as Afrikaners – will remain, at best, no more than a lobby group.

To become a viable party, the NP will have to become, in essence, a new party, representative of all South Africans. A cosmetic name-change alone, too, would not do.

Indications are that NP leaders are aware of this, but the politically myopic vermin creeps within the party want the NP to remain a home for white and brown Afrikaners. It would be in the NP’s interest, as some within the party’s leadership who’ve begun to think, if these political troglodytes were allowed to leave, just as Dr Andries Treurnicht and his colleagues left to form the now almost moribund Conservative Party 15 years ago.

NP leaders have not ruled out political alliances with other like-minded parties. Although it is quite conceivable that the NP, the Democratic Party and the IFP might form an election pact in 1999 to oppose the strong ANC, a total merger of these parties is unlikely.

At best, a re-born NP will go out aggressively for black (particularly African) support and hope to woo some Christian democrats away from the ANC, the Freedom Front, the DP and the IFP.

‘Leak’ may be vendetta against FW

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Cape Town – The National Party has not excluded the possibility of a personal vendetta against Deputy President FW de Klerk as the reason for the leak of a secret party strategy paper to the media, according to NP executive director Fanus Schoeman.

“There may be a few individuals who are not happy with the new developments, but they do not form a pressure group,” Schoeman said.

De Klerk’s alleged supporters have distanced themselves from the party and promised disciplinary action against the person or persons who leaked the document.

Schoeman added that the party leadership was baffled by the leak. “In some other way we will find out who did this,” Gauteng NP leader Pik Botha said in an interview there were “two schools of thought” in the party on the name issue.

Some believed the NP must finally break with the past by changing its name, while others believed the move would be wrong without obvious voter support.

Botha conceded he was a supporter of a name change and the removal of the “dead wood” from the party.

On Monday the NP declared its support for De Klerk and the party’s initiative to seek out new allies in the long term.

De Klerk confirmed that the NP was not interested in an alliance with an existing party but would cooperate with any party that shared its views on specific issues.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki yesterday said he believed the NP should disband.

But President Mandela said in Pretoria that for true democracy to flourish, the Government needed a strong opposition, and the NP had a constructive role to play.

He added, however, that the Government’s first priority was to ensure that its own organisation stayed intact.
Mixed reactions to De Klerk’s new party proposal

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — NP leader FW de Klerk’s proposal that political parties should “restructure” and possibly form a new political movement which could challenge the ANC met reactions ranging from cautious support to outright derision from other parties yesterday.

IFP MP Walter Felgate said his party saw the proposal as the attempt of a struggling white political party to survive in changed political circumstances.

The NP was unlikely to survive in the long term and might not even survive the 1999 election, he said. Although he ruled out a merger, he said the IFP would support the idea that parties should form a “common front and common understandings”.

DP leader Tony Leon ruled out a merger between the NP and DP, but was careful to leave the door open for further discussions.

Leon disclosed that his party had also been investigating the issue of mergers and restructuring since its congress last year, and had established a committee to undertake low-key discussions.

The idea of a common front against the ANC was to some extent common sense, as parties would have to cooperate to combat the ANC “steamroller”, he said.

The ANC was becoming impatient with democracy and was developing “the morality of power rather than the power of morality”.

SAPA reports that President Nelson Mandela reacted cautiously to the proposal, saying the ANC could not pass judgment on the existence or non-existence of any other political party.

For true democracy to flourish, the government needed an opposition, and the NP had a constructive role to play, Mandela said.

The government’s first priority, however, was to ensure its own organisation stayed intact.

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The decision to give Parliament a face-lift by decoratiting it with politically correct art is expected to raise the ire of many ANC supporters. However, the ANC government has decided to abolish hanging old Nats.
SA sends new ambassador to Austria

By Karin Schimke

South Africa will soon have a new ambassador in Austria to replace Janek Roux, whose contract is due to expire. She is Nozizpho Diseko, who already has years of experience in overseas representation.

Diseko (39) spent 11 years in exile and will be returning to Europe next month for a four-year tour in Vienna.

She is chief director of policy planning at the Department of Foreign Affairs after serving as chief of the ANC's mission in Sweden for three years following her initial return home in 1990.

During her years in exile she served as chairman of the ANC in the United Kingdom.

On her return from Sweden in 1994 she worked as an assistant to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki in overseeing the Reconstruction and Development Programme, in addition to the ANC's general election campaign and the presidential inauguration of Nelson Mandela.

Her work as a diplomat will be spread across three major areas because she will be permanent South African representative to the United Nations in Vienna and be accredited to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Foreign expert ... Nozizpho Diseko spent 11 years abroad.
Parliament to be stripped of apartheid relics

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — The priceless art collection in Parliament — including apartheid works offensive to the ANC — is to be stripped from the walls to make way for the UN Art Against Apartheid exhibition.

MPs, who declined to be named, said they also expected many works, particularly portraits of Hendrik Verwoerd, FW Botha and the last white cabinet, to be kept off Parliament’s walls in the future.

The internal arrangements committees of the Senate and the National Assembly agreed yesterday that all artworks would be removed. They would be cleaned and restored during the six months allocated for the exhibition. During those six months the combined committees would debate about which pictures and sculptures would be displayed in Parliament again.

More than 500 works hung in Parliament, and the UN exhibition has 94. ANC MPs Wally Serote and Tony Yengeni gave notice of the forthcoming debate by insisting that “some of us do not wish to be subjected to reflections of the apartheid era”.

In an NP rearguard action in the committee, Gerhardus Oosthuizen asked why the old pictures could not remain on the walls with the UN exhibition. He earned a stern rebuke from Yengeni, who said it was unfair to ask for the old and the new to be mixed.

NP Senator Jan Jooste, however, secured agreement in the committee that the works would be exhibited in some way in some place and would remain the property of Parliament.

Ginwala asked the committee to agree to the fact that all the artworks were part of Parliament and SA’s history and national heritage, and that ways to exhibit them would still be determined. She mentioned possibilities of a parliamentary gallery or some other means of displaying the works.
FACES FROM THE PAST: This 1984 picture of one of the last cabinets under the old dispensation, presided over by Mr P.W. Botha, hangs in the entrance to the foyer of the old Assembly building at Parliament. The painting is to get the chop along with all other artworks and symbols of white rule from Paul Kruger to P.W. Botha. In their stead the United Nations Anti-Apartheid Exhibition will be on display.

PICTURE: BENNY GOGO

Parliament to be stripped of white icons

SOUTH AFRICA's first black legislators yesterday served notice of eviction from Parliament on white icons of apartheid from Paul Kruger to Mr P.W. Botha.

Up to 7 000 paintings, sculptures, sketches and artifacts decorating the walls of the 110-year-old Parliament will be removed before President Nelson Mandela opens the third sitting of Parliament next month.

A multi-party committee headed by National Assembly Speaker Dr Frere Gwala resolved yesterday to remove every item of decorum that memorialized apartheid. Mr Gwala later said the decision would be taken for six months by the UN Anti-Apartheid Exhibition, a 10-year-old collection of 94 works by artists from around the world.

"We will take everything down ... to avoid the problem of what do we leave," Dr Gwala said.

"Everything will be removed for cleaning and storage, but it will remain the property of Parliament."

The items include sculptures of Boer heroes, a five-metre painting of Mr P.W. Botha's 1984 cabinet, a giant painting of Dr H.F. Verwoerd outlining his apartheid blueprint and a portrait of Boer leader Paul Kruger, who founded the first Afrikaner republic.

"It will be taken for six months by the UN Anti-Apartheid Exhibition, a 10-year-old collection of 94 works by artists from around the world."

During that time it will be decided what should become of the existing collection of apartheid-era art.

Art and parliamentarian Mr Wally Serote, a veteran ANC activist, said the items should be preserved, saying: "What is on our walls is part of our history."

But militant ANC member Mr Tony Yengeni applauded the decision to strip the walls: "There is a lot on these walls that reflects the past era ... Some of us would not want to be subjected to them again."

Members of the National Party, which formalised apartheid during 45 unbroken years in power, opposed the plan to replace the artworks with the UN exhibition.

Only one item has been removed from the parliamentary precinct since black legislators took their seats in May 1994 following the country's first all-race elections.

It was a brooding marble bust of Dr Verwoerd.

The walls of the Parliament where British colonialists laid the foundations for racial segregation and Afrikaner leaders refined it, still celebrate the dominance of whites over the blacks.

Apart from sketches by early explorers of indigenous blacks, a black person figures among the portraits and busts of Boer and British generals, governors and politicians.

The only defender of black rights depicted is Mrs Helen Suman, who, for 13 of her 35 years, Parliament was the only opponee of apartheid in the house. - Reuters
AFRIKANER TENSIONS — 1

Identity crisis

One day the National Party may just curl up and die — or metamorphose from a worm into a butterfly. But that day is not yet. At a media conference this week, party leader F W de Klerk said that a policy document leaked to Rapport had been an early version of a more comprehensive vision to be unveiled next month. However, the NP did foresee the need to transform its image and, possibly, seek out political alliances once the current interim phase — manifestly the Government of National Unity (GNU) — had passed.

The NP has for some time been involved in internal disputes of this kind. What distinguishes the latest episode is that it is comes in the wake of the party’s inability to make inroads against the ANC in the local authority elections, and, in some wards, the return to the Democratic Party by voters who chose to support De Klerk in 1994.

The NP’s role within the GNU is also a problem to many Afrikaners who want to see strong opposition to ANC policies but who have not committed themselves to the Government of National Unity (GNU).

AFRIKANER TENSIONS — 2

Dismay on the Right

The Front prides itself on the constitutionality of its drive for the creation of an Afrikaner volkstaat. But President Nelson Mandela’s recent critical utterances on Afrikaners in general and the volkstaat in particular have understandably sown confusion in its ranks.

The fear has arisen that Mandela’s remarks could form part of a concerted ANC effort to adopt a new constitution by the official May deadline — notwithstanding the fact that key issues remain unresolved and that such a document could leave minorities vulnerable.

Last weekend, Mandela told the Broederbond linked Ruiterwag that Afrikaners who did not accept the new dispensation would find themselves “on the political sidelines.” Afrikaners had to come to terms with the Truth Commission, affirmative action in the public sector, the trial of the generals and the fact that Afrikaners could expect no more than equitable treatment as one of SA’s 11 official languages.

This followed Mandela’s Carletonville speech in which he dismissed the concept of a volkstaat.

In other words, once Mandela and Viljoen have left the political scene, trust between a dominating ANC and minority Afrikaners would wane and the potential for conflict reassert itself unless constitutional safeguards were in place to override party or ethnic tensions.

The Front, Mulder pointed out, was not being racist or exclusionist through negotiating a place in the sun for Afrikaners who wanted a volkstaat.

In a statement on January 10, he expressed concern that “the ANC still seems to equate apartheid with ethnic minority and an effort to deny the reality of the latter. The ANC should gain wisdom from the current worldwide recognition, and constitutional accommodation, of ethnicity and expedite the settling of this matter in the interests of all in SA.”

He had heard a leading ANC member of the CA express the view that “nothing focuses the mind like a deadline.” However, “pressure will bring problems. It would be easy to postpone for a year or a month if all the parties in the CA agree.”

Over the next few months, calls to postpone the new constitution are likely to grow. There are too many outstanding problems — such as regional powers — for the ANC to expect plain sailing until May.

A new survey by an Idasa agency — The Election Book: Judgement and Choice in SA’s 1994 Election by Robert Mattes — suggests that the first democratic poll was more than an “ethnic census” in which the electorate split up on race and even tribal lines. Economic and class factors predominated, Mattes says. One conclusion is that the voters are not static, and that the more information they get, the greater the possibility they could move across party lines.

He suggests: “It is of the utmost necessity that parties take significant steps to find people who enjoy credibility across the racial and partisan divide, especially parties like the PAC, NP and DP.”

Mulder’s point is, therefore, that while the NP wants to, and needs to change, the process would be so traumatic that the party would not survive. That is why De Klerk so often gives the impression of being a politically divided man: he is.

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Foreign trip could clear constitutional logjam

Marion Edmunds

OVER drinks in hotel bars in Germany last week, new friendships were formed that bode well for the writing of the final constitution.

During a week-long, fact-finding tour to Germany, Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), African National Congress (ANC) and National Party (NP) politicians were able, for the first time since the IFP walked out of the Constitutional Assembly last year, to talk to each other — sometimes late into the night — about South Africa’s constitutional future.

Back home this week, the delegates were cautiously optimistic about the effect the mission would have on the constitution-writing process and, in particular, on the stand-off between the IFP and the ANC over international mediation.

At this stage — and it is early days yet — the signs of a new interparty rapport are good, with even the IFP delegates taking a more amiable line than usual.

IFP negotiator, Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela, said this week he had already briefed party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi about the trip and Buthelezi had been “positively surprised” at what he had to say.

“Mzimela said of the trip: "I think we got the chance to interact across party lines … if the group had had the power to make decisions, certainly there would have been movement on issues because we were able to understand a lot of things collectively."

Mzimela believed there would be follow-up talks between parties on what had been learnt, but would not commit himself on whether the IFP would return to the Constitutional Assembly to participate fully in the final, and most important, phases of the constitutional negotiations.

He said international mediation had not been mentioned during the visit, and in any case “the media have overplayed the whole issue”.

“If we in South Africa could solve our problems, we would not need international mediation … what we did realise abroad was that the international mediation was not just an IFP and ANC problem, it was a problem to be resolved by all the parties,” he said.

A source in the German delegation said that a particularly good relationship had been established between the three M’s — Mzimela, National Party Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer, and his ANC deputy Valli Moosa — the same trio who met to resolve the international mediation crisis last year, and abandoned the attempt in bad humour.

Democratic Party constitutional expert Colin Eglin said this week the trip could be interpreted as a “diluted form of international mediation”, as it was away from home and because they learnt from the Germans.

A report on the tour is being drawn up by the three technical advisers who accompanied the team. It is possible that this report will form the basis of further discussions with the IFP and parties within the Constitutional Assembly.
New movement takes among the Nats
Black community is optimistic good times lie ahead – survey

People living in the Western Cape remain firmly sceptical, believing that the costs of living generally are considerably higher this year than the previous one.

By Matthew Buckland

Black South Africans are more optimistic about the future than other race groups, a survey shows.

A probability study by Market Research Africa (MRA) of “inflationary perceptions” on 2,502 urban households shows that more black South Africans believe that prices are lower than they were a year ago, despite a widespread perception across the racial divide that prices are generally higher.

The study represents about 92% of the urban adult population and about 53% of the total population.

The poll dealt with perceptions of costs, and respondents were asked to indicate whether they thought specified goods and services were cheaper, the same price or more expensive than last year.

The eight categories were clothes, food, transport, education, healthcare, rent and housing, and electricity and water.

The figures indicate that only half of black respondents found education more expensive and 46% found healthcare more expensive than last year, compared to more than 90% of whites and Indians.

The study attributes this to possible factors like free health-care, introduced since the elections last year. More black respondents also thought rent, electricity, and water costs were lower this year compared to last year.

Indian, coloured and whites interviewed did not think rents were cheaper, whereas 10% of the black respondents said rents were cheaper this year.

In total, 21% of black participants saw education as being cheaper this year, compared to 1% of Indians and whites, and 2% of coloureds. The older respondents showed a greater tendency than their younger counterparts to perceive prices as higher.

The general perception is of a brighter future.

The study also indicated that those who watched more television tended to view prices as higher.

Regionally, the survey shows that the Western Cape is the most sceptical. People from this region believed that costs were higher than last year, while fewer respondents from the Free State perceived costs to be higher.

Figures indicate the greatest discrepancy in opinion was over the cost of health services, where 81% of the Western Cape respondents perceived prices to be higher, while only 44% of those from the Free State polled the same opinion.

Gauteng and the Eastern Cape were marginally the second highest of all that saw the health services as being more costly than last year – after the Western Cape.

MRA managing director Hanna Fourie said the survey had not investigated “why” there should be these differences between the race groups or provinces.

"While there is likely to be an element of improved living standards among blacks, or more awareness of economic trends among other groups due to their greater exposure to media, the most likely explanation is simply that there is a general perception among black South Africans of a brighter future", she said.
Mandela lists ANC priorities for 1996

Political Staff

President Mandela has cited the removal of racial inequalities and "building a new and winning nation" as the ANC's priorities for the year ahead in a major policy statement.

Mr. Mandela was addressing a rally at Khutsong outside Carletonville, west of Johannesburg, on the occasion of the ANC's 84th anniversary. Celebrations were held yesterday for the anniversary today.

Mr. Mandela, who was accompanied at the rally by Gauteng PremierTokyo Sexwale and ANC Secretary GeneralCyril Ramaphosa, said his party had not "failed the people" and had brought benefits ranging from the steady recovery of the economy to the decline of political violence in all areas except KwaZulu-Natal.

"Regardless of what our detractors say, we have not failed the people. A good beginning has been made."

There had been "persistent attempts to project a fictional mass disillusionment among the people", Mr. Mandela said, delivering an ANC policy statement issued by its national executive committee. The struggle for transformation would take place "through dogged persistence rather than seemingly spectacular but short-lived quick solutions."

The ANC's performance as the senior partner in government had given lie to the charge that blacks were unable to govern a society as sophisticated as South Africa.

"In spite of successes, wealth and privilege remained overwhelmingly in white hands."

"The distribution of wealth, income and opportunity in our society continues to be determined in terms of race and colour, a situation that will perpetuate itself if we do not elaborate policies and implement programmes to end this continued entrenchment of racism."

Mr. Mandela committed the ANC to new steps to increase the rate of investment in social infrastructure, including housing, communication, education, health, water and sanitation.
ANC considers state subsidies for parties

Stephen Laufer

THE ANC’s national executive committee was examining the possibility of state funding for political parties, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday.

Mbeki was speaking at a Union Buildings briefing on President Nelson Mandela’s “state of the party” speech delivered in Khutsong on Sunday.

The move, aimed at giving politicians greater independence from financially powerful interests, follows criticism that contributors to party coffers have exerted undue influence on public policy.

Critics have linked SA’s failure to recognise the People’s Republic of China and its silence on human rights violations in East Timor to Taiwanese and Indonesian financial support for the ANC.

Mbeki said the party’s finances were in order, “which doesn’t mean we are super-rich.” Shell House, the ANC’s office building in central Johannesburg, would be sold and the headquarters moved to a smaller building by March.

State financing of political parties is an accepted practice in many democracies, often linked to stringent disclosure requirements in respect of other contributions to party funds. Mbeki said the recent ANC executive committee meeting had heard the view that financing should be proportional to electoral support.

Confirming reports of falling ANC membership, Mbeki said the problem was a failure at local level to collect subscriptions properly. The creation of about 100 regional executives would allow the organisation to function more efficiently after it had lost many active members to government.

Expanding on Mandela’s announcement that anti-trust and anti-monopoly legislation was to be beefed up, Mbeki said the ANC was not claiming that “big business is bad business”. Size did not necessarily mean monopolistic practices, but the structure of SA’s economy made life difficult for new entrants.

Prospective foreign investors had complained to the ANC of difficulties in finding SA partners, believing there was agreement locally to shut out competition.

“We are looking for the freest competition in the interests of job creation and an economy more resilient to the international situation,” Mbeki said.
Inkatha seeks indaba with ANC

By Simon Zwane

A HIGH-POWERED meeting between the Inkatha Freedom Party and ANC in KwaZulu-Natal is being planned to discuss the escalating violence in the province.

Addressing a Press conference in Maritzburg yesterday, IFP leader and traditional affairs and environment MEC Mr Nkosí Nyanga Ngubane said premier Frank Mdlalose had been informed about the killing of Mr Mzamo Shandu at the weekend and a top level meeting would be sought with the ANC.

"We are compelled and forced by circumstances to sit down and discuss the matter," he said.

The meeting would also discuss the Christmas killing at Shobashobane on the South Coast.

Shandu was killed when Ngubane’s entourage was ambushed in Stoffelton in the Impendle area. Ngubane blamed the ambush on "police negligence". He said the police did not inform him of the tension in the area and allowed ANC members to come close to the road where his convoy would pass.

He said he would not have gone to the area if he had been informed that residents had signed a petition barring him from coming.

However, Ngubane vowed to go back to the area for the meeting that was 'aborted after Shandu's murder. He was also planning to visit Shobashobane and Bergville in his capacity as a traditional leader.

IFP senator Philip Powell, who was part of the entourage, said the incident indicated that traditional leaders in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands were under attack as the ANC tried to expand to rural areas. He said the strategy used in the '80s, when councillors were driven out of townships was being repeated in the Midlands.

IFP MP David Ntombela, reported that IFP Youth Brigade member, Mbekelezi Masiyi was shot dead in the Lookop area of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands over the weekend.
Simón Barber in Washington

By times of adversity

New US ambassador

to SA was temperamentally suited to his job. He arrived in Pretoria on 23 April 1996. His appointment was announced on 14 April and he began his role with a glowing reference from then US secretary of state, Madeleine Albright. She described him as "a man of principle and integrity, with a strong commitment to human rights and a deep understanding of the complexities of African politics." Barber, a career diplomat, had previously served as ambassador to Yemen and as deputy head of mission in China.

The appointment was seen as a sign of US determination to engage more actively with South Africa, following years of isolation under apartheid. Barber’s tenure in Pretoria was marked by a number of challenges, including the ongoing struggle against HIV/AIDS, the transition from apartheid to democracy, and the need to address lingering inequalities.

Barber was known for his diplomacy and his ability to navigate complex political landscapes. He worked closely with South African officials and international partners to promote US interests, while also supporting the country’s efforts to stabilise the region and address global challenges.

Barber’s leadership was particularly notable during the early years of democracy, when South Africa was grappling with the transition from apartheid to a more inclusive society. He helped to facilitate dialogue between political parties and worked to ensure that human rights were respected.

In 1998, Barber announced his departure from South Africa, having completed his term as US ambassador. His work in Pretoria was widely praised for its contribution to the country’s development and its role in strengthening ties between the US and South Africa.
Nats to press for extended power sharing and powerful provinces

\[ \text{Har 10/11/96 (204R)} \]

BY MONDLU MAKHANYA
Political Reporter

The NP will push hard for strong provincial powers and an extended period of power-sharing when the Constitutional Assembly resumes its work on Monday, NP chief negotiator Fanie Schoeman said yesterday.

These policies will form the pillars of the NP's approach to negotiations and bilateral encounters with other parties after the party's constitutional conference in Cape Town next week.

Schoeman said hundreds of copies of the working draft of the final constitution and the NP's constitutional document, Our Future Together, had been distributed to party branches to help in formulating positions.

Outlining the NP's stance on the power of provinces, Schoe-
Buthlezi rebuffs call to return to Constitutional Assembly

Durban — Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday rebuffed President Nelson Mandela's call for the IFP to return to the Constitutional Assembly, and criticised the president's handling of the international mediation issue.

At the weekend, in a policy statement released at a rally celebrating the ANC's 84th birthday, Mandela urged Inkatha to return to the assembly writing South Africa's new constitution.

But in a written reply sent to Reuters yesterday, Buthelezi said: "If Mr Mandela did not have the disdain that he has for me and the IFP he would have directly spoken to us about his proposal that we return to the Constitutional Assembly, and not through an exercise where he was playing to galleries.

"This call is not a genuine call because the ANC has already said more than once that they will finalise the constitution regardless of whether the IFP is there or not," Buthelezi said.

Inkatha pulled out of the Constitutional Assembly early last year in protest at the Government of National Unity's failure to honour the April 1994 agreement to take the IFP's demands to international mediation. The IFP agreed to contest the general election on condition its federalist constitutional demands were put to foreign mediators.

Buthelezi said he respected Mandela but "it is absolute temerity on his part — for a man who has demonstrated to us and the whole country and the world that he is not a man of his word by refusing to honour the solemn agreement on international mediation that he signed with his own hand — to adopt a high moral stance to us about going back to the Constitutional Assembly".

He said Mandela had ignored the international mediation issue when it was raised by KwaZulu Natal chiefs at meetings with the president in last month and in December 1994.

Buthelezi also said recent statements by Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa, about meeting the IFP leader to woo him back to the constitution-writing process, were "cheap politics". — Reuters.
Rejection over Volkstaat

By Mzimasi Ngudle and Sapa

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela’s rejection of a demand for a Volkstaat has evoked strong reaction from the Afrikaner rightwing, with some groups planning a mass action in Pretoria this weekend.

Reacting to Mandela’s speech during the 84th anniversary of the African National Congress, Freedom Front spokesman Dr Conrie Mulder said there was no way Afrikaners would abandon self-determination and territorial dispensation.

Mulder said the FF had no intention of changing its mission and constitution which provides for a sovereign Afrikaner state.

Mass meeting expected

The FF forms part of the Foundation for Equality Before the Law, an organising body for a mass meeting which is expected to be attended by at least 2,000 members of several political parties and Afrikaner organisations.

Many former members of the old SA Defence Force will reportedly be present at the meeting in Pioneers’ Museum in Silverton.

Members of the foundation’s executive committee include former police commissioners Generals Johan van der Merwe and Mike Geldenhuys, former health minister Dr Reina Venter, former Amcor official Johan van Vuuren and Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer.
Rightist rhetoric falls on deaf ears

By Joe Mdhlala
Political Reporter

Many Afrikaners are not rigid on the question of self-determination

Eugene Terre'Blanche ... the AWB's future seems bleak.

Ferdi Hartzenberg ... the CP is still fighting for separate municipalities.

Being overtaken by the democracy which began unfolding around the early 1990s. As long as he continues to dream about the Afrikaner ever again enjoying political control, the more he will remain marginalised.

The loss of Afrikaner political power, especially at municipal level, has also put an end to the ultra-right movement.

The small power base these organisations enjoyed on the plainsland has been eroded following the ANC's landslide victory in the local government elections.

Even the CP is not able to deal with the new political situation and is still clinging to the old separatist mentality. Early last year, Hartzenberg stated he did not believe the non-racial municipal government would work.

"While we will participate in the local government elections, we will still fight for separate municipalities," he said. It seems both the CP and HNP are living on borrowed political time, and may discover that the country's political landscape has changed so much that they have no role to play.

As for the AWB and its leader Eugene Terre'Blanche, their future can only be described as bleak. Early last year the AWB leader made submissions to Parliament in which he pleaded almost in vain for the cut-off date for political crimes to be extended to May 10, 1994, the date on which Mandela was inaugurated as President.

Although humiliated to be talking to the ANC-led Government, and the people he describes as "terrorists" and "communists," Terre'Blanche was nonetheless prepared to make his point. In his address to Parliament, Terre'Blanche said: "Let the
Buthelezi rejects call by Mandela to join in talks

DURBAN: Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday rebuffed President Nelson Mandela's call for the IFP to return to the Constitutional Assembly and criticised the President's handling of the international mediation issue.

Mr Mandela at the weekend urged Inkatha to return to the assembly writing South Africa's new constitution in a policy statement released at a rally celebrating the ANC's 86th birthday.

But in a written reply to Reuters yesterday, Chief Buthelezi said Mr Mandela should have directed his call to the IFP.

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ADAMANT: Chief Buthelezi

Chief Buthelezi said Inkatha pulled out of the Constitutional Assembly early last year in protest at the ANC’s failure to honour the April 1994 agreement to take the autonomy-seeking IFP’s constitutional demands to international mediation. — Reuters

See Page 6
ANC 'disappointed’ by IFP’s refusal to return

THE ANC said yesterday it was disappointed IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi had rejected President Nelson Mandela's call for the party to return to the Constitutional Assembly.

The ANC was reacting to reports that Buthelezi had rejected Mandela's call and been critical of his handling of the matter of international mediation in constitutional matters agreed to by the ANC, IFP and NP shortly before the April 1994 general elections but which were not implemented.

The ANC said Mandela's call had been made with a genuine desire to see the IFP return to the assembly in the best interests of all South Africans.

'It is most unfortunate that Buthelezi responded to the ANC's gesture of reconciliation by launching a wholly unfounded attack on our president (Mandela),” the party said.

Neither Mandela nor the ANC had refused to honour the agreement to international mediation which had been made in 1994.

It was the IFP which had last year withdrawn from talks with the ANC which were meant to address this as well as other issues.

Constitution

The ANC was insistent that the final constitution had to be written by the legitimate, elected representatives of the people, it said.

This was why the party had on Monday called on the IFP to return to the assembly, and would keep its door open for talks with the party. — Sapa.

eficiency fabrication demand outstripping supply.
The hefty increase in global forward
'Official language' coins to be issued

Jeanne Venter

SA WILL issue new coins every year to ensure each of the 11 official languages will have a chance to adorn the R5 coin.

The finance department, which outlined the plan in the latest Government Gazette, said yesterday the rotation of languages was "in the interests of fairness, equity and democracy". The current language line-up – decided after extensive consultation at Cabinet level – has the words South Africa in Zulu, Swati and Ndebele on the R5 coin. The same languages also emblazon the 1c piece.

Xhosa takes the R2 coin, Afrikaans R1, North and South Sotho 50c, English 10c and Venda 2c.

Minister Ed Harbuz said the cost of changing designs would be negligible as new moulds had to be made constantly.

The new coins will appear in the next few months with slight design changes such as larger numerals.

The prospect of a language getting onto the R5 coin more quickly could improve if the department decides to scrap 1c and 2c pieces.

A finance department spokesman said the department was investigating whether to stop minting these denominations. The effect on poorer communities had yet to be evaluated.

A decision is expected later this year.
ANC 'disappointed' by IFP's refusal to return

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Sapa.
New agency set to help less experienced MPs

BY BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL STAFF

AN AGENCY has been established to help less experienced MPs with information and research.

The Khuqulekani Institute for Democracy said yesterday its head office would be in Johannesburg.

It has already opened a satellite office in Cape Town and three constituency offices in Gauteng.

Although the institute said it would be guided by a "non-partisan board of directors", its board of trustees will be chaired by senior ANC MP Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa and will include ANC MPs Sister Bernard Ncube and Ms Priscilla Jana and ANC senator Dr Sam Motswenyane.

The other trustees are Dr S Rataane, Dr S Mncube and Mr A Mkhwanazi.

The institute said it was formed as a non-government organisation to explore ways of bringing Parliament closer to the public over the next two years.

This would be achieved through implementing programmes to equip "historically disadvantaged Members of Parliament and other elected officials with resources that will enhance their effective performance in Parliament and with their constituencies".

The programmes would also support MPs in their work with their constituencies, NGOs and civil society, support information and research needs of new MPs and provide technical support for strategic planning, management and administration.

The institute said the members of its board were chosen for "their respected professional work and "participation in the community in the struggle against apartheid". 
Rally riles politicians on both sides

Marion Edmunds

The Foundation for Equality Before the Law has spent its last penny on its first rally, to be held in Pretoria on Saturday.

Chairman of the Foundation, Dr Theo de Jager said this week that the Foundation was spending R22,000 on the rally at which it hoped to make its first public statement.

The Foundation, set up in November by the Junior Rapporteurs and Dames Aktuell in order to protect Afrikaner's rights, hopes to draw a mere 2,000 people to the rally, including ex-national servicemen, ex-policemen, ex-generals, and Afrikaners from all political parties.

While the rally has the support of the likes of the former Police Commissioner Johan van der Merwe and the Transvaal Agricultural Union, the Foundation clearly lacks influence and backing, and it is not sweeping the Afrikaner nation up into a frenzy of enthusiasm.

Yet the rally has touched a chord in many politicians, at a time when the relationship between the Afrikaner nation and the ANC is faltering. The truth commission, the Magnus Malan Trail, problems around affirmative action coupled with the ANC's latest statements on the Volksstaat have alienated even the best of the ANC's Afrikaners friends, the Freedom Front.

The FF is seeking an urgent meeting with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki to discuss his public rejection of the Volksstaat. FF MP Pieter Groenewald said that progress on the Volksstaat proposals has been made in bilateral meetings with the ANC over December, and that the recent statements made at the ANC's 84th birthday celebrations contradicted this progress.

The ANC's scalding reaction to the rally reflects its insecurities about its relationship with the Afrikaner. The ANC this week accused the Foundation of trying to drag Afrikaners back into the dark days of apartheid. It accused the Foundation of spreading lies about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It has hit out at Deputy President FW de Klerk and the National Party for undercover support of the Foundation - support which De Klerk denies. He will not attend the rally and it is unlikely that any senior National Party members will do so either.

A cooling of the political intimacy between ANC and Afrikaner suits De Klerk, but it also suits the far right who have been dominant since the elections.

The AWB has jumped into the fray, calling for the resignation of the Freedom Front from Parliament for having failed the Afrikaner. The AWB said that Afrikaner nationalists should join the broad extra-Parliamentary front and start with practical ways of achieving freedom "within our lifetime".

Both ANC and Afrikaner politicians will be watching to see who holds sway at the rally.
Elon Musk is looking to bring his Boring Company, which is already under construction in Los Angeles, to the Chicago area. The new site would be near O'Hare International Airport, according to a report from the Chicago Sun-Times.

Musk has previously expressed interest in building a hyperloop system in the Chicago area, which would use pods traveling at high speeds to transport people and goods between cities. A hyperloop system would be able to travel at speeds of up to 700 miles per hour, making it a faster alternative to traditional rail systems.

If the Boring Company is able to secure a site in Chicago, it could potentially start construction on a hyperloop system as early as next year. However, the company would still need to work with local governments and regulatory agencies to gain approval for the project.

The potential implications of a hyperloop system in Chicago are significant. It could potentially revolutionize transportation in the region, allowing people and goods to travel faster and more efficiently. However, it would also require significant investment in infrastructure and technology, which could be a challenge for the company.

Overall, the Boring Company's move to Chicago is a major development for the hyperloop industry, and it will be interesting to see how the project unfolds in the coming years.
NP ‘break-up’ surprises official

By RAY HARTLEY

A NATIONAL PARTY spokesman has been taken by surprise by a report that the party's top leaders are willing to disband it.

The party is set to dissolve, getting a new name and new structures, according to an article in Rapport.

The newspaper claims that this week the NP's management committee discussed a document proposing the wholesale reinvention of the party.

NP spokesman Danie du Plessis told the Sunday Times last night that the document and the decision to change the party's name were "news to me".

He said he had been unable to reach NP Deputy President FW de Klerk, who was attending the Pavarotti concert in Pretoria.

NP leaders last year debated changing the party's name. Those favouring a name change have argued that the party needs to break with the past to reach black South Africans to challenge the ANC.

The NP's Eastern Cape leader, Tertius Delport, made a strong plea for a name change at the party's regional congress in Cradock late last year.

The party's coloured support base in the Western Cape is known to back a name change.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said: "We don't think a change of name is going to make a difference without a change of attitude. The move is a sign of weakness."
Get with it or get left behind, Mandela cautions Afrikaners

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

President Nelson Mandela yesterday warned Afrikaners that they would find themselves "on the political sidelines" of the new South Africa unless they embraced the new political dispensation.

In an address delivered to the secretive Ruiterwag — an organisation related to the Broederbond — in Hartbeespoort, north of Pretoria, Mr Mandela said opposition to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission by leaders of the former government "leaves a bitter taste in my mouth".

He also said there was "unfortunately a growing perception among the majority of the people of South Africa — those who suffered under apartheid — that criticism of affirmative action from among Afrikaners is simply aimed at preserving as much as possible of the Afrikaners' unjustly privileged position".

Referring to the exclusivity of the Ruiterwag, which allows only male Afrikaners to join, and only by invitation, he said: "You need to consciously avoid a mindset that afflicts most South Africans — that of approaching issues mainly from the point of view of the racial or ethnic group from which one comes."

Affirmative action was not an attack on Afrikaners.

"I asked: Why must you be concerned only with the interests of Afrikaners?" he told a press conference afterwards.

The meeting was held just hours after protesters at a Pretoria rally called by the Foundation for Equality before the Law tried to burn the new South African flag in the presence of the Ruiterwag's leader, Dr Theo de Jager.

Dr de Jager, who attended yesterday's meeting, is also a leader of the foundation, which is campaigning to stop the trials of General Magnus Malan and other former security force members for crimes committed during the rule of the previous government.

Mr Mandela said the foundation's actions were "seen in an extremely negative light" by most South Africans.

He said he had told the Ruiterwag that he would not interfere with the trial of General Malan. "I'm not going to turn this country into a banana republic."

Dr De Jager told the press conference that he had asked Mr Mandela about the new SABC schedule, which substantially reduced Afrikaans airtime. Mr Mandela's response, that languages should be treated equally, had received "loud applause", he said.

In his speech Mr Mandela said Afrikaners would "receive ... precisely the same measure of support and promotion as other languages".

The Hartbeespoort meeting almost did not happen after Mr Mandela and Dr De Jager disagreed on Friday evening over whether the media should be allowed to attend.

Under a compromise agreement, journalists were kept in a "holding area" for two-and-a-half hours before Mr Mandela and Dr De Jager emerged for a press conference.

Despite the ban on journalists, the Ruiterwag secretly allowed two members of an Afrikaans weekly newspaper to attend.

See Page 2
DP blasts draft constitution

Clyve Sawyer

(3048)
IFP defends role of traditional leaders

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — Zulu king Goodwill Zwelithini’s call for a constitutional ban on traditional leaders holding political office was absurd, IFP national council member Walter Felgate said yesterday.

“This is a real intervention in politics. There are no grounds for such a call. It is an absurdity, and has been issued by someone who has no understanding of politics,” Felgate said.

Zwelithini’s spokesman Prince Sifiso Zulu confirmed that Zwelithini had asked President Nelson Mandela at a meeting on Friday to ensure that the final constitution did not allow traditional leaders to hold political office. Mandela had promised to consider the request, Zulu said.

Felgate said he was certain that Mandela would not concede to such an “absurd” request. No other body, including the ANC-aligned Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA (Contralesa), had made such a call, he said.

Zwelithini had not singled out Buthelezi during the meeting with the president but strongly expressed the view that Mandela should seriously consider including such a clause in the constitution.

Zwelithini and his royal council had made an “invaluable contribution” to peace efforts in KwaZulu-Natal after the general election by staying above party politics, said Zulu.

Central government had to reciprocate by including Zwelithini’s request in the constitution.

By being above party politics, traditional leaders would be able to play the role of unifiers in their communities. Traditional leaders were presently mixing party politics with traditional matters and this was a source of violence.

Felgate said it was not possible to draw a distinction between political and non-political matters. For instance, the interim constitution required that traditional leaders be consulted on matters of concern to them. They were also administrators of land in their areas, and were guaranteed positions in local government structures.

After his meeting with Zwelithini, Mandela said the monarch would call a mass gathering of the Zulu nation within the next few weeks to promote reconciliation in KwaZulu-Natal. Buthelezi is expected to attend the meeting along with Mandela.

IFP secretary-general Ziba Jiyane said it was his personal opinion that Zwelithini should consult chiefs — “the core of the Zulu kingdom” — before calling the gathering.

Zulu said Zwelithini had also asked Mandela to have residences and tombstones of all Zulu kings — including that of Shaka, where the IFP holds annual celebrations — to be registered in the name of the royal house.
NP’s survival struggle

As the party wilts before the unrelenting ANC onslaught it is taking desperate measures to try and ensure its survival as a political entity. Political Editor Mathatha Tsedu considers its chances...

NP leader FW de Klerk ... trying to reposition his party before the next general election.

That they took the decision themselves on the basis of their beliefs and convictions.

The problem is not everyone in the NP agrees, as the leak to the media has shown.

De Klerk described the leak as an “act of treachery” by “two men who are expressing their resentment of the party.”

As party leaders they must remain united, he said.

Although Kriel is in the minority on the council, he has impeccable credentials. His province is the only one that has been under ANC control since the 1994 election.

If pushed hard, he may rebel, the party sources say, precipitating a split within the party.

Gauteng leader Mr Pik Botha has taken a clear stance, saying that dropping the name is inevitable.

Botha is supported by Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer. On their side are the few blacks members, while Kriel has the support of diehard old-style Nats.

This group has no chance, insiders say, as De Klerk and his supporters have decided the only way they can make a dent in ANC support in the black community is by changing their image and ditching things such as the present name.

De Klerk is committed to this line, even if he runs the risk of alienating sections of the old guard. It is a risk he will have to take, hoping it will be offset by a breakthrough in black areas.

Will the gambit pay off? Only time, or to be more precise, 1999 will tell.

Oppressing and exploiting

It is this that is at the heart of the move by the NP. The two past elections have shown that very little of the black vote went their way.

Carrying the baggage of 40 years of apartheid rule, mass removals, state-sponsored murder of opponents and a general policy based on oppressing and exploiting blacks, the NP has failed dismally to make inroads into the only sector that can assure its future: black people.

Various meetings and study groups have been sponsored by the party, trying to find a magic formula that will attract the black vote. Thus, despite poor black support, we have Messrs David Chuenyane, John Gogoyta and Major Ramaremisia in Parliament in Cape Town today as Nat MPs.

Last year’s local government elections saw the trusted so-called coloured voters in the Cape deserting the party in rural areas and voting ANC.

This despite the party’s efforts to woo them by giving people such as Messrs Abe Williams, Patrick McKenzie, Peter Marais, Kobus Dowry and others not just seats in the national and provincial legislatures but in Government as well.

With the Cape Town metropole elections set for May, it is important that the party gets its act together before then. A defeat in Cape Town would trigger off disillusionment in the party that can only lead to an embarrassing defeat in 1999.

These are the factors that have brought about the discussion document that bases its threat on the assertion that the political landscape of South Africa is bound to change, and that the party needs to reposition itself now.

The details have been worked out and it is going to be a major move that De Klerk will announce on February 2 when he opens a new multimedia radio party head office in Pretoria.

It has to be a drastic change to make an impact on the black community. The NP is looking to the Democratic Party and Inkatha Freedom Party as partners to oppose the ANC. Already DP leader Mr Tony Leon has said the idea is a good one.

While some in the NP believe the move will weaken it in negotiations with possible future partners, as this gives the impression of a dying party, De Klerk and his supporters want to do the right thing now and get others to join them in that process.

That is why they are able to argue, as they have been doing about the unbannings of 1990, that they took the decision themselves on the basis of their beliefs and convictions.

The problem is not everyone in the NP agrees, as the leak to the media has shown.

De Klerk described the leak as an “act of treachery” by “two men who are expressing their resentment of the party.”

As party leaders they must remain united, he said.

Although Kriel is in the minority on the council, he has impeccable credentials. His province is the only one that has been under ANC control since the 1994 election.

If pushed hard, he may rebel, the party sources say, precipitating a split within the party.

Gauteng leader Mr Pik Botha has taken a clear stance, saying that dropping the name is inevitable.

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A

WITCH-HUNT is under way within the National Party to find the moles who leaked a confidential document to the media last week, something that caused a flurry of denials and divisions within the party.

Faced with a shrinking white membership and support base while at the same time failing to attract blacks, the NP stares certain political death in the face unless something drastic is done.

In terms of the discussion document leaked to the media, the drastic measures include dropping its name or disbanding completely if other parties are willing to amalgamate and create a new party based on Christian beliefs and a commitment to capitalism.

NP leader FW de Klerk was at pains last week to say there was no intention of disbanding the party, only a willingness to amalgamate and form a new party if there are partners out there sharing its new ideals.

As a party that ruled this country for more than 40 years, relying on an exclusively white vote, the new democracy — where whites constitute at most 20 percent of voters — has turned the tables and the future can only be black, in a manner of speaking.

Oppressing and exploiting

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CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

WITHIN hours of the formal resumption of constitutional negotiations today, it became clear that progress will rely on successful bilateral talks between parties.

The constitutional committee sub-committee, a multi-party body set up late last year to break deadlocks, met for the first time this year to consider a third edition of the working draft of the constitution.

Opening the meeting, deputy chairperson Leon Wessels urged parties to devote their energies to ensure the success of bilaterals.

The constitutional court had announced it would meet in June to begin discussing whether it should approve the draft produced by the assembly.

Among issues about which bilaterals are to continue are official languages, and whether and to what degree the bill of rights should apply horizontally and vertically, that is both to the state and to private bodies such as natural persons.

Also unresolved is a clause supported by the African National Congress which is a source of concern to the National Party, that everyone has the right of security of the person, including "to control their own body".

Opponents of the clause fear that it could open the way to a constitutional guarantee of the right to choose to have an abortion.

At today's meeting, the Democratic Party and the ANC clashed over a clause on privacy.

The ANC supports the draft text, which says that everyone will have the right to the privacy of their communications not being violated.

The DP wants the words "or intercepted" inserted in the text, which the ANC maintains is unnecessary because violation includes interception.

The section was referred back to the CA's panel of constitutional experts for an interpretation of its meaning.

It was earlier agreed that the future of the coat of arms be referred to a special multi-party committee.

However, the future coat of arms is to be specified in legislation rather than in the constitution. Concern has been expressed about the cost, predicted to run into millions of rand, of changing the coat of arms.
IFP may soon be back in the constitution-making process

(304A) 22/1/96

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Top negotiators of the ANC, IFP and NP would meet this week to explore ways to facilitate the IFP’s return to the Constitutional Assembly, NP chief negotiator and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

Meyer said the IFP’s return to the constitution-making process “must take place in the next few weeks” because of the looming May 10 deadline for completion of the new constitution.

Arrangements for the meeting between Meyer, his deputy Vali Moosa (ANC) and Correctional Services Minister Sipho Mzimela (IFP) are to be finalised after Moosa’s return to SA today from observing the Palestinian elections.

The 21-month political impasse over the issue of international mediation on outstanding constitutional issues was broken earlier this month when the three negotiators held discussions during a multiparty trip to Germany to study that country’s federal system. It was the first time the three had met following a breakdown in discussions last year.

ANC senior negotiator and chairman of Parliament’s constitutional committee Pravin Gordhan said yesterday: “The ANC believes the IFP should join the constitution-making process sooner rather than later.” Returning to the assembly would provide the IFP with the “best way to put forward their points of view”.

Mzimela said last week a report on the trip could form the basis for the IFP’s return. Once the parties had studied the report, constitutional experts in Germany could be invited to SA to make further inputs into the constitutional process.

This week’s meeting between the three political parties coincides with the resumption of formal negotiations.

Continued on Page 2
ANC wants power sharing to end

By Themba Molefe
Political Correspondent

The African National Congress and its archival the National Party emerged from separate constitutional conferences at the weekend sharply divided on the future of the Government of National Unity.

The ANC Gauteng region said at the end of a three-day conference in Johannesburg that it favoured a final Constitution that did not enforce power-sharing.

Currently the ANC forms the GNU with its opponents, the NP and Inkatha Freedom Party.

ANC provincial chairman and Gauteng premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale said: "With the finalisation of a democratic Constitution (by May 1) and the advances achieved on political stability, save for KwaZulu-Natal, the need for a Constitution-enforced coalition government falls away."

Sexwale said the region would put its proposals to the national constitutional conference of the ANC next month.

"While we observe a need to continuously educate the entire society about national unity, we should not fall into the folly of perpetuating an undemocratic and democratic structure of a GNU," Sexwale said.

The region endorsed the position of the draft Constitution which provide for the legislative and executive competency of the provinces over specific areas including health, housing and education.

Meanwhile, the NP wanted constitutional negotiations to continue beyond 1999, its leader FW de Klerk told his party at the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park on Saturday.

"This is the issue on which the major political parties are furthest apart," he said.

The NP was not thinking of disbanding but would this year focus on extending its power-base. It was also not looking at alliances but co-operation on issues where shared values could be identified.

De Klerk reiterated the NP's position, saying it was important minority rights be protected because "in the final analysis threatened minorities organise themselves to oppose and resist".
NP, DP to fight key issues in draft constitution

BARRY STREET
POLITICAL WRITER
8D 22/11/96

The National and Democratic parties gave notice at the weekend that they would fight key clauses in the draft constitution.

And, with the JP considering a return to the Constitutioinal Assembly, the ANC could find itself unable to obtain the required two-thirds majority to get key sections of the constitution approved.

The negotiations over the new constitution are due to be completed by May 9, but this deadline appears unlikely in view of the tough stance being taken by the NP and DP.

Various clauses of the draft constitution have not been finalised and only different options have been outlined.

However, the DP's Mr. Douglas Gibson told a press conference on Friday that clauses in the published draft constitution had not yet been negotiated and had been amended by the ANC without consultation.

"When the ANC wants things to disappear, they have a funny habit of being left out of the draft," Gibson said.

This may well indicate that the smaller parties will demand clause by clause negotiations.

NP leader Mr. F.W. de Klerk said his party wanted the constitutional negotiations to continue beyond 1999.

"This is the issue on which the major political parties are furthest apart," De Klerk told delegates to the NP's constitutional conference in Kempton Park.

DP leader Mr. Tony Leon said his party would not accept a constitution which did not have a proper bill of rights, effective reserved rights for the provinces, protection against limitations of rights which were too easy to use and the independence of the judiciary entrenched.

The ANC needs the support of 15 people from other parties to achieve the two-thirds majority.
Unpopular' leaders face tribal land vote

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Unpopular traditional leaders could in future be stripped of their powers to administer tribal land if the majority of people in their communities vote for the creation of a communal property association.

This emerged yesterday at a meeting of the national assembly's land affairs committee to discuss the new Communal Property Associations Bill.

Ankathla's Harriet Ngubane asked senior land affairs official Anika Claassen whether the underlying intention of the legislation, which began its progress through the parliamentary system yesterday, was not to take away the influence of traditional leaders in the administration of land.

Claassen said this was not the intention of the Bill, but conceded that if a chief or induna was very unpopular he and his supporters, could be evicted by the community.

The administration of land, and the power to evict, lies at the heart of the political power of traditional leaders, particularly in KwaZulu-Natal.

The Communal Property Associations Bill and the soon-to-be-debated Interim Protection of Informal Land Rights Bill are two of a number of legislative measures which seek to reform rural property relations.

Minority protection mooted

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The NP in the Constitutional Assembly yesterday proposed new clauses for inclusion in the constitution which would constitutionally entrench protection for minorities' cultural rights.

The NP called for a government-run "commission on cultural affairs" and a cultural rights protection clause to be included in the bill of rights. The NP negotiators said they had "swept" the proposals at the end of last year but they were never discussed in the assembly.

NP senior negotiator Sheila Camerer said the commission would act as a support for a "possible" protection of cultural rights clause in the bill of rights. ANC and NP negotiators are expected to take up the matter in private talks starting next week. However, initial ANC reaction was negative.

Camerer, in turn, said the NP was prepared to discuss the exact wording and placing of the proposed clause in the bill of rights. But the NP would push hard for the establishment of a commission on cultural affairs.

Camerer said the proposal for a cultural affairs commission was based on a similar commission provided for in the constitution of India to deal with that country's cultural diversity.

She said there were "a lot of groups in SA who feel they need cultural protection under the constitution".

The proposed commission would be the kind of state body "to cope with cultural diversity, as well as address the needs of anyone who may feel culturally threatened".
NP media leaks: two 'conservatives' named

By Patrick Budden
Political Correspondent

Cape Town - The National Party yesterday pinned on two senior members, the leaked of a confidential party document which created a sensation when it was published.

Western Cape NP leader Dawie de Villiers named them yesterday as youth leader Pierre-Jean Gerber and veteran party representative Adrian Jordaan, a former MP for False Bay.

Both are members of the NP in the Western Cape legislature and have been disciplined.

De Villiers said the men had admitted to involvement in leak-

ing the document which proposed that the NP change its name and start looking for allies to take advantage of an expected realignment in SA politics.

It has also been disclosed that the party members who leaked the document are allegedly mem-

bers of the conservative Western Cape wing of the party. This appears likely to further exacerbate tensions between the federal executive and elements of the NP in the Western Cape.

The latter fear that moves to reposition the NP to gain support among a wider black constituency would alienate the NP's Western

NP media leaks: two are named

Cape Coloured support base.

According to De Villiers, Gerber will stay a member of the Western Cape legislature but has been relieved of all other posts in the NP, including the youth leadership.

His caucus privileges have been suspended for six months, De Villiers said.

Jordaan voluntarily stepped down as a member of the legisla-
ture with immediate effect but will remain a member of the NP.

A party source said their identity had come to light following an intensive investigation.

De Villiers referred to a "pene-

trating discussion" with the two members. Gerber was present at the meeting of the federal executive on January 8 and apparently passed the document to Jordaan, who leaked it to the media.

Jordaan said in a statement he had decided to voluntarily step down and thanked the voters of False Bay for their support for the 22 years he served in public office.

Gerber was unavailable for com-

From Page 1
AN ANC cabinet minister has been spied on. He is Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, whose staff have discovered a sophisticated tracking device in his official vehicle.

This was confirmed yesterday to Spectrum, the investigative unit of Independent Newspapers, by the minister's spokesman, Mr Helmuth Schlenther. His confirmation comes in the wake of recent disclosures by Spectrum that the top structure of the South African Police Service (SAPS) had been under electronic and other surveillance.

A judicial commission of inquiry is to be held soon to determine who could have been responsible for the serious security breach. Meanwhile, Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence is conducting its own official investigation into the matter. Internal reports are also being compiled for the National Intelligence Co-Ordinating Committee.

Yesterday Schlenther said the tracking device had been found by Hanekom's administrative secretary, Mr Eddie Kirsten, in Hanekom's official vehicle last November.

The device — a custom-made bug with a range of several kilometres — was glued under the steering column.

Schlenther disclosed sections of a report compiled by Major G N Britz, head of the micro-electronic research and development unit of the SAPS.

According to the experts who compiled the report, the look, shape and size of the bug indicate that it is a "transponding device ... which, when electronically interrogated, replies with pre-programmed information which is stored in digital or analogue-coded format".

The report continues: "This type of transponding device does not have its own battery with which to energise itself ... It relies on microwave or magnetic field strength in order to be able to absorb enough energy to answer back with information...."

"The interrogator is a transmitting device with a built-in receiver. When activated, it sends out a powerful signal and if the transponder is within range, it will absorb enough power to answer back with pre-programmed information."

The ranges of these devices vary from a few centimetres to several kilometres and can activate monitoring equipment on an aircraft.

According to the report, as many manufacturers as possible of such devices were contacted to establish the origin of the device. "From the information available, it could have been purpose-built," the report concluded.

Schlenther said there had been no indication yet as to who could have been responsible. He added that the minister's offices were now being regularly swept for listening devices.

In an apparently unrelated development yesterday, National Police Commissioner George Fivaz announced that allegations of a serious breach in security at the Ministry of Safety and Security made by a self-confessed National Intelligence Agency (NIA) agent, would be investigated "as a matter of extreme urgency".
Name change’ leak: Two top Nats ousted
CHRISS PITKIN

THE chief whip of the NP legislature in the Western Cape, Mr Adrian Jordaan, has resigned, and the NP’s youth leader, Mr Pierre Jeanne Gerber, has been relieved of all party posts following media “leaks” that the party intended changing its name.

Provincial NP leader Dr Dawie de Villiers said after a special party meeting that both had confirmed their “involvement in the matter” and would resign their posts with immediate effect.

An Afrikaans Sunday newspaper published a confidential working document of the party’s federal council in which the NP’s leaders declared themselves ready to disband and rename the party to improve its “organisational identity”.

The disbanding was on condition the move ensured the party’s “vision for the future”.

Gerber was at the forefront of party reform and often said the NP had no future unless it secured credibility among all sections of the population.

He has also been banned from attending any party caucus meetings for the next six months.

In spite of the drama surrounding the leak, the subject of a party name-change was openly discussed at the Western Cape NP congress in November last year.

NP sources said last night it was the manner of the leak and not the content that broke party discipline and virtually sealed the pair’s fate.

Jordaan last year tabled a motion in the provincial legislature expressing “utmost concern about the apparent trend in central government to regard the freedom of the media as secondary to its own interests”, and proposed a local law to guarantee media freedom.

His voluntary resignation means that Mr Koos Lloy, an MP for Roodeplaat (Gauteng) in the former dispensation, is in line to secure a seat in the local legislature.

The NP sources said Gerber had access to the confidential document as youth leader and broke party discipline by giving it to Jordaan before all caucus members officially knew of the name change discussions. The leak had then ensued.

Gerber, of Wellington, retains his seat in the provincial legislature.

Jordaan, who remains a party member, said last night he decided to resign when party leaders stressed how seriously they viewed the matter. He thanked his False Bay “constituents” for their “support and dedication over almost 22 years”. 
Traditional leaders to fight for their inclusion in final constitution

BY MORDI MAKHANYA

Traditional leaders from the six provinces which have chiefs will meet in Johannesburg this weekend to plan for a push for the accommodation of traditional leadership in the final constitution.

The meeting has been called by the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa), which is spearheading the drive for traditional structures to be included in the final constitution to be finalised in May.

Contralesa chairman Chief Mwelo Nonkonyane said yesterday the meeting would discuss traditional leaders' constitutional proposals and plan for action to press political parties in the Constitutional Assembly to accept these.

Traditional leaders are angry with the Government for having failed to set up a national Council of Traditional Leaders provided for in the interim constitution. This 20-member council would have been the vehicle through which traditional leaders could have made inputs into the CA.

Three months away from the finalisation of the constitution, the council has still not been set up.

The main hurdle to setting up this forum is the failure of Eastern Cape and Northern Province to set up their provincial houses of traditional leaders. The other provinces that have traditional leaders – KwaZulu Natal, Mpu- malanga, Free State and North West – have already set up their houses.

Nonkonyane said the Government was to blame for the delay in setting up these two houses because it had not applied its powers to expedite the process.

"After the Kempton Park meeting, the ANC negotiated with the Afrikaners, and the Volkstaat Council that was agreed to there came into being six months after the elections. But with us they are not really worried," he said.

A Contralesa delegation will meet Eastern Cape Premier Raymond Mhlaba today to press for the acceptance of a 42-member provincial house of traditional leaders.
ANC slams DP for ‘bottom-line’ demand

Small party risks being marginalised over its ‘ill-considered, counter-productive’ approach

BY Mpenduli Makhanya
Political Reporter

The ANC lashed out at the Democratic Party this week, warning that it risked being marginalised if it refused to budge from its “bottom-lines positions” on the final constitution.

The ANC, which has a 62% majority in the Constitutional Assembly, was reacting to a DP bosberraad resolution that it would not support a constitution that limited provincial powers, did not put enough emphasis on individual rights and did not have a proper bill of rights.

The DP had also accused the ANC of ignoring other parties’ proposals and ramming its own proposals into the draft constitution.

In a statement yesterday, the ANC said the DP’s “bottom-lines” approach was “counter-productive and ill considered”.

“The Democratic Party has been irresponsible in setting demands which they say need to be met if they are to support the constitution. Given that negotiations around the final text have yet to start in earnest, it is premature to start throwing in bottom-line positions,” said the ANC.

It said DP claims that other parties’ submissions had been left out of the draft were inaccurate as areas of divergence had been left open-ended and various options had been included in the draft.

Pledging that it was committed to finding consensus, the ANC said the DP’s sticking to bottom lines would see it marginalised from the constitution writing process.

The CA’s deadlock-breaking mechanism – which includes taking specific matters and clauses to the vote – would not favour a small party like the DP so it should rather work with other parties to seek common ground on contentious matters, the ANC said.

“The ANC too has bottom lines. Yet we have committed ourselves to a process of engaging all other parties in an effort to find common ground.”

Inkatha wants to amend new land tenure Bill

BY Patrick Bulger
Political Correspondent

Cape Town – The Inkatha Freedom Party will introduce an amendment to a new land legislation which it says undermines the powers chiefs exercise over land affairs.

The Communal Property Associations Bill, one of several land measures introduced by Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom to overhaul and update land tenure systems, came before Parliament’s portfolio committee on land affairs yesterday. The bill enables communities to form “juristic persons” known as communal property associations which can then buy, hold and manage land which communities have traditionally occupied.

Centre for Applied Legal Studies land expert Aninka Claassens, who was involved in drafting the Bill, told the committee it was necessary to provide for communities which were entitled to land handed back to them in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Act.

Claassens said in reply to committee chairperson, Chief Phathokile Holomisa, who is also president of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa, that the Bill could be used by communities where there was “enormous dissatisfaction” with a chief who administered their land.
Apartment art gets chop in parliament.
A ROUND of applause by parliamentary workers and African National Congress MPs resounded in the corridors of parliament today as workers unbuckled the first apartheid-era artwork from the walls.

The first head to roll, figuratively speaking, was that of former Speaker Alwyn Schlebusch, whose political career included a report recommending action against the anti-apartheid National Union of South African Students, and who was first chairman of the President’s Council.

“I’m rather pleased,” said ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa, who as constitutional assembly chairperson has an office around the corner from the lobby which until this morning housed a gallery of portraits of former Speakers.

“Parliament wants to be reflective of new developments in the country, reflective of new changes and new faces.

“It is good to see them come down. They should go to a museum so they will still be on view for people who want to see what this country has been through.”

Mr Ramaphosa said he would be particularly pleased when the giant portrait of the last all-white cabinet, headed by PW Botha, was removed.

There was a jubilant mood as workers rolled scaffolding along and portrait after portrait was passed to the floor.

Smaller artworks were to be removed today, while larger ones which present technical difficulties will go tomorrow.

Parliamentary worker Mongezi Fana, a familiar sight at the gatehouse to the old assembly wing where he has welcomed thousands of visitors since the 1994 election, said he had fielded countless questions from tourists about why the portraits were still on display.

“They say it looks like the old apartheid regime is still here.”

ANC senator Yolanda Botha said: “It’s lovely. It’s a good, good feeling.”

The timing of the removal was appropriate, because had it been done straight after the 1994 election it would have been too abrupt, she said.

David Dalling, who served in the former dispensation as a Democratic Party MP and is now an ANC member of the national assembly, left his office to watch as Press photographers greeted each removal with a barrage of whirring motorwinders and flashes.

“What a pleasure,” he smiled.

ANC MP Willie Hofmeyr, who was pleased to see the artworks go, said his personal view was that some should be kept in parliament as a matter of history.

No National Party MPs, whose offices are in the adjoining Marks Building, turned out for the removal.

Myburgh Streicher, NP spokesman on the issue, emphasised that the ANC’s joy about the move was premature.

The NP had agreed to the removal only on condition that it was a temporary measure, with their ultimate fate still to be decided, he said.

Democratic Party MP Colin Eglin, who walked through the lobby when almost all the portraits had been removed, was saddened to see that of his former colleague Helen Suzman among them, stacked alongside one of a downcast and aged Paul Kruger.

Mr Eglin was, however, happy to see the others go.

Franz Ginwala, Speaker of the national assembly, said earlier that it had been decided to remove all the artworks rather than make distinctions about which deserved to stay.
NP replace 'disgraced' whip

CHRIS BATEMAN
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WRITER

FORMER MP for Vredendal in the now-defunct House of Representatives, Mr Piet Meyer, was yesterday appointed chief whip of the Western Cape National Party and of the provincial government — replacing Mr Adriaan Jordaan who resigned over a media leak.

Premier Hernus Kriel said he trusted Meyer would serve the provincial parliament "with competence and discretion".

Jordaan, who served False Bay constituents for nearly 22 years, resigned and Mr Pierre Jeannie Gerber was sacked from his post as NP (national) youth leader after a confidential working document of their party's federal council was leaked to a newspaper.

The report revealed that the top NP leadership was willing to change the party name to improve "organisational identity", and make a clean break with the past.

The document was leaked by Jordaan after it was handed to him by Gerber who had attended a top party caucus meeting.

Gerber retains his seat in the provincial legislature but may not attend any party caucus meetings for six months. His position as youth leader will be temporarily filled by Mr Isaac Motaishe, youth leader of North-West province.

Yesterday rumours were circulating that Mr Koos Albertyn, national MP and former ministerial representative in the Western Cape might be swopped for Mr Koos Lloyd, the next list provincial candidate due to take Jordaan's place. An NP regional spokesman could not be traced for comment.
Call to register
MPs’ interests

A CENTRAL register should be kept of the outside financial interests held by MPs and senators as these may affect their work as public representatives, a special parliamentary committee has recommended.

A code of ethics drawn up by the committee includes provisions for the disclosure of gifts to the value of R350 or more and of shareholdings and company directorships that politicians may hold.

The joint ethics sub-committee of the national assembly and senate, chaired by Water Affairs Minister Mr Kader Asmal, finalised its report yesterday for submission to a joint rules committee.

The report reflects a number of issues on which parties differ.

While the ANC and PAC propose that parliamentarians should disclose full information on their land and property assets, the NP, Democratic Party, Freedom Front and African Christian Democratic Party say that residential and holiday homesteads need not be declared, unless they are used for commercial purposes.

And while the ANC and PAC feel that the interests of spouses, permanent companions and dependent children should be disclosed, the NP, DP and FF say they should not.

On ethical issues, the report says: “In general terms members could be expected at all times to behave in an exemplary manner”.

It says they should not use their position to seek or confer favours, “particularly ... sexual favours.”

The report recommends that a computerised register of members' interests — updated every six months — should be the responsibility of a parliamentary official reporting to a specially established joint parliamentary committee.

The report is to be presented to the next meeting of the joint rules committee.

A report of a parliamentary ethics study mission to Ireland and the United Kingdom to study similar measures in those countries was tabled yesterday and is to be discussed at the rules committee meeting. — Sapa
MPs may have to reveal interests

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

SHOULD Members of Parliament be allowed to receive gifts, accept invitations for overseas visits or get paid to lobby causes?

These were some of the issues raised this week in Parliament by the subcommittee on ethics. One of the rules that will apply to members is that they should not use their positions to seek sexual favours.

Discussing a draft report that will be presented to the rules committee at the end of the month the sub-committee, chaired by Water Affairs Minister Professor Kader Asmal, makes its recommendations on codes of conduct for members. This includes a register of gifts and a register of members’ interests. In terms of the guiding principles the South African public gets the assurance that members will be able to properly and independently serve it.

One of the clauses adopted states emphatically that the disclosure of relevant interests of MPs should be made public. Disclosing interests should be widely drawn for the public to decide if there is any conflict of interest in terms of the office held by the member and existing financial interests.

Whatever interests members have to disclose must be contained in a register which the public can scrutinise.

The Inkatha Freedom Party does not support the principle of disclosure of interests by means of the register.

“In general terms members could be expected at all times to behave in an exemplary manner,” Asmal says in his draft report.
Diehard racists finally removed

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

A FEW BODIES TURNED in their graves yesterday. In fact, out of sheer horror at the "blasphemy", they must have done double somersaults.

There was almost an air of festivity at the entrance to the Old Assembly Chamber in Parliament yesterday morning as staff members gathered to strip the walls of portraits and icons of some of the more awful reminders of the country's horrific past.

The first portrait to come down was that of the former speaker of the house, Alwyn Schlesbusch. He was notorious as minister of internal affairs for banning political organisations.

However, one of the more significant portraits to come down was that of another speaker, HJ Kloppers. Not only must he have turned in his grave but so must many of those diehard Afrikaner nationalists who died having not witnessed the reality of the Broederbond dream.

Kloppers was the founder of the Broederbond and, of all the speakers, his portrait was the most prominently and symbolically positioned. It hung just over the entrance of the Volksraad. The stern look in his eyes pierced everyone who entered the hallowed portals. "It was a case of Big Brother is watching you!" Professor Danie du Toit, ANC MP, remarked to Sowetan as he witnessed the fall from grace.

The event also highlighted the difference between the old and the new in Parliament. When each portrait came down, black staff applauded. Older, white and mainly Afrikaner staff, just stood by quietly.

Also present was Constitutional Assembly head Cyril Ramaphosa. "It is good to see them coming down. They should be placed in a museum for all to see what our country was about."

They must really be tasting defeat, one black bystander remarked wryly.
Fall of the ancient regime
The final curtain falls for South Africans old Lords and masters.

Government workers yesterday lowered a painting of Hendrik Verwoerd to the floor of Parliament to mark the end of an era.

A painting of Hendrik Verwoerd (standing) (left) and his cabinet rests on a table.

Workers (right) remove a painting of former prime minister W Bophetse.

The final curtain falls on a chapter of South Africa's history.

Pictures: Sasa Reau Ap
NP wants to keep its 'treasures'

Apartheid icons have a definite place in Parliament says party

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

Stripping the walls of Parliament of apartheid figures' portraits is not sitting too comfortably with the National Party.

People in this country should be pleased with the good work done by those depicted in the portraits, the NP argues. Portraits of people such as the architect of apartheid, Hendrik Verwoerd, John Vorster and PW Botha were all ceremoniously taken down from the walls on Wednesday and yesterday, packaged and placed in storage.

"South Africans, whatever position they occupy in life, should be influenced by greatness and by appreciation for what others have done for them," Mr Myburgh Streicher, NP MP and member of the internal arrangements committee, said yesterday.

He said the NP was very proud of Parliament, all its contents and surroundings. The ANC, on the other hand, says the removal of the portraits and icons is to be welcomed. "We welcome the good sense with which this issue has been approached, allowing for a cooling-off period and a proper assessment of what will finally replace the old iconography," it said.

The NP warned that South Africa's political and cultural history did "not start or end on 27 April 1994".

"No permanent removal of portraits, paintings, busts or statues can blot out events, or the history of South Africa. There is a rightful place for us all," Streicher said.

"The real debate about the future of these parliamentary treasures will still take place. There should be a place of honour for many of them – if not all."
A constitution worth fighting for — but it's far from perfect.

SATURDAY FOCUS 2
House seeks to keep chiefs out

ST 28/1/96

BY RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

THE cabinet this week approved the Council of Traditional Leaders' Bill, which includes a clause barring council members from involvement in elected political structures.

Home Affairs Minister Chief Mamosothu Buthelezi, who is chairman of the KwaZulu Natal House of Traditional Leaders, is said to have objected to the new legislation.

Although the law will not affect his provincial position, it will prevent Chief Buthelezi from seeking a position on the national council.

According to the Bill, the Council of Traditional Leaders will consist of three nominees from each of the four provinces that have provincial houses of traditional leaders — KwaZulu Natal, Mpumalanga, North West and the Free State.

The move is in keeping with a suggestion made by King Goodwill Zwelithini to President Nelson Mandela last week that traditional leaders be barred from participation in political structures.

The Bill was proposed by Provincial and Constitutional Affairs Minister Reuel Meyer at Wednesday's Cabinet meeting.

A ministry spokesman, Isak MANGOSUTHU BUTHELEZI

R BUTHELEZI confirmed that, in terms of the Bill "you cannot be a member of Parliament and a member of the council".

The council's powers are spelled out in Section 154 of the interim constitution and include the authority to "advise and make recommendations to the national government with regard to any matter pertaining to traditional authorities".

All legislation affecting traditional authorities has to be referred to the council in terms of the constitution. One of the first matters the council is expected to deal with is the shifting of funding for traditional leaders from the provinces to central government.
Opposition parties want ANC to back constitution

Farouk Chithia

OPPOSITION parties warned the IFP on Friday that they would be reluctant to endorse a constitution for KwaZulu-Natal that did not have ANC backing.

NP KwaZulu-Natal leader Danie Schutte said the constitutional process had reached a "delicate and crucial stage", and in-depth talks were scheduled to take place with the ANC soon.

An NP source said the ANC had agreed to a two-day meeting at which efforts would be made to break the constitutional logjam. The initiative came against the backdrop of renewed ANC threats to hit back at national level and in the seven provinces it controls if it was marginalised in KwaZulu-Natal's constitutional process.

Senior ANC negotiators complained to their NP counterparts at an acrimonious meeting on Thursday that while the NP expected ANC co-operation at national level, it was excluding the party in the province to strike a deal with the IFP. Schutte denied the charge, saying the NP was committed to an inclusive settlement at provincial and national level. The ANC and other parties should stop playing games and work in the interests of KwaZulu-Natal and SA.

DP KwaZulu-Natal leader Roger Burrows said his party hoped a provincial constitution would be passed with the ANC's support. It was the second-largest party in KwaZulu-Natal and its opposition to a constitution would result in "continued trouble".

The IFP does not need the ANC's support for a two-thirds majority, but needs the backing of the NP, DP, PAC, Minority Front and the African Democratic Party.

All the minority parties threw their weight behind the ANC in the provincial legislature on Friday, blocking the IFP from publishing a draft constitution. Bill to which the IFP had made

Continued on Page 2

KwaZulu

Continued from Page 1

last-minute changes.

Minority Front leader Amichand Rajanin said division within the IFP was bedevilling the process. Premier Frank Mdlalose had convened a meeting of which all party leaders had agreed on the process to be followed to achieve a settlement.

Rajanin said the agreement was scuppered by IFP national council member Walter Fekwe and constitutional adviser Mario Ambrosini, who had reverted to hard-line positions, refusing to make concessions in subsequent negotiations.

The IFP national council met on Saturday to give negotiators a mandate on areas in which further compromises could be made.

Jyane said there was no serious debate on the IFP's return to the constitutional assembly. He felt the adoption of a provincial constitution could pave the way for a return.

The NP had indicated that in exchange for its support for a provincial constitution, it wanted the IFP back in the assembly. "We don't seem to be averse to that," Jyane said.
IFP backs imbizo but slams new draft bill

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Cape Town – The Inkatha Freedom Party at the weekend gave its backing to a proposed imbizo (gathering) of the Zulu nation but new draft legislation on traditional leaders threatened to trigger another ANC-IFP row.

The IFP’s national council meeting in Ulundi at the weekend said a proposed House of Traditional Leaders Bill was intended “to undermine and finally smash all structures of traditional and customary law and to reduce the amakhosi (chiefs) to figureheads”.

The bill was passed by the Cabinet last week. It is intended to speed up the establishment of the National Council of Traditional Leaders, which has been delayed because the constituent houses of traditional leaders in the provinces have not yet been established for the Northern Province and Eastern Cape.

The IFP’s national council said the bill “prohibits anyone from being a member of the House of Traditional Leaders if he is also a member of a provincial legislature or a member of Parliament”. This would force IFP leader Mxolisi Buthelezi, who is chairman of KwaZulu Natal’s House of Traditional Leaders, to choose between that post or staying in Parliament. The bill is intended to remove the involvement of traditional leaders in party politics, a source of conflict in KwaZulu Natal.

The national council said, however, it supported Buthelezi’s suggestion that “the issue of the imbizo be placed before the amakhosi and royal family for a final decision”.

The meeting with the amakhosi is a crucial first hurdle for President Nelson Mandela’s attempts to bring the warring factions in KwaZulu Natal together with the blessing of Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini.
Open Democracy Bill not for media only

The free flow of information is at the root of democracy, Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kadar Asmal said at the weekend in a message read on his behalf at a Freedom of Expression Institute conference.

More than 100 delegates, from the legal and business professions, trade unions, the media and government representatives, were attending the conference called to discuss the Open Democracy Bill.

Asmal said rights in the bill did not merely refer to the print or broadcast media.

"It is a matter that ranges right across the spectrum of activity in any society. "To see it only as, for instance, the freedom of the Press is a myopic way of looking at it."

"It is a vital concern of government, of business, of trade unions, of the academic world, of the legal profession, of the churches - indeed of the whole areas of interests that make up society."

Asmal said he had been a human rights lawyer most of his life and his instinctive position was to champion the cause of maximum disclosure of information.

"The total lack of this in the dark four decades of South Africa that have come to spectacular end produced a society virtually without public opinion."

"We in exile abroad got to know more about the real happenings inside South Africa than most of those whom we had left behind."

South Africa had now moved away from that "pathetic internal condition" and had to develop a powerful culture of openness. - Sapa.
Dr Bhadra Ranchod's decision to withdraw from active politics is a blow to the NP's efforts to portray an increasingly non-racial image. BARRY STREEK reports.

The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Dr Bhadra Ranchod, confirmed yesterday that he was resigning from Parliament but said speculation that he would be changing from the National Party to the ANC was "entirely misplaced".

Ranchod, who said his first love was diplomacy, is in line for appointment as South Africa's High Commissioner in Australia to replace Mr Steyn Naudé, who is retiring.

His decision to withdraw from active politics, however, is a setback to the National Party's efforts to portray an increasingly non-racial image.

Ranchod, a former South African ambassador to the European Union and former law professor, is one of the most senior black MPs in the NP.

Another Natal-based black NP parliamentarian, Senator Sathile Naidoo, is under suspension at present and a statement by NP MP Dr Manie Schoeman that former Transkei leader Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima had joined the NP has been denied by Matanzima.

Last year Western Cape Minister of Local Govt Peter Marais said at the party's provincial congress that the NP remained too white.

One of the leading reformists in the party, Western Cape provincial legislator Mr Pierre Gerber, until recently the NP's national youth leader, is also now under suspension, for his role in leaking an internal party document to the media.

These incidents all reflect tensions in the NP as it tries to redefine its role in South Africa.

In his statement yesterday Ranchod said weekend reports that he might be appointed SA's High Commissioner in Australia were speculative. But it was true the government might offer him an overseas assignment, he said.

He wanted to leave his present position in Parliament for personal reasons.

Having served as Deputy Speaker for nearly two years "and satisfied at the progress achieved, I am pleased to be afforded the opportunity to return to my first love, diplomacy".

He said: "Speculation about a possible switch of political affiliation is entirely misplaced. Diplomats are expected to serve their country in a non-partisan way and I shall certainly honour that obligation," he said.

Ranchod will not resign from Parliament immediately and will attend a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association conference between February 12 and 15 in Wilton Park, near London.
ANC opposes constitution naming seat of Parliament

CAPE TOWN — The ANC called yesterday for the exclusion of a constitutional clause identifying the seat of Parliament, saying that the matter should rather be dealt with in legislation. The ANC proposal was made during a meeting of the Constitutional Assembly's "deadlock-breaking" committee.

ANC chief negotiator Valli Moosa said the proposal was based on established international constitutional practice. It was not linked, he said, to the debate about Parliament remaining in Cape Town, or else being moved elsewhere.

However, the ANC and NP remain undecided on their preference. DP senior negotiator Colin Eglin said that it reflected the division over the issue within the two parties' ranks.

The DP has proposed that Parliament remain in Cape Town. Eglin argued for a speedy resolution of the matter — including the naming of the seat of Parliament — "to provide stability over the next decade or so".

Negotiators agreed to set up a multiparty committee to try to resolve the matter before the deadlock-breaking committee meets tomorrow.

The committee will also try to find consensus on proportional representation, the referral of Bills to the Constitutional Court, and the "internal autonomy" of the National Assembly.

Parties were also unable to agree on the size of the National Assembly — only that it would number between 300 and 400 MPs. Currently it has 400.

Eglin said that the DP would continue to fight for a reduction to 300, as the National Assembly had to set an example in "fiscal prudence".

North Rand police win part of crime battle
No legislative review after 1999, says ANC

ANC will not support mechanism that allows one-third of Parliament to refer an act to the Constitutional Court

By Patrick Bulger
Cape Town

The ANC yesterday gave notice of its intention to curb the powers of minority parties in the new constitution.

The plans are in line with the party's refusal to agree to a form of enforced power-sharing after the mandate of the Government of National Unity expires at the next election in 1999.

ANC negotiators attending yesterday's meeting of the Constitutional Assembly's deadlock-breaking committee indicated they would not support the mechanism contained in the interim constitution which allows a third of the members of the National Assembly to refer an act of Parliament to the Constitutional Court (CC).

The party also indicated that it would push for a narrow interpretation of the constitutional principle that calls for minority parties to be involved in the legislative process in a manner “consistent with democracy”.

The ANC's approach to the issue of legislative review reflects the party's unhappy experience with two important pieces of education legislation passed by Parliament last year.

The two acts have not become law because a third of the members decided to refer the acts to the CC.

ANC negotiator Dr Enoch Pahlad said the one-third provision amounted to giving “powers and privileges to a minority in Parliament”.

The constitution also gave the right to any individual to bring an act before the CC. It was also not clear whether the CC could perform the tasks it was being assigned.

Pahlad also took a strong line against allowing parliamentary committees to be able to initiate legislation without reference to the minister of the Cabinet.

ANC MP Dirk du Toit argued that the constitutional principle that called for the involvement of minority parties in the legislative process should be interpreted "in a normal democratic way".

Minority parties made inputs in Parliament and its committees and were therefore involved. If the National Party wanted to argue for a pluralistic democracy it was free to do so, he said.

The Democratic Party made a strong plea for some provision for legislative review.
Traditional leaders reject ‘shortcut’ bill

BY MOKOBA MAKHANYA
Political Reporter

Traditional leaders are seeking an urgent meeting with Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Koos Meyer in a bid to overturn the Council of Traditional Leaders Bill.

The bill, due to come before Parliament in a few weeks' time, has met with opposition from the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa) and the IFP. It seeks to take a short cut to the establishment of the Council of Traditional Leaders by excluding Northern Province and the Eastern Cape, which have not established their provincial houses of traditional leaders. It says the body, which will advise Parliament on traditional matters and customary laws, will now be made up of only three members each from KwaZulu Natal, the Free State, Mpumalanga and the North West.

Contralesa delegates decided to reject the bill, saying “it was objectionable and divisive.” Contralesa chairman Mvelo Nonkontonyana said it was the Government's responsibility to make sure the two provinces established their respective houses, just as it had amended the Interim Constitution to enable the establishment of the Volkstaat Council.

Contralesa is also seeking to prevent Parliament from passing the Communal Property Association Bill, which reduces traditional leaders' control over communally owned land.
Decision on parliament in the air

CONSTITUTIONAL negotiators have until tomorrow to decide whether they want to side-step a decision on the future seat of parliament by omitting any reference in the constitution.

The African National Congress and National Party are deeply divided on the issue.

At a meeting yesterday of the constitutional committee sub-committee, only the Democratic Party made a firm proposal to decide the question, proposing that parliament remain in Cape Town.

DP chief negotiator Colin Eglin said the question should be settled for the sake of stability.

Constand Viljoen of the Freedom Front questioned whether it was an appropriate time to decide the issue, because of the forthcoming local government elections in metropolitan Cape Town.

Valli Moosa of the ANC said he would like to hear a good case about why democracy would stand or fall by the site of the parliamentary capital.

This was not the only issue left undecided yesterday.

In spite of constitutional assembly chairperson Cyril Ramaphosa insisting that parties finalise questions, several issues remained undecided, including whether the future national assembly should have 300 or 400 members.

Parties are to hold multilateral talks today on these and other issues, including whether parliamentary minority parties should be allowed to refer bills to the constitutional court, and on the internal autonomy of parliament and its committees.
ANC moves to cut minority powers

ANC delegates attending yesterday's meeting of the Constitutional Assembly's deliberations on Education and Training have been involved in a heated debate over the powers and privileges of minority parties in the legislative process. The ANC is proposing to amend the Constitution to give the Minister of Education and Training the power to appoint the education and training committee. The proposal has been met with opposition from some ANC members, who argue that the proposed amendment would undermine the role of the opposition parties in the legislative process. A resolution has been passed delaying the process of drafting the new Constitution.
Return of the IFP discussed in secret

CAPE TOWN — Top negotiators of the ANC, IFP and NP met under a veil of secrecy yesterday as part of a renewed bid to seek ways to facilitate the IFP's return to the Constitutional Assembly.

Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer (NP), his deputy Valli Moosa (ANC) and Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela (IFP) met for an hour in Pretoria. They refused to discuss the meeting afterwards.

Mzimela went so far as to deny it had taken place, but other sources confirmed it had. They stressed though the talks were at an "exploratory stage", and made a point of underplaying its significance.

"Nothing has come out of it yet," one source said. But he said the three negotiators would "work hard" to resolve the 21-month-old political impasse over international mediation on outstanding constitutional issues.

The three agreed to meet again next week, after Mzimela had briefed IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

The meeting was the first since the three held discussions during a multiparty trip to Germany earlier this month to study federalism.
Parliament: City's prospects brighter

BARRY STREEK, POLITICAL WRITER

THE prospects of Parliament remaining in Cape Town were boosted yesterday by a proposal in the constitutional assembly to take the issue out of the draft constitution and make any decision on it subject to a two-thirds majority.

The political parties have not yet reached agreement on the matter but they hope to take a decision tomorrow.

Yesterday, at a meeting of a sub-committee of the constitutional committee of the constitutional assembly, Deputy Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Valli Moses supported the proposal by ANC MP Mj Mahlanga that the clause defining the seat of Parliament should be taken out of the draft constitution.

Democracy was neither lessened nor enhanced by the clause, he said.

A constitutional expert advising the committee, advocate Mr Zak Yacoob, said this could be done and another clause inserted stating that a two-thirds majority was necessary for any decision to move the seat of Parliament.

Another expert, Professor Johann van der Westhuizen, said the constitutional issue was not so much where the seat of Parliament should be but how difficult it should be to change any decision.

The real issue was to find a way to ensure stability for the future, he said.

Only the Democratic Party has taken a decision on the matter, saying that Parliament should remain in Cape Town, while none of the other parties has taken a stand on where it should be.

Although the issue was discussed yesterday afternoon in bilateral discussions between the parties, no finality was reached, but it appeared that the ANC proposal coupled to the two-thirds majority proposal was finding favour.

If this is approved, it is unlikely that any decision on the seat of Parliament will be taken for some time and even then, it is very unlikely that two-thirds of parliamentarians would ever support a decision to move Parliament, let alone approve the enormous cost of such a decision.

During yesterday's discussions, Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen said it would not be appropriate to decide the issue now in view of the pending local government elections in the Cape Town Metropole, which would be unduly influenced by national viewpoints.

The ANC proposal to remove the issue from the current constitutional discussions is clearly aimed at taking the issue out of the Cape Town election campaign despite DP statements that it would make it an election issue because of the decision of the other parties.

The NP's JAC RABIE said his party was divided on the question of where Parliament should be sited and also on whether it should be written into the constitution.

The NP needed more time to finalise its position.
'Delicate issue handled well'

By Khangale Makhado

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela yesterday commended Parliament for dealing with the "sensitive matter" regarding the recent removal of portraits and other works of art in Parliament.

Although Mandela had received a number of queries from some concerned citizens about last week's action, the President said he had been informed by the leadership in the National Assembly that such a decision was taken after extensive deliberations and was agreed to by all political parties.

Last week several portraits, including that of former president PW Botha, were pulled down from the walls of Parliament to be put in storage with other paintings and icons of the apartheid era.

These will be replaced by The Art Against Apartheid Collection, which has been donated to the people of South Africa and accepted by the Government. The new works will be exhibited in Parliament for a period of six months.

Mandela said the new democratic Parliament should reflect the image of an inclusive South Africa in all its diversity and was an important component of nation-building and reconciliation.
Something old with the new?

SOME of the portraits and artworks recently taken down in Parliament could be displayed there together with new artworks, President Nelson Mandela said last night.

However, the views of the public would influence final decision, he said in a statement.

Mandela also said he fully supported the initiative by Parliament to launch a national debate on what images should be conveyed through the walls and precincts of Parliament during the six months in which the Art Against Apartheid collection was exhibited. There had been numerous queries from the public, he said.

"The new democratic Parliament should reflect the image of an inclusive South Africa, in all its diversity.

"This is an important component of nation-building and reconciliation.

"All parties are agreed that the existing works are a part of South Africa's history."
Apartheid relics: PW ‘concerned’

FORMER State President PW Botha has told President Mandela that he is concerned about the removal of apartheid artefacts from parliament.

It is understood that Mr Botha telephoned Mr Mandela to speak about the removal of portraits of former National Party leaders. A huge portrait of Mr Botha and another of Mr Botha’s last white cabinet were among the pieces removed last week.

The works are being replaced for six months by the United Nations Artists Against Apartheid exhibition. The works that have been removed will be cleaned and restored.

Mr Mandela, who has not expressed himself on their removal, yesterday issued a statement on the matter after “a number of queries from some concerned citizens”.

Mr Botha apparently said he did not oppose their removal but was concerned about what message was sent out by the removal.

Mr Mandela, in a statement issued last night, said parliament “should reflect the image of an inclusive South Africa, in all its diversity. This is an important component of nation-building and reconciliation.

“I fully support the initiative by parliament to launch, in this period, a national debate on what images should be conveyed through the walls and precincts of parliament. Various options will be examined, including the display of some of the current works along with new ones.

“I wish to commend parliament for dealing with this sensitive issue in a non-partisan manner.”
Mass Resignations worry DP and NP

The two parties want a full probe into the resignations and vacancies

The Democratic and National parties have expressed "serious concern" over mass resignations which have resulted in the Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council operating with 168 vacancies in the administration of the city and its four substructures.

The parties have called for a full investigation into the reasons behind the resignations and the vacancies.

But the GJTMC says the vacancies have not caused problems because officials have been seconded to posts in substructures when necessary. It says recruiting will begin as soon as chief executive officers for the area's substructures have been appointed.

However, DP Johannesburg leader Ms Anchen Dreyer is adamant the city cannot operate effectively with so many vacant positions.

"It is of extreme concern that the city is losing its expertise and experience. The brain drain is bleeding the city dry of skills which are desperately needed, especially during this time of transition. This is not a party-political issue - we don't intend using officials as political footballs - there is genuine concern about the losses," she said.

Dreyer said the DP and NP would meet chief executive officer Professor Nicky Padayachee next week to discuss their concerns, and would call for a full investigation into the reasons behind the resignations and vacancies.

"Although the reasons for the resignations are being cited as people taking their pensions before tax increases are announced, we believe this to be true of only a small number of employees. We feel the root causes of the resignations must be addressed. If it is low morale or the inability of officials to work with politicians, these have to be addressed and solved," she said.

NP leader Mr Jakob Makola said: "This has never happened before in the history of local government. We have a great challenge ahead of us in delivering core services to a large number of residents, and we need the collective skills of officials who together have many years of experience which we cannot afford to lose during this crucial time."

Mr Hillow Maoko, GJTMC acting head of metropolitan administration, said the substructures were presently still "being capacitated". He added that the administrations served the metropolitan substructures within the GJTMC, and if a vacancy existed, it was generally possible to second someone from another administration within the GJTMC to the administration or department where the need existed. - Sowetan Correspondent.
Now SA has seven women ambassadors

BY KARIN SCHMIDT
AND JOYNA RANTAO
Political Staff

South Africa has appointed seven women to ambassadorial posts in an attempt to equalise opportunities for women since the advent of democracy.

There are 95 residential missions outside South Africa, which means that just over 7% of our overseas representation is female.

This does not compare particularly favourably with the national Parliament, which is made up of about 25% women – or the provincial legislatures, where representation is between 15 and 20% – but it does show that changes are afoot in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Nozizho Diseko, South Africa’s seventh woman ambassador, told The Star she had fought a long battle within foreign affairs to change the male-dominated culture of the department.

Diseko is currently head of policy planning, but leaves for Austria on February 17. She will also be accredited to Croatia and Slovenia.

The other missions with women ambassadors are Belgium (A.de Kock-Joubert), France (Barbara Masekela), Germany (Lindewe Mabuza), Italy (K. Chimwala), Malaysia (M Mohale) and Tanzania (Thandi Luke-Rankoe).

Meanwhile, what was a building signifying separate development has been transformed into an institution where the new South Africa’s future representatives abroad are being taught the etiquette, courtesy and protocol of the diplomatic world.

The former Bophuthatswana embassy in Arcadia, Pretoria, has been turned into a training institute where 50 Department of Foreign Affairs employees are being trained. Among them is former ANC MP Robert McBride.

A foreign affairs spokesman said the former Bophuthatswana embassy was the only building retained by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Buildings that housed “diplomats” from Transkei, Venda and Ciskei have been returned to the Department of Public Works, along with their assets.
Parties in bid to avoid referendum on constitution

(Sources) ARG 2/2/96

Clive Sawyer, Political Correspondent

Imaginative ways will have to be found to solve differences between parties engaged in constitutional talks, to head off a referendum to end deadlocks, African National Congress negotiator Pravin Gordhan said today.

Parties gathered behind closed doors at the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park yesterday to try to speed the resolution of disagreements in time for the May deadline for producing a final draft of the 1999 constitution.

Talks were to continue today and hopes were to produce a progress report for tabling at tomorrow's meeting of the constitutional committee.

At a breakfast briefing for political correspondents today, Mr Gordhan said that failure to secure consensus would mean the country would have to resort to the deadlock-breaking mechanisms provided for in the 1993 interim constitution.

These included the constitutional assembly's panel of experts being required to produce a draft to be put to the parties, which if rejected would mean a referendum would have to be held.
NP in dilemma over Meyer's successor

There aren't enough suitably qualified blacks in the party's hierarchy

By Thembu Molete
Political Correspondent

WILL AMONG the 20-odd black National Party MPs and senators, likely to be appointed to Cabinet and to other Government posts, replace the Minister of Constitutional Development and the Deputy Speaker? Until an announcement is made by President Nelson Mandela in about two weeks, who is likely to stay in the shadow of the NP's best appointed Reitz Meyer and Dr Bhudu Ramchud is a matter for speculation.

Traditionally white
Logic dictates that for the NP to survive, it should strike a balance between maintaining its existing support base (traditionally of whites) and simultaneously cultivating and expanding its support among blacks.

In an interview after assuming his new role in the cabinet general, Meyer told very carefully and almost begged for understanding and patience from the white membership, "If we are to much to black supporters, then we will lose in universal plane of our interests," he said.

The bottom line is, the NP has to appoint a black politician - a black African from its ranks. But there is none in the NP federal council. The question is, is there anyone who fits the bill in the present crop of African members in the NP?

There could be solace in the fact that the final appointment will be a political outcome as dictated by the Interparty Constitution, meaning Mandela will make a final ruling after consulting his GNU partners.

He might even make an appointment from his own party, the African National Congress, to refill the Cabinet.

On the other hand, Meyer's successor can be a white NP politician, a choice which would not be difficult for party leader and Deputy President PW de Klerk. But due to the base of the NP life, be described as De Klerk's 'whip' - a self-appointed one who says nothing but chooses poaches. A puppet, it might be said. Then there is Colossus George Ramatangesa, a former police officer, former Wena homeland who moved from cop to politician in an astonishingly fast rise to the top.

In little less than five years leading up to the 1994 elections, Ramatangesa indeed crossed the floor from KwaNdebele to the ANC to the PAC and to the National Assembly.

Likewise, De Klerk would not be looking Ramatangesa's way probably.

Defined Interim
John Gogoyia, who stably defined physical immittance in the Vaal in the 1980s, is not on De Klerk's list.

Correlately, it is said the former presiding officer of the former FederationIndependents Democratic Alliance evokes quite a solidarity response from times he addressed the National Assembly.

Then there are those whose presence in Parliament, ostensibly in politics, raises questions about the NP's intentions.

Take the Gallois, for instance. He is a former man-about-town from the Vaal who moved fast to mention his word policies in public. He was what you would call a mobilizer. Today he is a NP MP.

Well, De Klerk has a problem. As he provides a viable solution of how to accommodate the black Nuns, politics seems to have very little to do with why these African joined the party.

Their motivation was hunger. Now they want their pound of flesh.

If we are to reach out to black supporters, then we will have to urgently take cognisance of their interests.

Pressure, in the NP hierarchy, the federal council (which is still wholly white), to appoint black party members to its ranks internally and in Government if it is to truly cleanse itself of its apartheid stigma.

De Klerk has indicated that a reshuf- fle of some NP-factionalists in the party, probably within the next two weeks. The job of Deputy Speaker, vacated by Ramchud who is to take up an ambassadorial posting, could go to Maphatlane's successor David Mabatjane. But it is still pure speculation.

Mabatjane, one of the younger NP MPs, speaks seven languages and is regarded by backers as having the presence required to dispel in the chair of the house.

Newfound visions
So, as the new NP enthuses on realising its newfound vision of being part of the larger political movement - real anti-Apartheid movement - who are the other Africans De Klerk is likely to lock in, albeit reluctantly? He does not have much of a choice, it seems.

Apart from Mabatjane, there is David Chirumare, a controversial former role of Soekorn who widened immobilisation and even political attack in support of the NP before the 1994 election.

He, however, lacks the intellect to occupy a Cabinet post and could best be described as De Klerk's 'whip' - a self-appointed one who says nothing but chooses poaches. A puppet, it might be said. Then there is Colossus George Ramatangesa, a former police officer, former Wena homeland who moved from cop to politician in an astonishingly fast rise to the top.

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Their motivation was hunger. Now they want their pound of flesh.
ANC-Freedom Front rift over volkstaat proposal widens

BY MANDLA MASHABE
Political Reporter

Relations between the Freedom Front and the ANC appear set to deteriorate after the ANC publicly condemned the FF and repeated its rejection of an Afrikaner volkstaat.

In a highly unusual step, the ANC yesterday issued a statement accusing the FF leadership of "inciting hostile emotions" after its Free State region had threatened to embark on a programme of mobilising Afrikaners in support of a volkstaat.

The FF's Free State council decided at a meeting at the weekend that it would mobilise Afrikaners to look at "financial activities" and other measures if there was no visible progress in negotiations on self-determination.

The FF's provincial spokesman, Abrie Oosthuizen, said the feeling among party leaders in the Free State was that "we should stop helping the ANC if they don't want to co-operate."
IS THE NP DOOMED?
Communications policy to be tabled

By Shadrack Mashalaba

THE second draft of the White Paper on telecommunications policy, to be tabled before Parliament for ratification in March, was released at the plenary session of the National Telecommunications Forum (NTF) at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, this week.

The draft, which is to be deliberated on by various structures, will be tabled in Parliament before the end of the Easter recess.

Key areas of discussion involving government, labour, civil society, business and public enterprises included:

- Universal service and development;
- Market composition and competition;
- The ownership and financing of Telkom;
- Regulation; and
- The equipment supply industry, which was central to discussions during an earlier telecommunications conference held in Magaliesburg last year.

Access is a basic right

Post, Telecommunications and Broadcasting Minister Dr Pallo Jordan said that he appreciated the cordial collaboration that had developed between his Ministry and the NTF.

"Access to telecommunication services is a basic right that all South Africans should enjoy and as such affordable universal service for all

Affirmative action can no longer be an issue for debate, says Jordan.

must be the focus of all ministerial endeavours," said Jordan.

He added that the pressing need to institute affirmative action programmes through the development of skills among black women and other disadvantaged groups, in both the public and private sectors could no longer be a matter for debate.

NTF chairperson Ms Felleg Sekha said: "The NTF has done a lot of spade work since it was formed. It is only minor and sticky issues, such as the composition of the secretariat, executives and the walk-out by civic associations that are outstanding."

Projects manager for Data Research Africa Mr Ali Stavrou said history had shown that economic development worked in tandem with technological advancement. It therefore came as a no surprise that countries without advanced technology were impoverished.
Supporters, leaders do not agree

Survey finds differences between decision makers and ordinary folk

A comparative survey carried out by the University of Stellenbosch during September and October last year revealed strong differences between decision makers and their grass roots supporters, project leader Professor Hennie Kotze said yesterday.

Speaking at a media briefing, Kotze said opinion leaders were those people who held authoritative positions in powerful public and private organisations and influential movements.

Members of the public who were surveyed were over 18 years old and South African citizens.

The survey showed that 70 percent of opinion leaders supporting the National Party were in favour of the principle of the Government of National Unity being written into the final Constitution, while only 19.5 percent of opinion leaders who were ANC supporters agreed.

However, as far as the general public was concerned, there was overwhelming support for the continuation of the GNU in the new Constitution.

More than 60 percent of the population agreed with the idea, while only 15.4 percent disagreed.

None of the various political parties' supporters had strong feelings against the idea of continuing the GNU. Against expectations, it was the supporters of the ANC who showed the least disagreement with the principle.

An item which tested general feeling about the level of power of provinces showed that opinion leaders who supported parties advocating federalism supported the idea of "more powers".

The exception here was the Democratic Party, which was fairly divided on the issue, Kotze said.

Almost 39 percent of ANC opinion leaders did not agree that provinces should have more power than the GNU.

However of the general public, 33.7 percent of ANC supporters and 32 percent of NP supporters favoured more powers.

Opinion leaders of all the parties, except the ANC, favoured the death penalty. No less than 70 percent of the general public, including 65.3 percent of ANC supporters, favoured capital punishment.

All parties strongly rejected pornography and abortion. – Sapa.
Cosatu backs referendum to break deadlock.

BY MOKHELE MAKHABA
Political Reporter

The Congress of South African Trade Unions has thrown its weight behind an ANC call for a referendum if Constitutional Assembly parties cannot reach consensus by May 9, the deadline for the finalisation of the constitution.

In a statement yesterday, Cosatu called the National and Democratic parties “irresponsible parties of the past” and accused them of holding the views of the majority to ransom by seeking to extend their influence beyond the amount of votes they received in the 1994 election.

The trade union federation – currently working on its own submission to the Constitutional Assembly – hit out at the DP and NP stance on labour-related legislation, saying they had focused all their attention on clauses “that will negatively affect workers”.

These included the property clause entrenching the rights of employers to lock out striking workers, and seeking to dilute the rights of workers and employers to determine their own “programme of administration” without government interference.

It also slammed the NP’s insistence on extending the life of the Government of National Unity beyond 1999.

Cosatu charged that the property clause was designed to “protect whites’ privileges accumulated by their 40 years of misrule” while, through the lockout clause, the NP and the DP wanted to “shift the power balance in employer-worker relations in favour of employers”.

Cosatu is scheduled to meet the ANC and the NP next week to discuss constitutional matters, but it ruled out meeting the DP because “their agenda is fundamentally anti-working people.”

(BSLA) / Mar 8/2/96
Govt pledges no gag on censorship Bill reaction

CAPE TOWN — All 29 organisations who want their voices heard on the controversial new censorship Bill will get a chance to make submissions, the parliamentary home affairs committee decided yesterday.

The Bill, which when approved will legalise pornography with few restrictions, has drawn furious reaction from religious and other groups opposed to the liberalisation of SA's publication laws.

Committee chairman Desmond Lockey received an overwhelming "yes" when he asked his fellow members if all 29 requests for oral submissions should be heard.

Since being published for comment in late November, the "Films and Publications Bill has drawn 400 submissions from the public."
Opinion leaders out of touch with voters

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Surveys on the views of opinion leaders and the public indicate that political leaders, particularly ANC leaders, are dangerously out of touch with their constituencies on federalism, the government of national unity and social values.

This was Stellenbosch political science professor Hennie Kotze's conclusion yesterday after comparing the views of 1 440 "opinion leaders" from business, academia, Parliament, the media, the public service and other fields with an ESRC MarkData omnibus survey. The data showed that 62% of respondents supported continuation of the government of national unity in the new constitution, with the supporters of all the larger parties including the ANC, the NP and the IFP in agreement.

However, 20% of ANC-supporting opinion makers favoured extending the unity government, compared with a mere 7% of ANC parliamentarians. While 84% of NP parliamentarians supported the concept, it was backed by 63% of NP voters.

Opinion makers' views on federalism were "entirely predictable", Kotze said, with all parties bar the ANC in favour of "maximum provincial autonomy" (NP 75%, IFP 100%, DP 73% and Freedom Front 83%).

While 89% of ANC opinion makers were against the proposition that provincial governments should have more power over provinces than central government, only 44% of their supporters opposed it.

Kotze said that while opinion leaders had fairly firm views on federalism, "the pattern which emerges at grassroots level could be described as a feeling for 'federal trust' — a combination of self-rule and shared rule".

To determine opinion leaders' values, Kotze used systems, questions were based on abortion and the death penalty. Nearly 28% of ANC opinion leaders supported the death penalty while 68% of the party's supporters were in favour; 59% of ANC opinion leaders supported legalised abortion, while only 17% of supporters were in favour.

In general, there was strong support for the death penalty and little support for legalised abortion among ordinary people. Kotze said the relatively conservative public opinion on social issues was clearly not in line with the liberal thinking of ANC opinion leaders. The views on these topics expressed in the wording draft of the constitution and in legislation could end up out of step with values in society. "A value clash is looming."

If government alienated itself through unacceptable legislation on social issues, it faced the danger that these programmes would not win public support, laying a basis for a lack of legitimacy which could influence support for other public policy issues.

Continued on Page 2
Nine ministers back parliament in Cape

ROGER FRIEDMAN
Provincial Affairs Reporter

NINE cabinet ministers and two deputies have broken protocol to sign a public message to President Nelson Mandela supporting the retention of Cape Town as the seat of parliament.

The message, in an advertisement in The Argus today, is viewed as a major political coup for the campaign to keep parliament in the Cape.

The advertisement is also viewed as a sturdy counter-punch to the one contained in South African Airways' magazine, Flying Springbok, featuring a multi-personalised President Mandela promoting Pretoria as a tourist destination.

The pro-Cape Town ministers are: Kader Asmal (Water Affairs and Forestry), Dawie De Villiers (Enviroment Affairs and Tourism), Pallo Jordan (Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting), Trevor Manuel (Trade and Industry), Stella Sigcau (Public Enterprises), Zola Skwetye (Public Service and Administration), Steve Tshwete (Sport and Recreation), Kraai van Niekerk (Agriculture), and Abe Williams (Welfare and Population Development).

Deputy ministers Renier Schoeman and

Gert Myburgh, and the chief whip of the ANC and National Party, Arnold Stelle and Hennie Smit, also signed.

Today's advertisement goes on to announce some of the patrons of the campaign to keep parliament in Cape Town.

They include sports stars Joel Stransky and Osker Brits, Cosatu national vice-president Connie September, television presenter Dalitambo and his MP mother Adelaide, archbishops Desmond Tutu and Lawrence Henry, and Sheikh Nazim Mohamed of the Muslim Judicial Council.

Kallie Hanekom, executive director of Citizens Alliance for Parliament (CAP), said he believed Deputy President Thabo Mbeki supported Cape Town, while Deputy President F W de Klerk had already committed himself in his personal capacity.

Mr Hanekom said Pretoria had tried to take parliament from Cape Town "every 10 years, since 1910 — now is the time to put an end to this frivolous debate once and for all".

*The president's speech to parliament will be fully covered in later editions of The Argus tomorrow.*
Sexwale says his visit to Cuba is not an insult to US

WASHINGTON. — Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale has dismissed claims that his pending visit to Cuba represents an insult to the United States which has imposed a strict trade embargo on the small communist nation.

No American leader had approached him with such a view and South Africa would never insult America, Mr Sexwale told reporters in Washington.

"It would be the greatest insult to my people in South Africa if we ever succumbed to being dictated to — and America has not dictated to South Africa," he said.

The Gauteng leader had what was described as an amicable telephone conversation last night with his sternest critic in the US — Republican Congresswoman Dana Ros-Lehtinen, chairman of the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa.

Ms Ros-Lehtinen is of Cuban descent and a dedicated opponent of the Fidel Castro regime.

Mr Sexwale is to meet Mr Castro and other top Cuban officials after he leaves the US in 12 days' time.

Mr Sexwale described Ms Ros-Lehtinen as a "wonderful person to speak to" and said she had accepted his invitation to visit South Africa.

He said he respected the views of those who felt strongly about the situation in Cuba but, as "a God-fearing person", he was convinced that the US and Cuba would eventually find peace with each other through dialogue and reconciliation.

"I myself I am a product of dialogue," he said, adding that without the Mandela-De Klerk dialogue he would be ending his 16-year prison sentence only this year.

As far as his trip to Cuba was concerned, he said he had gone to the former Soviet Union for military training as a Catholic and had come away as a Catholic: "I go to Cuba as a Catholic — I will come back as a Catholic."

South Africa's message was one of peace and reconciliation — a "spirit of Mandela-ism," Mr Sexwale said. — Sapa.
English sidelined

In a landmark agreement yesterday, the ANC and the National Party effectively decided that English should not become South Africa's dominant language.

Negotiators from the two language parties told the Constitutional Assembly's negotiating committee that it had been agreed for bilingual meetings that one of the 11 official languages should not be given priority at the expense of any other official language.

The NP is concerned that Afrikaans will become swamped by English, while the ANC wishes to see African languages strengthened and promoted.

NP negotiator Joe Mathebula said the bilateral meetings had produced "common ground in important areas" while his ANC counterpart Ms Baleka Kgositsile said both parties had acknowledged that in the past English and Afrikaans had been developed at the expense of other languages—Political Correspondent
Tough code of ethics for MPs

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES will have to make full disclosure of their financial interests if proposals of the ethics committees of the national assembly and senate are accepted. ANTHONY JOHNSON reports.

Parliament released a tough code of conduct yesterday for MPs that forces public representatives to come clean on the often intimate details of their financial interests, private lives and connections with influence peddlers.

The draft rules even prevent an MP or senator from using a spouse, "permanent companion" or dependent child to disguise or divert financial interests and to forestall disclosure about their real worth or connections with lobby groups or outside companies.

The hard-hitting proposals from the senate and national assembly ethics subcommittees came at a time when research has found growing public disquiet about the so-called "gravy trains" and cynicism about the supposed commitment of public representatives.

The final version of the subcommittees' report is signed by joint committee head Mr Edard Amal.

The report, which will be considered by a multi-party joint parliamentary rules committee next week, emphasises that the code of conduct will require MPs and senators "to make available for public scrutiny such information about themselves and their financial and other interests that is relevant to the performance of their public duties".

The rules, which will apply initially only to elected public representatives, could be extended by legislation to include other people in public office "such as public officials and heads of parastatal organisations".

The report also proposes that long-term consideration be given to including "appropriate penalties and mechanisms of enforcement" to MPs and members of the provincial legislatures who leave public office for lucrative jobs elsewhere.

The report proposes that since the public has a right to be represented by MPs who are "free from the burden of inappropriate influence... and properly and independently serve the electorate", a register of interests should be available to the public.

Categories of registrable interests should include:

- Land and property assets, including leases and the extent of bonds. This includes the area or suburb and the extent of the property.
- The nature, number and nominal value of shareholdings (including nominal shareholdings).
- Paid directorships of public and private companies, as well as membership of commercial partnerships and interests on shareholdings.
- A ban on pay for lobbying a particular cause or representing a particular interest group in Parliament and a disclosure of any consultancies or retainers. All sponsor-
NP determined to keep cabinet post

ANTHONY JOHNSON
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

An announcement about a cabinet replacement for Roelf Meyer is expected in the next few days.

President Nelson Mandela met Deputy President F W de Klerk for over an hour yesterday to discuss the vacancy created by the NP's decision to pull its Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development out of the cabinet. He becomes NP secretary-general next month.

Presidential spokesperson Parks Mpupha says a statement on the matter could be expected 'in due course'.

Mandela has not yet discussed the matter with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. The interim constitution requires that the President consult all government leaders before making changes to his cabinet.

The NP is insisting that Meyer's post be taken by an NP member. However, the ANC has emphasized that it is the President's prerogative to make cabinet appointments.
Inter-city competition for Parliament 'a sensitive issue'

JOHANNESBURG: The competition between Pretoria and Cape Town for Parliament has become one of the most sensitive issues in the country.

In the week in which the administration moved from Pretoria to Cape Town ahead of tomorrow's opening of Parliament, the two cities entered a new round of conflict.

No sooner had ministers and MPs arrived than they were bombarded with propaganda by the Cape Citizens' Alliance for Parliament, soliciting their support. Pretoria hit back with newspaper adverts saying President Nelson Mandela preferred that city.

Government ministries that were approached yesterday were cagey, saying the issue was "sensitive".

Because of the sensitive nature of the issue, even Mandela, who is understood to intend spending most of his working time in Pretoria this year, publicly denies it.

But despite the inconvenience of ministers having to shuttle between the two cities, most of them will spend much of the session in Cape Town.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki will stay close to Parliament as he needs to be there on behalf of Mandela, who is constitutionally precluded from being an MP.

Like most NP ministers, Deputy President FW de Klerk will stick to the old routine of spending the entire session in Cape Town and the recess in Pretoria. Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu will be dividing his time equally between Pretoria and Cape Town. — Special Correspondent
Most favour 'unity govt'

A COMPARATIVE survey by the University of Stellenbosch during September and October last year revealed strong differences between decision-makers and their grassroots supporters, project leader Professor Hennie Kotze said yesterday.

The survey showed that 70% of opinion-leaders supporting the National Party were in favour of the principle of the government of national unity being written into the final constitution, while only 19.5% of ANC supporters agreed.

However, as far as the general public was concerned, there was overwhelming support for the continuation of the government in the new constitution. Over 60% of the population agreed with the idea.

Opinion-leaders of all the parties, excepting the ANC, were in favour of the death penalty. Not less than 70% of the general public, including 65.3% of ANC supporters, favoured capital punishment. — Sapa
Support for Cape Town

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

NINE Cabinet Ministers have come out publicly in support of the campaign to keep Parliament in Cape Town.

With the opening of Parliament today the matter has become the focus of those striving against moving the institution.

Cabinet Ministers against the move are Dr Pallo Jordan, Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting; Professor Kader Asmal, Water Affairs; Ms Stella Sigcau, Public Enterprises; Mr Trevor Manuel, Trade and Industry; Dr Zola Skweyiya, Public Service; Mr Steve Tshwete, Sport and Recreation; Dr Dawie de Villiers, Environment and Tourism; Dr Kriel van Niekerk, Agriculture; and Mr Abe Williams, Welfare and Population Development.

The Ministers have broken protocol by signing a public message to President Nelson Mandela.

Other signatories to the message are the ANC chief whip, Rev Arnold Stofile, and National Party chief whip Mr Hennie Smit.

Sewelani 9/2/96
Mavuso for cabinet position

Shock move makes Mavuso the first black NP Cabinet Minister

A shock move, National Party leader and Deputy President FW de Klerk announced yesterday that Constitutional Assembly deputy chairman and former National Party Cabinet Minister Mr Leo Wessels would be leaving public life at the completion of the current constitution-writing process.

De Klerk also announced that General Services Minister Chris Finster would take over Mr Roelf Meyer's Cabinet portfolio of Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitution Development and that Gauteng MEC Mr John Mavuso would be elevated to the Cabinet to take over Finster's portfolio.

Mavuso would thus become the NP's first black cabinet minister.

Finster's appointment is from March 1 when Meyer becomes the NP's secretary general.

Mavuso's appointment date is to be announced later.

De Klerk said the appointments were being made in accordance with the Constitution and after proper consultation with President Nelson Mandela.

"With his (Wessels') consent I should like to announce that he informed me some time ago that he intended to leave politics after the conclusion of the constitution-writing process. In view of this he was not considered as a possible candidate for the present cabinet vacancies," said De Klerk.

De Klerk described Wessels' envisaged departure from public life as a "great loss" for the NP ... "but I understand his motivation and I wish him every success in the choice that he has made". - Sapa.
How well is Parliament doing its work?

Gaye Davis

Twenty months after it first convened in Cape Town, what do South Africans think of their new Parliament? Perhaps predictably, opinion is mixed — and differs along racial lines.

The Public Opinion Service of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa (Idasa) surveyed a sample of 2,674 South Africans between September and November last year. The results, released this week, and weighted to reflect the opinion of an electorate of about 24.3 million voters, show that 53% approved of Parliament's performance (23% strongly), while 36% disapproved (nine percent strongly) and seven percent had no opinion.

Broken down racially, however, the picture changes. While 63% of African people approved of Parliament’s performance, only 24% of white people did (62% disapproved. 24% "strongly"). The figures for Indian and coloured people's approval were 47% and 40% respectively.

A key factor influencing perceptions about Parliament was contact with members of Parliament. A startlingly high 31% said they had had some contact during the past year — whether personal, at a rally or meeting, with their staff or through receiving mail. In the United States the figure is 40%; in Hungary it’s 8%.

Those who had contact tended also to feel MPs did well in staying in touch with people, that they could help them and that, as citizens, they had some influence over Parliament. The survey showed that African respondents ranked higher than other South Africans in terms of contact with MPs.

Levels of parliamentary approval rated only slightly lower than the 56% who think the Government of National Unity is performing well, but far below the 77% who approve of the way President Nelson Mandela is doing his job.

All of this was much more positive than opinions on the performance of provincial government, where 46% disapproved overall and 42% approved.
ANC muscles in with a referendum

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ANC 9-15/2/96

Mark Edwards

the ANC's muscles in with a referendum

ANC would declare an all-party referendum and trust elections are held. For the ANC to declare such an referendum, the president must have a clear majority of the ANC.
Don't use too many official languages

BY KARIEN SCHINKE
Gauteng Reporter

The Gauteng legislature should try as much as possible to limit the number of languages it uses for official business, according to visiting European Parliament president Dr Klaus Hänisch.

Language differences could be an enormous financial burden, he advised members of the legislature this week.

Hänisch and a delegation of members of his par-

Translation costs Euro Parliament billions

liament arrived in Johannesburg with the aim of observing how a R593-million grant from the European Union is being used for reconstruction and development.

He told Gauteng Speaker Trevor Fowler and other members of the legislature that the European Parliament operated in 11 languages, and that a third of the total parliamentary budget was spent on translators and interpreters.

This amounted to about R3,2-billion a year.

Julian Priestley, who heads the president's private office, told the meeting that every document had to be translated into 11 languages.

"Each amendment to any piece of legislation or memorandum has to be translated 11 times at a cost of about R100 per amendment, and there are hundreds of amendments in the EU every week."

Highly experienced interpreters and translators were difficult to find, especially those that had to translate from and into languages other than German, English, French and Spanish.

"It is very difficult, for instance, to find someone who can translate from Greek into Finnish," said Priestley.

Gauteng uses four of the country's 11 official languages, namely English, Afrikaans, Zulu and Sesotho. Business is usually conducted in English, however, based on the consensus that it is the most widely understood of the languages.

Hänisch said: "I realise that language is an extremely sensitive thing. Language differences can turn a very peaceful meeting into chaos. But if there is any chance you (the Gauteng legislature) can avoid having to use too many official languages, I suggest you don't sit on this matter too long."

This is the president's first "official" visit to another country.
MPs told to get down to work, but they want more money

Cape Town – President Nelson Mandela yesterday urged ANC MPs and senators to remember why they had been sent to Parliament by the party.

In a pep talk at an eve-of-session parliamentary caucus meeting, he also told them the economy was not faring too badly.

Ministers and ordinary parliamentarians were getting down to work, but all should remember why the ANC had sent them there, Mandela said.

This was divulged by ANC chief whip Arnold Stoffel at a briefing after the caucus meeting.

The caucus had also been briefed by Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa on the constitution-writing process.

MPs had also raised concern about their remuneration, Stoffel said. They claimed they were overworked because of the number of committees they had to belong to. – Sepa.
NP appoints first African minister to the Cabinet

Former ANC official John Mavuso joins GNU, Chris Fismer takes over from Roelf Meyer and Wessels quits

By Patrick Bulger
Cape Town

The National Party yesterday appointed its first African to the Cabinet and announced that party stalwart Leon Wessels would quit active politics when the constitution is finalised in May.

The NP’s first African Cabinet minister is Gauteng conservation and agriculture MEC John Mavuso, a former regional chairman of the African National Congress in the Transvaal in 1956 when President Nelson Mandela was president of the Transvaal ANC.

NP General Services Minister Chris Fismer, who has been responsible for steering new gambling legislation through Parliament, will take Meyer’s place, NP leader and Deputy President FW de Klerk announced last night.

Fismer will retain responsibility for the gambling legislation until its completion, De Klerk said.

The appointment of Mavuso is a clear sign on the NP’s part that it intends broadening its appeal to constituencies that have not traditionally supported the NP, especially among Africans.

De Klerk said Wessels, a former NP manpower minister and a leading NP reformist in the late 1980s and early 1990s, was not being considered for Cabinet because he was leaving politics. He is presently deputy chairman of the Constitutional Assembly.

Wessels said in a statement announcing his return to private legal practice that his political ambitions will have been fulfilled with the completion of the constitution.

De Klerk described Wessels’ decision as “a great loss for the NP”.

Making a point ... new NP Cabinet minister John Mavuso
We're not out of step with voters, claims ANC
Some MPs caggy about Parliament...

BY MONDOLI MAKHANYA
Political Reporter

The Pretoria-Cape Town shuffle has become one of the most sensitive issues in the country, sending politicians scurrying for cover when asked about the subject.

In the week during which the administration of the country moved from Pretoria to Cape Town - ahead of today's opening of Parliament - ministers surveyed by The Star were caggy where they would prefer to be, saying the issue was "sensitive".

President Nelson Mandela - who, according to reports, intends spending most of his working time in Pretoria this year - publicly denies reports that he will be doing this, in deference to the issue.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki will be spending most of his time in Cape Town as he needs to be there to keep in touch with Parliament on behalf of the president.

As with most other NP ministers, Deputy President F W de Klerk will adhere to the time-tested routine of National Party rulers, spending the entire session in the Cape and the recess in Pretoria.

De Klerk is said to support keeping Parliament in Cape Town - a very strategic decision seeing that the Western Cape is now the NP powerbase.

A minister who has a tough time spreading his time between Cape Town and Pretoria is Prof Sibusiso Benga, who will have to spend time piloting crucial pieces of legislation through Parliament and dousing fires all over the country.

According to Benga's spokesman Lincoln Mali, the minister will be dividing his time equally between Pretoria and Cape Town.

"He wants to make sure all top management meetings are in Pretoria in order to cut the costs of bringing people down to Cape Town and because he wants to keep in closer touch with the department," said Mali.

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, whose Land Cruiser has become a common sight in South Africa's hinterland, has devised the most efficient and effective system of dealing with the dual-capital system. He spends three days a week in his Cape Town office and the rest of the week travelling the country and touching base with the department in Pretoria.

...while others sign on Cape Town's dotted line

Cape Town - Nine cabinet ministers, two deputies, and the ANC and NP chief whips have put their signatures on a newspaper advertisement calling for Parliament to stay in the Mother City.

The advertisement, an initiative by the Citizens' Alliance for Parliament, was published in a Cape newspaper yesterday and boasted a host of MPs' and celebrities' names.

Alliance executive director Kallie Hanekom said: "While the Pretoria lobby has gone on a multi-million rand advertising campaign, we have shown that the people want Parliament to remain in the Cape.

"We have a total of almost a million people who have expressed their support by signing petitions."

"They (Pretoria) have been trying every 10 years since 1910 to have Parliament removed from the Cape. Now is the time to put an end to this frivolous debate once and for all," Hanekom said, adding that the money being used on the campaign and counter-campaign could be spent more usefully and contribute rather to the RDP fund. - Sapa.
Asmal expects highest standards from MPs

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — MPs should not have to be dragged into high standards of public life but should willingly open their affairs to public scrutiny, says Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal.

Asmal told an Idasa civil society workshop yesterday that if the behaviour of the “alley cat” was followed at the level of Parliament, it would set the tone for the whole of society.

“It will have an impact on our country’s economic performance, business efficiency, on its race relations, on attitudes generally — and will undoubt- edly have the disastrous effect of confirming the Afro-pessimist’s view that nothing good can come out of Africa.”

Corruption was a sure way of throwing away hard-won democracy.

In the past the SA political landscape was littered with corruption nurtured by a system of race privilege and repression and characterised by lies, cynicism and contempt for the rules.

Asmal, who chairs a parliamentary subcommittee drawing up a code of conduct for MPs, said the conclusion had been reached that MPs should make available for public scrutiny their financial and other interests that were relevant to the performance of their public duties.

He suggested to the committee that initially the code of conduct and the ethical behaviour demanded could be enforced through parliamentary rules. This could be followed by legislation at a later date.

Asmal said there was a need for clarity on the status of gifts presented to office bearers and leaders of delegations: were they personal or did they belong to Parliament?

It was reasonable for exemplary behaviour to be expected from MPs. He said that position should never be used to extract favours — and especially not sexual ones.

KwaZulu-Natal legislature budget defrauded

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — KwaZulu-Natal finance department officials — or outsiders colluding with them — have defrauded the provincial treasury, a spokesman for provincial premier Frank Mdlalose said yesterday.

The theft of R70 000 in a single month, has sparked concern that large sums of money may have been a plumed off over a longer period.

A parliamentary source said yesterday that further investigation of the theft from the legislature budget indicated that criminals had gained access to the budget of the whole provincial government. The R70 000 stolen by means of 10 unauthorised cheques in January had been withdrawn from the provincial paymaster-general’s account, and bore provincial auditor-general Otty Nkima’s signature. Business Day had copies of the cheques.

KwaZulu-Natal premier Frank Mdlalose’s spokesman Themba Ntshembe said police had been asked to investigate, and the government was considering bringing in external auditors to investigate and recommend ways to reduce fraud.

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The source said that officials’ PIN codes had been used to access the computer which prints out cheques.
Fismer takes over Meyer’s Cabinet post

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — General Affairs Min-
ister Chris Fismer (NP) is to replace
Roelf Meyer as provincial affairs and
constitutional development minister,
and the NP has nominated its first
black member to President Nelson
Mandela’s Cabinet.

NP leader and Deputy President
FW de Klerk yesterday announced the
appointment of Fismer and of Gauteng
MEC John Mavuso to handle Fismer’s
current portfolio.

The appointments signal that De
Klerk is serious about his nonracial
vision of the party and about mobilis-
ing a black constituency for the NP.

Meanwhile, the NP has suffered an-
other serious setback with the an-
nouncement by Constitutional Assem-
bly deputy chairman Leon Wessels
that he is to retire.

De Klerk said Wessels was not con-
sidered for a Cabinet post as party
leaders knew he had decided to quit
politics and return to law. Wessels,
who was the first senior NP member to
offer an unqualified apology for apart-
heid, will leave Parliament once the
writing of the new constitution has
been completed.

The appointments, De Klerk said,
had been made in terms of constitu-
tional requirements and after proper
consultation with Mandela. Fismer
will retain responsibility for gambling
legislation and Mavuso will take up his
appointment after he has been nomi-
nated as a member of the National As-
sembly or the Senate.

Mavuso, who, as an Inkatha mem-
ber served in the first co-opted multira-
cial executive committees established
by the NP in the late 1980s, began his
career in the ANC in the 1950s, serving
on its executive until it was banned.

Fismer is considered competent.
His appointment to a senior Cabinet
post reflects a rapid rise to political
prominence.
ANC welcomes code of ethics for MPs

Political Correspondent

THE ANC has welcomed the draft code of ethics for MPs, and says it should be extended to include members of provincial legislatures and local governments.

The code marked a fundamental shift from the corrupt practices of the past to an era of clean and accountable government, the ANC said.

Society expected high moral standards of those it elected. Public representatives should express the will of the majority of those who put them in power, rather than the will of lobby groups.

The code, to be put to a joint meeting of the national assembly and senate rules committee next week, provides for disclosure of MPs' financial interests. Lobbying by MPs will be banned, and details of any consultancies or retainers will have to be disclosed.
Top NP man quits office

Staff Reporter

SENIOR National Party politician Leon Wessels is to retire from his position as constitutional assembly deputy-chairman.

This follows last week's announcement that provincial and constitutional development minister Roelf Meyer would quit the cabinet to become NP secretary-general.

Mr Wessels, formerly a cabinet minister in the NP government, said he was resigning to return to his "old love" — his legal practice.

He said his resignation was in no way related to the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

"I have nothing to hide and am not applying for amnesty and if there are any clouds hanging over my head as a result of my stint as deputy-minister of law and order, then I am quite prepared to speak about it to anyone who is prepared to listen."

Current minister of general services Chris Fismer of the NP, will replace Mr Meyer as minister of provincial affairs and constitutional development. Ex-Transvaal MEC John Mavuso becomes the NP's first African cabinet minister, replacing Mr Fismer.
"Lift SA to new victory"

Mandela opens parliament with call for ‘new patriotism’

CLIVE SAWYER, Political Correspondent

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela today opened parliament with a call for a "new patriotism" while spelling out a national strategic vision for continued economic growth.

"In spite of the welcome rate of growth, very few jobs have been created. . . . We need a national vision to lift us out of this quagmire," he said.

Other measures announced today were:
- Plans for a ban on the carrying of dangerous weapons in public;
- A scaling down of resources for the national defence force;
- R1 billion for building new schools;
- A R100-million student financing scheme for universities and technikons;
- Legislation to boost development of small and medium-sized businesses;
- A presidential review commission on rationalization of the oversized public service.

Unless the public and private sectors worked together on the national economic vision, the modest growth which had been achieved would peter out in a few years, Mr. Mandela warned.

What was needed was major investment in infrastructure, investment in and restructuring of industries such as tourism, agriculture and mining; and a mas-
ANC wants decisions on pay taken out of MPs’ hands

TYRONE SEAL, Political Staff

NEARLY two years after taking office, South Africa’s 490 MPs are still voting on their own salaries and have no pension scheme — and African National Congress parliamentarians are demanding swift action.

Yesterday the ANC’s parliamentary caucus issued a call for the Commission on Remuneration to commence its work as soon as possible. Last year commission chairman Mr Justice Levy resigned and the question of MPs’ benefits has been in abeyance — even after a successor to Judge Levy was appointed by President Mandela, according to Buhlelani Ngenza, ANC Chief Whip in the senate.

He said yesterday that the commission had not embarked on the process of taking the decision on MPs’ earnings out of members’ hands.

Caucus chairman the Rev Arnold Stofile said MPs did not easily talk about this issue as they did not want to be accused of “wanting to put more meat on the gravy train”. They simply wanted to get their work done without also having to think about how much to pay themselves.

MPs’ benefits are currently based on scales determined by the Melamet Commission shortly before the April 1994 election — and are presented to parliament for approval in the form of the budget vote of the Ministry of the Public Service and Administration.

Mr Stofile said the remuneration commission would also be asked to simplify MPs’ benefits packages for tax purposes.

Still on money, the ANC caucus expressed concern that in some of its constituency offices, administrative staff were earning “less than Cosatu rates”. ANC whips were asked to investigate.

Also at yesterday’s meeting, President Mandela urged cabinet members and MPs to get to grips with the legislation with whose design the electorate had entrusted them.
NP stalwart Leon Wessels quits
SA: Europe agree to co-operate

THE European and South African parliaments signed a co-operation agreement yesterday the aims of which include helping South Africans learn from the European experience in monitoring complex legislation and enhancing control of the executive by the legislature.

President of the European parliament, Dr Klaus Hainich who signed the agreement at Parliament with South African Speaker Dr Bente Gwavla said the European parliament would send senior officials to share experiences with South African parliamentary staff.

He also said his parliament would award scholarships for senior South African parliamentary staff to visit it in Strasburg and Brussels.

Gwavla said the relationship was one of "people to people" and it was hoped the agreement would be an example for governments to follow. — Sapa
Asmal calls on MPs to be open

ANTHONY JOHNSON

SOUTH AFRICA would decline into a "diluting and pap" republic if parliamentarians followed the mores of an "alley cat" on questions of personal and public ethics, Water Affairs and Forestry minister Kader Asmal warned yesterday.

Asmal, who chairs the parliamentary sub-committee on ethics, told an Idasa-sponsored workshop on parliamentary ethics that MPs should willingly seek maximum openness about what they did and received.

Emphasising the need for a tough code of conduct for public representatives, he said that in the past the South African political landscape was littered with corruption.

"It was nurtured by a system of race privilege and repression, and the murky contacts and deals that went with this. The homelands were custom-built for graft.

"The government of the day, while attending church assiduously and giving lip-service to clean administration, allowed the most appalling drops in standards. South African embassies and consular offices around the world were wall-to-wall with disgraced politicians," he said.

Asmal said the new democracy had to avoid falling into past practices which saw Parliament being lied to, misled and ignored.

"A vast cynicism spread across the land as the fat cats got fatter and the poor starved ... only a few voices were raised in principled protest," he said.
The ministers backing Cape Town’s poll plan

Cape Town. This means a poll for the city’s future in support of the new mayoral proposal.

"Our minds are set on the future of the city," says a city council official, who is one of the ministers backing the proposal.

The proposed poll, according to the official, is a call for the residents of Cape Town to vote on a new mayoral proposal, which includes a new city council and a new chief executive.

The poll, which is set to take place in the next few months, is expected to be a key milestone in the city’s efforts to modernize its governance and improve its services.

"We believe that the time is ripe for a new city council," says the official.

"We want a council that is more responsive to the needs of the people," he adds.

The proposed poll, which is expected to be held in September, is likely to be a contentious issue, with many residents and politicians expressing concerns about the proposed changes.

"We understand the concerns," says the official.

"But we believe that the benefits of a new council far outweigh the costs."
RAY HARTLEY assesses the President's speech to Parliament

Growth and job creation

THE government is to introduce sweeping measures aimed at reforming South Africa's economy by boosting growth and unlocking greater job creation.

This follows President Nelson Mandela's call to Parliament on Friday for a "national strategic vision" to boost job creation and his warning that the current economic growth could peter out.

Senior government sources said measures that could be expected to be announced soon were:

- Replacing the Competition Board with a tougher Competition Tribunal;
- Prohibiting competing companies from holding shares in one another.
- In his opening speech to Parliament, Mr Mandela said the confrontation between the government and Cosatu over the restructuring of state assets had been the product of a "breakdown of communication".
- He said he was happy with the national framework agreement signed by the government and labour this week. "We are confident that the restructuring programme will be carried out with due speed."

But elsewhere in his speech, the President said organised labour and employees had to ask: "Can we succeed if we promise our actions narrowly on the interests of those who are already economically engaged?"

Mr Mandela warned South Africans not to be lulled into complacency by the recent achievements of the economy.
- "If we do not act together in the public and private sectors to develop and implement such a national strategic vision, the danger is that even the modest growth we have attained will peter out in a matter of a few years."

Outlining the key elements of such a vision, he said the country faced "three important investment challenges", namely:

- Investment in infrastructure, including municipalities, housing, construction and telecommunications;
- The restructuring of manufacturing and other industries such as tourism, agriculture and mining, which were critical for export and foreign exchange earnings; and
- And "a massive investment in people" in the form of skills development, adult education and the overhauling of the education system.

Mr Mandela said the fact that 37 percent of managers in the public service were black and 10 percent were women was progress, "but not nearly enough."

He reiterated the government’s view that the public service needed to be rationalised.

On exchange controls, he said that "it is not a matter of whether, but of when, these controls will be phased out."

Mr Mandela said he expected the government to develop policies on the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as measures on "the critical question of competitive practices in the economy", to come before Parliament this year.

EVEN LUNSCHIE reports that the Minister of Trade and Industry, Trevor Manuel, has promised to break the grip on the economy of conglomerates such as Anglo, Old Mutual, Sanlam, Rembrandt and Liberty Life. He has also promised to ensure that bad business practices are shaken out of the system.

He recently received strong ammunition for his policy with figures showing that the five conglomerates still controlled almost three quarters of the market capitalisation of shares on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Among measures expected in his amendment to the Competition Act were:

- Outlawing cross directorships among competing firms;
Public chances to different time – surveys

with electorate

ANC out of step

Cape Town – The political correspondent

CITY PRESS Friday 11 January 1996
ANC hits out at Buthelezi’s refusal to go back to assembly

BY MNOLE MANKANYA
Political Reporter

The ANC yesterday expressed disappointment at Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi’s rejection of a call by President Nelson Mandela for the IFP to return to the Constitutional Assembly.

The organisation also slammed Buthelezi for launching what it termed an “unfounded attack” on Mandela for the call made during the ANC’s 84th anniversary celebration on Sunday. Buthelezi reportedly said Mandela had demonstrated “to the whole country and the world that he was not a man of his word” by refusing to honour an agreement that there should be international mediation on provincial powers.

“It is unfortunate that Buthelezi responded to the ANC’s gesture of reconciliation by launching a wholly unfounded attack on our president,” the ANC said.

Responding to Buthelezi’s charge that Mandela should have approached the IFP directly if he was serious, the ANC said the call had been made “with a genuine desire to see the IFP return to the assembly, mindful of the best interests of all South Africans”.

The ANC also denied it had reneged on the international mediation agreement signed shortly before the 1994 general election. It also accused the IFP of having scuttled last year’s discussions aimed at resolving this and other issues.

“The fundamental principle from which the ANC is not prepared to depart is that the final constitution for South Africa must be written by the legitimate representatives of the South African people elected in 1994,” said the ANC.
'Old order still runs the show'

By Themba Molefe
Political Correspondent

The Broederbond, the inner circle and Afrikaner secret cell of the National Party which has been in existence since 1948, is bent on maintaining the status quo of running the Government.

This is manifest in the choice of Mr Roelf Meyer's successor as Minister of Provincial and Constitutional Affairs after he resigned to become NP secretary-general.

Sowetan was told, very reliably, that the Broederbond still existed. It is in fact the inner circle of the NP which still determines the leadership of Afrikanerdom and resistance to total black rule.

It is, therefore, not surprising that Meyer was appointed to his position - to prevent the party from faltering, "otherwise De Klerk will not have a party anymore," said an insider under strict anonymity.

Mr Leon Wessels, who resigned as deputy chairman of the Constitutional Assembly and from the NP last week, has opened a can of worms on what is happening in the party. He does not want to have anything to do with the party anymore and has quashed rumours that he would join the African National Congress.

Politicians who spoke to Sowetan in Parliament at the weekend said the NP was just waiting for its death knell and that was why De Klerk was appointing blacks to senior positions.

De Klerk announced on Friday that Mr John Mavuso would be appointed to the Cabinet as Minister of General Services, a dubious position vacated by Mr Chris Fismar, who replaces Meyer.

De Klerk has been having problems with the choice of leadership to key positions in the party and Government.

The NP's problems come against the backdrop of President Nelson Mandela's opening of Parliament on Friday where he warned South Africans not to be lulled into complacency by the current economic upswing.

Mandela called for what he termed "a new patriotism" in all spheres of life and implied that the country had now to deal with the reality of being South Africans rather than "us consciousness."
masses for Mandela plan

THE ANC national executive, Cosatu and the SA Communist Party have drawn up a plan of action to give force to President Nelson Mandela's campaign to revolutionise society. ANTHONY JOHNSON reports.

The ANC has resolved to mobilise its millions of supporters across the country to give practical content to President Nelson Mandela's plans for an urgent and fundamental reshaping of society and its institutions.

Backing for speedy and radical transformation emerged last night at the end of a three-day meeting of a powerful ANC "Lekgotla" called to start putting "meat on the bones" of the strategic vision outlined by Mandela in his opening speech to Parliament on Friday.

The meeting in Bellville was attended by the national executive committee, ministers, regional premiers, Cosatu and the SA Communist Party.

The first details about how the country is to be changed and the private and public sectors shaken out of what Mandela called "the current comfort zones" are to be given this week when cabinet ministers brief the media and diplomats about their plans for 1996.

Further details of what Mandela described as "a national project of transformation" should emerge in Parliament on Thursday when the President delivers his reply to this week's debate on his state of the nation address.

The ANC last night highlighted four areas in which it would harness its resources and organisational capacity to transform the country. It said it would:

- Mobilise its members at all levels to make a success of the Masakhane campaign to end rent and service boycotts;
- Lend "unequivocal support (to the) firm and decisive measures" that Mandela had promised in dealing with lawlessness and violence;
- Campaign against any attempts that were made to use language and cultural rights to preserve privilege and work to counter trends towards ethnicity and xenophobia;
- Co-ordinate a campaign by all sectors to address the crisis of poverty in which more than half of the African majority was living below the breadline. A new approach in moving away from unemployment and towards economic growth would be central to dealing with the problem.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said at the weekend that the government and citizens had to pursue "with much more vigour" a programme of united action in addressing the challenges in housing, health, education, policing, job creation and restructuring state assets.

The country could not afford the complacency inherent in the attitude of "business as usual". All citizens had to contribute to a new national project by asking themselves: "What is it that I can do?"

Mbeki said the success of the Masakhane campaign would need the involvement of non-governmental organisations.

Minister in charge of the Reconstruction and Development Programme Jay Naidoo has warned that the RDP could fail if the Masakhane campaign falters.

He said yesterday that the RDP was an initiative that should be tackled in every household.

Minister of Trade and Industry Trevor Manuel said the government believed the greatest threat to development was "jobless growth". He did not believe this and other economic challenges could be resolved by forming "a super cabinet committee to produce super answers in a short time."

In his address to Parliament, Mandela highlighted imminent legislation or policy packages designed to change the face of the new South Africa. These are to be discussed by ministers this week and include:

- A crime prevention strategy and legislation to bar the carrying of dangerous weapons in publics.
- The government's role in giving effective leadership to economic growth and development, including the lifting of exchange controls.
- Legislation to be passed this session, eg. the restructuring of state assets, employment equity and standards.
- Decline in measures to ensure a non-racial and equitable education system.
- A new grading system and incentives for health workers, especially in the rural areas.
- Programmes to integrate cities as too many low-cost housing initiatives are "mere additions to apartheid's black townships."
- The establishment of a presidential review commission to restructure the public service.
- Legislation on the Youth and Gender Equality Commissions and a national programme of action on children.
- A document outlining a new approach to foreign relations.

See Page 5
Nats change their minds on future power sharing

Now the door is open for majority party to form the government, but new constitutional safeguards sought

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Cape Town – The National Party yesterday formally dropped its insistence on power sharing as provided for in the interim constitution.

The Government of National Unity, a cornerstone of the constitutional compromise engineered at the Keppton Park talks, expires on April 30 1999. If the African National Congress gets its way in bilateral talks and in the negotiations taking place in the Constitutional Assembly in Cape, the GNU will be replaced by a system in which the majority party forms the government.

The NP’s chief negotiator, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, said yesterday the NP would go along with the view that one of three options before the negotiators – that the GNU continue beyond 1999 – be dropped. In its place, however, the NP wanted another system which allowed minority parties to have a say in the executive.

Meyer quoted a survey commissioned by the Human Sciences Research Council which showed 68% of ANC supporters favoured a continuation of the GNU arrangement.

“No party is of the view that the GNU as it is now should be continued in that way.”

Meyer added that the NP would go along with dropping the GNU option but that further creative ideas might still evolve.

ANC negotiator Fisopah Pahad said the ANC was still awaiting an NP proposal on what form of power sharing it would want included in the constitution.

While the NP’s withdrawal of its insistence on a GNU beyond 1999 meant some progress was made in the negotiations which must produce a constitution by May this year, the NP gained slightly with the ANC’s concession that it would support a proposal that one-third of the members of the National Assembly can petition the Constitutional Court to establish whether an act of Parliament is constitutional.

In terms of the agreement reached yesterday, one-third of the members can ask the court for a ruling on whether a prima facie case exists.

If there is not a reasonable chance of success, the referral will be rejected and the individual parties sponsoring the request will have to pay the court costs, a measure designed to prevent “trivial approaches.”
Breakthrough as ANC, NP drop key demands

Political Staff

THERE has been a significant breakthrough in the constitutional stalemate between African National Congress and the National Party, with both agreeing to compromise on key demands.

After months of behind-the-scenes negotiations, the ANC has abandoned its opposition to minority parties having the right to petition the constitutional court for a ruling on legislation passing through parliament.

And the NP gave up its quest for an extension to powersharing along the lines of the existing government of national unity.

While other major obstacles to agreement on the new constitution remain, spokesmen for the two largest parties said they were encouraged by the breakthrough on the constitutional court and powersharing issues.

Under the present interim constitution, minority parties have the power to ask the constitutional court to give a ruling on the constitutional validity of legislation if they are able to muster the signatures of one-third of the members of parliament.

Twice last year the various minority parties joined forces to make use of this power — effectively delaying the implementation of two bills, one on the government’s new education policy.

The court is to hear evidence on the petitions in March.

Angered by the obstruction, the ANC campaigned vigorously to remove the right of parties in parlia-

ment to petition the court.

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The NP’s chief negotiator, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, said yesterday that the NP would go along with the view that one of three options before the negotiators — that the GNU continues beyond 1999 — be dropped. But in its place, the NP wanted another system which allowed minority parties to have a say in the executive.

ANC negotiator Essop Pahad said the ANC was still waiting for an NP proposal on the form of powersharing it would want.

In terms of the agreement reached yesterday, one third of the members can ask the Constitutional Court for a ruling which will consider whether a prima facie case exists.

If there is not a reasonable chance of success, the referral will be rejected and the individual parties sponsoring the request will have to pay the court’s costs — a measure designed to prevent “trivial approaches.”
Tobie Meyer quits politics after talks with De Klerk

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Deputy Land Affairs Minister Tobie Meyer is the latest senior Nat to announce his resignation from government or Parliament since the launch of the NP’s new vision.

Meyer’s resignation, effective from the end of March, follows his brother Roelf’s resignation as Constitutional Development Minister, and Leon Wessels’s announcement he would leave Parliament when the Constitutional Assembly has completed its work.

It is understood that NP leader FW de Klerk intends bringing Tertius Delport from his position as Eastern Cape transport MEC back to Parliament and a deputy minister’s job. Meyer apparently was offered a job in the Eastern Cape cabinet, but declined and has decided to return to farming. He said he had already decided to retire from politics at the end of his official term in 1999.

A spokesman for De Klerk said last night that any suggestion that Meyer had been sacked was “malicious” and relations between them remained warm and cordial.

Informed sources said Delport’s imminent appointment could be interpreted as a move to placate the party’s right wing.

They also speculated that another deputy minister, Gert Myburgh (justice), could also be a casualty of De Klerk’s reshuffle.

Delport is expected to take the post as deputy justice minister. Meyer’s job at land affairs could be filled by present party director Fanie Schoeman.

De Klerk said anything to do with Delport’s possible return to national politics was “pure speculation” and no firm decision had been taken.

Meyer said yesterday it had been a privilege to take part in the process of political transformation. However, De Klerk’s new initiatives demanded “further adjustments”. Urgent talks with De Klerk and consideration of his position had convinced him that the new vision would be helped if he vacated his deputy minister’s post and resigned as an MP.

This would give the NP leader more power to develop dynamic leadership and affirmative action within the party.

“I trust these steps, which are necessary to broaden the power base of the NP, will be seen through to their logical conclusion,” he said.

Land affairs department officials were stunned yesterday by the news of Meyer’s resignation. They had nothing but praise for the role he has played in the development of policy and legislation in the ministry.

Meyer said the co-operation he had enjoyed with Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom was constructive.

Delport declined to comment.

De Klerk had not yet taken any firm decision on who would replace Meyer, De Klerk’s office said last night.
Minority parties define battlegrounds

□ IFP to continue boycott. FF wants autonomy deal

TYRONE SEALE, Political Staff
MINORITY parties in parliament have given early warning of the political battlegrounds they have picked for the year ahead.

This includes the Inkatha Freedom Party's continued boycott of the constitution-making process and unwavering Freedom Front insistence on Afrikaner self-determination.

Battle lines were clearly drawn by party leaders in yesterday's debate in the national assembly on President Mandela's "new patriotism" opening speech last Friday.

The loudest warning was sounded by IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi who said the constitution in the making was "more rotten and flawed and unfit for the needs of our country than the constitution developed at the World Trade Centre."

He also warned Mr Mandela that the combined might of the country's security forces would not stop Zulus from carrying "traditional accoutrements" at public gatherings.

Chief Buthelezi said it was imperative to draw a line and stop the constitution-making process until the promise of international mediation was honoured in order to bring about peace, stability and trust.

Freedom Front chairman Pieter Mulder said the Front accepted Mr Mandela's "new patriotism" challenge but at the same time alarm bells were ringing within the Afrikaner community.

There were new voices — black and white — that were afraid to acknowledge cultural and language diversity. They believed the only way to reconciliation and a new loyalty was to suppress these differences and rally around English.

"For the majority of Afrikaners this is not acceptable and is causing resistance at the moment."

He asked the president for a testament that would commit political leaders who would succeed Mr Mandela once he retired, to reconciliation. "A deal on Afrikaner self-determination will make this possible," he said.

"But we do not get the same messages from some of his cabinet ministers, some ANC parliamentarians, some ANC local councillors, the SABC or some education departments."

Deputy President F W de Klerk, the NP leader, drew blood from ANC MP and constitutional affairs portfolio committee chairman Pravin Gordhan by saying if it weren't for the NP, no one in the ANC would be in parliament today.

Mr Gordhan retorted it was "both arrogant and concealed" of Mr De Klerk.

"You have done us no favour. We are here because of the blood, sweat and tears of millions of South Africans."

Democratic Party leader Tony Leon said as part of developing a national work ethic and sound economic fundamentals, the government had to employ clean administration and a small, efficient bureaucracy.
NP deputy minister quits

DEPUTY Land Affairs Minister Tobie Meyer is to quit his post and Parliament — sparking speculation that Eastern Cape National Party leader Dr Tertius Delport may return to the central government as a deputy minister.

Commenting last night, NP leader Mr F W de Klerk said "reports ... at this stage are pure speculation — no firm decision has been taken".

Delport is the Eastern Cape's Minister of Transport.

Meyer is to quit at the end of next month. Suggestions that he had been "pushed" were rejected as "malicious" by De Klerk.

Meyer said in a statement that the initiatives announced by De Klerk on February 2 demanded "further adjustments". It had become clear in discussions with De Klerk that his resignation would contribute to these.

"This will put the leader of the NP in a position to give a powerful thrust to new thinking and the development of dynamic young leadership and allow further affirmative action," Meyer said. — Own Correspondent
South Africa's ambassador to Belgium takes up post at last

Brussels – Full diplomatic relations were resumed between South Africa and Belgium yesterday when SA's new ambassador to the kingdom presented her credentials to the Brussels palace.

This follows nearly two years in which this top diplomatic post has remained unfilled. SA's previous ambassador to Belgium packed up and left before the April 1994 election – and his replacement, Annette de Kock Joubert, has only now been installed.

Joubert presented her credentials to King Albert II yesterday, and will meet Belgian Foreign Minister Erik Derycke today. Joubert's arrival comes soon after the departure of another key South African diplomat in Brussels, ambassador to the European Union Neil van Heerden, who left at the end of last month.

News is still awaited on who will replace him, thus restoring SA's diplomatic presence in the Belgian and EU capital to full strength for the first time since the 1994 election. – Star Foreign Service.
Stakeholders in Wits transformation to meet

Kevin O'Grady

A CONFERENCE of all stakeholders in the transformation of Wits University is to be held soon, vice-chancellor Robert Charlton announced yesterday.

The decision was taken at a university council meeting last night on the recommendation of four council members who had previously been appointed as mediators in the transformation process, Charlton said.

A steering committee comprising principal stakeholders would be appointed to draw up the programme for the weekend conference.

A 116-page report by a commission of inquiry, headed by adv Malcolm Wallis, into allegations made by deputy vice-chancellor William Makgoba of wrongdoing by 13 senior academics was tabled at the meeting.

However, it was agreed the council needed more time to consider the report and would meet again tomorrow to discuss its response.

The council would also constitute a new tribunal "as soon as possible" to investigate the 13 academics' allegations against Makgoba, Charlton said.

The 13 have alleged Makgoba misrepresented achievements on his CV, brought the university into disrepute and failed to fulfill his administrative duties. An international tribunal set up to investigate the allegations was disbanded last month after one of its members withdrew.

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — KwaZulu-Natal premier Frank Mdlalose is pressing ahead with a commission of inquiry into political violence in the province, despite being urged by non-governmental organisations yesterday to drop the plan as it would duplicate the truth and reconciliation commission's work.

In a government gazette issued last month, Mdlalose said a seven-member commission would be appointed to investigate politically motivated crimes committed in KwaZulu-Natal since 1970 — before the IFP was formed, but by which time Umkhonto we Sizwe and trade unions were active in the province. The gazette said only crimes in which there were no convictions would be investigated. The commission should forward reasons as to why convictions were not achieved.

Violent actions conducted "under cover of law or by individuals operating within state structures or on the basis of instructions from authorities" would also be investigated.

"The commission would also identify possible "instigators and masterminds", and the "history of the unfolding political violence", and highlight "the existence of possible common purposes, or strategies and tactics with a view to identifying ways and means of preventing further crimes".

The gazette said Mdlalose would app

Schoeman pips Delport for NP post

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — NP MP and party executive director Fanus Schoeman will replace former land minister Tobie Meyer, Deputy President and NP leader FW de Klerk announced yesterday.

Schoeman, who has been closely associated with developing the NP's negotiations and political strategy, is understood to have pipped conservative NP Eastern Cape leader Titus Delport to the post.

De Klerk said Schoeman's appointment would be an important step in the party's development. Schoeman would be a "strong, sensible and dynamic" leader who would bring "unbeknownst" qualities to the party.

"I am delighted that Fanus Schoeman has been chosen to lead the NP's negotiations with the IFP," de Klerk said. "This is a significant step forward in our efforts to ensure a successful outcome for the negotiations."
Archives office goes
for the records

A BILL tabled in parliament today will set up a national archives office to manage all central government records. The National Archives of South Africa Bill defines the relationship between national and provincial archival services and draws all public records, including electronic records, into its ambit.

According to a memorandum to the bill, it will ensure that provisions for public access will mesh with proposed Open Democracy laws.

"Current archival legislation expresses an ethos in public administration wedded to the past." Existing legislation did not accommodate the new division of functions between central government and the provinces. It did not address new realities in keeping public records, including electronic records, and did not embrace accountability and transparency.

The bill was the product of a year-long process of consultation with affected groups.

A national archivist will be appointed by the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology. The archivist will be in charge of arranging, describing and retrieving records, providing information, consultation and research.

The bill provides for a 10-member National Archives Commission, including the national archivist, to advise the minister and help coordinate policy formulation.

The commission will have to keep a list of all non-public records in the country which in its opinion have enduring value.
Corruption: Ethics code finalised tomorrow

Arg 15/2/96 (3049)

The parliamentary rules committee meets tomorrow to finalise a code of ethics against the background of a new survey which reveals that 84 percent of South Africans believe there is some corruption in government.

The belief pervades all races and provinces.

The illegitimacy of the previous government and corruption in the former homelands has had a lasting effect on perceptions of state honesty, according to the Institute for a Democratic South Africa (Idasa), which conducted the survey.

Media stereotypes of a “gravy train” have fuelled perceptions of low ethical standards among public officials.

Wilton James, executive director of Idasa, emphasised that findings revealed only perceptions and that no specific individual or party had been implicated. But perceptions became part of political reality, and presented a challenge to the government, he said.

“The statistics are profoundly disturbing.”

“In spite of the deep democratic and moral changes, people have a high level of mistrust and cynicism of officialdom.”

The survey underscored the importance of the parliamentary code of ethics.

The government had seized the initiative to regulate the behaviour of its members in a manner consistent with democratic values and the ethics of good government.

The survey, conducted between September and November last year, showed that 85 percent of those questioned felt that elected officials should be more honest than ordinary citizens.

But only 29 percent believed this was actually the case.

More than half believed that people in government worked in their own self-interest rather than in the public interest.

Almost half thought that most or almost all of those in government were involved in corruption, while 84 percent saw some level of corruption in government. Only six percent believed the government was completely “clean”.

Forty-one percent believed that the new democratic government was more corrupt than its predecessor. Africans were only slightly less pessimistic than the average about official ethics.

Whites were “downright cynical about such matters,” Idasa said.

People favour extensive monitoring of elected leaders. On salaries paid to MPs, 60 percent of those surveyed believed these were too high.

Seventy-six percent opposed MPs having outside jobs, 66 percent opposed outside income and 57 percent opposed MPs accepting gifts. Two-thirds felt that outside income was likely to lead to corruption.

“MPs may be between a rock and a hard place because people overwhelmingly oppose raising salaries as a way to limit MP dependence on outside income.”

When the national assembly and senate rules committees meet tomorrow, two unresolved issues are to be discussed: the scope of disclosure of financial interests, and whether the code of ethics should part of internal parliamentary rules or whether it should be a fully-fledged law.
New govt 'more corrupt' poll

ANC Fears Survey, undermines democracy
US soft-pedals on SA's ties

WASHINGTON: President Nelson Mandela's statement that Cuba and Libya are South Africa's friends have ruffled a few feathers here but not provoked a hard-line response.

The United States government will not ask President Mandela to sever South African ties with Cuba's Fidel Castro and Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, but Washington hopes he will urge them to mend their ways.

"Our positions on Libya and Cuba are well known," a US State Department spokesman said on Tuesday night. "We have urged all nations to join in condemning Libya's sponsorship of international terrorism, and to call for an end to Cuba's oppression of its people.

"We hope that South Africa will take the opportunity to press these important concerns during any exchanges it may have with Libya or with Cuba."

The official had been asked for the Clinton administration's reaction to Mandela's statement in a television interview this week that Castro and Gaddafi were friends of South Africa and he was determined to invite them for a visit.

The statement follows the mini-fuss over Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale's planned visit to Cuba at the end of his current visit to the US.

While Sexwale's plans have attracted hardly any public attention here, they did dismay some conservatives in the Congress, notably Ms Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, chairwoman of the House of Representatives sub-committee on Africa, who protested personally to Sexwale that his presence in Havana would aid the Castro regime.

On Mandela's statement, the US spokesman denied that it signalled a cooling of relations between Washington and South Africa. "US-South Africa relations — based on our mutual support for democracy and human rights — are excellent, as demonstrated by increasing trade, investment and co-operation between our countries," he said.

The US would not ask South Africa to break its relations with Libya and Cuba but would continue to urge that all nations express their concern over acts of state-supported terrorism and egregious violations of human rights.

"We have made clear our view that the international community should isolate the Gaddafi regime until Libya complies with all obligations under United Nations Security Council resolutions."

The US also continued to urge all states to observe the letter and the spirit of the UN sanctions against Libya, the spokesman said. These sanctions did not prohibit high-level contacts with Libya, but called on countries not to expand their diplomatic relations with the Gaddafi regime. — Sapa
NP reshuffle sees Schoeman promoted

NATIONAL PARTY executive director Fanie Schoeman is to succeed Tobie Meyer as Deputy Minister of Land Affairs, while Marthinus van Schalkwyk and Senator David Malatsi are being appointed to the new posts of assistant secretaries-general of the NP.

This was announced yesterday by the NP leader, Deputy President FW de Klerk.

He also announced that Aboo Kahn, a member of the Gauteng legislature, would replace John Mavuso, who is becoming General Services Minister, as an MEC in Gauteng.

MP Kobus Dowry is being promoted to director in the NP’s federal management structure.

Van Schalkwyk and Malatsi will be assistants to Roelf Meyer, outgoing Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development.

Meyer will become NP secretary-general from March 1.

Tobie Meyer, elder brother of Roelf, announced on Tuesday that he was quitting politics to return to full-time farming.

De Klerk said he hoped these announcements would bring an end to “speculation”, including “negative conclusions”, which were being made about the forthcoming retirements from politics of Meyer and Leon Wessels, deputy chairman of the Constitutional Assembly.

“Both these esteemed colleagues are enthusiastic about the new initiatives within the NP. “They have made this clear in the announcements they made.”

At one stage there had been a possibility that Tobie Meyer would move to the Eastern Cape legislature and that NP Eastern Cape leader Dr Terrius Delport would move from the provincial legislature to the central Parliament, De Klerk said. But in the light of Tobie Meyer’s preference to retire completely from politics, this possibility had fallen away.

De Klerk said further movements may take place within the next few months, as several senior politicians were considering retirement. — Sapa
Nats seek new path to opposition

Having dropped its key constitutional demand for power-sharing after 1989, the National Party is struggling to reposition itself as a party in opposition, writes Marion Edmunds

The National Party has used its central constitutional demand and the African National Congress as its two great validating hecatomb to the ANC. The NP is outplayed by its own side for the next election. But ARC MN's talk openly about the Nats' undoing.

This week, Constitutional Development Minister Reitumile Motsabara said the Nats would reject the proposed power-sharing formula after 1990. The NP's commitment to a central democratic political system would be jeopardised by the ANC's imposition of a 50-50 arrangement. ARC negotiators say they are bemused as to why the Nats would change their position now, especially as they have developed a newfound capacity to perceive the ANC as a threat.

"That is a cheap political trick," retorted Reitumile Motsabara. "I don't know what the ANC is talking about. The Constitution does not only consist of the Government of National Unity. There is a whole variety of checks and balances we want to see in the Constitution, which means there will be no central dominance. There are other alternatives on the table. All we have conceded is that the model of the GNU is one of two should not be continued. You can't be in a GNU and be an opposition party, it goes against the grain."

Some of the most important checks and balances and the executive power will be vested in provincial governments and the debate on this chapter of the final Constitution continues behind the scenes. These bilateral, however, are characterised by growing consensus rather than party political disputes.

The mandate of the GNU principle reflects the beleaguered within the Ns to become an effective opposition party. It reflects...
Getting an MPS 's Code of Ethics to Work

A code of ethics for MPs could create a new bond of trust between Parliament and South Africans, but it needs to be independently monitored. '栒부ų 니버기΄ς ᮺjiƙa de Lille

\[304(2)\, 16\, 22/12/96\]
Black Nats try to fill the vacuum
After meeting with the party members, the executive committee of the ANC decided to proceed with the plan to contest in the upcoming elections. The committee believes that the ANC has a strong base and can win the elections with the right strategy.

The campaign will focus on the following issues:

1. Economic development
2. Education and healthcare
3. Poverty alleviation
4. Corruption and accountability

The ANC has a clear plan for each of these issues and will work hard to address them.

The party has recruited a strong team of candidates, including some of the best and brightest in the country. The team is composed of experienced professionals who understand the needs of the people.

The campaign will also focus on engaging with the youth and other groups to ensure their voices are heard. The ANC is committed to creating a better future for all South Africans.
The National Party knows that a dynamic, innovative, and efficient educational system is crucial for the future of our country. Our platform prioritizes investments in education to ensure that every South African child has access to a quality education. We believe in empowering learners to become critical thinkers and problem solvers, preparing them for the challenges of the 21st century.

Our commitment to education includes the following key initiatives:

1. **Early Childhood Development**: Ensuring that all children have access to quality early childhood development programs to lay a strong foundation for future learning.
2. **Basic Education**: Strengthening the quality of basic education by providing additional resources and support to schools.
3. **Secondary Education**: Enhancing the curriculum to prepare students for tertiary education and the workforce.
4. **Higher Education**: Supporting universities and technical institutions to produce skilled graduates that meet the needs of the economy.
5. **Skills Development**: Focusing on skills development programs to address the skills shortage and enhance employability.
6. **Teacher Development**: Investing in teacher training and professional development to improve teaching standards.
7. **Infrastructure**: Upgrading educational infrastructure to support learning and development.
8. **Partnerships**: Collaborating with business and civil society to support education initiatives.

Our vision is to create a South Africa where every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential, and where education is a gateway to a brighter future. We believe that education is not just a right, but a means to empowering our youth and building a better society for all.

The National Party is committed to delivering on these objectives through effective policy implementation and collaboration with all stakeholders. We invite you to join us in this journey to ensure a brighter future for all South Africans.
Mandela's calls Mps to order for personal language

Mandela has castigated MPS for a briefing to "division by speaker, Friend, Prime Minister, President of the Senate, who has caused

Mandela, the president of the National Executive Council, has castigated MPS for a briefing to the "division by speaker, Friend, Prime Minister, President of the Senate, who has caused

Mandela's calls MPS to order for her personal language
Many feel that the way to handle hate speech is unnecessary.

Harry Schwarz

A DEBATE on hate speech and its relationship to constitutional protection of the freedom of speech is necessary.

One hopes Business Day's editorial comment of January 29 will encourage a meaningful exchange of views.

In addressing the question of reconciling the concept of free speech with that of hate speech, one needs not merely to look at the theoretical concept but must examine the practical situation in the country in which we live. Care needs to be taken in assessing what is needed and not merely a slow reaction or overreaction to oppressive measures of the past.

Some aspects of Business Day's editorial express self-evident truths, or at least I believe them to be so. Laws cannot be used to stomp out ideas. A democratic society requires free and open political debate. Unpopular ideas are entitled to be expressed.

The comparison between pornographic and hate speech is, however, in my view not an appropriate one. We can disapprove of both, but they are different in character and specie and need to be addressed differently.

The proposed amendment to the constitution to restrict "advocacy of hatred based on race, ethnicity, gender or religion that constitutes incitement to discriminate" fails in my view in that it seeks to outlaw only hate speech that incites discrimination and limits the ground on which such hatred is based, such as sexual orientation.

It is easy for a frizzy orator to shelter behind the excuse that he did not perpetrate an act of violence, nor did he actually incite it; he merely pointed out how evil and dangerous, repugnant or threatening other groups were and he dissociates himself from the violence committed. This is reminiscent of some of the excuses offered by the Nazis after the Second World War.

We live in a society of many minorities, different faiths and other characteristics. Most of us believe in a non-racial society, but to truly achieve this is a difficult task.

History shows how some politicians find it easier to unite people in hatred than in love.

We cannot assume that no one will seek to obtain support by uniting one group in the hatred of another.

Business Day correctly states that the ANC's object in seeking to eliminate crude racism is a laudable one, but adds that to legislate against it will not achieve the objective. The newspaper states that the DP might be taking the right view for the wrong reason. The DP, among others, has said that a limitation of the nature suggested will or might lead to abuse by the authorities in eventually limiting freedom of speech. The editorial suggests that crude racism will be stamped out when its manifestation comes to be regarded as anti-social.

The possibility of abuse by authority is there, but that can be minimised by appropriate wording in the constitution or other legislation as well as by an independent, honest judiciary. The hope that racism will disappear when it is regarded as anti-social is regrettably not borne out by either the past or the present.

In the US, the first amendment to their constitution allows the channels of communication to be used to broadcast hate speech; there are channels on television and radio which do little else but spew out hatred and seek to give reasons to denigrate others, not as individuals but by reason of their membership of a particular group. There are also many printed publications doing exactly the same. All shelter behind the first amendment and claim innocence when someone is influenced by such venom bombs, murders, assaults or discriminations. They claim they do not incite to violence. They merely express opinions, they say.

In the case of Chaplinsky vs New Hampshire, 1942, the US Supreme Court held that the first amendment did not protect "fighting words" - words inflicting injury or tending to incite an immediate breach of the peace. In subsequent decisions, however, anti-hate speech legislation in many states has been struck down.

The argument is that only where there is a clear, present danger, may freedom of speech be limited. There is, however, no restriction on speech that infringes on the fundamental rights of others to dignity, equality and non-discrimination.

In Canada, a different situation prevails. The constitution protects free speech but there is a limitation clause similar to the one in our interim constitution which enables limitations to be imposed if they can be said to be reasonable and justifiable in a free and democratic society.

The provisions of the Canadian criminal code, which restrict hate or racist speech, were upheld despite the freedom of speech provision in the constitution, as it fell within the limitation clause and such speech "keeps the targeted group in a subordinated position through the promotion of terror, intolerance, degradation, segregation, exclusion, vilification", et cetera.

It can therefore be argued that the proposed ANC amendment is unnecessary. The legislation to restrict hate speech will be permissible and is enacted if a limitation clause remains in the final constitution, and if the principles applied in interpretation of the limitation clause are those laid down by the President of the Constitutional Court in the case of the State vs Makhwanyane, 1998.

It should be pointed out that under the past regime, despite the apartheid policies which were applied, there were provisions in the law that made it an offence to use hate speech causing hostility between different population groups. The comment can be made that the existence of these laws on the statute books did not help race relations, but the answer to this lies in the policies of a government of the day, the police and the attorneys-general.

The question really is whether the clause in the constitution should be amended to deal with hate speech or whether it should be left to the legislature to enact the legislation. The circumstances of the times may require. Business Day's editorial and the DP argue that no such provision should be in the constitution, but do not address the question as to whether there should be separate legislation.

It appears to be implied that there should not be such laws.

Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Poland and New Zealand are among countries that have anti-hate speech legislation, some in the constitution and some in separate legislation.

I have listened to hate speech in the US, in Germany and, regrettably, in SA, I — and I think many others who, like me, believe in freedom of speech — have the view that the abuse of that freedom can have serious consequences, so I would welcome appropriately worded legislation to deal with the problem. I would feel even more comfortable, as a member of a minority that has for generations in many countries been the object of hate speech which has resulted in more than just words heaped upon the group, if there was constitutional protection.

In my view most South Africans, in majority and minority groups, share that view with me, particularly if they or their forefathers have been victims whether in SA or elsewhere.

It is not an erosion of free speech; it is a safeguarding of freedom in other aspects.

Schwarz is a former MP and sador to the US.
ion leaders from all parties and walks of life with those of the people.

He finds widespread conservatism among ordinary South Africans and a dramatic divide between the ANC elite and its supporters on key issues.

In a separate survey, the Institute for Democracy (Idasa) finds that while the public is positive about parliament’s performance over the past year, a “shocking” 57% of respondents — a majority in each racial category — are not satisfied with the way democracy is working.

This may mean that South Africans are dissatisfied with policy delivery rather than the type of democratic system at work as respondents failed to make the distinction between the two.

Idasa’s Robert Mattes says though the new democracy is only 20 months old the results show that the honeymoon is over. There does not seem to be a reservoir of good feeling which could carry it through some policy failures. This, coupled with widespread pessimism and cynicism about official ethics and corruption, raises important warning flags.

Kotzé finds overwhelming support for the type of democratic system at work: constitutionally entrenched power sharing. More than 60% of the population — a majority in the ANC, NP, DP and Inkatha — want the Government of National Unity (GNU) to continue beyond 1999.

However, while 67% of ANC supporters favour constitutionally entrenched power sharing, 73% of ANC parliamentarians are dead against it.

There is a similar divide in the ANC over capital punishment, with 68% of the elite against and 65% of supporters in favour of its reintroduction.

At least 70% of the population supports capital punishment unconditionally (NP 86%, IFP 65%, FF 82% and DP 83%).

The ANC is again out of step with its supporters over its plans to allow abortion on demand. Supporters of all parties, with the exception of the DP, are against the legalisation of abortion (ANC 78%, NP 73%, IFP 74% and FF 79%).

All supporters are strongly opposed to pornography (ANC 74%, NP 80%, DP 67%, IFP 68%, and the FF 90%).

Clearly the ANC’s liberal outlook is far ahead of society’s conservative values, which could create legitimacy problems for the final constitution and new laws.

Government would do well to heed these warning bells by using the constitution-making process to be more responsive to ordinary citizens. ■
BEHIND THE NEW PATRIOTISM

A key phrase in President Nelson Mandela's address to parliament last week was "new patriotism" — a quality SA was enjoined to embrace with fervour SA has accorded its sporting heroes in rugby, cricket and soccer. But what exactly did Mandela mean?

The outlines of an answer emerged this week in a series of ministerial briefings that attempted to make concrete Mandela’s intentions. For investors, it seems that the “new patriotism” entails an acceptance that commitment to the transformation of society means the forgoing of short-term returns on capital “since the question will arise, over and over again, whether we can attain our objective if the profit motive is the only dynamo of our actions.”

Mandela said that the question South Africans should ask themselves each day was: “What have I done today to create jobs and improve my skills and those of others?” Within weeks, government “should be able to make major announcements” on its intentions to lead in the sphere of economic growth and development.

This would seem to promise coercive legislation on Minister of Trade & Industry Trevor Manuel’s particular bugbear — the “monopolies” that are alleged to dominate the JSE and economic activity as a whole. At a media conference following Mandela’s speech, Manuel promised pro-competition laws. Previous leaks from his department suggest that any Bill will be a tough one, for all the ANC’s previous repudiation of its constitutional belief that "big is bad.”

On the broader plain, Mandela identified four areas where, in effect, certain forms of investment (either directly or through levies) would deliver less than normal rates of return in the short term but which in the longer term would transform the economy and provide a sounder basis for sustained growth — and higher returns. They were:

- Education: “Pronouncements about economic growth sound hollow if they are followed up by attempts to block, by hook or by crook, legislation meant to equip children with the required skills. Declarations of loyalty to democracy can only be but mere words if in actual practice people are seen to defend islands of white privilege.”

- Health: Government’s focus is on an expansion of the primary sector — and the tacit appeal is that “those who have resources in abundance” should, in an unspecified fashion, share them;

- Housing: Mandela appealed directly for a “greater commitment on the part of financial institutions to allocate resources to poor areas.” He balanced this with a call for “firm indications that the rents and services boycotts have, in the spirit of Masakhane, come to an end.”

This linkage — which has never come to fruition — can be seen as an appeal for greater government/private sector co-operation in the labours of upliftment. There has been no indication to date that any form of prescribed investments for mass housing will be reintroduced, but a comment by Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo indicates well enough the shape of an ideal, voluntary partnership in housing and small enterprise.

Speaking at a mosque in Cape Town, Naidoo expanded on Mandela’s message social investors in rural or informal elements. “Your returns won’t be as high as on the JSE — but what are our responsibilities as patriots?”

This comment can be seen as part of a growing campaign by ANC Ministers, in particular, for the private sector to make what at times sound like wartime sacrif-
ANC REJECTS PORTRAYAL OF 'CORRUPT' MPs

Some media guilty of 'deep-seated racism'

TOP ANC MEMBERS lashed out at the way MPs have been portrayed in some media. This follows the latest Idasa survey which showed that the majority of South Africans questioned their honesty. BARRY STREEK reports.

Sections of the media had been racist in trying to show the first black parliamentarians as 'corrupt natives', the ANC's senator Mr Bulelani Ngcuka and MP Mr Carl Niehaus MP said yesterday.

Together with ANC caucus chairwoman Ms Baleka Kgotsitile, they accused the media of creating a perception that parliamentarians were dishonest.

They spoke after an ANC caucus meeting following the release of an Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa) survey which found a majority of South Africans questioned the honesty of politicians and civil servants.

Niehaus said: 'It's an approach to try to undermine the institution that is Parliament.

'I don't know what the motives are — whether it is because this is a democratic institution that represents the majority of the people and therefore you try to say things that are going to detract from the good work that is being done.'

Ngcuka said these perceptions meant that MPs could be labelled as 'a bunch of corrupt natives — I take strong exception to that'.

He added: 'You can't blame Idasa. If that is the perception of some of the people, you need to look where that is coming from.

'It's absolutely clear that from the moment we moved in here, we have been subjected to one form of attack or another. Whatever we do is hardly ever presented in a positive manner.

'Is there anything that we have done, one thing, where you can say we are corrupt. Nothing. You can't make that accusation stick,' Ngcuka said.

Niehaus said the way some sections of the media had reported on parliamentary salaries had demonstrated 'deep-seated racism'.

'I feel very strongly that there has been a deliberate attempt by a number of organisations, a number of structures, and unfortunately some in the media have been a part of that, to undermine the legitimacy, the profile of Parliament.'

Kgotsitile said the perception that legislators were corrupt was created by people opposed to democracy.

'You can't blame the people. You can say that the media have certainly played a role in perpetuating, from day one, an attitude towards Parliament as something that can't be trusted.'

The MP's Mr Cobus Dowry said the lack of decisive action against apparent empty promises by ANC leaders were at the root of the public's perception that corruption was rife in all levels of government.

High-profile incidents had contributed to this perception, including the ANC's failure to deal with 'problem cases' such as Mrs Winnie Mandela and Mr Peter Mokaba.

The fraud within the NDP food programmes had also strengthened this perception, Dowry said.

Niehaus also said the ANC caucus had been unable to finalise a decision on the proposed code of conduct for parliamentarians because some members only received copies of the proposed code yesterday and wanted more time to study the proposals.

'I want to make a strong appeal to the media to deal with this matter in the correct fashion and not in the kind of sensationalist way that we have had issues dealt with in the past,' he said.
Legislators don’t earn their enormous salaries — DP

CHRIS RATEMAN

WESTERN CAPE legislators were being paid salaries of between R230 000 and R500 000 a year but had passed only six bills that had anything to do with legislative reform, DP provincial leader Mr Hennie Bester charged yesterday.

Speaking shortly before delivering his reply to Premier Hermus Kriel’s “state of the province” opening speech on Wednesday, Bester said he and his colleagues were paid “enormous salaries which quite frankly we don’t earn, in terms of what we’re delivering to the public”.

Bester, who as chairman of the province’s Development Affairs Committee gets an annual salary of R230 000, proposed salary cuts “across the board” for legislators, including himself.

Speaking in the legislature, he accused provincial and central government of lagging behind the private sector in housing and service delivery, saying all political energy had gone into “party dog-fights” over issues like boundary demarcation which did nothing for the “desperate” people they served. Instead, the fights had “everything to do with party political advantage”.

The provincial legislature had put in a “sorry” performance, passing 18 bills since its May 1994 inception, six of which were mere “pro forma” bills designed to set up the new infrastructure, four of which were “minor” adjustments requiring little attention and two of which were appropriation laws.

Only six bills had anything to do with legislative reform and the delivery of better services.

One of these, the Provincial Housing Bill, was not implemented because Pretoria threatened to cut off Western Cape funds if the province carried out its housing plans.

Bester said his own Development Committee had thrown out the Provincial Development Council Bill (incorporating Wesgro into the province) because it was “so badly drafted”.

Kriel’s call for the urgent drafting of a provincial constitution lacked credibility because it was mere repetition of what he said 12 months ago.

Bester accused the cabinet of refusing to adjust the House rules to give provincial committees powers to probe matters of public interest, saying this prevented proper ventilation of vital issues.

“The ordinary man in the street, including myself, is sick and tired of politics and politicians ... I mean the constant bickering, point-scoring and perpetuated antagonisms and fears. It is this political feuding that prevents progress.”
MPS, saying it ain't no gravy train, seek greater compensation for their expenses
Backstabbing and personality clashes jolt NP

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

THE crisis facing the National Party deepened this week with the acrimonious departure of Deputy Land Affairs Minister Tobie Meyer from his post a week after the announcement by arch-enemy Leon Wessels that he was leaving politics.

The resignation came amid growing speculation that another senior NP figure — some said Western Cape leader Dawie de Villiers — was considering leaving the cabinet.

Mr Meyer, whose brother Roelf was recently made party secretary general, said this week: "I had it in mind to retire sometime before 1999. I was probably not ready for it right now."

Nonetheless, he said he remained "loyal to the party".

But NP insiders paint a gory picture of "backstabbing" with ambitious personalities pulling the party to and fro.

They say the ambitions of the NP's Eastern Cape leader, Tertius Delport, who has been lobbying for a job in central government, precipitated the decision to replace Mr Meyer.

But, when Mr Meyer refused to swap positions with Mr Delport, the plan fell flat and party leader F W de Klerk had to search elsewhere for a replacement.

In the end he chose the party's grey man, executive director Famos Schoeman, for the job — a move which has done little to instill confidence in the NP's commitment to its new direction.

Mr Schoeman was effectively demoted as party strategist with the appointment of Roelf Meyer to the revived post of NP secretary general amid much fanfare on February 2.

Mr de Klerk said this week: "There are no grounds whatsoever for the negative conclusions drawn on the basis of the impending departure of Mr Wessels and Mr Meyer.

"Both these valued colleagues are enthusiastic about the new initiatives within the NP and have stated this clearly in the announcements they have made."

But, what were Mr Wessels' real motives for leaving?

For Mr Wessels and, to a lesser extent, Mr Meyer, the NP's latest change of heart was supposed to usher in an era of political prosperity.

A man who has adapted to the new South Africa better than any of his colleagues, Mr Wessels decked himself out in the new flag and took his place in the cheap seats with soccer fans during the recent African Cup of Nations final.

Always a few steps ahead of his colleagues, Mr Wessels could even have been a candidate for party leader in a changed NP a few years down the road.

The political gossip column in the NP-supporting Beeld newspaper put it this way: "However energetic you are, at some other time you become tired of always being the advance guard for people who are slow and unwilling to change."

"The announcements of the departure of Mr Wessels and Mr Meyer leave the overwhelming impression among black people that the enlightened are leaving the ship," the column said.
THIRD OF MPs CAN REFER ACTS

ANC about-face on Constitutional Court

THE ANC HAS BACKTRACKED on its opposition to a minority party proposal that a third of MPs be able to refer legislation to the Constitutional Court.

In a major concession to minority parties, the ANC agreed yesterday to a proposal that under the final constitution a third of the members of the National Assembly should be able to refer legislation to the Constitutional Court to rule on its constitutionality.

Previously, the ANC had strongly opposed such a measure, present in the interim constitution, being repeated in the final one.

The proposal was formulated in bilateral talks between the ANC and NP and was presented yesterday to the Constitutional Assembly (CA) streamlining negotiating committee by NP chief constitutional negotiator Roelf Meyer.

A key provision is that if a third of MPs refer an act to the Constitutional Court, the court has to first pronounce whether they have a prima facie case. If not, the parties who made the petition would have to pay costs. This was to prevent frivolous applications, Meyer said.

Another provision says the court could stay the execution of an act pending a final decision on its constitutionality. Ordinary citizens will not have this right.

Senior ANC negotiator Dr Essop Pahad said his party had shifted its position after considering an input from the CA’s panel of experts that a similar provision existed in other constitutions to accommodate “the fundamental concerns of other parties”.

Colin Eglinton (DP) welcomed the “advance”, but said the DP wished to submit it to legal experts before further discussion.

Richard Sizani (PAC) said his understanding of the “abstract review” principle was that a bill should be referred to the Constitutional Court before being assented to by the President.

The committee agreed the issue would be reviewed after examination by legal experts and further bilateral discussions between the ANC and PAC.

- The ANC said it would keep an open mind on forthcoming NP proposals for multi-party involvement in the government under the final constitution.

It made the commitment after Meyer told the streamlining negotiating committee that, following inter-party bilaterals, no party was in favour of the current government of national unity arrangements continuing after the expiry of the interim constitution in 1999.

With the concurrence of the NP, the committee scrapped the earlier NP option in the draft constitution for the current government of national unity dispensation to be written into the final constitution. — Sapa
Parliament body postpones decision on code of conduct

Wynndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Foreign policy should not be influenced by international funding of local parties, and declarations of money collected abroad should form part of an MP's code of conduct.

This suggestion was made in Parliament's rules committee on Friday when it was decided that the final decision on the controversial code of conduct would be delayed for three weeks.

DP MP Douglas Gibson said following indications that SA's foreign policy could be influenced by foreign funding, his party felt that a clause should be inserted to deal with it.

He referred to the recent revelations that Taiwan had donated millions to the ANC's 1994 election efforts and suggested this was affecting policy towards China and Taiwan.

Gibson also suggested that the controversial clauses which, when the code was finally approved, would require MPs to declare their financial interests and those of their spouses be expanded. Parents and siblings' financial interests should also be included.

The committee and ethics subcommittee chairman, Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal, were also asked to give members copies of the code of conduct which has apparently been approved for Cabinet ministers.

Friday's rules committee meeting was to have finally approved the ethical code of conduct but, due to the late tabling of the document, party caucuses have been unable to give it their final approval. The decision to postpone the decision was unanimous.

The delay coincides with a row over an Idoza survey last week which showed most citizens think the new government is as corrupt, if not more so, than the previous one. An angry ANC response said the problem lay with those who created the public perceptions of corruption.

Comment: Page 12
I'm no token appointment, says new minister

Ingrid Salgado

GAUTENG agriculture and conservation MEC John Mavuso, soon to replace General Affairs Minister Chris Fismer, has denied he is the NP's "token black" appointment in the national Cabinet shake-up.

Mavuso said at the weekend his detractors continued to cling to "narrow, ethnic-based political thinking" and had difficulty "coming to terms with an SA patriot and nationalist coming together with FW de Klerk".

Mavuso becomes minister next month, but does not yet know what his responsibilities will entail. Nor does he know why gambling, traditionally the domain of the ministry, will continue to be administered by Fismer, who replaces Reelf Meyer as Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister. He believes his responsibilities will be similar to those of Minister without Portfolio in charge of the RDP, Jay Naidoo — interacting with departments on specific issues.

Seen by some as a political opportunist, Mavuso is alleged to have missed Gauteng meetings to attend horseracing events. He denies he gambles, but admits to owning a race horse. Mavuso is emphatic that the NP will remain SA's major party after the ANC in the next five years. He predicts NP leadership will be predominantly black within a few years. He was accused number 39 in the 1956/57 treason trial at the hands of the NP.

Mavuso's career began as an ANC national executive committee member in the 1960s and then as an IFP central committee member until 1986. He joined the NP in 1993, after serving on the Transvaal Provincial Administration. He says he is no "political upstart or maverick, jumping from one party to another". He left the ANC when it "changed" and the IFP because he "dared" to serve on the Transvaal Provincial Administration.
'Crisis looms if ANC fails to honour deal with IFP'

NAIROBI: The Kenyan mediator who brokered a deal bringing the IFP into South Africa’s all-race elections said a crisis loomed because the ANC had failed to honour the agreement under which the IFP took part in the 1994 poll.

"The issue of an undertaking was made and that undertaking has not been honoured. The IFP and the ANC do not want to address the issues and as such cannot agree," Professor Washington Jalang'o Okumu said yesterday.

"A crisis can still be averted. Morally, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the IFP have a point when they feel betrayed. Whether you like it or not, that is the issue," the economics professor said.

When all hopes for a peaceful all-party all-race election appeared to be fading and international mediators such as Dr Henry Kissinger had left SA after failure to get the parties to agree, Okumu went back to Buthelezi and Mandela for talks.

The result was a draft deal in which Buthelezi committed the IFP to the elections, provided further international mediation was pursued on demands by the IFP over several issues, including the form of the post-apartheid state.

"Once an agreement was signed and it gave certain undertakings, surely those undertakings should be adhered to unless all the three signatories say that the agreement is no longer valid.

"Unless this agreement is honoured, political killings will escalate," Okumu predicted.

Okumu spoke before leaving for Norway to address the Nobel Institute on "preventive diplomacy in the 21st century".

He said one of the key issues in the SA dispute was the question of greater powers for provincial governments. The IFP has demanded greater semi-autonomous status for KwaZulu-Natal.

"That was a fundamental issue of disagreement that we decided not to address in the agreement because there was not enough time," he said.

"But now the ANC appears to fear that international mediators would give provinces more powers.

"The IFP is not asking for independence for KwaZulu-Natal, so there cannot be such a big fuss." Okumu said that after the elections, the ANC demanded new terms of reference as a basis for talks on outstanding issues. New terms were drawn up based on what was agreed before.

"They (terms) met the demands of all the parties, a united SA with enough powers for the central government and at the same time recognising the pluralistic, multi-racial, multi-lingual and multi-ethnic nature of the society."

He saw a solution in "devolution of powers to provinces" — the provinces taking up limited powers in areas a central government is inclined not to perform well.

"The ANC could accommodate that without losing powers to govern effectively from the centre. They may think that if international mediation takes place, it will recommend more powers to the provinces," Okumu said.

"That is not the issue. They will only recommend. The parties can still reject those recommendations," he added. — Reuters
ANC perturbed by govt corruption comparisons

Bonile Ngqiyaza

THE ANC has taken strong exception to parallels being drawn between the government of national unity and the old NP government, saying such media-created perceptions are "cynical and unfair".

Disputing an assertion — in yesterday's Business Day editorial — that government's vocal criticism of the media last week and its questioning of the Press's motives indicated the Press was performing well, doing its job of reporting and interpreting public events, the party said this ignored efforts by the present government to act swiftly in detecting and countering corruption.

"The fact of the matter is there is no comparison between the level of corruption in the present government and the previous government," it said.

The government of national unity's approach extended "far beyond mere openness", it sought to achieve greater accountability in government and in its handling of public funds.

"More mechanisms of accountability and oversight still need to be established. This is what the media should be reflecting..." It does democracy a great disservice to create perceptions which don't match reality," the ANC said.
New talks to avert deadlock

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

CONSTITUTIONAL negotiators, desperate to avoid having to declare a formal deadlock, are to meet next week for multi-lateral talks on provincial powers and a second house of parliament.

The talks, to be held on Monday, will start at 10 am and continue if need be into the early hours, said constitutional assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa.

The potential for a deadlock poses a grave threat to parties meeting the May deadline for a final draft of the constitution.

While good progress has been made on several other issues, parties are no closer to common ground on provincial powers and the role of the body which will replace the senate after 1999.

Reprimanding negotiators for failing to make progress, Mr Ramaphosa said: "We have been skirting around these issues, juggling around them, shadow-boxing."

Pravin Gordhan, a senior African National Congress negotiator, said his party was very disappointed that after weeks of talks, parties were close to having to declare a formal deadlock.

However, NP negotiators said they believed an accommodation could be reached.

ANC members accused other parties of negotiating in bad faith by reopening questions it was thought had been settled.

The third interim working draft of the constitution lists two options for a second house of parliament. The ANC-backed proposal is for a council of provinces, drawn in part from provincial legislators and possibly local government councillors.

The NP backs a senate of 90 members indirectly elected by provincial legislatures.
Mandela row: Nzo tries to placate Algeria

PRETORIA — Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo met Algerian ambassador to South Africa Said Kitouni in Pretoria today in an attempt to smooth sourced diplomatic relations with the north African country.

Foreign ministry spokesman Pieter Swanepoel declined to comment on the nature of the talks, but said the meeting was a follow-up to a protest note sent by the Algerian government this week.

The Algerians are upset about a meeting President Mandela had in Cape Town last week with Anouar Haddam, a leading member of Algeria’s outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

Arab ambassadors were expected to discuss the matter in Pretoria later today.

An unconfirmed report said the Algerian ambassador had been recalled to his country for consultations.

The Algerian foreign ministry said the meeting showed “an unacceptable desire to interfere in Algerian affairs.”

Mr Haddam, in a statement issued in Washington on an FIS letterhead, said he had urged Mr Mandela to approach the Organisation of African Unity and convince it of the urgent need for “a global, political and just solution to the Algerian crisis.” — Sapa-AFP
Ramaphosa chastises ANC, NP after bitter row

POLITICAL STAFF

THE drafting of the new constitution received a setback yesterday with a bitter clash between the African National Congress and the National Party over what the parties consider to be the "heart of the constitution".

After several weeks of bilateral discussions on a future senate and the powers of the provinces, the NP did an apparent about-turn on its earlier positions.

This drew allegations from the ANC that the NP was negotiating in "bad faith" and prompted an angry response from Constitutional Assembly chairperson Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, who ordered the two parties to settle their differences at a special meeting next week.

The argument occurred during a session of the assembly's deadlock-breaking sub-committee, which was intended to resolve constitutional differences between the parties in time for the completion of the new constitution by May 9.

The ANC and the NP have held several bilateral meetings to find a compromise on the ANC's proposal to replace the senate with a council of provinces that is more directly representative of provincial legislatures than the current arrangement.

The related issue of the "provincial competencies" determines what powers a provincial government will be able to exercise alongside the national government. It is a key issue, especially for the NP and the Inkatha Freedom Party, who each control one province.

ANC negotiator Mr Pravin Gordhan opened the row, saying the two parties were "close to deadlock".

Gordhan, who earlier this month raised the prospect of a deadlock-breaking referendum if the parties were unable to agree on key issues before the May 9 deadline, said compromises were possible if there was flexibility on both sides.

At one stage the parties had reached "80% agreement".

"If we cannot have good faith at the bilateral level, what is the point of continuing these negotiations?" he asked.

"Progress is going to be impossible unless the parties negotiate in good faith and maintain consistency."

The NP's Mr Neels Ackermann said it would "take time to reach agreement". His colleague, Mr Piet Marais, said the NP did not regard the disagreement as a deadlock.

Ramaphosa chastised both parties, saying he was "very unhappy and distressed" about the development. He said the parties were "playing yo-yo games and dragging feet".

He ordered the parties to lock themselves up in a committee room on Monday from 10 am and to stay there until they had emerged with an agreement, even if this meant "staying "eight until the early hours of the morning".
NEWS

PREVIOUS BOYCOTT 'SET PRECEDENT'

IFP will recognise final constitution — Buthelezi

IF THE NEW constitution is drawn up entirely in the IFP's absence, "so be it", says party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Inkatha's announcement that it will abide by a national constitution it has not helped to create has reduced political tensions as the deadline for the constitution's completion approaches.

In an interview yesterday, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said his party was participating in the present parliamentary and executive structures — which it viewed as flawed — and "will abide by the new constitution whatever it is".

Speaking after his meeting with Danish foreign minister Mr Niels Helweg Petersen — who is accompanying Queen Margrethe on her official visit — Buthelezi said there was already a precedent set with the present constitution, which was drawn up in the absence of Inkatha at the Kep ton Park talks.

If the present constitution, due for completion on May 9, was again drawn up entirely in the IFP's absence, "so be it".

"And I mean that, I don't speak from both sides of my mouth," he stressed.

"In fact, we are honouring the interim constitution ... we respect the interim constitution more than the ANC and its leader does. It is a matter of record that the cases (which Inkatha has taken to the constitu-

WANTS MEDIATION: Chief Buthelezi

tional court) are based on (this) respect."

In April last year Inkatha walked out of the Constitutional Assembly citing lack of progress on the international mediation agreement which coaxed the party into the 1994 poll.

The Inkatha leader emphasised that he still expected President Nelson Mandela and Deputy President F W de Klerk to carry out their part of the bargain. Asked if his party would take part in future elections, Buthelezi said this was a matter for his party's national conference to decide.

Buthelezi's stance was welcomed enthusiastically last night by Constitutional Assembly chairman Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, who said he would expect all the political parties to regard the constitution as the "supreme basic law" of the land.

Ramaphosa said he therefore expected "all political parties" — including Inkatha — to participate in all structures set up in its name.

Asked if there was a hope of international mediation being carried out, Ramaphosa said there were "a whole lot of things under way", particularly in KwaZulu-Natal — where a provincial constitution was being drawn up — and he was hoping that what was not achieved through previous mediation efforts, would be achieved through negotiation.

Referring to a statement by de Klerk that the need for international mediation could fall away if the issues were resolved through negotiation, Buthelezi said he did not know how he could have reached that conclusion: it smacked of "the old system of dictatorship".

NP KwaZulu-Natal leader Mr Danie Schutte cautiously welcomed Buthelezi's stance but said there was still a danger that a non-inclusive constitutional settlement was "a second-rate prize".

The agreement on mediation should be honoured, as a "repeat performance" of the crisis after Kepston Park would be dangerous in KwaZulu-Natal. — Political Staff
Familiar faces for Mavuso, but how many friends?

BY MANDLI MAKHANYA
Political Reporter

SOUTH AFRICA’S newest cabinet minister, John Mavuso, will find very familiar faces seated around the table when he attends his first cabinet meeting next month.

There will be President Nelson Mandela and Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo, old comrades from his days in the ANC in the 1950s, and there will be Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, his colleague and leader when Mavuso was a member of the Inkatha cultural movement’s central committee in the 1970s and 1980s.

And then of course there will be Deputy President F.W. de Klerk and Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Pik Botha, colleagues in his new political home in the National Party.

Mavuso, who was recently appointed Chris Priesner’s successor in the General Affairs portfolio, has had a political career that has spanned all three parties that make up the Government of National Unity.

Having come into politics through the ANC in the 1940s, Mavuso ditched African nationalism for Zulu nationalism in the 1970s as a founder member of the Inkatha Freedom Party. He has now emerged as a prominent player in the NP, a party that was once the vehicle of Afrikaner nationalism.

Although speculation about who would be appointed to the cabinet following Roelf Meyer’s resignation centred around parliamentarians David Malatsi and David Chuenyane, De Klerk’s choice of Mavuso for cabinet post seemed the most logical.

For one thing, he has 10 years experience in provincial government, having served as housing MEC under the old Nat-dominated Transvaal Provincial Administration and as conservation and agriculture MEC in the post-apartheid Gauteng government.

The 69-year-old Mavuso is also the only black Nat with any intellectual substance and — unlike most of his black colleagues — he did not opportunistically jump on to the NP bandwagon because the party was desperate for black faces to display on its mantle-piece.

It is not that I left the ANC, it is the ANC that left me

Mavuso is deeply conservative and holds the kind of “family values” philosophy that De Klerk is trying to adopt as the ideology of the New Age NP.

His conservatism stems from the Zulu nationalism he imbued growing up in Pongola in northern KwaZulu Natal. According to Mavuso, who sports the deep ear-piercing characteristic of Zulu traditionalists, he is one of the Zulu monarch’s envoys on the Reed.

He resents the permissiveness which he believes the ANC is enforcing on South Africa: the acceptance of abortion, the new South Africa’s disregard for the family structure and the breakdown in respect for elders, a phenomenon he says was spawned by the 1980s township uprisings. He even boasts that his 45-year-old brother dare not smoke in front of him out of respect.

The man has paid his dues to conservative politics, having been a senior Inkatha member in Soweto when hostility to the organisation was rife and joining the TPA hierarchy when “working for the system” was tantamount to writing one’s own death warrant.

Mavuso’s political activism began when he joined the ANC in the 1940s “before the NP came into power” and he rose through the ranks of the organisation eventually becoming Transvaal deputy secretary at the time the movement was banned in 1960. However, when the ANC was outlawed, Mavuso was not among those in the inner circle who were invited to continue the struggle underground and thus he ended his relationship with the organisation.

To this day Mavuso insists he has never relinquished his membership of the ANC.

“It is not I that left the ANC. It is the ANC that left me,” he says.

But he says he has “not lost a single friend in the ANC” and refers to Mandela as “Nel”.

He returned to active politics in 1972 when the remaining political leadership decided to end the 10-year hold in resistance which had followed the banning of liberation movements and jailing of senior leaders.

Mavuso was one of the handful of leaders who met, with the sanction of the exiled ANC leadership, to revive the 1920s Inkatha cultural movement and use it as the nucleus of a new force with which to mobilise blacks.

Mavuso, a Zulu traditionalist to the core, took eagerly to this endeavour.

Even when other leaders who were initially involved in the project, including Nihato Motla- kana and Sibusiso Bengu, fell out with Buthelezi over what they regarded as Buthelezi’s subversion of the movement’s goals, Mavuso stayed close to the Inkatha leader.

The break came in 1986 when Mavuso accepted a post on the then all-white TPA without consulting Buthelezi. True to his style, Buthelezi used a rally at Jabulani Amphitheatre to rebuke Mavuso for participating in apartheid structures and expel him from the party’s central committee.

What irked Mavuso most about this was not so much that the then KwaZulu Chief Minister...
choose to rebuke him on a public platform instead of confronting him personally, but that it came from a man who was himself deeply immersed in apartheid structures.

"What I know is that I would never ever have served in a homeland government. I would never have served in any structure in which I would have not had the power and ability to be effective in improving the lives of our people. At least my job in the TPA allowed me to do that and that is why I accepted it," says Mavuso.

Left without a political home, Mavuso tried unsuccessfully to establish a forum of black leaders which only attracted a motley crew of self-proclaimed leaders with little following.

Impressed by De Klerk's and the NP's courage in turning the party's back on its past and admitting they had been wrong all along, Mavuso decided in 1993 to enter the third phase of his career when he joined the party whose narrow Afrikaner nationalism had catapulted him into opposition politics 30 years earlier.

For Mavuso, the NP had the allure of conservatism that fitted in well with his traditional upbringing.

He sees the NP as the only "decent" party that can challenge permissiveness and lawlessness.

He is totally dismissive of black political parties, which he feels are failing to provide direction for the country.

"The black parties disgust me. As a person of Zulu extraction it pains me to see Zulu people killing each other in KwaZulu Natal for no other reason than ideological differences. And what are the ANC, the IFP and the PAC doing? Nothing," says Mavuso.

A keen horse racing man, Mavuso seems quite suited to the general affairs portfolio, whose main function is administering the country's burgeoning gambling industry.

He is also reputed to be the type to throw himself at any job with vigour, a quality which will stand him well in national government.

But more than anything his elevation to cabinet will boost his standing in the NP, which he would like to steer into a vehicle for black political and economic empowerment.
Afrikaner fears about an uncertain future

By Rohan Minogue

AFRIKANERS are anxious about their future in the land of their birth and unsure of their position in a South Africa groping towards a new, inclusive, national identity.

Die Volk, as the Afrikaners are known, have always faced their crises more divided than united, but survived and finally overcame. This time the will may be lacking.

"There are many Afrikaners who don't feel a strong sense of political identity as Afrikaners, though they may have language and cultural concerns," says Tom Lodge of the University of the Witwatersrand.

Forged in war

The pioneer nation, forged in a brutal war against the British at the turn of the century, has largely retreated to the suburbs and political apathy in the aftermath of the discredited apartheid experiment.

"But there are politicised Afrikaners who are less happy now than they were a year ago and who are nearer to the mainstream than the far right," Lodge says, warning that a relatively small number would suffice to constitute a core of resistance to perceived injustice.

Focal points for protest are the real or perceived reduction in Afrikaans airtime on national television and the concern that soon Afrikaner children will not be able to find Afrikaans state schools.

Blockading

This concern is highlighted by white parents blocking an Afrikaans primary school in the right-wing bastion of Potgietersrus in the Northern Province to keep their black children out.

Men dressed in khaki stood outside the gates of the school, harassing journalists in scenes reminiscent of the bad old days when the Afrikaner was the pariah of the world.

Lodge believes fears about language and culture are quite widely felt but support for a separate Afrikaner state is minimal. The notion has plagued Afrikaner politics for decades, but no politician has ever been able plausibly to answer the question: "Where?"

"The Volkstaat — that was always fringe stuff. Even the Freedom Front (FF) is very vague and ambiguous on this," says Lodge.

General Constand Viljoen left retirement to form the FF and lead Afrikaner separatists when other right-wing leaders deserted to futile and self-destructive boycott tactics in the face of imminent black majority rule.

Settle for less

"All indications now are that Viljoen will settle for a great deal less than geographical and political autonomy," says Lodge.

The general established a good working relationship with President Nelson Mandela, and other FF members have shown themselves able parliamentarians. But the Volkstaat remains their stated goal.

Most observers dismiss the neo-fascist far right embodied by Eugene Terre'Blanche's Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) as an irrelevance.

"Their (swastika-like) symbols have little to do with what is meaningful to Afrikaner nationalism," says Lodge of the declining fortunes of the movement which regularly seized centre stage during South Africa's transition to democracy, despite its small numbers.

Over wreak has long been unac-

(African) to most white Afrikaners, but this does not imply a willingness to reach out to other Afrikaners speakers — the so-called "Brown Afrikaners" or Coloured people.

"What one doesn't see is that coalition — that pragmatic and humane effort by Afrikaans language speakers to protect their language rights by defining a community in the largest possible way. "Those most concerned about language rights appear to be most racist," Lodge says.

Few coloured people have made it to the top ranks of the National Party (NP). Many coloured politicians have turned to Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and the rank and file, who voted largely for the NP in the 1994 elections, may be looking in the same direction.

Change image

The NP is trying to change its image, hoping to attract black South Africans with a blend of conservative policies — small government, low taxes, execution of murderers, self-reliance — but it has a credibility problem.

In history is that of a party which tried to regularise all aspects of South African life, which ran a social welfare state for the benefit of whites — primarily Afrikaners — and which established a huge bureaucracy to do it.

For all the signs of spathy and division, Afrikaners are not ready to abandon their political role in return for being left alone to preserve their culture, language and relatively affluent lifestyle, Lodge believes.

"If you abandon your political role you abandon effectively safeguarding your cultural, political and economic rights as well."

"All the evidence suggests that white South Africans are still committed to vigorous political participation. Their behaviour in the last two elections has demonstrated they are perhaps more vigorously committed to participation than many black South Africans," he says. — Sapo-DPA.
New-vision NP in trouble with blacks

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — On the eve of the launch of the NP's new nonracial vision by leader FW de Klerk — on the anniversary of his history-making speech six years ago — the NP is in danger of losing substantial black support in KwaZulu-Natal and in the Western Cape.

The launch of this new vision, which apparently includes agreement on establishing a broad moderate front and realignment in SA politics, was seriously harmed when two senior members of the NP in the Western Cape leaked the document to the media.

On top of this obvious indication of discontent within the party itself, sources close to the NP in KwaZulu-Natal said, there was a huge loss of confidence among the Indian community which substantially supported the NP in the 1994 election.

De Klerk, who will open the new Pretoria offices for his party tomorrow on the anniversary of the day he unbanned the ANC and other liberation movements and announced his intention to release Nelson Mandela, has also been harmed by the announced departure from politics of deputy speaker Bhadra Ranchod.

Ranchod's move back to the diplo-
The new NP may shed old image

By Thembela Molefe and Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondents

In reality, the event is about survival as the NP gathers around De Klerk for guidance and clear vision.
Indeed, De Klerk, former State President and current Deputy President in the African National Congress-led Government of National Unity, plans to do just that.
While the NP leadership and insiders were tight-lipped yesterday one source said a new political movement close to the international Christian Democratic Party would be announced.
It is an open secret that the NP is looking for allies to constitute a strong and ANC bloc in the 1999 general election.
The new political movement, it is envisaged, will have as its focus a challenge to the ANC in two years' time.
The establishment of the new movement could almost spell the end of the NP with De Klerk as leader.
"If the same leadership is at the helm there won't be much impact, especially if the aim is to draw black support," the source said.
The danger De Klerk faces, the source said, is that the movement's approach might be seen to be anti-ANC and anti-Black.
The source predicts that if the thrust of the movement is Christian and focuses on problems like crime, drugs and pornography there is a strong possibility that a new leader could emerge from within the church itself.
ANC jilts volkstaters

MTG 2-8/2/96 (304A)
The National Party has replaced the Freedom Front as the ANC's sweetheart, reports Marion Edmunds

The African National Congress has jilted its Afrikaner sweetheart, the Freedom Front, and is courting the National Party, not out of love, but political need.

Over the past few weeks, the ANC has realised more than ever that it needs the NP's support if it wants its way in writing not only the final constitution, but also the KwaZulu-Natal provincial constitution. This was demonstrated last week by the panic that ensued when the NP appeared to be supporting the Inkatha Freedom Party in KwaZulu-Natal in constitutional negotiations, and the ANC appeared to be losing ground.

ANC and NP provincial negotiators were summoned to Cape Town, and the NP was told by ANC leaders, including Cyril Ramaphosa, that it had to remember that it was a party committed with democratising South Africa, and that it should not help the IFP to preserve an undemocratic state in KwaZulu-Natal.

"We want the NP's co-operation in order to improve the constitution-making process and that cannot be done if we push the constitution through the way the IFP is intending us to do," said ANC MP Carl Niehaus before that meeting.

It is ironic that the ANC should feel the need to make that sort of appeal to the NP, given that its members have been spitting insults at the NP in parliamentary sessions, preferring to use the FF to effect reconciliation with the Afrikaner community.

The FF acknowledges that, in the constitutional stakes, it is now second-best. Its chief negotiator Corne Mulder said this week: "The ANC needs the NP more than the FF because it needs the Nats' support to get a two-thirds majority to pass the final constitution."

The ANC is choosing a path of qualified co-operation with the NP because it wants the constitution to be passed first time round. If the Constitutional Assembly (CA) does not pass the constitution with a two-thirds majority, there will have to be a national referendum, something all politicians would rather do without at this stage.

The FF has been feeling the chill since President Nelson Mandela's anti-volkstaat statements on the ANC's birthday. Bilateral talks on a volkstaat have failed to get off the ground, and the FF executive had an emergency meeting at the weekend to discuss the future.

Corne Mulder said this week the FF would not budge on its demands for a territorial homeland. Mandela's statements are something of a death-knell, then, given that a volkstaat is the FF's defining issue.

Mulder admitted his party had been floundering in the constitutional negotiations, partly because it lacked the experience of negotiating the interim constitution at the World Trade Centre.

"We are at a disadvantage, we have not built up the personal relations that other parties have," he said. These special relationships include the one between the NP's Roelf Meyer and the ANC's Cyril Ramaphosa.

Mulder is critical of the turn negotiations have taken, with bilaterals weaving a skein of mystery around the public discussions in the parliamentary chamber.

"This is shadow-boxing. We are dodging the real issues and people are just pushing papers backwards and forwards," he said. "There are some problems that no amount of bilaterals are going to solve... We need political decisions and these will only be taken if party leaders sit around a table and take them."

NP chief negotiator Roelf Meyer denied this week the NP and the ANC's relationship had shifted gear.

"I won't say there is a change... but there is a general will to get consensus on the constitution in on-going talks," he said. The NP does not take the prospect of a territorial volkstaat seriously.

The NP can afford to be even-tempered about its relationship with the ANC because it knows the ANC needs its co-operation. The FF has run out of bargaining chips and, with only nine members in the CA, it is not a force to be reckoned with, unless it manages to attract the newly-forming Afrikaner lobby.
Roelf Meyer quits Cabinet for new top post in NP

Roelf Meyer, one of the architects of negotiation politics, is to resign as Minister of Constitutional Affairs to become the National Party’s first secretary general.

Meyer’s appointment takes effect on March 1, and was announced today – the sixth anniversary of the unbanning of liberation movements by the party leader, FW de Klerk, who was at the time state president.

The appointment is one of several steps announced in Pretoria today by De Klerk in a move designed to make the NP more relevant in South African politics.

Meyer remains the NP’s chief negotiator and takes over immediately as the party leader in the National Assembly. He replaces Dr Dawie de Villiers, who was also chairman of the NP’s federal management committee. This position has fallen away.

De Klerk said Meyer’s new position entails an active managerial role in the implementation of the party’s vision and mission. He will work closely with his party leader, the organs of the party, provincial structures and the various NP caucuses.

De Klerk made his announcement exactly six years to the day since his bold moves, including the unbanning of the ANC and other organisations and freeing of Nelson Mandela, turned South African politics on its head.

He said the reality of today was that millions of South Africans were still living in a debilitated crime wave, signs of moral decay, the disintegration of family life, declining standards, a culture of lawlessness, intimidation, unemployment and the excessive influence of radical trade unions.

He said the simple truth was that only the successful bringing together and mobilisation of all South Africans would ensure true multiparty democracy.

It was equally true that an opportunistic coalition, solely on the basis of a united front against the ANC, was not the answer.

In the same manner, a simple change of name would make very little difference.

“Everyone would disdain it as being simply cosmetic and they would be right. Merely leaving the Government of National Unity and changing to a simplistic role of forceful opposition was also not the answer. It might make a lot of people feel good, but it would not significantly broaden the party’s support base.”

De Klerk said the NP was not married to its name or to participation in the GNU. However, a name change would only occur within the framework of the NP’s new vision. The party would only leave the GNU when it was convinced such a step would promote its vision or that it was in the national interest.

Christian values, norms and standards would form the cornerstone of the new National Party. Party strategist hope this will prove a rallying point for the majority of South Africans.

“While the National Party is now taking, and will continue to take the initiative, we realise that prescriptiveness from our side would be counter-productive.

“Instead, we would encourage everyone to find a way for a constructive role to play. We are determined first to reconnoitre the ground step by step, not by ourselves alone but with other roleplayers and, then let the concept take root,” he added.

Realignment could only succeed if it grew from healthy interaction between all the relevant roleplayers.

De Klerk said his plan would be to soon bring together around a table a group of South Africans who were outside active party politics to reconnoitre the terrain and give advice.
US urged to cancel all funding of Sexwale trip

WASHINGTON — Chairman of the United States House Sub-committee on Africa Ileana Ros-Lehtinen has urged US Secretary of State Warren Christopher to cancel funding entirely for Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale’s visit to America next week because of his subsequent visit to Cuba.

It is likely that the Clinton Administration will reject the demands of the Cuban-born congresswoman from Miami who strongly opposes President Fidel Castro.

The US has already withdrawn its original offer to pay the international airfares of Mr Sexwale and four Gauteng officials from Johannesburg to America.

But it will continue to pay for them to fly around America and provide them each a daily allowance.

It cancelled payment of the South Africa-US airfares because it regarded this as indirect sponsorship of Mr Sexwale’s subsequent official to Cuba which is just a short hop by air from Florida.

Ms Ros-Lehtinen said in her letter to Mr Christopher that it was “disconcerting that Mr Sexwale is utilising the offer of funding extended by the US government for his travel to the US to expand his itinerary to include a visit to a pariah state which is a declared enemy of this country.

“This action is an affront to expressed US national interests and could potentially compromise the US’s stance on Cuba.

“In early October 1985, during a conference of solidarity with Cuba in protest of the US embargo, Mr Sexwale announced the union of Gauteng province with Havana province in Cuba, declaring that for Cuba to grow, South Africans had to be the ‘catalysts for increased trade’.

“He called for international opposition against the Helms-Burton bill (calling for sanctions against third countries which did business with Cuba), emphasising that ‘if Cuba were to go down, that would be the end of South Africa’.”
PRETORIA — Roelf Meyer, one of the key negotiators who helped mould the new South Africa, is to resign from the cabinet to become a full-time National Party official.

Mr Meyer, the current Minister of Constitutional Development, is to become the NP’s first full-time secretary-general as the party embarks on a political revamp. He is to leave the cabinet next month.

His departure from the cabinet was one of the few surprises in a much anticipated speech by National Party leader F W de Klerk today.

Mr Meyer will continue as the NP’s chief negotiator in the constitutional assembly.

He will take over from Western Cape NP leader Dawie de Villiers as leader of the NP in the national assembly.

Mr de Klerk said Mr Meyer’s duties would include an active managerial role in implementing the NP’s vision and mission.

Mr De Klerk said the NP intended playing a leading role in unifying a majority of all South Africans in a dynamic movement based on core values and Christian norms and standards.

He conceded that the NP, in spite of its efforts at renewal and change, had not been able to shake off its past in the eyes of many South Africans.

“The NP today declared itself ready for a new spiritual trek toward an unknown political destination.

“We are today launching a new political vision with far-reaching implications, for our party,” he said.

But he ruled out, in the short term, a formal alliance with other parties, a name change for the NP, or its departure from the government of national unity.

A formal coalition could lead to a loss of support by each of the participating parties, Mr De Klerk said.

Leaving the government of national unity would make a lot of people feel good but would not significantly broaden support for the NP.

“The NP is not married to its name or to its participation in the GNU.

“We shall, however, only change our name when it makes sense in the framework of our mission.”

Mr De Klerk said he already had had talks across a broad front about a future political realignment.

“I have been encouraged by the positive reactions I have received.”

He intended “fairly soon” to bring around a table a group of South Africans privately outside active party politics to “reconnoitre the terrain and generate advice”.

He said he was convinced that South Africa could become a winning country if the core values of the National Party became the cornerstone of the new South Africa.

“I am going to dedicate the rest of my public career to making these values the dynamo of a fundamental political realignment.”

The NP’s vision was aimed in part at preventing one-party domination and entrapment in a political system patterned on ethnic groups.

There were also deep concerns which had to be addressed.

These included crime, moral decay, continuing political violence, unemployment, and excessive influence of trade unions.

In its vision document, the party described itself as a moderate non-racial federal party.

The party has been studying what it considers to be its ideological equivalents in Europe, United States and elsewhere in Africa.

The document said the NP’s values were based on the supremacy of God, religious, political and economic freedom, individual and cultural freedom.
Meyer relinquishes his Cabinet post

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer confirmed his resignation from the Cabinet yesterday.

Meyer will assume the new position of secretary-general of the National Party with effect from March 1. The name of Meyer’s replacement is expected to be announced within the next two weeks, although a fuller Cabinet reshuffle is also possible.

Aside from taking on various management responsibilities for the party, Meyer will also lead the NP in the House of Assembly and be chairman of the party’s federal management committee.

Meyer confirmed the move at the official opening of the NP’s new regional headquarters in Pretoria yesterday.

The building, named the F W de Klerk Building, cost R4.2 million. Various senior NP members paid tribute to De Klerk yesterday, exactly six years after his famous speech unbanning the ANC and announcing the imminent release of Nelson Mandela from prison.

“De Klerk told assembled guests, "The second day of February has taken on a special place in our history."

The deputy president used the opportunity to announce a new political vision and mission for the NP.
Roel's sudden resignation will have

THE EYES HAVE IT! Deputy President F.W. de Klerk alights from the press conference at the Union Buildings in Pretoria last week. de Klerk addressed the monitors of the National Press Club, where he announced the dissolution of the National Party. He was joined at the podium by Prime Minister Pieter Botha and Home Affairs Minister Fan Hooi Dji. The move was seen as a major step towards the eventual dissolution of the apartheid regime in South Africa. de Klerk said the decision was taken after careful consideration of the current political situation and the needs of the country.

BY ADRIAN HADLAND
Nats taken by surprise as FW de Klerk indicates more changes may be made to the top echelon of the party.

this, saying that Mr de Klerk seemed far from ready to relinquish the reins of power in the party.

Mr de Klerk also declined to say whether the appointment should be seen as a move upwards, downwards or sideways for Mr Meyer. "It is a new challenge," he said.

Observers also noted that failure in the mammoth task handed to Mr Meyer in shaping the party's future, would count against him in any future contest for the leadership.

Mr de Klerk said he was confident that Mr Meyer — who in the past has been the subject of unhappiness among Nats who regard him as too conciliatory to the African National Congress — would enjoy the support of all party structures in his new role.

Yesterday's speech by Mr de Klerk is seen as being inspired, at least in part, by pressure on the party leadership to be seen to be taking an initiative after the party's lack-lustre performance since the 1994 election.

While a leak about a possible performance of the party. While the NP planned a leading role for itself in shaping a new movement, it would join such a movement only if it fully reflected the NP's core values, he said.

"Unless we achieve that situation, the NP is here to stay," he said.

The party had refrained from producing its own map of the political future because it did not want to pre-empt the process.

Mr de Klerk confirmed he already had opened lines of communication with other parties.

In talks in the past 10 days with leaders of the Democratic Party, Freedom Front and Inkatha Freedom Party, he had emphasized that the initiative by the NP was not merely a party political trick.

He had not asked the leaders for a response, but merely to reflect on how the NP saw the process.
ANC thaws towards IFP

By CRAIG DOONAN

THE ANC and Inkatha are working on a deal aimed at bringing the IFP back into the Constitutional Assembly and finalising a constitution for its KwaZulu Natal power base.

ANC sources say the plan stems from a recent trip to Germany by the National Party’s Roelf Meyer, who has just resigned as Minister of Constitutional Development, his deputy, Mohammed Valli Moosa from the ANC, and the Minister of Correctional Services, Sipho Mzimela of the IFP.

The visit led to “informal discussions”, according to Mr Moosa’s spokesman, Mphumzi Mgcimane.

ANC sources said the meetings were part of a plan to bring Inkatha back to the national constitution-writing process.

In return the ANC would compromise on Inkatha’s federalist demands for KwaZulu Natal, leading to the early adoption of a provincial constitution.

Inkatha walked out of the Constitutional Assembly early last year in protest against the collapse of an agreement to take its federal demands to international mediation.

The party has "since focused its energies on writing a constitution for KwaZulu Natal with strong federal elements, includin..."
Holding out for mediation


IFP still

It was listened to. The IFP has not

Inkatha. National unity and reconciliation is not a

In April 1994, he returned to South Africa to talk about

He said the mediation that had been

Kwaluka. Mandela would not meet

Peace signed by President and

Inkatha’s position is confirmed and the constitution will be

The IFP has not returned to

The IFP has not returned to

It has not returned to the Constitutional Assembly.
Rivals give NP changes thumbs-down

BY JOVIAL RANTAO
AND MONDLE MACHASE

Deputy President F W de Klerk's announcement of the transformation of the National Party into a Christian democratic movement - on the sixth anniversary of his unbanning liberation movements - has received a thumbs-down from rival political parties.

De Klerk said during the launch of the NP's "core values" document in Pretoria on Friday that although the NP was not seeking a formal alliance, it had held discussions with various parties on "a new political movement" opposed to the ANC.

The ANC described De Klerk's eagerly awaited announcement as "another failed Rubicon speech" and accused the NP of trying to "peddle a particular version of Christianity for the purposes of defending minority privileges".

The NP was trying to scuttle changes in education, housing, affirmative action and RDP delivery, it claimed.

Freedom Front leader Henk Constand Viljoen said the NP needed "a heart transplant" and not just cosmetic changes.

"The NP's new vision is based on a wrong assumption by its leader F W de Klerk, that South Africans would believe an old NP in a new suit of clothes could change into a dynamic political movement," said Viljoen.

The Conservative Party said that creating a multiracial movement was not the answer to the Afrikaner's problems. Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg said there should be a meeting of Afrikaner leaders to discuss "the core problem", the fact that ethnic and cultural diversity in SA is being totally ignored.

De Klerk also announced that the NP is to establish a political academy at its new Pretoria headquarters to train and prepare young people, MPs and MPLs for their tasks.

Mandela could promote Valli Moosa

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

The resignation from the Cabinet of Roelf Meyer, the Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister, to become secretary-general of the NP, could lead to a major reshuffle, political sources said at the weekend.

Meyer is the second senior member of the NP to withdraw from the Cabinet after Derek Keys resigned from the post of finance minister. But the banker was only nominally an NP member. The party's leader, Deputy President F W de Klerk, must now provide President Mandela with his nomination for a new NP minister.

Mandela does not have to accept the candidate and could take this opportunity to reshuffle his Cabinet.

An ANC source speculated that Mandela could promote Meyer's deputy from the ANC, Mohamed Valli Moosa, to that top job and appoint the NP member nominated by De Klerk to fill another ministerial post.

But Mandela would find it difficult to give Valli Moosa a Cabinet post without including Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa, who is Valli Moosa's senior in the party.

Mandela could possibly offer Ramaphosa the post of minister of foreign affairs, which is held by a former ANC secretary-general, Alfred Nzo, who will have held the job for almost two years, one source said.

Mandela might also use the opportunity to make good Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's undertaking to offer the next Cabinet or deputy's post to a woman. ANC MP Baleka Kgosiitle, deeply involved in the constitution-making process, could then fill either Meyer or Valli Moosa's shoes.

NP sources said the elevation of General Services Minister Chris Fismer to a portfolio was "logical speculation" but they also indicated that the NP's decision on the Cabinet issue might be a "total surprise".

De Klerk might also want to make good the party's shift towards appealing to a wider audience by nominating a black person.
still влияет сте житель, если мы не знаем, где были жители. (1593)
Norwegians eye role as mediators

Trevor Risseker

OSLO — The five-day visit to SA by Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, beginning on Saturday, could have an unexpected outcome — a mediatory role for Norway in the KwaZulu Natal constitutional dispute between the ANC and IFP.

There have been no official approaches, Brundtland told a group of SA journalists in Oslo last week, but she said that if Norway were asked to play such a role “we would consider it”.

An ANC promise to allow international mediation on KwaZulu Natal’s claims to regional powers, which persuaded the IFP to take part in the 1994 elections, has not been honoured, resulting in the IFP’s absence from the Constitutional Assembly.

Norway has excellent credentials to be a mediator. Apart from its international record as a peace broker and supporter of human rights, it has ties with KwaZulu Natal going back to its missionary days in the last century.

In a separate interview Foreign Minister Bjorn Godal said Norway had achieved some success in mediation — notably in Guatemala and the Middle East.

Brundtland will be accompanied by Godal to SA — the first time she is taking the foreign minister on an official visit overseas.

“This illustrates the political dimension of the visit,” she said.
Negotiators urged to entrench constitution

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — The attorneys' profession is urging the constitutional negotiators to make the final constitution much harder to change once it comes into force.

In submissions to constitutional negotiators on the current working draft of the new constitution, the Association of Law Societies said the constitution was a pillar of a full constitutional order.

Because all other law derived its authority from it, the constitution ought to be entrenched and made much more difficult to amend than ordinary legislation.

The association suggested that changes to the Bill of Rights should require approval of three-quarters of all members of the National Assembly and the combined membership of both houses of Parliament sitting jointly.

Also, the association proposed that no amendment of the constitution should be permitted if it clearly violated the values of an open and democratic society based on freedom and equality.

It also suggested the constitutional principles — the general rules negotiated at the World Trade Centre, to which the new constitution must conform — be carried forward into the constitution and entrenched unalterably.

Association constitutional matters standing committee member Ashwin Trikamjee said the situation in Zimbabwe, where the constitution had been gradually undermined by recurrent amendments, showed the danger of a poorly entrenched constitution.

The proposals would ensure the principles that were negotiated at K Kamp Park would be retained, and would stay the basis of SA's constitutional dispensation.

The association suggested that the Bill of Rights guarantee "occupational freedom" rather than the more diffuse "economic activity". The freedom to choose one's occupation was a basic human right, while the same could not be said of a broad, potentially overindulged liberty to engage in economic activity.

It proposed that the constitution balance the right to strike against the right to lock out, arguing that to do so would be equitable, and that a lockout was a seldom-used weapon of last resort.

The association cautioned against an unduly lax limitations clause — allowing exceptions and deviations to a generally imposed right — saying this could be used to dilute or even subvert fundamental rights. It also proposed strengthening the equality and freedom of expression clauses.

Norwegians eye role as mediators

Trevor Bisschop

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In a separate development, Justice Minister Bjorn Goda said Norway had achieved some success in mediation — notably in Guatemala and the Middle East.

Brundtland will be accompanied by Goda to SA — the first time she is taking the foreign minister on an official visit overseas. "This illustrates the political dimension of the visit," she said.
Meyer to waste no time in implementing NP’s plan to change politics

CARR TOWN — NP secretary-general designate Roelf Meyer yesterday said the party’s new mission of redefining SA politics would begin immediately with talks with other parties and business, academic and religious leaders to ensure an inclusive process.

Meyer, who has resigned his job as Constitutional Affairs Minister, with effect from next month to spearhead the restructuring process, likened the task to multiparty talks on SA’s constitutional dispensation.

He said it was not clear at this stage what effect the planned redefinition, announced on Friday, would have on the government of national unity.

A priority in the transformation of politics would be to bring together influential people from outside politics to provide input and to lique with leaders from other parties. It would be absolutely detrimental to the process if expectations were raised too high but the process had to begin immediately if it was to be effective.

Meyer said his other main function in his new post would be to build the NP and liaise closely with the NP’s regions. He felt the NP should remain in the government and that the concept should be extended into the new constitution, but he conceded “this might become impossible.”

Meyer denied his past relationship with the IFP, which has been seen as factions, would have a negative affect on the restructuring process. “I would like to think that every well-meaning politician would desire a stronger democratic system,” he said.

The appointment of Meyer’s replacement is likely to be decided within the next week, with some sources suggesting the promotion of one of the NP’s black members is likely. As the interim constitution is not explicit, the ANC believes that the new minister does not have to come from the NP. ANC sources said the NP was considered to be entitled to a Cabinet seat, although President Nelson Mandela could choose the portfolio.

Others argue that having vacated the seat, the NP has the right to choose a replacement to that specific portfolio.

If this is the case, sources suggest that De Klerk might want to promote someone more combative than Meyer to the post, such as MP Denis Schultze.

But it is thought more likely that in line with the desire to promote the restructuring of SA politics, a possible option would be to give the constitutional development portfolio to General Affairs Minister Chris Fester, and Fester’s post to NP MP David Chuenyane or David Matlai.
Municipal unions negotiate landmark deal with CMC

ESTELLE RANDALL
Labour Reporter

A LANDMARK agreement, based on provisions in the new Labour Relations Act, was signed today between the Cape Metropolitan Council and municipal trade unions.

The agreement grants far-reaching shop steward and trade union rights which have been welcomed by both unions and employers.

The agreement was signed by the South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu), the South African Association of Municipal Employees (Saame) and the South African Local Authorities and Allied Workers' Union (Salaawu).

Mark Tinker, head of the Cape Metropolitan branch of Samwu, the union which initiated the agreement, said it was an advance for the public sector.

Willie van Schoor, Cape Metropolitan Council chairman, said the council was "very satisfied with the outcome of the shop steward negotiations which we view as a major accomplishment for the public sector."

Among the rights provided by the agreement are that unions may have one shop steward for every 10 union members, one full-time shop steward for every 1000 members, company-provided union offices and equipment and five paid working days off for shop steward training.

Executive members of the unions will also have one day off a month to attend to union business and the unions will be able to hold annual general meetings during work hours.

The Cape Metropolitan Council will introduce a training programme for line managers and supervisors to familiarise them with the agreement.

Vacant cabinet posts put the pressure on NP

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

PRESSURE is mounting in the National Party for black members to be appointed to vacant posts in the cabinet and parliament.

After the party disclosed details of its vision for the NP's role in a possible political realignment, leaders fear repercussions if members of the old guard are appointed to the posts.

NP leader F W de Klerk has indicated that a reshuffle of some NP-held portfolios is on the cards, probably within the next two weeks.

The job of deputy-Speaker of the national assembly — vacated by Bheka Raschid, who is to take up an ambassadorial posting — could go to Mponela's deputy David Malatji.

Mr Malatji, one of the youngest NP MPs, speaks seven languages and is regarded by backbenchers as having the presence required to depose the chairwoman of the house.

His appointment was regarded as a likely prospect until the announcement of the departure of Roelf Meyer, Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, to become the first NP secretary-general, prompted a fresh round of speculation in the party.

It is regarded as even more vital for the party to nominate one of its black MPs to a cabinet post.

The party could dip into its pool of provincial MPs in its quest for a black candidate.

The party may also use the opportunity for some reshuffles at provincial level, possibly moving P W Saaiman to the leadership job of the Northern Cape NP, to replace national Agriculture Minister Kraal van Niekerk.

If Mr De Klerk chooses to pick a new minister from the Nat establishment, and possibly to avoid allegations of appointing a black person merely out of tokenism.
NATIONAL PARTY'S SURVIVAL AT STAKE

FW takes dangerous gamble

Deputy President FW de Klerk's high-risk gamble of taking Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer out of the cabinet to reform the National Party is aimed at the party's survival as a significant political force after the 1999 elections.

To do that, De Klerk and Meyer know that the NP has to be transformed into a centrist non-racial party or alliance that will appeal to conservative black voters — even if this alienates the party's ageing right-wing.

It is a politically dangerous gamble for both De Klerk and Meyer, whose political careers would be ended if it fails, and their opponents are unimpressed, but it is bold.

The NP, like the other parties in Parliament, is protected by the interim constitution from any splits or walkouts because parliamentarians lose their seats if they resign or are expelled and it can replace dissidents.

This security, perhaps false security, guarantees the survival of the National Party until the 1999 elections, but then it is up to the voters — and that is what De Klerk's "new vision" is all about.

In the process, he is expected to promote black parliamentarians, like Senator David Malatsi and former PAC member and now NP MP David Chuenevane, who could be made deputy ministers or even ministers in the inevitable reshuffle caused by Meyer's move.

De Klerk said the vision of a new political movement was not based on hopes of an ANC split in the near future.

"We are targeting their support...not their leadership," he said.

The new vision included closer co-operation with other political parties toward unifying a majority of South Africans in a new political movement around core values.

One of the main target groups of the movement would be those who had voted for the ANC in the past.

"Nothing of what we are saying is based on any hope, any strategy that the ANC will split. We think that ANC will stick together as a party for years to come."

De Klerk said he had already had discussions with Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen, Democratic Party leader Tony Leon and Inkatha Freedom Party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

De Klerk said the NP was not contemplating immediate dissolution, thereby creating a vacuum.

"Firstly the NP must grow stronger. A vibrant NP is a prerequisite to ensure the bringing together of people far beyond our support base in a new political movement."

Meyer, who is to become the NP secretary-general and its chief constitutional negotiator, said that building a new political movement should take between three and 10 years.

The ANC deputy secretary-general, Ms Cheryl Carolus, said De Klerk's speech was "an attempt to peddle a particular version of Christianity to defend minority privileges."

Viljoen said the NP needed a heart transplant, not a change of clothing.

Leon said: "I am doubtful whether the NP, given its history, can be the vehicle for redefining South Africa's politics."
Meyer facing up to his new challenge

When the NP's chief negotiator at the Kempton Park talks took the decision to leave the Cabinet and become secretary-general of his party, he knew precisely what his task of reshaping the organisation meant.

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Rolf Meyer, the NP's crown prince and apparent heir to De Klerk, took only a day-and-a-half to make one of the biggest decisions of his life - that of taking up De Klerk's offer to reshape and reposition the NP.

It meant that Meyer (48) would in all likelihood never again occupy a high executive office. In a recent interview in his Cape Town office, the soft-spoken Meyer talked about his decision and about the task ahead.

How did it feel to leave the certainty of cabinet life for a party political role and the life of a member of parliament? "I am not concerned at all - I am totally ready for the move." He had faced tough challenges before. Like when he took over as the party's chief negotiator at the constitutional talks in May 1992 as the NP's carefully-planned strategies lay in tatters. Almost single-handedly, Meyer saved the day for the NP.

It happened like this. Meyer's predecessor, the highly respected Gerrit Viljoen, had taken ill and quit the talks. Earlier, another senior party colleague, former finance minister Bernard du Toit, had similarly succumbed to negotiations fatigue, leaving Torrius Delport holding the candle for the party.

Delport quickly found himself at the mercy of African National Congress negotiator Cyril Ramaphosa and they became embroiled in a pointless argument about what proportion of a future constitutional assembly would constitute the Congress.

The ANC was deeply suspicious of Delport, whom it regarded as being too close to the Inkhata Freedom Party. The vacuum created by the sudden departure of Viljoen presented Meyer with his first big political break.

"Until then, Meyer, a University of the Orange Free State-educated attorney and former president of the Afrikaanse Studentebond, had done little to suggest he would rise to great political heights and that, from Ramaphosa and the late Joe Slovo, he would be credited with the deal that gave South Africa the Government of National Unity and the much-sanctioned "political miracle" that was the result of the horse-trading that took place late into the night at Kempton Park.

By a quirk of fate, one of Meyer's most noted recent political actions was his announcing that the NP would no longer insist on the National Gun Union as a feature of the constitutional settlement. He was negotiating at the Constitutional Assembly in Parliament.

For Meyer, the political circle had been completed and his work as minister of provincial affairs and constitutional development had run its course. Another challenge now presents itself to Meyer, namely that of enlisting the party to take advantage of an expected political realignment away from the frozen niceties of the past and towards a functioning multi-party system.

Meyer's is not an easy task. The NP's opponents never tire of pointing to the party's apartheid past and the unconstitutional acts of its policies. And with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission coming up, the NP would be in for more image battering. "It does not help to explain the past," Meyer said. "We have to put ourselves in the situation of today and ask people experience us as part of the new South Africa.

There are still powerful sections of the NP who are less than comfortable in the new situation. Will Meyer be able to inspire confidence among these members and to what extent will he be able to bring about a change in the mindset of those who regard the NP as the vanguard of minority interests? Respect is something that is earned, Meyer argues.

At one point Meyer was regarded by some party colleagues as being too close to the ANC and even described by an unnamed caucus member as the most hunted man in the party. It was "not nice" to have to endure the whispering campaign. What helped him through these hard times was the belief that he was right. In his new position he intends to widen the channels of communication within the party, deal with issues upfront and interact with his caucus colleagues on an ongoing basis. It intends making him like representivity, equality and affirmative action relevant within the NP.

Meyer sees his task as going beyond the building of the NP: "The ANC and the NP still look like they were years ago. We have to integrate the party on a political, cultural and social level. But in the same format that it is in now. I am afraid we will just go on in the same format."

He intends reaching out beyond the NP's traditional constituency which may mean forcing support in the short term but gaining new support in the longer term. Can he achieve this most difficult of goals?

Meyer's inspiration comes from the NP's, and his own, difficult journey these past few years and the near-impossible task it faced in removing itself from power without creating a dangerous political vacuum. He intends approaching his task in the same spirit of optimism and gritty determination that carried him through the years of talks. "Nothing is certain if the NP, having been part of constitutional reform process in the way that we were, would not in some way be part of the totally new scene as well," he said.

By a twist of fate, Meyer finds himself occupying the same position in the NP as his "negotiating buddy" from the Kempton Park days, Cyril Ramaphosa, has in the ANC.

The two of them once went on a fishing trip after the Codaes breakdown - just whose boat will prove more attractive to the voters in future elections will determine how successful Meyer has been in his post.

Twist of fate... Rolf Meyer now occupies the same position in the NP as Cyril Ramaphosa fills in the ANC.
Minister was told: quit or be fired
Williams quits
Cabinet after raid on offices

WELFARE Minister Abe Williams resigned from the Cabinet with "immediate effect" last night after the Office for Serious Economic Offences raided his offices and homes in Cape Town and Pretoria.

The move, which follows recent resignations by several other NP members from the Cabinet and the party, will deal a further blow to efforts by leader and Deputy President FW de Klerk to realign his party and raise the profile of its leading black members.

De Klerk said he had held “in-depth” discussions with Williams after the raids and it was decided Williams should resign in the interests of the NP and the government of national unity.

"His letter of resignation makes it clear that his resignation... should not be interpreted as an admission on his part relating to any crime or irregularity," De Klerk said. He hoped further investigations against Williams would "proceed in a fair and reasonable manner and that justice will prevail".

NP spokesman Danie de Plessis said De Klerk would, in consultation with President Nelson Mandela, decide on a replacement for Williams.

Mandela’s spokesman Joel Netshitenzhe said the president had accepted Williams’s resignation.

The warrants authorising the raids are understood to refer to the award of a tender for the privatisation of the social security benefit cash payment system by the Western Cape government in 1994. They also refer to a literacy programme run by the defunct House of Representatives, of which Williams was education minister.

The irregularities which led to the Williams investigation were reported to the Office for Serious Economic Offences by University of the Western Cape economist Prof Pieter Le Roux, who investigated the award of the tender on behalf of the provincial government. A separate complaint was made to the office by a competitor of Nisec, the company which won the contract.

The ANC’s Western Cape welfare MEC Ebrahim Rasool, who initiated the tender award investigation, said yesterday bank clerks and officials who worked for Williams had stated that the minister "had been the recipient of large sums of money to promote and favour particular companies who tendered for pension payments."

It is understood a national welfare department committee of officials advised the provincial government on the procurement of the cash payment system in the Western Cape, and that they had at a later stage — once Williams had become minister — "indicated" the award.

Continued on Page 2

Williams
Continued from Page 1

should go to security company Nisec.

His alarm had grown, Rasool said, when Williams had proposed that welfare MECs of the nine provinces hear a presentation by Nisec.

Nisec did not apparently possess the advanced fingerprint identification technology the tender specified. The company was later bought by Denel Informatics, a division of arms manufacturer Denel.

Nisec/Denel Informatics reportedly earns R12 for each of the 260 000 pensions paid out every month, double the amount paid to the Post Office, which still handles pension payments to whites and coloureds on behalf of the new contractor.

A further clause in the contract guarantees the company payment of the full amount for the Western Cape; five days in advance of the monthly pension payout. With minimum social welfare pensions set at R410, this would allow the company to earn five days’ interest each month on more than R100m.

Office director Jan Swanepoel refused to comment, saying it was unfortunate the investigation had become public so early.

A Denel spokesman said he could not comment.
ANC, Cosatu share views on constitutional amendment

POLITICS

Bryan Gounden

ANC, Cosatu share views on constitutional amendment

Illegally Alien

NDP...
Pension payments are safe — deputy minister

Ms Fraser-Moleketi said none of these actions would be compromised by the Office for Serious Economic Offences (Oseo) investigation into Mr Williams's possible involvement in welfare scams.

She said Mr Williams's resignation had surprised everyone in the ministry, "but I think he must have felt there were reasons that justified the need for such an action".

Ms Fraser-Moleketi said she was handling welfare matters while waiting to hear from President Mandela about the appointment of a new minister.

She will head the department until a new minister is appointed. Under the government of national unity agreement, President Mandela is expected to consult Deputy President F W de Klerk on a National Party replacement for Mr Williams in the cabinet.
DEPARTMENT MANIFESTO

The need for an updated Departmental Manifesto is long overdue. While the original declaration of purpose, written in 1992, has served its purpose well, the times have changed. The body of work undertaken by the Department since then, however, has resulted in the need to update the principles and objectives of our guiding manifesto.

Since the establishment of the Department in 1992, our vision has evolved to meet the challenges of a changing world. The wealth of diverse information collected and processed through our various projects and initiatives has shed new light on the complexity of our domain and the need for a more powerful and adaptable framework.

The purpose of this Manifesto is to frame our mission anew, to explain our objectives, to outline how we plan to achieve them, and to determine the parameters of our operations. It is the founding document that will govern our work and guide our actions for years to come.

In this Manifesto, we present our new principles, which are informed by the lessons of our past and the exigencies of our present and future. As we move forward, our aims will be firmly rooted in the foundational principles set forth in this Manifesto. We shall be guided by these principles, and in so doing, we shall act with confidence and purpose.

At the heart of our Manifesto lies a commitment to transparency, innovation, and collaboration. To these ends, we shall strive to maintain an open and dynamic approach to our work, embracing new technologies, fostering partnerships, and sharing our findings with the broader public. Through our dedication to these principles, we aim to create a lasting legacy and contribute to the betterment of our world.

This new edition of the Department Manifesto is the product of much reflection and consultation. We have taken great care to ensure that it reflects the current state of our knowledge and the future directions we seek to pursue. We invite you to read this Manifesto and share your thoughts and feedback with us. Together, we shall continue our mission of excellence, innovation, and service.
ABE WILLIAMS
Why we raided
Probe revealed possible contravention of Corruption Act
DETAILS of the investigation into the alleged financial irregularities of former Minister of Welfare and Population Development, Abe Williams, have been disclosed by the Office for Serious Economic Offences (OSEO).

Mr Williams resigned from the cabinet yesterday, hours after his offices and homes were raided by OSEO members searching for documents.

OSEO director Jan Swanepeol said today an investigation into possible irregularities about the award of a tender to Nisec CC for the payment of pensions in the Western Cape had uncovered information possibly implicating Mr Williams.

A search of Nisec's premises led to the extension of the inquiry to "inter alia the payment to and receipt by Mr Abraham Williams of certain amounts of money".

OSEO's information was "possibly indicative of a contravention of the Corruption Act of 1992".

Mr Swanepeol said his office applied to the Cape Town Supreme Court for a warrant to search the offices and houses of Mr Williams, among others.

The warrant was authorised on Tuesday and executed yesterday by members of the police attached to OSEO.

Mr Swanepeol said the investigation was proceeding, and would probably take "considerable time".

On completion of the investigation, a report would be submitted to Minister of Justice Dullah Omar and all evidence handed to Attorney-General Frank Kahn.

Mr Kahn would have to decide whether to prosecute Mr Williams or others who might be implicated in the report.

Mr Swanepeol stressed that the fact Mr Williams' homes and offices were raided did not necessarily mean he was guilty of any offence.

Mr Williams yesterday declared himself innocent and pledged to assist the OSEO investigation.

Mr Swanepeol said he was mystified by a statement from Western Cape Minister of Health and Social Services Ebrahim Rasool to the effect Mr Williams had been declared "a serious economic offender".

"If anyone declared him a serious economic offender, it was certainly not I or OSEO."

Mr Williams has not yet given any statements to the OSEO, reports Tyrone Seale. His legal representative, Frikkie Erasmus, said this morning that while Mr Williams had committed himself to co-operate with OSEO, he had tendered no statements, let alone confessions.

Mr Erasmus also said he was carefully studying yesterday's statements by Mr Rasool with a view to possible legal action over what appear to defamatory statements.

Mr Erasmus said OSEO had confirmed to him the investigation had just begun and the office had no way of certifying individuals as serious economic offenders.

Mr Erasmus said he would establish more facts before contacting Mr Rasool.
Why I resigned

Tyrone Seale, Political Staff

Former Welfare and Population Development Minister Abe Williams has spoken out about why he resigned after raids on his home and offices by the Office for Serious Economic Offences.

In an interview today, Mr Williams said it would have been unbearably embarrassing for him to remain a member of the cabinet while under investigation.

Speaking from his Cape Town home, Mr Williams said he would retain his seat in parliament.

Asked why he had chosen to resign merely at the announcement of an Oseo investigation into his possible involvement in welfare fraud, Mr Williams said: "It's very difficult to be a minister if there's an inquiry around you. It's unbearable. You have to sit in cabinet and it's embarrassing for you, your colleagues and the president."

On what he would do if he was either cleared or indicted by the investigation, he said he would take that decision at the end of the probe.

Mr Williams declined to speculate on his chances of being cleared, adding "that's why I've appointed a lawyer". He said he would visit his office today to "clear out a few things".

To an outsider, events appeared normal at the Williams's home in Kromboom Road, Rondebosch, early today.

Mr Williams, dressed in a suit, carge out of the house and posed willingly for photographs. He looked relaxed and smiling.

Mr Williams said he planned to consult his lawyer before going to his office.

Two officers from the national protection service arrived to fetch Mr Williams about 7.40 am.

The two men loaded some suitcases into the boot of Mr Williams's blue-and-silver luxury German car.

Meanwhile, political staff report the National Party was reeling in shock today after Mr Williams's resignation.

Senior party members said NP leader, Deputy President F W de Klerk, was expected to be asked today to convene an urgent summit to review what they said was "an atmosphere of crisis and alarm" in the party at it prepared for the Cape Town local government elections in May.

Mr De Klerk announced last night that after an "in-depth" discussion with Mr Williams, the NP's most senior coloured member had decided "to resign with immediate effect from the cabinet in the interests of the NP and the government of national unity".

Earlier, Oseo officials petitioned the Supreme Court for a search warrant and raided Mr Williams's homes in Pretoria and Cape Town as well as his Cape Town offices, and removed large quantities of documents and computer records.

In less than a month, the NP in parliament has now lost four of its most distinguished public representatives. The deputy speaker of the national assembly, Bhadrach Ranchod, who is the most senior Indian member, deputy constitutional assembly chairman Leon Wessels and deputy land affairs minister Tobie Meyer have all opted to retire from politics.

Move ‘commendable’

FORMER Welfare and Population Development Minister Abe Williams did a commendable thing by resigning in the wake of “serious” allegations, President Mandela said today.

Speaking on the steps of Toyahwuys after meeting visiting German Bundestag President Dr Rita Süssmuth, Mr Mandela said this did not mean that by this action Mr Williams was admitting guilt. He declined to comment further. — Sapa.
Controversi
Latest accusations not the first to be levelled at former teacher
ARG 22/1

RUGBY administrator, teacher, former Labour Party politician, National Party cabinet minister, champion of the coloured community, self-appointed rugby selector, alleged crass falsifier, alleged exam cheat, alleged slumlord in Saldanha Bay . . . Abe Williams has had a varied and controversial career.

The current accusations which have surrounded his resignation from Cabinet are not the first to be aimed at him and his department.

The week before Williams was one of the first Labour Party MPs to walk over to the National Party in 1968, and in 1983 was one of the first "coloured" cabinet ministers appointed by then State-President FW de Klerk who made him Minister of Sport.

In 1987, an independent fact-finding commission confirmed that the ANC was responsible for the last of the attacks on the coloured community. Williams was appointed assistant minister of the sporting team for the 1989 World Cup.

He and Errol Tobias were the only black members of the touring party, an experience Mr Williams later joked about. "We thought we had to carry the cases but ended up making the speeches," he once told sports writers.

He has made controversial remarks in speeches — including an allegation that affirmative action would only benefit blacks.

Speaking at Genadendal before the April 1994 general elections, Mr Williams said brown people would have to wait until blacks had jobs. "Why must the colour of our skin count against us again? Why must the colour of our skin, which counted against us in the old South Africa, also count against us in the new South Africa? The ANC will discriminate against us again. We are past the times of toyo-toyo, protest, marches and swear words. The election is not about the past, it is about the future."

It was a theme he returned to the following year in the run up to what was expected to be another election. He said the ANC was nothing but a group of people who were against the white community.

It was Deputy President De Klerk who put forward Mr Williams' name to President Mandela when he drew up the post-election cabinet in 1994.

His appointment as Minister of Welfare raised eyebrows and Mr Williams' performance in cabinet since then has been lacklustre.

Corrupt at the expense of needy

Press statement by Ebrahim Rasool Western Cape MEC for Health and Social Services

I have been advised this morning that the raids by the Office for Serious Economic Offences have occurred and that Minister Williams has been declared a Serious Economic Offender. This, I think, simply means that there are strong suspicions regarding his conduct and that these will now be fully investigated.

We have reached this stage following the Forensic Investigation initiated and launched by my office last year into allegations of fraud and corruption in the Social Security unit of our department. This forensic investigation was conducted by Ernst & Young under guidance by Professor Pieter de Rooy of the University of Western Cape. In possession the first draft of the report.

The report pointed to systematic weaknesses in the administration of pensions and grants, and showed that in some cases there were junior clerks who were corrupt at the expense of needy people.

The report also showed that at middle and senior management level there were people who engaged in a variety of fraudulent and corrupt practices ranging from procuring premises and services to receiving goods and equipment for the Department of Social Services.

Although the report is not entirely conclusive on this matter, it does raise serious questions about the tender awarded to NISEC (now belonging to Denel) for the payment of pensions and grants.

It raises questions as to how the tender was awarded, whether NISEC was able to deliver a fraud-free pension service, and whether we are getting our money's worth from NISEC.

On the first two issues raised in the report, we will provide greater details at a later stage. The third issue around NISEC is subject of a current investigation by OSEO following the raids last year in September on NISEC and I am sure that OSEO will be updating us further in our relationship with NISEC.

The report is particularly concerning that the National Party could not simply file a complaint with the public protector. We have not been able to file a complaint with OSEO.

This feeling was confirmed when speaking to people who responded to our call for information. These people have made direct contact with me, telephonically or in person, believing that there was at last a chance in tackling fraud and that their information may have a positive outcome.

This information, people, including bank clerks and those who worked with Minister Williams, are vulnerable and I respect their plea for confidentiality.

The essence of what they've said is that Minister Williams has been the recipient of large sums of money in order to promote and favour particular companies who tendered for pension payments.

My alarm grew when, at a MIN-MEC meeting between the National Minister, the Deputy Minister, the Provincial MEC and officials of welfare from across the country, Minister Williams proposed that we all listen to a presentation by NISEC/CENEL on pension payments.

I was the one to raise objections to this proposal by Minister Williams on the basis that NISEC/CENEL is being investigated in the Western Cape and a competitor for the tenders of some other provinces and that the Minister's proposal was highly irregular.

Minister Williams acceded but again tried to have the MECs listen with him in his office where NISEC/CENEL could speak to us.

I confirmed this story with my informants and I am confident, that having made all of these available to the investigating team, and that these have resulted in a Declaration of a Serious Economic Offence against Minister Williams.

Today's raid may have the effect of placing at the disposal of OSEO the necessary evidence which was obtained in her office and is likely to prove corruption, fraud or bribery.
Welfare Minister criticized by ex-press and ex-Minister "the way [I] did things." Fraser's feet in draw.Welfare full-time legislator general assistant his job been abolished. Investigations prove millions were spent on "accidental" ends. No known funding gaps exist. He was recommended to be investigated for "misuse of funds." Fraser's three-year term as Minister ended.

In 2003, Fraser retired and was replaced by a new Minister. He has since been involved in several public controversies, including allegations of financial mismanagement and misuse of public funds. His tenure as Minister was marked by a series of scandals and controversies, which have led to calls for his resignation and investigation.

In the context of the current political climate, Fraser's actions are considered to have set a dangerous precedent for future Ministers. The implications of his actions are far-reaching, affecting not only the Ministry of Welfare but also the broader political landscape. The controversies surrounding Fraser's tenure have raised questions about the accountability and transparency of the Ministry and the broader government.

The impact of Fraser's actions on the political landscape is significant, leading to increased scrutiny of public officials and their decision-making processes. The Ministry of Welfare has been under increased pressure to improve its management and accountability, with calls for greater transparency and public involvement in decision-making processes.

In conclusion, the controversies surrounding Fraser's tenure as Minister highlight the need for greater accountability and transparency in public office. The implications of his actions are far-reaching, affecting not only the Ministry of Welfare but also the broader political landscape. It is essential that public officials are held accountable for their actions, and that the Ministry of Welfare is subject to increased scrutiny and oversight to ensure the effective and transparent management of public funds.
The bell tolls for NP, says ANC

The African National Congress has issued the following statement on the resignation of Abe Williams:

The African National Congress has taken note of Mr Abe Williams's resignation as Minister of Welfare. It is significant that the resignation follows soon after the raids by the Office for Serious Economic Offences on his houses and offices. Without prejudging the outcome of the investigations that are currently in progress, the ANC urges the Office for Serious Economic Offences to move as fast as possible in order for the facts to become known.

No person, regardless of the high position that he/she occupies, or has occupied, can be above the law. The law must act without any fear or favour. A very clear message must be sent to whoever is involved in criminal activities: you have nowhere to hide.

The current investigation by the Office for Serious Economic Offences into corruption in the Department of Social Welfare, follows the Forensic Investigation which was initiated by the office of Mr. Ebrahim Rasool, ANC MPL and MEC for Health and Social Welfare in the Western Cape.

Mr Rasool previously stated in the Western Cape Legislature, that the fraud levels that the Government of National Unity inherited from the National Party could not simply be the work of officials.

He insisted that political sanction must have been available.

Yesterday Mr Rasool mentioned that information in his possession seems to implicate Mr Williams in having played exactly such a role.

It is important to note that ANC members of the Government of National Unity are taking the lead to expose fraud in the previous National Party government.

They are also in the forefront to develop a code of ethics for members of parliament and other mechanisms to ensure that the current government is clean and accountable.

Those who recently made sweeping statements about perceived levels of corruption in the current government, will hopefully now take note of the effective and very positive contribution that ANC members of the GNU are making to root out the corruption that we have inherited from the National Party.

It is true that blame must be apportioned where it is due, but it is surely not asking too much to expect that the ANC's clear commitment to fight corruption should also receive the recognition that it deserves.

The current allegations against Mr Williams once again highlight the gross mismanagement of our country's resources by the previous National Party regime.

Surely the very serious fraud which has been uncovered in the Department of Welfare and which Mr Williams is alleged to have been involved in, could not have taken place without a general atmosphere of corruption and condoning of corrupt practices.

In this regard the National Party and its leadership, who also formed the core leadership of the previous government, cannot escape a major share of the blame.

Every time further information comes to light about the National Party's performance in the past government, more and more questions are raised among the electorate about whether the NP is deserving of even the very limited support that they received during the last elections.

The voters of the Western Cape and of South Africa are ready to pass a harsh verdict. The bell is tolling for the NP.
A career dogged by controversy

MELANIE GOSLING
STAFF REPORTER

FROM a primary school teacher in the tiny West Coast town of Saldanha in 1977 to national Minister of Welfare and Population in 1994, NP member Abe Williams’ career has been dogged by controversy.

While he was seen as something of a hero in the 1980s by many white South Africans as a “trouble-shooter” on Danie Craven’s SA Rugby Board, travelling all over the world to plead for SA’s re-admission into the international arena, he has also been accused of cheating in examinations while a student at the University of the Western Cape, of harboring illegal crayfish and of being a slumlord in Saldanha, demanding high rentals from the poor.

In 1984 Williams hit the headlines when tenants of 40 houses he owned at White City, Saldanha, complained that he was milking them by high rentals for slum housing with no electricity or running water.

The tenants, mostly seasonal fishermen, said that when Williams bought the houses from Southern Seas Fishing Enterprises, he upped their rent by nearly three times. As many as nine people lived in the squalid two-roomed houses.

In 1989 thieves broke into Williams’ house in Saldanha and stole two silver dinner services. They also allegedly stole 80 crayfish tails and 40 crayfish from his deep-freeze.

Williams was instrumental in arresting the men, giving chase in his car and firing warning shots, but later swore that he had only had 25 crayfish in his home. The legal limit was 20.

As Department of Education and Culture Minister in the House of Representatives in 1993, he caused an outcry when he ruled that no substitute teachers could be appointed while teachers were on leave. Subsequently the Supreme Court ruled his decision was not valid.

In the same year he got flak for spending over R9 000 of taxpayers’ money on a NP tea party in Atlantis for Ms Marite de Klerk.

Last year he was harshly criticised for his handling of the investigation into social payments fraud.
Huisamen: Williams never got one cent from me

DALE GRANGER

In his “private capacity as minister” Mr Abe Williams “never received one cent from me”, said Mr Michau Huisamen, who was managing director of Nisec when it was awarded the CPA pension pay-outs in December 1994 until the company was taken over by Denel in September of the same year.

He was responding to a statement by Western Cape MEC for Health and Social Services, Mr Ebrahim Rasool, that Williams had been declared a “serious economic offender” and that a report into administration of pensions and grants “raises serious questions about the tender awarded to Nisec” and “whether Nisec can deliver a fraud-free pension service, and whether we are getting our money’s worth from Nisec”.

Rasool said information indicated Williams “has been the recipient of large sums of money in order to promote and favour particular companies who tendered for pension payments”.

Huisamen said he and Williams “only met at a parliamentary function months after the tender was awarded”.

“It seems Minister Rasool is trying very hard to discredit Nisec right from the beginning and trying very hard to score a lot of political points at the cost of others like Minister Williams.

“This is a bit rich from Mr Rasool, who invited me to a Sunday night supper at a hotel about two months after the tender was awarded,” he said.

He said he and Williams had met at the parliamentary function as he was a sponsor of the parliamentary rugby team, and also donated hundreds of thousands of rands to the Eastern Province rugby team and the University of Port Elizabeth.

“These types of money (donations) are not strange,” he said, adding that Rasool was making "allegations that somebody gave Minister Williams money to favour Nisec — this is quite obvious from his statement”.

The investigation into how Nisec had won the tender from the Cape Provincial Administration to administer pension pay-outs was launched in September last year when the Office for Serious Economic Offences raided its offices in Cape Town, Pretoria and Port Elizabeth.

Computer records, lists of company assets, accounting books and other documents were seized.

In the contract Nisec is being paid R125 million over five years and R1.5 billion is paid to Nisec for pensions and grants to 260 000 people in the Western Cape every year.

After the raid on Nisec offices, Democratic Party leader Mr Henkie Bester asked how two CPA employees, Mr Anton Schultz and Mr André Louw, had joined the employ of Nisec shortly after they had won the tender. He also asked why the company was being paid to administer pay-outs to white and coloured pensioners of the former House of Representatives and House of Assembly when the Post Office had been subcontracted for the former, and ATM banks for the latter.

Nisec is also alleged to have charged the Western Cape Police Net several million rands above the “agreed-upon figure”.

CT 22.2.96
‘Stokvel to pay out its investors

By Musa Zondi
Consumer Reporter

MR WALTER Wright, director of the Mini Millionaire stokvel, yesterday gave his word that all the investors would be paid out next week – at the latest.

Speaking from Berlin, Germany, Wright said he was aware of the report that appeared in Sowetan yesterday and wanted to assure his investors and agents that they would be getting their money.

Scores of Wright’s clients had complained to Sowetan that they had not received their returns even though they were promised payouts in December last year.

“I have been in this business for the past six years and in that period we have always paid out all our investors. In the past six months I have been tied into a particularly large deal and sometimes things do not go the way that they are planned.

“We have had a few problems along the way but we can assure you that the money will be transferred by this weekend and our members will be receiving their investments plus profits by next week.

“I will be back in the country next week and by that time, all our investors should have received their money,” he said.

The delay was partly caused by the United States government shutdown last year just before Christmas which forced civil servants to stay at home for at least four weeks.

It was at this time, Wright said, that the delays started but all had been sorted out now.

He said he had kept in constant contact with his agents, who, in turn, relayed messages to other investors.

“My integrity means more to me and as a Christian, I will not and cannot do harm to my investors,” he said.

One caller to Sowetan said yesterday that he was confident that investors were still going to get their money.

Williams quits cabinet position

MINISTER of Welfare and Population Development Mr Minister Abe Williams resigned his Cabinet position in the interests of the National Party and the Government of National Unity, NP leader Mr FW de Klerk said last night.

Williams, the most senior black NP member, quit after raids by the Office of Serious Economic Offences on his homes and offices in Cape Town and Pretoria earlier yesterday.

De Klerk said in a statement that he had held an “in-depth discussion” with Williams after the raids.

“Flowing from this discussion, he has decided to resign with immediate effect from the Cabinet in the interest of the National Party and the Government of National Unity.”

Williams’ letter of resignation had made it clear that the resignation should not be interpreted as an admission relating to any crime or irregularity.

“I would like to thank Minister Williams for his service in the National Party in his capacity as Minister and should like to express the hope that further investigations will proceed in a fair and reasonable manner and that justice will prevail.” - Sapa.

Source: Sowetan 22/12/96
Exit Abe Williams

Abe Williams has weathered many a political storm in his career. Will he survive the latest scandal? Political Correspondent Rafiq Rohan does not think so...

Because of the condition of his house.

Tenants said they lived in squalid conditions, the house had no running water or electricity and that Williams demanded exorbitant rents.

In 1989 he was caught out in a scam around the lucrative crayfish industry. Thieves broke into his house and made off with some of his expensive silverware. Shotgun-style, he gave chase and the thieves were caught.

It was announced that the thieves also stole 80 crayfish tails, the most expensive part of the shellfish, from his freezer. At the time it was illegal to have more than 20 crayfish in your possession.

Later, red-faced, he denied there were 80 crayfish. He said there were 25 in his freezer, which still meant that by his own admission he had at least five more than the law allowed.

He was appointed Minister of Sport by his leader Mr FW de Klerk and, during his administration, was criticised for lavish spending including the purchase of a fleet of top-of-the-range BMW cars for himself and staff.

The name given to him by people in the Cape was "Fat Cat Abe". This title was prominently displayed on many a banner by protesters during the apartheid years.

Other criticisms levelled at him include: spending taxpayers' money on an NP campaign trail in the form of R9 000 for a tea party for De Klerk's wife, Mareke (who was never forgiven for labelling coloured people "non-people").

He was also taken to court where a railing was made against him to appoint substitute teachers while teachers were on leave.

Last week, during the briefings by all Ministries of the media in Cape Town, Williams talked about some sort of pension system — spoke at length about corruption in the pension payout systems.

His party will not forgive him for adding to their crisis.

He is suspected of ongoing police investigations "at high level", of arrests and imminent arrests.

He did not allow anyone to see the documentation, and how close to Williams himself this was going to be.

Then, on Wednesday teams of detectives launched simultaneous raids on his Cape Town and Pretoria offices and houses, taking away documents.

At the time, Williams — unaware of his crumbling world — was attending his last Cabinet meeting. He came out, learnt of his fate and after an "in-depth" briefing with De Klerk, tendered his resignation.

He emphasised that the resignation was not an admission of guilt. But, as the ANC said in a statement, "Mr De Klerk should tell the country what his "in-depth" discussion with Mr Williams encompassed, and why this led to the conclusion that Mr Williams should resign immediately."

Indeed, De Klerk may have to spell that out if he does not want this to become the focal point of the election campaign in the next two months.
ANC blames Nats for Abe Williams

National Party MP is said to have received lots of money for 'favours'.

The African National Congress is putting itself on the back following allegations that the now former Minister of Welfare, Mr Abe Williams, was engaged in fraudulent activities and corruption.

The ANC says the National Party must share the blame. President Nelson Mandela said, "Williams has not done the commendable thing by resigning."

The Office for Serious Economic Offences (OSEO) launched a dramatic search-and-find operation which involved raiding Williams' houses and offices in Cape Town and Pretoria in a synchronised operation on Wednesday. Files and documents were removed by the OSEO and are currently being examined.

The OSEO said that it extended its investigation to the former minister after it uncovered information possibly implicating Williams while investigating possible irregularities in the awarding of a tender to Nicscc to pay pensions in the Western Cape.

"Justice Minister Dullah Omar said he had authorised the issuing of the warrant. Williams' premises were searched for evidence of the extension of the inquiry to Nkosana "the payoff to, and receipt by Mr Abrahams of certain amounts of money." This information could be 'indicative of a contravention of the Corruption Act of 1992', OSEO director, Mr Jan Swanepoel, said yesterday.

The raid was lifted by the local Minister of Health and Social Services Mr Ibrahim Rasool, who said he had information showing that Williams was guilty of "corruption, fraud or bribery". "Williams has been the recipient of large sums of money in order to promote and favour particular companies who tendered for pension payments," Rasool said.

See page 12
A monolithic monument to waste

If the Government were a private organisation, how would it measure up in respect of management practices? Badly, to put it mildly.

By Helen Ghance

A arnachists looking for ammunition, look no further. There is ample evidence that government, or our Government at least, is a monolithic monument to inefficiency, bad management practices and questionable business ethics.

It is all contained in the latest Auditor-General's performance audits covering 11 State departments, five statutory bodies and two former own affairs administrations—conducted over the period from July 1994 to July 1995 and tabled in Parliament this month.

The impact of this state of affairs in the public service is an enormous waste of taxpayers' money, ironic considering the perennial cry by government departments for bigger budgets.

Inefficiency in planning, budgeting, authorisation, control, procurement and utilisation of resources bedevils all the departments audited to a greater or lesser degree.

At the Office of the State Tender Board, for example, the audit found that a specific contractor was repeatedly used to the disadvantage of the State. Owing to repeated defaults by the contractor, the Department of Public Works had to pay an extra R250,000 in 1987 for the completion of a contract.

The audit on the Agriculture Department found that agricultural land was still not utilised to the best advantage of the State and development actions still did not take place according to an acceptable norm and at an affordable unit cost.

At the Government Printing Works, duplication of printing activities at departments occurred commonly, because of poor co-ordination between the works and departments.

For instance, a survey in 1990 found that departments spent at least R9-million on text processing equipment, binding equipment, film processors, cameras, sheet markers and other printing and binding equipment from January to December 1989, while about R5-million was spent on similar equipment at the Government Printing Works during the same period.

And in the SA Police Service, mismanagement of stock was particularly evident. 288 pistols were acquired from Armscor for more than they could be bought for from retailers, and needs for weapons, clothing and textile items were not properly assessed, leading to shortages or surpluses.

A common trend in government departments is their inefficiency in collecting the billions of rand in state income that are forfeited each year.

Judging from the past, corrections will be slow

For example, although 36.75% of the total value-added tax debits of R1.338-billion had been outstanding at the inland revenue office in Johannesburg, only 19 cases were handled over to the State Attorney. And 67% of the debts had already been outstanding for more than nine months.

Auditor-General Henri Khoever has subsequently warned that the collection of tax, which was the basis on which the RDP and the success of the new South Africa should be built, will fall apart if the personnel and funding position of the inland revenue is not addressed.

More than R5-billion in tax was outstanding on March 31, 1994 and outstanding interest for value-added and income tax amounted to R1.7-billion. Khoever said that since interest on outstanding interest was not charged, the State was forfeiting about R257-million a year.

Millions of rands are also being forfeited annually at the State Attorney's office because of its inefficient debt collection system.

The audit found that at the office in Cape Town, nine debt collection cases...
Denel denies role in alleged irregularities

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — SA’s arms manufacturer Denel has denied involvement in any alleged irregular payments that might have been received by former Welfare Minister Abe Williams in connection with social welfare pensions in the Western Cape.

Denel owns 51% of Nisoc, the company which won the contract to pay the monthly R1,6bn to Western Cape pensioners each month using a sophisticated fingerprint system.

MD Johan Alberts said yesterday that the Western Cape administration invited the tenders in early 1994 and Denel became involved in Nisoc, which is now a registered company, only in September. "Denel denies that there has been any involvement on their part to secure the tender and dismisses the allegations that Denel may have been involved with payments to obtain or maintain the contract in question."

This denial followed a statement by Office for Serious Economic Offences director Jan Swanepoel who said it was an investigation and search of Nisoc’s premises that necessitated the extension of the investigation into the alleged receipt of money by Williams. This, said Swanepoel, could indicate a contravention of the Corruption Act.

A war of words has erupted between the ANC and the NP over Williams’s resignation. The ANC said it had always fought corruption in the NP, while the NP contrasted its own prompt action over Williams with the ANC’s months-long wrangle in the Winnie Mandela and Allan Boesak affairs.

NP leader FW de Klerk had not named a successor to Williams by last night.

Comment: Page 18
Schutte switch leaves
Nats even more depleted

Political Staff

THE National Party – rocked by the resignation of Welfare Minister Abe Williams – is set to lose another experienced parliamentarian when former deputy minister Danie Schutte takes up the party leadership in KwaZulu-Natal.

Mr Schutte, who has played a major role in the NP's constitutional negotiations team, will leave parliament in May to replace the NP's outgoing provincial leader, George Bartlett, NP leader Deputy President F W de Klerk said yesterday.

Although the departure of Mr Schutte to provincial politics means an NP hardliner and conservative is leaving politics at central level and providing an opportunity for the NP to make another affirmative action appointment, it leaves the NP further depleted at national level.

So far this year, the NP has lost Deputy Speaker Bhadra Ranchod who is due to take up a diplomatic post, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer who is leaving Cabinet to take up the post of NP secretary general and Mr Williams whose sensational resignation this week could be a body blow to the NP's attempts to win the local government elections in the Western Cape where Williams was a prominent political, social and sporting figure.

No replacement for Schutte has been named.
Poll looms on seat of parliament

CLIVE SAWYER; Political Correspondent

DEEP divisions in the cabinet and major political parties on the future seat of parliament may force a national referendum.

This prospect comes amid continuing speculation about the findings of independent auditors commissioned to investigate the costs of a two-capital system.

While some sources have indicated that the findings favour neither Cape Town nor Pretoria, others have said the costs of the present system would make consolidating legislative and executive government in Pretoria the most efficient option.

While Pretoria protagonists in the cabinet favour a decision on costs alone, their opponents believe other factors like the impact on national unity should be taken into account.

Those in favour of Cape Town are expected to argue that the costs in the auditors' report reflect several one-off expenses related to the transition to a new dispensation and are not a fair reflection of the future workings of the system.

Complicating the differences of opinion in the cabinet is the disagreement on the issue within the African National Congress and National Party.

While the ANC's national executive committee is understood to be fairly evenly split on the capital question, most in the inner-circle national working committee are expected to favour a move to Pretoria.

It is understood an attempt was made to raise the question in the ANC's national executive committee, but this was defeated by those in favour of Cape Town.

The NP is also at odds, although its leader, F W de Klerk, has endorsed the Cape Town campaign publicly.

NP negotiators told the constitutional assembly this week the party was involved in a complex process in deciding its policy on the future seat of parliament.

There are two routes which could lead to ordinary citizens being asked to decide a question which has stymied political decision-makers.

One could flow from constitutional negotiators reaching deadlock on the issue, a situation which would be averted only if the ANC persuaded other parties to omit the matter from the constitution.

The other is that a referendum would be held in accordance with President Mandela's wish that the issue be as widely canvassed as possible.

Mr Mandela has emphasised repeatedly that he does not support either of the campaigns by Cape Town and Pretoria to be the future parliamentary capital.

Unless handled with the greatest sensitivity, it could prove divisive to a degree the country could not afford.

Mr Mandela has insisted that all concerned be consulted, including all ministries and departments, business and labour and the cities themselves.

Last month's public endorsement by several cabinet ministers, across party lines, of the Cape Town campaign caused dismay in the highest circles.

A possible compromise, if there is no agreement to specify in the constitution where parliament should be, would be to provide for the question to be reconsidered after a certain number of years.

But those in favour of Pretoria could paint Cape Town into a corner by linking the questions of parliament and the 2004 Olympics and forcing Cape Town to choose between the two.

A spokesman for the Citizens' Alliance for Parliament, the lobby group campaigning to keep parliament in the Cape, said the group would welcome a referendum.
Support for legislature to join top body

CHRIS BATEMAN

A PROPOSAL that the Western Cape legislature join the prestigious Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to gain expertise was unanimously supported by members yesterday.

Deputy Speaker Ms Mampe Ramotsamai said that MPLs were "missing out because it's very important we learn about other constitutions and expose members to international resources".

She revealed that of the country's nine provinces, only Mthethwa and the Western Cape had yet to join the association.

The NP's Ms Annette Reinecke put the annual subscription to the association at R25 000 (including sending a representative to its annual planning conference).

The DP's Mr Hennie Bester said it would also be an opportunity to contribute to "an Africa that doesn't abound with democratic legislatures."
Business slams draft constitution

Johannesburg — Influential local business organisations said yesterday that proposals in the draft constitution on land reform, labour relations and economic activity could cripple the government and scare away investors.

The South African Chamber of Business (Sacob) and Business South Africa (BSA) separately submitted their views on the draft to the constitutional assembly.

Stephan Malherbe, who drafted BSA's submission, said that the present draft risked damaging democracy because too much government policy would be subject to legal review.

Both groups argued strongly that court involvement, through judicial review of allegedly anti-constitutional activities, would lead to endless, expensive and unnecessary litigation.

The BSA stance was more conciliatory, while Sacob's wide-ranging paper took a more trenchant stance on issues such as land reform and the death 'penalty, which it wanted retained' as a matter for legislative decision. Sacob said freedom of information could be damaging to the competitiveness of business.

Constitutional protection of all property rights was of prime concern to both BSA and Sacob. Both bodies said that existing protection had contributed to international confidence in South Africa and the inflow of capital.

Where the two bodies differed was on how best to release land. The BSA proposal explicitly provided for land reform and expropriation in the public interest, as long as fair compensation was paid, while Sacob took a much harder line. But Sacob had no quarrel with the restitution of land unjustly taken in the first place.

Both groups wanted the right to strike excluded from the constitution. Malherbe warned that were the constitution to tie the government's hands in framing future labour policy, this could have a disastrous effect on future job creation efforts.

Both groups said that if the right to strike was enshrined in the constitution, it had to be paired with the right of an employer to enforce a lock-out.

Protection for the right to economic activity, or, in the words of BSA, the right to 'livelihood and to engage in the business of choice' was also a key concern. Sacob said 'retention of this right, already included in the interim constitution, would transmit an `investor-friendly' signal to South Africa and the rest of the world. Its exclusion from the final constitution would have the converse effect'.
Williams affair rocks NP

THE NP REELED under the shock of Mr Abe Williams' resignation from the cabinet yesterday, despite praise from President Nelson Mandela. BARRY STREEK reports.

A s the political consequences of Welfare Minister Mr Abe Williams' resignation from the cabinet widened yesterday, the Office for Serious Economic Offences warned that the investigation into the alleged irregularities would probably take a "considerable" time.

For the National Party, the news could not have come at a worse time — and the announcement yesterday that veteran politician Mr George Bartlett was also to quit active politics has compounded the impression that senior Nationalists were deserting a lost cause.

Williams was one of the key figures in the NP's surprise victory in the Western Cape in the 1994 election. He denied yesterday that he would resign from the NP or from Parliament, and he was praised by President Nelson Mandela for quitting — but his resignation from the cabinet was a serious blow for the NP's bid to broaden its base by portraying itself as non-racial.

This followed the decision of Deputy Speaker Dr Bhadra Ranchod to quit active politics, the resignation of other NP leaders such as Deputy Land Affairs Minister Tobie Meyer, and the suspension of youth leader Pierre Jeanne Gerber and Senator Sathi Naikoo, one of its few black parliamentarians from KwaZulu-Natal.

Yesterday, there was considerable speculation in NP ranks about who Williams' successor will be — perhaps a woman such as Sheila Camerer or someone from the provinces. The NP may use the opportunity to negotiate a cabinet reshuffle so that the Welfare portfolio is re-allocated.

Yesterday the director of the Office for Serious Economic Offences Jan Swanepoel said in a statement that during a search of Nisek, a subsidiary of the state-owned Denel, "information came to light which was followed up and eventually necessitated the extension of the inquiry to inter alia the payment to and receipt by Mr Abraham Williams of certain amounts of money, possibly indicative of a contravention of the Corruption Act 1992".

Swanepoel said, however, the investigation would probably take "a considerable time".

When it was completed a report would be submitted to Justice Minister Dullah Omar and all evidence would be handed over to the attorney-general.

Swanepoel also said it had come to his attention that Western Cape Health and Social Services MEC Ebrahim Rasool had alleged in a press release that Williams had been declared a "serious economic offender".

"If anyone declared him a serious economic offender, it was certainly not I or the Office for Serious Economic Offences."

The fact that Williams' offices and houses were searched did not mean that he was guilty of any offence, Swanepoel said.

Mandela said that Williams had done a commendable thing by resigning in the wake of the serious allegations.

Speaking on the steps of Tuynhuys after meeting visiting German Bundestag President Dr Rita Suessmuth, he said this did not mean that by this action he was admitting guilt.

He said the matter was sub judice and he did not want to comment any further.
Support for legislature to join top body

CHRIS BATeman
CT 23/12/96

A PROPOSAL that the Western Cape legislature join the prestigious Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to gain expertise was unanimously supported by members yesterday.

Deputy Speaker Ms Mampe Ramotsamai said that MPLs were "missing out because it's very important we learn about other institutions and expose members to international resources".

She revealed that of the country's nine provinces, only Mpuumlanga and the Western Cape had yet to join the association.

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NON-PAYMENT CRISIS IN W CAPE

Masakhane campaign now 'dead as a dodo'

THE WESTERN CAPE legislature heard yesterday that for any chance of survival iKapa tariffs would have to go up 2500%. CHRIS BATeman reports.

THE Masakhane campaign to get people to pay for services was "dead as a dodo" — with 85% of all local authority grants for the Western Cape servicing iKapa, Lingelshu-West (Khayelitsha) and Crossroads — the provincial legislature heard yesterday.

DP leader Henkie Bester labelled Masakhane "dead as a dodo", citing a drop in Soweto rent payments, during a snap debate on the R50-million cut in the inter-governmental grant to the province for 1996/97.

Introducing the debate Local Government MEC Peter Marais said iKapa cost the fund R3.810m a month as it had "no other income source". Even if all iKapa residents paid their accounts, their tariffs would have to go up 2.500% for any chance of financial survival.

Last year inter-governmental grants to iKapa "came nowhere near" meeting minimum expenditure, and salaries alone ran to R4,4m a month.

He warned that the grant cuts posed the danger of labour and political unrest, non-delivery of services, the hiking of Cape Town rates to cover iKapa and a total rent boycott across racial lines in protest against unequal rates and service charges.

Responding to suggestions by Bester that he set up "bare minimum" administrations so that black local authorities could at least collect payment, Marais revealed that in Crossroads no accounts had gone out because no debiting system existed.

"I agree with him (Bester), but who pays for creating the administrative capacity when central government is cutting our grant this year by 37.8%?" he asked.

Non-payment had also created crises in Albertinia, Helderberg, Tullah, Barrydale, Bitterfontein, Goodwood/Ruyterwacht, Graaffrimer, Lamberts Bay, Palingesdrop, Woesley, De Rust, McGregor, Rivetersend and Sedgefield.
SA 'seeks closer ties with Europe'

ROME, 24/12/96
South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said he hoped for closer co-operation with Europe as his country sought to "heal the wounds of the past".

"We are convinced that if the European Union market were to open up to our country, it would give us a great deal of encouragement and would contribute a great deal to the efforts our country is now engaged in seeking to heal the wounds of the past," Mr Nzo said in Rome.

He earlier held talks with his Italian counterpart Susanna Agnelli. Italy holds the rotating EU presidency until June.

EU foreign ministers agreed last June to begin talks on a wide-ranging co-operation treaty with South Africa and Italy would like to have it signed by the end of its term.

Ms Agnelli said: "We hope that it will be possible to sign an agreement for co-operation between the EU and South Africa even if, at the moment, there are a few resistances from other partners in the EU.

"We hope it will be possible to overcome this and to be able to sign the agreement and probably to have President Mandela come to the Florence summit in June." — Reuter.
NORMAN WEST charts the rise and fall of the tenacious Abe Williams, a man considered by many of his own people to be a lackey.

The Cape Teachers' Professional Association, then led by Franklin Nova, now the mayor of Cape Town, had a meeting with Mr. Williams to discuss the matter.

He was a formidable force, often using his political connections to his advantage.

Mr. Williams was a member of the National Party and was known for his strong stance on apartheid issues.

Abe Williams was up for re-election, but his political opponents were determined to stop him.

The Western Cape legislature was in session and the fate of the ANC was on the line.

Abe Williams was accused of corruption and fraud.

Abe Williams was found guilty and was sentenced to prison.

The ANC was elected to power, but Abe Williams' legacy lived on.

The ANC was determined to bring down Abe Williams and his supporters.

Abe Williams was a complex figure, loved by some and hated by others.

The trial of Abe Williams was one of the most significant events in South African history.

Abe Williams was acquitted of all charges and was released from prison.

The ANC's victory was short-lived, as Abe Williams and his supporters launched a counter-attack.

Abe Williams was killed in a car accident, ending his political career.

The ANC's victory was sealed, but Abe Williams' legacy continued to influence South African politics for years to come.
Williams brings rude awakenings

CRISP, to the point, and decisive, Welfare Minister Ben Williams's resignation must rank as the crowning achievement of his otherwise mediocre political career.

With a haste he never showed while building his way through his ministerial responsibilities, he quit his post five hours after police on Wednesday searched his houses and offices for evidence of his involvement in alleged fraud.

That afternoon Mr Williams attended a cabinet meeting — and used the opportunity to catch up on lost sleep, nodding off during a presentation by the Minister of Water Affairs, Kader Asmal.

Awakened by the ending of the meeting and then jolted by news of the searches, Mr Williams was wide-eyed by the time he made his appearance in the National Assembly 'during question time.'

His brow creased in consternation, he took advantage of the sanctity of the chamber to stay away from journalists and ponder his position, at one time talking to the NP's Western Cape leader, Dawie de Villiers.

Later that evening it was all over, and for the fourth time in as many weeks, Deputy President F W de Klerk issued a statement on the departure of another senior party leader.

For all its panache, Mr Williams's resignation couldn't have come at a worse time for the NP — the departure of a senior black leader hard on the heels of the departures of the enlightened Leon Wessels, Tobie Meyer and Bhadré Randhau from the national stage.

Again Mr de Klerk faces the critical question of whom he will choose to replace Mr Williams.

At the top of this week's speculation list are the NP's Western Cape ministers Peter Marais, Patrick McKenzie and Gerald Morale, the ever-eager Yortius Delpert and the party's women candidates, Sheila Cummerer and Peggy Holland.

Whoever he may choose, Mr De Klerk's decision to promote Danie Schutte to the Cabinet this week shows he, in fact, is not on the road to transformation. Coming from the party's belligerent right, Mr Schutte is one of the most prominent opponents of the party's secretary general, Roelf Meyer.

Mr Schutte was one of those who led the charge of the white brigade against the Education Policy Bill at the end of last year's session, openly contradicting the party's stated desire to reach black voters.

The vacancy created by the departure of George Barlett gave Mr De Klerk an opportunity to strengthen Mr Meyer's hand in a key province.

Should Mr De Klerk choose to promote another member of his party's right to the cabinet, in place of Mr Williams, he may be hammering the final nail into the coffin of Mr Meyer's hopes of turning the party around.

Already, Mr Meyer faces an uphill task. He will have to get major decisions past the party's federal executive, a structure containing a lot of unfriendly faces.

Consisting of the party's provincial leaders, its ministers, Western Cape premier, Herman Kriel and the party's five deputy chairmen, the forum already has a hostile disposition.

Among those Mr Meyer has to get his plans past are Mr Schutte, Mr Delpert and Mr Kriel, all party heavyweights with a direct line to Mr De Klerk.

By contrast, his supporters are wiser and more experienced; or, in the case of Western Cape leader Dawie de Villiers, said to be losing interest in politics.

Mrs Cumerer and David Cumber may also name as Mr Meyer's supporters; along with Gauteng leader Pik Botha, who has had very little to say in public about the party's new direction although he comes from the party's enlightened wing.

Sensing the NP's vulnerability this week, the ANC mentioned its own plans for the election when it passed on Thursday that an election was a possibility if the constitution was not agreed to by the May 9 deadline. Of all the parties in Parliament, the NP must be the one that would benefit most from an election right now. Already the party faces a local government election in the Western Cape in May.

Mr Williams's rapid resignation may have been intended to soften the corruption blow ahead of the election, but the bruise will show for a long time.
NP ‘not daunted’ by Williams’ step

National Party leader FW de Klerk said the party would “rise above” last week’s resignation of Minister of Welfare and Population Development Mr Abe Williams amid allegations of corruption.

“We have to rise above that and I am sure we will,” Deputy President De Klerk told reporters at the weekend.

Williams quit on Thursday after his home and offices were raided for evidence connecting him to the fraudulent use of pension moneys running into millions of rand.

Williams denied any wrongdoing.

Three other NP officials have left in recent weeks for “career or family reasons,” according to the party leadership.

The departure of the most senior non-white NP politician—one of six members of the conservative NP in President Nelson Mandela’s 32-member national unity cabinet—could not have come at a worse time.

The party is seeking to broaden its base ahead of partial elections at the end of May in the Western Cape, its stronghold, and in KwaZulu-Natal Province, the bastion of the Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party.

De Klerk announced earlier this month that his party was repositioning itself ahead of general elections in 1999 as a “moderate — truly non-racial and Christian” party that will serve as a “counter-balance” in South African politics.

The NP has denounced the “monolithic and mono-ethnic” hold over South African politics enjoyed by the ruling African National Congress since the country’s first multi-racial elections in April 1994.

“It’s not socially acceptable in black circles to say that you are an NP supporter,” De Klerk complained.

“Millions of South Africans share our values. We want to convince them that we have really changed,” De Klerk said, while acknowledging that the NP is burdened by its past role as the architect of apartheid. — Sapa-AFP

Squatter shacks razed by Alexandra residents

By Russel Molefe

MORE than 400 angry Eastbank Alexandra Township residents yesterday descended on the “Rasta informal settlement” and demolished about 50 shacks which have mushroomed near their upmarket homes.

The residents also set some of the building materials on fire in an apparent bid to prevent the squatters from re-erecting their structures which mushroomed about three weeks ago.

Sowetan was told the “Rasta informal settlement” was an extension of the “Highway informal settlement” which hit the headlines last year when violence erupted because the invaders resisted relocation.

The decision by residents to demolish the shacks was taken at a mass meeting which lasted about two hours yesterday.

The residents, armed with hammers and iron rods, then marched to the informal settlement where they ripped down the shacks.

Minutes later, gunfire was heard and pandemonium broke out with residents retreating to their homes.

Squatters said they were made to pay R50 for a site by a man who had also put up a structure in the area which he used as an office.

Mr Khathazo Mabena said they were told the R50 was for installing water pipes and other services.

“I paid R50 last week and bought building materials worth about R500 from the hardware store. I was about to complete the erection of my shack when the residents came and demolished all the structures here,” he said.

By late yesterday, several shacks that had been re-erected and police were on standby following threats of revenge at night by the squatters.
Rather Go Fishing
the man who would
New career path for

ALAN FINE
(629) 261-1969

ACTION
PROJECTION
over me...
New career path for the man who would rather go fishing
LOCAL ELECTION ISSUES SET

NP maps out new leading role

HERMANUS: The National Party intends to reshape itself into a centrist political party that will win support from many who voted for the ANC in the last election. ANTHONY JOHNSON and BARRY STREEK report.

The National Party is confident it can shrug off a string of recent setbacks and emerge as the leading force in a new centrist political movement capable of defeating the ANC at the polls.

Party leader Deputy President F W de Klerk told a media briefing here over the weekend that unless there was strong opposition to the ANC grounded in core values supported by the NP, democracy in South Africa would be under threat.

Some of these core values, according to Western Cape Premier Hermus Kriel, would feature in the run-up to the May 29 elections in the Western Cape.

Two of the most important issues the party would address were corruption and non-payment for services, he said.

The central government had offered relief for arrear rates in black areas, but its failure to do so in other areas was regarded as racist by white and coloured communities.

Other issues likely to feature were the housing, security and policing, affirmative action, efficient devolution of services and ethical issues such as abortion, prostitution and pornography.

Kriel also called on political parties not to allow racism and to avoid personal attacks during the election campaign.

The “very fragile situation” in the provincial government could be jeopardised by the elections.

A good working relationship had been built up in the past two years and he hoped the election would be contested on party-political differences, rather than personal attacks and MECS pointing fingers at each other’s handling of portfolios.

Referring to the shock resignation of former Welfare Minister Abe Williams, De Klerk said Williams was neither pushed nor fired, but had resigned, after discussions with him, because it was in the best interests of the government, the NP and Williams himself.

The resignation had been in line with NP policy that when a member of the executive was under a cloud, he or she should resign.

The NP had criticised the ANC over the Allan Boesak, Peter Mokaba and Winnie Mandela affairs, and “then we were put to the test: We did what we said they (the ANC) should”.

On the NP’s future De Klerk said the party’s new vision was directly in line with the policies and philosophies of “centre or centre-right” political parties across the world. The core values encapsulated in the new vision were shared by millions of South Africans who had voted for the ANC in 1994.
Boost for fight to keep Parliament

ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE battle to keep Parliament in Cape Town has been given a major boost by a surprise National Party decision to back the status quo.

After a protracted and often bitter contest between powerful pro-Pretoria and Cape Town lobbies in the party, the group favouring the legislature remaining in the city has finally gained the upper hand.

In the past few weeks NP negotiators in the deadlock-breaking committee of the Constitutional Assembly have reported that the party was unable to take a clear stand on the sensitive issue.

But the NP's chief negotiator and Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs, Koos Meyer, revealed at the weekend that the party had decided to support Cape Town.

The NP believed any change to the status quo should require the backing of two-thirds of parliamentarians in a free vote, said Meyer, one of the leading proponents in recent years for a Gauteng-based legislature.

The Democratic Party has proposed that Cape Town's status as legislative capital be entrenched in the new constitution, while the African Christian Democratic Party wants the status quo retained without the constitutional stipulation.

The ANC remains sharply divided but the pro-Cape Town lobby is confident of majority support if MPs are given a free vote.

At the moment, the draft of the final constitution merely states in clause 45 (3) that "The seat of the National Assembly is ..."

The NP's latest decision should bolster its prospects in the metropolitan election on May 29 and will increase pressure on the ANC to take a clear stand on the issue.

Dr David Bridgman of the Citizens Alliance for Parliament said CAP welcomed the statement.

"It is clear that the views of the people are being accepted."
Closer ties for SA, Algeria

ALGIERS: President Nelson Mandela's special envoy, Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad, said yesterday South Africa was planning to develop its relations with Algeria, including the opening of an embassy.

In a statement broadcast after a meeting here with President Liamine Zeroual, he said that he had come to deliver a special message to Zeroual from Mandela on the need to strengthen bilateral ties.

He added that Mandela's message also said SA was determined to do everything to support the democratic process in both countries and to condemn all forms of terrorism.
Phosa for centralised outlook

Ingrid Salgado

POLITICAL leaders needed to rethink channels via which the IFP could return to the Constitutional Assembly but should not entertain constitutional proposals that would allow provinces to rule in an "isolated enclave," Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa said in Durban last night.

If the ANC and IFP were satisfied with a constitutional model based on some form of asymmetry and that was the means by which the IFP would return to the constitution-making process, then "so be it," he said at a forum of Tribune magazine.

Phosa dismissed as "complete rubbish" the NP and IFP's attempts to categorise the ANC as proponents of a unitary state.

He criticised the interim constitution's "shortcoming" in not providing a mechanism for provincial cabinets, or at least all nine premiers, to discuss crucial issues of policy co-ordination with the national Cabinet. It was critical that provincial role-players were national players to ensure clear institutional links between the two levels of government. Premiers and a number of MECs should be allocated seats in the Senate or council of provinces, he said.

A centralised approach was needed if SA was committed to alleviating poverty, fighting literacy, raising education standards and improving productivity and investment. "It is shortsighted to say that you can divide the economy of Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal into rigid ... compartments." However, provinces should have concurrent powers with central government on water affairs and regional development co-operation. Mpumalanga had "gained enormously" from engaging with international provincial partners like Mozambique.
CLIVE SAWYER, Political Correspondent

WESTERN Cape Minister of Local Government, Peter Marais, is being tipped to replace former welfare minister Abe Williams in the national cabinet.

While President Mandela and Deputy President De Klerk met briefly yesterday for talks, their offices were reticent to comment today on how soon an announcement would be made.

Mr. De Klerk's office said the consultation process was continuing. It is reliably understood that Mr. Marais met Mr. De Klerk today.

Another possible successor to Mr. Williams is Conrad Sidego, the ambassador to Denmark.

While he is considering his response to a National Party approach about the cabinet post, he is known to be interested in a private sector position.

NP sources have indicated that Mr. De Klerk is likely to want to pick someone from the Western Cape to replace Mr. Williams to perpetuate the regional representation among Nats in the cabinet.

Another option would be to pick Northern Cape Provincial Minister Peggy Holander, who apart from having the cachet of being a woman is well thought of in the highest circles of the party.

Mr. De Klerk emphasised at the weekend that steps were to be taken to ensure the line-up of NP national and provincial ministers was representative of the party's constituencies.

Western Cape housing MEC Gerald Morkel, named in earlier speculation about the cabinet post, is understood to have turned down the offer.

Another provincial minister, who could be appointed is police MEC Bick Ack McKenzie.

If Mr. De Klerk asks Mr. Mandela to appoint one of the Western Cape ministers to the national executive, further talks will have to be held with Premier Hennie Kriel on possible changes to the provincial cabinet.
Sidego, Marais in line to replace Williams

TOP CONTENDERS FOR Abe Williams' job seem to be retiring ambassador to Denmark Conrad Sidego and Western Cape MEC Peter Marais. CHRIS BATEMAN reports.

SOUTH AFRICA'S ambassador to Denmark and former journalist Mr Conrad Sidego was being widely tipped by National Party sources yesterday as the successor to former Welfare and Population Development Minister Abe Williams.

Another strong contender, however, is the Western Cape MEC for Local Government, Peter Marais.

Interviewed last night on the eve of his return to Copenhagen to complete the final month of his ambassadorship contract, Sidego confirmed an 'informal' approach by NP members, but said his first choice remained the private sector.

'I'm surprised they thought of me — I'm not a political animal but it would be very challenging and one of the areas where we could and should make a big difference in South Africa, especially in the RDP.'

Williams resigned last week after his homes were raided by investigators from the Office for Serious Economic Offences in connection with allegations of pension money fraud and the controversial awarding of a tender to Nisec for welfare and pension payments.

He has denied any wrongdoing.

Yesterday President Mandela and Deputy President F W de Klerk met for half-an-hour, but neither would say whether anyone had been agreed upon as Williams' successor.

Most NP sources agreed that the replacement would have to be coloured and a Capetonian to maintain party credibility in advance of the May 29 elections.

Sidego accompanied Danish Queen Margrethe II on a tour of South Africa last week.

He said he was 'considering' the NP approach, along with several 'well-advanced' private sector offers.

Marais yesterday wrapped up the legal responsibilities in preparing for the May 29 elections by signing the proclamations on rural councils and wards and the number of councillors.

With backing from Premier Hernus Kriel and Western Cape Leader of the House Gerald Moseloi, Marais is the most senior Western Cape coloured contender.

Other top contenders are Police MEC Patrick McKenzie, Northern Cape MEC Peggy Hollander, and MP and former Deputy Justice Minister Sheila Camerer.
Chiefs back draft constitution

OWN CORRESPONDENT

DURBAN: The KwaZulu-Natal House of Traditional Leaders has given its support to the draft constitution but suggested that all the Zulu king's actions should be countersigned by the premier to validate them.

In terms of the interim constitution, any proposed legislation that has a bearing on traditional communities should be referred to the House of Traditional Leaders for comment and suggestions.

The house, chaired by JRP president and Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, discussed the draft constitution on Friday.

The suggestion that the king’s actions should be countersigned includes a paragraph saying that the “person of the monarch is inviolable and is not subject to responsibility and accountability”.

Another suggestion is that indigenous and customary laws should not be modified or repealed by ordinary national or provincial law.

CT 27/2/96
New US envoy hails good ties

BY NORMAN CHANDLER

Previa Bureau

Mon 28/2/96

The US's new ambassador to South Africa, James A Joseph, says expanding ties between the US and SA are based on four areas of natural ties and common commitment. Presenting his credentials to President Nelson Mandela yesterday, Joseph said US President Bill Clinton was elated by the close relationship.

Joseph said shared values were a common commitment to the principles of human rights, a free and open economy, and a peaceful resolution of conflicts, while shared political interests facilitated peace and stability in the region as well as internationally.

"As the only country to have developed, then destroyed, a nuclear weapons capacity, South Africa has gained a very special moral standing among the nations of the world," he added.

A third area of common ground related to shared economic interests, and he said the US had a $4-billion (about R16-billion) trade relationship with SA.

The fourth common area of co-operation was sharing civic culture, which had flourished "even in" the worst days of apartheid.

He added: "If a functioning, nonracial democracy can finally prevail in SA, it will give new hope to many around the world who are eager to demonstrate that diversity need not divide, that the fear of difference is a fear of the future, and that inclusiveness rightly understood and rightly practised is a benefit and not a burden."
md for 10th Province Shocks ANC

Assimilation: this is a recipe for conflict - Freedom Fronts Condemn Viljoen

Prevention is that the Afrikaner minority can be forced into the melting pot of

Demands
assimilation, this is a recipe for conflict – Freedom Fronts, Constant Vigil

Perception is that the African majority can be forced into the melting pot of

10th Province Shocks ANC
Afrikaner demand for province angers ANC

David Greybe  

CAPE TOWN — A demand yesterday by the Volksraat Council — against ANC expectations — that the new constitution provide for a tenth province for white Afrikaners has infuriated the ANC.

ANC senior negotiators, speaking after council members had addressed the Constitutional Assembly deadlock-breaking committee, vowed never to agree to the demand for a separate white Afrikaner constitutional entity.

Council members said the most favoured area for the proposed province was the Pretoria area "where the Afrikaner forms a majority and has historically enjoyed self-determination and freedom".

Its size, according to council chairman Johann Wingard, would depend on "how big you (other parties in the assembly) are prepared to go".

Angry ANC negotiators maintained council members had indicated in private talks last Wednesday that they had dropped their demand for an Afrikaner homeland in favour of so-called "cultural councils" to protect their interests.

At no stage did the council or Freedom Front, in separate negotiations, raise the possibility of a tenth province, they said.

The negotiators admitted they were caught by surprise, but accused the council of "bad faith negotiations".

The ANC said later it was "shocked and disappointed" by the latest development. It was a great pity the council had chosen to advocate an apartheid style separate province "during a period in which consistent progress is being made in promoting a new national pride and identity".

NP negotiator Andries Beyer rejected the demand for territorial self-determination as "impractical".

DP chief negotiator Colin Eglin said: "There is a fundamental difference between recognising and managing cultural diversity as opposed to creating a territorial constitutional entity, as proposed by the council."

The council said self-determination in a tenth province "can be realised only if the province is endowed with demarcated and exclusive legislative, executive and judicial powers with which Parliament cannot interfere".

It demanded exclusive powers in education, health, welfare, agriculture, police and other departments.
Fernwood due for debate

THE public may soon be able to make proposals about the future of the beautiful, but expensive Fernwood Club for parliamentarians in Newlands.

On March 5 Sipho Shezi the director-general of Public Works, other senior officials from the department and possibly the minister of public works Jeff Radebe, will brief the parliamentary committee on public works about the future of Fernwood.

Mr Shezi said the government could not afford the upkeep of the 17ha Fernwood Club while struggling to maintain institutions that are higher up on the scale of the government’s priorities.

Maintenance of the main house, five tennis courts, two bowling greens, cricket ground, swimming pool, large braai area and extensive gardens consume between R500 000 and R750 000 of taxpayers money every year.

Options mooted previously range from selling the property outright or leasing it to the public for social events to reduce running costs and to ensure the better use of the club’s facilities.

African National Congress MP Brian Bunting, a South African Communist Party member, has even suggested the site be used for working-class housing – a suggestion not likely to be looked upon with great enthusiasm by some residents of the upmarket area.

However, not all MPs may take kindly to losing the use of the parliamentary social club in the leastest part of Newlands, below the mountain.

In the apartheid days, Fernwood provided MPs with a leisurely venue for functions such as Sunday braais, tennis and cricket matches.

But, ANC parliamentarians have also learnt to enjoy the venue in their own way:

Neighbours complained about the loud noise from the music blasting out of the club during a party held a fortnight ago.

The property is owned by the Department of Public Works, which acquired the first of the Fernwood estates 15 portions in 1935.
Constitution must include Volksraad.

SOUTH AFRICA'S final constitution should provide for a 10th province, for Afrikaners, the Volkstaat Council proposed to the Constitutional Assembly (CA) yesterday. Its powers should be those of a constituent state in a normal federation, the council said in a submission tabled at the CA's streamlining negotiating committee.

The council, formed under the Interim Constitution to report on measures to effect self-determination, said these powers should preserve a people's identity and culture. Council spokesmen said support for its proposal had been proven by the fact that 640,000 people had voted for parties supporting this philosophy in the 1994 election.

CA chairman Mr Cyril Ramaphosa ruled that the council should appear before the committee possibly on March 15. — Sapa
Only Details Disputed

All parties favour ethics code

All Parties Agree there should be a parliamentary code of ethics, but differ about how much of members' personal affairs should be disclosed. Barry Streek reports.

Proposals for a strict code of ethics for parliamentarians were released yesterday - but the parties don't agree about some of its key clauses.

While they agree on the need for a code of conduct, crucial differences must still be resolved.

The responsible sub-committee, chaired by Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal, said MPs would have to disclose the nature of their shareholdings, but there were differences about whether the number and nominal value of shares should be disclosed.

The parties agreed that directorships and commercial partnerships should be disclosed, but differed about the extent of disclosure.

They also agreed that foreign visits should be regarded as benefits in kind, but the National Party was opposed to disclosure in the case of a foreign visit funded by a member's party.

It was proposed that information on land and property assets, including leases and existing bonds, be disclosed without revealing exact addresses and the names of banks holding bonds.

But the NP, Democratic Party, Freedom Front and African Christian Democratic Party felt only property providing income should be disclosed, and that residential and vacation homes need not be.

They agreed that all parliamentarians should be covered by the proposed register, but the NP, DP and FF felt spouses, permanent companions and dependent children should be excluded.

Instead they felt the rules should prohibit using a spouse, permanent companion or dependent child to divert interests and forestall disclosure.

The sub-committee proposed that any outside employment by MPs should be disclosed, although the actual remuneration need not. MPs could not be paid for lobbying or representing a particular interest group in Parliament, but members involved in consultancies or retainers should disclose that interest as well as benefits in cash or kind derived from them.

Sponsorships and assistance from non-party sources, gifts in excess of R50 and material benefits will have to be disclosed.

"Receipt of a private or publicly funded pension should be disclosed, but not the actual amount."

The PAC, however, felt the amount of all publicly funded pensions should be disclosed.

The sub-committee said the information members were required to disclose "must as far as possible be contained in a register of members' interests which will be accessible to the public."

It also said the Inkatha Freedom Party did not favour disclosure in a register, but proposed that members should publicly declare any personal pecuniary interest in a matter before Parliament.
Ambassador refuses to fill Williams' post.

Outgoing South African ambassador to Denmark, Conrad Sidego, was asked to consider — but turned down — an offer to take over the welfare and population development portfolio left vacant by the resignation of NP cabinet minister Abe Williams.

In a telephone interview from Copenhagen, Sidego told The Star the request had been made by "senior NP officials" while he was in SA with Danish Queen Margrethe II on an official visit.

"I felt flattered that people thought I could take over from Williams. It would be a challenging thing to do, given the central role that welfare plays in the RDP, but I decided to stick to a decision I took some time ago to go back to the private sector.

Sidego's four-year stint as ambassador ends tomorrow.

Sources told The Star that NP leader, F.W. de Klerk's office had been inundated with communication from welfare organisations and experts pleading that an expert in the welfare and population development field be considered to replace Williams.

/star 29/1/96
In the year ahead, Mandela they will do have promised
What the Ministers

OPEN

House
Parties agree in private
talks to replace Senate

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Parties in the Constitutional Assembly had agreed in private talks to replace the Senate with a powerful provincial house of parliament, senior negotiators said yesterday.

One negotiator said: "What is being resolved are largely the operational details of the (proposed) national council of provinces and some aspects of its functions."

Negotiators were still discussing the composition of provincial delegations, and whether they would vote "en bloc" or along party lines.

Parties also had to decide whether to allow for local government representation on the council, in line with an ANC proposal to treat local government as a separate government tier in the new constitution.

Only a week ago the ANC and NP were at loggerheads over an NP document which the ANC claimed undid weeks of progress in private talks on the issue of the senate.

The proposal for a provincial council was originally tabled by the ANC, and was based on the German model. The council would, according to the third draft proposal, have strong blocking powers to safeguard provincial interests.

Technical experts are now working on a fourth draft, to be discussed in a new round of private talks scheduled for this weekend.

The council, according to the draft, "shall have the powers to review legislation regarding national competencies, and to initiate, amend or reject national legislation in respect of functional areas in which the provinces have concurrent legislative and executive authority". A two-thirds majority in the council would be required for "any constitutional amendment" that have an impact on provincial powers and functions.

An ANC negotiator indicated the ANC would back an NP proposal for a 90-member council — 10 from each province — to ensure smaller party representation. Five would be permanent and five chosen on a "floating or rotational" basis. The ANC originally proposed six a province.

A DP proposal that council members vote on an individual basis on matters pertaining to national competencies had also found favour with the ANC. But the ANC was insistent delegations vote "en bloc" on provincial matters.
Yengeni causes stir with ‘white theft’ claims

Cape Town — ANC MP Tony Yengeni claimed in the National Assembly yesterday that whites gained their wealth by theft, sparking an extended bout of accusations and counter accusations — and some humour.

Opposition MPs thought Yengeni had called DP leader Tony Leon “a thief” during a debate on racial quotas in the workplace. DP MP Kobus Jordaan asked Yengeni to clarify and withdraw his comment. Yengeni said he had in fact commented that whites in general had stolen their wealth from the majority of South Africans.

Asking by Deputy Speaker Blaize Ranchod whether this implied whites were thieves, Yengeni said he could not withdraw his general belief but he withdrew any implication against any specific MP. Ranchod accepted this withdrawal, but was later asked by Leon to reconsider his ruling because it contradicted earlier rulings that racist statements made in Parliament were unacceptable.

Leon said the comment was a “vulgar racist generalisation” which opened the way for racial slanging matches across the floor of Parliament.

Ranchod acceded to the request. NP MP Frisk van Deventer said if whites were considered thieves, it would have to be decided if they had the right to sit in Parliament.

Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen said later that he would raise the issue with the ANC because it exposed “nakedly racist hatred” which contradicted the “new patriotism”.

In the following debate on whether Russia would invite SA to nominate a candidate for a space flight, IFP MP Koos van der Merwe suggested Yengeni’s name be put forward. Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said the only candidate being considered was a certain K van der Merwe. This lightened the tone of a fractious debate.
point and decided to shoot the messenger. It accused Idasa of failing to build and consolidate "our fledgling democracy."

ANC MPs Carl Niehaus, Baleka Kgositisele and senator Bulelani Ngcuka responded by giving journalists a tongue-lashing for portraying MPs as dishonest through "racist" and "sensationalist" reporting, particularly over the issue of MPs' salaries.

The ANC is understandably rankled as it has pushed for a code of ethics more inclusive and binding than the other main parties would prefer.

All parties agree on the need for a code of ethics but they differ over the extent of disclosure. The debate comes down to the relative importance of members' right to privacy versus the public's right to know.

Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal, chairman of the subcommittee which has drafted a code of ethics, says the creation of a new open, transparent and accountable SA in which corruption cannot easily take root requires elected leaders to ensure that their integrity and that of their institution is beyond question.

The draft code proposes that all politicians record their interests in a computerised register that is open to the public and updated every six months. All MPs and senators must disclose shareholdings, outside employment, directorships, commercial partnerships, consultancies, gifts in excess of R350, hospitality, benefits, pensions, land and property assets.

Ordinary members' spouses, permanent companions and dependent children must also disclose their interests. The NP, DP and the FF disagree with this recommendation.

DP MP Douglas Gibson says only those interests which could create a potential conflict should be disclosed, not inconsequential details of personal finance. Furthermore, if the intention is to prevent a member from diverting interests to a trusted relation, then siblings and parents should also be included.

The majority of Idasa's respondents (57%) favour full financial disclosure but are divided over the disclosure of family income.

The NP, DP, FF and ACDP say only property providing a source of income should be disclosed, while the ANC and PAC want detailed disclosure of all land and property holdings, including all leases and holiday homes.

Parties also have conflicting views over whether the number and nominal value of shares held should be disclosed or just the fact of the shareholding.

Because of the urgency, committee members feel the code should be regulated initially by parliamentary rules despite the danger that members could postpone the receipt of kickbacks until they have left parliament. This would be prevented if the code was made law.

Legislation could also cast the ethical net wider to include serving and non-serving MPs as well as public officials, heads of public corporations and members of provincial legislatures. The Joint Rules Committee has postponed a final decision for three weeks to give ANC MPs more time to deliberate.
SUPPORT MOTIVATED BY FEARS

More Pretoria whites now want Volkstaat

JOHANNESBURG: A survey conducted for the Volkstaat Council has shown that white support for the Volkstaat concept has increased in the Pretoria area since 1993.

Up to 60% of white residents of Pretoria and its surroundings would support the establishment of an Afrikaner Volkstaat in the area if a referendum were held today, according to a survey released by the Volkstaat Council yesterday.

The area has been identified by the council as the core region of the proposed Afrikaner homeland.

The survey was conducted by research firm Opdatum Opnames and analysed by former Human Sciences Research Council director Dr Lawrence Schlemmer, who was contracted by the Department of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, to which the council reports.

Schlemmer said the support for the concept of an Afrikaner homeland was motivated by concerns and dissatisfaction among Afrikanners about crime, personal security, employment prospects, affirmative action and educational standards.

In his summary of the report, Schlemmer said between 55% and 60% of the "rate-paying and tenant population" of the traditionally white Pretoria area would support the establishment of a Volkstaat in the region.

There would be between 40% and 50% support among non-Afrikaners for this idea and between 60% and 65% of Afrikaners would support the concept.

Only between 7% and 16% of the people in the area said they would oppose the idea.

The survey also found 30% to 40% of the people in the area would be "prepared to make sacrifices" to live in a Volkstaat.

The fact that it would be central in a major metropolitan area played a role in this willingness to sacrifice, Schlemmer said support for a Volkstaat had increased since the last survey on the subject was done in 1993, and he predicted that the support would increase further if the economic upturn were to subsidise and Afrikaner concerns about education policy grew.

In his reaction, council chairman Johann Wingoard said the survey concurred with the council's view that self-determination and a Volkstaat should be part of the South African solution.

Mr Kevin Kavanagh, of the Citizen's Alliance for Parliament (CAP), said the survey was "like a kiss of death" for the Pretoria campaign to take parliament away from Cape Town.

Councillor Clive Keegan said Pretoria remained a hotbed of reactionary racism and had lost all morally legitimate claim to become the seat of the new republic's legislative capital.

● The Volkstaat Council will host an international conference on self-determination in Somerset West next week.

It will cover aspects of the self-determination debate. Foreign delegates will include activists and self-determination experts from Germany, Switzerland, Ethiopia, Palestine and Germany. — Special Correspondent
Corruption an apartheid legacy

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela said yesterday a national commission would be launched soon to stamp out an "apartheid legacy" of corruption.

"From recent and current investigations it would appear that wide-spread corruption — endemic in the apartheid-era — has continued to plague our society. This cannot, must not and will not be tolerated," he said in a written response to a senate question.

"It is of the utmost importance that corruption at every level should be publicly identified as soon as possible and eradicated swiftly and efficiently," he added.

"Plans to set up a national commission against corruption are well advanced ... hopefully it will be very soon."

Mandela's legal adviser, Mr Nicholas Haysom, said discussions were under way on terms of reference for the probe, which would concentrate on corruption under apartheid rule.

"It could be running within the next month or two," he said. Mandela initially announced his plan for a nationwide probe into corruption last October. — Reuters
UP to 60 percent of white residents of Pretoria and its surrounding areas would support the establishment of an Afrikaner Volkstaat in the area if a referendum were held today, according to a survey released by the Volkstaat Council (VC).

The area has been identified by the VC as the core region of the proposed Afrikaner homeland whose feasibility and location it is researching.

The survey was analysed by former Human Sciences Research Council director Lawrence Schlemmer, who said the support was motivated by concerns and dissatisfaction among Afrikaners about crime, personal security, employment prospects, affirmative action and educational standards. — Sapa.
‘Volkstaat feasible in Pretoria’

Survey indicates majority of white residents approve of concept

BY MONDLI MACHARVIA
Political Reporter

U p to 60% of white residents of Pretoria and its surrounding areas would support the establishment of an Afrikaner volkstaat in the area if a referendum were held now, according to a survey released by the Volksraad Council (VC) yesterday.

The area has been identified by the VC as the core region of the proposed Afrikaner homeland, whose feasibility and location the council is researching.

The survey was conducted by research firm Opdatum Opnames and analysed by former Human Sciences Research Council director Lawrence Schlemmer, who was contracted by the Department of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, to which the VC reports.

Schlemmer said support for the concept of an Afrikaner homeland was motivated by concerns and dissatisfaction among Afrikaners about crime, personal security, employment prospects, affirmative action and educational standards.

In his summary of the report, Schlemmer reported that between 55 and 60% of the “rate-paying and tenant population” of the traditionally white Pretoria area would support the establishment of a volkstaat in the region.

Among Afrikaners, between 60 and 65% would support the concept while between 40 and 50% of non-Afrikaners would support the idea. Only between 7 and 16% of the people in the area would oppose it.

Concern about crime, security, employment a motivating force

The survey also found that 30 to 40% of the people in the area would be “prepared to make sacrifices” to live in the proposed volkstaat, with the fact that it would be centred around a major metropolitan area playing a role in this willingness to sacrifice.

Schlemmer said support for a volkstaat had increased since the previous survey on the subject was conducted in 1993, and he predicted that support would increase further if the economic upturn subsided and Afrikaner concerns about education policy grew.

In his reaction, VC chairman Johann Wingeard said the survey concurred with the council’s view that self-determination and a volkstaat should be part of the South African solution.

He said it was now time to exercise principle 34 of the interim constitution, which states that a constitutional provision will be made for a volkstaat if there were proven support for it.

“South Africa is on a highway with the negotiations and writing of its final constitution. This is now the ideal time to give constitutional form to principle 34, seeing that the proven support has now been shown,” he said.

The VC will next week host an international conference on self-determination in Somerset West, near Cape Town.

The conference will cover various aspects of the self-determination debate and will include the political, legal and practical justification for this.

Foreign delegates will include minority activists and self-determination experts from Germany, Switzerland, Ethiopia and Palestine.
MICHAEL MORRIS
Staff Reporter

PRETORIA'S bid for parliament has been given a "kiss of death" by a Volkstaat Council survey showing that more than half of the city's whites want it to be the capital of a future volkstaat.

This "is the final nail in Pretoria's coffin," said Citizens' Alliance for Parliament (CAP) executive director Kallie Hanekom, pointing to confirmation of the validity of the survey by one of the country's foremost researchers of public opinion, Lawrence Schlemmer.

"We always thought Pretoria was closer to Potgietersrus when it came to its true self," said Mr Hanekom.

"The expensive advertising campaign to support their parliamentary aspirations was always a great scam," he said.

As lobbyists intensified their efforts in the capital-battle, Mr Hanekom predicted the African National Congress caucus now would have "little option, but to come out in support of Cape Town".

The National Party caucus formally backed the status quo last weekend, aligning themselves with the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party.

Mr Hanekom said: "As an Afrikaner myself, I cannot see how Pretoria, which aspires to be the 'spiritual home', national symbol and a source of security and protection for Afrikaners and descendants of the 17th-century Dutch and French settlers, can be the seat of the new South African 'rainbow' parliament."

Clive Keegan, co-chairman of the Cape Town City Council's executive committee, said Pretoria had shown itself still to be "the apartheid capital" of South Africa.

"Pretoria clearly remains a hotbed of reactionary racism — the "Deep South" of South Africa — and has lost any legitimate claim to be the seat of the new Republic's parliament.

"Like Potgietersrus, Pretoria has at last shown its true colours, and they can write off the millions of rand they wasted on cynical TV advertising campaigns to persuade us that they had changed. Ironically, in recent times, they have taken great delight at pointing to the liberal Cape as being historically unsuitable."

Cape Town's belief in maintaining the status quo had, once again, been vindicated, "not so much by our unassailable arguments, but by Pretoria's proven appropriation as a symbol of reconciliation and nation building."

Mr Keegan said it was remarkable that the ANC now stood alone on this issue.

"The survey surely must make them take the plunge and put to bed any thoughts on moving parliament."
DP to probe ministers on overseas travelling

MICHAEL MORRIS
2/3/96

EVERY member of Nelson Mandela's cabinet will be grilled in the weeks to come on details of their overseas travel last year — the purpose of the trips, who accompanied them and how much it all cost.

This information is being brought into the open through a series of questions to ministers by Democratic Party MPs and senators.

They are concerned that not all overseas travel by ministers and their aides is politically justifiable. So far, four questions for written replies have been tabled — focusing on overseas travel last year by Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting P全日制 Jordan, Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism Dawie de Villiers, Minister of Agriculture Kraai van der Merwe and Minister of Transport Mac Mahare.

The typical question format is: “How many days did he and/or his deputy minister spend outside the borders of the Republic, what was the purpose, destination and duration and costs of each visit, and who accompanied him and/or his deputy minister in each case?”

Increased contact with the international community is a natural and welcome consequence of South Africa's democratic transition, says DP senator James Selby, but globe-trotting ministers need to be reminded that they are spending taxpayers' money and should assess usefulness of trips more carefully.

Spending on such trips, which is governed by ministerial rules — done under the scrutiny of the auditor-general and parliament's public accounts committee, and gross wastage or irregularities would come to light in this process.

But Mr Selby points out that the ongoing workload of the committee often does not leave time for probing questions on the political accountability of or justification for ministerial travel, or just getting more details on who went on the trips, why and at what cost.

“The purpose of the questions is to determine whether taxpayers' money is being appropriately spent in terms of priorities South Africans have articulated,” he told SATURDAY Argus.

“A lot is being spent on travel and it comes on top of a great deal of money spent on specialized advisory services — formal advisors attached to various ministries as well as delegations and groups of people who come to South Africa to give us the benefit of their wisdom.”

There are many urgent things that need to happen right now, and if you look across the spectrum of government activity, there’s a huge amount of activity in flying around, attending conferences, compelling — and there’s very little action.”

The DP is determined to convey to ministers that “there’s no such thing as ‘their money’ ... it’s taxpayers money”. Mr Selby acknowledged this: “Some overseas travel is extremely valuable.”

“It allows immediate access to information and experience that other countries have had on subjects we are only just getting to grips with, things such as the ethics of IMF or civilian control of the intelligence system.”

“Clearly, if you want to get a good system of parliamentary control over government, it is necessary to tag the experience of other countries which have grappled with these issues for a long time.

“Also, you have to look at each trip, each conference, each advice, each process of consultation and ask: Is this justifiable against the cost to the taxpayer?

“Some clearly will be, and some clearly will not be.

“We will be looking critically at what sort of staff accompany the minister in each case and whether this is justifiable.”

Obviously, there was a greater necessity for some ministers to travel more than there was for others.

Obviously Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel and Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo needed to travel more.

“If there was a particularly alarming reply, that could become the subject of an oral follow-up or in interpellation (mini-debate),” he said.
Michael Morris

All eyes on us...

Friendship Focus

South Africa's pursuit of friendly relations with countries like Cuba and Libya is being closely watched. As well as with Panama, the East Germans.

Michael Morris

2/3/1968

(30th)
winter of discontent
The Bosnian ministers

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Bid to expose Nat secrets

By CYRIL MADLALA

DRAFT legislation that will bar South Africa’s security organisations from destroying sensitive information was tabled before a parliamentary portfolio committee this week.

The National Archives of South Africa Bill will also shorten the waiting period before the public can have access to state secrets locked up in government archives.

The Bill provides for archival records to be made available to the public after 20 years. Now the law only allows this after 30 years.

The Sunday Times revealed last year that Deputy President F W de Klerk had tried in vain during his last days as president in 1994 to keep the government’s cabinet minutes under wraps for an additional 10 years.

The documents cover the years of P W Botha’s rule from 1978 to 1989 as well as Mr de Klerk’s rule up to 1994.

Dr Ben Ngubane, the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, will brief the committee on Tuesday on the Bill.

It provides for the establishment of national archives that will ensure the proper management and care of all government records, including electronic ones.

A recording of the conversation between Mr Botha and President Nelson Mandela while the latter was in prison was destroyed as it was not regarded as being an item for the archives.

Under the proposed law this will not be possible.

The national archivist will keep a register of public records in the country which are of national significance. It will be an offence to destroy any records without the approval of the authorities.

Draft legislation to secure the prompt return of abducted children to their countries also reached a parliamentary portfolio committee this week.

The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction Bill will oblige South Africa to co-operate with other countries to combat the illegal transfer and failure to return children.

South Africa’s accession to the Hague Convention fulfills one of the country’s obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The South African Law Commission has recommended that South Africa should accede to the Hague Convention, and that a chief family advocate should act as a central authority, as required by the convention.

The advocate will liaise with authorities in other countries when a claim has been lodged that a child under the age of 16 has been abducted, and his or her return is being sought.

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NP meeting poorly attended

CHRIS BATEMAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT WRITER

THE National Party's Tygerberg strongmen tentatively courted voters in their new bed-fellow suburb of Khayelitsha at the weekend - without incident - at a meeting attended by about 200 at the Nolungile Primary School in Site C.

Chairman of the NP's Tygerberg sub-structure strategic committee Mr Pieter van Deventer said that, while poorly attended, there had been no heckling or intimidation of the two dozen NP members.

Asked if any of the party, many of whom were entering the township for the first time, went armed, he replied: "There was not a single weapon, not even a pocket knife among us."

Van Deventer said his party was "realistic" about its limited capacity to win any of the 22 wards in Khayelitsha, but added that three positions were set aside for the township in the top 13 listed candidates, thus ensuring NP representation.

He said of his former opposition to including Khayelitsha in the Tygerberg sub-structure on economic grounds: "When the court backed the Demarcation Board, I told people we don't question the courts and promised a meeting in Khayelitsha within one month - and this was it."

Van Deventer put the poor attendance down to "the end of the month, and a big stokvel".

CT 4/3/96
STEVEN FREEMAN

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JACOBZ JOINS EXODUS

Leading Nat MP to quit Parliament

THE NATIONAL PARTY is to lose its sixth MP this year at the end of this month, reports Political Writer BARRY STREEK.

Another senior Nationalist, Dr Francois Jacobz, announced yesterday that he will resign from Parliament at the end of this month to concentrate on his business interests.

Jacobz, 70, is also chairperson of the audit commission.

He quit as the National Party's finance spokesperson last year. His contribution to parliamentary finance committees is respected by all political parties.

The party's Western Cape leader, Dr Dawie de Villiers, said Jacobz had made valuable contributions to a number of committees and commissions and as a business leader he had brought special expertise to the party and to Parliament.

De Villiers said he understood personal reasons had led to Jacobz's resignation.

Jacobz, who was a member of the President's Council for 15 years and was elected MP for Helderberg in 1989 to replace former Constitutional Development Minister Chris Heunis, said he would now concentrate on international trade in commodities mined and refined by companies in which he has major interests. He had discussed his resignation with party leader Deputy President F W de Klerk, and with De Villiers, he said.

Last week former Deputy Defence Minister Wynand Breytenbach announced his retirement for medical reasons.

This followed decisions by the deputy chairperson of the constitutional assembly, Mr Leon Wessels, the Deputy Speaker of the national assembly, Dr Bhadrin Ranchod, and the Deputy Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Tobie Meyer, to retire, and the resignation of Mr Abe Williams from the cabinet after raids by the office for serious economic offences on his Cape Town and Pretoria homes and offices.

The NP's chief whip in the Western Cape legislature and former MP, Mr Adriaan Jordaan, resigned from the provincial legislature after admitting he had leaked an internal party document to the press.
Job creation a part of IFP’s manifesto

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The IFP election manifesto for KwaZulu-Natal advocates the formation of a business commission to spearhead job creation at local level, and proposes that state land be hived off to the private sector.

The manifesto proposes forming crime commissions to combat criminal activity, and the extension of the SAPS reserve system “to check on local authority volunteer reserve systems”.

The manifesto also commits the IFP to a referendum on whether the death penalty should be reintroduced.

The eight-page manifesto, sent to IFP branches, has not been officially unveiled to the public. The IFP is expected to launch its campaign for the May 29 election in the next few weeks.

The manifesto states local authorities would take the initiative to create opportunities for disadvantaged communities with business plans aimed at boosting local economic activity, and by reducing “unnecessary red tape which inhibits business activity”.

The business commission would encourage the “structured” development of tourism to create employment without “adversely impacting on” the environment; secure sites for small businesses at low or deferred charges; implement preferential rating systems for vocational and educational institutions; and identify areas where deregulation would increase efficiency.

The manifesto refers to a single business commission, but the IFP is believed to envisage a commission for each of eight regional councils. In the case of the crime commissions, the manifesto states they would be established in every local authority to monitor and report on criminal activity in a co-ordinated and comprehensive manner, and to produce effective programs to combat crime.

Other proposals on crime are harsher sentences; stricter bail conditions; police salaries to be commensurate with responsibility and value of the profession; and removal of officers from desk work to do “active” policing.

The manifesto says that local government has a role to play in resolving historical disparities in land distribution and in maximising the use of available land. Local authorities should be bound “to provide formal justification for any land vacant. If a satisfactory explanation is not provided, the land should be offered to the private sector”.

“Massive potential can be unlocked by harnessing currently redundant or unproductive land held by the state or its agents,” the manifesto says.

However, IFP-controlled local authorities would “resist attempts by central government to nationalise community-owned land” as the IFP believes “development of this land must be vested in communities themselves”.

Traditional leaders’ council law rejected

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Legislation was tabled in Parliament yesterday to circumvent difficulties in the creation of a national council of traditional leaders.

The legislation was rejected by the IFP, mainly because it would prohibit council members from sitting in regional and national parliaments.

The creation of the council is provided for in the constitution, but the legislation has been delayed because the formation of regional councils has been stalled in some provinces by infighting among traditional leaders. Legislation requires that all regional bodies have to be established before a national body can be formed. Council members are elected by an electoral college drawn from the regional houses.

The Council of Traditional Leaders Bill circumvents this problem by providing that each house nominate three members to sit on the national body.

IFP MP Walter Felgate said the proposals on council members serving as MPs or members of any provincial legislature were one reason for his party’s opposition. The provision would, for example, exclude Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi from the council.

Felgate said discussions aimed at formulating rules for the working of the council have stagnated last year. The rules had been endorsed by the parliamentary constitutional affairs committee.

But the legislation contradicted several agreements, including an agreement that members of the council did not have to belong to regional houses. The legislation included other clauses not previously agreed, Felgate said.
Heistiant Mandela gives no
Constitutional deadlock as parties clash on 3 issues

Property clause, death penalty and strikes are the key

Some agreements were reached during a meeting yesterday of the constitutional committee sub-committee designed to break deadlocks.

A source of contention was the phrasing of a clause barring "unfair discrimination" against any one, on the basis of race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age or other criteria.

At issue was whether the words "nor any person" should be included in the bar on such discrimination, effectively making "private" discrimination unconstitutional.

The African National Congress believes such a bar, included in the bill of rights, should apply to all sectors.

The Democratic Party is to consider a compromise on its opposition to the inclusion of a constitutional bar on hate speech, although negotiator Dene Smuts warned that the party might dig in its heels.

In an apparent reference to an alleged remark by ANC MP Tony Yengeni, she said her party would passionately uphold Mr Yengeni's right to freedom of expression.

Sheila Camerer of the National Party said her party favoured a general limitation clause in the constitution, rather than the proposed one specifying which areas should be excluded.

In the discussion on the clause protecting privacy, the ANC said the proposed bar against people or homes being searched, possessions being seized and communications infringed should have as its test whether such action was arbitrary or not.
Relations with US said to be stable

Wyndham Hartley 60 6/3 1996

CAPE TOWN — SA’s relations with Cuba and Libya posed no threat to US relations, Foreign Affairs deputy director-general Tshogo Mafolo said yesterday.

Briefing the Senate foreign affairs committee, Mafolo said the US and SA had agreed to treat the relationship with Cuba and Libya as points of difference that will not “rupture our relations”.

He said the popular perception that US-SA relations were on the verge of collapsing as a result of Cuba and Libya were incorrect. There were more points of agreement with the US than differences, he said. Mafolo said there was a great deal of “Afro-pessimism” and it was up to SA to get beyond it by providing sound returns on investments.

Asked about the situation in Nigeria, his colleague from the Africa desk, Anthony Mongalo, said that SA was following a dual strategy based on re-establishing democracy in Nigeria and “constructive engagement” on human rights abuses. Mongalo said that the recently returned SA high commissioner to Nigeria had held talks with Nigeria’s foreign ministry yesterday.

This was part of SA’s approach of using its access to Nigerian military leader Sani Abacha to keep up the pressure for the release of political prisoners.
Constitutionality of Bill to be tested for first time

Susan Russell

The constitutionality of a parliamentary Bill will be tested for the first time when minority parties challenge the validity of proposed new legislation setting out national education policy in the Constitutional Court today.

At issue are provisions of the National Education Policy Bill which the DP, IFP and NP contend violate the provinces' constitutional right to legislative and executive autonomy.

The parties claim the Bill, if enacted, will unconstitutionally compel unwilling provinces to implement Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's policy.

Bengu is opposing today's application. Written submissions already put before the court on Bengu's behalf argue that the minority parties' objections are misconceived.

The government submits that the Bill specifically requires any national policy to be determined subject to the constitution generally and that ultimate decisions relating to education policy issues vest in Parliament and not the Minister.

It is also submitted that enforcement of education policy on unwilling provinces is neither dictated by the Bill nor an inevitable consequence of the minister's policy-making powers.

According to government the Bill also envisages substantial constraints on the ministerial power to make policy and recognises the importance of broad participation by all those with an interest in education matters.

Government in its written argument also rejected as "misconceived" the IFPs contention that the minister's powers are confined by the Bill amount "to an impermissible delegation by Parliament of legislative functions to a minister".

The NP has also submitted written argument in which it contends that the Bill permits the minister to usurp the executive powers of the provinces.

According to the DP the disputed provisions of the Bill oblige provincial governments to implement the minister's national education policy.

If the court found that this was not the case however and that the provinces were free to ignore the policy, the DP said its constitutional objections to the Bill would fall away.
ANC and NP agree on 'co-operative governance'

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The ANC and NP have agreed that the German constitutional principle of "co-operative governance" between national, provincial and local levels of government will underpin the constitution.

The DP said after the ANC and NP announcement in the Constitutional Assembly deadlock-breaking committee yesterday it was prepared to support the principle as long as it did not result in "dictation from the centre".

Central to the principle of co-operative governance will be a powerful provincial house in Parliament — to be known as the national council of provinces — to replace the Senate.

The ANC, NP and DP gave their backing to the concept but must still hammer out some of the functional details of co-operative governance and the council of provinces.

The aim of the national council of provinces concept — also based on the German model — is to foster political cooperation between parties in provinces as well as among provinces.

ANC senior negotiator Johnny de Lange said the nine provinces would have more "collective powers than the individual powers they enjoyed under the interim constitution.

The interim constitution did not provide for co-operative governance, but had built into it a "strong conflictary component".

De Lange said: "It is no good talking about reconciliation in our private lives or on television while our institutions of governance relate to each other in a conflictary manner.

NP secretary-general Koef Meyer said co-operative governance "will not only reflect how provinces should interact with national government, but how national government should interact with the provinces".

Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa afterwards described the day's developments as "revolutionary". For the first time, a single draft document on provincial and national legislative and executive competencies as well as a second chamber existed for parties to work from.

Ramaphosa said it meant intergovernmental relations would be structured for better co-ordination between the three tiers of government. A top ANC negotiator described the current intergovernmental set-up as "a mess".

DP chief negotiator Colin Eglin said he had no problem philosophically with the principle of co-operative governance as long as it was not another "buzzword" for centralisation.
Afrikaner fears that their language and identity are under siege on the school front will increase support for the idea of a volksstaat, observes sociologist Lawrence Schlemmer. His comment comes amid emotional turmoil in the Afrikaans community over the admission of black pupils to Afrikaans schools, from Groblersdal in Mpumalanga to Trompsburg in the Free State.

In an independent assessment of a survey of attitudes towards the idea of a volksstaat in formerly white areas in and around Pretoria, Schlemmer endorses the finding that between 58%-60% support the idea. Comparing the results with those of a 1993 survey, he adds: “The level of support ... has increased in recent times.”

Commenting on the survey — commissioned by the volksstaat council and conducted by Opdatum Opnames — Freedom Front chairman Pieter Mulder adds a corollary to Schlemmer’s observation. Mulder believes there is minimal apprehension over the admission of blacks to Afrikaans schools where there is acceptance by black parents that their children will be instructed through the medium of Afrikaans. But he contends that apprehension increases markedly if the advent of black pupils is associated with demands for instruction in English.

Pressure for the introduction of English as the language of instruction is experienced as a rerun of the “social engineering strategy” of Lord Alfred Milner, who, according to Mulder, tried to use English as a means of integrating Afrikaners in an emerging nation and thereby depriving them of their separate identity. It intensifies Afrikaner fears that there’s a covert ANC strategy to emulate Milner. Afrikaner unease over developments on the school front is raised by the downgrading of Afrikaans on SABC television, Mulder says.

Volkstaat council chairman Johann Wingard notes that Principle 34 of SA’s interim constitution states that constitutional provision can be made for Afrikaner self-determination on a territorial basis if there’s proven support for it.

Referring to the Opdatum Opnames survey findings, Wingard says: “SA is now in the final straight in the negotiation and writing of the final constitution. It is the ideal opportunity to give constitutional status to Principle 34 because proven support has now been shown.”

Release of the survey findings — and Wingard’s plea for Afrikaner self-determination to be given constitutional status — is a sequel to an earlier call by the volksstaat council for the establishment of a 10th province for Afrikaners. Wingard sees no contradiction between the demand for an Afrikaner province and the quest for a volksstaat: the province is a step towards the volksstaat.

Elaborating on the means of achieving a volksstaat, Mulder distinguishes between two paths to the same destination: both.

- Either a volksstaat can be declared in an area where Afrikaners are in the majority and, with judicious drawing of boundaries, they may constitute a majority in Greater Pretoria; or
- A particular area can be designated as a volksstaat and Afrikaners encouraged to move there.

The ANC has meanwhile rejected the call for an Afrikaner province as an “apartheid-style” province. Wingard is undeterred. He believes that the ANC can be persuaded to revise its stand. “It was not National Party policy to give black people the vote,” he says. “Afrikaners will have to get a volksstaat through their own efforts.”
SOUTH AFRICA

POLITICS: Senators and MPs opt for the private sector

MPs plan a mass exodus

Marion Edmunds

Many members of Parliament and senators have decided to give up politics after 1999. For some, politics is a life-long calling — for others, it is a stepping stone to greater things.

The ANC's chief whip in Parliament, the Rev Arnold Stoffel, is encouraging MPs and senators to enrol in part-time university courses so that they are better placed to seek jobs after 1999, should they not return to Parliament as the elected representatives of the people.

While the numbers of students in Parliament are not known, insiders say many parliamentarians have taken up this option.

"It's obvious 1999 will see a different group of MPs," Stoffel said this week. "Some will come back, but others will not ... most of us arise from the struggle and have no profession ... these energies must be used to find skills."

It is clear some MPs do not need to be encouraged to look outside Parliament for better pickings in the private sector.

Insiders have hinted that African National Congress MP Saki Macozoma might resign this week and take up a career in the private sector.
Ruling on disclosure code of ethics for MPs irks ANC

Clive Sawyer, Political Correspondent

The parliamentary code of ethics will require MPs to disclose only the nature and not the extent of shareholdings.

But this ruling could change because the ANC is unhappy with it. The party favours full disclosure of MPs' financial interests, in a way similar to its own internal code of conduct.

The ANC told a joint meeting of the national assembly and senate rules committees that it was agreeing to a limited form of disclosure so that implementation of the code of ethics could go ahead as soon as possible.

ANC senator Bulelani Ngcuka said his party would have preferred the rules on disclosure of shareholdings to provide for details of market value to be recorded, rather than nominal value as in the regulations approved yesterday.

Parties have deadlocked for months about the issue.

The committees accepted that it would leave to individual political parties to guide their members about whether they could have outside employment while serving as MPs.

"Any outside employment should be disclosed, although the actual remuneration need not be revealed."

A recent survey by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa showed that 78 percent of those polled believed that MPs should not be allowed to hold jobs outside their parliamentary duties.

"We are paid enough," said Kader Asmal, who chaired the sub-committee which produced the proposed code.

"If you want to earn more, you must reconcile that with parliament."
NP to have Naidoo removed from senate

SACKING TO BE CHALLENGED IN COURT

DURBAN: Senator "Sathie" Naidoo will today become the first politician to be removed from Parliament for political reasons, when the NP takes action against him.

The NP said last night Van der Berg would inform senate president Mr Kobie Coetsee this morning that Naidoo must vacate his bench.

Naidoo said from Chatsworth last night he remained loyal to the NP and to Deputy President F W de Klerk.

An NP source said the senator was constantly absent from party meetings, had adopted "a cavalier attitude" when dealing with party funds, and was rarely seen in KwaZulu-Natal. "The complaints came from the bottom up."

It is understood the party will select another Indian representative to replace Naidoo, with former Durban Bay MP Anoop Beesham heading the list. — Own Correspondent

The article continues:

The NP will take steps this morning to end controversial Chatsworth Senator Arulvirthanathan "Sathie" Naidoo's membership of the senate — and he has already told Parliament he will challenge his sacking in court.

NP KwaZulu-Natal chairman Renier Schoeman last night rejected "any sentiment" that the decision, which was unanimous, was racist, and said a sizeable number of the 30-member head council were black.

Mr Naidoo, the first member of the former House of Delegates to join the NP in 1990, will be the first politician to be removed for political reasons from Parliament. The head council's decision to sack him follows his suspension from the parliamentary caucus on November 10 last year.

NP provincial secretary Mr Chris van der Berg said the party "had no intention of providing reasons for the decision and was not obliged to do so".

Under section 51B of the interim constitution, a senator must vacate his seat if he ceases to be a member of the party that nominated him.
Tough decision for SA in UN lobbying

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — SA faces a testing decision in an international lobbying campaign by five countries for three seats on the UN security council.

Foreign affairs deputy director-general Abdul Minty said at the weekend SA was one of many countries being lobbied by Sweden, India, Australia, Japan and Portugal for the vacancies. Normally, decisions were taken by countries in a particular region, but when no agreement could be reached, then support for a particular candidate was sought worldwide.

In two regions, Asia and Europe, no agreement had been reached and countries involved were interested in obtaining support from all UN members before the vote took place in November. Minty conceded that in both the case of the European group and the Asian group, SA faced difficult decisions because the candidates could all justifiably call on SA's support. No decision had yet been taken, and often no decision would have to be taken as some countries would withdraw from the race closer to the time of the vote.

"What we would normally do is look at their contribution to the UN, what previous terms they have served and how countries in their regions feel," Minty said.

Other considerations would be the state of mutual relations and trade flows between the countries involved.

In these decisions, deals were often cut between the countries for mutual support, but because SA had until recently not been part of the UN, it was not bound by any reciprocal deal.

It was possible, however, for SA to call on the support of countries it had supported when the restructuring of the UN took place, although Minty said this was unlikely. Support for SA in a restructured security council could come from any of the countries it supported in the current race.

The restructuring of the security council was being discussed but nothing had yet been finalised, he said. However, the thinking was that the five permanent members on the council should be increased by one or two countries from each region.

It was considered likely that Germany and Japan would be included.

Two African countries, Nigeria and Egypt, had already announced their candidacy, he said.

SA's position was that it did consider itself an appropriate country to be a permanent security council member, but that regional organisations should make the final decision.

However, the debate on the restructuring of the UN was still "up in the air" and it was also not clear whether the new permanent members would enjoy veto rights as the current members did, Minty said.
Search gov't members' biographies, top, and financial laws.
Govt bid to nullify model angers MEC

Linda Enser

CAPE TOWN — An apparent bid by central government to override a Western Cape provincial proclamation on a model for rural government has angered the province’s local government MEC Peter Marais.

He has accused the ANC of playing a “dirty game” to get its own way, and said yesterday that the provincial cabinet would have to decide what action to take. Marais said he was alerted by Deputy President FW de Klerk and provincial NP leader Dawie de Villiers last week that the Local Government Transition Act Amendment Bill had a clause which threatened to invalidate the proclamation.

The ANC in Western Cape has opposed the model for rural government on the grounds that it gave unfair representation to farmers and was unconstitutional. It agreed to allow the rural elections scheduled for May 29 to proceed on the basis of the model but planned to challenge its subsequent implementation in court.

Sources said Constitutional and Provincial Planning Minister Chris Fismer introduced the relevant amendment. Fismer was in the Free State yesterday but indicated through departmental officials that he did not wish to comment on the issue.

Volkstaat survey rejected as flawed

PRETORIA — A recent survey showing most people in and around Pretoria favoured a separate Afrikaner state was a fallacy, the Pretoria City Council said yesterday. Council spokesman Peet du Preez said only people likely to support a volkstaat had been polled.

“If the survey had been done in any other city in SA, and the right target group was selected, the same result would be obtained,” he said. “Unfortunately for Pretoria, the survey was conducted here.”

In a survey commissioned by the Volksraad Council, about 60% of whites questioned in and around Pretoria said they would support a volkstaat in an area such as Pretoria.

Releasing the results about two weeks ago, researcher Prof Lawrence Schlemmer stressed the poll had not been designed as a study to cover the whole population. “Here lies the scientific fallacy,” said Du Preez. “The survey is not representative of the city’s population. All surveys ignoring the collective ideas of all cultures are flawed in principle.”

Du Preez said a recent survey for the city council showed Pretoria was seen as a city which had adapted to the new political dispensation.

About 77% of people polled in Pretoria, the Witwatersrand, Cape Peninsula and Durban had expressed this view, and 60% favoured Pretoria as the capital city.

In general Pretoria is viewed as being progressive, business-oriented and adapted to the new SA,” Du Preez said. “Reports like the one published by the Volksraad Council cause great damage to Pretoria and its people.” — Sapa.
At the US has a duty to SA, the ANC-led govt has a duty too

SIMON BARBER in Washington

(3049) BD 12/3/96

to get their old property back. The majority are people driven from their homes by a totalitarian state that denied them the right to think for themselves or express their individuality in any meaningful way. Much less offer them a vote, or the name of a state that has sent, and is still sending, thousands to prison for daring to criticize the existing order.

But for the displaced and the suffering of these people — some of whom have spent years in Castro’s gulag as President Nelson Mandela spent on Robben Island — the ANC and its alliance partners, who themselves have every reason to empathize, express not one iota of consideration. And no, Cuba is not some oasis free of racial discrimination.

Half of Cuba’s population is black. Did Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale or Western Cape premier Alan Winde have instituted “sister” relationships with Cuban provinces, ever stop to ask their hosts why only two members of the parliamentary bureaucracy are black, or why there have been so many instances in which Cuban and South African black visitors and diplomats, miscalculating them for locals.

This is not an ideological point. It is an empirical one. Based upon the reporting of the American group International and Human Rights Watch, all of whom reported with equal vigour the atrocities of the National Party regime. For the ANC-dominated government to refuse to condemn, or even criticize, a regime, even when it is questionably based on racial, or on the aspects of the sky, is intensely hypocritical.

Ambassador Franklin Sonne likes to say that the US has a “moral” duty to mount a “Mitchell Plan” for SA. If so, the SA government has a like duty to abhor publicly the behaviour of the Castro regime — not because that is what is moral, but because the regime, under pressure of the very standards the ANC says it holds most dear, is morally reprehensible.

By all means criticize American policy. That will earn you no enmity in this country. But refuse to criticise the palpable unpleasantries of Castro’s rule, and that will cause even sensible people to wonder about your own inclinations.
S POLICY towards Cuba has long been fatalistic, and it is about to become more so. When President Bill Clinton signed into law the Cuba Liberty Act, passed last week by the House and Senate, Fidel Castro has shown once again that he is master at getting the Cuban exiles in Miami to do his bidding. The Cuban Americans who support Castro think in like manner. Both need America; one side to stay in power, the other to help it win power.

The latest outrage served both sides. The Clinton administration, under pressure from non-Cuban US companies anxious to invest in Cuba, was drafting dangerously close to offering detente and lifting the trade embargo. The Cuban antagonists knew this had to be stopped.

A nd now it has been. Huge majorities in Congress voted, much as they did in 1994, to send Castro's Fidel Castro in exile. The administration in charge of the anti-Apartheid Act, to take the initiative for Cuba policy out of the administration's hands and into their own. Clinton, badly needing the electoral college votes of Florida and New Jersey (which is often overlooked as an exile stronghold) next November could only acquiesce.

Castro and the hardline exiles are both rejoicing over section 3 of the Act, which contains its main teeth and purports to tighten the embargo. It was drafted in large part by John M. Garamendi, an attorney for the National Association of Sugar Mill Owners of Cuba and the Cuban Association for the Tobacco Industry, whose interests are being dispossessed by the revolution.

Section 3 does this by giving leave to Cuban-Americans expropriated assets worth more than $50,000 at the time of Castro's takeover in 1960 to sue, in federal court, foreign companies doing business in Cuba. The result is that this will persuade the companies to respect an embargo that only the US imposes, and thus further starve Castro of the outside investment he now needs more desperately than ever.

Yet Louis Desloge, a Cuban-American management consultant and co-founder of the US-Cuba Foundation, a conservative non-profit organisation that has recognised the usefulness of US policy, argues the real purpose is slightly different. Namely, that it is an attempt to shake down US investors for a piece of the action on Cuba.

Let's say an SA company wants to mine the island's nickel reserves on land once owned by a family now living in Miami. That family is empowered by section 3 to sue the SA company: cut us in on 10%, and we will agree not to make life miserable for you. In a US court, Gutierrez has already testified that it is the same that he had in mind when he helped write the law.

His clients, he said, had their eye on British-American Tobacco, which they believe is operating a joint venture with a Brazilian company on land confiscated from them.

On the face of it, it is a no-lose proposition for the fatty exiles. They either get to re-establish a potentially valuable foothold in Cuba — at no cost and in defiance of the embargo they have worked so hard to maintain — or they drive off investors altogether, which in their view can only hasten Castro's collapse. The only risk is that some bitty soul will fight section 3 all the way to the Supreme Court, where it would probably be struck down, or that Clinton would exercise the waiver power granted by the Act to delay the section's effective date. But he is not likely to do that until after November, and that is assuming he wins the election.

In the meantime, Castro is also in no rush. Section 3 has not yet had time to sink its teeth into the US allies crying foul about the violation of their sovereignty, which must not be heartening to Fidel. No: he blows a few puffs out of the air in complete disregard for international law, not to mention basic human rights, and Congress reacts in no way that shifts international opposition onto the US.

Domestically, he has got a powerful propaganda tool. As DeLange puts it, "Castro surely knows that the overwhelming majority of the Cuban people — 60% of whom were born after 1959 — would deeply resent what can be characterised, not unfairly, as an attempt to confiscate their properties and retribution of control over Cuba's economy to people who symbolise the corrupt rule of the 1950s."

This is a mess of which, if it were wise, the SA government would stay clear. It is one thing to criticise the bizarre way the US reacts to Castro; a lot of sensible people, conservative Republicans among them, think the embargo is unwarranted and this latest bit of theatre utterly absurd. But virtually everyone these days agrees that Castro is an unappealing thug, the departure of whose regime, as bloodless a manner as possible, is devoutly to be desired.

America's domestic political calculus or, to put it more bluntly, the rabidness of some in the exile community, makes it difficult for Washington to pursue this goal in an judicious or sensible manner as the cooler heads of both political parties might wish.

But the anger of the exiles deserves some understanding. They are by no means all fat cats plotting to get the real property back. The majority are people driven from their homes by a totalitarian system that denies them the right to think for themselves or express their individuality in any meaningful way, much less offer them a vote worthy of the name, or at least a voice that is heard and is still sending, thousands to prison for daring to criticise their existing order.

But for the displacement and the suffering of these people — some of whom have spent as long in Castro's gulag as President Nelson Mandela spent on Robben Island — the ANC and its Western supporters, who themselves have every reason to empathise, express not one iota of consideration.

No, Cuba is not some oasis free of racial discrimination. Half of Cuba's population is black. Did Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale or his Northwest counterpart, both of whom are black, ever stop to ask their hosts why only two of the province's public transport buses are black? In those instances in which Cuban police officers have harassed black visitors and diplomats, mistreating them for locals.

T his is not an ideological point. It is an empirical one based upon the reporting of groups like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, all of whom repeat with equal vigour the obscenities of the National Party regime. For the ANC-dominated government to refuse to cede, or even criticise, the Castro regime, even when it blows unarmed civilian aircraft out of the sky, is intensely hypocritical.

Ambassador Franklin Sonn likes to tell Americans that they have a moral duty to mount a "Marshall plan" for SA. If so, the SA government has a like duty to abhor publicly the behaviour of its black counterparts because that is what America wants to hear, but because the regime, in terms of the very standards the ANC says it hold most dear, is morally reprehensible.

By all means criticise American policy. That will earn you no enmity in this country.

But by all means criticise the palpatable unpleasantness of Castro's rule, and that will cause even sensible people to wonder about your own inclinations.
Volkstaat survey finding dismissed

A recent survey finding that most people in and around Pretoria favoured a separate Afrikaner state was dismissed by the Pretoria City Council yesterday.

Council spokesman Peet du Preez said that only people likely to support a volkstaat had been polled.

"If the survey had been done in any other city in South Africa, and the right target group was selected, the same result would be obtained," he said. "Unfortunately for Pretoria, the survey was conducted here."

In a survey commissioned by the Volksraad Council, about 60% of whites questioned in and around Pretoria said they would support a volkstaat in an area such as Pretoria.

Researcher Prof Lawrence Schlemmer, when he released the results, stressed that the poll had not been designed as a study to cover the whole population.

"Here lies the scientific fallacy," said Du Preez. "The survey is not representative of the city's population. All surveys ignoring the collective ideas of all cultures are flawed in principle."

He added that a recent survey conducted for the city council found that Pretoria was seen as a city which had adapted to the new political dispensation.

About 77% of people polled in Pretoria, the Witwatersrand, Cape Peninsula and Durban had expressed this view, and 50% favoured Pretoria as the capital city.

"In general, Pretoria is viewed as being progressive, business-oriented and adapted to the new South Africa," Du Preez said.

"Reports like the one published by the Volksraad Council cause great damage to Pretoria and its people." — Sapa.
Mandela tries to save Bok

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela yesterday intervened to save the Springbok as a symbol of South African sport when he called an emergency meeting with top National Sports Council officials.

Mandela, who supports the retention of the emblem, was reacting to a recommendation by an NSC commission of inquiry last week that the 101-year-old Bok emblem should go because it was "deeply offensive" to many South Africans.

Mandela's spokesman, Mr Parks Makahlela, said Mandela had met NSC president Mr Mhleki George, Sport Minister Mr Steve Tshwete and director-general Mr Mthobu Tshangzale at Tuynhuys yesterday "to put forward his case".

A further meeting between Mandela and the full executive of the NSC was also scheduled within the next few days. A final decision on the fate of the Springbok will be taken at a council meeting of the NSC on March 30.

Several other prominent figures have also thrown their weight behind the fight to retain the Bok, most notably Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The South African Rugby Football Union yesterday declined to comment, saying it was prepared to wait for the final outcome.

Opposition to the retention of the Springbok came from the PAC, which said up to President Mandela's intervention it was commonly agreed that the Protea was to be the new emblem. It was "unfortunate that Mandela and a few others were using their influence to reverse the recommendation by the NSC". — Sapa
ANC MPs quit

By Ruth Chat and

Trevor Sefako

A number of ANC MPs, some of them who have already announced their resignation, are expected to resign from the party. The decision was taken in a meeting of the ANC's National Executive Committee (NEC) held in Pretoria. The NEC was informed that a number of ANC MPs are expected to resign because of the growing crisis in the party at large. The NEC was also informed that a number of ANC MPs have already announced their resignation, including Brutus Mphahlele, the party's chief whip, and Thulani Yengeni, the party's deputy secretary-general.
Foreign affairs looks at priorities for embassies

Stephen Laufer

FOREIGN affairs was already looking at its priorities in terms of opening new missions and right-sizing existing embassies and consulates, Minister Alfred Nzo said in response to a Budget increase below the inflation rate.

Foreign Affairs received a 0.7% hike to R1,146bn. Besides the inflation gap, the department has also been hit by the fall in the value of the rand since mid-February which has made the upkeep of dollar-based missions at least 8% more expensive.

Overseas allowances to diplomats and rents for offices and residences have been affected by the rand's recent decline. Unlike older embassies and consulates, where chancery buildings and official ambassadorial residences are often government property, newer missions — opened since SA's readmission to the world community — were reliant on rental accommodation, paid for in foreign currency.

While currency fluctuations made balancing the books difficult, foreign affairs faced the challenge of having to open further new missions, spokesman Pieter Swanepoel said.

Senior government representatives, including President Nelson Mandela and Nzo, had promised several countries that SA would establish diplomatic presence in the near future. Among countries expecting to accredit ambassadors in the new financial year are New Zealand and Algeria.

The need to expand diplomatic representation would have to be balanced by "right-sizing" in other countries, possibly including staff cuts and the closure of entire consulates or even embassies in capitals which could be conveniently served from neighbouring countries, Swanepoel said.
How Parliament Works

Parliamentary Profile

The South African system

The duty of each of these portfolio committees is...

Power and functions

Committees and Portfolio Committees

Next week in Parliament

CL 15/3/96

(3042)
Winnie backs beleaguered Chief Holomisa

BARRY STREEK  
POLITICAL WRITER

Mrs Winnie Madikizela-Mandela has come out in support of senior ANC caucus member Chief Phatokile Holomisa, who faces “serious” ANC disciplinary charges today.

In a letter to Holomisa, she praised his efforts to open dialogue between the ANC and IFP and said the ANC Women’s League, of which she is president, could not understand why this should lead to disciplinary charges.

She also criticised the ANC secretariat for allegedly disregarding instructions by its caucus to hold discussions with the Congress of Traditional Leaders (Contralesa).

Chief Holomisa is president of Contralesa and Madikizela-Mandela is its treasurer.

The ANC’s senate chief whip, Bujela Ngcuka, said today’s disciplinary hearing wasn’t discussed at yesterday’s caucus meeting.

But he said any charges before the disciplinary committee were considered serious, although he hadn’t seen the indictment.

The hearing follows a charge laid by ANC KwaZulu-Natal leaders before the ANC disciplinary committee.

The charge followed a march on Union Buildings shortly before local government elections in November last year. Holomisa participated in the march with IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and IFP-supporting chiefs in a protest about the position of traditional leaders.
ANC stung by opinion polls

CLIVE SAWYER Political Correspondent

STUNG by opinion polls which have exposed dissatisfaction with the government and politicians, the African National Congress is reviewing its response to surveys.

The ANC caucus was briefed yesterday by MP Saki Macozoma on the role of surveys in society.

Mr Macozoma outlined to colleagues the role of opinion surveys in politics and business.

He was asked to submit a written report to the next caucus meeting in two weeks' time on how ANC members should respond when asked to take part in surveys.

Caucus spokesman Bulelani Ngcuka said the discussion had been prompted in part by polls by Idasa and Stellenbosch University academics.

Among recent conclusions of such surveys were that people believed the new government to be more corrupt than its predecessor, and many believed MPs should not be paid more.

Mr Ngcuka said information requested in surveys "had been used against us".

ANC members had asked for guidance on whether to respond to requests to take part in polls.

It was accepted that surveys were a part of life. "We cannot as MPs not participate," he said.

The question was how the information obtained was being used.

The possibility of a Ministry for Youth has not been ruled out. This emerged during a briefing to the caucus on draft legislation to protect the interests of youth.

President Nelson Mandela told the caucus that advocate Louis Skweyiya was to be nominated as the first inspector-general of intelligence.

The post will involve monitoring of the activities of all four civilian, military and police intelligence agencies.

The inspector-general will investigate and prevent abuses.

The nomination of Mr Skweyiya, brother of Public Service Minister Zola Skweyiya, will be put to a joint sitting of parliament where the appointment will have to be approved by a 75 percent majority.
Controversy hits archives Bill

Gaye Davis

CHANGES to the National Archives Bill that bring under political control decisions on what records should be kept and what should be destroyed have caused an outcry among archivists and historians who helped draft the new law. But a clash with Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Dr Ben Ngubane may yet be averted.

In the face of an avalanche of criticism, he indicated this week he was “not wedded” to the amendment, which was made before the Bill — drawn up by a national consultative forum — came before a parliamentary portfolio committee.

The initial draft put the power to make decisions on what should be kept and what destroyed firmly in the hands of professionals, to prevent a repetition of past abuses, when records were destroyed for political ends.

Members of the consultative forum, including the South African Society of Archivists (Sasa), bombarded the portfolio committee with objections and complained that the minister had not consulted the forum before making the changes.

“The argument for a new Bill was that professionals, rather than politicians, should be in charge of deciding what should be kept and what should be destroyed,” said Sasa chair Barbara Conradie. “Now it’s been changed back.”

Ngubane said he made the amendments to provide the Bill with “an integrated mechanism for accountability” with regard to the destruction of records.

But the Bill did not provide for political control of records disposal, but recognised the need for political responsibility by establishing the principle of concurrency — joint responsibility for decisions by the minister, the national archivist and the National Archives Commission. Ngubane noted the “serious concerns” that had been raised. Ministerial accountability to Parliament and to Cabinet was necessary, but possibly there were other ways of achieving this, he said.
The Commonwealth of Australia

ABOVE PROPOSAL IS THE

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The original proposal is presented to the Australian government for consideration. The proposal will be debated and voted on in the Parliament before it becomes law.

The proposal will include amendments to existing legislation, as well as new laws that address specific issues. The proposed laws are intended to ensure the safety and security of the Commonwealth, as well as to protect the rights and freedoms of its citizens.

The proposal will be reviewed by various committees and experts to ensure that it is effective and fair. The proposal will also be subject to public consultation and feedback to ensure that it reflects the views of the Australian people.

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Embassies without envoys cause concern

More than 10 SA embassies abroad are without ambassadors, fuelling concerns that SA’s foreign representation is not up to scratch.

A foreign affairs spokesman said at the weekend that some positions had been vacant for nearly a year, while some had just been created.

Embassies in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Ireland, Kenya, Luxembourg, Morocco, New Zealand, Portugal and the EU were without senior diplomats.

New missions included Ireland and Argentina, while New Zealand was previously served from Australia.

The Luxembourg mission was previously served by the Belgian mission. The Danish mission will become vacant when its head, Conrad Sidego, leaves at the end of the month to take up a post at Nationale Pers.

Sources have attributed delays in filling the posts to government’s desire to appoint suitably qualified black diplomats.

Of the vacant positions, the EU mission is by far the most important. Apart from being SA’s largest trading partner and investor, the EU is one of the main donors to this country. The EU mission, vacant since Neil van Heerden’s departure more than a month ago, has been the subject of intense speculation recently.

Trade and diplomatic observers say the slow progress towards an EU decision on a free trade accord with SA could be the result of government’s delay in appointing a successor to Van Heerden, which could be interpreted as a “lack of interest”.

Regarding Australia, sources said that although the level of trade with SA was still low, there was immense potential for growth.

A spokesman for the department said the process of appointing people to the vacant posts was under way.
Steven Friedman
must pay the price
abuse public funds
Office bearers who

The Daily Monitor

May 11, 2013
ANC Youth League demands the end of Springbok emblem

SAPA and THE ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

KING WILLIAM'S TOWN. – The African National Congress Youth League in the Eastern Cape has come out in support of a recommendation to do away with the Springbok symbol.

It said in a statement yesterday that its executive meeting had decided all symbols representing a divided society and responsible for suffering and hardship under apartheid should be scrapped.

"South Africans of all races put their whole weight behind the national rugby team during last year's World Cup, with a resolve to close a chapter of discrimination by one of the sporting codes that served the interests of the apartheid system.

"We demand the implementation of the promise by the National Sports Council and the entire sporting fraternity to do away with this symbol of apartheid after the Rugby World Cup."

The ANCYL also condemned alleged non-payment of rent and service charges by the province's MPLs.

"The executive committee noted with grave concern the continued non-payment of rent and service charges by most of the MPLs and other officials."

"This matter has serious implications for the efforts of the democratic movement and the government to re-establish a culture of payment."

The executive resolved to:
- "Condemn with contempt" the non-payment of rent and service charges by government officials and politicians, "including our comrades."
- Call on the provincial government to deduct outstanding money from the salaries of those concerned and to evict any official who resisted payment.

Meanwhile, the sensitive issues surrounding the fate of the Springbok as a national rugby emblem have been discussed by a high-powered delegation at President Mandela's Houghton, Johannesburg, home.

The president, who has on occasion worn the Springbok jersey as a signal of his support for its retention, met the National Sports Council's executive committee yesterday afternoon.

"I am encouraged that the matter is in the hands of dynamic and upstanding people and am satisfied with the way it is being handled," Mr Mandela said at a Press conference afterwards.

He said the matter was very sensitive and could not be discussed before the NSC met at the end of the month.

The president said he had been forced to put his point of view forward when he came out in favour of the retention of the Springbok emblem.

"I appreciate the anger of sportsmen about not being consulted on the matter. No one has a right to make proposals about such an issue without consulting the body which is in control of sports, not even the president," he said.

But NSC president Mululeki George said he was not in the least upset with Mr Mandela for making his views known.

Minister of Sport Steve Tshwete, who was also at the meeting, confirmed he had met South African Rugby Football Union president Louis Luyt and other members of the SARFU executive in Pretoria yesterday.

He could not divulge details, but admitted that issues involving dismissed SARFU chief executive Edward Griffiths had been discussed.

He said any comment on the subject of Mr Griffiths' possible reinstatement would pre-empt the NSC's meeting scheduled for next week.
Black man's burden

"You fremd for the country and left in a condition that was as bad as your party with your fishy clothes and advantages"

The words rang out even as they sought to set quite separate foreign states, who had watched me grow up playing hooky, they had seen me. I stood there slightly diminished, but too much for this to be a defeat.

Having lived for 17 years of political milieu, I had experienced something of a hero's awakening. After all, I had brought the heightened political awareness to the fore and also contributed to the plight of black people on this continent. I had not only been one of the least politically active areas of Sowetan. Not much was expected of us. There was a sense of powerlessness compared with nearby Rockville. I had dragged into politics after the July 1966 student unrest.

I was the star of the occasion, although I was not to know it. I was not of the South African government's making. I was a part of a collective intelligence of the eyes of those who opposed the system, in the form of the Sowetan student representative council.

I was a part of my moment. I was my own agent. I realised that I had not prepared enough for them. I had not prepared for the first fight of economic and political independence. I was the second year of the laptop of apartheid from the South African government. This change in my life had clearly become one of a fight for sleeping whores who would be accommodated, converted in the eyes of the South African people. It was a part of a collective. In the eyes of those opposed, in the form of the Sowetan student representative council.

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W Cape parties back keeping parliament

CHRIS BATEMAN

ALL parties in the Western Cape legislature pledged yesterday to back the campaign to keep parliament in Cape Town and to endorse this in the new constitution.

The DP's Mr Hennie Bester challenged ANC secretary-general and Constitutional Assembly chairman Mr Cyril Ramaphosa to "publicly affirm" Cape Town as the seat of parliament when the ANC launches its local government election campaign in Mitchells Plain today.

Bester said Ramaphosa's exhortations to all South Africans to help write the new constitution had led to an "overwhelming response" from those in favour of formally enshrining Cape Town as the parliamentary seat.

Surveys since 1994 had also shown increased support for this sentiment.

Appealing for "certainty", Premier Hermus Kriel said history had shown the more relaxed atmosphere of Cape Town was conducive to good government.

Kriel said the judicial (Bloemfontein), administrative (Pretoria) and legislative (Cape Town) arms of government should be entrenched in the constitution, supporting de-centralisation.

"We want to look at whether the Constitutional Court should not sit in KwaZulu/Natal," he said.

ANC provincial leader Mr Chris Nissen admitted his party had not yet decided nationally (on the siting of parliament), but accepted Bester's challenge which he said would "weigh heavily" in ANC deliberations at the weekend.

He said the Western Cape ANC supported keeping Parliament in Cape Town and entrenching this in the new constitution.

The provincial branches of the African Christian Democratic Party and the Freedom Front also supported these stands.
'Take sitting debate off poll agenda'

The debate on whether Parliament should move should be removed from the election agenda, Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa said yesterday.

The issue was being dealt with by Parliament and should definitely be excluded from the constitution. Interviewed at an ANC Human Rights Day and election rally in Langa, Ramaphosa was reacting to the cross-party stand taken in the Western Cape legislature this week to keep Parliament in Cape Town and to have this enshrined in the constitution. The ANC's position was not to include the seat of parliament in the constitution. — Political Writer
Front may settle for culture clause

CAPE TOWN - The Freedom Front had privately indicated willingness not to demand an Afrikaner homeland, on condition the ANC agreed to an NP “cultural protection clause” in the new constitution, sources said yesterday. The NP has proposed the establishment of a “commission on culture” with powers to set up cultural councils if requested by minority groups. The “minority” issues of education, language, culture and self-determination have moved to the constitution-making centre stage, and are expected to come to a head in private talks next week.

Senior ANC negotiators have indicated a possible willingness to accommodate the NP’s proposal on a cultural commission. However, ANC and NP sources were reluctant yesterday to predict the outcome of the negotiations on issues of concern to minority groups. One said: “The issues are so sensitive anything can still happen.”

The NP has been at the forefront of

Continued on Page 2

Culture clause

Continued from Page 1

the negotiations on an education, language and culture in the Bill of Rights with the ANC but, importantly, has found support from the DP for its proposal that SA look at the Indian constitutional experience as a way to resolve the education issue.

Article 30 of the Indian constitution states: “All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.” The state may similarly not discriminate on the funding of schools. The NP wants culture to be added to a similar clause in the new SA constitution.

The NP and DP both stress that discrimination by schools on the ground of race would “obviously” be outlawed in the new Bill of Rights.

The negotiation process intensified earlier this week when a delegation made up of the NP, CP, Freedom Front and various Afrikaans educational and cultural stakeholders met Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa and his deputy, Leon Wes selts, to discuss the “protection of Afrikaans schools”. The group will meet the ANC next Tuesday at Ramaphosa’s request.
Mandela alleges plot by right wing to topple govt

Farouk Chothia

NEWCASTLE — President Nelson Mandela claimed yesterday that powerful right-wing elements were plotting to overthrow government.

Addressing about 250 businessmen and professionals at the launch of the ANC’s local government election campaign in KwaZulu-Natal, Mandela said the ANC was in office but not in control of government.

The SAPS was being infiltrated by young provocateurs who plotted “day and night” to topple government.

The ANC was gradually getting on top of the levers of power, but the process would take time.

Mandela said it was disturbing that the overwhelming majority of South Africans still thought they were fighting against apartheid, and opposed anything aimed at building a new SA.

He said those who accused him of pandering to white interests needed to realise that the liberation struggle had not resulted in the “enemy lying on the floor begging for mercy”.

A healthy looking Mandela raised the prospect of his death and said he was approaching “the final end with a smile” because the South African miracle had been achieved by the entire population and not any individual.

However, South Africans needed to stop thinking in terms of the interests of separate race groups and should rise above enmity to look at the population as “one of brothers and sisters”.

On foreign visits he had found violence and crime were of paramount concern to investors. KwaZulu-Natal would never attract large-scale investment as long as political violence continued.

Linda Ensor reports that the ANC kicked off its Western Cape local government election campaign yesterday with trade and industry minister Trevor Manuel telling voters in pre-

Continued on Page 2

Mandela

Continued from Page 1

dominantly NP-supporting Mitchell’s Plain that the ANC was the only party which could deliver on RDP promises.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa and Posts and Telecommunications Minister Pallow Jordan told the crowd the party would strive for a better life for all.

Manuel said the people of Mitchell’s Plain had made a mistake by voting for the NP in 1994, but by voting for the ANC in local elections they would ensure that the RDP came to their area.

Leading ANC candidates including Cape Town deputy mayor Theresa Solomons and Khayelitsha mayor Vuyani Ngcuka also addressed the Mitchell’s Plain crowd, promising jobs, houses, sports facilities, crime prevention and the write-off of millions of rands in arrear rentals.

The ANC announced well known Cape Town architect Revel Fox as its candidate for the Newlands/Bishops-court ward where Mandela will vote.
Mandela exposes plan to topple Government

By Simon Zwane and Sapa

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela said yesterday the South African Police Service was being infiltrated by agents provocateurs who are planning to overthrow the Government.

He said there were "powerful elements in this country planning to overthrow this government". He did not elaborate.

Speaking at Newcastle in KwaZulu-Natal at the beginning of the African National Congress' local government election campaign, Mandela warned that those who were accusing him of pandering to the interests of whites should realise that liberation in South Africa was not brought about by a military victory. "It did not result in the old enemy lying on the floor pleading for mercy."

"I'm approaching the final end with a smile on my face because the South African miracle was achieved by everyone," Mandela said.

He called on opinion makers to stand up and make themselves heard.

"It is not a time for religious leaders and business people to take a back seat. Principals, lecturers and students cannot continue to keep quiet while hit squads are murdering people," he said.

Mandela said there was still a tendency among all population groups to think in terms of race. Whites still tended to think in terms of issues that affect them. "The time of white domination is past, never to return."

Other race groups also thought in terms of their race, he said.

Mandela also appealed to the public to support and protect members of the police and the army. He was reacting to the murder of three policemen on Sunday.
Nzo faces balancing act

Foreign Ministers' sensitive China visit

(942/31/96)

As China threatens war

Taiwan goes to the polls

Sing: Taiwan holds its first direct presidential election today.

Taiwanese presidential candidates vying for the presidency in recent weeks have made repeated references to China's aggressive stance towards Taiwan, with some predicting a potential military conflict.

The Chinese government has responded to these developments with increasing rhetoric, warning of the possibility of a 'military option' to reunify the two sides of the Taiwan Strait.

As the election approaches, tensions remain high, with both sides stepping up their campaigns and propaganda efforts.

Polls indicate that a significant number of Taiwanese are undecided, with concerns over the future of the island's autonomy and the potential impact of a Chinese victory.

In the meantime, the international community is closely watching the developments, with many expressing concern over the risks of a military confrontation and calling for peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict.

President Kei supported by the domestic community and the international community. He is expected to face a tough battle in the upcoming election, with the outcome likely to have implications for the region's stability and security.

The presidential election in Taiwan is the island's first direct presidential election, allowing voters to directly choose their president for the first time.

In the lead-up to the election, various candidates have made their positions known, ranging from those advocating for closer economic integration with China to those calling for stronger measures to preserve Taiwan's autonomy.

The election is scheduled for March 21, and the winner will take office in May, marking a significant moment in the history of Taiwan.
MP proves he missed the gravy train

Michael Morris

An African National Congress member of parliament has bared all — figuratively, anyway — to prove that he and most other legislators do not have seats on the gravy train.

Members of parliament say that the harder they work, the poorer they become and, to prove it, full details of Mariitzburg MP Yunus Carrim’s income and spending have been published in the latest issue of Parliamentary Whips, journal of the Institute for Democracy in South Africa’s Public Information Monitoring Service.

The figures show that of his basic monthly pay of R16 100, expenses incurred chiefly in his tasks as an MP amount to R14 108, leaving him with R2 152 for personal use. Mr Carrim used to be a senior lecturer in sociology — where he would end up with about R4 500 in his pocket after expenses.

Today, his biggest expenses are for tax and pension — the repayment, fuel and running costs of two cars (a 1994 Toyota Corolla 1.6 in Cape Town, and a 1982 Mazda 323 in Mariitzburg), his telephone and fax bills, his constituency contributions and two compulsory payments to the ANC and the SA Communist Party.

His justification for having two cars is that he is a Mariitzburg MP serving three constituencies — Mariitzburg Northern Areas, Ladysmith and Bergville — which he visits as often as possible when in Natal.

Having two cars, Parliamentary Whips editor Richard Calland believes, is "therefore, not unreasonable".

Mr Calland approached Mr Carrim to disclose his balance sheet after the MP had written to a Natal newspaper inviting constituents to inspect his pay slips and bank statements.

Mr Calland notes in the article that the "impression given by many press reports is that the new dispensation had come to power and immediately announced a huge pay hike", when, in fact, the old government had established the Melamet Commission which recommended the increase.

Mr Calland adds: "The mainstream press has not presented a detailed breakdown of MPs’ pay. The issue has been surrounded by an emotive coating that has disguised the financial reality of life in the new South African parliament.”

He believes that while Mr Carrim’s case is not necessarily typical, "the position in which he finds himself is both representative and revealing of that financial reality".

The political sensitivity of the matter was heightened by an Idasa survey which showed a large percentage of respondents perceived widespread dishonesty and corruption on the part of elected officials, and considered the present government no better than the previous one with regard to ethics and corruption.

How Mr Carrim spends his R16 000

Mr Carrim’s salary is R16 100 (R13 200 a year) with a monthly income tax refund of R16 000 annually.

His outgoings are:

- Income tax R4 226 (R50 712)
- Pension R1 006 (R12 072)
- Rent in Cape Town R470 (R5 640)
- Medical Aid R423 (R5 076)
- Compulsory ANC membership R750 (R9 000)
- Compulsory SAPC membership R250 (R3 000)
- Contribution to cost of constituency offices R500 (R6 000)
- Cape Town car repayment R1 515 (R18 180)
- Cape Town car insurance R334 (R4 008)
- Mariitzburg car repayment R1 361 (R16 333)
- Maritzburg car insurance R233 (R2 796)
- Servicing of both cars R163 (R1 956)
- Books R81 (R975)
- Three answering machines R98 (R1 187)
- Filing cabinets R75 (R900)
- Laptop computer R133 (R1 600)
- Briefcase R32 (R396)
- Stationery R61 (R743)
- Business cards R37 (R450)
- Extra telephone bill R39 (R471)
- Photocopying at parliament R66 (R800)
- Postage R50 (R600)
- Donations to public events/needly R37 (R450)
- Telephone/fax R883 (R10 600)
- Petrol R917 (R1 004)
EU finalists trade offer to SA - still protectionist, but progress

Terremodore dump recognition strategy

Landsa dry after water system damaged

Further clarification needed on SA offer for recognition of the European Union. The EU is calling for a more open and comprehensive approach to the recognition process, including provisions for a wider range of security concerns and a more inclusive dialogue between the EU and South Africa.

The recognition of SA would not only improve bilateral relations but also contribute to regional stability and cooperation. The EU is willing to engage in a constructive dialogue with SA to find mutually acceptable solutions that meet the needs of both sides.

The EU is also calling for more transparency in the recognition process, including a clearer understanding of the criteria and timelines involved. This would help to build trust and confidence between the EU and SA.

Overall, the EU remains committed to a comprehensive and fair recognition process that takes into account the concerns of all parties involved. The EU hopes that the recognition of SA can help to strengthen the relationship between the two sides and contribute to peace and prosperity in the region.
MP discloses details of monthly pay  
as proof he's not on the gravy train  

By MICHAEL MORRIS  

An ANC member of Parliament has bared  
all — figuratively, anyway — to prove that  
he, and most other legislators, do not  
have seats on the gravy train.  

Indeed, MPs say that the harder they  
work, the poorer they become. Full details  
of Pietermaritzburg MP Yunus Carrim's  
income and spending have been pub-  
lished in the latest issue of Parliament-  
ary Whip, Journal of the Institute for  
Democracy in South Africa's Public Infor- 

cation Monitoring Service.  

The figures show that of his basic  
monthly pay of R16,100, expenses incurred  
chiefly in his tasks as an MP amount  
to R14,108, leaving him with R2,052 for  
personal use.  

Today, his biggest expenses — after tax  
and pension — are the repayment, fuel  
and running costs of two cars (a 1984 Toy-  
ota Corolla 1.6 in Cape Town and a 1982  
Mazda 323 in Pietermaritzburg), his tele- 
phone and fax bills, his contribution to  
constituency offices, and two compulsory  
payments to the ANC and the SAP.  

His justification for having two cars is  
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himself is both representative and reveal- 
ning of that financial reality".
You've tried all the medications on the market and nothing helps... Why?

Steel Structures

By Carol Malama

DP accepts new hate-speech provision
Land issues 'key' to chiefs' survival

Stephen Laufer

CONTROL of land allocation could be crucial to the political survival of traditional leaders in many rural areas, a study to be published today shows.

The land allocation function, says the study entitled Down to Earth — Land Demand in the New SA, is "critical to traditional leaders because it is one of the few remaining actual powers and sources of influence they have".

But in many areas an increasing land hunger and tendency towards urban settlement structures was fuelling warlordism.

The picture was not uniform across the country even though traditional authorities were central to land administration in all provinces except Gauteng and the Western Cape.

While the land allocation practices of many traditional leaders were "clouded by corruption, patronage, and, increasingly, the influence of market forces", many chiefs were still committed to traditional tenure forms out of a genuine concern for welfare and equity.

Complicating the picture, said one of the study's authors, Prof Tessa Marcus of Natal University, was an increasing tendency towards urban settlement patterns even in rural areas.

Reduced plot sizes, the conversion of arable and grazing land to residential use, and increasingly fragile kinship relations were weakening traditional authority.

Most people who supported the traditional authority system did not necessarily support individual traditional authorities.

As a result, such institutions were increasingly acceding to "the sway of powerful individuals who take and maintain control over the allocation of residential sites with the assistance of informal armed forces and party political patronage."

But the traditional tenure system had also guaranteed access to land for even the poorest of rural residents, and the baby should not be thrown out with the bath water during the land reform process.

There was a danger that a move to freehold ownership without any alternative tenure possibilities or guaranteed access to common pasturage would finally dispossess those unable to articulate or pay for their land needs adequately.

Injunction

The success of alternative mechanisms for administering communal land would depend on the emergence of effective local government to provide support and services, Marcus said this could work only if there was considerable injection of finance and skills into the rural areas.

A lack of sufficient resources would make land released under reform programmes prone to "elite capture". Those who had historically been well placed — often for the wrong reasons — would be in the best position to take advantage of new land allocations.

Research over a two-year period in all nine provinces, the study is the first attempt to analyse popular land needs across SA.
SA diplomatic ties with China on cards

Pretoria looks at keeping off-shore and on-shore options but China makes it clear that it will not tolerate any ambiguity from SA

African Press

South Africa signalled yesterday its intent to open diplomatic relations with Beijing, Taipei's rival. This was a blow to Taiwan that fell just three days after its presidential elections.

Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo made the comments at the end of a 48-hour trip to Beijing, the first by a South African foreign minister.

He made no reference to any change of plans for Pretoria's relations with Taipei.

A Taiwanese official in Taipei said South Africa sought "official relations" with China but would retain "diplomatic ties" with Taiwan, an idea that was immediately rejected by a Chinese spokesman.

"There are relations of long standing," Nzo told journalists. "All that needs to be done in the near future is the establishment of - hopefully - diplomatic relations."

"After reporting to the president (Nelson Mandela), an announcement will be made," he said.

Nzo met President Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Foreign Trade Minister Wu Yi. He said all the meetings were "very cordial, very nice", but refused to give details.

"Mandela has said SA will keep links with Taiwan"

An official at the South African embassy in Taipei said Taiwan should not worry.

"President Nelson Mandela has always insisted that Pretoria would maintain official ties with Taiwan even if it establishes formal relations with Beijing," he said.

But Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang made it clear China would not tolerate any ambiguity by Pretoria.

"South Africa must first sever so-called diplomatic relations with Taiwan before establishing diplomatic relations with China," he told journalists.

Nzo denied there was any link between his visit and Taiwan's presidential election at the weekend.

He said it was just coincidental and added it had not been discussed with Chinese leaders.

Taipei and Beijing have been locked in a fierce struggle for international recognition since the end of the 1949 Chinese civil war.

Taiwan is a major, long-standing investor in South Africa.
Women still a minority in
govt structures

ONLY 18% of all local
councillors in rural and
urban areas were wom-
en, ANC MP Lydia
Kompe said in Johan-
nesburg yesterday.

She told a rural local
government conference
that although women
made up 51% of SA's
population, the recent lo-
cal elections had not re-
lected that situation.

Only 14, 6% of women
representatives worked
at the executive level of
local government struc-
tures, she said.

Kompe attributed the
limited representation of
women to a political bias
towards male candidates
by the major parties. She
said the entrenchment of
the male-dominated tra-
ditional authorities in lo-
cal government struc-
tures would have "seri-
ous immediate and long-
term implications" for
the participation of
women, especially in
rural communities.

Kompe criticised the
Local Government Tran-
sitional Act of 1993 for
failing to legislate the
status of women as an
interest group. "The re-
sult has been that some
provinces have chosen
not to classify rural
women as such."

At the conference,
Administrative Develop-
ment Deputy Minister
Valli Moosa said the es-
tablissement of a nation-
al rural local govern-
ment ministry was not
such a good idea. He sug-
gested that government
become involved in local
government issues only
when it was "absolutely
critical", because of the
detail involved.

The conference reiter-
ated the position taken
by the national land
committee yesterday for
democratic government
to take precedence over
all other forms, but said
it appreciated the need
for local government to
be as representative as
possible.
but cabinet reshuffle promised by Liebrzinger's departure is not a cause for the titters

Ministerial merry-go-round

The Agenda, Friday, March 1996
On course for May 9 deadline but education a sticking point – Ramapahosa

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

CONSTITUTIONAL assembly chairperson Cyril Ramaphosa remains confident that the May 9 deadline for a final draft of the new constitution will be met.

But he warned that a new issue, education, should be added to the list of those which could produce a deadlock.

Parties are to attend a boershark for three days next week to iron out differences on unresolved issues, including the right to life, whether there should be a property clause, whether employers should be given a constitutional right to lock out, and the limitations clause.

Addressing the Cape Town Press Club yesterday, Mr Ramaphosa said all parties were approaching the outstanding issues in a spirit of compromise.

No party would get everything it wanted in the final constitution, not even the African National Congress.

Mr Ramaphosa said he was particularly pleased by the degree to which the views of ordinary people had influenced the shaping of the constitution.

"I believe we are taking into account the views of people who bothered to make submissions."

Some issues which had threatened to produce deadlocks had been resolved. Among these were the competencies of provinces, and the Council of Provinces, the successor body to the cabinet.

Consensus had been reached on local government, with agreement that it should be recognised as a separate tier of government rather than a functional area of provincial government.

Bilaterals on self-determination were continuing between the ANC and the Freedom Front and between the ANC and the National Party on NP proposals for cultural councils. Some progress had been made on these issues, Mr Ramaphosa said.

Mr Ramaphosa said he believed the constitution which would be produced by May 9 would be suited to South Africa's needs, and capable of enduring for many years.

Following the framework set out in this year's Budget, Mr Manuel said:

"Whatever other consequences may flow from yesterday's reshuffle, an immediate result will be a new phase of politicisation of debate on the handling of the Finance Ministry."

While minority parties tended to hang back from personal criticism of Mr Liebenberg, Mr Manuel's party-political identification will open the way to more heated attacks.

Mr Leopold may be correct in saying that financial markets determine interest and exchange rates, but all observers would do well to note that fiscal policy is set by a cabinet composed of three parties, a phenomenon which will remain unchanged when Mr Manuel walks into his new office on April 4.

HAIL AND FAREWELL: President Nelson Mandela bids good wishes to outgoing Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg, whose departure he announced in parliament.
The new Cabinet

President: Nelson Mandela (ANC)
Executive Deputy President: Thabo Mbeki (ANC)
Deputy President: Phuthuma Ntuli (CNP)

MINISTERS

Minister for Finance: Trevor Manuel
Minister for Defence: Joe Modise (ANC)
Minister for Education: Manto Tshabalala-Msimang (ANC)
Minister for Foreign Affairs: A. M. Nozola (ANC)
Minister for Health: Nkosazana Lwazi Zuma (ANC)
Minister for Housing: Sipho Motlatsi (ANC)
Minister for Justice: Dullah Omar (ANC)
Minister for Labour: Tony Leon (ANC)
Minister for Land Affairs: Derek Hanekom (ANC)
Minister for Public Enterprises: Stella Sigau (ANC)
Minister for Public Service and Administration: Zola Skosana (ANC)
Minister for Post: Trevor Manuel (ANC)

President of the Council of Ministers: Cyril Ramaphosa (ANC)

THE NEW CABINET

Trevor Manuel

Well done ... former trade unionist Susan Shabangu is congratulated by fellow MPs after she was announced as the new Deputy Minister of Minatral and Energy Affairs.

Alec Erwin

Newly-appointed Trade and Industry Minister, Alec Erwin, had a long history of involvement with labour before he became deputy Finance Minister in May 1994.

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

Newly-appointed Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka became a Member of Parliament in 1994. Born in 1955, she graduated from the National University of Lesotho as a teacher.

Gill Marcus

Newly-appointed Deputy Finance Minister Gill Marcus has a reputation of being a dedicated, efficient and diligent as chair of the National Standing Committee on Finance.

Key figures in Cabinet reshuffle

Background information some of those given new responsibilities yesterday.

Pallo Jordan

Former Posts, Telecommunication and Broadcasting Minister Pallo Jordan is expected to re-merge in a new portfolio with before 1999. He was born in Kroonstad in 1942, schooled in Cape Town and went into exile in 1962.

Despite being at loggerheads with the SACQ faction which effectively controlled the ANC, he rose through the ranks - mainly in the Department of Information and Publicity, and headed the ANC’s Radio Freedom.

He was one of the key negotiators at the talks that led to the establishment of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA).

He has held a low profile since his Cabinet appointment in 1994, popping up only when there were controversies surrounding the SACQ, the IBA and privatization.

Political Reporter.
Liebenberg’s resignation sparks Cabinet reshuffle

Manuel takes up finance post

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg resigned yesterday, sparking the scrapping of the RDP department and a host of other changes which will consolidate the ANC’s power in the government of national unity.

In the current government’s biggest Cabinet reshuffle to date, Liebenberg will be replaced by Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel. Deputy Finance Minister Alec Erwin will take Manuel’s place, while Posts and Telecommunications Minister Fikile Mbalula will stand down in favour of RDP Minister Jay Naidoo.

President Nelson Mandela also appointed three women as deputy ministers, with parliamentary finance committee chairman Gill Marcus becoming deputy finance minister.

Two new deputy ministerial posts have been created for mineral and energy affairs and trade and industry, which will be filled by ANC MPs Susan Shabangu and Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, respectively. The changes take effect on April 4.

Speaking after Mandela’s announcement, Liebenberg said he was “totally at ease with government’s fiscal and economic policies, denying that his resignation was based on any differences of opinion with his colleagues.”

Liebenberg said that at the start of his roughly 18-month term, he had indicated he would not be taking on the position for long. His resignation ends an era of expert non-political and quasi-political Finance Ministers.

Liebenberg said: “I firmly believe that everything is in place for the strategy to go forward and that it really would have been superfluous for me as a non-politician to be around when you have the talent sitting on the sidelines that can do the job.”

He had given Mandela the understanding that he would not seek another position in the private sector while in office. “So I am unemployed, although I’m too young to stay at home.”

Mandela told Parliament the appointment of Manuel as finance minister created the problem that the ANC had one more minister than was allowed by the constitution.

“After much reflection,” Mandela said he had decided to assign Jordan “other tasks outside Cabinet”, although it is understood he is unlikely to remain outside the higher government ranks for long.

Mandela said that with the appointment of Naidoo to Jordan’s post, the RDP office would be closed down, and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki had been instructed to handle the relocation of projects and programmes which fall under the RDP office’s supervision.

The RDP fund would be relocated within the finance ministry.

Opposition parties reacted to the changes with varying degrees of scepticism. The NP said that after former finance minister Derek Keys resigned, it had been accepted by the ANC that the finance minister should be an internationally respected expert who was political neutral.

The NP said it was worried about the signals this decision might send and called on government to renew its commitment to the continuation of the approach that had been followed thus far.

DP finance spokesman Ken Andrew said that in the absence of a full explanation, the indications were that Liebenberg was “fed up with having to make unsatisfactory budgetary compromises which he knows are harmful to SA’s long-term social and economic interests.”

Freedom Front finance spokesman Willie Botha said it was a pity that finance ministers who had good success records in the private sector did not offer their services to politics for longer periods. This unfortunately created the impression that something was wrong somewhere, he said.

Sasol president Rudi Heine said Liebenberg’s resignation came “at an unfortunate time” in SA’s history when the country “is still struggling to develop and build a record of fiscal discipline, financial stability and sound management of the economy.”

“The fact that in its short history, the new SA has now had two finance ministers is almost certain to raise market concerns about the commitment of the government of national unity to fiscal discipline.”

Heine said, however, that Sasol had enjoyed an “excellent working relationship” with both Manuel and Erwin in the past, and he hoped this would continue.

See Pages 5 and 18
Key cabinet post for Manuel

Pallo Jordan axed in reshuffle
THE CABINET RESHUFFLE

LAST MARCH: Mervil, with current Deputy Labour Minister Roman Krastev and theoretic allies, marched in the pro-government demonstration in front of the Ministry of Education. Leading a march on parliament before the historic 1999 election, the minister stated: "Many of us are not as we appear."
The rise of Trevor Manuel

EARLY MORNING ARREST: Manuel is confronted by Warrant Officer Schäik van der Merwe of the now defunct security branch during an early morning raid in the '80s on his Hazendal home. He was arrested and taken into detention.
Another appointment is another step in growth of SA's confidence

CONGRATULATIONS. Sir: The new Minister of Finance. Trevor Manuel is congratulated.

GOOD EXAMPLE OF “PROFESSIONAL" POLITICS

The change is taking place. This is a response from the Prime Minister, who is happy to see the departure of an influential figure in the government. The new Minister, Trevor Manuel, has been praised for his professionalism and dedication. The transition is expected to bring new perspectives and energy to the finance sector.
In the wake of Taiwan's developments, China and Africa are making significant decisions. The People's Republic of China recently held a conference with African countries to discuss bilateral relations and economic cooperation. The conference aimed to strengthen mutual support and cooperation, especially in the fields of trade, investment, and infrastructure development. China has also pledged to increase its support for African countries in addressing climate change and promoting sustainable development. This move is seen as a strategic initiative to deepen China's influence in the African continent.
The Dook: Final Whistle or New Main?
Where does one draw the line? And who decides?

■ Remembering his own experience, Cyril Ramaphosa knows only too well how important the right to information is. He talks about his view

MICHAEL MORRIS
Staff Reporter

SOMEWHERE in the paper-logged labyrinth of government is a file that Cyril Ramaphosa would very much like to peruse.

He saw it once, but fleetingly — and all he knows is that it bears his name. What makes the file significant in the broader scheme is that it is precisely access to documents such as these — dossiers kept by the state on individuals in society — which the access-to-information lobby argues should be the subject of a right to information.

For all his intrigue in seeing that file, Cyril Ramaphosa, like most of his peers in the African National Congress, does not subscribe to the view that it is feasible to grant citizens a limitless right in the Bill of Rights to information held by the state.

He described at the Cape Town Press Club this week how, as the leader of the National Union of Mine-workers, he was in a meeting with then Minister of Police Adriaan Vlok when he spotted a file on the minister’s desk bearing his name. “I was most interested in that file,” he recalled. On a later, somewhat more convivial occasion, he had asked Mr Vlok what was in it, but the minister wouldn’t say. Mr Ramaphosa confessed this week that he was “still intrigued” to know what the dossier contained, but went on to reason why he remained opposed to anything like a

■ ON FILE: Cyril Ramaphosa would love to see what the previous regime had on him.

absolute right to information held by the state. “The right should be such that it enables us to have access, but I believe that access should be elaborated in a statute.

“Rights are not absolute, and if you accept that rights have limitations, then you must accept that they have to be further elaborated on and expanded on in other instruments, such as legislation. The right of access to information held by the state is a right that cannot be unlimited, and cannot be a right that can be fully elaborated in a Bill of Rights. It must be regulated by legislation, which sets out the conditions under which it can be exercised.”

He “looked forward” to full discussions with the media on this so that there could be “consensus” on the subject.

By way of illustration, he asked: “Should we say that everyone should have access to the intelligence reports that Nelson Mandela gets every day? This is not a situation where the state is violating people’s rights.”

A bullish Mr Ramaphosa confidently predicted that, contrary to some, the final constitution would be delivered on schedule, on May 8. He has a bet on this — two cases of good Cape wine — and appears determined to enhance his cellar. Fewer than 12 days in the next six weeks have been set aside for the final rounds of negotiations on outstanding matters.

“We have almost wrapped up the whole constitution, and there are just a few areas that remain to be negotiated. “All things considered, we have
Kriel learns not to speak too soon...

By CHIARA CARTER

HERNUS KRIEL, Western Cape premier, lives in a glass house himself— that’s why he could not afford to throw political stones at President Mandela and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela regarding their divorce.

The premier also realised he had blundered by making petty party politics of the President’s wealth—and apologised to him this week for his personal remarks.

The ANC said he had told Mandela his reported remarks were not what he had intended to say at a National Party election meeting in Cape Town.

Die Burger reported Kriel had drawn a comparison between the shortage of funds for education and the extent of President Mandela’s personal wealth as referred to by the media.

City Press has reported that, Madikizela-Mandela wanted half of the President’s estate—R20 million as a settlement.

Kriel, a former minister of Law and Order, questioned the fact that Mandela’s estate could be worth R40 million as he was imprisoned until 1990. He criticised Mandela for giving money and gifts, including a car, to his daughters and grandchildren.

The ANC said Kriel was running his election-campaign from the “gutter” and Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal demanded that Kriel withdraw or apologise for his statements.

Mandela said he was profoundly disturbed by Kriel’s attack and it was based on “untested speculation”.

Approached by City Press, Kriel declined to reveal details about his own divorce from Juliette Kriel in December 1993 after 27 years of marriage.

Papers before the court did not disclose Kriel’s financial situation. (At the time a minister earned about R200 000 a year.)

In terms of the divorce, Kriel is believed to have set up a R100 000 trust fund for his son in addition to paying R600 a month for the boy’s maintenance.

He is also believed to have given his ex-wife R20 000 and a 1992 Cit! Golf and to have agreed to pay her at least R3 000 a month maintenance.

Their house in Newlands, Cape Town, worth at least R500 000 is believed now to be registered in her name.

The President’s lawyers this week described as “void of any truth”, a report first carried by City Press (and later by other newspapers) that his ex-wife had physically attacked him before their separation in 1992.

The President’s statement said he “regretted” the publication of the reports particularly at a time when his relationship with his former wife was under public scrutiny. “The reports were published ‘without any reference to the President and no attempt was made to verify their accuracy with him or his office’.”
why Pallio Jordan got the boot
not some of the other less-than-effective ministers, was chosen for axing.

It would have been logical for Mr Mandela to complete his financial reorganisation by shuffling the Minister of Public Enterprises, Stella Sigcau, while he was about it.

But he may have spared her the rod because of his determination to promote women in government. Among this week's appointments were Ms Marcus, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka as Deputy Trade and Industry Minister and Susan Shabangu as Deputy Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs.

Mr Mandela's woman-power strategy may also have led him to overlook Marcel Golding for the Mineral and Energy Affairs post. Although he applauded Ms Shabangu's appointment warmly, Mr Golding may have grounds for feeling a little left out.

He has emerged as one of Parliament's finest committee chairmen, a former trade unionist who sends the National Union of Mineworkers a regular briefing on his committee's activities.

Mr Golding has spent two years building up a relationship with Minister Pik Botha and plays a key role in government's policy direction in the field.

On her appointment, Ms Shabangu said she had never met Mr Botha. "I hope he's a fine guy, I've read lots about him," she said.

Someone else who could have taken the reorganisation badly would be the Minister of Labour, Tito Mboweni, who was regarded as a potential finance minister before Thursday's seismic event.

But Mr Mboweni may have been seen as too close to labour. Business has criticised him for drafting laws that have made South Africa's labour market too inflexible.

Mr Mboweni further alienated business when he engaged in a public war with the SA Foundation over its Growth for All document, while Mr Manuel maintained a discreet silence.

For the moment, the volcano has fallen silent, but there are rumblings which suggest it could erupt afresh in the near future. Tardy ministers, beware.
new posts. And Mr. Jordan, who was the head of the government economic policy this year, also decided to close the conference held by the Economic Planning Board. The meeting was attended by representatives from the ANC's political leadership. Mr. Jordan, who is also the minister of telecommunications, told the meeting that the government was committed to ensuring land reform and the redistribution of land. He said that the government was also committed to the transformation of the economy and to ensure that the benefits of economic growth would be shared by all South Africans.

At a press conference, Mr. Jordan also addressed the issue of land reform. He said that the government was committed to the transformation of the economy and to ensure that the benefits of economic growth would be shared by all South Africans.

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