SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

1987

JANUARY ——— DECEMBER

Broad support for SACC conference

SAPA 27/1/86 304

Religion Reporter

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has attracted top theologians and church leaders to speak at its conference on evangelism this week.

The theme of the conference will be "The relevance of evangelism in South Africa today", and will be held at Hammanskraal from January 27 to 31.

Conference organiser the Rev Mark Hestenes said he hoped the conference would help project a more balanced image of the SACC. The organisation had gained a reputation as primarily an anti-apartheid organisation, but it was, after all, a church body.

Mr Hestenes said he was pleased with the response he had received. "It is surprising that people want to talk about evangelism at a time when we are in the midst of a state of emergency."

He said the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk participation would be stronger than for any previous SACC event. He had also received inquiries from the Zionist Christian Church (ZCC). The ZCC, which had never been interested in SACC activities before, had indicated that it wished to send a delegation of five people to the conference.

Because of the diversity of the speakers, it will not be a conference where only the liberation theology view would be given.

The speakers will include the president of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, the Rev Ernest Baartman; the dean of Unisa's theology faculty, Professor David Bosch; the general secretary of the SACC, Dr Beyers Naude; SACC president Bishop Manas Buthelezi; the general secretary of the Institute for Contextual Theology, the Rev Frank Chikane; the Rev Wesley Mabusa of World Vision and Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk minister Dr Willem Nicol.

The proceedings will start every day with a 90-minute Bible study session which will be conducted by Professor Calvin Cook, a professor of Church History at Rhodes University.

SOWETAN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1986 27c + 3c GST (PWV) Elsewhere 35c

fontana
YOUR EVERY DAY AND EVERY NIGHT FOOD STORES
We sell peace of mind 24 hours a day
S 12295

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1986 27c + 3c GST (PWV) Elsewhere 35c

TUTU SAVES THE DAY

By MOJALEFA MOSEKI
INSIDE ALEXANDRA

His words calm a seething Alexandra crowd

BISHOP TUTU

THE Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, the Right Reverend Desmond Tutu yesterday defused an explosive situation when he managed to calm thousands of residents in Alexandra Township who were bent on confrontation with the police.

Bishop Tutu, who with Bishop Manas Buthelezi and the Rev Stanley Mogoba, stood between thousands of seething residents and truck loads of security forces.

The residents wanted to march to the nearby Wynberg Police Station after they had been told that a demand for the release of those arrested by the police since Saturday had been rejected.

This demand was made by a residents' delegation elected at a meeting earlier in the morning.

The delegation was elected after a strong presence of the police and soldiers had thwarted a march earlier in the morning. A conservative estimate of the crowd would be more than 30 000.

After the rebuff by the police Bishop Tutu appealed to the crowd, congregated at the Alexandra Stadium, not to confront the armed police.

He also pleaded with residents not to kill each other. Youths were also asked to allow their parents to leave for work this morning, although pupils made it clear they would not be returning to school.

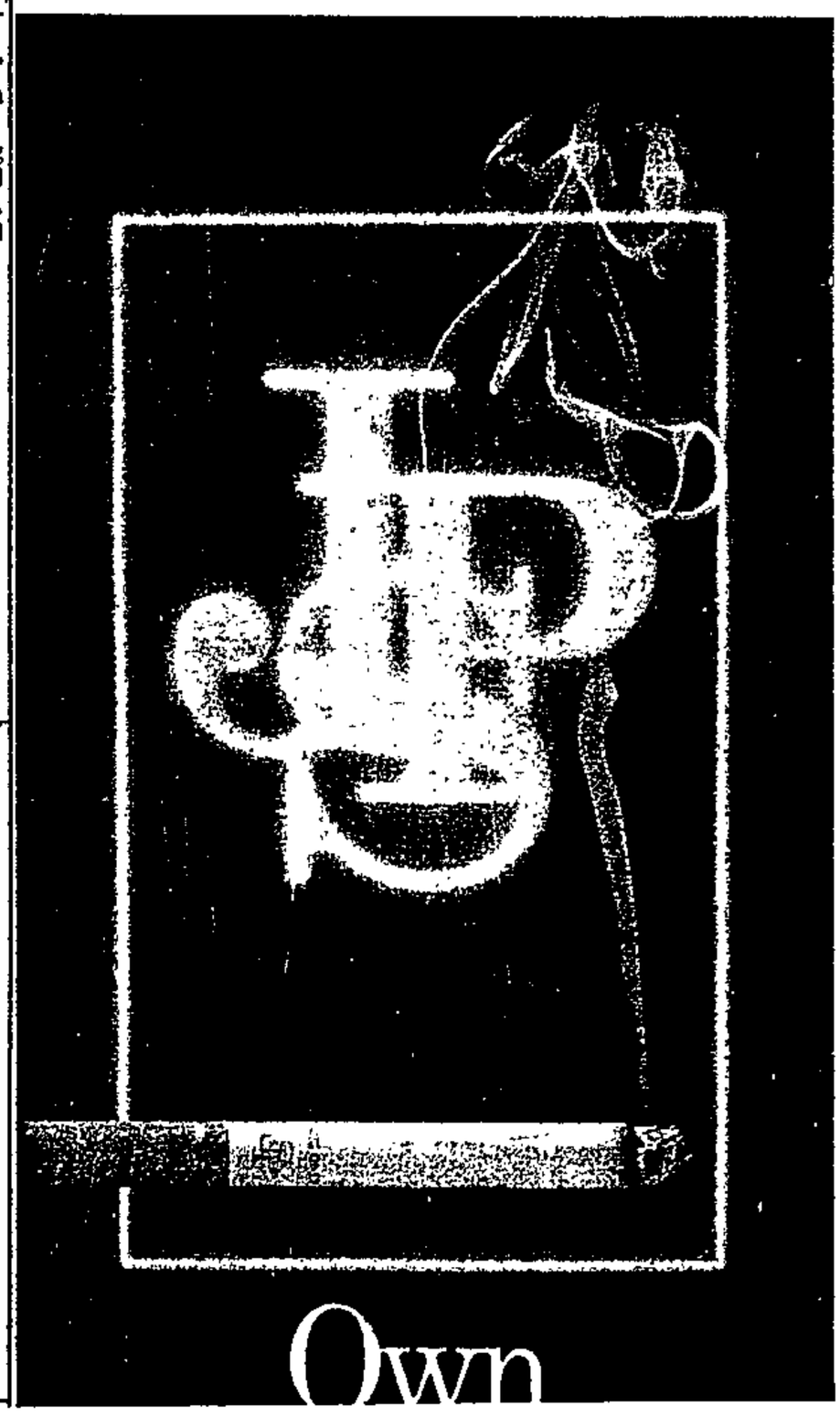
Failed

Bishop Tutu was supported by Bishop Buthelezi and Rev Mogoba, both senior members of the South African Council of Churches. Dr Allan Boesak and the Rev Beyers Naude were refused permission to enter Alexandra Township. They were part of an SACC delegation.

Said Bishop Tutu: "We as your parents know that we have failed to lead you. We know that you are brave.

"But I want to ask you one favour, go home peacefully and the

Turn to Page 5



Detainee's family in urgent court plea

LAWYERS acting for the detainee who was admitted to the Johannesburg Hospital after going on a hunger strike were yesterday preparing an urgent Supreme Court application to allow the detainee's parents to visit him.

Mr Ronald Swart who is a teacher in Kliptown and was detained under the state of emergency regulation last year, was admitted to the hospital on Friday.

He was among the 28 on a hunger strike at the Diepkloof Prison.

His father, Mr J H Swart, yesterday said he had instructed attorneys to bring in an application at the Supreme Court that will enable him to see his son.

Meanwhile the hunger strike by emergency regulations detainees at Diepkloof Prison enters its ninth day today. On Friday a statement released by the hunger strikers said their spirit and morale was high, according to the Detainees Parents Support Committee.

Mr SERAME MAKOE ... released

The 27 strikers are being kept in one cell and are provided with three meals a day — which they ignore. The food, brought in pots with plates, is taken away after 30 minutes when the authorities are satisfied that it will not be touched.

The Prisons Department confirmed that a number of detainees were refusing to eat their food when the hunger strike started. A spokesman said the authorities were dealing with the situation.

One of seven emergency detainees released from the Diepkloof Prison on Friday, Mr Serame Makoe (20), said he started eating only on Sunday.

Asked for comment, the Police Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria yesterday asked The SOWETAN to send a telex. The SOWETAN is still waiting for a reply to the telex.

19 die in Alex – Vlok

From Page 1

SACC will take your grievances to the authorities.

"When you go home, please do not go in groups of ten or eight because there are people waiting to do terrible things. We do not want to give them that chance.

"We believe in God who is powerful. We know that He is going to free us. There is nothing wrong in struggling for your liberation. What is important is to use strategies which one is not going to regret when reading the history books in days of freedom."

In Parliament yesterday the Progressive Federal Party Member for Houghton, Mrs Helen Suzman, asked the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, to clarify the number of deaths since the unrest broke out at the weekend.

Mr Vlok replied that 19 had been killed, 16 from gunshot wounds as a result of police action, and 37 wounded, of which 27 were shot by police.

● Following is the SA Police unrest sitaution report issued last night:

"In Alexandra a mob of blacks attacked a police vehicle with petrol-bombs. Not less than six petrol-bombs were thrown at the police vehicle. The SA Police had made use of shotguns to disperse the attackers. Two black males above 18 and one black male under 18 were fatally wounded.

"Six black females and five black males, all under 18, were also arrested in this incident for public violence."

Govt must quit now, churches tell banks

THE executive of the South African Council of Churches yesterday affirmed the statement made by leading clergymen on February 8 calling for foreign banks to reject debt rescheduling proposals unless the Government resigned.

The executive affirmed the statement made on February 8 in a letter on the rolling over of South Africa's loans by Dr Beyers Naude, the general secretary of the South African Council of Chambers; Dr Alan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and Nobel Laureate, Bishop Desmond Tutu.

The letter said the clergymen "requested of the leading American banks that rescheduling of South Africa's debt should be made conditional upon the resignation of the present regime and its replacement by a government responsive to the needs of all South Africa's people".

The executive decided its statement should be sent to British, European and US banks.

A statement released after an SACC executive meeting yesterday said: "The executive decided to request SACC member churches to exploit their bilateral links with overseas churches to request them to assist in the implementation of this resolution on comprehensive sanctions." — Sapa.

SACC group tries to see PW

DISPATCH 21/2/88 D 304

CAPE TOWN — A spokesman for the office of the State President confirmed yesterday that a delegation of the SA Council of Churches had arrived at Tuynhuis yesterday seeking an appointment with President P. W. Botha, but that he had been unable to see them.

The spokesman said the President had asked the Deputy Minister of Defence and of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok and senior officials of his department to hold talks with the delegation and two hours of discussions had ensued.

The delegation left Cape Town by air shortly after the talks, having cancelled a hastily called press conference at the airport.

The delegation told waiting media they would be reporting back in Johannesburg before making any statement.

The party comprised Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Reverend Beyers Naude, Dr Allan Boesak, the chairman of the Alexandra Civic Association, Mr Mike Beea, the president of the SACC, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, and the chairman of the Western Province Council of Churches, the Reverend Lionel Louw.

They told pressmen at the airport in Cape Town that a conference would be held this afternoon in Johannesburg.

● Mr Pat Poovalingam (Sol Reservoir Hills) said in the House of Delegates yesterday that the talks between the SACC delegation and Mr Vlok augured well for the country's future.

Speaking in the mini-budget debate, he described Bishop Tutu as an "illustrious leader" and said he hoped the talks would not only be the forerunner of more to be held but would also help restore sanity. — Sapa

Alex: Churchmen fail to meet P W Botha

DELEGATION: Bishop Desmond Tutu, Bishop Manas Buthelezi and Dr Allan Boesak arriving at D F Malan Airport in Cape Town yesterday morning. In the background is Dr Beyers Naude, leader of the South African Council of Churches delegation.

SOWETAN 21/2/86

A DELEGATION of influential churchmen hoping to meet President P W Botha in a mediation effort on events in Alexandra were received in Cape Town yesterday by Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

Group leader Dr Beyers Naude said afterwards the South African Council of Churches delegation was disappointed at not seeing Mr Botha, but had "fruitful" discussions with Mr Vlok.

At least 41 people died in violence in Alexandra this week. Police have confirmed 22 deaths.

At DF Malan Airport, before the group left for Johannesburg, Dr Naude said they had promised the community of Alexandra that they would inform them of the outcome of their discussions at a meeting in the township at 3pm today.

Alexandra is an emergency area and is closed to the Press, but a Press conference would be held at Khotso House this afternoon, Dr Naude said.

He said th SACC delegation believed they were going to see President Botha until their arrival at Tuynhuis, the President's office in Cape Town.

Dr Naude said he had telephoned the President's office and the meeting had been confirmed.

The SACC delegation, including Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Rev Beyers Naude and Dr Allan Boesak, entered Tuynhuis at 11.15am, less than an hour after flying to Cape Town from Johannesburg.

(204)

But after more than two hours they emerged, having seen Mr Vlok. The churchmen shook hands with Mr Vlok and left for DF Malan Airport.

As they left Bishop Tutu said: "We are always happy with talks".

Bishop Manas Buthelezi, Mr Mike Beea, chairman of the Alexandra Civic Association, and the Rev Lionel Louw, chairman of the Western Province Council of Churches were also in the group.

GRE

Beyers Naude in favour of sanctions

Mercury Reporter

DR BEYERS Naude, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, yesterday said in Durban that he supported disinvestment and sanctions as means of putting political pressure on the South African Government, because they were alternatives to violence.

Speaking at the official opening of the Black Sash national conference, Dr Naude said he supported civil disobedience because it was vitally important that whites showed solidarity with blacks.

He said the role of Parliament would become increasingly irrelevant and vital decisions affecting the future of the country were being made by pro- and anti-Government forces outside it.

To loud applause Dr Naude said he supported the resignations from Parliament of Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert and Dr Alex Borraine.

He said that all black education might close down if negotiations between the Government and the Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee did not satisfy blacks.

Dr Naude said if an education conference at the Natal University, Durban, on March 29 and 30 was banned, virtually all black schools would be closed by the end of the year.

Outgoing Black Sash president Sheena Duncan said changes being made by the South African Government were designed to entrench the structures of apartheid.

Mrs Duncan said the removal of race barriers at a social level and the significant improvement in labour laws were to be welcomed but did not affect apartheid.

'There has been no reform to the apartheid structures,' Mrs Duncan said.

She said apartheid would crumble if the Population Registration Act, which requires people to be classified by race, were repealed.

Mrs Duncan, who has been Black Sash president for the past four years, has said she will not stand for re-election but was not leaving the Black Sash.

Theologian predicts increasing conflict

Naude warns Govt: 'Ban meeting and schools will empty'

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — If the Government bans a major education conference in Durban at the end of this month it could lead to the closing down of every black school in the country, said Dr Beyers Naudé.

Speaking at a public meeting to mark the opening of the Black Sash National Conference in Durban this week, Dr Naudé, General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, predicted increasing confict, polarisation and repression in the next six to nine months.

VIOLENCE

But at the same time there would be "increasing liberatory action" by organisations like trade unions, civic associations and youth groups. Unlike most white South Africans he saw hope that fundamental change would be achieved by these actions.

Dr Naudé, who received a standing ovation, said South Africa had only begun to experience the effect of action such as consumer boycotts and strikes. If the negotations between the Government and the Soweto Parents Crisis Comittee were not concluded to the satisfaction of the black community by March 31, he was not prepared to predict what would happen.

A major conference on black education was due to take place in Durban at the end of this month. If the Government banned it, the situation would "take a decisive turn towards that moment when eventually in the course of this year there will be practically not a single black school or educational institute operating in this country".

If that occurred then trade unions might act in support of the pupils.

But what the white community saw as a frightening possibility, he saw as a sign of hope because fundamental change would only come about through these kinds of pressures. If the black community could not use non-violent actions to attain their rights as human beings "what else remains to them but violence?"

Dr Naudé said fundamental change would only come about through increasing economic and political pressure and by actions undertaken in South Africa.

As long as extra-parliamentary or so-called radical forces remained excluded from the negotiating table, there would be no peace.

STATE OF WAR

Dr Naude said that was why he was in favour of sanctions, disinvestment, civil disobedience, the End Conscription Campaign and other non-violent forms of pressure.

It was important that "we stand in solidarity and identify in some small way with those who want to bring about meaningful change in South Africa."

"I'm quite certain we have to face a situation of serious conflict, crisis, bloodshed, and I can't see how it can be avoided. But I do see it could be diminished, that it could eventually be terminated ..." This would occur as more people were willing to take meaningful action in solidarity with the oppressed.

Dr Naudé said it was with deep sadness he concluded there was no longer any point in discussing solutions purely in terms of non-violent against violent means "because we are in a state of violence". As far as the black community was concerned South Africa was at war. He said among the effects of the present situation was an almost total loss of respect for the laws made by the white man and the instruments created to apply these laws.

PAINFUL

"That is why, increasingly, individuals and groups of people in the black community are taking the law into their own hands. That is why we see the expression of crude forms of justice and terrible forms of injustice. That is why we have necklace killings, burning of homes, kangaroo courts.

"What we are experiencing at the moment, if there is no miracle, is only the begining of a total undermining of not only authority but respect for authority, and how long and how painful it is going to be to rebuild that."

Ciskei blames SA delay for unrest

DISPATCH 27/3/86

Dispatch Reporter

BISHO — Unrest in the Mooiplaas area was a direct result of the South African Government's delay in implementing an agreement reached in 1981, Ciskei's Director General for Information, Mr Headman Somtunzi, said yesterday.

He was reacting to a statement by South Africa's Ambassador to Ciskei, Lieutenant-General A. J. van Deventer, that a group of people had been moved from Mooiplaas because of harassment and intimidation "by a bad element of anti-Ciskeians" in the area.

Mr Somtunzi said a South African Government delegation had held discussions on the issue with Ciskei Government representatives yesterday. Further talks would probably be held within 14 days.

He said the Ciskei Government was deeply concerned about General Van Deventer's statements which "always miss the point and are inaccurate and misleading, especially when there is a crisis," Mr Somtunzi said.

Mr Somtunzi cited statements made by General Van Deventer relating to the Kuni squatter issue.

"The highlighting of a bad element of anti-Ciskeians in Mooiplaas is devoid of truth because the unrest in the area is a direct result of delays by the South African Government to implement what had been agreed in 1981," he said.

Mr Somtunzi said Ciskei had documentary proof that what was a negotiated settlement could no longer be honoured.

"For the information of the ambassador, even before independence the Newlands, Kwelera, Kwenxura and Mooiplaas areas were under Chief D. M. Jongilanga of the Imidushane tribal authority."

There was peace and order in the area, but when Ciskei became independent, the South African Government's greed for a bigger share of fertile land and the fact that the communities fell within the white corridor resulted in people in those areas having to be moved to land in the Chalumna/Ncera area.

The chief and his headmen gave their blessing to the plan and called for its immediate implementation and the transfer of some 22 000 hectares with infrastructure to the Imidushane tribal authority. To their surprise by the middle of last year only 15 000 hectares had been purchased.

The Newlands, Kwenxura, Kwelera and Mooiplaas areas were under the jurisdiction of South Africa as was the maintenance of law and order, but people who needed protection were denied protection, Mr Somtunzi said.

The deliberate resettlement of these people on land already identified for incorporation into Ciskei and without the basic human requirements was viewed in a serious light.

It was hoped that the frustrations experienced by people at Kuni and the areas under the Imidushane tribe would not happen again.

"It should be understood that removals touching traditional and Queen's land is viewed with the deepest resentment as it concerns the sacred elements of the nation," Mr Sombunzi said.

●In the House of Assembly yesterday the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said the areas of Heckel, Wartburg, Newlands, Kwelera and Mooiplaas in the East London district were administered by the Ciskei Government but the South African Government intended taking over their administration.

Replying to a question by Mr Pat Rogers (NRP King William's Town) he said about 4 705 families lived in the affected areas.

INSIDE

Business 11
TV, radio 14
Weather: fair 14
Ships, aircraft, tides 14
Classified 15-19

SACC hunt for Beyers' replacement

No 2 man Vaughan also plans to quit

By HENNIE SERFONTEIN

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) has launched an intensive search to find a new general secretary before the end of June this year.

He is to replace the 70-year-old Dr Beyers Naude, who was appointed temporary general secretary for a two-year period beginning at the end of 1984.

Naude is himself not in the running because of his age.

A special "search committee" has been appointed, consisting of leaders of member churches or their representatives, the SACC four-person praesidium and some co-opted members.

This committee has, in turn, appointed a sub-committee which will submit a short list of names to the next meeting of church leaders in June. The matter will also be discussed at the SACC executive a week later, and the decision will be finally ratified at the SACC annual general conference at the end of June.

There is immense interest in church and political circles in the appointment.

Whoever is appointed will occupy one of the most influential positions in the country.

The outcome will be influenced by theological, political and ideological considerations, personality differences and regional and inter-denominational church rivalries.

Some of these factors are:

●A growing white conservative backlash against the role being played by the SACC.

●Tension between the SACC and members churches accusing it of often acting unilaterally.

●Tension between the Western Province Council of Churches and the SACC about a number of issues, including the treatment of the controversial June 16 prayer day last year.

●Sharp criticism by the newly-founded, influential Black Ecumenical Church Leaders Consultation (BECLC) of the "white control" of the administration and finances of the SACC, and the "white dominated" leadership of its member churches.

●Rivalry between supporters of the Black Consciousness ideology and those of the non-racial philosophy of the United Democratic Front.

●The publication in September last year of the controversial "Kairos Documents: A challenge to the churches".

Regardless of these sometimes confusing and conflicting claims, one thing is certain: whoever is appointed will be black.

The BECLC ten days ago wrote a letter to Naude, informing the SACC that in view of the importance of the appointment of the new general secretary, members of the BECLC should be included in the search committee.

And keeping up the pressure on the SACC, it submitted four names of church persons who have the support and confidence of BECLC for the post.

They are Dr Takatso Mofokeng, a minister of the NGK in Afrika and a lecturer at Unisa, Dean Tshenuwani Farasani, of the Lutheran Evangelical Church in Venda, Dr Bonjagello Goba, of the Congregational Church and also a Unisa lecturer and the Reverend Sol Jacobs, chairman of the controlling board of Fedsem, the theological seminary in Natal.

This list is not exhaustive and more names may be submitted.

Others named as strong candidates include the Reverend Frank Chikane, director of the Institude of Contextual Theology and Minister of the Apostolic Faith Mission, and the Reverend Lionel Louw of the AME church in Cape Town.

There is a possibility that the deputy general secretary, a new post, could

DAN VAUGHAN, the assistant general secretary of the SA Council of Churches, has given notice of his intention to resign from the post.

He has informed Dr Beyers Naude, the general secretary, that he intends resigning, although it will not be immediate and will only take effect later this year.

A close confidante of Bishop Desmond Tutu, the former general secretary, Vaughan has been in charge of administration, finance and information services at the council for a number of years.

He played a crucial role in assisting the SACC legal team during the Eloff Commission of Inquiry in 1982/3 and did much to restore the organisation's financial credibility after difficulties in that period.

Recently, the SACC was pressured by the Black Ecumenical Church Leaders Consultation (BECLC) to "critically evaluate" its structures. The BECLC accused the SACC of having a white bureacracy.

In the subsequent reorganisation, Vaughan's own position was substantially affected and his financial and much of his administrative duties were transferred to two black staff members.

(ix) Indumiso Teachers Training College 1 035

(x) Cape Teachers Training College 202

*St Francis Teachers Training College 16

Statistics as on the 5 March 1985.

Note: *Molapo is a satelite campus of the Soweto Teachers Training College.
*St Francis is a satelite campus of the Cape College of Education.

Teachers

538. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

What was the (a) shortage of teachers, and (b) percentage of inadequately trained teachers, in Black schools in each specified departmental region in the Republic as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(a) If pupil-teacher ratios of 35:1 in primary schools and 30:1 in secondary schools are taken as targets and compared with the actual average ratios of 40, 45:1 and 32, 49:1 in 1985, the following shortages exist in the various regions:

Northern Transvaal	1 301
Highveld	1 200
Johannesburg	296
Orange-Vaal	1 468
OFS	1 174
Natal	368
Cape	772

(b)

Northern Transvaal	21,68%
Highveld	18,68%
Johannesburg	7,59%
Orange-Vaal	16,03%
OFS	27,97%
Natal	26,84%
Cape	6,08%

Figures as on 5 March 1985.

President's Council

547. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the State President:

(1) Whether any Black persons have been invited to become members of the President's Council; if not, why not; if so, how many;

(2) whether any of these persons have accepted the invitation; if so, how many?

The STATE PRESIDENT:

(1) No, since the Constitution makes no provision for Blacks to be included in the President's Council. During an address in the President's Council on 14 November 1985, I requested that Council to advise me on the composition and functions of the President's Council in order to make provision for further forms of negotiation and for participation by leaders of Black communities in that Council.

(2) Falls away.

Development Boards

593. Prof. N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(a) What was the total amount paid out in 1985 in allowances to members of the boards of Development Boards in the Republic and (b) in respect of how many persons was the amount paid?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(a) R749 259,64.

(b) 97.

Farm schools

595. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(a) How many farm schools were subsidised by his Department, (b) what was the average subsidy paid per farm school, and (c) what total number of pupils was registered at these schools, in 1985?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(a) 5 399.

(b) R11 977.

(c) 470 084.

Burglaries

612. Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Law and Order:

How many burglaries were reported to the South African Police in 1985?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

166 812 burglaries.

Note: Abovementioned statistics are furnished for the period 1 July 1984 until 30 June 1985. Statistics with regard to the period 1 July 1985 until 31 December 1985 are not readily available.

Secondary schools

629. Mr P R C ROGERS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

How many secondary schools for Black pupils in rural areas were there in each specified departmental region as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

Orange Free State	18
Cape	13
Natal	6
Northern Transvaal	19
Orange Vaal	5
Johannesburg	0
Highveld	4

Figures as on the 5 March 1985.

Note: The phrase "rural" is not easily definable. In the reply to this question the norms used are those of the current "Investigation into the provision of education for the rural areas".

Secondary schools

631. Mr P R C ROGERS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) Whether any additional secondary schools with boarding facilities are planned for Blacks in the rural areas of the Republic; if so, (a) where are they to be situated, (b) when is it anticipated that building operations in respect of each such school will be (i) commenced and (ii) completed and (c) what is the estimated cost of each school;

(2) whether a sufficient number of qualified Black teachers are available for such schools; if not,

(3) whether qualified (a) White, (b) Coloured and (c) Indian teachers will be appointed to fill vacant posts at such schools; if not, why not, in each case?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(1) The Department is at present conducting a wide ranging investigation into the provision of educational facilities in the rural areas which will be submitted during the latter half of 1986.

(a), (b) and (c) Fall away.

(2) and (3) Fall away.

Std 10 examinations

632. Mr P R C ROGERS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(a) How many Black pupils at schools in the (i) East London, (ii) Cath-

SACC call for intervention

JOHANNESBURG — South African Council of Churches (SACC) church leaders have expressed concern over the conflict in the country and have appealed to foreign churches to ask their governments to intervene to prevent the escalating violence.

The SACC churches met here this week to discuss issues such as the new security bills, the ban on June 16 meetings and the worsening violence at Crossroads and other areas.

In a statement yesterday, the churches urged the withdrawal of the bills, which "would give the authorities carte-blanche to act with indemnity if they became law".

The churches were appalled at the alleged collusion between security forces and the "witdoeke" faction in Crossroads, and called for the SADF to withdraw and the SAP to stop the "witdoeke" attacks on squatters.

● It is reported from Harare that the SACC general secretary, Dr Beyers Naude, said if political prisoners were not released, SA would become ungovernable to the point where the economic situation would force the government to take drastic action, or resign.

He said SA could be heading for a Spanish Civil War situation, with "tremendous polarisation and unimaginable levels of brutality."

● Meanwhile the Anglican Diocesian Council for Johannesburg has resolved in a statement yesterday that if the pending security legislation became law, "it will be unable to obey regulations made in terms of it, nor will it counsel other Anglicans to obey them".

● It is reported from Durban that the former PFP MP, Dr Alex Boraine, said on Tuesday the government only had two choices left.

Addressing a protest rally in connection with the security bills, he said the government could either release Nelson Mandela, unban the ANC and scrap apartheid to prepare the way for genuine negotiation, or it could continue to suppress, detain and even kill its political opponents. — Sapa

16/4/86

SACC's 'deep joy' in choice of Tutu

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday expressed its "joy and delight" at the election of Bishop Desmond Tutu as head of the Anglican Church in South Africa.

In a statement to the press, SACC general secretary Dr Beyers Naude said: "The executive of the SACC, meeting in Johannesburg, unanimously expresses its deep joy and delight at the election of Bishop Desmond Tutu as Archbishop of Cape Town.

"In the six years during which Bishop Tutu served as general secretary of the SACC, we experienced at first hand the qualities of leadership, integrity and deep spirituality which have been affirmed by this election.

"The world church has long since recognized that in Desmond Tutu, God has shaped a prophet and pastor of great stature. We congratulate him that the Church of the Province, which he has loved and served for so long, should now call him to its highest office.

"It is our earnest prayer that Bishop Tutu will enjoy the fullest support from all his people and that the whole South African community will listen with new seriousness to the cry for justice and reconciliation which has sounded for so long."

Great leadership qualities

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference yesterday sent a telegram of congratulations to Bishop Tutu. The telegram, sent by SACBC president Archbishop Denis Hurley of Durban, assured Bishop Tutu of its collaboration and prayers.

Archbishop George Daniel, Archbishop of Pretoria, also sent him a telegram of congratulations. He said Bishop Tutu had great leadership qualities that were needed for the country.

● The Transkeian Prime Minister, Chief George Matanzima, said yesterday while officially opening an annual congress of the ruling Transkeian National Independence Party in the Umtata city hall, that Bishop Tutu should first renounce his income and go without the bare necessities of life before advocating disinvestment.

Bishop Tutu is in favour of sanctions being imposed on South Africa to force the government to abolish apartheid.

● 'Delight' of clergy at election of Tutu, page 11

Relaxing at the home of his Newlands hosts, the Rt Rev Desmond Tutu, Archbishop-elect of Cape Town, chuckles over Tony Grogan's "Crack of Dawn" cartoon on the front page of yesterday's Cape Times. He returned by air to his Johannesburg diocese soon afterwards.
Picture: Richard Bell

Tutu: 'It's all like a dream'

By ROGER WILLIAMS
Chief Reporter

WHILE South Africans of all persuasions pondered the significance of his election as the next Archbishop of Cape Town, the Rt Rev Desmond Tutu slumped into an easy chair to snatch a few minutes of relaxation at the home of his Newlands hosts yesterday.

"It's all like a dream," he said. "I am quite overcome by the awesomeness of it all, and of the tremendous responsibility that has been placed on my shoulders.

"This is even more awesome than when the Norwegian Ambassador to the UN called on me in New York in October 1984, with a bunch of flowers for Leah, my wife, and told me I was the Nobel Peace Prize winner for that year."

Bishop Tutu was chosen on Monday night by the elective assembly of the Diocese of Cape Town as the new head of the Church of the Province of South Africa.

He attended a special thanksgiving eucharist in the chapel at Diocesan College yesterday where his election by more than 400 members of the houses of clergy and laity took place behind locked doors on Monday.

"The college very kindly invited me to the service, and I said a few words to the staff and pupils present." With a chuckle, this man who has made church history by becoming the first black man to head the Anglican community in South Africa, quipped: "Poor boys; I'm afraid they were a captive audience!"

Bishop Tutu said it would be "a great wrench" leaving Johannesburg. "But then I look forward to coming to live in one of the most beautiful cities I know — and to facing the great challenges that lie ahead."

The archbishop-elect is to be enthroned in Cape Town in September, on a date still to be fixed. His official residence will be the historic Bishopscourt.

SACC link to violence 'appalling'

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — The gulf emerging between the South African Council of Churches and the ordinary people of the country was frightening, according to Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of Kwazulu.

Addressing the Kwazulu Legislative Assembly, Chief Buthelezi said he was appalled at the extent to which the current leadership of the SACC was becoming embroiled in party politics and black-on-black violence.

Referring to the Kairos document — a controversial brief endorsed by the SACC exhorting all Christians to join the "revolutionary struggle" — Chief Buthelezi said it was obvious that the SACC condoned the "horrible acts of violence" by the ANC mission in exile.

"There are so many who fail to understand that running through South Africans of all race groups there is a strain of human Christian decency which is beginning to permeate ever deeper into society," he said.

STAR 304 13/6/86

Court adjourns SACC action

A hearing in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday morning concerning public access to Khotso House was adjourned after the court was told that police had left the building.

The urgent application, brought by the South African Council of Churches (SACC) against a Lieutenant-Colonel Visser, was postponed indefinitely.

Giving oral evidence, an attorney, Mr Michael Halton Cheadle, said he had received a telephone call informing him that police were barring access to various buildings which housed clients of his, including Lekton House and Khotso House where he was to see officials of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union.

POLICEMEN

On his arrival at Khotso House he saw six policemen at the entrance and he was not allowed to go into the building, Mr Cheadle said.

People who worked in Khotso House were allowed into the building on the basis that they were not allowed to leave, he told the court.

The SACC sought a court order directing the senior police officer to inform the council by which powers he was preventing them from consulting their attorney and preventing members of the public from freely leaving Khotso House.

The SACC also asked that the lieutenant-colonel allow the council access to its legal representative and allow members of the public into, and out of, the building.

SACC to discuss 'crisis'

THE five-day annual conference of the South African Council of Churches starts on Monday, at St Barnabus College, Bosmont, Johannesburg.

The theme of the conference is "Hope in Crisis". It will focus on various problems, including trying to find solutions in the apartheid society, a spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said many speakers will address the conference.

They include the Reverend E Baartman, president of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa; Mr Joe Seremane, fieldworker of the SACC division of Justice and Reconciliation and Professor Wolfgang Huber of the University of Heidelberg, Germany.

SACC president Bishop Manas Buthelezi will open the conference. He is expected to deliver his report on Tuesday.

The general secretary of the SACC, Dr Beyers Naude, and other SACC officials will also table reports.

The spokesman said the conference has been given the theme because of the present "crisis" in the country.

On the agenda are the state of emergency and other problems facing South Africa.

School out of bounds

COMMUNITY organisations, teachers and pupils, have been barred from using school premises — during the winter vacations — in all areas which fall under the state of emergency.

This means teachers and pupils who would like to make use of the school facilities for extra lessons during this period would have to obtain written permission from either the headmaster of the school concerned or from the regional director of that area.

This also affects church groups which use schools to hold their services.

A spokesman for DET, Mr Peter Mundell, said everybody who wished to make use of school premises should obtain permission to cover themselves from security legislation.

The spokesman added that as far as teachers are concerned, they would come back to school a few days before July 1, which is the official reopening day.

Schools which fall under DET closed for the winter recess on June 6, but Soweto schools were closed two days earlier at the request of the regional director, Mr Gunther Merbold.

STAR 25/6/80

304

100 young people to discuss SA

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — About 100 young people, about half from South Africa, are due to gather in Harare next week (July 1 to 5) for a meeting organised by the World Council of Churches and the South African Council of Churches.

A WCC statement said there would be "eyewitness" testimony about the South African situation and responses to apartheid in other countries.

Delegates are expected from many parts of the world including the United States and Canada, Brazil, European countries and India, as well as African countries.

The meeting is a follow-up to the World Council of Churches' special session on South Africa held in Harare last December.

250 000 South Africans living in exile, SACC told

Religion Reporter

More than 250 000 South Africans are living as exiles in neighbouring territories and further afield, the director of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) refugee ministry has said.

During 1985/86, the refugee division was inundated with requests to assist potential refugees to leave South Africa because of the escalating unrest, the Rev Sol Jacob said in a report presented to the SACC national conference in Bosmont.

"Until the South African Government dismantles apartheid and its structures of injustice that make South Africa a refugee-producing country and declares unconditional amnesty to all South African refugees and exiles, the movement of refugees from South Africa to neighbouring territories and further afield will continue unabated," Mr Jacob said.

The SACC member churches agreed that people should not be encouraged to leave the country.

"However, the division notes that large numbers are still leaving South Africa daily in search of refuge in neighbouring countries and further afield," he said.

For the SACC to carry out a relevant ministry to exiles, it was felt that there was a need to maintain dialogue with the liberation movements, as most refugees joined one or these organisations.

"Without good relations with these liberation movements, the church will be stifled in its mission to serve the refugees in their places of refuge," Mr Jacob said.

The matter had been referred to the SACC executive for guidance and direction, since it had serious legal and ecclesiastical implications.

Most of the exiles left behind dependants and young families without provision for their needs.

SACC proceeds with agenda after warning

By Estelle Trengove

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday decided to go ahead with its annual national conference in spite of a warning from their legal adviser that proceedings could contravene the emergency regulations.

Delegates at the national conference in Bosmont debated whether they should continue after they had been addressed on the emergency regulations by the SACC's legal adviser, Mr Oliver Barrett.

Mr Barrett said he would advise the SACC to reconsider the normal form of their national conference because if it were conducted as in the past, it would contravene the regulations.

He quoted from previous conference documents which could at present be classified "subversive statements".

A past president of the SACC, the Rev Peter Storey, said in the light of this legal advice, the SACC had two choices. It could say that under such regulations it was unable to conduct its conference sensibly and as a measure of protest delegates should abandon the conference.

The other option would be to say the church had a job of work to do and proceed with the conference.

Dr Allan Boesak summed up the feelings of several speakers when he said he did not want to go to jail, but it was the church's duty to speak "God's truth." Delegates voted overwhelmingly in favour of proceeding with the conference agenda.

Mr DENIS Healey, shadow British secretary of foreign affairs, meets Bishop Simeon Nkwana at the SACC conference yesterday.

Hope for change in SA: Healey

MR DENNIS Healey, the British Labour Party's shadow foreign secretary, arrived yesterday for a week-long visit to South Africa as a guest of the South African Council of Churches.

He is accompanied by Mr Donald Anderson, Labour's spokesman on foreign affairs, and Mr Julian Eccles, the party's foreign affairs specialist.

The purpose of Mr Healey's visit is to express solidarity with those struggling against apartheid, to get a first hand experience and briefing on main issues, and to follow up and repeat the Labour Party's call for sanctions against South Africa.

Last week, it was doubtful whether Mr Healey would be allowed into the country because the South African Government did not view his visit favourably.

At a Press conference shortly after his arrival, Mr Healey said he was aware that the Government was not happy about his visit.

He said he had been assured by the South African Embassy in London that it was out of respect for Mrs Margaret Thatcher that he was allowed to visit South Africa.

Mr Healey addressed the SACC's annual conference in Bosmont yesterday. In his speech, Mr Healey said the SACC had a major role to play in bringing about meaningful political, economic and social change in South Africa. He said there was still hope for change in the country.

Mr Healey said he hoped that the pressure that had been brought to bear on the Government would force the Afrikaners to negotiate with the true black leaders.

Mr Healey had hoped to meet a broad spectrum of leaders from various organisations, including trade unionists but could not as many are detained or are in hiding for fear of being detained.

Yesterday Mr Healey paid a visit to Mrs Albertina Sisulu, president of the UDF. He also toured Soweto and visited some hostels there. Mr Healey will leave the country on Friday afternoon for Lusaka.

Churchmen to send telex to Le Grange

CHURCH leaders are to send an urgent telex to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, requesting him to lift the ban on all meetings of political organisations in the Western Cape.

The decision was made at the annual conference of the South African Council of Churches held in Bosmont, Johannesburg, yesterday.

Addressing the conference on the issue the Anglican Archbishop-elect Bishop Desmond Tutu, said the lifting of the ban would enable the organisations to hold meetings and to resolve their differences.

The Western Cape Police Commissioner, Brigadier Chris Swart, issued the ban on the publication of statements by the organisations' officials in terms of the emergency regulations.

SACC's general-secretary, Dr Beyers Naude.

The organisations include the United Democratic Front, the Azanian People's Organisation, Congress of South African Trade Unions, Azanian Students' Movement and several community and political organisations.

Bishop Tutu appealed to various political factions in the Western Cape to "bury the hatchet". He urged church leaders to play a leading role in this matter.

Delivering his secretarial report to the conference, Dr Beyers Naude said the church has a responsibility to undertake a meaningful role in order to stimulate and guide the thinking of all people in the country.

He said: "The past year has brought us a picture of a series of crises in our country."

Naude: Changes not just cosmetic

SIPHO NGCOBO

THE series of reforms announced by President P W Botha during the past year should not be seen as purely cosmetic, even if they were hemmed in by all kinds of inhibiting regulations.

This was said by SA Council of Churches general-secretary Beyers Naude, while addressing the its national conference yesterday in Johannesburg.

He said: "During the past year, government has announced a number of reforms in response to demands for meaningful change."

Naude said recognition should be given to Botha for his willingness to undertake the changes despite growing bitterness and opposition from many whites — even if some were initiated only after severe pressure.

26/6/86 STAR

Naude names 'major source of violence'

By Estelle Trengove

The conflict between the Government and the African National Congress was basic to all others in South Africa and if it could be resolved, a major source of violence would be removed.

This was said by the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), Dr Beyers Naude, in his report to the SACC national conference in Bosmont, Johannesburg.

"Is there any possibility that the Church could make a meaningful contribution to solving these conflicts and to prevent further and major bloodshed in our country?" Dr Naude said.

The three major Western powers, the United States, Britain and Germany, had clearly stated their opposition to sanctions in any form, in the belief that other ways and means could be found to resolve the conflict.

"If they claim sanctions are not the answer, now is the hour for them to come forward and say if not that, what then?" Dr Naude said.

Dr Naude said he believed conflicting convictions were militating against meaningful reconciliation and were preventing white and black coming to a better understanding.

The State President had implemented a number of reforms, which should not be seen as merely cosmetic.

"The tragedy of these reforms, however, lies in the fact that they are seen by the majority of the people (especially the blacks) as too little, too slow and therefore too late, whereas for many of the whites, they are regarded as too radically revolutionary," he said.

Most whites were increasingly convinced that there was a serious threat of a communist takeover, while the black community, in general, did not hold this view.

Whites feared that blacks would be incompetent to rule the country, in contrast to the black perception that the black community was capable of fulfilling the function of political and civil administration as well as any white.

The black community constantly emphasised their concern for building a sound economy to ensure the welfare of all South Africans.

But whites feared chaos and economic disruption if black demands were implemented.

Whites, and especially the Afrikaners, feared losing their cultural and ethnic identity.

But blacks pointed out that they formed a large number of cultural and ethnic groups and had learnt to live together in reasonable harmony and peace.

"It is these and other issues to which the South African community, especially the churches, will have to address themselves if we are to play a meaningful role in achieving both liberation and reconciliation," said Dr Naude.

With the declaration of the state of emergency, many leaders in different fields had either been detained or had gone into hiding.

This created a situation of uncertainty and lack of progress, which could cause serious problems for the country in the foreseeable future.

Dr Naude said he believed the Church should take the struggle for workers' rights seriously.

A very large percentage of its members were workers and members of trade unions.

Economic justice was at stake in the workers' struggle and it was necessary for the Church to define very clearly what it understood by this concept.

Churches to petition Govt for Crossroads peace talks

Church leaders are to petition the Government to allow the various factions involved in the Crossroads unrest to hold mass meetings where they could put peace proposals to their members.

Anglican archbishop-elect Bishop Desmond Tutu said he had been involved in the "Crossroads situation". On Saturday, leaders of the various factions held meetings and agreed they wanted peace.

They asked church leaders to request the Government to allow them to hold mass meetings, so they would be able to convey to their members what had happened at the peace talks.

Bishop Tutu yesterday addressed church leaders attending the South African Council of Churches (SACC) national conference in Bosmont. The conference agreed to sign such a telex message and to send it to the Government.

KNOW THE CONSEQUENCES

Speaking about the present situation in the country, Bishop Tutu said now that the UDF (United Democratic Front) had effectively been silenced, the Church was the only remaining organisation which could "speak out".

"If we, the church of God, are going to speak out and tell this Government that they are a totalitarian government, we must know the consequences," he said, referring to the maximum penalty of a R20 000 fine or 10 years' imprisonment for contravening the emergency regulations.

"But if we don't speak out — our brothers and sisters are sitting in jail and not a single one of them was planning violence in South Africa," the Bishop said.

CAPE TIMES 26/6/86

Naude: Reforms not just cosmetic

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The series of reforms announced by President P W Botha during the past year should not be seen as purely cosmetic, the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), Dr Beyers Naude, said yesterday.

Addressing the SACC's national conference held at St Barnabas College, Dr Naude said: "During the past year, the government has announced a number of reforms in response to the demands for the meaningful change to abolish the policy of apartheid."

Dr Naude said recognition should be given to Mr Botha for his willingness to undertake the changes despite growing bitterness and opposition from many whites, even if some of them were initiated only after severe pressures from either the blacks in the country or from the outside world.

"Within the framework of the policy of apartheid, the State President has displayed, from the viewpoint of the white constituency, remarkable courage to tackle these issues in the face of bitter opposition.

"The tragedy of these reforms, however, lies in the fact that they are seen by the majority of the people, especially blacks, as too little, too slow and therefore too late, whereas for many of the whites they are regarded as too radical and revolutionary," Dr Naude added.

NATIONAL

SACC fund provides help, defence for unrest victims

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A National Emergency Fund created by the South African Council of Churches allocated R182 837 over the past year for legal defence of accused in unrest situations, bail, funerals and other unrest-related expenditure.

The fund was established in April last year.

It attempted to meet the ever-increasing needs resulting from the crisis in the country, the co-directors of the SACC Dependants' Conference, Mrs Sophie Mazibuko and Mrs Anne Hughes, said in a report to the SACC national conference.

"Concern"

"Also it enables the Church to be seen to be expressing its concern and support for the oppressed and suffering masses in South Africa," they said.

The Dependants' Conference also paid monthly subsistence grants to the families of political prisoners and detainees.

A total of R86 434 was paid out in March this year alone.

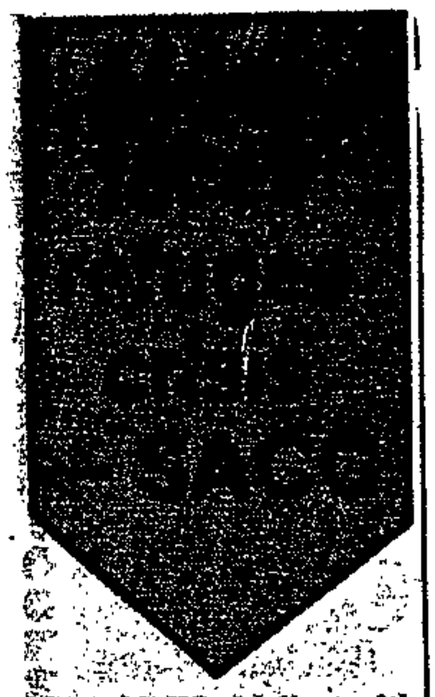
Even though the Conference was trying to eradicate dependency by monitoring monthly grants, the figures still continued to soar.

Education

Included in the sum of R86 434 was aid given to exiles' families made available from the Asingeni Fund.

The Dependents' Conference also helped with education, release from prison grants, funeral grants for ex-prisoners and -detainees and medical expenses.

The monthly grants have been increased to a scale of between R85 and a maximum of R135. In addition, the Conference provided assistance with rent in some instances.



REPORTS dealing with various South African problems, including the system of apartheid, the mass removal of blacks, ministry to refugees and the educational crisis, have been tabled at the South African Council of Churches annual conference.

In its report, the Department of Justice and Reconciliation says by the time the 1986 parliamentary session is over the pass system will have been repealed, but it was not visualised that there will be real freedom of movement.

The report expresses fears that in terms of the Citizenship Bill those people who were residents in the homeland before the Bill was passed will be aliens in the country of their birth.

It says several advice centres have been established country-wide where blacks will receive help concerning their problems, such as influx control, detentions and financial help.

The division of Ministry to Refugees says an estimated 5-million Africans have been uprooted by civil war, various forms of political turmoil and drought in the African continent.

"The statistics create a frightening picture — one in every 200 Africans is a refugee. Africa is facing a refugees crisis", the reports says.

The churches have continued to preach the gospel to exiled members of the banned African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress and South West African Peoples Organisation. They have also given educational, cultural and other forms of help to them.

The African Bursary Fund has continued to give destitute blacks financial aid and has awarded about 887 bursaries. It has held talks with the National Education Crisis Committee on the education crisis in the country.

The division of Home and Family Life has decided to work out stronger ties in the institution called The Family between the youth and parents, extending to the society at large.

CHURCHES MUST UNITE - SACC

304

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

SOUTH African churches should unite and make the world aware of the crisis in the country, the South African Council of Churches resolved yesterday.

This was one of several resolutions adopted at the SACC's annual conference in Bosmont, Johannesburg.

The conference called on all churches to join the SACC — especially the Dutch Reformed Church because of its close relationship with the National Party and its influence among whites.

The conference declared its support for the rule of law, but said it was strongly opposed to the Public Safety Amendment Act and the Internal Security Amendment Act.

The SACC decided not to take any resolution on disinvestment and sanctions.

The conference has resolved to continue discussions with the National Education Crisis Committee and to consider alternative systems of education.

It resolved to investigate the possibility of protecting South African refugees in neighbouring states and to discuss their problems with liberation movements.

The SACC has also been requested to seek closer links with other councils of churches in Africa, particularly in countries which are members of the Southern African Development Co-ordinating Committee.

• Other resolutions discussed at the conference may not be published in terms of the emergency regulations.

Sowetan 304 27/6/86

WORLD'S YOUTH TO MEET

ABOUT 50 young South Africans are expected to attend a meeting organised by the World Council of Churches and the South African Council of Churches in Harare between July 1 and 5.

The SACC's general secretary, Dr Beyers Naude, said although fewer youths could take part because some have been detained, the youth committee believed the meeting should go ahead.

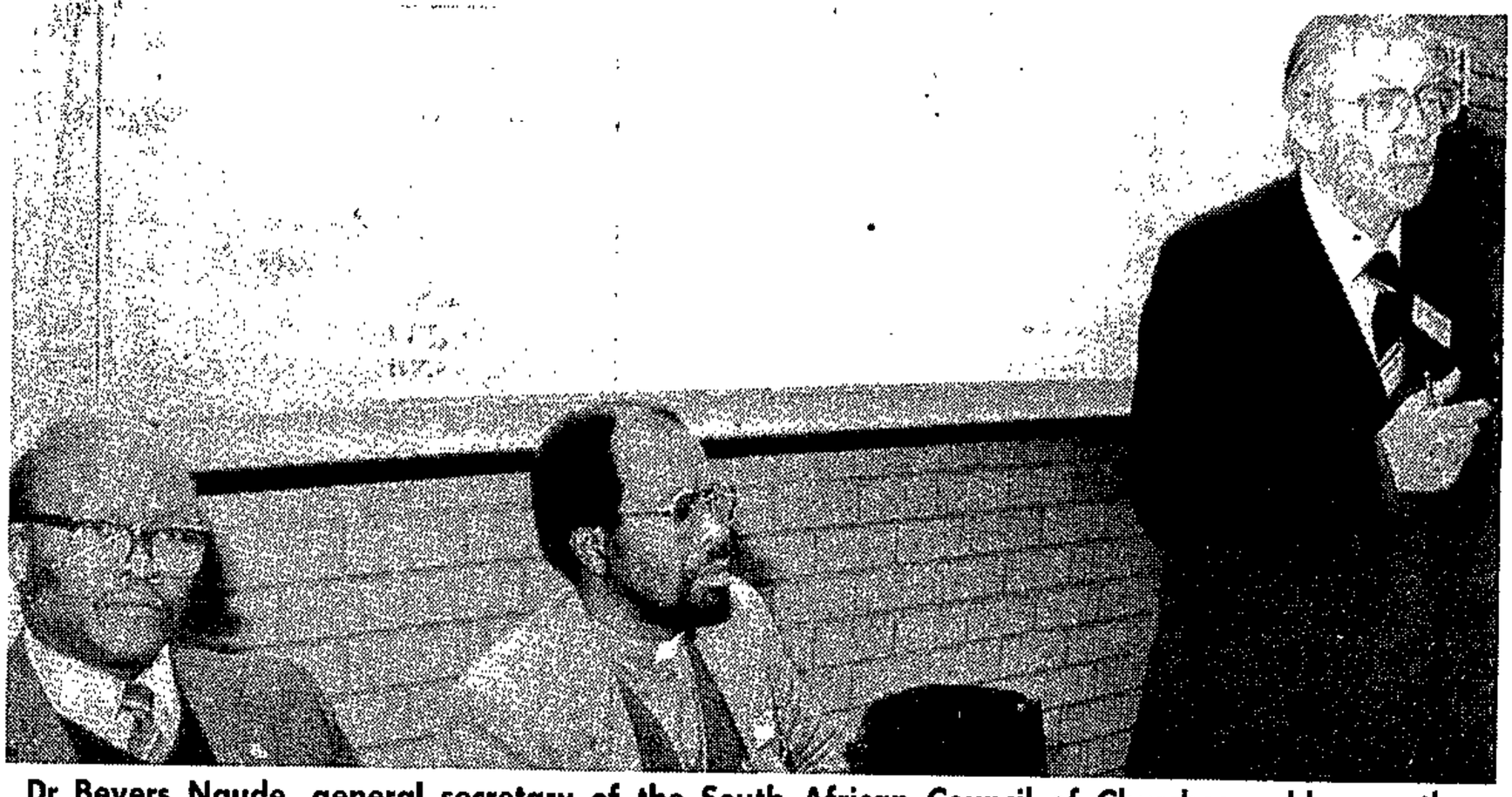
About 100 delegates are expected from many parts of the world, including the United States of America, Canada and European countries.

The meeting is a follow-up to the WCC's special session on SA.

STAR 27/6/86

SACC to remind NGK of 'grave responsibility'

304



Dr Beyers Naude, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, addresses the SACC national conference at Bosmont. Next to him are SACC vice-president Dr T S N Gqubule and SACC president Dr Manas Buthelezi (centre).

Religion Reporter

At the annual conference of the South African Council of Churches in Bosmont yesterday, the SACC decided to send a delegation to the leadership of the Ned Geref Kerk to remind it of its grave responsibility to let a "prophetic voice" be heard in the country at this critical time.

The delegation was also to inquire whether the Ned Geref Kerk would reject apartheid. If so, it would be invited to become a member of the SACC.

During debate on this resolution, one speaker said that the SACC should not speak to the Ned Geref Kerk until the Afrikaans church had declared apartheid a heresy.

Anglican Bishop John Carter opposed this, saying that the SACC should not reinforce theological differences at a time like this, but should rather encourage dialogue.

In another resolution, the SACC expressed its deep appreciation to the governments and councils of churches in neighbouring countries for all they had done and continued to do for South African refugees under extreme difficulties.

R9,75-m received

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) received grants and donations totalling R9 750 295 last year.

This is more than double the amount received in 1984.

The donors were mainly European and United States churches and church organisations.

The money was used by the SACC for grants and donations, its national emergency fund, legal expenses and employment costs.

The balance at the end of last year stood at R4 108 010.

Agreement on motion to deny race classification

By Estelle Trengove

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has decided in principle to take action aimed at bringing an end to race classification.

Their proposed action may not be reported in terms of the emergency regulations.

At its national conference in Bosmont, the SACC adopted in principle a motion calling on its member churches and the public to "deny race classification".

The classification of persons according to racial characteristics for the purpose of determining their social and political status was sinful,

The Government had agreed that the 12th digit of identity numbers should be abandoned and no race classification would hence be indicated on a person's ID.

But race classification would be retained on a central register in Pretoria, said an SACC document.

Any State official could easily determine a person's race for the purpose of enforcing racially discriminatory legislation.

In the same way, children could be classified when births were registered, voters' lists could be made in terms of the tricameral parliament and homeland citizenship could be determined.

The Church would now challenge race classification. It had failed to do so when the system was introduced.

Restricted

This report has been restricted in terms of the emergency regulations.

Awash with money!

304
S-TIMES

29/6/86

FOREIGNERS DOUBLE SACC FUNDS

By CAS St LEGER

THE South African Council of Churches' coffers now contain more than R9-million — a massive 100 percent increase owing to bigger overseas donations and a favourable exchange rate.

But of this, nearly R4-million is in discretionary funds intended for the relief of "victims of apartheid" and remains unaudited.

And this week a senior council spokesman warned that there may be a sharp drop in donations once apartheid ends.

The SACC's much strengthened financial position emerged at the annual congress in Johannesburg this week: a congress held in the sombre circumstances of the state of emergency.

While commerce and certain branches of Christianity floundered financially in 1985, the SACC chalked up increased revenues of R5-million to R9 130 788, much of it from church groups in Germany, Sweden, Norway, The Netherlands and the US.

For perhaps the first time since the SACC was founded in 1968 as successor to the Christian Council of SA, it is well and truly in the black — despite spending R7-million.

This included R2,4-million on grants and donations; R1-million on the Asingeni discretionary fund, R710 828 on the National Emergency Fund and R53 254 on the General Secretariat discretionary fund.

The auditors' report contains the rider that their examination did not include the SACC's trust and other funds: "Accordingly, we are unable to, and do not, express an opinion on these funds and grants."

BRITISH VIEW

from the Daily Telegraph

"What upsets me about South Africa is that our congregation wouldn't fill a police van"

ING INDUSTRY

ion: The Sugar I
nployers' Associat
Amalgamated Eng
ugar Industry Emp
an Electrical Wor
ndustry Employees
s', Iron and
s'

Help for families

In the past, these discretionary funds have been used to assist families of detainees or refugees and for legal expenses.

The National Emergency Fund was used for bail, funeral grants, costs of inquests, costs of emergency meetings relating to the crisis situation, legal defence of accused in unrest situations, travel costs for parents to trials, food relief and contributions for repairs to damaged homes.

This week, SACC president Dr Manas Buthelezi warned delegates that foreign funding might not be so readily available in the future.

"About 60 percent of foreign money the SACC currently receives and administers will go to the new ("liberated") state as development aid. That would definitely affect the style of the operation of the SACC as an organisation," Dr Buthelezi said.

"It is a known secret that apartheid is one of the best public relations agents in the sale of the budget of the SACC overseas. Once apartheid goes, the SACC will be forced to rely more and more on its member churches," he said

Dr Buthelezi said the SACC was still playing roles beyond its ecumenical task.

Grants and donations to the SACC during 1985 totalled R9 750 295. The National Emergency Fund, formed in 1985 to cater for the crisis, was given R2,1-million, the largest single donor being Diakona in Sweden with R345 853, followed by Brot Fur De Welt, Germany, with R436 553.

The African Bursary Fund received a total of R1,3-million, the largest single donation of R672 148 from the Church of Norway.

The Asingeni Discretionary Fund received R1,8-million, with the Church of Norway again providing the largest single amount of R318 701; and the Dependents' Conference a total of R1,3-million.

At the end of 1985, a total of R619 507 remained to be allocated to projects.

DR NAUDE
Warning

Appeals to donors

In his address, general secretary Dr Beyers Naude warned that the demands for money from the Asingeni and National Emergency Funds had outstripped resources, thus forcing the SACC to step up appeals to donors.

Affiliation fees of member churches have increased 134,5 percent over 1984. One of the few showing decreased fees is the Church of the Province of SA, down to R3 750 from R4 000.

Among those not reflected in 1984, but handsomely represented in 1985, are the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Sendingkerk in SA, now the largest affiliate at R5 000, the Young Women's Christian Association of SA (R2 250) and the Broederkerk in Zuid Afrika (R2 250).

This year's conference, held under the theme "Hope in Crisis", differed from those held in the past, not least because the SACC attorney warned that certain sections of conference reports and agenda, business and discussions could contravene the emergency regulations.

Gone was the usual outspokenness. Biblical analogy was used to convey the message.

Beyers Naude gets a hug from Bishop Tutu at this week's conference.

29/6/86 CITY PR: (304)

By MONO BADELA

SA COUNCIL of Churches president Manas Buthelezi told the council's annual national conference this week that the search for a new general secretary to replace Dr Beyers Naude was continuing.

Naude and SACC assistant secretary Dan Vaughan are leaving the organisation.

Naude will leave at the beginning of 1987, and Vaughan later this year.

In his presidential address, Buthelezi said the "search procedures" had not been finalised.

"The national executive had hoped to present the name of the appointee to this 1986 national conference, but things did not happen as fast as we had hoped."

In his report, Naude said steps had been taken to fill the vacancy left by Vaughan on a temporary basis, until a permanent appointment could be made.

Passing a vote of thanks, former SACC general secretary Bishop Desmond Tutu said the council was "blessed" to have had a person like Beyers Naude.

Delegates all paid tribute to Naude for "a job well done".

SACC to focus on refugees

Sowetan 30/6/86 (304)

THE South African Council of Churches (SACC) will focus on the problems of refugees and exiles at its next national conference.

The council has resolved that the theme of the 1987 national conference should be "Jesus was also a refugee — focus on refugee exiles".

The resolution was taken at the SACC annual conference held at the St Barnabas College in Bosmont last week.

At the end of the five-day conference, the SACC's president, Dr Manas Buthelezi, urged churches in South Africa to give moral, pastoral, material and financial support to refugees by visiting them.

"Churches have a special responsibility to ensure that meaningful and successful negotiations should take place between blacks and whites before a situation of violence erupts," he added.

The SACC's general secretary, Dr Beyers Naude, said: "Now more than ever the church has a responsibility to undertake a meaningful role in order to stimulate and guide the thinking of all people of goodwill in our country."

(DDR) DD 1/8/86 (304)

Buthelezi challenges SACC

ULUNDI — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday called on South African churches to state "quite unambiguously" their positions on sanctions and violence and commended King Goodwill Zwelithini of the Zulus for his courage in challenging Anglican and Catholic church leaders on these issues.

Chief Buthelezi pointed out that the Anglican Church was affiliated to the South African Council of Churches, which had indicated support for the African National Congress (ANC) whose "official policy was to kill people".

He urged the broad mass of Christians in South Africa to speak out on whether they supported disinvestment, sanctions and violence.

The controversy over church attitudes arose when King Goodwill accused Anglican and Catholic leaders at the weekend of supporting sanctions and violence without consulting their followers. This brought a denial from the Anglican Bishop of Natal, the Right Reverend Michael Nuttall.

Chief Buthelezi described Bishop Nuttall's attempts to dissociate the Anglican Church from the stance taken by its leader, Bishop Desmond Tutu, as "patently ridiculous — apart from the fact that the King made no mention whatsoever of Bishop Tutu in his address."

The SACC had put its name to a document, which resulted from the consultation in November last year between a Dutch body and the SACC, and was an open declaration that the liberation struggle of the South African people was "represented by the ANC and the UDF" and recommended the stepping up of financial aid to these two organisations.

In the same document, Inkatha had been maligned viciously as a "collaborator" and as "serving white masters."

Chief Buthelezi said there was considerable hypocrisy connected with the political actions of the Anglican and Catholic churches in South Africa and that it seemed to him that Bishop Nuttall was trying to deny this. — Sapa

DD 5/9/82 304

SACC urges govt to bury new bill

JOHANNESBURG — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has urged the government to withdraw proposed legislation which "will deprive people of their birthright of being South Africans and make them aliens in their own country".

The SACC said in a statement yesterday it had sent a telex to the State President, Mr P. W. Botha, expressing its "grave concern" over the Borders of Particular States Extension Amendment Bill, which is presently before Parliament.

"The SACC notes that this incorporation of African communities and their land into homelands indicates that the move would affect the lives of many thousands of black people who have not been consulted about the impending removals and their effects," the telex said.

"We regard this as a serious infringement of basic human rights and a violation of peoples' rights to self-determination in matters regarding their own future.

"The proposed legislation constitutes the removal of people against their will in a more subtle form." — Sapa

See report on P5

304
D DG/10/87

Naudè: SA rift rests on churches

CAPE TOWN — Responsibility for the deep divisions in South African society was not that of the government or political parties, but the church's, the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), Dr Beyers Naudè, told the NG Sendingskerk synod in Belhar at the weekend.

Unless the church confessed to this it was impossible to rebuild a renewed church and society, he said.

The synod was gathering at a time when the country was in a serious crisis, he said in an historic greeting from the SACC to the synod.

The crisis affected the country in its deepest being and was not only a protest against the policy of apartheid, low salaries, political rights and social injustice, but had in recent years taken on the character of a resistance movement, seeking a new order and new society for all South Africans.

"In this protest all churches are deeply involved whether they want to be or not, whether they wish it or not, or whether they want to have their voice heard or not.

"Even their silence will be a measure of involvement," Dr Naudè said.

He said he would be creating a false impression by saying the situation would improve.

"In this process the churches of South Africa, including the Sendingskerk, will get more deeply involved.

"Far-reaching changes can come about if all, or most, churches can witness with one voice in favour of a new, humane and just society.

"But we must look the hard and bitter facts directly in the face — the view and interpretation of events, secular and theological, are so diverse between the churches and within the NGK family of churches, that it would be difficult to expect and hope that such a witness to unity will be heard."

From the SACC's perspective, the theological initiative had moved into the hands of black Christians, backed by a small group of whites.

Since Cottesloe there had been a theological sterility and stagnation in South Africa.

The confession of Belhar, accepted by the Sendingskerk last week, brought a new meaningful initiative which had in a sense rectified the situation.

"But it will be impossible to calculate the harm done to the Gospel and the unity of the church through the manipulation of the Word to acquire domination and white privilege," Dr Naudè said.

A great responsibility rested on the church to repair the damage and to restore credibility to the message of the Bible and to convince church members of the need to run their lives accordingly. — Sapa-AP

Members of the Women's Brigade of Inkatha on the march with their leader, Mrs Abbie Mchunu (left) and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, in Ulundi.

Chief lashes out at SACC 'callousness'

13/10/86 (304)

Mercury Correspondent

ULUNDI—Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi has called on Christian women to challenge churches affiliated to the S A Council of Churches over the SACC's 'callousness' regarding violence against blacks.

He also warned that certain organisations which had pressed for sanctions would try to grab for their own political purposes those funds which the West intended providing for humanitarian aid to black victims of sanctions.

Chief Buthelezi was speaking at the weekend to the biggest rally of the Inkatha Women's Brigade in the movement's history.

He presented evidence of how the SACC had urged European churches to admit ANC representatives to their organisations and to encourage the ANC and what church leaders called the 'closely related' UDF.

This was in spite of official ANC support for necklacing enunciated by the pro-violence organisation's general secretary, Mr Alfred Nzo, who (in an interview with the London Sunday Times last month) specifically approved this practice.

It was strange, he said, that SACC churches on the one hand encouraged the escalation of black poverty by supporting sanctions and on the other hand expected people to contribute towards church funds.

Document

If they and their husbands, brothers and sons could not get jobs, where did the churches expect them to get money for offerings and tithes, he asked.

A great responsibility rested on Christian women to challenge their churches on these matters, the KwaZulu Chief Minister and Inkatha president said.

He quoted from a document, prepared after a consultation last November between the SACC and the Netherlands Council of Churches, in which Dutch churches were advised what to do to help in the black freedom struggle.

It read: 'Contacts between the ANC and the political forces in the Netherlands need to be encouraged and revalued. This movement is a political group which most likely will have in the end to form the future government of South Africa. The Council of Churches itself could cooperate by listening to the viewpoints developed by the ANC and by admitting representatives of this movement into their delegations. Other movements also appeared, among others the UDF, closely related to the ANC in spirit but limited, as a legal movement in inside South Africa, to peaceful measures.'

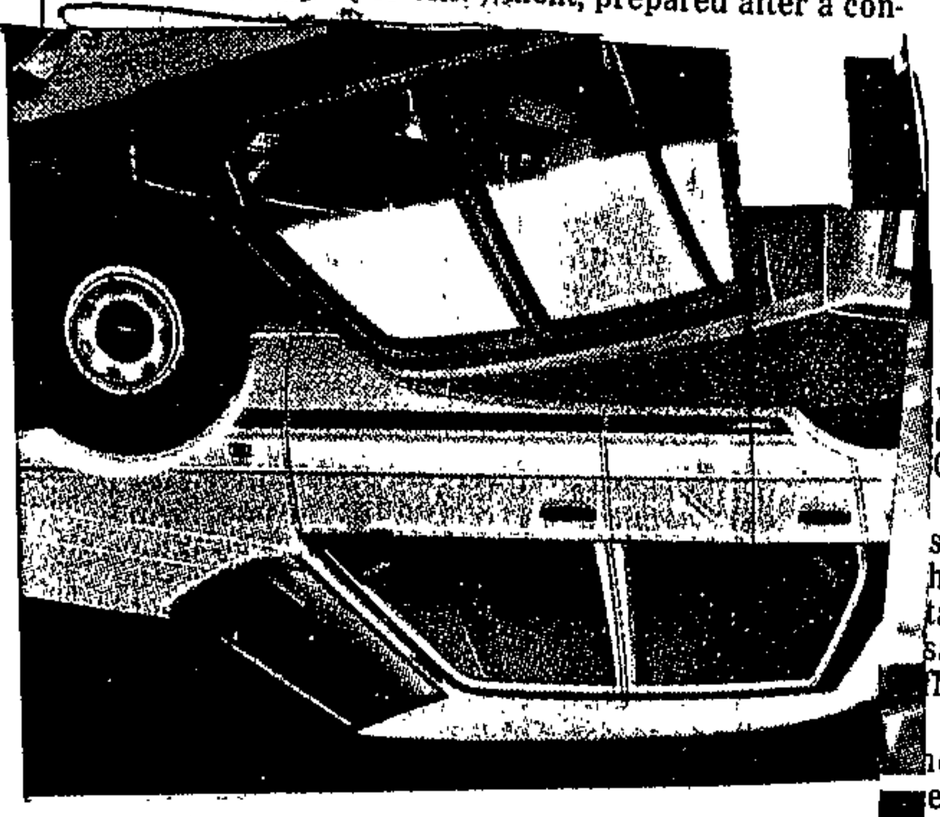
Influence

Chief Buthelezi said: 'They are asking the Church itself to admit people into their inner councils who necklace your children, your wives, your brothers and sisters or your mothers and fathers.

'This is the kind of poison which permeates into even the higher echelons of the Church.'

He disclosed that the same SACC-NCC document had launched a strong attack on Inkatha, which it said exerted enormous influence and divided blacks.

Chief Buthelezi announced that he now intended to 'campaign relentlessly' to get foreign countries to step up humanitarian aid to South Africa to balance the effects of selimited sanctions on ordinary people.



Confront callous SACC — Buthelezi

ULUNDI. — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday called on South African Christian women to challenge churches affiliated to the South African Council of Churches over the SACC's "callousness" regarding violence against blacks.

Addressing an Inkatha Women's Brigade rally, he said an SACC document had launched a strong attack on the black anti-violence Inkatha national cultural liberation movement. It said Inkatha exerted "enormous influence" and divided blacks.

He also warned that organizations which had pressed for sanctions would try to grab for their own political purposes those funds which the West intended providing for humanitarian aid to black victims of sanctions.

The brigade resolved to confront the SACC about its antagonism towards Inkatha after Chief Buthelezi disclosed the SACC documentation, which advised Dutch churches to support the African National Congress and to publicize the ANC and the United Democratic Front through information about Inkatha's "negative effects" on the liberation struggle.

Chief Buthelezi presented what he said was evidence of how the SACC had urged European churches to admit ANC representatives to their organizations and to encourage the ANC and what church leaders called the "closely related" UDF.

He also announced that he intended to "campaign relentlessly" to get foreign countries to step up humanitarian aid to South Africa to balance the effects of limited sanctions on ordinary people. — Sapa

...ba, the secretary-general of ... bon said the tou... ...ique distributed in Lis...

304

Cape Times, Saturday, October 18 1986

SACC welcomes NGK overtures

By EBRAHIM MOOSA

DR Manas Buthelezi, president of the South African Council of Churches, yesterday welcomed the Ned Geref Kerk Synod decision to establish "informal" links with the SACC.

The latest NGK decision follows a reversal of a 1982 synod resolution not to have ties with the SACC, which has been the target of sharp criticism from both government and the Afrikaner establishment.

Dr Pierre Rossouw, synod information officer, said the decision was extremely praiseworthy and of immense significance.

Observers said that although the move still remained at an "informal level", it nonetheless indicated a step forward in interchurch relations.

'Luxury'

Speaking from Soweto, Dr Buthelezi said: "We are extremely encouraged by the decision of the NGK because it is in line with the desire of the last SACC national executive meeting in June.

"We had reached a point in the history of our country when we can no longer afford the luxury of each group of Christians doing its own thing — reserving the right to co-operate or not to co-operate.

"I sincerely believe that it is only when churches interact that they will discover the different dimensions of social ministry which they have not been aware of when working in isolation," Dr Buthelezi said.

Representatives of the NGK and SACC have met recently. The synod resolution instructed the moderature to conduct informal discussions with the SACC when necessary or requested with a view to having a correct image of each other.

Cape Times 18/10/86

WCC funds: Lion's share to SA groups

THREE banned SA organisations and the South West African People's Organisation received the bulk of the funds distributed by the World Council of Churches this year under its anti-racism program.

The biggest share went to Swapo, which received $110 000 (about R244 000) out of the $400 000 (about R888 000) total.

The ANC received $80 000 (about R117 000) to help refugees from the "frontline states".

The Swapo grant was for legal assistance for people arrested, jailed or allegedly held in "detention concentration camps" in Namibia, the WCC said.

It added that the funds were also for Swapo information campaigns and to help dependents of jailed or killed Namibians.

The Pan Africanist Congress and the SA Congress of Trade Unions together received $36 000 dollars (about R80 000).

Most of the rest went to North America – mainly to help American and Canadian Indians – and Western Europe.

Fifty organisations in 13 countries received grants this year.

The anti-racism fund has up until now distributed $6,9-million (about R15,3-million). – Sapa.

SOWETAN, Thursday, February 12, 1987

Goodbye to Norweto?

VARIOUS organisations were yesterday sceptical about the Government's decision to shelve plans for the new black township of Norweto.

They said it might simply be an election ploy.

The organisations have called on the Government to scrap the Group Areas Act and other apartheid structures that restrict the movement of blacks.

The organisations which include the Soweto Civic Association (SCA), the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac), the Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo), the Black Sash and the South African Council of Churches (SACC), said they were doubtful on the motives for the decision.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, this week indefinitely postponed plans for Norweto which was to be built between Johannesburg and Pretoria following opposition from whites in the area.

Mr Heunis said his department had received numerous representations and as a result the proposal for the establishment of Norweto had been shelved.

The chairman of the SCA, Dr Nthato Motlana, said it was a step in the right direction because "we want blacks to build homes anywhere they wish to in South Africa as long as the area has a developed infrastructure.

"The Government must abolish the Group Areas Act and the whole system of separate development," Dr Motlana said.

Afraid

Azapo's president, Mr Patrick Molala, said the postponement of the Norweto plan by the Government was not a surprise.

"The Government is afraid that it will lose votes in that constituency in the coming elections." he said.

No comment from Naude on list of 'successors'

(304)
26/2/87

Religion Reporter Star

The general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naude, would not comment yesterday on the publication of a list of names purportedly compiled to choose his successor.

But despite this, it is believed the list is correct.

Dr Naude, however, confirmed the term of service for the president of the SACC, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, ended in June 1986. Bishop Buthelezi had been asked to stay on until this year's conference when a new president will be appointed.

Two names favoured for the new president are that of a leading official in the Methodist church, the Rev Austen Massey of Johannesburg, and Archbiship Desmond Tutu of Cape Town. The five candidates for the position of general secretary are:

- The Rev Frank Chikane (Apostolic Faith Mission Church) from the Instutute of Contextual Theology.
- Dean Tshenuwani Farisani (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa) of Venda. He was this week barred from entering South Africa without a visa and has recently been released from detention.
- Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa (Roman Catholic) who is the general secretary of the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference. He is presently being held by the police.
- The Rev Sol Jacobs (Methodist), director of the Ministry for Refugees and president of the Ecumenical Inter-Church Federal Theological Seminary (Fedsem) in Maritzburg.
- Dr Nico Smith (Ned Geref Kerk in Afrika) who lives in Mamelodi.

Pik warns on visits to black states

304

w/in 24/5/87

Ormande Pollok
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, has has issued a 'do's and don'ts' warning to South Africans planning to visit neighbouring states.

The warning comes shortly after two more South Africans were arrested in Zambia on suspicion of espionage only a day after President Kenneth Kaunda released four others saying there would be no mercy releases in future.

A spokesman in the Department of Foreign Affairs said they had no official information about the latest arrests or who the men were.

There were rumours that they had already been released.

Mr Botha warned visitors that having a visa was no guarantee that they would not be arrested on suspicion of spying.

He advised visitors to all countries in southern Africa except Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland to take certain precautions before going.

'Tourists should travel only with organised tours in relatively large groups,' he said.

'South Africans going for business reasons or to do work of any kind must contact the company in that country in advance and request that it liaise with the Government authority concerned.

'Persons visiting family or friends must also request them in advance to supply full details about themselves, such as their address and occupations, to the Government authority concerned and get confirmation that there is no objection to the visit or suspicion against them.

'All visitors should on arrival declare all apparatus such as cameras, video cameras, radios, tape-recorders and must ensure that they do not take any instrument along which could create a suspicion of espionage no matter how far-fetched.

'Under no circumstances should they take firearms or ammunition unless a valid permit has been obtained in advance from the Government authority concerned.'

to the next question.'

Mr Vause, who is staying with his parents in Kloof, said he and the three other men had decided not to discuss their interrogation or prison conditions.

'You can read between the lines,' he said.

The four men, along with a Briton and two West Germans who were later released, had been detained on May 27 while on a safari which would have taken them through Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi.

The group entered Zambia through the Kariba border post three days after the SADF raids on ANC bases in three front-line states.

Eight days after the SADF raids, when the group had decided to visit Lake Tanganyika, they had been stopped at a roadblock near the northern town of Mbala.

Route

'There was one man who wanted to know why we were so far north and why we weren't on the Great East Road.

'We told him that we weren't really that far off our route, and the other officials seemed to agree with us. But this particular guy was just not interested, and that was the beginning of the end.'

They had initially been interrogated at Kasama, before being transferred to a police camp south of Lusaka.

'All together I was in solitary confinement for about a month. At the end of it I was moved to a remand prison and that was the end of the questioning.'

Mr Vause, who was held in a remand prison separate from the other three men, said he was visited twice a week by his lawyer, and allowed food, magazines and newspapers.

es move loonies'

Their target is to take over the regional Labour Party and constituency parties to prevent hard-Left candidates being selected.

In the be-election, the centrist Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance dramatically won an important parliamentary victory last night in a London seat held by the Labour party for 50 years, Sapa-Reuter reports.

Mrs Rosie Barnes, 40, was elected in the borough of Greenwich with 53% of the votes.

She won 18 287 votes, a majority of 6 611 over the Labour candidate.

The Conservative Party candidate won 3 852.

30/4 Sowetan 15/4/87

e wall . . .

cuss their chances in next
n. (From left) are Miss Gift
Lindy Mtunzi.

Frank Chikane in SACC hot seat

THE Reverend Frank Chikane, general-secretary of the Institute of Contextual Theology, has been appointed general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

He succeeds Dr Beyers Naude whose term of office expires on July 3 this year, the SACC said in a statement yesterday.

Decision

The decision to appoint Rev Chikane was an unanimous one made by the extended praesidium of the SACC in authorisation of the executive which met on April 7 and 8 to consider the appointment.

Rev Chikane will officially assume office some time during the SACC's annual conference from June 29 to July 3 at St Barnabas School in Bosmont, Johannesburg. — Sapa.

(304) Sowetan 15/4/87

ir chances in next
left) are Miss Gift
tunzi.

Frank Chikane in SACC hot seat

THE Reverend Frank Chikane, general-secretary of the Institute of Contextual Theology, has been appointed general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

He succeeds Dr Beyers Naude whose term of office expires on July 3 this year, the SACC said in a statement yesterday.

Decision

The decision to appoint Rev Chikane was an unanimous one made by the extended praesidium of the SACC in authorisation of the executive which met on April 7 and 8 to consider the appointment.

Rev Chikane will officially assume office some time during the SACC's annual conference from June 29 to July 3 at St Barnabas School in Bosmont, Johannesburg. — Sapa.

New job for sacked magistrate

By MONK NKOMO

MAGISTRATE who suspended after being lled an "untruthful" ness by a Supreme urt judge, is now king as an administra-e officer at a annesburg court.

spokesman for the partment of Justice in toria, yesterday said Pieter Hendrik Marx, mer magistrate at talspruit, was still spended from his icial duties. She added t "he at present fulfills senior administrative action in Johannesburg.

Mr Marx was sus-

made in the Pretoria Supreme Court during the trial of seven Duduza, Nigel, students some of whom had their hands amputated and partially mutiliated during hand-grenade attacks on certain targets on the East Rand in 1985.

During cross-examination, Mr Marx told the court that it was not part of his duties to look into the condition of one of the

Cape

News in Brief

Chikane to head SACC

JOHANNESBURG. — The Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the Institute of Contextual Theology, has been appointed general secretary of the SA Council of Churches (SACC) in succession to Dr Beyers Naude whose term of office expires on July 3 this year, the SACC said yesterday. The decision to appoint Mr Chikane was a unanimous one made by the extended praesidium of the SACC in authorization of the executive.

It's Chikane!

By ANTON FISHER

THE Rev Frank Chikane - a former United Democratic Front vice-president - is the new general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, the SACC has announced.

He was chosen this week to succeed Dr Beyers Naude whose term expires on July 3.

The decision to appoint the dynamic Apostolic Faith Mission minister sets a precedent as the AFM is not a member of the SACC.

And at 36, Chikane is the youngest person to hold the powerful post.

Chikane's appointment also comes after an innovative change of procedure by the SACC to get grassroots involvement in the choice of the new general secretary.

This was done at the last national conference where it was decided to have four SACC executive members and four rank and file church members on the selection committee set up to put forward a nomination.

It is understood that the choice of general secretary was between Chikane and Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa, the general secretary of the South African Catholics Bishops Conference, who is in detention.

According to earlier reports, the other candidates were Dean Farisani of the Lutheran Church, the Rev Sol Jacob, director of the refugees committee of the SACC, and Dr Nico Smit, chairman of the Pretoria Council of Churches and a minister of the Ned Geref Kerk in Afrika.

However, it is understood that the widespread support Chikane enjoys from members of different political groupings won him the appointment.

The creative theologian from Kagiso, near Krugersdorp in the Transvaal, was one of the formative writers of the Kairos Document.

Chikane, who is also the general secretary of the Institute for Contextual Theology, was awarded the Diakonia Peace Prize by Swedish churches in December last year.

New Council of Churches chief speaks

FACING UP TO CRISIS IN SA

THE Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the Institute of Contextual Theology and a former vice president of the United Democratic Front, has been appointed as general secretary of the South African Council of Churches in succession to Dr Beyers Naude.

At a Press conference in Johannesburg yesterday Mr Chikane said he had been called to take a crucial post at "a time of crisis in South Africa "where even engaging in acts of solidarity with detainees is declared subversive."

"It is a time when the rights of our religious practice and expression are being eroded systematically. It is a time when the mission of the church to the greater part of the South African population is curtailed.

"This lays an enormous responsibility on me, but I believe that the one who calls me is the same one who promised to be with us always up to the 'close of age', he said.

Mr Chikane said he felt humbled to follow in the footsteps of "great prophets of our time" such as Cape Town's Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the current SACC secretary general, Dr Beyers Naude.

REV Chikane appointed.

THUS FAR AND NO FURTHER

304

We will not be silenced

Jesus described his mission as being:

- *To bring good news to the poor*
- *To proclaim liberty to the captives*
- *To give the blind new sight*
- *To set the captives free*
- *To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour*

Luke 4:18-19

We believe that it is the moral duty of all faithful people to pray constantly, in public worship and in private devotions, for all those who are being held in South Africa's prisons and police cells.

We call upon all congregations to pray most earnestly for detainees and their deliverance this Easter Sunday as we rejoice in our deliverance from bondage to the forces of death and destruction through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to continue to pray on all succeeding days until all the detainees are free.

We furthermore believe that it is the duty of all South Africans to protest and to call on the government for the repeal of the emergency regulations promulgated on the 10th of April. It is the duty of all South Africans to seek to change the evils in our society.

"WE MUST OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN" Acts 5:29

Issued by The South African Council of Churches

Groote Schuur Hospital for treatment.

CAPE TIMES 22/4/87 306

Chikane leaves SCA

JOHANNESBURG. — The recently appointed general secretary of the SA Council of Churches, the Rev Frank Chikane, said yesterday he was resigning as deputy president of the Soweto Civic Association because of the heavy responsibility of his new post.

Pastor in the firing line — flashback to when Frank Chikane's home was damaged in a petrol bomb attack two years ago

Son of a minister. And father of an entire church

Frank Chikane is used to being in the hot seat. Which is just as well, since he is the new SACC general secretary. MONO BADELA reports

EVEN in jail, Frank Chikane — the new general secretary of the SA Council of Churches — was, first of all, a pastor.

He once related how one of his black guards was so disarmed by his Christian witness that after three months Chikane had to beg him to turn the key and lock him in at night, knowing he would lose his job if he didn't.

Over the past eight years, Chikane has been detained five times — most recently with 15 other UDF leaders, charged with treason but acquitted in November 1985.

A man of God who has given voice to the emancipatory aspirations of the oppressed, Chikane is well geared to take up his new SACC position.

His appointment is an historical milestone and is bound to have far-reaching consequences for the religious as well as political scenario here, according to church analysts.

Observers say the 36-year-old former treason trialist and United Democratic Front vice-president is destined to play a crucial role in South Africa's unfolding history.

Politically the Chikane appointment is a major triumph for the UDF, as he was one of its founders and the Transvaal chairman.

The son of a minister, ordained in the small Apostolic Faith Mission (a Pentecostal/charismatic denomination), Chikane has spent his adult life dedicated to being a spiritual leader amongst the black community.

Chikane will succeed 72-year-old Dr Beyers Naudé, who retires at the end of June. His other predecessor was Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Until recently Chikane was the director of the influential Institute of Contextual Theology which 18 months ago published the controversial Kairos Document, regarded as a theological milestone in South Africa.

Earlier this year Chikane was awarded the 1986 Swedish Diakonian Institute Prize for an "outstanding contribution to the cause of justice and peace in South Africa". Past recipients of this peace prize include Naudé and Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador.

Chikane's first detention came after a couple in his church had been arrested. As their pastor he felt responsible for their children, so after the police had left, he went to check on them. His concern landed him in jail — the police had left an agent behind to arrest any who came to lend succour to the children.

His period in detention had a profound impact on his thinking and approach to politics and religion, he says.

"It was only when I was in my cell facing my tormentors that I became painfully aware what contextual theology was about. I then realised that I could not understand the man across from me, professing to be a fellow Christian. If I could not love him as myself, then I had no business trying to preach the Gospel and explaining contextual theology to others."

After the second State of Emergency was proclaimed in June last year, Chikane adopted a low profile to avoid detention and later quietly left and visited 11 countries.

"I am now back to serve my people. My people want me here to suffer with them," he told a press conference on his return last month.

"I do not fear the additional exposure that is to be brought by my appointment. I have been on the firing line anyway," he said.

"If you stand for the Gospel and for what the church should be in an evil society, you'll be in trouble. I am looking forward to the day when all will come together in one council of churches to carry the heavy responsibility of the church."

Row over EC funds to SA

25/11/87

London Bureau

BRUSSELS — A row has blown up between the European Commission and South African church and humanitarian aid groups over EC aid funds for victims of apartheid.

The South African Council of Churches, South African Bishops Conference and the Kagiso Trust said yesterday they would freeze applications for EC aid money until their differences with the commission had been cleared up.

The row centres on EC insistence that its R30 m programme for apartheid victims should be purely for humanitarian aid and cannot be used for any political purposes.

Political groups such as the United Demoatic Front and the African National Congress were excluded from receiving EC aid.

This is due to pressure last year from several EC countries including Britain who did not want to antagonise South Africa by being seen as funding opposition groups.

However, the South African churches and voluntary organisations working with detainees said there could not be any humanitarian aid which was divorced from the "political realities of South Africa".

Pres Botha's threat to stop foreign funds

SACC WARNS OF CRISIS

304

By SY MAKARINGE

AT least 80 organisations could be affected if Presidentr P W Botha carried out his threat to prohibit them from receiving foreign funds, Dr Beyers Naude, the out-going general secretary of the SACC, said.

Speaking at a Press conference at Khotso House in Johannesburg, Dr Naude said it was clear that the Government wanted to change the fund-raising Act.

The Government's intention was a political one. He warned the country could be heading for uncontrolled crisis if Mr Botha went ahead with the threat.

Dr Naude said of the R9-million the SACC budgeted for this year, 95 percent was received from overseas donors. Dr Naude said between 75 and 80 percent of the money was used to help victims of apartheid, families of detainees and victims of vigilante action.

"The mood of the people is not being realised by the Government. The Government could be playing with fire with this whole question of foreign funding."

In a statement released at the conference, the Kagiso Trust denied an allegation by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi that funds received from the European Commission were being used to promote violence.

The Inkatha president is alleged to have said this at a recent meeting with French officials.

Role

The director of the Trust, Mr Agemat Dangor, said the Trust tried to play a bridge-building role within the black community under difficult circumstances.

"Perhaps if the South African Government fulfilled its responsibilities and paid more attention to the needs of the people in the country instead of diverting resources into trying to beautify apartheid, then there would be no need for organisations such as the Kagiso Trust to exist," Mr Dangor said.

WCC delegates 'raise the roof' for Tambo

LUSAKA. — ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo was greeted with enthusiasm when he arrived at the World Council of Churches meeting here yesterday, Ziana, Zimbabwe's semi-official news agency, reported.

South African delegates "almost raised the roof with their singing, dancing and cries of 'Amandla' and 'Viva Oliver Tambo'," as Mr Tambo entered the hall, the Ziana report said. He received a standing ovation at the end of his speech.

Before leaving, Mr Tambo embraced Dr Beyers Naude, former general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, who is also attending the session. Dr Naude also received a standing ovation.

Yesterday South African Christians conducted the opening workshop, led by Bishop Manas Buthelezi of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Johannesburg. They prayed in particular for those beginning a two-day stayaway from work in South Africa.

The general secretary of the World Council of Churches, Dr Emilio Castro, said the conference was a chance for delegates "to become once again the disciples of those who are in the forefront of the struggle for justice". — Sapa

'A just society — the goal'

FRANK CHIKANE, recently elected secretary general of the South African Council of Churches, was in Cape Town last week to meet local church leaders.
He spoke to MOIRA LEVY

HOW to minister religion in the midst of the crisis that our country is presently in? That is the kind of question that Frank Chikane, the man soon to take over the leadership of the SACC, is asking.

And the answers he is likely to come up with promise to shake up the churches.

For Chikane believes the church has not yet done enough to jolt whites out of their complacency. He says, "We have been able to minister to the victims and do something to help them. But we have not been able to help the victimiser to stop what he is doing."

Chikane intends challenging the system that allows "white Christians to be unChristian, and to live lives of injustice".

"If you are involved in the struggle you work wherever people need you. An ideology is not an end in itself, but a means to an end."

"We have to get them fighting the sin that is inherent in their whole lifestyle."

He sees the need for the church to go beyond its traditional way of operating.

"In the past the church has tended to pass resolutions and release press statements. We need to develop a new model to deal with a changing, conflict-ridden South Africa.

"The victims are asking: 'Does God care?' The victimisers are grappling with the question: 'I am benefitting from an evil system. What do I do?'

"The church has to meet the different needs of the oppressed and the oppressor. We need to develop a model to minister to people across the political spectrum."

Chikane's appointment is in itself a challenge to the country-wide church body.

Successor to Dr Beyers Naude, he is the youngest person to fill the post. As one of the key authors of the controversial Kairos document, he is known as an arch opponent of the state and one of the leading churchmen to have taken an active role in politics.

A founding member and former vice-president of the UDF and an executive member of the Soweto Civic Association, Chikane has been detained five times. In 1985, along with 14 others, he was tried for treason, but the charges were subsequently dropped.

Pic by Rashid Lombard

The Rev Frank Chikane

Asked if his appointment signals a new thinking within the SACC, Chikane replied: "I think the churches are starting to realise the seriousness of the situation in the country, and they are grappling with the question of how to minister to people living in a conflict situation."

Contact between the churches and ANC leaders and the SACC's welcome at the World Council of Churches meeting in Lusaka last week, "is very significant", Chikane said.

"There are a lot of important things happening in the churches. People are beginning to realise that the problem lies with Pretoria and not with Lusaka, and that P W Botha needs to talk to his enemies to find a solution. There is no point in him talking only to his friends."

Chikane does not hold out much hope for reconciliation.

"You cannot reconcile the group that is gaining at the expense of others with the group it is profitting from.

"In the Kairos document we said that no justice could come from the top. It will come from below,

"It takes an extraordinarily motivated person acting on high morality to vote against his privileges."

from the people of South Africa. The election results have confirmed what we were saying.

"It takes an extraordinarily motivated person acting on high morality to vote against his privileges."

Chikane does not see his past association with the UDF as in any way indicative of a new political trend within the SACC. He has also worked closely with black consciousness groups within the church umbrella body.

"If you are involved in the struggle you work wherever people need you. An ideology is not an end in itself, but a means to an end.

"The ideology is not the goal. A just society is the goal, and an ideology must be developed for the particular circumstances to reach that goal."

Until recently Chikane was the director of the influential Institute of Contextual Theology, and earlier this year he was awarded the 1986 Swedish Diakonian Institute prize for an "outstanding contribution to the cause of justice and peace in South Africa".

Past recipients of this peace prize include Beyers Naude and Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador.

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

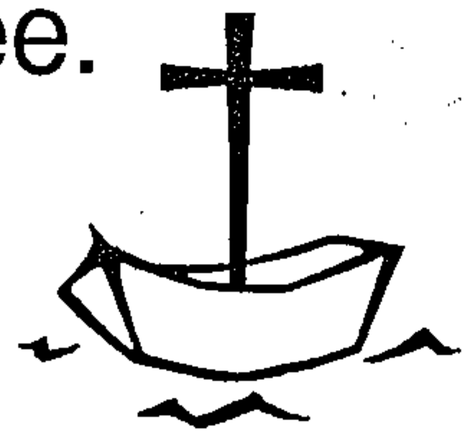
Without justice, no freedom.

Without freedom, no peace.

Without peace, no security.

Detention threatens both peace and security.
Lift the State of Emergency.
Open the prison doors.
Allow the people to speak and decide their own destiny.
And we shall all be truly free.

BEYERS NAUDE
General secretary.



(3of) SDM 19/6/87

SACC rejects misuse of funds allegation

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has rejected claims made in the media by Mr Peter Hammond, of Frontline Fellowship, that the council used funds given abroad to finance radical organisations and used money intended for blankets to buy guns and military hardware.

In a statement issued yesterday, SACC general secretary Dr Beyers Naude said the council had noted a report in *The Citizen* this week which quoted remarks made by Mr Hammond at a press conference prior to his departure for West Germany with the United Christian Action (UCA) delegation.

The delegation is attending Kirchentag — an annual gathering of West German churchmen that started yesterday.

Mr Hammond told the Press that West German churchmen would be told at the Kirchentag that the "millions of rands they donated to alleviate the lot of black South Africans were being chanelled by the SACC into radical organisations and the legal defence of ANC terrorists".

IMPLIED ACCUSATION

In response the SACC said:

"The SACC rejects with utter contempt the implied accusation that financial grants intended for medicines and blankets are being used to buy guns and military hardware.

"Here we have another example of the deliberate distortion of facts to discredit the SACC in the eyes of the world and thus create a climate of suspicion and distrust

If UCA were so concerned about truth why did they not confront the SACC inside South Africa "to face the witness of the suffering of millions of victims of apartheid?"

"If they are so concerned about the violence of the ANC why do they not go to Lusaka and confront the leaders of the ANC there?" Dr Naude asked. — Sapa.

304A

'Gobbledygook' plan for re-educating militants

By JEAN LE MAY

LEGISLATION to establish "training and rehabilitation centres" for "intimidators and politically motivated juvenile delinquents" and to make military service compulsory for all races is contemplated by a committee of the President's Council.

The chairman of the Social Affairs Committee, former National Party whip Nic Treurnicht, said he was "quite hopeful" that the most important recommendations of a report tabled this week would become government policy.

Although few President's Council recommendations have reached legislation without substantial amendment, they are acknowledged as a clear guide to government thinking. Legislation frequently follows PC recommendations. It is unlikely, however, that any of the recommendations will be implemented this session.

The report was approved by all committee members sent to the PC by political parties in the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates. However, National People's Party MP Ismail Jajbjhay said in the House of Delegates that the NPP did not approve conscription as suggested in the report, but was prepared to negotiate the aspect once there is an equitable system.

Progressive Reform Party leader Pat Poovalingam, speaking in the House of Delegates, said the proposed youth centres would be "similar to re-education centres in communist countries".

The Progressive Federal Party representative on the committee, Robin Carlisle, was the only member who refused to sign the report. He has described it as "gobbledygook and rubbish" which would be a slur on the intelligence of a Std 8 pupil.

Other highly controversial recommendations of the Nationalist-dominated committee could evoke widespread black protest if they became law.

The committee also recommended the extension of compulsory military service to all races, including blacks, the setting up of "community schools" for early school-leavers and the establishment of an education and training programme with "an anti-communist drift".

An entire section of the report is devoted to the End Conscription Campaign, which is described as "undermining authority".

The trend towards reducing authoritative guidance could promote lack of discipline, it said. The ECC, which has conducted a "well-planned programme throughout the country", was conducting a propaganda campaign against the SA Defence Force and the SA Police, and its influence should not be underestimated, it added.

The Ministry of Defence said in a written submission to the committee that "young people are being exploited in an attempt to create a revolutionary climate in South Africa".

The committee also recommended stricter censorship to counteract the "negative influence" on young people of violence, sex, drugs, alcohol and "satanism" as depicted by the media, including films and television.

The committee expressed the opinion that some of the music to which young people listen "breaks down standards and has a physically and spiritually demoralising effect".

The report said that the United Democratic Front was, like the African National Congress, not only a front organisation for communist Russia but also received instructions from the Kremlin.

Revolutionary incitement among young people was a contributory cause of the riots in South Africa.

"Young people are integrated as 'comrades' into the 'liberation struggle'. Student organisations such as Azasum (sic) and Azaso play a significant role."

Carlisle commented that anyone who grouped Azasm with the ANC displayed "appalling ignorance".

"The report goes inadvertently to the heart of the security problem in South Africa — because it displays an absolute lack of understanding of the causes of the so-called security threat," he said.

Churches have come a long way

CHURCHES in South Africa have come a long way since the Cottesloe conference in December 1960 where the Biblical foundations of apartheid were rejected.

Called by the World Council of Churches in response to the Sharpeville shootings, churchmen from around the world met representatives of the eight South African member churches and a decision was reached that apartheid could not be reconciled with the teachings of the Bible.

By today's standards that declaration was moderate, but it caused a stir within the church at the time.

The then prime minister, Dr H F Verwoerd, intervened and the result was the resignation of the Ned Geref Kerk and the beginning of the rift within local churches.

In 1968 came the Uppsala Assembly of the WCC where the need for a programme to eliminate racism was identified. The Programme to Combat Racism (PCR) was born soon after that.

It was followed by the controversial WCC decision to provide humanitarian aid to Southern African liberation movements.

Since 1968 the WCC has also advocated disinvestment in the West, sparking even more controversy and dissension within the South African church body.

In 1982 at a meeting of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches the significant "apartheid is a heresy" resolution was passed.

And in December 1985 came the WCC meeting at Harare where the Harare declaration was adopted by churchmen and women.

They called for "immediate and comprehensive sanctions" against South Africa, and called on the churches in the country and overseas to "support South African movements working for the liberation of their country".

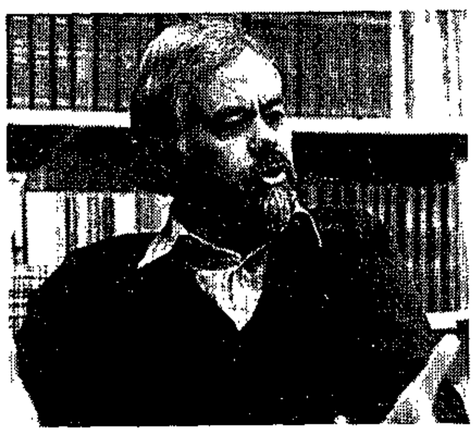
At that meeting a call was made for an inquiry into whether the South African Government was legitimate.

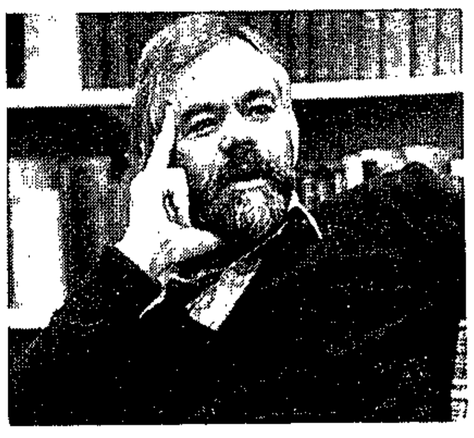
At last month's Lusaka meeting, 18 months after the Harare declaration, the roughly 200 people present stated that the South African state was illegitimate.

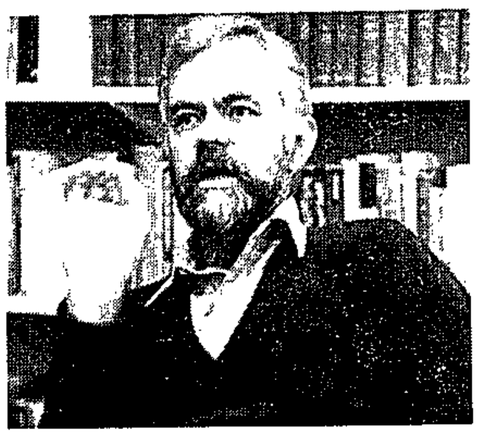
It was the first time that the churches have stated explicitly that the government was politically and morally illegitimate, and recognised that liberation movements were driven to violence by the violence of the South African state.

The Lusaka statement does not go as far as to endorse the war against apartheid in terms of the just war theology, but it stops only just short of that.

The statement makes an explicit appeal to churches around the world to enter into a closer relationship with the liberation movements in South Africa.



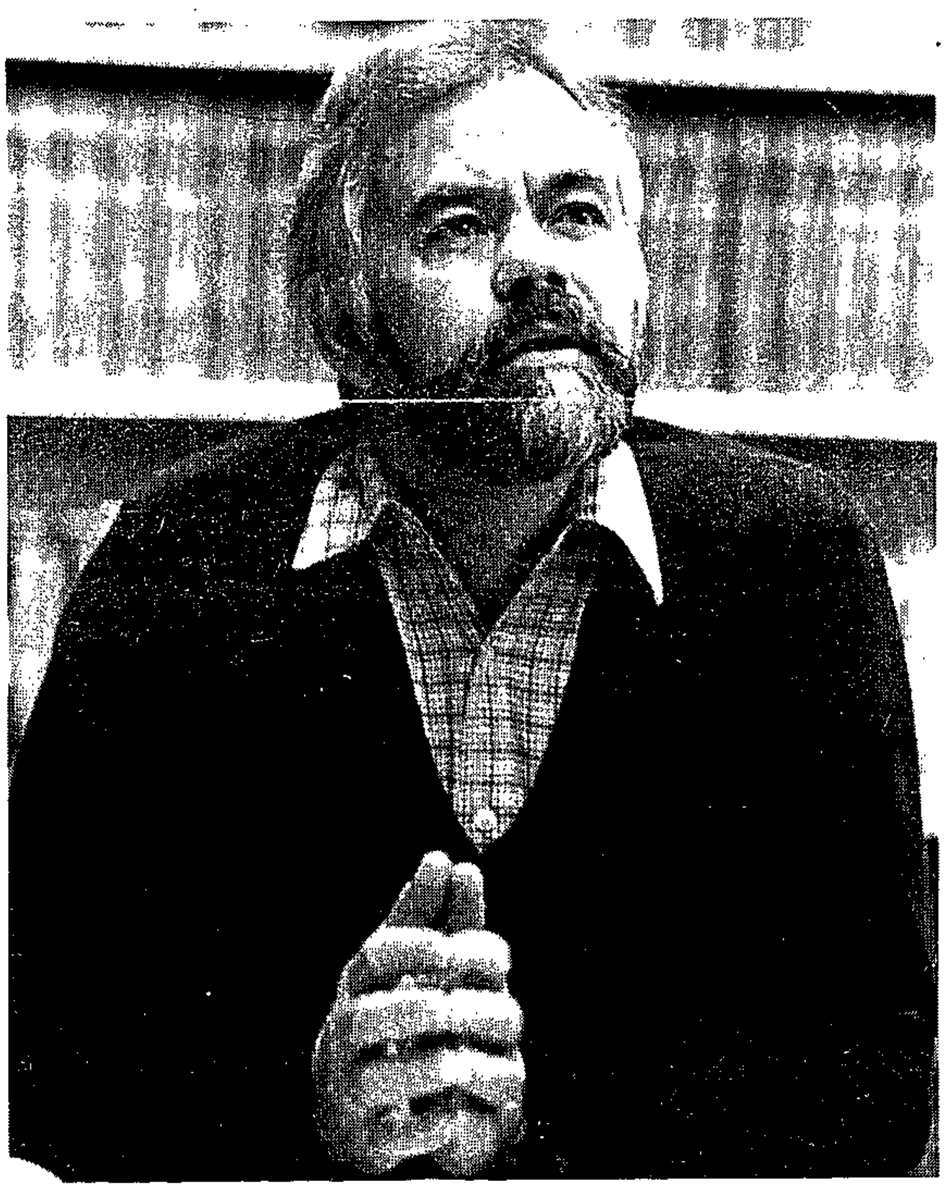




Govt has lost right to rule — clerics

THERE is little doubt that the controversial Lusaka statement will be accepted at next week's meeting of the South African Council of Churches. The debate would emerge later over the translation of the declaration into practice, Charles Villa-Vicencio told MOIRA LEVY.

Pics by Rashid Lombard



A SPLIT is looming within the English-language churches in South Africa, theologian Charles Villa-Vicencio, professor of religious studies at the University of Cape Town, predicts.

The Lusaka statement, to be discussed at next week's meeting of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), is likely to bring the split closer.

Villa-Vicencio believes it will intensify the already existing divisions between the liberal churches that will accept it and do nothing about it, and the churches that are engaged in social and political change.

"Right now no one is even talking about the controversial church document that for the first time described the South African government as illegitimate and recognised that liberation movements, like the African National Congress (ANC), were driven to take up arms by the violence of the apartheid government."

Discussion

Villa-Vicencio predicted that when it came before the SACC conference it would probably be accepted and passed to a committee for further discussion.

"The challenge will lie in whether the churches will ultimately be prepared to translate this document into a programme. The English-language churches have a glorious record of resolutions — but they have not always been able to translate their theological theory into practice.

"People are tired of words. And the oppressed people are tired of the resolutions of the church. They are saying the church must now transform its lifestyle and identity and become more deeply involved in the programme for change.

"The churches cannot afford to reject the Lusaka statement. They know that the majority of people in the church, who happen to be black, identify with it.

He described the statement as "a compromise document" representing the different viewpoints of the approximately 200 churchmen and women from around the world who "met together, lived together and discussed together for five days".

Horse trading

"There were no votes against the document. A broad consensus was reached, but there was also a lot of horse-trading. It is a consensus document."

He said in some ways the statement did not go very much further than the WCC statement made at its previous conference in Harare 18 months before. The WCC statement called on churches around the world to establish a closer relationship with the liberation movements.

What was new in the Lusaka statement, Villa-Vicencio said, was that it was the first time that the churches had explicitly stated that the South African regime was theologically and morally illegitimate.

"This is a major step forward. It is taking the 'apartheid is a heresy' declaration one step further."

According to legal arguments, the government has *de jure* legitimacy if it is effectively in control of the country.

"We, as theologians, question this because it means that you can only say the government is illegitimate or illegal when the country becomes ungovernable and the government is no longer in control.

"We are saying that that promotes the cause of violence. In the Lusaka statement we are suggesting that the government is illegitimate because it has lost its moral legitimacy."

And it is not just the church leadership that is thinking along the lines of the Lusaka statement.

"The rank and file are overwhelmingly with the churches. In some ways they are ahead of the leadership.

"There is absolutely no doubt that the Kairos document is readily being owned as a peoples' document and appropriated by the people.

"They see it as their document because it is making a statement against the State and against the leadership of some of the churches."

He said the English-speaking churches have seen the Kairos document as an attack on church theology and as an attack on themselves.

"In fact the Kairos document is an attack on the ruling class within the church.

"Within the churches there is a class distinction, the same as we have a class distinction in society, between the ruling class clergy and the people in the churches," Villa-Vicencio said.

All that is set to change with the appointment next week of Frank Chikane as General Secretary of the SACC.

"Chikane will bring a change in administration and a new style of leadership. He will lead a very different kind of SACC.

"He is of another generation. He does not come from one of the mainline establishment churches. He is a contextual theologian.

"He will not bring to the SACC the kind of classical theological training that a Beyers Naude or a Desmond Tutu would bring. His is a more spontaneous, more creative, more contextual, more 'from below' type of theology."

Today for the first time the SACC member churches — the English, nonracial churches — are being pushed from the left.

"They are being challenged politically and theologically in a way that they have never been challenged before," Villa-Vicencio said.

"They will be forced, by circumstances and by events, to ask themselves what it means to be the church in South Africa today."

Lusaka Agreement

ABOUT 200 representatives of churches, trade unions, women's groups, youth organisations and anti-apartheid movements met in Lusaka, Zambia, from May 4 to 8.

About 50 were from South African, another 30 from Namibia and a few more were South Africans now living in exile. After five days of discussion they produced the Lusaka statement. The following are extracts from the controversial document:

It is our belief that civil authority is instituted of God to do good, and that under the Biblical imperative all people are obliged to do justice and show special care for the oppressed and the poor.

It is this understanding that leaves us with no alternative but to conclude that the South African regime and its colonial domination of Namibia is illegitimate.

Sacrifice

We recognise the overwhelming material sacrifice and suffering of the Frontline States and the destabilising influence of the Pretoria regime in this region. We call for an immediate and enhanced programme of aid and assistance in order to reduce the dependence of the Frontline States on South Africa and to enable them to support both the refugee victims of apartheid and those movements actively engaged in the struggle for liberation.

Committed

While remaining committed to peaceful change we recognise that the nature of the South African regime which wages war against its own inhabitants and neighbours compels the liberation movements to the use of force.

We condemn the attempt by the United States, in collusion with other members of the Western Contact Group and the minority government of South Africa, to link the independence of Namibia to extraneous issues such as the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

We call on churches to exert increased pressure upon their governments to implement sanctions and especially call upon the international community not to engage in newly-devised deceptive forms of disinvestment.

Assistance

We call upon the churches to respond with prayer and increased efforts to publicise and give material assistance to the growing numbers of those imprisoned, tortured, on trial, under sentence of death and bereaved as a result of the apartheid regime.

We condemn the censorship of the media and call on the churches and international community to take steps to secure the freedom of information.

We call on the World Council on Churches (WCC) to establish a mechanism to monitor the progress of member churches in implementing these resolutions.

The Freedom Charter

Adopted at the congress of the People, Kliptown, 26 June 1955

Preamble
We, the people of South Africa, declare for all our country and the world to know:
That South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white, and that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people;
That our people have been robbed of their birthright to land, liberty and peace by a form of government founded on injustice and inequality; That our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities;
That only a democratic state, based on the will of the people, can secure to all their birthright without distinction of colour, race, sex or belief: And therefore, we the people of South Africa, black and white, together equals, countrymen and brothers adopt this FREEDOM CHARTER. And we pledge ourselves to strive together, sparing nothing of our strength and courage, until the democratic changes here set out have been won.

The People Shall Govern!
Every man and woman shall have the right to vote for and stand as a candidate for all bodies which make laws;
All the people shall be entitled to take part in the administration of the country;
The rights of the people shall be the same regardless of race, colour or sex; All bodies of minority rule, advisory boards, councils and authorities shall be replaced by democratic organs of self-government.

All National Groups Shall Have Equal Rights!
There shall be equal status in the bodies of state, in the courts and in the schools for all national groups and races;
All national groups shall be protected by law against insults to their race and national pride;
All people shall have equal rights to use their own language and to develop their own folk culture and customs;
The preaching and practice of national, race or colour discrimination and contempt shall be a punishable crime;
All apartheid laws and practices shall be set aside.

The People Shall Share In The Country's Wealth!
The national wealth of our country, the heritage of all South Africans, shall be restored to the people;
The mineral wealth beneath the soil, the banks and monopoly industry shall be transferred to the ownership of the people as a whole;
All other industries and trades shall be controlled to assist the well-being of the people;
All people shall have equal rights to trade where they choose, to manufacture and to enter all trades, crafts and professions.

The Land Shall Be Shared Amongst Those Who Work It!
Restriction of land ownership on a racial bais shall be ended, and all the land re-devided amongst those who work it, to banish famine and land hunger;
The state shall help the peasants with implements, seed, tractors and dams to save the soil and assist the tillers;
Freedom of movement shall be guaranteed to all who work on the land;
All shall have the right to occupy land wherever they choose;
People shall not be robbed of their cattle, and forced labour and farm prisons shall be abolished.

All Shall Be Equal Before The Law!
No one shall be imprisoned, deported or restricted without fair trial;
No one shall be condemned by the order of any Government official;
The courts shall be representative of all the people;
Imprisonment shall be only for serious crimes against the people, and shall aim at re-education, not vengeance;
The police force and army shall be open to all on an equal basis and shall be the helpers and protectors of the people;
All laws which discriminatte on the grounds of race, colour or belief shall be repealed.

All Shall Enjoy Human Rights!
The law shall guarantee to all their right to speak, to organise, to meet together, to publish, to preach, to worship and to educate their children;
The privicy of the house from police raids shall be protected by law;
All shall be free to travel without restriction from countryside to town, from province to province, and from South Africa abroad;
Pass laws, permits and all other laws restricting these freedoms shall be abolished.

There Shall Be Work And Security!
All who work shall be free to form trade unions, to elect their officers and to make wage agreements with their employers;
The state shall recognise the right and duty of all to work, and to draw full unemployment benefits;
Men and women of all races shall receive equal pay for equal work;
There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national minimum wage, paid annual leave, and sick leave for all workers, and maternity leave on full pay for all working mothers;
Miners, domestic workers, farm workers and civil servants shall have the same rights as all others who work;
Child labour, compound labour, the tot system and contract labour shall be abolished.

The Doors of Learning And Culture Shall Be Opened!
The government shall discover, develop and encourage national talent for the enhancement of our cultural life;
All the cultural treasures of mankind shall be open to all, by free exchange of books, ideas and contact with other lands;
The aim of education shall be to teach the youth to love their people and their culture, to honour human brotherhood, liberty and peace;
Education shall be free, compulsory, universal and equal for all children;
Higher education and technical training shall be opened to all by means of state allowances and scholarships awarded on the basis of merit;
Adult illiteracy shall be ended by a mass state education plan;
Teachers shall have all the rights of other citizens;
The colour bar on cultural life, in sport and in education shall be abolished.

There Shall Be Houses, Security and Comfort!
All people shall have the right to live where they choose, to be decently housed, and to bring up their families in comfort and security;
Unused housing space to be made available to the people;
Rent and prices shall be lowered, food plentiful and no one shall go hungry;
A preventive health scheme shall be run by the state;
Free medical care and hospitalisation shall be provided for all, with special care for mothers and young children;
Slums shall be demolished and new suburbs built where all shall have transport, roads, lighting, playing fields, creches and social centres;
The aged, the orphans, the disabled and the sick shall be cared for by the state;
Rest, leisure and recreation shall be the right of all;
Fenced locations and ghettos shall be abolished and laws
which break up families shall be repealed.

There Shall Be Peace And Friendship!
South Africa shall be a fully independent state, which respects the right and sovereignty of all nations;
South Africa shall strive to maintain world peace and the settlement of all international disputes by negotiation not war;
Peace and friendship amongst all our people shall be secured by upholding the equal rights, opportunities and status of all;
The people of the protectorates Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland shall be free to decide for themselves their own future;
The right of all the people of Africa to independence and self-governmnt shall be recognised, and shall be the basis of close cooperation;
Let all who love their people and their country now say, as we say here: "These freedoms we will fight for, side by side, throughout our lives, until we have won our liberty."

JUNE 26 - SOUTH AFRICAN FREEDOM DAY

JOHANNESBURG, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT

(30) Sowetan AP 16/6/87 26/6/87 Sowetan

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

AS the South African Council of Churches prepares for its annual conference next week, a fiery man of the cloth, the Reverend Frank Chikane, is also preparing to take over its leadership.

Mr Chikane takes over the hot seat of general secretary of the South African Council of Churches at its annual conference at St Barnabas College in Bosmont on June 29.

He succeeds Dr Beyers Naude whose term of office expires during the conference which will be attended by scores of leaders of local and international church organisations.

The conference theme is "Refugees and Exiles: Challenge the Churches" and might lead to even closer ties between the church and political and community organisations.

The conference takes place shortly after the renewal of the state of emergency by the State President, Mr P W Botha.

Last year's conference took place after the state of emergency was declared by Mr Botha, and delegates had to exercise caution when dealing with controversial resolutions, especially those that could have been declared subversive.

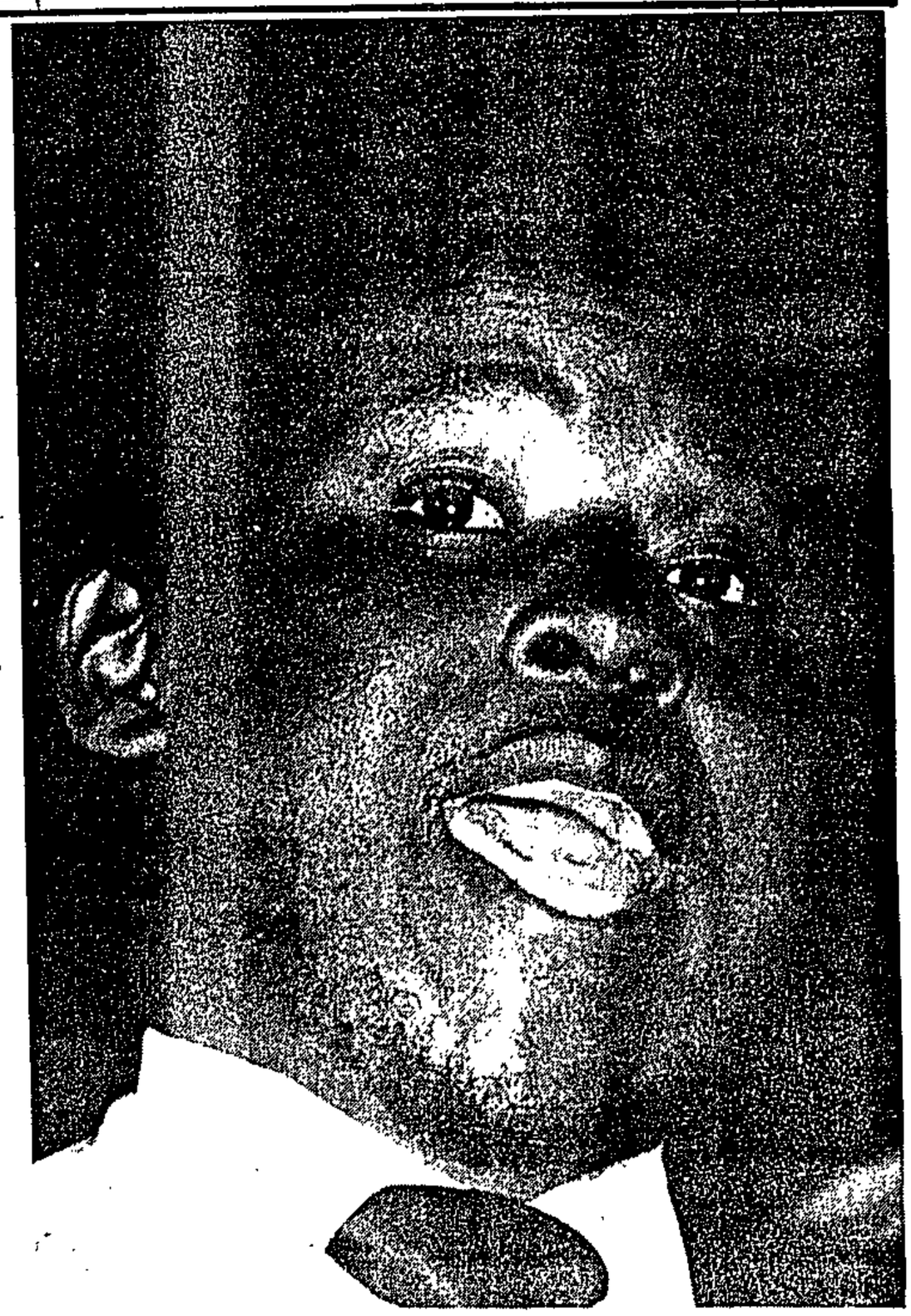
Mr Chikane, an ordained pastor, was one of the leaders of the United Democratic Front. At one time he was vice-president.

At university he was active in Black Consciousness organisations which resuscitated political awareness after the lull which followed the Government ban on the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) in 1960.

He has been a victim of detention without trial and was recently charged with 21 other people, accused of threatening to overthrow the Government violently. All 22 were acquitted in the Maritzburg Supreme Court.

Mr Chikane was detained five times under the country's security laws.

He was appointed general secretary of the SACC after a unanimous decision of the full praesidium of the council recently.



THE Reverend Frank Chikane.

Chikane ready for the hot seat

When accepting the position, he said that his youth would not stop him because he felt it was God's wish that he led the churches.

"My position befpre the appointment was that it would be extraordinary if the church leaders appointed me given my humble background and my belonging to a church that was not a member of the council," he says.

"Now that they have appointed me I believe that it is the will of the Lord. If God picks me, I cannot say no; I will have to do it."

He believes that he has been called to the crucial post during the worst crisis in South Africa, when engaging in acts of solidarity with detainees is subversive and punishable in terms of the law.

He believes that the church has a major role to play in bringing about political, social and economic change in South Africa.

On the theme of the forthcoming conference, Mr Chikane says church leaders will have to make crucial decisions on refugees and exiles.

"These people left the country because of misery, pain and suffering inflicted on them under the unjust system of apartheid.

Threat

"We have to give ministry to them because they need to be comforted in their plight," he says.

He says their rights as religious people have been eroded systematically.

"The churches are faced with the challenge of helping them," Mr Chikane says.

On the threat by the Government to stop foreign aid to extra-Parliamentary organisations, Mr Chikane says he believes that resources from local and international communities should be used to help Christians.

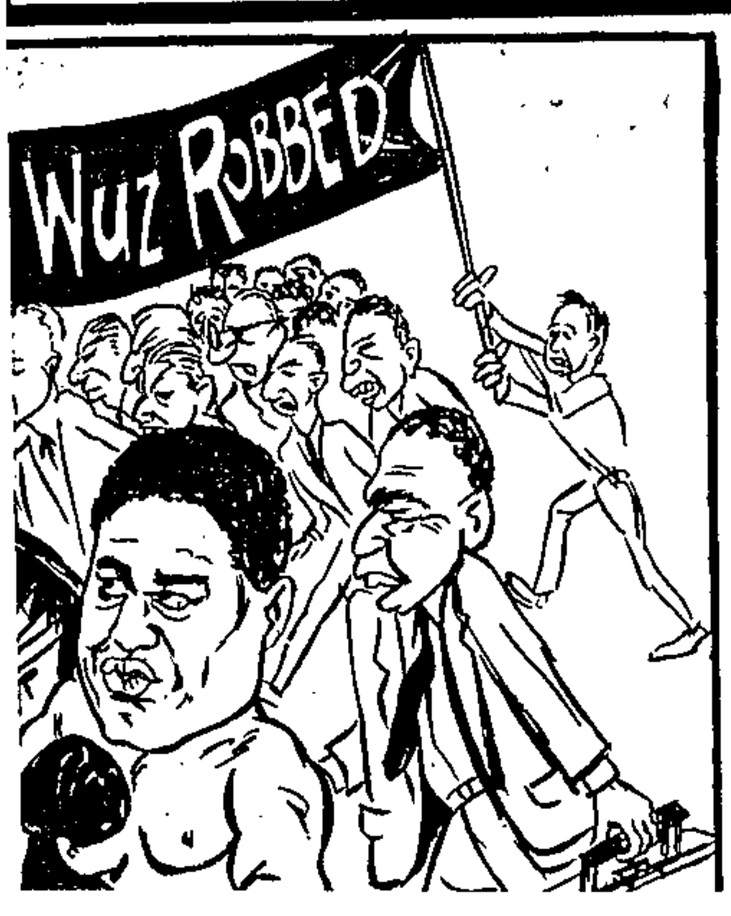
He says he will follow in the footsteps of the outgoing general secretary, Dr Naude, and his predecessor, the Archbishop of Cape Town, Bishop Desmond Tutu.

Mr Chikane says foreign funds donated to the SACC have never been used to finance violence: his predecessors have always condemned violence in South Africa in whatever form.

He says the churches will continue, during his term of office, to negotiate with all organisations, including the ANC and the PAC, for a peaceful settlement in South Africa.

Mr Chikane, who is married and has two children, was general secretary of the Institute for Contextual Theology.

FOCUS



Lest we forget...

THE *Sowetan* today remembers journalists around the country who are in detention:

- Zwelakhe Sisulu, Editor of the *New Nation*, who has been in detention under the emergency regulations for 192 days;
- Mxolisi Jackson Fuzile, *Veritas News Agency*, who has been detained under the emergency regulations

SACC convention

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches is to hold its national convention from Monday to Friday next week at St Barnabas College in Bosmont, Johannesburg, the SACC said at a press conference here yesterday. Dr Beyers Naude will report on his visit last month to Lusaka, where SACC representatives met members of the Pan Africanist Congress and the African National Congress.

Refugees — focus of SACC meeting

The South African Council of Churches is holding its national convention in Johannesburg at St Barnabas College in Bosmont.

The conference starts today and ends on Friday.

The theme of the 1987 convention will be "Refugees and Exiles: Challenge the Churches."

Talks around the theme are to include an overview, a Biblical perspective, international concerns and a call for solidarity.

The SACC's general-secretary, Dr Beyers Naude said the theme had been selected some years ago but last year there were more pressing issues.

With the alarming increase in the number of people fleeing their homes in southern Africa because of instability in the region, it was now appropriate to focus on the plight of displaced people.

A highlight of the conference is expected to be a report by Dr Naude on his visit to Lusaka last month where SACC representatives met members of the Pan Africanist Congress and the African National Congress.

"With a view to prevent or minimise violence in South Africa and to see how a non-violent solution to South Africa's could be found," Dr Naude said. — Sapa.

Exiles in challenge to the church

EXILES, refugees and their challenge to the church will be the central theme of the South African Council of Churches national conference next week.

After an opening play, "A Step in the Dark", to be performed by students of St Barnabas College, Johannesburg, on Monday night, the conference proper opens at the college on Tuesday with an address by SACC president Bishop Manas Buthelezi and retiring general secretary Dr Beyers Naude.

SACC president Bishop Buthelezi advises delegates:

Church should not take sides

By Sol Makgabutlane

The outgoing president of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, has advised churches to be cautious in siding with specific anti-apartheid groups.

Bishop Buthelezi was speaking at the opening session of the five-day SACC conference at St Barnabas College, in Bosmont, Johannesburg, last night.

The Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Desmond Tutu, who returned to South Africa last night from Mozambique, was one of the expected delegates but did not turn up. His predecessor, Archbishop Philip Russell, was present.

Addressing about 200 people, Bishop Buthelezi said the church should play a healing role in the conflict among anti-apartheid, extra-parliamentary forces.

Most of the conflicts "obviously derive from the system itself, but others derive from the very nature of party formations. Parties, by their very nature, divide the community."

It took great sensitivity to maintain a healthy and delicate balance among such parties, leaving the community to choose which was most relevant.

"In our situation the sense of co-existence has been lost. We must remember that in independent Africa there are at present ... pre-independence political formations which chose not to disband at the attainment of independence," said Bishop Buthelezi.

Rebels continue the bush war

He cited Angola, where he said rebels "continue the bush war as if nothing happened when the country was granted independence".

Bishop Buthelezi said if the church in South Africa backed a certain political formation, it would cease to be a "whole" and would become just a "part".

Churches had to divorce themselves from political groups because by so doing they would be well positioned to act as a bridge between opposing groups.

Bishop Buthelezi said it had often been asserted the church, even the SACC, did not represent the grassroots of its membership.

"One can of course argue a case in defence of the church or the SACC. (However) this would serve no useful purpose ... I have learnt a lesson that it is counter-productive to try to defend yourself against all manner of criticisms.

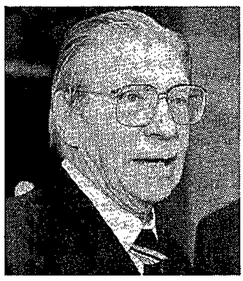
"If you know in your heart that a particular criticism is wrongly applied to you, listen to it nevertheless. Put it in your outer coat pocket. Like a good emergency aspirin you may need it some day, even though you may not have to swallow it now."

Conference delegates watched a play, "A Step in the Dark", performed by St Barnabas pupils, depicting everyday crises.

Government is morally illegal, claims Naude

304

SPPR 1/7/87



Dr Beyers Naude . . . apartheid is spreading like the Aids virus.

By Carina le Grange, Religion Reporter

There was no doubt that in moral terms the South African Government ruled illegitimately and there was strong justification for the view that the regime was constitutionally illegal as well, Dr Beyers Naude said yesterday.

The outgoing general secretary of the South African Council of Churches made this claim when he presented his last annual report to the national conference of the SACC at Bosmont, Johannesburg.

It was accepted with a prolonged standing ovation from the 150 delegates and many visitors.

Dr Naude said issues such as the crisis in labour relations, education, the state of emergency, detention and torture raised serious questions in the minds of Christians about the moral and constitutional legitimacy of the Government.

"If one takes into account the denial of basic human rights, the exclusion of the majority of the people from effectively participating in political decision-making, the enforcement by a minority of power and control on the majority and the maintenance of such power by sheer force without any substantial basis of justice, there is strong justification for the view that this Government can no longer be regarded as a legal authority," he said.

"What moral obligation does the church then still have to obey unjust laws, which clearly are in conflict with the laws of God? What moral right does the church have to call on those who defy such laws to accept and obey them?"

He said it was the duty of the church and the SACC to confront itself with these issues.

"Poisoned"

He recommended a resolution be passed on the moral legitimacy and legality of the Government to "indicate the steps to be taken if it is found that this Government is morally illegitimate and constitutionally illegal".

Earlier he said many South Africans had become so isolated from the outside world that they did not realise apartheid had "poisoned practically every sphere of life" — locally and abroad.

"In fact apartheid, like Aids, has spread its virus infection into practically every level of society: sporting, cultural, social, educational, economical and political.

"It has become," he said, quoting from Scripture, "an all-pervasive evil of the plagues that strike in the dark, or the evils that kill in daylight."

Some link

Dr Naude also referred to the tragedy of the split in the Ned Geref Kerk last weekend: "We need the fellowship of the Afrikaner community as much as they need ours."

He again asked the NGK to think about a link with the SACC, even an informal one.

His invitation to other churches to strengthen the ecumenical basis in South Africa was also extended to the independent African churches, especially the Zionist Christian Church and the Apostolic churches.

He said the SACC was perhaps entering the most crucial and difficult period of its existence. "To my mind the most urgent need is to assist in liberating this country from all forms of injustice, oppression and violence."

He added that whites needed to overcome their fear of blacks and blacks needed to get rid of their anger and bitterness against whites.

SA the source of 250 000 refugees, conference told

Religion Reporter

The 900 refugees who crossed into South Africa from Mozambique last week were only a fraction of the number who have sought sanctuary from Mozambique, Lesotho, Angola and Zimbabwe, the director of Refugees' Ministry Division of the South African Council of Churches, the Reverend Sol Jacobs, said yesterday.

He was delivering the main address on the theme of the national conference of the SACC: "Refugees and Exiles Challenge the Churches".

He said statistics were not entirely reliable but one source put the number of refugees in South Africa at between 150 000 and 175 000. Most Mozambican refugees fled from MNR rebels or the drought in the south of the country.

The "apartheid system", on the other hand, produced more than 250 000 refugees. They included political, student and rural (due to tribal conflict) refugees, freedom fighters, conscientious objectors and escapers.

To this must be added the category of white South Africans who emigrated, Mr Jacobs said.

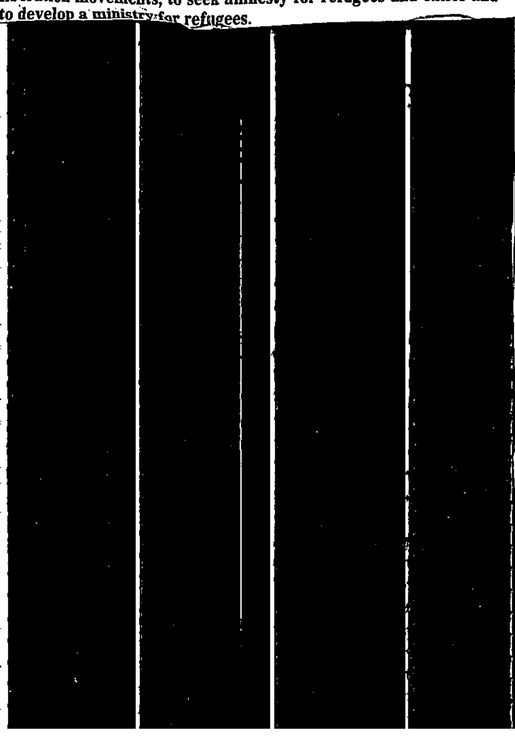
In all, the African continent produced almost half of the world's refugees, totalling an estimated 12 million. Another 11 to 14 million were displaced persons.

"JESUS ALSO A REFUGEE"

At the start of his address, Mr Jacobs said Jesus was also a refugee since Joseph was told by an angel to flee with Jesus and his mother to Egypt. He said from the account of Jesus's infancy, a number of conclusions could be drawn from Scripture paralleling the South African situation.

- Herod declared a state of emergency when he heard of the birth of the new king.
- Herod developed a security network by trying to co-opt the Wise Men as informers.
- The Magi obeyed God and disobeyed the king.
- When the security plan failed, he declared a "war against children" and killed the innocent.
- Herod's reign of terror led to the production of refugees and the suffering of countless families.
- Herod died and the exiles returned.

Mr Jacobs said refugees posed a physical and spiritual challenge to the world community and the church. To meet this challenge it was necessary for churches to work together, to negotiate with liberation movements, to seek amnesty for refugees and exiles and to develop a ministry for refugees.



BISHOP Manas Buthelezi, who opened the conference, is flanked by Miss Hendrina Diedericks (left) and Miss Fikile Mazibuko of the SACC.

'Church against sinful abuse of people'

THE church should encourage its members to take sides with the oppressed against all manifestations of apartheid.

This was said by Bishop Manas Buthelezi on Monday night in his presidential address when he opened the annual conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) which is being held in Bosmont, Johannesburg.

Bishop Buthelezi said Christians should play an active role in the social, economic and political party groupings that could enhance the chances of the "rapid realisation of liberation and justice under the corrective judgment of the word of God".

He said the church, through the word of God, should remain poised to intervene whenever sinful abuse of human institutions occurred.

Justice

Bishop Buthelezi said: "The end of apartheid will not mark the coming in of a paradise but the widening of the horizon to strive for more justice and more liberation until the Lord comes again.

"The end of apartheid will not mean the end of the prophetic ministry of the Church but merely the release of the thrust of that ministry to other areas in society."

The conference was opened with a service, followed by a presentation of a play *A Step In The Dark*, performed by pupils from St Barnabas College — the conference venue.

The theme of the conference is "Refugees and Exiles Challenge the Churches".

'Crisis in the Church'

• From Page 4

whose calling is to lead people finding himself in solitary confinement for more than a year.

It happens very often that "crises," instead of deepening our faith, undermine it. For some people the critical displacement may take the form of the loss of faith in their profession.

Some crises in your life may lead you to conclude, for instance, that to continue being a minister in the church is a waste of time and that it is better to be engaged in something more dramatic than the ministry.

The reverse may be the case. You may be displaced towards the ministry of the church. I remember the case of a young man who came to me and said he wanted to train for the ministry.

When I asked him why he wanted to be a minister, he told me a very interesting story. He said he was previously granted a scholarship for study at a university.

Because he did not perform well, the scholarship was withdrawn. He left the university and found a job.

He then said: "I have just lost that job. They told me that the quality of my performance was such that I was unpromotable material. As a result of all these events in my life I feel that God wants me to be a minister." What a form of displacement!

The Church may lose confidence in itself. It may no longer see what constitutes its *raison d'etre* and proprium of its ministry as dramatic and effective enough.

Solidarity

Such a church may lose consciousness of the uniqueness of its role beyond merely standing in solidarity with others and joining in what other social agencies are doing — important as that is in its own right.

A church that suffers from a syndrome of displacement may reflect this not only in relation to its perceived task but also in the language it couches the rationalisatin of that specific task.

I believe that the Church and, for that matter, the SACC must take itself and its unique ministry so seriously that it allows itself to believe that without its intervention in the world life would lack the dimension of wholeness.

If the church does not take itself seriously nobody will. It is important for the church never to lose sight of its Lord even though he may appear to be far away from it.

It is not within the scope of an address of this nature to attempt to give a catalogue of the concrete things the church should do in a situation of crisis.

I will rather confine myself to highlighting two critical, theological principles or dimensions, which should be reflected in any perspective of social ethics.

The first relates to Christian anthropology and the second relates to christian eschatology.

Heritage

Christian Anthropology

One heritage of the Reformation takes seriously the consequence of sin on all human institutions, whether they are social, economic or political. This means that in spite of the best of intentions, and even in the best of institutions sooner or later sin will pop up its ugly head.

In practice all Christians are free and should be encouraged by the Church to take sides with the oppressed against all manifestations of apartheid.

They should play an active role in those social, economic and political party formations that may maximise the chances of the rapid realisation of liberation and justice under the corrective judgment of the Word of God.

Hesitant

In themselves social, economic and political institutions may be neutral things. To the extent that sinful human beings are involved in them the Church should be hesitant to embrace any social, economic and political blueprint as being consistent with the fullness of the will of God.

The Church through the Word of God, should always remain poised to step in and make the prophetic cry "thus says the Lord" at any instances of sinful abuse of human institutions.

Dimensions of Eschatology in Social Ethics

This is essentially the other way of looking at the first point. Put in simple words, it means that any level of the realisation of justice and liberation there is always scope for striving for more justice and liberation.

The end of apartheid will not mark the coming in of a paradise but the widening of the horizon to strive for more justice and more liberation until the Lord comes again.

The end of apartheid will not mean the end of the prophetic ministry of the Church but merely the release of the thrust of that ministry to other areas in society.

After the end of apartheid, the struggle will continue until all the Kingdoms of this world become, in the words of Handel's Messiah, the Kingdom of the Lord and His Christ.

May I close by making a general remark on the healing role the church must play in the face of current violent conflicts among the anti-apartheid forces.

Most of these conflicts obviously derive from the system itself, but others derive from the very nature of party formations. Parties by their very nature divide the community.

In our situation the sense of co-existence has been lost.

We must remember that in independent Africa there are presently incidents of pre-independence political formations which chose not to disband at the attainment of independence.

They now continue the bush war as if nothing happened when the country was granted independence.

The point I am making is that of social agencies the Church is best equipped to make a healing intervention and stop the conflicts.

But the Church must earn the right to intervene already before liberation. It will do this by projecting the image of wholeness in relation to political party formations.

FOCUS

Church's role in the fight against apartheid

SACC indaba

The president of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Manas Buthelezi, on Monday night spoke about the role of the church in the present struggle against apartheid and in a post-apartheid South Africa. This is an edited version of his address.

THE 1987 National Conference is the third held under the shadow of the events that started in the Vaal Triangle. This means that we have to continue talking about and acting within the crisis. If we have forgotten it, we must remember that the thread of the history of the ministry of the Church cuts through cycles of human crisis.

A casual reading of the Bible from the book of Genesis to that of Revelation should reveal this. The Christian view of the human being essentially includes a crisis dimension which the Bible calls sin. The message of the Bible may be described as divine intervention in the human crisis.

The current situation in South Africa is part of the human crisis. The Church is God's instrument of intervention. I should mention at this point that the Church is being challenged by the present crisis primarily to come to terms with itself because it is only after then that it can satisfactory deal with the crisis in its environment.

The story of John the Baptist as recorded in Matthew 11:2-6 provides a kick-off point to what I want to say in my address about certain aspects of the ministry of the church. A few things are worth noting in the story.

- John the Baptist was detained without trial by King Herod as a result of his public utterance concerning the goings-on in the king's court.
- Matthew reports in chapter 4:12 that Jesus left the area as soon as he heard of John's imprisonment. John probably felt abandoned by Jesus. Was this the kind of behaviour expected of a Messiah? Was he not making himself irrelevant to the then current political situation?

John decided to take the bull by the horns. He sent some of his disciples to ask him a simple question! "Are you the Messiah or not? Show me your true colours.

- Jesus in his answer drew the attention of John the Baptist to the list of things that constituted the identity of the ministry of the Messiah.

This story leads me to a few thoughts I want to share with you about the present crisis and the ministry of the Church.

Crisis

In general a crisis tends to dislocate and confuse people. They upset the balance of what constitutes normal life and behaviour. Because they very often come so suddenly, they put to the test one's capacity for resilience, that is, whether the crisis paralyses you or just momentarily jerks you after which you come back to your true self again.

The present crisis may force certain things to occur within the Church.

As a result of the personal crisis brought about by imprisonment, John the Baptist had doubts about the integrity of Jesus Christ.

It is part of the pathology of the crisis such as we have for people to go on witch-hunting sprees and ask one another questions. "Why is so-and-so not detained while others are locked in? Is he perhaps not working for the system?"

"It is a fact that in all categories of community and political involvement people do not go through the same kind of experiences.

Some are detained while others, doing exactly the same things, are not touched by the police. This is the case whether you think of church workers, SACC staff, journalists or members of community and political organisations. Some are in while others continue to be out.

Recently when we were in Lusaka one young person reflected the "John the Baptist syndrome" when he argued something like: "If Church leaders in South Africa are indeed carrying out their prophetic role, as they claim, they should all be in detention. Why are church leaders not detained with the people?"

BISHOP Manas Buthelezi . . . opening address.

It sounds logical, does it not? It does within the context of the pathology of the crisis situation we are in. John the Baptist was in prison while the Messiah Jesus Christ was untouched. Hence John the Baptist sent a delegation to investigate the authenticity of Jesus Christ as the expected Messiah.

Attitude

It is one thing to recognise the John the Baptist syndrome as part of the pathology of our crisis situation, it is another to allow it to shape our normal attitude towards our colleagues.

People have said things about the church in general.

Two years ago in an SACC conference held at Hammanskraal someone said that for liberation to take place the church needs to be destroyed together with the political structure of oppression.

You may perhaps have only heard something less dramatic than that. For instance, it has been asserted that the Church and even the SACC does not represent the grassroots of its membership.

One can of course argue a case in defence of the Church or the SACC. This would serve no useful purpose. It is enough to recognise the reality of the pathology of the crisis situation.

Lesson

I have learnt a lesson that it is counter-productive to try to defend yourself against all manner of criticisms.

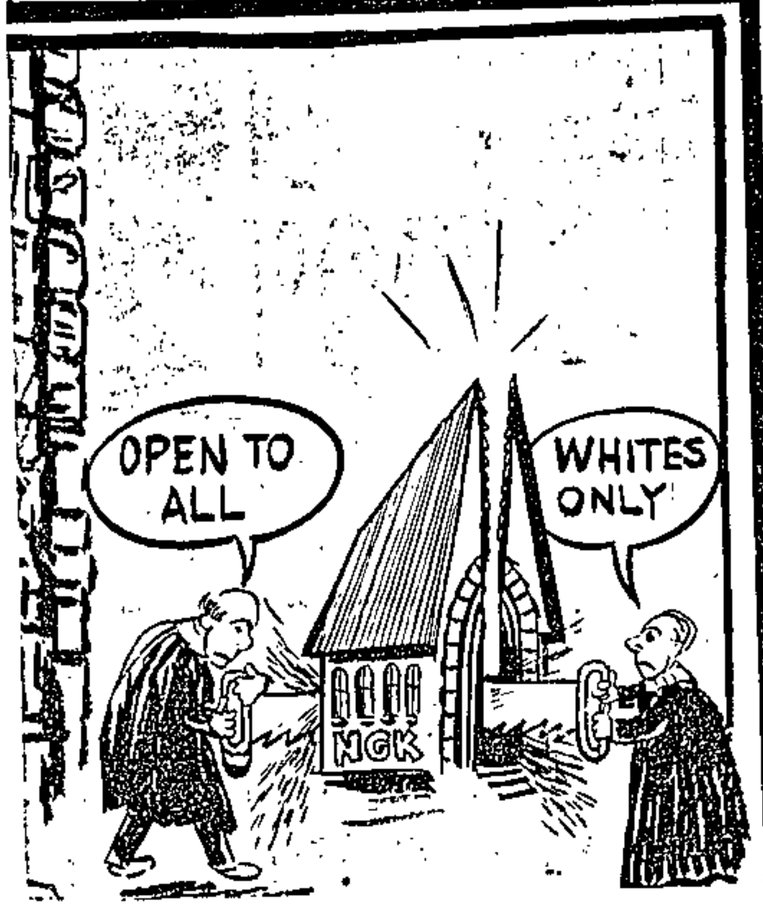
If you know in your heart that a particular criticism is wrongly applied to you, listen to it nevertheless.

Put it in your outer coat pocket. Like a good emergency aspirin you may need it someday, even though you may not have to swallow it now.

When crises strike we are very often uprooted from our base of operation.

For those of you who have been in prison it is easy to understand the incongruity of displacement. Think of one

• To Page 6.



Lest we forget...

THE *Sowetan* today remembers journalists around the country who are in detention:

- **Zwelakhe Sisulu, Editor of the *New Nation*, who has been in detention under the emergency regulations for 197 days;**
- **Mxolisi Jackson Fuzile, *Veritas News Agency*, who has been detained under the**

SOWETAN, Thursday, July 2, 1987

304

Naude warns of starvation

SIGNS indicated that South Africans should prepare for increasing unemployment and hunger whether sanctions are applied or not, the outgoing general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Dr C F Beyers Naude, said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Speaking at the SACC's national conference at St Barnabas College in Bosmont, Dr Naude added that people should also be prepared for an escalation in "resistance to the serious repression which has existed for so many decades."

He also warned that if present measures of controlling the emergency were not effective, the Government "would not hesitate to impose martial law in some or other form."

DR Beyers Naude . . . more resistance.

"The process of militarisation already so efficiently prepared through the paramilitary structures . . . could easily be implemented and the facade of a democratic parliamentary body simply pushed aside."

If the present situation worsened then refugees from South Africa fleeing to neighbouring countries could become a large-scale problem.

In a worsening situation, Dr Naude said, Western countries could be expected to "secretly" make extensive plans to evacuate their citizens.

"This will further aggravate an already tense racial situation where another proof will be provided by the Western world that if it affects the life and interests of privileged whites, governments are more prepared to make extensive financial and other sacrifices to ensure their security and livelihood in contradiction to the half-hearted measures which have been taken up till now to express their solidarity for the liberation of the oppressed communities of South Africa," he said. — Sapa.

SACC to work on strategy of economic pressure

304

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) said yesterday it was formulating a strategy of economic pressure aimed at devising an alternative to the "present unjust economic structure and practices".

The SACC's Justice and Reconciliation Commission director, Wolfram Kirstner, said in his annual report the SACC was taking an in-depth look at the effect of sanctions.

RICHARD BARTLETT

He said the SACC was consulting various research institutes and groups to formulate proposals for a strategy of economic pressure to end apartheid.

He said it was necessary to further examine the issues of violence and sanctions.

Sanctions should be seen as a response by influential persons and circles within the churches to exert pressure on the government and, simultaneously, "overcome the situation of violence that already exists in SA with as little human suffering as possible".

Kirstner said sanctions had beneficial and harmful effects on all sections of the population and research into the question was necessary.

The question of sanctions was related to economic justice, which it was necessary for the church to look at, because of the "growing impoverishment of an increasing section of the human community".

This presented a threat to world peace and was an issue pertaining to Christian faith.

SACC slams rent action

THE South African Council of Churches yesterday expressed concern at the renewed eviction of families, including pensioners, from their homes in black residential areas.

The outgoing president of the SACC, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, appealed to the Government to negotiate the rent boycott with civic associations and other community organisations.

He said the eviction of families, including pensioners, was "the most disturbing factor" which needed serious attention by the authorities.

An executive member of the Black Sash, Mrs Sheena Duncan, who was also a delegate at the conference, said the eviction of families was the imposition of the Government's constitution on the black majority.

The conference discussed the rent boycott in the wake of more evictions of defaulters in Soweto and Vaal Triangle townships this week.

Sacc backs civil disobedience activists

ALL those actively using civil disobedience as a strategy "to force change in SA" have won the support of the SA Council of Churches (Sacc).

It recommended member churches "question their moral obligation to obey such laws as the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act, the Land Acts, the Education Acts and the Separate Amenities Acts".

The Sacc noted "the voteless people

RICHARD BARTLETT

have only one power — the power to withdraw co-operation". It saw civil disobedience strategies "as a last resort before violence".

The resolutions were formulated from recommendations made in reports presented to the Sacc's national conference this week.

The Sacc also resolved not to deduct rent arrears from workers' wages and encouraged member churches to declare that intention publicly.

A resolution made from a recommendation by Beyers Naude denounced apartheid as a heresy and called on member churches to support structures "recognised by the people as the authentic legitimate authority". It was formally approved by an overwhelming majority.

Women land two major SACC posts

DR Manas Buthelezi of the Evangelical Lutheran Church was last night re-elected president of the SA Council of Churches.

And two women filled the other posts on the SACC praesidium: Virginia Gcabashe of the Methodist Church was named senior vice-president and Sheena Duncan of the Anglican Church was named vice-president.

Other candidates in the closely-fought election for the presidency included Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Rev M S Mogoba, Dr Simon Gqubula, Dr Beyers Naude, the Rev J P Scholtz and Prof Charles Villa Vicancio.

Weekly Mail Reporter

Buthelezi will be sworn in today, the last day of the week-long 19th annual national conference of the SACC in Bosmont, Johannesburg. The theme of the conference was *Refugees and Exiles: Challenge the Church.*

●Late yesterday the conference adopted the controversial Lusaka Statement — drawn up jointly after a meeting in Lusaka between church leaders and the ANC, the PAC and Swapo in May.

After heated debate over a clause condoning violence carried out by those involved in the "liberation struggle", a resolution adopting the document was passed with an overwhelming majority.

It will now be referred back to member churches.

The conference was attended by 250 delegates from member churches, regional councils, community workers, observers, overseas donors of the SACC and guests from the WCC.

The WCC was represented by Nora Chase, deputy director of the commission on inter-church aid, refugees and world service.

●See PAGE 15

...newspaper page... this week

vestigation".

Govt illegitimate, says SACC

SOUTH CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches (SACC), representing 4,5-million Christians, looks set to declare the Botha government "morally illegitimate and constitutionally illegal".

The SACC's national conference was asked in Bosmont, Johannesburg, in the report of outgoing general secretary Dr Beyers Naude its views on the government's legitimacy and legality - and to "indicate the steps to be taken" if this decision were approved.

The decision would have major consequences for churches in South Africa if approved.

The debate followed a decision by the World Council of Churches in Lusaka last month — backed by an SACC delegation — that the use of force to overthrow apartheid is morally justified.

And in his report to this week's conference, Naude says the growing political, social and economic crisis in South Africa is to intensify

"All these developments have raised serious questions in the minds of many Christians about the moral legitimacy of such an oppressive rule."

If the conference endorses Naude's view, it will set a far more militant tone in the SACC and its member churches as well as for the Rev Frank Chikane's first year as general secretary.

RS' LATEST FORM — PAGE 14

C CONFERENCE

AND VIOLENCE

uld not have been blunter: It was abhorred violence; this had become g. THAMI MKHWANAZI and RUTH tional church conference

the ability to solve our problems from within".

He saw the SACC's most urgent need as "to assist in liberating this country from all forms of injustice, oppression and violence". This would be possible if two important realities were recognised, he said: the need to overcome a fear of whites and at the same time a hatred of the blacks.

In his report to the WCC conference in Lusaka, referred to in this week's report, he recalled the two-day work stay-away on May 5 and 6 called by the Congress of SA Trade Unions and the United Democratic Front to protest the white elections. The stay-away indicated the depth of feeling in the black community at the "callousness" of the majority of whites, he said, for disregarding the strong feelings of the majority of South Africans.

The rising tide of fear and anger in the white community as it realises it can no longer maintain its privileged position of political and economic power was a source of deep concern. He pointed out that the State of Emergency, with massive powers given to the armed forces, had failed to prevent organisations like the UDF, civic, youth and students' organisations from operating effectively despite many restrictions placed on them.

This resistance, he declared, could be measured by recent worker strikes, students' protests, stayways and rent boycotts.

He said the determination of thousands to refuse to pay rent unless their political and economic demands were met was an indication of the strength of the resistance and sacrifice of the black communities in order to obtain freedom. If students decided to vent their anger through solidarity protest actions with workers, the situation could become increasingly dangerous.

Vigilantes, many of them trained and equipped by the security forces, he said, had "added a frightening dimension to the scene of violence". The widely-held belief that Inkatha, through its members and supporters, was utilising this brutal form of violence against fellow blacks added to the seriousness of the conflict, thus making the task of reconciliation difficult.

He warned that the government's refusal to meet demands such as talking to the ANC, the release of political prisoners, the right of exiles to return and the removal of security forces from the townships would increase the process of resistance.

"If this process gains momentum and the government fears that its measures of controlling the Emergency are ineffective, I have no doubt that the government will not hesitate to impose martial law, thereby establishing military rule," he predicted, adding that if South Africans believed effective opposition to the "injustice of apartheid" could still be found by participating in the tricameral parliamentary system, they were in for a "rude awakening".

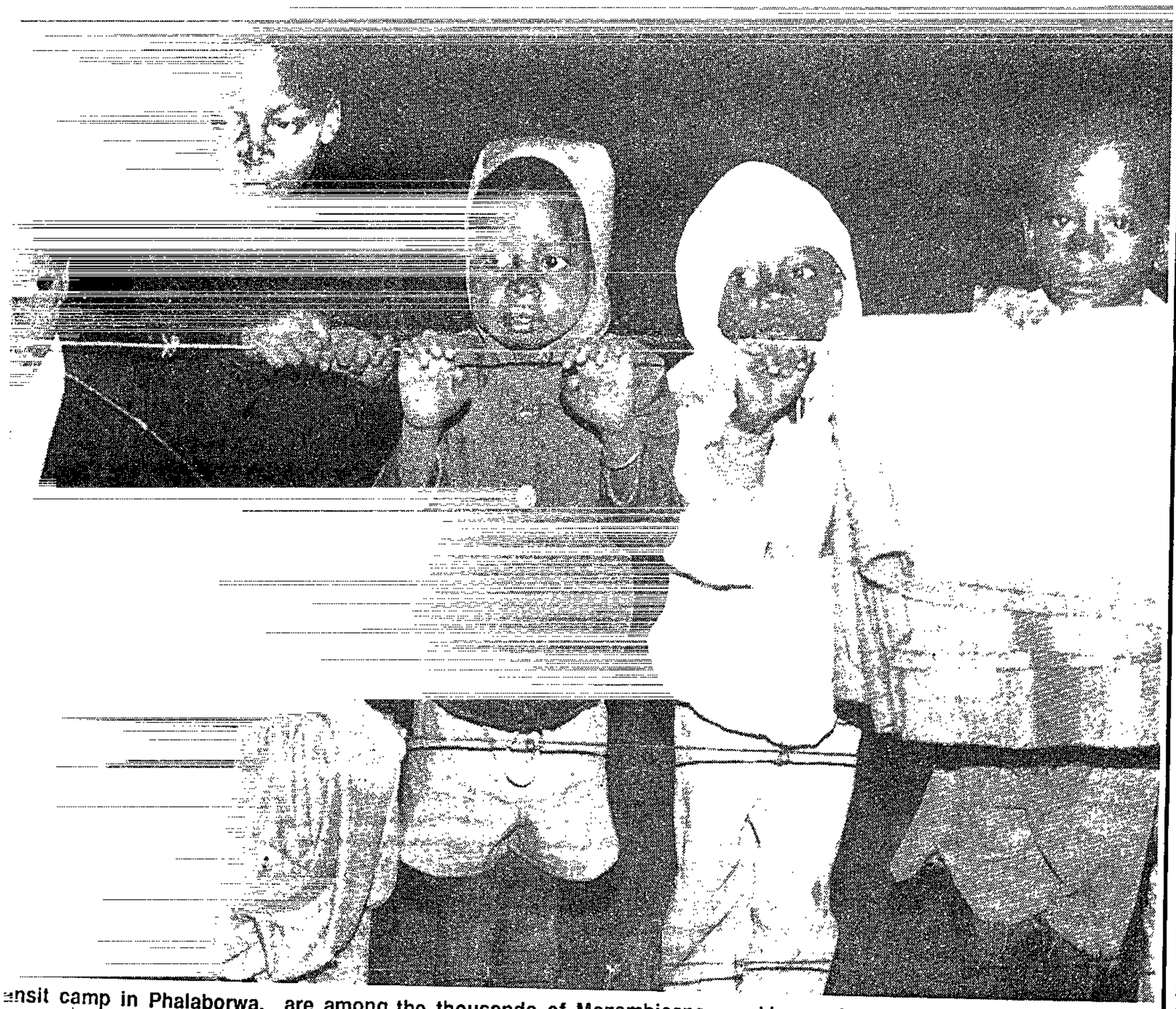
Naudé's report also referred to the government's introduction of the new regional services councils, provincial executives and the proposed national council, noting that the "tactics of co-optation" were done "in the hope of winning the minds and hearts of the oppressed communities".

He said the tactic of co-opting the oppressed was easily recognised in the case of homeland leaders, the tri-cameral parliament and black local authorities. But it had now come in the form of non-elected bodies.

This co-optation was further visible in the reforms of petty apartheid, making available large sums of money for the establishment of a black middle class, "stimulating the whole process of consumerism, and encouraging the purchase of private property in the urban areas". The strategy of co-optation was done with a skill and sophistication that evaded the attention of a large number of oppressed people, he said.

This strategy could also be seen in the formation of organisations like the United Workers' Union of SA and youth brigades, often through the ruling party in homeland governments. In addition, charismatic churches and evangelical groups, especially those with active links with countries like the US and West Germany, were being actively promoted through the government's propaganda. This observation he based on their being presented as "non-political" churches opposed to violence.

To eradicate apartheid and prepare for a future, the churches would have to spell out much more clearly the steps they believed the internal political and church community could take. Sanctions as a non-violent method of pressurising the government to take more effective steps towards fundamental change should again be seriously considered.



ensit camp in Phalaborwa, are among the thousands of Mozambicans seeking refuge from their war-torn country

Picture: ERIC MILLER, Afrapix

fugees into South Africa — 1 000 refugees in Qwa Qwa and about 400 in Transkei.

Jacob recalled that South Africans started leaving the country in significant numbers during the Emergency declared after the Sharpeville massacre of 1960 Several thousand people sought efuge when the government banned the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress. A small number of these refugees have re-ned to South Africa, some have died and the est are scattered throughout the world, where ey constitute an "amorphous" older generation f exiles retaining ties of varying degrees of loy-y to the ANC and the PAC.

The clergyman noted that the flow of refugees om South Africa was reduced to a trickle after mid-Sixties — until the 1976 Soweto uprisg when about 12 000 people fled into neighring countries, seeking refuge from arrest and lice harassment. Most of these new exiles were tween 13 and 30 years old, from urban backounds and had some secondary education.

An estimated four out of every five young peo-, who leave the country because of harassment d ongoing political unrest, join liberation vements in exile, according to Jacob. Many were highly politicised and readily joined the ANC and the PAC which promised an opportunity for education and military training. Others joined them because they offered a means of survival. Of the two movements, he said, the ANC attracted the larger number of recruits.

The exodus of refugees from South Africa slackened after 1977 only to increase sharply from 1985.

The conference heard that the refugee flow now included young white men who refused to do military service. By August 1985 there were more than 7 000 white South African war resisters in Britain, the Netherlands, the United States, Australia, Canada and Sweden.

Blaming apartheid for the more than 250 000 people who had fled South Africa and Namibia, Jacob said refugees fell into six broad categories — political, student and rural refugees, freedom fighters, conscientous objectors and escapees.

Referring to the Namibian situation, Jacob said current estimates placed the number of refugees at 103 000 — 70 000 in Angola and 33 000 in Zambia. This meant 14 percent of the Namibian population were refugees — in addition to some 50 000 Angolans in Northern Namibia.

He recalled the first exodus from Namibia in 1904, when the survivors of the German's Herero extermination campaign found sanctuary in Botswana.

The present exodus began in 1960 when young men left in large numbers to join Swapo. Conflicts in the north of Namibia intensified with the independence of Angola and the South Africa invasion of Southern Angola in 1975/76. Since then, rural villagers in Northern Namibia's combat area have fled into Angola. Others have fled to escape compulsory military conscription introduced by the South Africa government in the Eighties.

After the South African raids on refugee camps in Angola in 1976 many people were moved to camps in Zambia.

He likened the refugee crisis to the story of Jesus, whose execution was ordered by Herod.

With apparent reference to South Africa, Jacob said when Herod heard the news of the birth of a king, he declared a state of emergency and then sought to develop a security network by trying to co-opt the Wise Men as informers. When his security plan failed he declared a war against children and killed the innocent. Herod then died and the exiles returned.

The toughest issue: The role of force

By PAT SIDLEY

A STATEMENT issued after a meeting between South African clergy and the ANC, PAC and Swapo in Lusaka earlier this year presented the major challenge at this week's annual conference of the South African Council of Churches.

Among many other challenges issued in the statement, the "unquestionable" right of people in South Africa and Namibia to "secure justice and peace through the liberation movements" was affirmed. It was recognised that the nature of the South African regime "compelled" the liberation movements to use force.

The major theme of the conference was "Refugees and exiles — challenge to the churches". Christians were exhorted to strive for a future in which people were no longer made refugees in their own country or sent into exile. .

The SACC conference, and inevitably the SACC member churches, were challenged this week to take a stand on how the exhortation to end an illegitimate regime and the system which creates exiles, refugees and "internal displacees" could effectively be brought about.

A large number will have taken the view that the church must give some support to the armed struggle — if only by continued contact with exiled liberation movements.

This view would have been met by an argument which states there is no compulsion to violence, a choice always remains and moral responsibility for taking up arms cannot be shirked.

While the debate at the conference may be settled by the end of the week, and some compromise reached, the debate will continue in member churches for some time to come.

A consistent question raised by the president, Manas Buthelezi, by Beyers Naude and the soon-to-depart Wolfram Kistner, director of the Justice and Reconciliation Division, is that of "the quality of liberation" once it is achieved. The question flows out of discussions on the effects of methods used by "the oppressors".

In his report to the congress, Kistner asked: How can liberation be achieved in such a way that the freedom and justice it aims at is retained and developed and not lost again? He referred to the situation wherein an oppressor's methods are so deeply imprinted on the oppressed that the latter adopts the oppressor's methods after liberation.

Kistner suggested the most decisive stage in a political struggle when determining whether freedom would be retained "is the period before the enemy has been overcome and deprived of his power".

Christians, by virtue of their faith, he said, "would consider justice in society in terms of the degree of protection and opportunities for meaningful life" which political and economic structures would accord the weakest in the community. They would also insist on freedom of association and speech and the necessity to participate properly in the decision-making process.

FOCUS ON THE SA

THE CHURCH

THE outgoing general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naudé, this week proposed that the church "reconsider its understanding of violence" in South Africa and assess the moral legitimacy of the government.

In his final report to the SACC national conference in Johannesburg, he concentrated on issues pertinent to the conference. But he also referred to an overview of the South African situation which he presented to a World Council of Churches conference in Lusaka in May.

In that report he pointed out that the Emergency, followed by large-scale arrests and detentions of leaders and activists, had led to a temporary decline of violence, giving the international community the impression the government had crushed resistance, but recent events proved "beyond doubt" it was as "strong as ever".

The escalation of the armed struggle and the experience by township communities of "low-scale warfare" would leave the church with no choice other than reconsidering its understanding of violence in South Africa. Reads the report: "It is simply not good enough to state that the church is against violence in any form; this has become a platitude which has almost lost its meaning in the situation of increasing conflict, violence and bloodshed in the country." A much clearer pronouncement was needed in order to guide Christians in the "painful reality" of violence.

In his general report at this week's conference Naudé raised further critical questions concerning what he termed "the moral legitimacy" of the government. "If judged on the true concept of law and order, justice and peace, true democratic representation of the feelings of the people, there is no doubt that this government is to be seen as morally an illegitimate rule," he stated. He urged that the conference confront this question and "indicate the steps to be taken if it is found that this government is morally illegitimate and constitutionally illegal".

Describing the State of Emergency as "an almost permanent feature" of South African life, he urged delegates not to be deceived by propaganda or misconception of the reality of day-to-day life.

"On the face of it calm has returned to the townships and 'law and order' has been restored according to the government. What is not stated is that this 'restoration' of law and order has only been achieved at the cost of a series of harsh parallel actions: the paralysing of many popular organisations resisting the evil of the system, including black political organisations, trade unions, educational bodies, civic, student and youth organisations," he said.

He spoke about the growing concern "at the devastatingly destructive effects which the large-scale continued detention of people (especially young people and children) have had upon such victims" and recommended the conference support in principle the establishment of an independent children's institute to deal with the effects of detention.

Focusing on the crisis in education, he ascribed the "temporary lull" in the education sphere to the "oppressive measures taken against the leaders of educational bodies opposing the existing educational system as well as of hundreds of students and young activists who continue to resist the discriminatory and unjust system of black education". Because of its historic role in education the church had a "major responsibility in the current crisis to initiate discussion with educational bodies which are determined to bring about real reform in the educational system," he said. Consequently he recommended the SACC's African Bursary Fund, which organises the scholarship scheme, be expanded into a division of education.

Naudé expressed concern that "a large sector of the Christian family" is not included in the SACC and referred specifically to the white Dutch Reformed churches, the Baptist and Pentecostal churches and certain African Independent churches representing three to four million members. He included in the latter the Zion Christian Church (ZCC), saying the SACC should extend an invitation of dialogue to them. He also recommended the SACC study the NGK document, *Church and Society*.

Naudé also pointed to potentially dangerous effects of the SACC's role as a funding organisation. These included "the false belief that in a crisis of this kind the provision of basic material needs provides the solution to the crisis itself" and the danger of "an ever increasing reliance on funding agencies ... with the possible sacrifice or compromise of principles and convictions, and the loss of independence, self-esteem and even

The general secretary's report is no longer enough to say the church a platitude which had lost its me... BECKER report from the

Beyers' last morning on the job

Today is the last day at the SACC offices for Beyers Naude. Here he talks to RUTH BECKER

THIS afternoon at one o'clock Beyers Naudé will down tools. As outgoing general secretary of the 15-member South African Council of Churches, representing approximately 12 million people, the 72-year-old Naudé said in an interview this week he found the job "stimulating, challenging but also very difficult".

It seems his "tools down", as he described it, will mean relinquishing only a particular set of tools after two-and-a-half years of craftmanship. He leaves the SACC national conference this afternoon with his wife, Ilse, to attend a Catholic/Protestant reconciliation conference in Northern Ireland, followed by — a holiday? Well, yes, after the conference in France focusing on "democratic alternatives" in various parts of the world.

Thereafter he has no fixed plans, except not to accept any permanent employment — "I don't think it would be right at my age" — and to involve himself in areas of "personal interest".

Naudé's personal interests do not conjure up your average sunset picture complete with stamp collecting and gardening.

There are three main areas he aims to pursue. There is the ecumenical sphere, where he will work to "strengthen the unity of all Christians, the building of meaningful relations with people of other faiths and participation in the witness for social justice and liberation by the church".

He also wants to be "actively involved in assisting those whites who realise and admit that apartheid has failed hopelessly, to help them to find their place in a truly nonracial and democratic society." This he hopes to do through his involvement in the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa, the Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee and the National Union of SA Students (of which he is honorary president).

He also wants to "become actively involved in the realisation of the ideal of unity of the family of Dutch Reformed churches", notably the black Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk churches, as well as active support for bodies like the NGK Belydende Kring (confessing circle) and the Institute for Contextual Theology. The latter was headed by the Rev Frank Chikane, who takes over from Naudé as SACC general-secretary.

While every split in a church is regrettable, he said, the recent split in the (white) NGK was "unavoidable in the light of Afrikaner history where any serious split on the cultural level has always led to a split on the political level, followed by one in the religious sphere".

"It was inevitable that the conservative right-wing Afrikaners would eventually establish a religious home for themselves. This Afrikaanse Gereformeerde Kerk (AGK) is in fact the theological reflection of the political ideals of the Conservative Party, the HNP and the AWB, just as the NGK under Professor Heyns is the theological reflection of the political convictions of the Nationalist Party and its 'reform programme'."

Dr Beyers Naudé

Picture:ANNA ZIEMINSKI, Afrapix

Assessing his term as general secretary, he said he found personal significance in having been able to "participate actively in strengthening the witness and contribution of the SACC's opposition to apartheid.

"A much larger sector of the member churches has been drawn into actions of solidarity and support of the victims of the apartheid through the regional councils — which increased from seven to 22 in my term of office."

He highlighted the strengthening of bonds with councils of churches and governments of Southern Africa and "the deepening of the concern and commitment of churches and councils around the world in their united opposition to apartheid.

"We are grateful for the strengthening of the bonds between us and the trade unions," he said. "But I believe much more could have been done to make churches aware of the responsibility we have to support workers' rights and the struggle for human dignity in the labour movement.

"Secondly, we haven't addressed ourselves seriously to the challenge of civil disobedience and effective non-violent resistance to the injustice of apartheid and of the many laws which are in direct conflict with the law of God.

"Thirdly, we haven't thought through properly the church's stand on the issue of violence and non-violence — the question of whether a community is justified to take up arms if it believes all else has been done to obtain its liberation by non-violent means.

"Fourthly, we (the SACC) haven't addressed ourselves in any serious way in understanding, formulating and in educating the South African community to the nature of the new society that is emerging. Especially with regard to the nature of the political, economic, educational and social systems and structures which inevitably would be brought about."

Fleeing from war. Fleeing from want.

Thousands flee out; thousands more flee in. A key paper examines the two sides of the same tragedy. THAMI MKHWANAZI reports

I SWORE never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant. Whenever men and women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must — at that moment — become the centre of the universe. — Elie Wiesel, 1986 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

The Reverend Sol Jacob quoted this when he addressed the 19th annual conference of the South African Council of Churches in Johannesburg on "Refugees and Exiles — Challenge to the Churches".

The Maritzburg-based Anglican priest, who was held in solitary confinement for 46 days under the former section 6 of the Terrorism Act for what his interrogators described as "ministry to terrorists", said South Africa both received and produced refugees.

About 250 000 people from Mozambique, Lesotho, Angola and Zimbabwe had sought refuge in South Africa. With the introduction of the State of Emergency and increased political conflicts in South Africa the flood of refugees into neighbouring states had risen to at least 2 000 a year.

Refugees challenged the Church and the Church must respond to all of them, irrespective of international legal status, said Jacob.

Over and above legal definitions, he said, refugees were human beings who were powerless in almost every facet of life. "They are men, women and children who were forcibly uprooted from their homes, families, friends, jobs, customs and culture — struggling for survival in search of food, refuge, identity and belonging."

At one reception centre in the Eastern Transvaal 1 749 Mozambican refugees entered the country between May 22 to June 21 this year. Last week 900 refugees crossed into South Africa. However, Jacob said, statistics were not easy to establish as refugees hid among the local population for fear of arrest and deportation by the South African authorities.

The tragedy in Mozambique had produced 500 000 refugees, affecting 1,8 million people in that country.

Jacob quoted a Mozambican refugee: "Ten Renamo men came to our village and left with all our food. They returned that night, handcuffed our husbands and made them lie on the ground. They crushed their heads with millet grinders. The women and children of the village were forced to watch the killings. Nineteen men were killed. We were not allowed to bury the dead but were forced to carry the bundles of looted goods to the Renamo camp.

"We then joined a group of women and children who were fleeing Renamo. It took three days to travel through the Kruger Park with 10 toddlers and 15 older children. We travelled day and night carrying the little ones and binding our stomachs to stop hunger pains."

Mozambian refugees fleeing Renamo had to survive minefields in their own country and South Africa's electrified barbed-wire fences and soldiers.

Unable to be granted official refugee status by the South African authorities, the Mozambican refugees continued to lead the lives of fugitives. They lived in fear of arrest and being forced to return to the torture, rape and murder of Mozmabique's civil war.

Jacob said the South African government continued to deport about 1 500 Mozambicans a month.

In Lesotho, the uncertainty after the January 1986 coup and the "ongoing" situation in that country has led to a sudden influx of Basotho re-

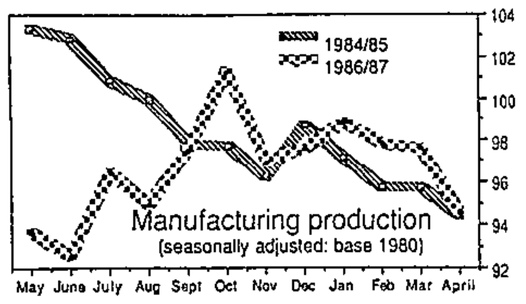
These children, for whom home is a

BUSINESS BAROMETER

GENERAL INDICATORS

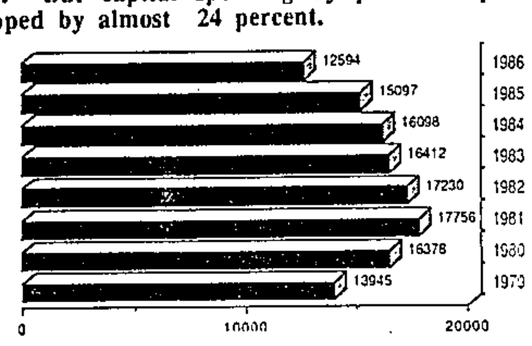
MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION

The physical volume of manufacturing production rose towards the end of last year but has been declining again this year, with the index for April 1,3 percent lower than in April 1986. Industrial sectors in which production has fallen include tobacco, leather, wood, iron, steel and transport equipment.



FIXED INVESTMENT

Gross domestic fixed investment, or capital spending on new plant and machinery has fallen in real terms for the last three years. The situation has improved in the last six months, with private business investing seven percent more in real terms in the first quarter of this year than in the same period last year. But capital spending by public corporations dropped by almost 24 percent.



Gross domestic fixed investment
(at constant 1980 prices)

MONEY SUPPLY

A change in the money supply, the amount of money circulating in the economy — variously defined according to liquidity — affects the general level of spending possible. M1A counts notes and coins in circulation plus cheque and transmission deposits in banks, Post Office Savings and building societies.

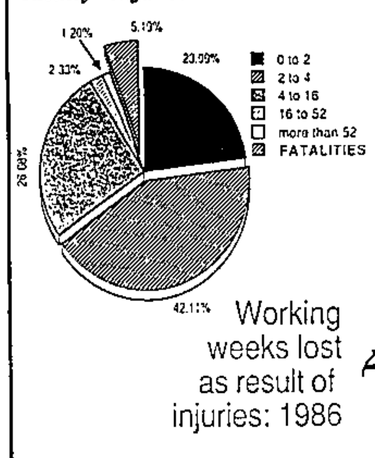
Monetary aggregates¹ Rmillions	1987 Feb	Mar	Apr	May²
M1A	14 931	13 982	14 225	
M1	26 097	26 933	27 918	
M2	56 862	57 389	58 715	
M3	79 922	81 264	82 378	83 240
M3 Seasonally adjusted	80 196	80 803	82 287	83 074
Percentage change in monetary aggregates over 12 months²				
M1A	20,31	14,84	15,12	
M1	10,95	20,50	24,49	
M2	3,97	6,23	8,28	
M3	7,09	10,53	10,97	10,97

Source: RESERVE BANK

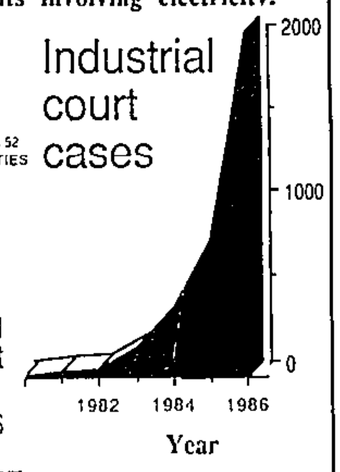
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

INJURIES AND DEATHS AT WORK

There were 8 994 workplace accidents and dangerous incidents in the course of 1986, according the Department of Manpower's annual report. 8 101 workers were injured or killed in industrial accidents (the figures exclude injuries on mines or in the South African Transport services), with 67 people fatally injured in accidents involving electricity.



Working weeks lost as result of injuries: 1986



THE INDUSTRIAL COURT

Reinstatement orders made up over three quarters (1 551) of the vastly increased number of cases which went to the industrial court last year. 451 cases (22 percent) involved unfair labour practices.

Short-term interest rates

	29/6/87	WEEK AGO	YEAR AGO
Three-month bankers acceptances	8,8%	8,75%	11,5%
Prime overdraft rate	12,5%	12,5%	14,5%

Johannesburg Stock Exchange Indices

JSE Indexes	29/6/87	WEEK AGO	% CHANGE
All Market Index	2315	2256	+ 2,6
All Gold Index	2047	1964	+ 4,2
Industrial Index	1917	1894	+ 1,2

Gold Price

	1/7/87	WEEK AGO	% CHANGE
	448,9	440,95	+1,8

Selling price: Major currencies against rand

	1/7/87	WEEK AGO	% CHANGE
US dollars	49,14	48,80	+ 0,7
Pounds Sterling	330,79	331,08	- 0,09
Deutsche Mark	0,8954	0,8912	+0,5
Yen	72,03	71,24	+1,1
Swiss Franc	0,7422	0,74	+0,3
Financial Rand	,2975	,2913	+2,1

Source: First National Bank

THE ECONOMY

Manpower report challenge to the industrial councils

By HILARY JOFFE

THE representativeness of industrial councils — or the lack of it — came under scrutiny in the National Manpower Commission report published last week.

The industrial councils are being challenged to justify their role in setting minimum wages and conditions in a context in which government economic policy is emphasising deregulation — which involves exempting certain employers from having to meet these minimum standards.

The formal minimum wage system of industrial councils and government wage boards is being eroded from two sides: the wage rates they set are more and more inadequate to meet workers' subsistence needs and the system itself is under pressure as government and business attempt to limit its scope. And the number of workers covered by council agreements dropped between 1981 and 1985.

At issue in the report are the criteria for extending council agreements to workers and employers not represented by unions and employer associations sitting on an industrial council.

The commission recommends that agreements should only be extended where trade union parties to the council have at least 50 percent membership of the workers potentially affected, and where the employer parties employ at least 60 percent of these.

If the unions and employers do not meet these criteria, industrial council agreements can be extended, at the discretion of the manpower minister.

Employers (or workers) can apply to be exempted from the minimum wages and conditions in an industrial council agreement; and the commission recommends changes in the legislation to require industrial councils to hear applicants and process applications within 45 days.

The NMC is walking a tightrope. It wants to see industrial relations institutions maintained and made more effective. But there is pressure from industry and government for deregulation, as a strategy to solve problems of recession and unemployment.

In the labour field, it is the minimum wages and working conditions set by bodies such as industrial councils and wage boards which are being "deregulated" with, for example, small businesses and homeland or border industries exempt from minimum wages.

That deregulation is a government priority is made clear in the annual report of the director-general of Manpower, also published last week. "The Acts that are administered by the Labour Relations Directorate have the intrinsic features of deregulation and the promotion of private initiative," says the director, adding that these Acts don't apply to workers in agriculture and the public sector.

He justifies the councils and wage boards, saying they have "gone out of their way to accommodate private initiative by the promotion of small businesses as well as the deregulation of outdated practices".

It's in this context that the representativeness of industrial councils has become an issue. The councils are being pressured to justify their existence if the minimum wages and working conditions they set are to apply to whole industries or regions.

If they are not representative of workers or employers, exemptions will be granted or their agreements will not be extended to non-parties.

The industrial councils have never been very representative. Only registered trade unions can sit on the councils, and until 1979 black workers were not allowed to be members of registered unions. Even then, the newer unions representing mainly black workers have not raced to join the industrial councils.

Minimum wages set by the councils and wage boards have lagged behind inflation rates, research by the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit shows.

Only 22 percent of industrial council agreements gave labourers real wage rises in 1986, according to Saldru's *Quarterly Bulletin*. The median wage rate for labourers was above the poverty level prescribed in Unisa's Supplemented Living Levels in only four of the 135 council agreements in force last year.

Unions have tended to rely on bargaining over wages at factory floor level, rather than on industrial council negotiations. But the wage rises and improvements in working conditions they have gained have been limited to workers in organised factories.

Dr Martin Nicol of Labour Research Services said: "Workers and unions have been shortchanged very badly by industrial councils and wage boards. But they do represent the only legal method by which improved standards can be ensured for unorganised workers."

	1981	1984	1985
No of Industrial Councils	104	*103*	100
No of Agreements*	99	*94*	86
No of Employers affected	46 668	*51 031*	48 329
% who are parties to IC	48,8%	*47,5%*	49%
No of Employees affected	1 265 008	*1 183 399*	1 084 278
% employed by parties to IC	74,7%	*76%*	75,6%

* Only those agreements dealing with wages and basic employment conditions

Big increase in strikes last year

THE National Manpower Commission's recommendations on strikes and lockouts tabled in parliament last week come against a background of a vast increase in the number of strikes.

More than 420 000 workers participated in 793 strikes last year compared with 240 000 workers in 389 strikes in 1985, according to the annual report of the Department of Manpower.

Strikes were longer, averaging 3,1 days in 1986 compared with 2,8 in 1985.

The NMC recommended that strikes should be decriminalised, except in essential services.

The commission recommended that the notion of the "acceptibility" of a strike or lockout should be introduced in legislation, with the industrial court as arbiter of this.

The Labour Relations Act should be amended to protect workers participating in an "acceptable strike" against prosecution under other laws and regulations, such as security laws, the commission recommended.

A wobbly route to economic recovery

WEEKLY MAIL REPORTER

THE latest Assocom Business Confidence Index indicates clearly that the economic recovery hailed at the beginning of this year is not a very strong one and that economic growth rates for this year may not even reach the three percent which economists have been predicting.

The Assocom index declined in June for the first time this year, although it was still substantially higher than a year ago.

The index reflects what businessmen are doing and experiencing in the marketplace. It is a composite of key economic indicators including the gold price and foreign exchange rates, imports, inflation, the Stock Exchange, interest rates, sales, insolvencies, unemployment, new companies and emigration.

Things looked particularly good for business, as reflected in the BCI, between February and April this year. The index went up by over four percent in the month of March, making it almost 13 percent higher than in the same month last year. Since then the index has not been improving very fast and in June it declined by almost four percent.

This "could be a strong signal that the three percent target economic growth rate for 1987 is in jeopardy", say Assocom's economists, adding that current trends imply a growth rate of two to 2,5 percent for the year as a whole.

The basic problem, they argue, is that real personal income is not growing. The average consumer is still in a difficult financial position, so that retail sales are not really rising. On the investment side, last year's increase in new capital spending has slowed down.

Assocom criticises government fiscal policy which, it argues, is partly to blame for the lack of sustained economic growth. Budgeted tax cuts have not been large enough and state spending has not been effective.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Undergraduate Admissions: 1988

Applications are invited for undergraduate study at UCT in 1988.

Courses of Study

UCT offers a wide range of undergraduate programmes including:

- **General undergraduate degrees in Arts, Commerce, Science and Social Science:**
  UCT offers 50 major fields of study, from African Economic History to Zoology, including programmes for students wishing to proceed to studies in Education and Law.
- **Career-focussed undergraduate programmes:**

Accounting	Graphic Design	Occupational Therapy
Architecture	Librarianship	Pharmacy
Ballet	Logopaedics	Physiotherapy
Building Management	Materials Engineering	Primary Education
Business Science	Mechanical Engineering	Quantity Surveying
Chemical Engineering	Medicine	Speech and Drama
Civil Engineering	Music	Social Work
Electrical Engineering	Nursing	Surveying
Fine Art		

Closing dates for applications

The closing date for undergraduate applications is **30 September 1987**.

Late applications will be accepted on payment of an extra fee until 31 October 1987 for the Faculty of Medicine, and until 15 January 1988 for all other Faculties. All applicants, are however, advised to apply before 30 September.

Application fees are:
Until 30 September R20
Until 31 October R50
Until 15 January R100

Student Housing

UCT is able to offer accommodation (in residences, flats and houses) to 20% of its students. Applicants who need accommodation in Cape Town must apply for this no later than **31 October 1987**. Late applications for accommodation cannot be accepted.

Financial Assistance

Applicants who will not be able to meet the full costs of studying at UCT are strongly advised to apply for financial assistance from as many sources as possible. Further information is available on request.

The closing date for applications for UCT Scholarships, Bursaries and Bursary/Loans for undergraduate study is **31 October 1987**. Late applications for financial assistance cannot be accepted.

Application forms and further information should be obtained from: Central Admissions Office, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch, 7700. Telephone: (021) 650-2128.

Bates Wells Recruitment CT 194C

Reg. No: 69/02872/06

2 CASH IS KING!

DEPOSIT X 24 MONTHS

ARGUS 31/7/87

SACC votes for force to end oppression

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches has adopted a controversial report recognising the use of force by liberation movements "as a means to end oppression" and unanimously adopted a resolution questioning the moral legitimacy of the Government.

After a long debate the SACC's national conference yesterday adopted the Lusaka Statement which "recognises that the nature of the SA regime ... compels the movements to the use of force along with other means of oppression".

The Lusaka Statement was drawn up by a World Council of Churches meeting in May.

Religious pacifists

A motion arguing that nobody can be "compelled to choose violence" since it always involved choice, was rejected at the SACC meeting.

The Rev Peter Storey and Mr James Massey, religious pacifists, proposed the rejected motion, but Mr Storey eventually said that while he understood the importance of the Lusaka Statement, he "would not like to stand in the way of a crucial document for the future".

"I could not vote for the implication that taking up arms is something in which one had no choice," said Mr Storey, who in the 1960s was pastor to Nelson Mandela and Robert Sobukwe. He abstained from the vote.

"Forgiveness and love"

Another delegate speaking against the statement said it would mean church endorsement of violence, which would mean that he "could never again preach about forgiveness and love".

SACC official Dr Simon Gqubule said the church had "talked peace but never practised peace". "If there is a just war, there must also be a just revolution," he said.

Liberation theologist Professor Charles Villa-Vicencio said it was a "moderate statement" as it said the church was still committed to peaceful change. He said the church had "failed to show another way".

The statement was adopted with seven votes against and one abstention.

Women elected

The WCC meeting in Lusaka in May was attended by about 40 delegates from South Africa and the leaders of the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress, Mr Oliver Tambo and Mr Johnson Mlambo. It was the first offical meeting between the leaders of the liberation movements and the ANC and PAC leaders.

● Women were last night elected to two of the three most senior SACC positions.

Former Black Sash president Mrs Sheena Duncan was elected vice-president, while Mrs Virginia Gcabashe was elected senior vice-president.

Bishop Manas Buthelezi was re-elected SACC president for a second term after a ballot between him and Dr Gqubule.

SACC questions govt's moral legitimacy

JOHANNESBURG — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday recommended that member churches "question their moral obligation to obey such laws as the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act, the Land Act, the Education Act and the Separate Amenities Act".

At its national conference here the SACC noted that "the voteless people have only one power — the power to withdraw co-operation".

The resolution was formulated from recommendations made in reports presented to the conference during the week.

The conference resolved not to deduct rent arrears from workers' wages and encouraged member churches to declare this intention publicly. Other groupings were commended for opposing the legislation.

A resolution passed after a recommendation by Dr Beyers Naude denounced apartheid as a heresy and called upon member churches to support structures "recognised by the people as the authentic legitimate authority".

The resolution, formally approved by an overwhelming majority, called into question "the moral legitimacy of the South African regime as a basis for questioning the de jure legitimacy of that regime".

A further resolution called upon member churches to support the work of the "Free the Children Alliance". — DDC

SACC calls for PAYE tax halt

Dispatch Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday encouraged employers to stop deducting PAYE tax from workers' wages in a resolution passed at their national conference.

Saying it supported such a call from workers, the SACC added it "upholds the principle that there should be no taxation without representation" and called for member churches to institute steps towards implementing this principle.

The private sector was encouraged to "respond constructively to this demand of organised workers".

Commenting on the call, the Association of Chambers of Commerce (Assocom) manpower secretary, Mr Vincent Brett, said the organisation was "totally unable to accept breaking the law as it would create a state of anarchy".

Whether it agreed with the law or not was irrelevant — it was unrealistic for the SACC to make such a call, Mr Brett said.

Another resolution passed by the SACC called on blacks to "reject conscription until there is universal franchise".

This was made in the light of the President's Council report on youth and the suggestion that blacks should be conscripted into the SADF.

A resolution calling for member churches to develop an ongoing dialogue and negotiations with liberation movements in exile was referred to the executive.

Other resolutions referred to the executive included looking at ways of ending vigilante violence, a call for the release of all children in detention and a call on countries in the First World to receive refugees of all races and creeds.

The SACC also adopted a controversial report recognising the use of force by liberation movements "as a means to end oppression".

After a lengthy debate the national conference adopted the Lusaka Statement, which "recognises that the nature of the South African regime... compels the movements to the use of force along with other means of oppression".

The Lusaka Statement was drawn up by a World Council of Churches meeting in Lusaka in May this year, which was attended by the ANC and Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC).

The SACC also decided to plan further consultations with the ANC and PAC within the next 18 months.

A motion arguing that nobody could be "compelled" to choose violence as it always involved choice was rejected.

The Reverend Peter Storey and Mr James Massey, both pacifists, proposed the rejected motion but Mr Storey eventually said that while he understood the importance of the Lusaka Statement he "would not like to stand in the way of a crucial document for the future" and would have to abstain on the endorsement of it.

"I could not vote for the implication that taking up arms is something in which one had no choice," he said. Mr Storey had been pastor in the 1960's to bo th Nelson Mandela and the late Mr Robert Sobukwe.

Also speaking against the statement, another delegate said he could not vote for the endorsement of the statement as it would mean the church endorsed violence and if it "endorsed violence I could never again preach about forgiveness and love and must resign from the church".

A senior SACC official, Dr Simon Gqubule, said in reply: "If there is a just war, there must also be a just revolution." — Sapa.

SACC accepts civil disobedience

Cape Times 4/7/87

304

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The SA Council of Churches (SACC) has declared its support for all those actively using civil disobedience as a strategy "to force change in SA".

The SACC recommended that member churches "question their moral obligation to obey such laws as the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act, the Land Acts, the Education Acts and the Separate Amenities Acts".

The conference noted that "the voteless people have only one power — the power to withdraw co-operation". It said it saw civil disobedience strategies "as a last resort before violence".

The resolutions were formulated from recommendations made in reports presented to the national conference this week.

The conference resolved not to deduct rent arrears from workers' wages and encouraged member churches to declare this intention publicly. Other groups were commended for opposing this legislation.

A resolution made from a recommendation by Dr Beyers Naude denounced apartheid as a heresy and called upon member churches to support structures "recognized by the people as the authentic legitimate authority".

A further resolution called upon member churches to support the work of the "Free the Children Alliance" to "terminate the evil practice of holding children in detention".

SACC against PAYE by black workers

304

Cape Times 4/7/87

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The SA Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday encouraged employers to stop deducting PAYE tax from workers' wages in a resolution passed at their national conference.

Saying it supported such a call from workers, the SACC added that it "upholds the principle that there should be no taxation without representation". It called for member churches to insititute steps towards implementing this principle.

The private sector was encouraged to "respond constructively to this demand of organized workers".

'Reject conscription'

Commenting on this call, Assocom manpower secretary Mr Vincent Brett said the organization was "totally unable to accept breaking the law as it would start a state of anarchy". Whether it agreed with the law or not was irrelevant — it was unrealistic for the SACC to make such a call, he said.

A further SACC resolution passed called on blacks to "reject conscription until there is universal franchise".

This was made in the light of the President's Council report on youth and the suggestion that blacks should be conscripted into the SADF.

A resolution calling for member churches to develop an ongoing dialogue and negotiations with liberation movements in exile was referred to the executive.

Chikane is general secretary

Others referred to the executive included looking at ways of ending vigilante violence, a call for the release of all children in detention and a call on countries in the First World to receive refugees of all races and creeds.

At the conference, former UDF executive member the Rev Frank Chikane was formally installed as the new SACC general secretary. Black Sash member Mrs Sheena Duncan is the new vice-president and Mrs Virginia Gcabashe is the senior vice-president. Dr Beyers Naude, previous general secretary, was made honorary life vice-president.

outgoing secretary-general of the SACC, Beyers Naude (right), president Manas Buthelezi and a delegate at the 19th SACC annual meeting.

Exiles concern priests

By SANDILE MEMELA

THE South African Council of Churches held its 19th annual general meeting this week in an atmosphere of permeated with increasing government clampdowns and found itself caught up in the spiralling crisis that faces the country.

The conference, held in St Barnabas College in Bosmont, is the third that the SACC has held in a situation of anger and violence which saw the government impose two state of emergencies in the country within a period of two years.

More than 150 delegates from all parts of the country attended the conference, which dealt more with political issues than purely theological questions and the effects these have on the people of South Africa.

One of the main thrusts of the discussions concerned the state of emergency and the effects it has had on the detainees and their families and those on the run from fear of being detained again.

There was also a sprinkling of foreign representatives from neighbouring countries, including Namibia and Zimbabwe.

Other representatives came from as far afield as Australia.

The main address was delivered by Rev Sol Jacobs, director of the refugees' ministry division of the South African Council of Churches.

Jacobs told the delegates that he was detained in 1982 when he was scheduled to deliver the main address at a conference with a similar theme.

He was held under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act and held incommunicado for 46 days.

"Fortunately, no such ill fate has befallen me again and it is with gratitude to God that I stand before you today to speak on the theme of the conference," said Jacobs.

The theme of the conference was "Refugees and Exiles – Challenge to the Churches".

According to the outgoing general-secretary of the SACC, Dr Beyers Naude, it was imperative for the church to discuss the need for sanctuaries for "people forced to move from one part of the country to another".

"We believe we have a right as a church to contribute in a responsible way and cannot in any way be prohibited from discussing what we believe to be in the interest of the kingdom of God," said Naude.

In his main address, Jacobs told the gathering that the apartheid system produced more than 250 refugees every six months.

They included political, student and rural (due to tribal conflict) refugees, freedom fighters, conscientious objectors and escapers.

"The root cause which produces refugees, exiles and displaced persons in South Africa can be summed up in one word – apartheid.

"South Africa is in a crisis. Nobody denies it. The country is caught up in a spiral of violence.

State violence produces counter-violence and so on in a never-ending sequence," said Jacobs.

Fro Ketevi, of the Catholic Church in Soweto, who also delivered an address, said the church had to align itself with the liberation movement.

"It is the duty of the church to teach exiles that their plight is not glamorous – where one becomes a globetrotter through easy scholarships.

"There are hardships and difficulties to be encountered and the church must prepare the youth," said Fro Ketevi.

Big SACC donor may lose welfare status

By NEIL HOOPER and CAS ST LEGER

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) last year nearly doubled its income from grants and donations.

It also paid out more than R3-million in legal aid to people charged with, among other things, treason, murder, arson, and possession petrol bombs, explosives and ammunition.

And one of the major British donors to SACC funds is now threatened with losing its welfare status because of its strongly political stand on SA.

Christian Aid — in 1981 it contributed 74 percent of SACC funds from Britain — is the welfare body involved.

According to SACC financial reports, grants and donations made to the council during 1986 totalled R17,3-million — nearly double the previous year's R9 750 295. Grants and other payments made by the SACC from these funds last year totalled just over R11-million — the previous year it was R4 334 116.

Warned

Only R131 105 was spent on spiritual matters, with donations received for mission work and evangelism a modest R6 140.

The threat to withdraw Christian Aid's welfare status — it means donors cannot claim tax deductions — was revealed at the SACC conference in Bosmont, near Johannesburg, this week by Christian Aid delegate Miss Jill Patterson.

She said Christian Aid was warned after a report to welfare authorities about an article in the organisation's official publication which attacked SA for giving support to the rebel Renamo movement in Mozambique.

An advertisement placed recently by the International Freedom Foundation in America in the British newspaper The Guardian had drawn Christian Aid into a controversy about the attitude of churches in SA towards sanctions, saying churches were divided on the issue, Miss Patterson said.

"For a rightwing organisation to print an advertisment in a leftwing publication to attack us, indicates that they mean business," she said after apologising for raising a "sour note" during the SACC proceedings.

But she felt she had to do so, so that SACC delegates would realise that there were "rich and powerful agencies at work to attack the work you are doing".

"We are not going to be able to stop this campaign," she said, adding that the SACC should not allow "this disinformation to go unchallenged".

The Eloff Commission of Inquiry into the SACC, which reported in 1983, said Christian Aid was the most "consistent" donor in Britain and in 1981 had accounted for slightly more than 74 percent of the funds from that country.

Sowetan 6/7/87

FOCUS

'The worst conflict we have ever seen

SACC foresees a bad future

SOWETAN Correspondent

DIFFICULT times lie ahead for the South African Council of Churches, caught as it is between threats of Government reprisals and the tremendous expectations of the oppressed masses.

This was the prediction of outgoing secretary general Dr Beyers Naude in his address to the SACC's national conference held in Johannesburg this week.

Delegates took far-reaching and controversial decisions that will challenge member churches to express the opinions and will bring the wrath of the Government down on the SACC.

Among the decisions was the adoption by the council of the Lusaka statement that recognised liberation movements were "compelled to the use of force along with other means to end oppression".

The document was drawn up in Lusaka in May after a meeting of delegates from churches and trade unions, and the leaders of the African National Congress and South West African Peoples' Organisation.

Member churches have also been asked in a resolution to examine the moral legitimacy of the present South African Government and the obligation to obey unjust laws like the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act, Land Acts, Education Acts and Separate Amenities Act.

THE old and the new united in faith . . . Outgoing secretary general Dr Beyers Naude and his successor Reverend Frank Chikane.

Strategy

There was also endorsement for using the strategy of civil disobedience, such as the rent boycott, to bring about change.

At a Press conference on Friday the youthful new secretary general, Reverend Frank Chikane said he saw his appointment as a "calling that comes at a critical time, when the crisis is growing in every facet of life.

"The division in the SK and formation of a pure white church is an indication of the deepening crisis," he said.

"The SACC is being called to minister to the people of South Africa during the worst conflict we have ever had and I believe maybe God wants to test us.

"It will be my task to try and bring about unity and bring the churches together. The Dutch Reformed Churches, larger African Independent churches and the Evangelical Pentacostal Churches are not part of the SACC," Reverend Chikane said.

"Often people ask how one ministers to both blacks and whites? How does one keep them in the same church? We must minister to whites to help them leave the fears they have about blacks and we need to tell whites that blacks are human beings, who do not want to drive them into the sea or kill them but want to live with them as people," he added.

Challenge

The central theme of the conference was "Refugees and exiles — challenge to the churches" and Rev Chikane said the entire subcontinent was filled with refugees and exiles.

"I too am a refugee in the land of my birth. I am oppressed and cannot live like a citizen.

"It is the church's responsibility to work for another way to try to help bring about a united homeland for all of us," he said.

Dr Naude, at the end of two-and-a-half years at the helm of an organisation most critical of the Government, said they had been "very difficult years during which the whole situation in South Africa entered a crisis.

Needs

"The SACC simply could not meet all the needs of the many people who have suffered but what we were able to do, we did," he said.

This week in his report as secretary general of the SACC, he told delegates: "If judged on the true concept of law and order, justice and peace, true democratic representation of the feelings of the people, there is no doubt that this government is to be seen as morally an illegitimate rule.

"If one takes into account the denial of basic human rights, the exclusion of the majority of the people effectively participating in the political decision-making process of the country, the enforcement by a minority of power and control on the majority of the people, the maintenance of such power by sheer force without any substantial basis of justice, there is strong justification for the view this government can no longer constitutionally be regarded as a legal authority."

And so the old fighter used his moral authority to strike at his own cultural roots.

Concluding his report he said: "The most urgent need is to assist in liberating this country from all forms of injustice, oppression and violence."

State and church on collision course

AT a watershed conference held in Johannesburg the South African Council of Churches (SACC) threw down the gauntlet to the government. Resolutions adopted included support for sanctions, the rent boycott, declaring apartheid a heresy and opposing the deduction of tax from workers' salaries. The conference also called for greater contact with the liberation movements. Richard Bartlett reports

THE State and church in South Africa are now on a collision course.

This follows the watershed South African Council of Churches (SACC) conference in Johannesburg last week at which the country's major churches adopted resolutions declaring apartheid a heresy, supporting sanctions and opposing the deduction of tax from worker's wages. The conference stopped short of declaring open support for the liberationary movements.

Dr Beyers Naude, the outgoing general secretary of the SACC, set the tone for the conference when he said in his secretarial report that the State of Emergency had led to a temporary lull in "resistance activities, but this lull is very deceptive".

"South Africans have been isolated from the outside world for so long that they do not realise that apartheid, like Aids, has spread its viral infection into practically every level of our society."

He said he saw the recent Lusaka Conference as significant because this was the first time a meeting had taken place between church leaders and liberationary movements.

"At the conference the destructive action of the South African regime was brought into the correct perspective," said Naude.

The Lusaka conference, sponsored by the World Council of Churches, gave the SACC an opportunity to hold discussions with senior members of the African National Congress and the Pan African Congress. Both organisations recognised the importance of the church and commended it for speaking out against apartheid.

From recommendations made by Naude, several resolutions coming out of the Lusaka Statement were adopted. These resolutions were aimed at eliminating conflict between organisations "struggling for liberation", increasing economic pressure on the SA regime and planning future meetings with exiled movements.

The Lusaka Statement calls for increased assistance to the Frontline countries to enable them to increase their support for the liberationary movements and the victims of apartheid.

ANC-PAC unity was also an important issue at the meeting in Lusaka. Both organisations agreed that unity does not mean a merging of the two organisations. The unity of the democratic forces was viewed as essential for survival.

In a unanimously approved resolution, the conference declared that apartheid is a heresy and questioned the legitimacy of the SA regime. Member churches were asked to question their moral obligation to obey such laws as the Population Registration Act, the Group Areas Act, the Land Acts, the Education Acts and the Separate Amenities Acts.

On sanctions Wolfram Kistner, director of the justice and peace division, reported that sanctions and other forms of economic pressure were seen as necessary to overcome the violence that already existed in SA.

Kistner admitted that sanctions had both beneficial and harmful effects on all parts of the population. "Research has been instituted to formulate proposals for economic pressure and to outline options for alternatives to the present unjust economic structures and practices."

The conference called for a symposium on sanctions, disinvestment and boycotts which all groupings fighting for an end to apartheid would attend.

The rent boycott was endorsed and the SACC declared its support for all those actively using civil disobedience as a strategy to force change. A delegate said: "The voteless people have only one power — the power to withdraw co-operation. Civil disobedience was seen as a last resort before violence."

The conference said it could not comply with legislation forcing employers to deduct rent from wages and commended others opposing this legislation.

Another resolution encouraged employers to respond to the principle of no taxation without representation by not deducting PAYE tax from worker's wages.

As the labour force was one of the primary forces striving for change in SA, contact with worker organisations and trade unions was of extreme importance to the SACC, said Kistner.

The conscription of black people into the SADF was condemned and blacks were called upon to reject conscription until there was universal franchise.

The detention and torture of thousands of South Africans and the destructive effects upon the victims was an important point for the church to consider. "The church can never rest in peace as long as one child is tortured, imprisoned or detained."

On a recommendation made by Naude, the conference supported the work of the "Free The Children alliance". "We are not misled by the assurances of Minister Adriaan Volk and believe there are many children of 17 years and younger still in detention."

At a church service closing the conference the new office-bearers were sworn in. Bishop Manas Buthelezi remains the president for a further three years, Sheena Duncan of the Black Sash is the new vice-president and Virginia Gcabashe the new senior vice-president. The Rev Frank Chikane was sworn in as general secretary and Dr Beyers Naude was made an honorary life vice-president.

THE MICHAEL DE MORON NEWS COLUMN

TODAY'S edition of Subverting All Truth Voluntarily (SATV) news is brought to you by three poses tea — one for before, one for after and one while you search for the taste.

The winners of our newsmakers of the half-year awards have been announced.

For making the news as the president with the most lapses of memory, Reagan has won the empty vessel category. He will be awarded another two years in the White House provided that he can remember which country he is president of.

First came the daring, baring swim. Then came the deep water, the mud and the sinking. Now Sir Hen Druk the wet has been awarded a copy of his own book entitled "Breaststroke, backstroke, baasstruck" in the do-it-yourself-twice suicide category.

As it consistently made the news for its kidnappings, bribary and murder threats, the House of Relegates has been awarded the rights for a new mafia movie called "Godfathers unite. You have nothing to lose but your perks'. The film will be shot (yes, it will be a violent movie) on location and all the characters will play themselves (so there will be much humour).

The news worthiness of Pee Wee who has gained more freedom of the townships than what community councillors gained in votes, has earned him a year's supply of "Have you hugged your township today?" tee-shirts.

Loo Hee (hee) Nel won the Golden Smile award and has received a a golden handshake for trying to build a brighter future at a cost of only R2,4 million. Loo Hee was also nominated in the "Kyk Alweer" category which was won by Dik Botha.

Our "Ag Shame" award goes again to the Pathetic Council (PC) which first won this award when it was asked to devise a new constitutional dispensation and all it could come up with was the tricameral parliament. The deep sympathy award has been given to the PC in recognition of its recent report which proves that there is death during life.

Chief Gotcha Buthelezi who has cooked his goose well done, won a merit award in the "probeer weer" category after the Indaba Kwa-Natal proposals were rejected by the Kwaai-Nat government.

For making no news, Cliff(hanger) Sonders has won three awards.

First, for his fishy documentaries on liberation theology, he has won the Holy Mackerel award. Second, in recognition of the sterling work done for the Unita cause, Cliffie has won the first foreign award of its kind : he has been appointed as the official Unita ambassador in the Reekpublic.

Sonders' third award is the SATV "straight face" award which has been created especially to encourage our reporters to serve the country by bending the truth with straight faces.

The non-event of the half-year category was hotly contested, but it was finally won by the 75th anniversary of the South African Dark Force (SADF) which is still being celebrated with firework displays in the townships. A close second was the May election which left everyone cold (it also rained in some places).

10/16/87 304 Original

The silence at the centre of the angry words

By PAT SIDLEY

ENRAGED SACC conference delegate Sally Motlana pointed her finger at the Methodist Church's Peter Storey and shouted: "Your children are killing our children (in the townships) and there is silence from your church."

It was that silence which was the focus of much of the crucial debate at this year's South African Council of Churches conference and which led to the adoption of the Lusaka Statement, the acceptance of the notion that the State is illegitimate and the active steps decided upon in defiance of unjust laws.

The SACC was searching to meet the challenge, among other things, to the use of force in the South African situation. It was an integral part of the conference theme: "Refugees and Exiles — Challenge the Churches".

In adopting the Lusaka Statement (drawn up at the World Council of Churches meeting in Lusaka in May between South African clergy and the exiled "liberation movements") the SACC accepted the use of force by the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress.

The SACC will also be continuing its contact with those movements during the next 18 months.

The debate which led to the adoption of the statement was a precursor to the inevitable debate to follow within SACC member churches and it reflected the likely differences between the SACC member churches.

Storey became the focus of a series of emotional and politically empassioned speeches after he proposed a motion which expressed a problem with the concept contained in the Lusaka Statement that one can be "Compelled" to violence. He argued that the act of taking up arms can never be committed without any choice.

Although the debate probably deserved more theological and philosophical attention than it received, it felt instead the full weight of the frustration of many black Christians that had led to an acceptance of force.

As one delegate captured it: "When your neighbour's son is being shot at by soldiers and the violence of the state is upon his family, who are you as a Christian to tell your neighbours how they should respond?"

Storey's motion was supported by some of the white delegates, some of whom reflected pacifist positions. One of these, Methodist James Massey, had been a conscientious objector on the grounds of universal pacifism. His pacifism, as well as fear of facing imprisonment if he did not dissociate himself from the motion, led him to join Storey in dissenting from what was clearly a majority view.

Mary Burton, the Anglican president of the Black Sash, felt the issue of pacifism had to be discussed, but she wanted to support the Lusaka

Frank Chikane, newly elected SACC general secretary with his predecessor, Beyers Naudé

Picture: ERIC MILLER, Afrapix

down by Storey's motion.

The vast majority of delegates threw the objection out, leaving the way clear for the Lusaka Statement. It was originally proposed that the conference should "receive" the statement and member churches would then have debated it and responded.

But the conference adopted the statement in full. It will now be referred to member churches.

Other crucial resolutions were those that gave substance to last year's conference decisions on civil disobedience and its support for "alternative structures".

With the notion that the state is illegitimate, these decisions lay the groundwork for the SACC — and some of its member churches — to respond to the South African government, its structures and action in an entirely different way.

The issues, together with the question of further contact with the "liberation movements", have to be taken back to member-churches. Neither individual church views nor the SACC's are binding on one another.

And if the conference debates — and the words of the outgoing general secretary Beyers Naudé — are anything to go by, a severe rift will develop along racial lines with white Christians resisting the inevitable consequences of these resolutions

Sagwu hails SACC man

By SELLO SERIPE

THE South African General Workers' Union this week hailed the appointment of the Reverend Frank Chikane as general-secretary of the SA Council of Churches.

The union spokesman said Sagwu, which is not affiliated to either Cosatu or the National Council of Trade Unions, hoped that Chikane would follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, Dr Beyers Naude, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

The spokesman also condemned those responsible for the bomb-blast at Wilgespruit Fellowship Centre last Friday and pointed an accusing finger at the "system".

"Those responsible for this barbaric act knew that the centre is utilised by workers' unions and many other extra-parliamentary organisations and their main objective was to prevent us from continuing with our resistance against the system," he said.

"But," he added, "we warn them that whatever act they exercise to suppress our resistance will not deter us from rejecting exploitation and oppression."

Sagwu is currently engaged in negotiations with eight companies in a bid to be recognised.

It has over 3 000 members in the PWV area and has been recognised by five companies since its inception in March last year.

Dispute settled

THE dispute between workers and management at Mercedes Benz, South Africa's car manufacturing factory has ended with 2 800 workers returning to work this week.

The dispute had started when 29 workers downed tools in the paint plant demanding the abolishment of short time, which led to the brief closing of the plant.

The company had agreed to return to normal shift hours in the paint plant shop after discussions with workers' representatives. — Elnews.

Swazis net R500

THE RECENT crackdown by the Swaziland Customs and Excise Department on Swazi motorists using SA registered cars in the country netted the Swaziland government over R500 000 in sales tax in the past two weeks.

The Minister of Finance, Sibusiso Dlamini, told Parliament the government's warning to Swazi motorists to re-register their cars in S for importing seized, had am

He said larg long time avoid land third part fees and using mking any con

Church 'must tackle plight of refugees

CHURCHES in South Africa have been challenged to tackle the problem of refugees and to dismantle its root cause — apartheid.

While Africa has half of the world's 12 million refugees, South Africa produces about 2 000 refugees a year, according to the Rev Sol Jacobs.

In his paper for the recent 19th annual conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), "Refugees and Exiles — Challenge the Churches", Jacobs outlined the position of refugees and suggested possible responses of churches.

Significant numbers of South Africans started leaving the country in during the state of emergency in 1960 and after the bannings of the ANC and the PAC.

But this number was reduced "to a trickle" by the mid-1960s, Jacobs said. It was after the Soweto uprisings of 1976-77 that the flow of refugees began again. About 12 000, mostly between the ages of 13 and 30 from urban backgrounds, left the country.

However, the pace slowed down after 1977, only to pick up again after 1985 with the increased political conflict and the declaration of the states of emergency.

The increasing refugee flow also includes young men who refuse military service, Jacobs said.

Outlining some of the problems faced by refugees, Jacobs said: "Harsh journeys and poverty mean that almost without exception refugees are in need of medical attention."

Common physical ailments include dehydration, malnutrition, swollen legs and sores. Refugees also experience extreme mental stress.

"Most are bereaved, all are afraid. They fear the people and the situation from which they have escaped and also the future and what it might hold," Jacobs said.

"They need status, rights, protection, food, shelter, clothing, work, education, spiritual care and want to be able to share the company of others in peace and security.

"They are alientated, frustrated and often in a state of shock. They need help to overcome pervading hopelessness, the abject loss of human dignity and the demoralizing consequences of the loss of roots and a whole range of psycho-social and religious deprivations."

Churches, Jacobs said were in a unique position to bear witness to the Gospel in relation to the refugee crisis.

His five-fold challenge to the churches includes: To develop a strategy to find a solution to the root cause of refugees in South Africa; to develop an ongoing dialogue and co-operation with the liberation movements, and to share in and provide a pastoral ministry to those involved in these movements; to seek amnesty for all South African refugees and exiles; to develop an ecumenical and pastoral ministry to refugees, exiles, and their families, and to defend the rights of every individual in conscientious objection on religious and ethical grounds.

South 23-29/7/87 (304)

SACC arrests alarm

By DAN DHLAMINI

RECENT police visits to the South African Council of Churches regional offices at Potchefstroom and the subsequent brief detention of two SACC field workers, have caused concern among parents, students and church officials in the area.

Organising secretary for the Northern Cape and Western Transvaal Council of Churches, Rev Harold Brooks, said he was to meet the Western Transvaal police district commandant today, following the brief detentions of field workers Duduetsang Modise and Samuel Levayi.

The two were picked up early on Tuesday, detained for questioning, then released the following day.

Western Transvaal police spokesman Colonel Floris Mostert confirmed the brief detention of the two.

Crossroads upgrading 'as quickly as possible'

Staff Reporter

CROSSROADS should not be allowed to go through another winter in its present state, according to the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Roelf Meyer.

Mr Meyer and a large group of senior army officers and officials visited the township yesterday to inspect the progress of the Government's upgrading scheme.

Mr Meyer said it was important to improve the living conditions of the people "as soon as humanly possible" for the sake of long-term security.

The Deputy Minister and his entourage, who were met by the Mayor of Crossroads, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, toured the waterlogged township for most of the morning and inspected the training site set up by Topcor, the company which has been awarded the contract to upgrade the township.

Mr Meyer said he had come to see the living conditions in the squatter township and to establish what problems were being experienced with the upgrading scheme.

"It's clear there are problems that will have to be solved. Mr Ngxobongwana has indicated that his council would like larger plots to increase living space for homeowners."

"The people here are doing what they can and very good work has been done, but it is important to sort out problems as soon as humanly possible to create better living conditions."

400 applicants

So far 400 people have applied to buy houses.

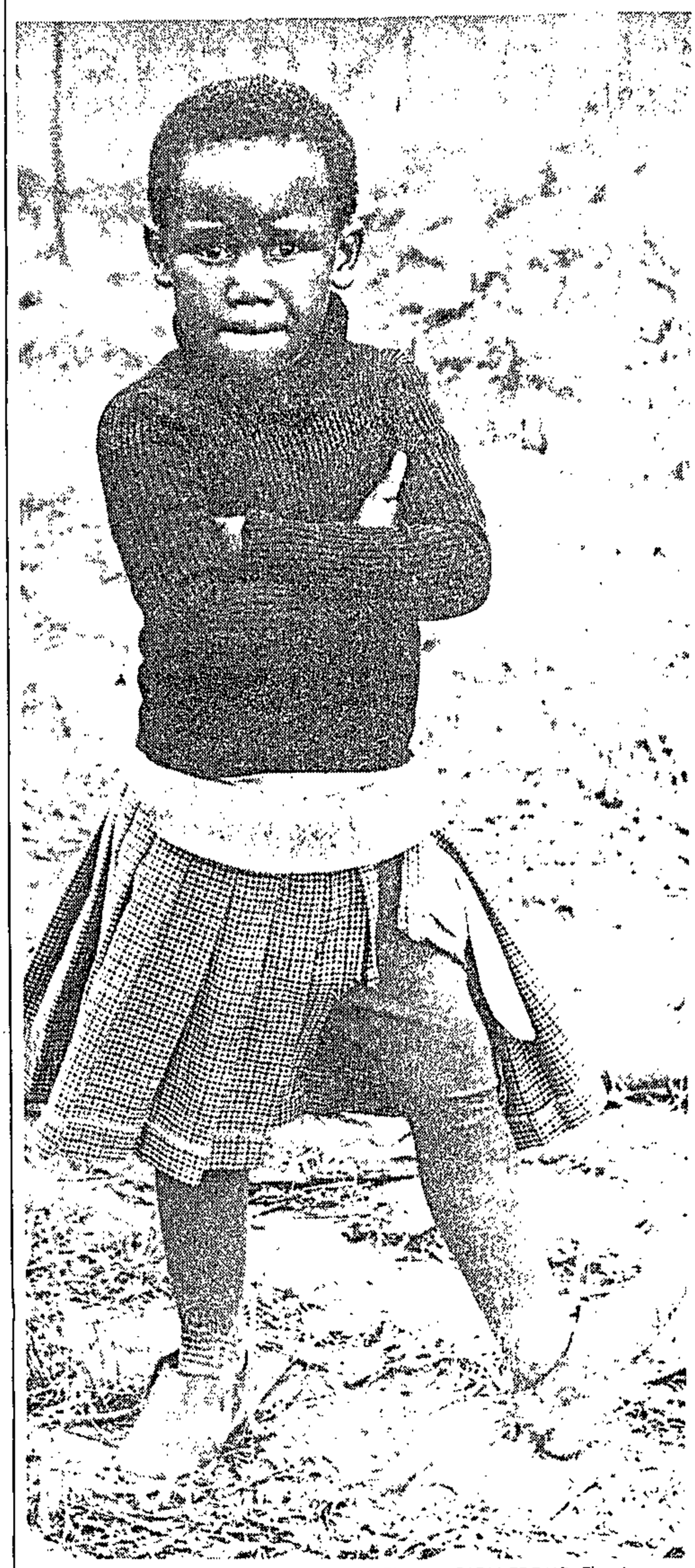
Mr Toppie du Toit, managing director of Topcor, said the scheme was similar to one his company has launched in Lavender Hill.

Topcor, which started operating in the area 2½ weeks ago, has been awarded R4-million by the Department of Manpower to create 2 700 jobs on the site and R1-million for training a further 1 500 people who would be given work elsewhere.

One of the new concepts was inexpensive but durable houses built of polyester "sandbags", which brought building costs down by 75 percent.

Such a house, with two bedrooms, a lounge-diningroom, bathroom and shower would cost R7 150.

It was hoped that 120 houses would be completed in the present financial year.



Pictures: DION TROMP, The Argus

CONVINCE ME! This young girl seems unimpressed by the visit of the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Roelf Meyer, to her Crossroads tent home.

MEYER MEETS MAYOR: Mr Meyer meets the Mayor of Crossroads, Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana, during an inspection of the township.

Right-wing threats spark police action

By ANTHONY JOHNSON and CLARE HARPER

POLICE are investigating alleged contraventions of the Intimidation Act by Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche following threatening remarks by the AWB leader against Dr Van Zyl Slabbert's Dakar delegation and cabinet minister Mr Allan Hendrickse.

With the targets of the AWB urging swift police action "before blood is spilled", the head of the CID, General Stan Schutte, announced yesterday that the police had opened two separate dockets on the militant ultra-right-wing leader.

The police probe into the militaristic organization and its leader follows a series of remarks by Mr Terre'Blanche against what he terms "enemies of the boere volk".

The AWB leader warned Mr Hendrickse in Durban this week that if he tried to speak at the Skilpadsaal in Pretoria at the Labour Party's national congress at the end of the year, "you will have more than just your ankle broken".

He has also threatened to "get" Dr Slabbert and prevent members of Idasa from holding report-back meetings on their West African ANC dialogue mission.

Both Mr Hendrickse and the executive director of Idasa, Dr Alex Boraine, said yesterday that they were "not prepared to succumb to intimidation".

'Bloody events'

And they were joined in the call for decisive action against the AWB by the PFP's law and order spokeswoman, Mrs Helen Suzman, who said the government could not "ignore the blatant intimidation and threatening action of the AWB a moment longer.

"Unless this highly dangerous and militant organization is stopped in its tracks I forsee some very bloody events in South Africa," she said.

Labour Party leader Mr Hendrickse said he would not be intimidated and that the LP was "going ahead with the necessary arrangements" to hold its annual congress in the Skilpadsaal.

Dr Boraine, addressing the first report-back meeting on the Dakar talks, at UCT yesterday, said he and Dr Slabbert would go ahead with planned meetings around the country "despite threats to prevent us".

Addressing more than 3 000 students with two other Dakar delegates, Mr Phillip Verster and Professor André du Toit, Dr Boraine said the UCT meeting, which was held under strict security measures on the campus, was "a victory over the AWB".

Dr Boraine said the ANC was not an organization resident in Lusaka, New York or London but "as close to you as where you are sitting now.

"It would be foolish and ridiculous to ignore this majority force out there which is growing," he said.

Referring to the "horror and tragedy" of the torturing and killing of Border Idasa co-director Mr Mxolise Eric Mntonga, he said "the cost was very high".

Speaking to the Cape Times later, Dr Boraine said: "I challenge the authorities to take swift action against Mr Terre'Blanche before more blood is spilled in South Africa.

"If they should do this it would give the lie to the view that the authorities are afraid to act against him because so many in the police force are either members or supporters of the AWB."

Mrs Suzman said the government did not hesitate to act against the UDF, Cosatu or any organization that voices its dissent.

"The AWB makes no bones about the fact that it intends taking the law into its own hands, carries guns and other weapons and is certainly challenging the authority of the state."

She said that had the UDF arranged a "reception committee" for a returning cabinet minister at Jan Smuts Airport "I have no doubt that strong action would have been taken".

AWB detentions?

The LP MP for Addo, Mr Peter Hendrickse, has submitted a question to Mr Adriaan Vlok asking how many members of the UDF and AWB have been detained in terms of the emergency regulations since June 1986.

□ General Schutte said the dockets would be sent to the Attorney General once the intimidation probe had been completed and he appealed to "any person with first-hand information or evidence" (of intimidation) to contact the CID in Brooklyn at (012) 436611.

In an interview with a high-ranking officer who investigated the case, our Johannesburg correspondent was told the case against the AWB was "thin". Police did not consider the AWB had broken the law when they demonstrated at Jan Smuts Airport, he said.

□ Sapa reports that the other Border co-director of Idasa, Mr Steve Fourie, received a death threat yesterday.

Mr Fourie said a man telephoned the Idasa offices in East London.

"The man, who spoke English and gave his name as Denzil, said he had killed Eric Mntonga. He said he was going to kill me and asked where the flowers should be sent."

Mr Fourie said he had not reported the matter to the police.

□ **Leading article, page 10**

Snoek bonanza!

BIG CATCH . . . Four shimmering snoek flash in the sun as a fisherman unloads his catch at Hout Bay harbour where 16 000 snoek were landed yesterday.

Report, page 3

Picture: ALAN TAYLOR

304 IND 1/8/87

SACC: discuss causes of war

JOHANNESBURG — The bomb blast here has come as a "tragic reminder to all peace-loving South Africans that the war between the white minority regime and the majority of the voiceless people has to be brought to a quick end."

This was said yesterday by the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, the Reverend Frank Chickane.

He said public statements on the explosion were "not encouraging at all.

"The SACC believes that the only way to stop this war is by bringing together the warring parties to discuss the real causes of the war."

The church grouping urged the South African Government to change its attitude and abandon apartheid immediately.

"Remove the apartheid regime and replace it with a non-racial democratically-elected government, where both whites and blacks will be treated equally before the law," he said.

MR MALAN

Reverend Chickane's views were echoed by the Independent MP for Randburg, Mr Wynand Malan, in a statement on behalf of himself and the other two independent candidates in the May election — Dr Denis Worrall and Dr Esther Lategan.

He said the horror and suffering could in no way be justified, and the acrimony between the various political parties, threats of violence and the apportionment of guilt would not contribute to solving South Africa's problems.

"People who react in such fashion cannot guarantee a future of peace and prosperity," he said.

"Now is the time to reject the powers dividing us as well as all violence and intimidation.

"Only then can we seek a genuine middle ground solution based on respect and dignity.

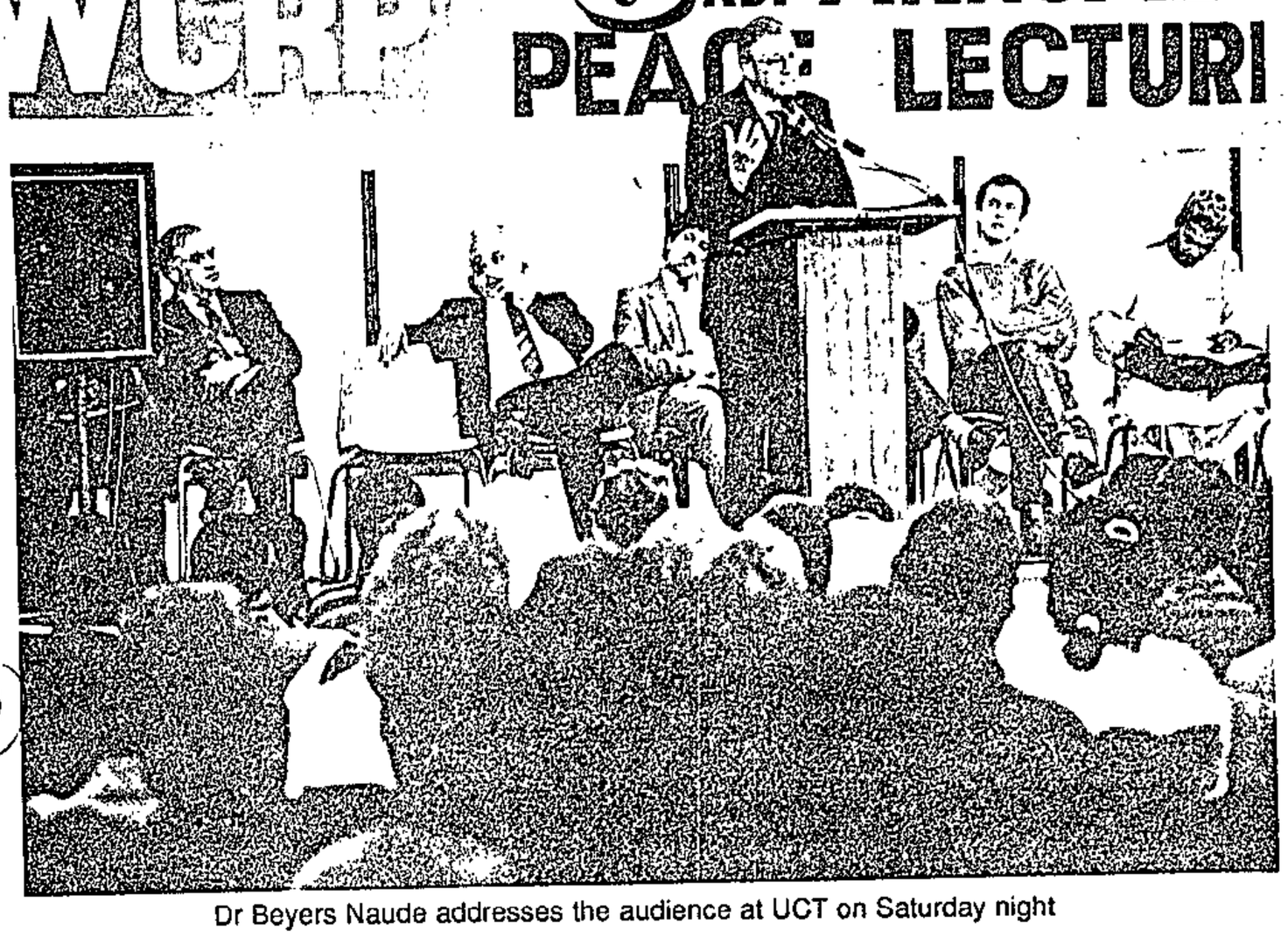
"We owe it to our history, to the traditions of the past and the generations of the future," Mr Malan said. — Sapa

Naude calls on religions of the world to unite

10/6/1987 South 304

WCRP

3RD. ANNUAL PEACE LECTURE



Dr Beyers Naude addresses the audience at UCT on Saturday night

THE South African Chapter of the World Conference on Religion and Peace held its third Desmond Tutu Peace Lecture at the weekend. Dr Beyers Naude delivered the lecture.

AS NAUDE stood, the crowd of hundreds in the Molly Blackburn Hall at the University of Cape Town, rose in unison to honour him.

The crowds packing the hall also sang a praise song for the man described as "truly a giant".

Naude is the son of a founder member of the Broederbond and was himself a former member of the organisation. He turned his back on racism and orthodox Afrikanerdom, became director of the Christian Institute in Johannesburg, and later rose to the position of general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

His work made him clash with the Government on crucial issues and he was banned and silenced for several years. He was a member of the Dakar delegation which held talks with the ANC recently.

By his very existence, Naude "is the source of tremendous hope for our people," said Maulana Faried Esack, a vice-president of the WRCP.

In his lecture entitled "Response of the Inter-faith Movement in South Africa to the Issue of Conflict and Peace," Naude traced the tradition of suspicion, prejudice and conflict between different faiths and emphasised the importance of inter-faith unity in the struggle against apartheid.

"Throughout history the major religions of the world have either displayed an unwillingness or a helplessness to deal adequately with the issue of violence and non-violence, or war and peace," he said.

"The WCRP in South Africa has set itself to proclaim namely that the centuries-long emnity, suspicion, distrust and rejection of the one religion by the other is a violation of its own beliefs, a negation of its authentic goals and makes a mockery in the eyes of the world of what religion is supposed to strive for and to achieve — peace.

"When will the religions of the world discover that without deliberate combined concerted action on a worldwide scale they will never be able to achieve the justice and peace they so ardently claim in subscribing to and seeking?

"Unless we are able as adherents of a specific faith to make a decisive contribution to this use, the credibility of our faith will increasingly be questioned and the validity of our claim that we believe in a God of peace and justice will increasingly lose its power of conviction.

Divisions

"Equally, just as racism, injustice and exploitation of the poor by the rich has become a worldwide phenomenon, religions of the world will have to discover that unless they operate in much closer mutual consultation and concerted action, they will never be able to obtain any worthwhile results as long as they remain divided," Naude said.

"God is also reminding those of us who are Christians to solve our confessional differences, and those of us belonging to a specific faith to find adequate ways and means to act in much greater unison to achieve our common goals — including the goal of justice and peace."

He suggested seven steps to achieve the goal of solving conflicts and abolishing apartheid to create a better society.

Naude said: "We as religious groups and forces should express a greater solidarity, especially in concrete forms, with the masses of people who suffer as victims of the apartheid regime: The students and the youth, the people in detention, the thousands of workers, the victims of bombings and burning of homes and of vigilante action. In some small way each one of us can make some contribution as a concrete expression of solidarity and support."

He urged that "we exert much greater and sustained pressures for peace by challenging our own religious communities to become more actively involved as well as by monopolising world opinion and world concern about apartheid much more effectively than we have done until now.

There was little hope at present of obtaining the active support of the three major Western powers, the United States, Great Britain and West Germany, in the struggle to end apartheid rule, but this should not discourage or deter people from mobilising those groups and communities which had proved their active opposition to apartheid.

"Our concern for peace with justice should also include our responsibility towards those in the white community who continue to support government policies but whose minds could possibly be reached to take up another attitude," Naude said.

"However difficult and at times unrewarding, we should never cease in our efforts to bring those over to our side who show signs of unhappiness, confusion or distress with the political status quo.

Clarity

"We also need to obtain greater clarity and unanimity regarding the nature of the post-apartheid society, especially as far as its political, economic and educational dimensions are concerned. But such clarity can only be obtained in the regular exchange of minds between intellecuals and workers, between theorists and activists, between believers and humanists who do not profess to subscribe to a specific faith. In addition it will require regular consultation with the movements in exile.

"To achieve our goal of removing apartheid and obtaining peace with justice there will have to be much closer co-operation between the like-minded religious and secular bodies in South Africa. Without combining our forces much more consciously we will never make any meaningful headway.

"In criticising and condemning the policy of apartheid as evil and immoral we should at all times be aware of our own failures, our shortcomings, our lack of unity, yes, our own selfish goals and unwillingness to sacrifice more in order to achieve lasting peace.

"A prerequisite for demanding that South Africa should put its house in order is that our own house should receive our constant critical attention. The challenge of the moat and the beam is as valid as ever.

Despair

"If we claim that we are genuinely concerned about world peace we have to be aware of the fact that in many respects we are helpless to contribute directly to peace in other parts of the world. The problem sometimes seems so massive that we tend to sit back in despair.

"We often argue that there is very little that we can do with regard to peace in the Middle East or in Nicaragua — and in a certain sense that is true. But there is very much that we can do with regard to peace in South Africa and Namibia.

"Our contribution to world peace starts by seeking and creating peace with justice in our own region, our own country, our own community.

"We know that apartheid is crumbling and that it is only a matter of time before the whole present system collapses. We know that we have truth on our side and that truth will prevail. We also know that victory is certain. But we also know that the people in power will resist the forces of fundamental change with all their might."

SACC pledges R450 000 in flood relief aid

THE South African Council of Churches has spent over R100 000 in direct relief assistance to over 4 000 families affected in the floods in Natal and the Transkei, Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary said yesterday.

Rev Chikane said the SACC, through its hunger and relief division, has been engaged in relief work in the Natal flood disaster area in liaison with the church network, and in co-operation with trade unions, community and service organisations and other religious bodies.

He said in addition to the money already spent, the SACC is committed to making available, through its relief division, amounts of R100 000 for emergency relief assistance for the provision of basic needs like food, clothing, medical aid and temporary accommodation.

An additional amount of R250 000 has also been pledged as provision for immediate reconstruction of temporary or permanent shelters for the homeless who do not qualify or are unable to obtain state assistance. These grants will be processed by the SACC's hunger and relief division through the churches in Natal and Transkei.

Rev Chikane said the SACC is dismayed at the fact that Government agencies and the Red Cross is using politically slanted organisations to provide relief assistance to flood victims. This effectively excludes those people who are not members of or who are not sympathetic to these bodies.

"The SACC anticipates that the exodus of rural refugees of the floods into urban areas could be used to increase the membership of right wing vigilante groups and create tensions that may lead to further violence in urban centres," Rev Chikane said.

W(-NKGU) 31/10/87

Indaba launches a new initiative

Political Staff

THE Natal-Kwazulu indaba has launched a new initiative to get its proposals for a single region off the ground.

The new initiative, announced yesterday by indaba co-sponsor Dr Oscar Dhlomo at the Cape Town Press Club, is aimed at overcoming hurdles in the way of implementing the proposals.

A two-year "implementation study" is to be started by the indaba office.

Dr Dhlomo's announcement follows growing criticism that numerous flaws and open-end problems in the indaba proposals would make them difficult to implement.

Confident

Dr Dhlomo also warned Natal Nationalist backbenchers that "there is a limit to the extent to which we can be abused ..."

He said attacks made by junior Natal MPs at the recent Natal National Party congress were "disturbingly similar to attacks made on the indaba by the Conservative Party and extra-parliamentary rightwing groups".

He complimented the Minister of Constitutional Development, Mr Chris Heunis, and other senior Nationalist spokesmen, however, for the way they handled the indaba.

Dr Dhlomo was confident agreement could be reached with the government on the indaba proposals but warned that the proposals could not be changed in a way which would lose the support of the majority of any group.

SACC's sympathy

THE South African Council of Churches expressed sympathy yesterday for the victims and families of those who went down on SAA Flight 295.

A statement issued to Sapa by general secretary, the Rev. Frank Chikane, added: "We wish to express our condolences to all those who have lost their loved ones." — Sapa.

304
Sowetan
1/12/87.

SAIRR chief backs national convention

CAPE TIMES 2/12/82 P30

Political Staff

THE key to the national crisis was in the hands of South Africans, not in the hands of people in Washington or Moscow or London, the president of the South African Institute of Race Relations and president-elect of the Methodist Church, the Reverend Stanley Mogoba, said yesterday.

He also said education should be depoliticised by government and all "the different types of political demagogues we have in our day".

Mr Mogoba, who wrote "a letter to the world" in the latest edition of Inside South Africa, said many people had come to pooh-pooh the idea of a national convention.

People who despised a national convention were "the very people who have some preconceived ideas of how we can arrive at a solution to our problems.

"May I venture to say that I know of no other country that has built a secure future without coming to a round-table conference to work out a solution for their land.

"I despise people who want to delay the inevitable at the cost of human lives."

SACC staff 'harassed'

The South African Council of Churches was deeply concerned about "constant harassment and detention" of SACC staff, the organisation said yesterday.

Two staff members were reported to have been detained recently, said an SACC statement issued by its general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane.

He added that one was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act during the week starting November 23 and the other, a Pretoria fieldworker, was detained by Security Police on November 27. Mr Chikane named four other SACC workers in detention. — Sapa.

SACC

304

3/12/87

Church must take a stand — Chikane

VIOLENCE in South Africa has become a hotly-debated issue in church circles.

It was first raised in the Kairos Document, initiated by the Reverend Frank Chikane's Institute for Contextual Theology.

In May this year, several churches adopted the Lusaka statement, which declared the South African Government illegitimate and expressed an understanding of why some organisations used violence against the Government.

At a recent workshop, Chikane, who was recently elected general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, argued that the Lusaka statement had brought the debate around violence into the centre of the church, but many points still needed to be resolved. RYLAND FISHER reports

Frank Chikane

THE church is fast losing support in South Africa's townships, says the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

"It is becoming more difficult to speak to young people about becoming Christians.

"They ask me what difference it will make if they become Christians, when fellow Christians participate in the brutalisation of other Christians, and when Christian countries support and maintain this Government. They tell me communist countries support the organisations fighting against apartheid, while Western governments appear reluctant.

"The church is in a crisis and it needs to take a stand," Chikane said at a workshop of church workers at the University of Cape Town recently.

The workshop, which debated the church's position on violence, was organised by the SACC, South African Catholic Bishops Conference, the Institute for Contextual Theology and UCT's Department of Religious Studies.

Illegitimate

Chikane said he was confronted with violence when his house was attacked last year. "A group of youths offered to protect me. They were armed and I objected because I am a man of peace. They asked me how they could protect me if they were not armed.

"I turned them down, but I thought about what they said and I realised that the question in South Africa is mainly around legitimacy.

"The difference between those youths and the police was that the police had legitimate status and the youths not.

"But in the eyes of so many in the townships, the police would be considered illegitimate and those youths legitimate because of the support they enjoy."

Legitimacy, said Chikane, was a question that was becoming increasingly important in the South African context.

"The real question is not of violence, but of legitimacy. Legitimacy is given to one force and not to another. This is why the Lusaka statement deals particularly with this.

Non-violence

"But what does it mean to declare the government illegitimate? This raises the question of the transfer of authority.

"Surely, if the government is declared illegitimate, one has no government. It means that the army and police become just another group of vigilantes.

"The removal of legitimacy and authority from one group means one has to recognise another group. By saying the government is illegitimate, one is saying one will find another government to replace it."

"The government is morally illegitimate. You can't declare them legally illegitimate because the legal system is theirs. But the majority of the people have decided they are illegitimate."

Chikane said the debate in the church had to be about non-violence and not violence.

"Some people say Christians cannot use pressure. If you tell this to young people in the townships, they will tell you to keep your Christianity.

"We must accept the Lusaka statement that says the government is illegitimate and understand why people have resorted to violence. Even though I have chosen to be non-violent, I understand those who have decided on violent forms of pressure.

"The church must have a programme for non-violent pressure. We must look at options to bring about change. We must also test those options.

Sanctions

"The debate on non-violence and what can be done by us, as people who chose non-violence, must be brought into the Church.

"The international community has applied sanctions as a means of pressure. If these sanctions do not work, what will we do inside the country to pressure the government.

"Sanctions may weaken the government to force them to the negotiating table. But the government will only negotiate once they feel vulnerable.

"The government would only be shaken if more people took a stand.

"The classical exponents of non-violence took to the streets. This is active non-violence. But non-violence can lead to violence, as in the cases when non-violent protests are met with violence.

Oppressed

"Whites in South Africa have more options for non-violence. They can do certain things blacks are not allowed to do.

But there is a line which indicates how far one can go in opposing this Government. Once you cross the line, the space closes. You become

1 kane ce vening address at the Durban Central Methodist Church.

'Apartheid is against the kingdom of God'

CP Correspondent

SACC general-secretary Frank Chikane has called for the implementation of a two-pronged strategy – the strategy of survival and liberation – aimed at eliminating apartheid.

Speaking at a special service dedicated to the homeless as part of Diakonia's "Christmas focus on the homeless in Durban", Chikane said there was a need to respond to the victims of apartheid by finding emergency housing for refugees, feeding the hungry and looking after dependants.

However, he said, that was merely a "survival strategy". The churches could not neglect the question of how to remove the cause of the problem.

Among those who attended the service were busloads of squatters, street children, people facing eviction under the Group Areas Act, flood victims and those fleeing from the violence in the region.

During the service about 50 children of all races came forward to write a prayer each while others from the Lamontville creche sang hymns dedicated to the homeless, detainees, hostel dwellers, street children and refugees.

Some of the prayers read: "Please, God, give us a house." "Find my father a job." "I don't want to stay in a tent anymore – bring my family a big house." "We pray for black people to live like whites." "God make us rich so that I can go back to school."

Chikane said apartheid, which had been declared a heresy by the international church community, contrasted with "the kingdom of God where there will be no differentiation or discrimination on the basis of colour, race, sex and class".

"Our society violently suppresses all the forces and voices of justice and violently defends the unjust laws of apartheid.

"If you fight against justice, you are fighting against the kingdom of God.

"Every war in defence of this system is a war against the kingdom of God," he said.

He called on the government to lay down its arms because "it is not going to help us to be at war".

● Meanwhile, a photographic exhibition on the homeless in Durban is now on view in the foyer of the Durban Central Methodist Church at the corner of Aliwal and Smith streets. It will run until December 23 from 8am-2pm daily.

Children hard at work writing prayers after an address by Rev Frank Chikane, of the SACC.

SACC leader slams restrictions on Mbeki

JOHANNESBURG — Government's imposition of restrictions on released ANC prisoner Govan Mbeki was a clear message there had been no intention to allow him or other recognised leaders to participate in the solution of the country's problems, the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Rev Frank Chikane, said yesterday.

In his Christmas message he said the only conclusion that could be drawn was that government wanted Mbeki to "retire within an apartheid system without questioning it."

"It is a well known fact that having incarcerated the people's leaders for life, the regime is thrown into a state of panic when it contemplates what would happen if the people's leaders were to die in their hands."

It was also clear that should Nelson Mandela be released, he would be expected to disappear into oblivion rather than become part of the solution to the problems of the country.

"This attitude of the government leaves us with little hope for a peaceful settlement." — Sapa-AP.

304

NECC 'SHOCKED' BY DETENTIONS

By NAT DISEKO

THE Director of the Dependents' Conference of the SACC, Mrs Sophie Mazibuko, was held briefly for questioning by the police in De Aar on Wednesday.

She was in the company of Mr Sithile Zondani of the East Cape Council of Churches, who was also questioned and released.

In a statement Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SACC condemned the detentions.

Mrs Mazibuko was on a field trip to the Karoo and was detained in the course of her duties as a director of the SACC, the statement said.

Another SACC worker, Mr Nyaniso Mzamane (22) was reported to have been detained in Johannesburg on Tuesday.

Mr Francis "Shagwa" Lebalo (21), was also reported to have been detained at a private house in Parktown.

Also reported to have been detained this week is Mr Faucett Mothibedi Mathebe (29) of Daniliton.

At the time of writing, the SAP Directorate of Public Relations had not replied to a telex requesting confirmation of the detentions.

On Wednesday, Mr Zakes Molekane of Ikageng Township, Potchefstroom, was released after being detained in Johannesburg on Tuesday.

The National Education Crisis Committee reacted with "shock and dismay" at the detention of Mr Eric Molobi.

Mr Molobi is national co-ordinator of the NECC and also an executive member of the United Democratic Front.

His attorney, Mrs Priscilla Jana said police had confirmed that Mr Molobi is being held under Section 3 of the Emergency Regulations.

In a statement, the NECC said: "Now more than ever we require people of the calibre of Eric Molobi, Vusi Khanyile, Joyce Mfundisi and others to assist in solving the education crisis.

"Contrary to the State's view, these people are not responsible for the crisis. The Government, its policy of apartheid and its intransigence towards the people's legitimate demands remain the main cause of the crisis."

The International Federation of Journalists has sent a message of support to South African journalists who are in detention.

London journalists joined a rally on November 20 outside the South African Embassy to protest against the detention of journalists in South Africa.

In a statement, Aidan White, general secretary of the IFJ said: "South Africa, as a first step towards rehabilitation in the world press, should immediately release imprisoned journalists.

"It is reprehensible that journalists should be detained for accurately reporting events in their communities."

The city of London's Anti-Apartheid Group will hold rallies in future dedicated to detained journalists Zwelakhe Sisulu, Vincent Mfundisi, Brian Sokutu and Maropodi Mapalakanye.

30th B/day 2/12/87

☐ WORRALL . . . damage had been done

One year ago Denis Worrall, then SA Ambassador to Britain, was trying diplomatically to uphold the Indaba concept which Natal NP leader Stoffel Botha had rejected. Worrall subsequently resigned to fight government in the May election. Here he details the damage done to SA's credibility abroad by Botha's attitude, which government finally confirmed last week

What a difference a year makes . . .

LAST SATURDAY, my wife and I were returning to Cape Town from Durban after attending the launching of the Zululand Rural Foundation. At the airport I read a newspaper report that government rejected the Indaba proposals — "Heunis says no".

Chris Heunis is probably unaware that his statement was issued on the first anniversary of the public release of the proposals last year.

But I happen to be very conscious of this fact, as at this time last year I was in London trying (as I saw it) to rescue the South African government's and my embassy's credibility over this issue.

Following the turmoil and violence of 1985 and early 1986, the question my staff and I were most frequently asked was: "Do you *really* think that peaceful answers are possible?"

"Yes," we said, and pointed to the Indaba as an example of inter-racial negotiation. Here, surely, was proof that inter-racial negotiation could take place, and it seemed a promising thing.

Chief Minister Buthelezi and the Indaba committee knew of my in-

government as an important contribution toward the creation of a just society in South Africa.

"Indeed, the South African government is obliged to take the proposals seriously if its professed commitment to an egalitarian society is to be treated as anything other than a sham.

"Instead, Mr Stoffel Botha, Minister of Home Affairs, who is also leader of the National Party in Natal, immediately rejected them, on the grounds that they would lead to black domination in Natal."

The Financial Times then went on to raise an issue which is probably every ambassador's nightmare: "According to the South African Ambassador in London, Mr Botha was not speaking for the government.

"The disavowal should come from President Botha himself, for the consequences of the spurning of Chief Buthelezi and the proposals could be far-reaching."

The embassy responded to this with a letter on December 8, under the headline: "Natal option still open."

We wrote: "The Indaba is a demonstration of the fact that non-racial answers can be worked out

DENIS WORRALL

therefore the proposals were released late on Friday, November 28, 1986, a member of the committee phoned me at my home and read me the Press statement. It was faxed to me the next morning (Saturday).

There was some radio and television coverage of the event over that weekend, and the London Sunday Times carried quite a prominent report — "Whites and Indians vote to join new Zulu-led province" — on November 30.

But by Tuesday, December 2, coverage was dominated by Stoffel Botha's rejection. Thus the London Daily Telegraph reported: "Natal one-man-one-vote system is ruled out"; the Financial Times: "Minister rejects non-racial Natal legislature"; The Times: "Pretoria's rejection of Natal scheme hits negotiated peace hopes"; and the International Herald Tribune: "Pretoria official rejects power-sharing proposal".

In the course of Monday, having failed to get clarity from the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria, and realising that Heunis would not admit privately to any difference between him and Stoffel Botha, I telephoned the editor of an Afrikaans newspaper and asked him to find out whether Stoffel Botha was speaking for government.

Two days later (Wednesday) a reporter from the newspaper telephoned to tell me that Heunis had said government had not officially

☐ **HEUNIS . . . no differences**

received the report but would study it carefully before making any statement.

This enabled the embassy to issue a brief statement simply saying that Pretoria had not rejected the proposals; they were still being studied.

The Guardian newspaper featured this statement on the front page on December 4, 1986, and carried it as a letter in the same issue. I wrote:

"You base your assertion (regarding the rejection) on the statement issued by Stoffel Botha, leader of the National Party in Natal and Minister of Home Affairs. However, Mr Botha was not speaking for the government.

"According to Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Affairs and Development, once the government has received the proposals they will be carefully studied before any official statement is issued."

But the damage had been done.

The Guardian itself the day before had an editorial "Buthelezi's rejection" — the argument being that Stoffel Botha's statement was a clear setback to Buthelezi.

The Times editorialised: "The ink was hardly dry on the proposals for a two-tier legislature, which would couple black majority rule with guarantees for minorities, before Mr Stoffel Botha, provincial leader of the ruling National Party, stepped in to brand them unacceptable to Pretoria."

And the Herald Tribune, also of December 3, carried an editorial from the New York Times of December 2 under the headline: "The Gods must be crazy."

☐ **BOTHA . . . took umbrage**

Our best friends in the UK were completely mystified -- less by the rejection itself than by the suddenness of the action. Despite the embassy's statement, several newspapers continued editorialising.

The Financial Times of December 5, in a thought-provoking editorial, noted: "The proposals deserve to be treated by the [illegible] organisation — especially with skilled leadership and goodwill.

"And contrary to your editorial, the South African government also recognises that this is an iniative of great importance to black leaders in general who are committed to non-violent change and Chief Minister Buthelezi in particular."

A few days later (in fact, on Friday December 12) I got a phone call from a very senior official of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria. He somewhat apologetically told me that he had been telephoned by a similarly high-placed official in the Department of Home Affairs who had conveyed to him Minister Stoffel Botha's umbrage at the statement which I had issued.

It was therefore with some amusement that I read last Saturday that Heunis went to great lengths to stress in his statement that there was no disagreement between him and Stoffel Botha on this issue.

"Mr Heunis said he wished to state these objections for the sake of clarity, and to make it clear that he and the leader of the National Party in Natal, Minister of Home Affairs and Communication Mr Stoffel Botha, agreed on the deficiencies in the Indaba proposals.

"They had no differences of opinion as implied in recent Press reports, Mr Heunis said."

One year ago, you could have fooled me.

S. A COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

JAN - Dec 1988

Chikane alleges police 'cover-up'

SACC leader demands action on boy's death

Sicelo Dhlomo.

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, the Rev Frank Chikane, has challenged Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok to bring to book the killers of the young Soweto activist Sicelo Dhlomo.

He has also demanded that police release to the public the statement which they say that Sicelo made to them days before his death.

Sicelo (18), a student activist and former detainee, worked for the Detainees' Parents Support Committee.

His body was found with a bullet wound in the head near his mother's Soweto home on Monday.

Mr Vlok has said publicly that Sicelo signed a statement in the week before his death admitting to having been prompted by a director of the CBS documentary, "Children of Apartheid" to tell how he had been etained and manhandled by police.

The statement was said to have been made when Sicelo was taken away from the Johannesburg office of the DPSC — to John Vorster Square.

A CBS spokesman yesterday flatly denied that Sicelo had been coached for the controversial documentary.

"Under no circumstances does CBS instruct interviewees," he said.

VERY SOPHISTICATED

Mr Chikane, addressing a press conference in Johannesburg, said the South African security forces had put on record that they were very sophisticated. Referring to the pride the forces took in their tracing of African National Congress cadres, Mr Chikane said he could not see why they could not use the same sophistication to track the killers of Sicelo and other anti-apartheid activists.

"Their failure to do so reminds us that the security forces are here to defend the apartheid regime."

Mr Chikane observed that there was a long list of unsolved assassinations of people who had taken the lead in opposing apartheid, beginning with Rick Turner in Natal in 1978, continuing through the 80s with lawyers Griffiths and Victoria Mxenge, United Democratic Front leader Matthew Goniwe and his associates and stretching into last year, with the murder of Idasa worker Eric Mntonga in the Border area.

None of these cases had been solved, Mr Chikane said. Neither had the many attacks on buildings housing anti-apartheid organisations.

He added that he believed that the police release of information about Sicelo allegedly being prompted in his television interview was an attempt to deny that there was torture in detention.

Mr Chikane said there was more than enough evidence to prove that torture took place in detention. He described himself as living proof of that fact and said that his public claims of torture had resulted in warnings from the police that he would be prosecuted if he could not verify his allegations.

Mr Vlok has said the SAP will do everything possible to find Sicelo's murderers. Police have appealed to members of the public to come forward with relevant information.

D/D 8/2/88

Fake leaflets against SACC distributed

304

LONDON — Forged leaflets aimed at discrediting the South African Council of Churches have been sent to prominent British churchmen.

The leaflet describes the work of the council's dependants conference, which helps the families of South Africans arrested for political reasons.

It lists among the conference's activities the making of grants to finance terrorist acts, and the recruitment of support for the African National Congress.

A lecturer at New College, Edinburgh, Dr Andrew Ross, who received the pamphlet was immediately suspicious, and contacted the secretary of the Church of Scotland Joint Committee on South Africa, the Reverend Mr James Wilkie.

He remembered receiving such a leaflet in December last year, but when he checked it against the later one he realised they differed in important details which grossly distorted the truth, although they looked identical in design and format.

Where the genuine leaflet said that payments were made to political detainees to purchase toiletries, the forged one said they were to buy "petrol bombs, tyres for necklaces, sjamboks for people's courts, and condoms for Aids.

Mr Wilkie said at the weekend that the clear intention of the bogus leaflet was to link the Dependants Conference with the ANC, with which it has no connection.

At five crucial points the fraudulent leaflet inserts erroneous statements falsely aligning the Conference with the ANC.

Throughout the fake leaflet there are references to comrades, cadres, people's courts, "fighting against racist aparthied", police aggression and calls for support of boycotts, sanctions and anti apartheid movements, all of which are absent in the genuine leaflet.

Sources in South Africa said the council was aware of the forgery and is outraged by it. — DDC

SACC rethink on court funds

Weekly Mail Reporters

THE South African Council of Churches is reconsidering funding political trials because there is no guarantee of a "just outcome".

Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SACC, told a Johannesburg press conference yesterday judges had to act according to unjust laws — and the legal system was obviously influenced by the political climate.

He said the SACC was re-examining its aid to apartheid victims on trial as "there is no guarantee of a just end to the court process".

The press conference was called to highlight the plight of the "Sharpeville Six" — who are on death row for having "common purpose" with the unknown killers of a Sharpeville councillor in 1984.

A lawyer acting for the six argued they should have been acquitted by the court. He said the state's evidence against them included many "grey areas" — chief among them that several of the six were convicted on the "contradictory evidence" of one anonymous state witness.

W/Mercury
12-18/2/88
304

Heartbreak over SAIRR bursaries

16/2/88 SOWETAN Reporter 30 Sowetan

THE South African Institute of Race Relations received a record number of 34 000 bursary applications from African, Indian and coloured students from throughout the country but could award only 277 bursaries for 1988.

The acting director of the Institute Mr Theo Coggin, said yesterday that the number of applications showed that black South Africans view the SAIRR as the premier organisation administering scholarships for black students in this country.

The bursaries were awarded on merit and financial need, he said.

Funds short

The institute said, however, that it was dismayed that a shortage of funds meant it could award only 277 new bursaries for 1988. This was 0,83 percent of applications.

Mr Coggin said: "It is frightening to know that so many thousands of people look to us for help, but that lack of funds compels us to turn most of them away," he said.

Mr Coggin said that while the number of applications was unprecedented in the history of the institute, it was not surprising.

He said: "Apart from the fact that the Institute is highly respected in the black community as an able and fair administrator of bursaries, blacks are placing a much higher premium on education than ever before and are coming forward in their droves to attempt to find funding for this education."

New awards

Of the new awards, 221 went to students who will be attending university, 21 to technikon students, five to trainee teachers and 30 to pupils.

Mr Coggin said that the institute was also able to renew 465 awards to bursars who attended universities, technikons and teacher training colleges on institute grants last year.

He appealed to students wanting to apply for bursaries for 1989 not to contact the institute's bursary department before July this year.

23/2/88

(304) SMM

SACC churches shun NGK summit

By Carina le Grange,
Religion Reporter

The South African Council of Churches and its member churches will not attend the summit meeting of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk (NGK) in Pretoria tomorrow. About 50 churches have been invited.

The SACC and its members will meet the NGK on a one-to-one basis as arranged prior to the invitation to the summit meeting.

This week's meeting organised by the NGK, on the theme "The Biblical call of the Church in the present South African situation", is a follow-up to a similar summit held last year and which was also boycotted by member churches of the SACC and the black and coloured sister churches of the NGK — the NGK in Afrika (NGKA) and the NG Sendingkerk (NGSK).

The NGKA and the NGSK announced last week they would not take part and last year led the boycott of the earlier summit meeting.

The SACC said in a statement it would not attend the Pretoria meeting this week because the NGK, as convenor of the meeting, would decide on the agenda and this was not acceptable to the SACC.

CRISIS IN SA

The statement said the church leaders' decision not to attend was made in the context that a separate meeting between the SACC and the NGK was planned prior to the NGK's invitation.

The SACC/NGK meeting will take place on March 28 and will deal with "fundamental issues" such as the relationship of the SACC and NGK, their position on apartheid and the need for intervention in the crisis situation of South Africa".

The Anglican Church, headed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, will also meet the NGK in March.

Another blow to the NGK's new ecumenical drive has been the refusal of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands to meet the NGK on a one-to-one basis.

Brother Jude is new man in SACBC hot seat

BROTHER Jude Pieterse (43) has been appointed secretary-general of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference with effect from April 1, 1988.

He succeeds Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa who has completed two terms of office, an SACBC statement said.

Brother Jude was born in Cape Town in 1939. After matriculating at St Joseph's College, Rondebosch, he joined the Marist Brothers' congregation, and did his initial training in Australia.

He taught at Sacred Heart College, Observatory, Johannesburg, and at Marist Brothers in Port Elizabeth.

After five years as principal of Marist Brothers, Port Elizabeth, he was appointed Provincial of the Marist Brothers in South Africa, a post he held for nine years.

He has served on various committees dealing with education in South Africa and was chairperson of the Education Council of Associations of Religious for five years.

FATHER Smangaliso Mkhatshwa.

Since 1977 he has handled negotiations with various Government education authorities on behalf of the Catholic schools in South Africa.

The SACBC said Brother Jude had also been a leading figure in the introduction and development of "open" or non-racial schools. — Sapa.

SACC objects to visit

JOHANNESBURG — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday aligned itself with the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) in expressing "deep dismay" at the visit to South Africa of the Bavarian premier, Dr Franz Josef Strauss.

In a statement, the SACC said it believed the visit "at the invitation of the South African Government and not the victims of apartheid, furthers the credibility of the government".

"Although the general secretary (of the SACC) has not been invited to meet him, if he had been invited — given the nature of the programme, the type of people he would be meeting, and the intentions of the meeting — he would have had difficulties," the statement added. — Sapa

South
3-9/3/88

SACC speaks out against restrictions

304

The leaders of the South African Council of Churches issued this statement in protest to the government's latest draconian measures. The SACC states that the new measures are a blow directed at the heart of the church's mission in South Africa.

'WE, the leaders of South African Council of Churches, have held an emergency meeting in Khotso House, Johannesburg to discuss the crisis in our country which was created by the South African government when it banned the operations of 17 of our people's organisations, prohibited many activities of the Congress of South African Trade Unions and restricted 18 of our leaders.

We believe the restrictions represent a desperate attempt by weak people to hold onto power in the face of an ever-increasing determination by the oppressed people of our country to bring about justice, democracy and peace.

The government's drastic and brutal action removes nearly all effective means open to our people of working for true change by peaceful means, and if there is violent reaction to its action, this government must take the responsibility.

The ban on the activities of the 17 organisations is a blow directed at the heart of the church's mission in South Africa.

Firstly, the organisations which have been banned are the organisations of and for our people.

Secondly, the activities which have been prohibited are central to the proclamation of the gospel in our country. We must make it quite clear that, no matter what the consequences, we will continue as a matter of course to campaign for the release of prisoners, to call for clemency for those under sentence of death, to call for the unbanning of our political organisations, to call for negotiations involving the true leaders of our country to bring about a transfer of power from a minority to all the people of our country, to commemorate significant events in the life of our nation, to call upon the international community to apply pressure to force the government to the negotiating table.

Our mandate to carry out these activities comes from God and no man and no government will stop us.

If the state wants to act against the church of God in this country for proclaiming the gospel, then so be it.

Thirdly, at least one prominent church leader known to us has been banned and house arrested in terms of the regulations. Dr Simon Gqubule, principal of the Methodist Church's John Wesley College, has been restricted to the Pietermaritzburg district and has been placed under house-arrest between 6 pm and 5 am.

We know Gqubule to be a man dedicated to justice and peace in our country and condemn the restrictions on him - as we condemn the restrictions placed on all our other leaders - in the strongest terms we can muster.

We find it particularly horrifying that the government has restricted two leaders - in the persons of Mrs Albertina Sisulu and Mr Archie Gumede - who were until their restrictions tireless workers in the cause of peace in two of the most desperate crisis areas in our land.

Mrs Sisulu has been struggling to bring about peace between opposing groups in KTC, Cape Town. It is widely acknowledged that Gumede has been a key advocate of peace in the fighting in Pietermaritzburg.

We believe the time has come to state the truth clearly as we see it: from the government's banning of these two leaders, from its harassment of peacemakers in KTC, from its detention of leaders in Pietermaritzburg, and from its failure to arrest people against whom there is clear evidence of murder and assault, we must conclude that the authorities are deliberately obstructing peace in our country and encouraging violence amongst our people. Their purpose is to use surrogate forces to smash effective opposition to their heretical policy of apartheid, and to ensure as far as possible that it is the blood of black people, and not of white people, that is spilled in pursuance of their aim.

In responding to the current crisis, we feel we must address primarily the oppressed people in our land, for it is they who will decide in the final analysis when apartheid is going to be abolished.

We urge the oppressed to intensify the struggle for justice and peace in accordance with the gospel and we encourage them not to lose hope, for victory against evil in this world is guaranteed by our Lord.

The SACC's Frank Chikane

For our part, we commit ourselves to exploring every possible avenue for continuing to carry out the activities which have been banned, as we believe they are mandated by the gospel.

To the white voters of South Africa, we must say - without too much hope of being heard - that you are being deceived by the government.

Your fellow South Africans want nothing more than to live in a just and peaceful country. Your position is becoming untenable and we believe that you must dissociate yourselves from this government.

Apartheid is a heresy. You can't reform a heresy, and if you are to assure your futures, you must join the real struggle for democracy.

We now hope the international community - and especially South Africa's major trading partners - will wake up to the fact that this illegitimate government is threatening their interests as well as the lives and security of black and white South Africans.

It has shown quite clearly that it has nothing to offer but instability and bloodshed. It must be isolated to force it off the awful path it has chosen.

B/day 4/3/88

(304)

SACC guilty of 'criminal offence'

THE SA Council of Churches has been told by Home Affairs Minister J C G Botha that its refusal to submit copies of its journal, Ecunews, to his department rendered the SACC guilty of a criminal offence.

The SACC said yesterday it was ordered by the Minister in September last year to supply the director general with a copy of the monthly publication in terms of the emergency regulations.

"On September 26, 1987, we received a telegram from the Home Affairs office warning us that unless we complied with their request legal steps would be taken against us.

"The SACC national executive committee met on October 13-14, 1987, and resolved not to comply with the order because any compliance would negate and militate against the mission of the Church. On October 22, this decision was communicated to the relevant Minister."

The SACC said in the letter it stated that Ecunews was the organ of the SACC through which it communicated its work and concerns here and abroad.

"We stated that the idea of justice is a fundamental concept of the Judeo-Christian tradition and the devlopment of those societies whose constitutions are based on Christian teaching has included the administration of justice through an independent judiciary and the power of the courts of law to protect individuals against arbitrary action by the state," it said. — Sapa.

Sowetan 6/3/88

Govt warns SACC

Sowetan 4/3/88

THE SA Council of Churches has been informed by the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr J C G Botha, that its refusal to submit copies of the SACC journal, *Ecunews*, to his department rendered the SACC guilty of criminal offence. 304

The SACC said in a statement yesterday that they were ordered by the Minister in September last year to supply the director general with a copy of the monthly publication in terms of the emergency regulations. 32.01

"On September 26 1987 we received a telegram from the Home Affairs office warning us that unless we complied with their request, legal steps would be taken against us in terms of regulation 7B(4) without further notice.

"The national executive committee of the SACC met on October 13-14 1987 and resolved not to comply with the order because any compliance with this state of emergency proclamation would negate and militate against the very mission of the church in South Africa. On October 22 this decision was communicated to the relevant Minister." — Sapa.

SACC slams govt

CP Correspondent

THE South African Council of Churches has accused the government of "harassing" church workers following the detention of acting administrative secretary of the Border Council of Churches, Nomvuzo Tshetu.

Tshetu was detained on February 23 under emergency regulations after police searched his offices.

Reacting to Tshetu's detention, the SACC said in a statement this week, that this was "yet another incident of harassment of church workers of the SACC without provocation."

"The government seems bent on forcing confrontation with the church by constantly interrrupting its peaceful activities through force and intimidation," it said. – Ano

Church services for detainees

Sowetan 9/3/88

THE South African Council of Churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference yesterday called on South Africans to attend church services later this month marking "National Detainees Day."

A joint statement said the services would be held countrywide on March 13, the closest Sunday to March 12, officially "National Detainees Day."

"The SACC and the SACBC calls on people of all religious persuasions to remember this National Detainees Day, and the victims of oppression and repression in our country," the statement said.— Sapa.

(See Page 7)

Knocking peace off the rails

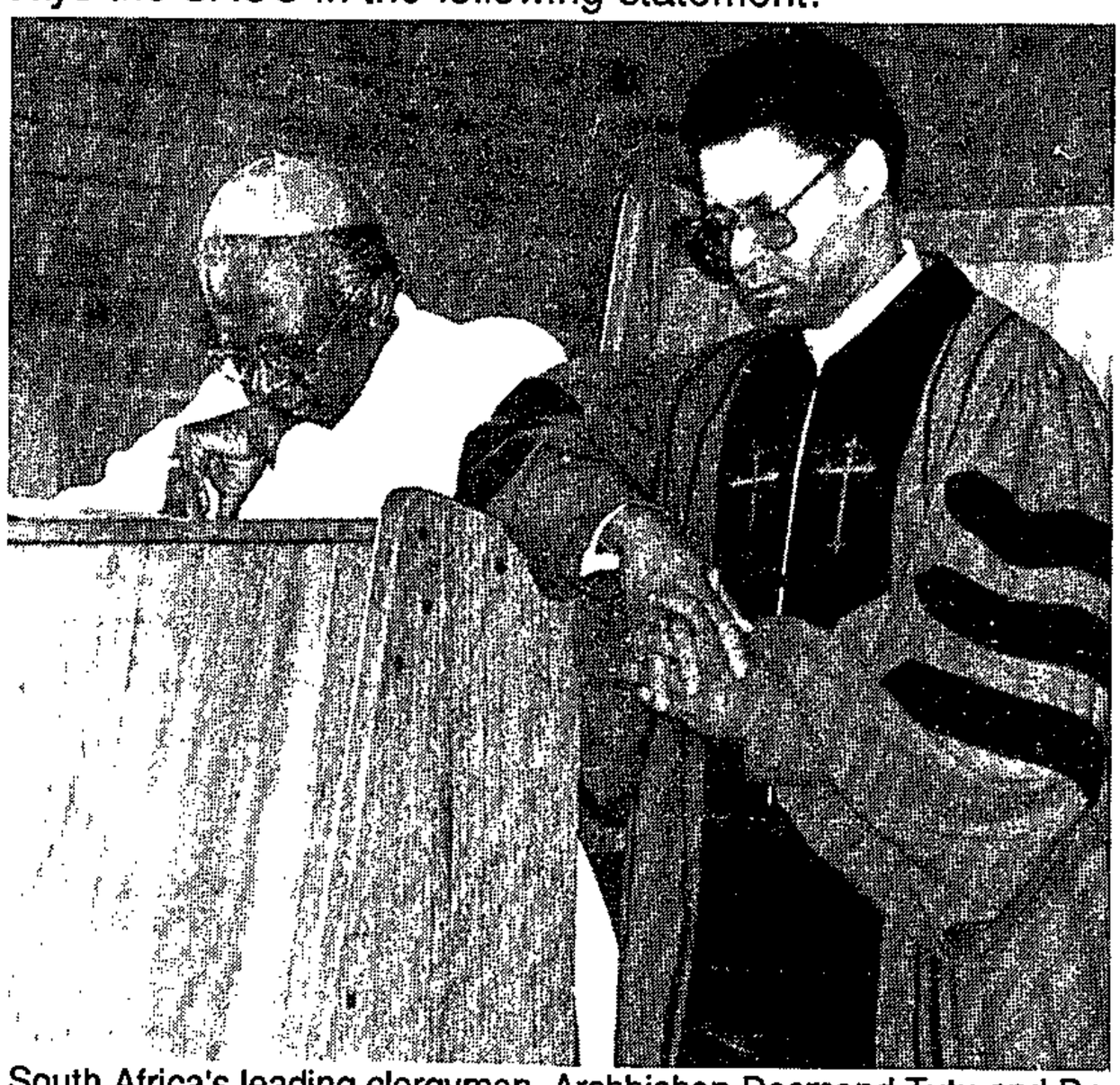
10/16/1988 Sowetan

304

THE Government is attempting to deliver the coup de grace on anti-Apartheid forces with the introduction of a new bill in Parliament to curb foreign funding.

This was the reaction of South Africa's most powerful church organisation, the South African Council of Churches (SACC), to the Orderly Internal Politics Bill tabled last week.

The outlook for progressive organisation looks bleak, says the SACC in the following statement:



South Africa's leading clergymen, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Allan Boesak, are in the forefront of opposition to curbs

WITH the gazetting of the order that effectively banned 18 organisations and numerous individuals, and prohibited many activists, the Government attempted to close the doors on most anti-apartheid activities that were aimed at bringing about non-violent change in South Africa.

Last week it seemed the Government wished to deliver the coup de grace to non-violent action, with the promotion of the Orderly Internal Politics Bill to halt the foreign funding of organisations, legal or illegal.

Violence

The repressive measures introduced on February 24 meant that organisations working for peace could not continue activities even if they received funds. Add this to last week's Bill, and the outlook for progressive organisations looks bleak. Organisations that will continue to receive funds will largely be those that support, directly or indirectly, the apartheid system.

What we have experienced in the State's rhetoric is a startling example of Orwellian doublespeak.

A non-violent protest by church leaders and clerics to protest against the banning of organisations is seen as making a choice for violence.

The Government now justifies its latest draconian legislation by placing the responsibility for the State of Emergency on the shoulders of the victims of this Emergency.

Individuals, like Mrs Albertina Sisulu and Mr Archie Gumede, who were working for peace in KTC in Cape Town and Natal were singled out for restriction notices.

Peace in these areas has become a threat to government "law and order".

Funds which were channelled to South Africa from the European Economic Community (EEC) to be used for work for peaceful change, are now threatened to be cut off through sanctions applied by the South African government.

Looking at the Bill is an eye-opener.

Clause 16 of the Bill states that it is an offence for anyone to say or do anything which causes hostility between different national, cultural or religious groups, or hurts or insults members of the groups or incites violence against them.

From reading the remainder of the Bill, which is aimed at ensuring that "political aims and objects ought to be pursued in the Republic without interference, monetary or otherwise, from abroad", one should most logically and rationally deduce that the organisation that would need to be acted upon, is the Nationalist government.

No other grouping is as responsible for causing so much hostility between race groups as the Government, and it relies on international monetary loans for its operations which are political and many of which are directed against the victims of apartheid.

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) is aware that it may become a target if the latest Bill becomes law, depending on what the definition of political is.

The restrictions are intended to prevent any political activity being financed from abroad, and the non-violent work of the SACC, according to the Government's definition, may be seen as political.

This is evident from the fact that the "political activities" Cosatu last week was prohibited from performing, are according to the church, central to the proclamation of the gospel in our country.

If the Bill is passed, the concept and practice of humanitarian law in South Africa is further eroded:

- Inspectors can search organisations' offices without warrants.
- Any court action to declare the minister's restriction notice invalid, is excluded.
- Organisations who use their funds for legal aid to "political organisations" might also be restricted.
- The retrospective nature of the Bill makes allowance for money to be seized from restricted organisations or individuals that was in their possession before the restrictions came into operation.

Funds

- Anybody who attends or remains present at any gathering or exhibition where emblems or slogans are shown that the minister might identify in the Government Gazette as having the effect of fomenting hostility or violence, may be prosecuted.

All these actions seem to be pushing our chances of achieving peaceful change in this country further away.

The SACC, however, is committed and bound by its belief in Christ and his call to work for justice and peace, to continue unceasingly with our work.

We, therefore, call on the international community, in the light of the Government's repressive actions against the progressive organisations working desperately for peaceful change, to apply direct mandatory sanctions against this apartheid regime.

We appeal to them in God's name to use this as a necessary resort to prevent more desperate violence on the part of our people, as they see all paths to peaceful change systematically closed down.

Chasing Namibia's spirit of freedom

By Inga Molzen

Serene and good-humoured Namibian World Council of Churches worker, Ms Nora Chase works with refugees and is striving for her country's independence from South Africa.

Ms Chase was in South Africa recently to speak at the Black Sash 33rd national conference which focused on human rights.

Asked about her refugee work, Ms Chase, exiled for 16 years in West Germany and Tanzania said: "I was in some ways a refugee myself."

NORA CHASE: "The struggle for women's rights is inseparable from national liberation."
● Picture by Alf Khumalo.

DESPERATE

Refugees left their country of birth not by choice but out of desperation, said Ms Chase, who is based in Geneva.

Her work with refugees and her fight for Namibia's independence are intricately linked with her views on women's rights.

"One cannot see the struggle for women's rights as separate from national liberation," said Ms Chase.

Men in liberation movements still needed to be educated. But, she said, "you can challenge them with the constitution of any of these movements because they guarantee women's equality".

Since her appointment as deputy director of the WCC's Commission for Inter-Church Aid for Refugee and World Service in January last year, Ms Chase said she had seen a deterioration of human rights in Namibia.

Schooled at a "South African high school for so-called coloured people" and after obtaining a degree in education at the University of Cape Town, Ms Chase went into exile in 1962.

Her three children were born abroad and later her marriage broke up because of apartheid in Namibia.

"An agreement of my marriage to a West Indian was that my work in the country of my birth came first. Apartheid was unfamiliar to my husband and in Windhoek he was regarded as a 'cheeky kaffir' because he spoke neither Afrikaans nor an indigenous language," she said.

Ms Chase said her children understood her need to fight for human rights.

Bearing witness to her rejection of colonial values, her two daughters and her son have African names.

RETURNED

After being granted amnesty along with other leaders, Ms Chase returned to Namibia in 1978 to participate in the expected elections under United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 — which provided for free and fair elections and independence for Namibia.

But this peace plan, accepted by all major political parties in Namibia including the South African Government, was not implemented.

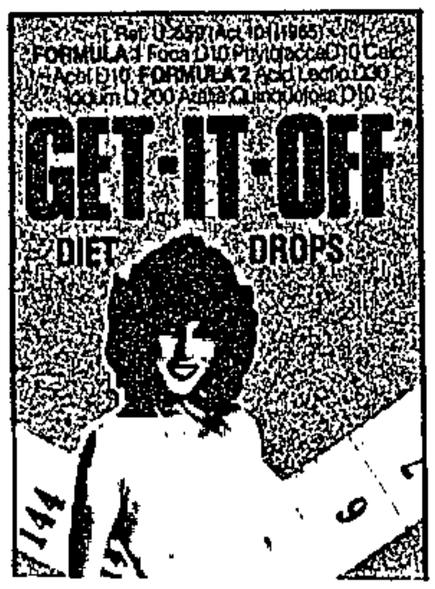
Rejecting employment as a civil servant or in the private sector, Ms Chase's first post was with the Christian Council of Namibia's education department.

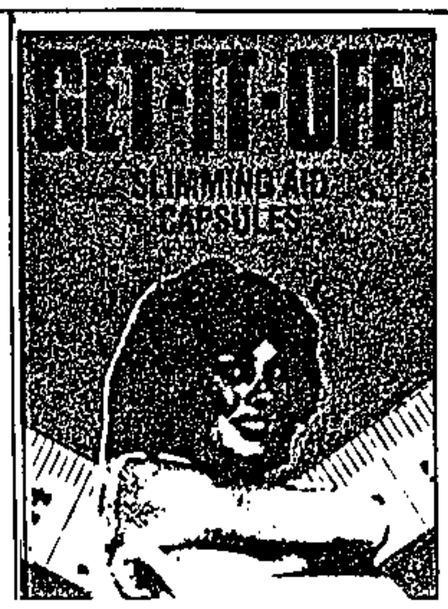
Her arrest for political activities in 1980 along with five other Swanu leaders led to the establishment of a legal aid bureau, said Ms Chase.

Despite hardship and the demands of travel, Ms Chase said she still had hope.

The answer came eight years ago, when daughter Afra (7) questioned her mother's arrest and asked: "Is it for politics?"

When the reply confirmed this, she said: "Oh, that's all right. Freedom will come."





Cape Times 24/3/88
304

SACC calls off meeting with NGK

JOHANNESBURG. — The general purposes committee of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) has decided not to continue with a meeting scheduled for March 28 with the Ned Geref Kerk.

In a statement to the NGK Moderator, Professor Johan Heyns, the SACC yesterday said it was "shocked" at the attack on church leaders by his church's general synodical commission.

"We are shocked by the unprecedented attack made on the church leaders by the general synodical commission of the Dutch Reformed Church (NGK) and the subsequent public attack on Archbishop (Desmond) Tutu by the State President, from which you have not dissociated yourselves.

'Prophetic witness'

"We want to make it clear that an attack on Archbishop Tutu for the march and the petition we sent to the State President is an attack on all the church leaders who produced the statement and agreed to the march."

The SACC said that, because of this attack, an emergency meeting of the praesidium of the SACC had decided it was impossible for delegates of the SACC to meet the NGK on March 28.

"We are alarmed that you have not expressed any prophetic witness to the banning of and restricting of organizations and leaders of the black community which was followed by the banning of the Committee for the Defence of Democracy, especially that this consisted largely of church leaders.

'Disappointed'

"Instead your general synodical commission chose rather to publicly attack the church leaders who, in obedience to God, were peacefully protesting against the ungodly, unjust and totalitarian actions of the state."

The SACC said the timely co-ordination of the NGK with the state's attack on Archbishop Tutu led them to believe that the NGK was in collusion with the "apartheid state".

"We are disappointed that rather than standing firm with other churches with their Bibilical imperatives of love, justice and peace you have chosen to take sides with the state." — Sapa

SACC slams DRC

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) general purposes committee yesterday decided not to continue with a meeting scheduled for March 28 with the Dutch Reformed Church (DRC), it said yesterday.

In a statement to Johan Heyns of the DRC, the SACC said it was shocked at the attack on church leaders by the general synodical commission of the DRC.

"We are shocked by the unprecedented attack made on the church leaders by the general synodical commission of the Dutch Reformed Church, and the subsequent public attack on Archbishop (Desmond) Tutu by the State President from which you have not dissociated yourselves. We want to make it clear that an attack on Archbishop Tutu for the march and the petition we sent to the State President is an attack on all the church leaders who produced the statement and agreed to the march."

The SACC said that, on the basis of this attack, an emergency meeting of the praesidium of the SACC had decided it was impossible for delegates of the SACC to meet the DRC on March 28. — Sapa.

Bdaily 24/3/88

Xhosas run risk of cancer, says article

XHOSA-speaking people, wherever they are, run a risk of oesophageal cancer, but Zulus are at a far lower risk, says the latest edition of the SA Journal of Science.

The article, Oesophageal Cancer in the Black Peoples of SA 1980-82, said the picture was of two contrasted population groups, Xhosa and Zulu.

With Xhosas widely spread across the Cape, it emerged that they were subject to high rates of oesophageal cancer.

This contrasted with the Zulu nation, with very significantly low rates of this cause of death. Xhosas "have long been known for their addiction to tobacco implying a likelihood of similar patterns" for both oesophageal and lung cancer. — Sapa.

Bdaily 24/3/88

Advice sought over Botha letter to SACC

(30) Star 25/3/88

By Carina le Grange, Religion Reporter

The Anglican Church is to take legal advice on instituting defamation proceedings over the State President's letter to the South African Council of Churches (SACC) which was released last night, according to a statement from Archbishop Desmond Tutu's office.

"The State President's letter links Archbishop Desmond in the public mind to landmines, bombs, necklaces, hatred and revolution. For a head of state to treat a church leader in such a way is disgraceful," the statement said.

"If Mr Botha's comments indeed applied to Archbishop Desmond and the Rev Frank Chikane, they are untrue and highly defamatory and we'll take Mr Botha and the SABC to the cleaners."

This move comes after an intensifying clash between the state and some church leaders set in motion when 25 church leaders, attempting a march to Parliament to deliver a petition, were arrested on February 28.

On March 18, the general secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane, wrote to the State President protesting at an attack on Archbishop Tutu which Mr Botha had made in a letter.

Mr Botha replied to Mr Chikane saying he and other church leaders should not act in an irresponsible way.

"You love and praise the ANC/SACP (African National Congress and South African Communist Party) with its Marxist and atheistic ideology, landmines, bombs and necklaces perpetrating the most horrendous atrocities imaginable; and you embrace and participate in their call for violence, hatred, sanctions, insurrection and revolution," Mr Botha wrote.

● See Page 15.

PW replies to Rev Chikane

Clergy warned: Don't abuse your freedom

The President Mr P W Botha says he sees no reason to act against certain members of the clergy unless they take part in subversive and revolutionary activities.

But, in a letter to the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SA Council of Churches, he said it was "disturbing that you and others, who claim to represent the Church of Christ and the Word of God, act in the irresponsible way you do".

Mr Botha said: "You love and praise the ANC/SACP with its Marxist and atheistic ideology, landmines, bombs and necklaces perpetrating the most horrendous atrocities imaginable."

He added: "You embrace and participate in their call for violence, hatred, sanctions, insurrection and revolution."

Mr Botha's letter called on clergymen not to abuse the freedom of religion and worship. It was the latest exchange of letters in the Church-State row centring on Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Mr Chikane had written a letter after Mr Botha challenged Archbishop Tutu, in a letter handed to him at their meeting in Tuynhuys last week, to say whether he was acting for the kingdom of God or the kingdom of the ANC.

Mr Chikane wrote to Mr Botha criticising him for his attack on Archbishop Tutu.

Misrepresentation

Mr Botha's letter, released yesterday, is a reply to Mr Chikane. Mr Botha says it is a flagrant misrepresentation to say he had singled out the archbishop.

Archbishop Tutu had first written to him because he had been asked to do so "by those who had marched with him".

He had also asked for the Tuynhuys meeting where the letter was given to him.

In view of this and of the general drift of the letter, Mr Botha said he wanted to address Mr Chikane frankly.

He had grown up in an environment where the Lord was served and he strived to conduct all of his personal life and service as State President according to the principles of the Christian faith.

The Government had, in the light of the message of the Bible, gone out of its way to serve the people, to broaden democracy, to remove hurtful discrimination and social practices and to provide for the needs of all on a scale found nowhere else in Africa.

He had gone out of his way to invite black leaders and also religious leaders to co-operate with him in pursuing a just, peaceful and prosperous future. Many of them already did so.

It was therefore disturbing that Mr Chikane and others spread malicious untruths about South Africa.

Mr Botha referred to Archbishop Tutu's statement in St Paul's in 1984 that the Russians would be welcomed as saviours and said that by accepting the Kairos document, the SACC apparently believed communism was a myth.

Messengers of enmity

It was alarming that individual members of the clergy who claimed to be messengers of God, were in fact messengers of enmity and hatred while parading in the cloth and hiding behind the structures of the church.

"Instead of pursuing reformation, they are engaged in the deformation of religion, through the false proclamation of the so-called liberation theology," Mr Botha said.

Responsible church leaders who proclaimed the true Gospel lamented the fact that they were at times intimidated into a conspiracy of silence by those who had chosen the radical path.

He also alleged that only one percent of the income of the SACC came from inside the country.

Christians in South Africa were justified in asking who the SACC really represented.

Mr Botha said he had noted a frenzy of rumour and expectation about possible action by the Government against certain members of the clergy.

"I can see no reason for this, unless they take party in subversive and revolutionary activities," he said.

Mr Botha said he wanted to know from the SACC if it could quote one single instance from the Bible in which it appeared that Christ advocated violence against the State or led a demonstration against the State, or broke a law of the State.

Hostage drama at SACC

JOHANNESBURG. — An armed man claiming to be a member of a group called the Counter Revolutionaries was arrested by police after holding a 23-year-old SA Council of Churches (SACC) receptionist at gunpoint for about 90 minutes last night.

The drama unfolded as dozens of heavily-armed policemen cordoned off a whole block in central Johannesburg.

The gunman took Ms Beverley Fasser hostage after he entered and cleared everybody out of the SACC's third-floor offices in Khotso House soon after 5pm. He was arrested at 6.26pm after his demand to see a certain police officer was met.

Ms Fasser, 23, was treated for shock in hospital and later discharged.

The man, who is in his early 20s and calls himself "Denzil", said he took the SACC's offices to protest against the Methodist Church's call against national servicemen doing border duty and against Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu's "communist ties".

Policeman 'brought to Khotso House'

A reporter who spoke to the gunman on the phone said the man told him he was a probation prison warden who should have been in Kroonstad undergoing training.

"He demanded the SAP's presence at Khotso House and stipulated that Sergeant J G Kruger of the East Rand Murder and Robbery Unit be brought to him," the reporter said.

Police confirmed that Sergeant Kruger had been brought to Khotso House and that a man had been arrested and taken away for questioning after he gave himself up on seeing Sergeant Kruger. They would not identify the man by name, but SACC staff said the man had called himself "Denzil Mellors".

Police said a Czech-made CZ75 pistol was confiscated.

Police will decide whether to charge the man with a criminal offence or security offence once he has been interrogated. — Sapa and Own Correspondent

White held in SACC drama

souter
12/4/88
304

POLICE have detained a white man at Khotso House in Johannesburg where the South African Council of Churches receptionist was held hostage yesterday evening.

The receptionist, Beverley, is understood to be safe.

Group

The man, who gave his name as "Denzil" and claimed to be a member of a group called the "Counter Revolutionaries" told *Sapa* in a telephone call he had cleared the offices of staff at about 4pm yesterday and was holding the receptionist, Beverley, hostage.

He said the action was in protest against a call by the Methodist Church to national servicemen not to do border duty, Cosatu strikes and Cape Town's Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu's links with the communists."— Sapa.

Jacksons raise R4-m for SACC

NEW YORK — The celebrity art auction at the home of pop star Michael Jackson raised nearly $2 million (about R4 million) for the South African Council of Churches.

Columnist Jeanne Williams said the works, including a cardboard work by Picasso, raised more than was originally estimated.

About 300 people swarmed in to the fabled Jackson house — never opened to the public before — to ogle and bid.

Michael Jackson's brother, Jermaine, said he would make a "non-political, quiet" trip to South Africa in a few weeks to deliver the money.

It has been earmarked to provide medical and legal services and housing, Williams reported. — The Star's Foreign News Service.

(304) SMM 13/4/88

Security at SACC

Sowetan 13/4/88

304

THE national executive committee of the South African Council of Churches met yesterday to discuss the tightening of security following Monday's hostage drama at their Khotso House headquarters in Johannesburg.

The meeting, led by SACC president, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, and general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane, is expected to last until today, according to

SOWETAN REPORTER

a council official.

Neither Mr Chikane nor Bishop Buthelezi could be reached yesterday.

The senior official who spoke to the *Sowetan* said the incident in which an SACC secretary, Miss Beverley Fasser, was held at gunpoint in a 90-minute ordeal came on the eve of the committee's bi-monthly meeting.

Security was high on the agenda, the official said.

Several SACC staff members said the young gunman was a familiar figure at their office.

They said he always visited the communications library — on the third floor where Miss Fasser was held — and spent hours reading.

His name does not appear on the security register which visitors are required to sign on entering the premises.

Other workers said they feared more such attacks would occur if secuity was not improved.

Meanwhile visitors yesterday had to wait in the Khotso House foyer if the people they intended seeing were not at their posts.

● A 19-year-old man appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court yesterday in connection with the incident.

● See Page 2

Khotso House drama: New questions

DISTRAUGHT: Miss Beverley Fasser, right, being led away from the scene where she was held hostage in Khotso House.

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — As secretary Miss Beverley Fasser was recovering today from the ordeal of being held hostage in the central Johannesburg offices of the South African Council of Churches, new questions about the drama came to light.

Miss Fasser, 23, of Newclare, an SACC staff member, was held at gunpoint in the library on the third floor of Khotso House by a man who identified himself as Denzil.

Her ordeal lasted about 90 minutes before Denzil, said by the Prisons Services to be an Awol warder, was persuaded to surrender his gun to her and she walked from the building unharmed.

She was hurried away, weeping intermittently, in an ambulance. Miss Fasser spent the next three hours receiving medical treatment and being questioned by police at John Vorster Square.

One of the mysteries surrounding the drama concerns Denzil's telephone call to a man in New York during the tense 90 minutes before he gave himself up.

Today it was ascertained that the man he telephoned and spoke to for 20 minutes is Mr Harvey Shindelman of Queens, New York.

In a telephone interview today Mr Shindelman refused to say how he knew Denzil, but said he was afraid of reprisals against him in New York.

"I do not think it is appropriate to comment on that (the hostage drama) at this particular time," he said.

Asked about his relationship with the gunman, Mr Shindelman said: "I am concerned about this young man's welfare, but I do not believe it would do anybody any good to comment on the relationship.

"However, there are people in this country who may want to indulge in violent reprisals against me, who may imagine what I stand for. Do you understand what I am saying?"

Today a row developed over the treatment of Miss Fasser. The general secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane, angrily accused the police of adding to Miss Fasser's ordeal by subjecting her to 90 minutes' questioning while she was "in a severe state of shock" and by denying her family access to her.

Police have denied that Miss Fasser was insensitively treated.

Denzil, 19, from Brakpan, is in custody.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Lieutenant Pierre Louw said it had not yet been decided whether to hold him under criminal or security laws.

The gunman, who claimed in a phone call to the Press that he was a member of the "counter-revolutionaries" and who told the Detainees' Parents Support Committee some months ago that he was a police informer, appeared angered by the socio-political role of church leaders.

He said he was acting, among other things, because of Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu's "links with communists".

Mr Chikane said that about 4.30pm Miss Fasser's screams had been heard from the library. Soon after this she had telephoned a colleague from the library, saying: "A man with a gun is holding me captive and he claims to have a bomb."

Mr Chikane and other SACC staffers had talked to Denzil by telephone and had contacted people at numbers supplied by the gunman. One of these, Sergeant J G Kruger of the East Rand murder and robbery squad, referred to by Denzil as Gerald, had come to Khotso House and had eventually persuaded Denzil to surrender.

WAITING: Heavily-armed police outside Khotso House during the one hour and 26-minute hostage drama in the building in central Johannesburg.

SACC hostage drama mystery

By Jo-Anne Collinge, Craig Kotze, Martin Challenor and Tim Cohen

As secretary Miss Beverley Fasser was recovering today from the ordeal of being held hostage in the central Johannesburg offices of the South African Council of Churches, new questions about the drama came to light.

Miss Fasser (23) of Newclare, an SACC staff member, was held at gunpoint in the library on the third floor of Khotso House by a man who identified himself as "Denzil". Her ordeal lasted about 90 minutes before Denzil, said by the Prisons Services to be a warder absent without leave, was persuaded to surrender his gun to her and she walked from the building unharmed.

Taken in ambulance

She was hurried away, weeping, in an ambulance. Miss Fasser spent the next three hours receiving medical treatment and undergoing questioning by police at John Vorster Square.

One of the mysteries surrounding the drama is why did "Denzil" telephone a man in New York during the tense 90 minutes before he gave himself up?

Today The Star ascertained that the man he telephoned and spoke to for 20 minutes is Mr Harvey Shindelman, of Queens, New York.

Speaking in a telephone interview with The Star today he refused to say how he knew "Denzil" but said he was afraid of "reprisals" against him in New York.

'Concerned' over welfare

He said: "I do not think that it is appropriate to comment on that (the hostage drama) at this particular time."

Asked about his relationship with the gunman, Mr Shindelman said: "I am concerned about this young man's welfare.

"There are people in this country who may want to indulge in violent reprisals against me.

And today a row developed over the treatment of Miss Fasser.

SACC general secretary the Reverend Frank Chikane angrily accused the police of adding to Miss Fasser's ordeal by subjecting her to 90 minutes of questioning while "in severe shock".

Police have denied that Miss Fasser was insensitively treated, saying they had arranged for her medical care.

Denzil, a 19-year-old from Brakpan, is in custody.

Mr Chikane said at about 4.30 pm Miss Fasser's screams had been heard from the library.

Mr Chikane and other SACC staffers [illegible] emergency under-carriage release [illegible] Even worse, it smashed into the [illegible] feathers. [illegible] Flight Lieutenant Fox in blood and [illegible] maged the engine and covered [illegible] altitude indicator, severely da- [illegible] a burst [illegible] ance instead.

The DPSC member maintained that Denzil had said is job as an informer was to btain material from the ACC library, and that he had been recruited while at boarding school, apparently when police were investigating a threatening note he had sent to British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, before the latter's visit to South Africa.

He had said that at the time he approached the DPSC he was doing his national service as a prison warder and was AWOL. (Police say this was his status yesterday.)

Beverley Fasser . . . inundated with telephone calls.

Phone calls galore

Miss Beverley Fasser spent the night in her house in Newclare last night after her ordeal at the SA Council of Churches offices.

Shaken, she did not want to talk to the press today as she made her way to the bus stop with her sister Cheryl.

Her brother Ricky said their mother's house was inundated with telephone calls last night.

"Beverley became famous overnight. Friends from Cape Town even phoned to find out whether it was her they saw on television."

Mr Ricky Fasser said their mother was terribly upset last night when she heard Beverley had been taken to hospital but "she took it well".

Mrs Margaret Fasser, Beverley's elder sister who also lives in Newclare, was the first to hear that her sister was being held hostage.

"Beverley was expected home at 5 pm. When she didn't arrive I thought she had gone to visit a friend. My mother thought she might be working late."

Gunman: I was a police informer

Staff Reporters

The young gunman who held a South African Council of Churches staffer hostage last night has made claims that he is a police informer.

A member of the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, speaking in his personal capacity, said the gunman — who identified himself as "Denzil" — had come to the DPSC office several months ago saying he was a police informer, that he wished to abandon this role and needed help to leave the country.

SACC staff confirmed that events during the hostage drama made it clear Denzil had close links with at least

believe the hostage drama was politically related, but believed the prison warder involved was motivated by personal reasons and his "personality make-up", Witwatersrand police liaison officer Lieutenant Pierre Louw said last night.

The lieutenant confirmed that the gunman had requested that Sergeant Kruger be contacted and that the policeman's intervention had secured the hostage's safe release.

But, he added, "we have no reason at this stage" to believe that Denzil was in the pay of the police".

The DPSC member, in the organisation's office in Khotso House several months ago when Denzil called there, ad refused to help the oung man leave the country nd had offered legal assis-

DANIEL SIMON

Armed man in SACC drama

AN ARMED man, who claimed to be a member of a group called the Counter-Revolutionaries, was arrested by police after holding a 23-year-old SA Council of Churches (SACC) receptionist at gunpoint for about 90 minutes last night.

The drama unfolded as heavily-armed SAP members cordoned off a whole block in central Johannesburg to keep out hundreds of people who had surged to the scene.

The man, who is in his early 20s and called himself "Denzil", said he took the SACC's offices at Khotso House to protest against the Methodist Church's call against national servicemen doing border duty and against Bishop Desmond Tutu's "communist ties".

Beverly Fasser of Newlands, who is secretary to the SACC's Hunger and Relief director Rev M Ntsele, was taken hostage after the man entered the SACC's third floor offices in Khotso House shortly after 5pm.

He was arrested at 6.26pm, after his demand to see a specific police officer

● To Page 2 ⇨

30th Bday 12/4/88.

Armed man holds SACC secretary hostage

⇦ ● From Page 1

was met.

Fasser, who was being treated at the Hillbrow Hospital for shock, was told to phone the SA Press Association (Sapa). She told reporter Lew Elias: "A man is holding me hostage and he demands the SAP come to Khotso House".

Elias said the gunman then spoke to him and claimed he was a member of the Counter-Revolutionaries and that he was armed with a CZ 75 9mm pistol, but had no "explosives".

Elias said the man told him he was a probation prison warden who should have been in Kroonstad undergoing training, but was at Khotso House instead to protest against the Methodist Church's call to national servicemen not to do border duty. He also spoke against Bishop Tutu's "communist ties".

Elias said: "He told me he did not want to harm anyone, but would take action if people persisted in peering at him through an office door".

He said: "The man was quiet, soft-spoken and well modulated and spoke in English. He demanded the SAP's presence at Khotso House and stipulated that Sergeant J G Kruger of the East Rand Murder and Robbery Unit be brought to him."

Witwatersrand police spokesman Lieutenant Pierre Louw confirmed that Sergeant Kruger had been brought to Khotso House and that a man had been arrested and taken away for questioning. The man gave himself up after seeing Kruger.

Louw said police would decide whether to charge the man with a criminal offence or security offence, once he had been interrogated.

30th Bday 12/4/88.

SACC meets to discuss security

JOHANNESBURG — The national executive committee of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) has met to discuss a tightening of security.

This follows Monday's hostage drama at Khotso House in Johannesburg.

The meeting was led by the SACC president, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, and the general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane.

A senior official said the incident in which a SACC secretary, Miss Beverley Fasser, was held at gunpoint for 90 minutes, came on the eve of the committee's bi-monthly meeting.

Several SACC staff members said the young gunman was a familiar figure at their office.

They said he often visited the communications library — on the third floor where Miss Fasser was held.

His name does not appear on the security register which visitors are required to sign on entering the premises.

Other workers said they feared more such attacks would occur if secuity was not improved.

A 19-year-old man has appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court in connection with the incident. — Sapa

A letter from the gunman of SACC

A POLICE informer held a South African Council of Churches employee hostage in Johannesburg this week, in protest against strikes by affiliates of Congress of South African Trade Unions and the Methodist Church's stance against militarisation.

Yet Denzil Mellors told the *New Nation* last year: "It is only by the workers uniting that we can change the unjust system in South Africa."

Mellors, a South African Police informer and prison warder, held Beverly Fasser at gun point for more than two hours at the SACC headquarters. He instructed the council's employees to telephone local and international numbers.

A local telephone number was

By THANDEKA GQUBULE

that of "Gerald", later identified as JG Kruger, a Springs police officer.

Kruger arrived at the SACC offices and spoke to Mellors over the phone.

Marge Brown, private secretary to SACC general secretary Frank Chikane, said Gerald "greeted Mellors like an old buddy and said, 'Howzit, give the girl the gun, unload it. I hear you've got a bomb'. Mellors denied having a bomb."

Mellors followed Kruger's instructions and was taken into police custody. Fasser was freed and treated for shock.

Prior to the hostage drama, Mellors approached the Detainees' Parents Support Committee complaining of being used by the SAP. He asked the DPSC to help him leave the country. The organisation could not assist him, a DPSC officer told the *Weekly Mail*.

A member of the United Democratic Front said Mellors had approached them at the end of last year, saying he wished to do something for their cause as he was tired of being used by the police.

The *Weekly Mail* telephoned one of the numbers Mellors gave to the SACC and spoke to Henry Niederman in the US. Niederman, a retired electronics expert who had had links with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, said he only knew Mellors through correspondence.

Mellors first wrote to Niederman commending him for a letter he had written to *The Citizen* in which he condemned economic sanctions against South Africa.

Mellors appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on Tuesday and was sent for psychiatric observation.

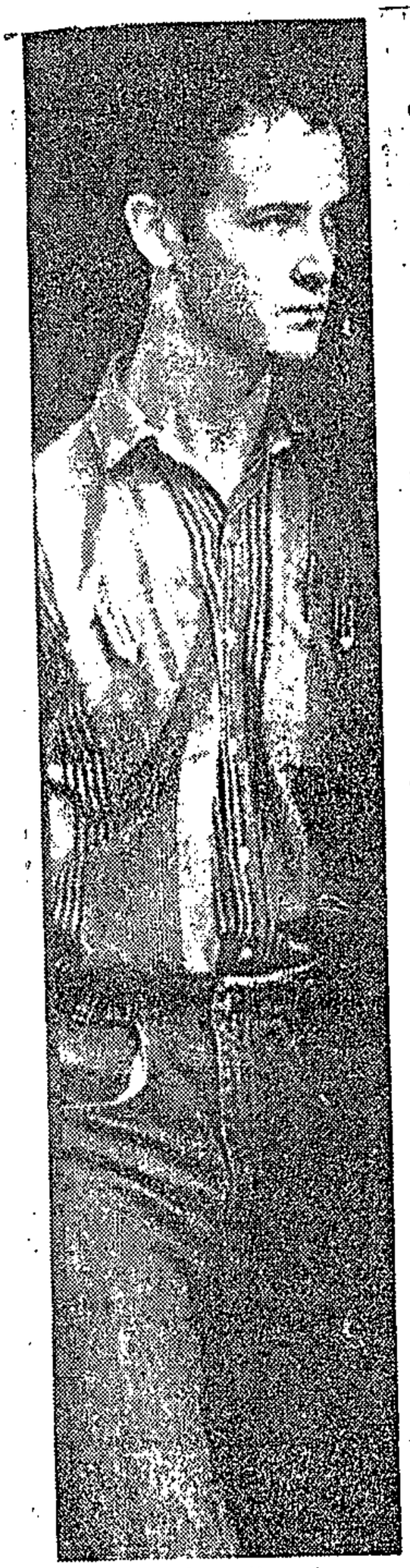
Whites must accept they are Africans

Dear Editor
For quite some time I have been reading your newspaper, although it is meant for black readers.

As a white person, I would like to say that white South Africans must remember that they are Africans and have nowhere to run.

I would also like to ask the unions to try and get white workers on their side, because it is only by the workers uniting that we can change the unjust system in SA.

I stand with fellow black South Africans for a better future.



Mr Denzil Mellors leaves the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday.

SACC kidnap drama. accused granted bail

Star 27/4/88

The young man accused of holding hostage a South African Council of Churches secretary at Khotso House earlier this month, was yesterday granted R2 500 bail by a Johannesburg magistrate.

Mr Denzil Bruce Mellors (19), of Brakpan, is facing charges of kidnapping, causing a bomb scare, unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition and theft of a firearm. He has not been asked to plead.

The State opposed the bail application.

Earlier, Mr Mellors described the events which led to the drama at Khotso House on April 11.

He said he had been on a 10-day pass from the SA Prison Services training centre in Kroonstad when he became worried, as a Methodist, about what he termed reports that Methodists might be ordered by their church leaders "not to do military service".

On Monday April 11 went to Khotso House to get more information on the matter.

He said he now agreed that he would have done better to consult a minister.

'SACC LINKED TO ANC AND SOVIET UNION'

He took the gun for self-protection. As he read pamphlets shown to him in the library, he realised that the SACC was linked to the ANC and ultimately to the Soviet Union, he said.

A secretary came in and he took out the gun and told her to sit down in an office, close the door and telephone the police.

He later telephoned a friend, a Sergeant Kruger in Nigel, and asked him to come to Khotso House as he realised he was acting childishly and Sergeant Kruger could possibly help.

While waiting for the policeman, he heard people in the passage and told the secretary to tell them there was a bomb in the vicinity.

When Sergeant Kruger arrived, Mr Mellors handed himself over.

He said he realised he had acted childishly, but denied having planned the action.

The hearing was postponed to May 27.

Kidnap case man speaks

Mr DENZIL Bruce Mellors (19), yesterday described to a Johannesburg magistrate, during an application for bail, the events which led to his holding a South African Council of Churches secretary hostage at Khotso House this month.

Mr Mellors, of Brakpan, is facing charges of kidnapping, causing a bomb scare, unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition and theft of a firearm.

He has not been asked to plead.

He told the court he had been on a 10-day pass from the South African Prison Services training centre in Kroonstad when he became worried, as a Methodist, about what he termed reports that Methodists might be ordered by their church leaders "not to do military service."

On Monday, April 11, instead of returning to Kroonstad as scheduled, he went to Khotso House where the SACC had offices, to get more information on the matter.

He took the gun for self-protection. As he read pamphlets shown to him in the library, he realised that the SACC was linked to the ANC and ultimately to the Soviet Union, he said.

A secretary came in and he took out the gun and told her to sit down in an office, close the door and telephone the police.

He later telephoned a friend, a Sergeant Kruger in Nigel, and asked him to come to Khotso House as he realised he was acting childishly and Sergeant Kruger could possibly help.

While waiting for the policeman, Mr Mellors heard people in the passageway and told the secretary to tell them there was a bomb in the vicinity.

When Sergeant Kruger arrived, Mr Mellors handed himself over.

Bail was yesterday fixed at R2 500 and the case postponed to May 27.

Church leaders to meet Pope

304

D1D 10/5/88

JOHANNESBURG — A high-powered ecumenical delegation of church leaders, is to meet the Vatican Curia and the Pope in Rome between 23-28 May.

The delegation will include representatives of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), member churches, and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC), a joint statement from the two organisations said yesterday.

Those included are: Metropolitan of the Church of the Province of South Africa, Archbishop Desmond Tutu; the Moderator of the NG Sendingkerk, Dr Allan Boesak; the President of the Methodist Church of South Africa, Dr K.E. Mgojo; the General Secretary of the SACC, Reverend Frank Chikane; the Vice-President of the SACC, Mrs V. Gcabashe; and the General Secretary of the Council of African Independent Churches, Reverend Paul Makhubu, representing the member churches of the SACC, and Archbishop G.F. Daniel, Archbishop P. Buthelezi, Bishop Biyasi of the SACBC and two other representatives.

It is anticipated that the final delegation will comprise some 10 people representative of the South African Protestant and Roman Catholic churches.

"The joint visit is historic and will give expression to the close working relationship and co-operation between the SACC and the SACBC both within South Africa and on the wider international church scene," the statement said.

It said the purpose of the visit was to share with the Pope the sufferings of the people in South Africa via discussions, and to obtain strong moral and spiritual support for the churches in South Africa. — Sapa

Clerics to visit Vatican

An ecumenical delegation of church leaders representative of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), member churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC) will meet the Curia and the Pope in Rome from May 23 to 28, a joint statement said yesterday.

The delegation will include the leader of the Church of the Province, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the moderator of the NG Sendingkerk, Dr Allan Boesak, the president of the Methodist Church of SA, Dr K E Mgojo, the general secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane, the vice-president of the SACC, Mrs V Gcabashe, the general secretary of the Council of African Independent Churches, the Rev Paul Makhubu representing the member churches of the SA Council of Churches, Archbishop G F Daniel, Archbishop P Buthelezi and Bishop Biyasi of the SACBC, and two other representatives.

HISTORIC

The delegation will include other representatives of the South African Protestant and Roman Catholic churches.

"The joint visit is historic and will give expression to the close working relationship and co-operation between the SA Council of Churches and the SA Catholic Bishops' Conference, both within South Africa and on the wider international church scene," the statement said.

"The purpose of the visit is to hold discussions with the Pope and his advisers at the Vatican in Rome in order to share with them the sufferings of the people of South Africa and what churches are experiencing in South Africa at the present time, and to obtain strong moral and spiritual support for the churches in South Africa." — Sapa.

Church leaders to meet Pope

A HIGH-POWERED ecumenical delegation of church leaders, representative of the South African Council of Churches, member churches and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, will meet the Vatican Curia and the Pope in Rome from May 23-28, a joint statement from the two organisations said.

The ecumenical delegation will include metropolitan of the Church of the Province of South Africa, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the moderator of the NG Sendingkerk, Dr Allan Boesak, the president of the Methodist Church of South Africa, Dr K E Mgojo, the general secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chicane, the vice-president of the SACC, Mrs V Gcabashe, the general secretary of the Council of African Independent Churches, the Rev Paul Makhubu, Archbishop G F Daniel, Archbishop P Buthelezi, Bishop Biyasi of the SACBC and two other representatives.

They will meet on May 30-31 at the German Community Centre in Johannesburg and hold a mass solidarity service in Soweto on May 31. — Sapa.

Bishop tells of funeral 'tradition'

By Claire Robertson
Pretoria Bureau

Much of crowd behaviour at so-called political funerals had roots in African and Christian tradition, the SA Council of Churches president, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, said at the Vaal Triangle treason trial in Pretoria yesterday.

Dr Buthelezi, testifying in the trial of 19 men accused of treason and murder, was asked by defence counsel Mr Geroge Bizos, SC, about singing, slogans, banners and flags, and hoisting coffins shoulder high at funerals.

Songs such as "Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika" (God Bless Africa) and the colours green, gold and black were "not exclusive to the African National Congress," he said.

The colours were also those of Inkatha and numerous other organisations.

Dr Buthelezi said he had heard "the national anthem, 'Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika', sung alongside 'God Save the King' at school".

Even songs which mentioned Nelson Mandela did so because the imprisoned ANC leader was "a hero" in the townships.

Earlier, the more than two-year-long trial had heard a recording of a song which included the words:

"The Supreme Court is burning/ The boys hit Sasol/ We will catch the boers and their children ...".

To evaluate the importance and place of a song, one had to bring to bear the traditional understanding of songs in African culture, he said.

With no written history, songs had been used by generations of Africans as "one of the instruments of documentation".

In Zulu culture there existed *izimbongi* — community poets or praise singers, Dr Buthelezi explained.

The hoisting of coffins shoulder high had roots in Hebrew, Christian and African traditions, he said.

The hearing continues.

Church leaders to hold indaba

Sowetan 20/5/88

304

CHURCH leaders will hold an emergency national convocation at the end of the month to discuss non-violent action to facilitate negotiation with the Government.

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

Addressing a Press conference in Johannesburg this week, the Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said about 300 delegates were expected at the meeting.

It will be held on May 30 and 31 at the German Community Centre in Johannesburg. The meeting will end with a solidarity rally at the Jabulani Amphitheatre in Soweto on May 31.

The delegates will include SACC executive members, representatives of international ecumenical bodies and the Council of Churches in Namibia.

Mr Chikane said issues to be discussed will include church-state conflict, Bill on Foreign Funding, Labour Relations Amendment Bill, October elections for local and regional authorities, the clampdown on the Press and the National Statutory Council.

Rejected

Mr Chikane said: "Church leaders have also become conscious of the escalating violence in the society and since the churches are committed to non-violent action, church leaders decided to consider effective ways of acting non-violently to bring an end to apartheid."

• Mr Chikane has rejected a report in *Beeld* newspaper that the SACC received R40 million from the European Economic Community last year to fund training programmes with "revolutionary goals."

"I wish to put it on record that the SACC received R4,5 million from the EEC and this money has been made available to victims of apartheid," he said.

THE Rev Frank Chikane . . . SACC.

Alleged church exodus denied

By Carina le Grange,
Religion Reporter

The Anglican Church has dismissed as "blatant untruths", suggestions that "thousands of people" are leaving churches to join other churches, Johannesburg newspaper this week reported that from the mainline English-speaking churches — members of the South African Council of Churches to join others.

The executive officers were "not happening at all". Canon Winston Ndungane, told The Star from Cape Town, "I have no knowledge of this would have known if it was so — due to my position as executive. In fact, we have one or two people joining, which are offset by the number of people leaving."

He said that the SACC had been in existence for 15 years and had a membership of 15 million people, and that it represented 12 million people.

He also dismissed the SACC report, "conservative", as "blatant untruths".

Canon Ndungane, who was elected president of the SACC in May, said he was not aware of any decline in membership.

"I have no knowledge of any decline in membership. I am not aware of any decline in membership. I am not aware of any decline in membership."

Canon Ndungane

UK ignores priests' plea

Sowetan 26/5/88

LONDON — A delegation of South African churchmen this week failed to persuade British foreign secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe to take a stronger stand against proposed South African legislation which would ban foreign funding for any organisation the government deems political.

Dr Beyers Naude, a former secretary general of the South African Council of Churches, said afterwards: "The whole delegation was deeply disappointed and frustrated by the fact that nothing tangible or meaningful has come out of this discussion."

Sanctions

The delegation, which was led by the current secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane, and included Archbishop Denis Hurley of Durban, hoped to persuade Britain and the European Economic Community (EEC) to impose further sanctions against South Africa to force Pretoria to repeal the state of emergency and not to press ahead with new legislation. The churchmen suggested diplomatic missions in South Africa should be reduced and downgraded, visa requirements tightened for South Africans, more restrictions imposed on trade and finance, and direct flights to South Africa should be stopped.

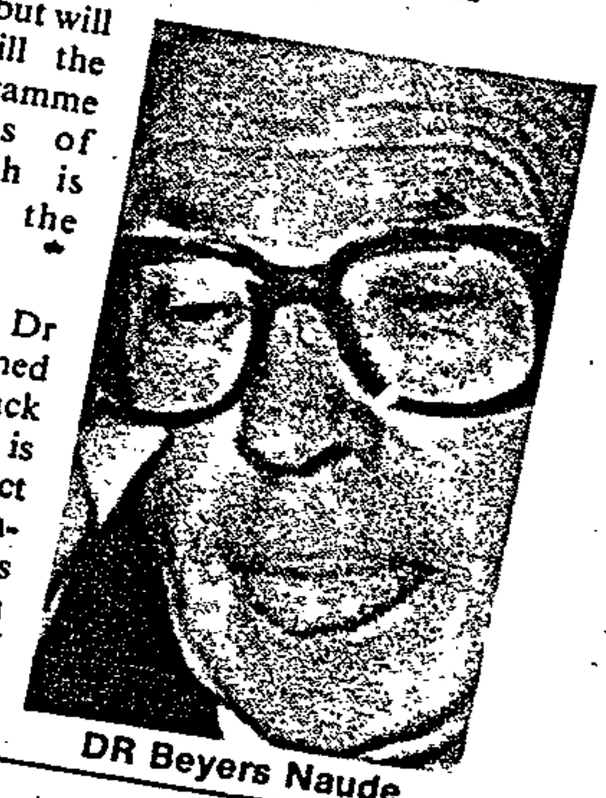
The foreign office said Sir Geoffrey listened to the churchmen with "sympathy and concern" but would only use "persuasion and pressure" against Pretoria. Archbishop Hurley said these tactics would not work against the South African Government.

Campaign

"Something much more effective is needed," he said.

In particular the church delegation wanted Britain to campaign against the Promotion of Orderly Internal Politics Bill, which is now going through the South African Parliament. It is expected to become law later in the year, and would block outside funding for any organisation deemed political by the Pretoria Government. It will diminish the work of organisations like the Black Sash and the trade unions, but will also probably kill the EEC special programme for the victims of apartheid, which is administered by the churches.

After the meeting Dr Naude said it "confirmed the fears of the black population that there is very little we can expect from the British Government . . . to what extent is the British population satisfied with this sort of response?" — *The Independent.*



DR Beyers Naude.

BEARES

Religious leaders may not use Soweto stadium

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Soweto council has refused to allow religious leaders to use the Jabulani Amphitheatre for a mass prayer service marking the end of an emergency meeting of 250 church representatives, a staff member of the South African Council of Churches said at the weekend.

The prayer service, which is open to the public, will now be held in Regina Mundi Church, Rockville, Soweto, starting at 1 pm tomorrow.

Thousands are expected to attend.

The SACC source said the reason given for refusing use of the venue was that the churches had failed to seek magisterial permission.

Outdoor meetings have been outlawed for the last 12 years, except where magistrates grant exemption from the ban. But bona fide church services are exempt.

A Soweto council spokesman confirmed that the SACC had been refused use of the stadium because they had not obtained the consent of the chief magistrate.

Asked why this condition was imposed when the law did not require it, the spokesman said: "It is in the discretion of the council to impose the conditions they see fit, and they took such a decision."

The convocation of church leaders preceeding the service began this morning in Johannesburg. Its purpose is to explore "effective non-violent action" aimed at spurring the Government to negotiate with legitimate leaders of the voteless majority.

Toddler drowns

MPs look at ways to ous

Non-violent strategy to be debated

Churches meet to thrash out political stance

Star 30/5/88

304

By Jo-Anne Collinge

An unprecedented two-day emergency meeting of hundreds of church representatives begins in Johannesburg today in an attempt "to develop effective non-violent action to pressurise the South African Government to the negotiating table".

At least 250 delegates from most mainstream churches — Catholic and Protestant — as well as representatives from several of the African independent churches are attending the convocation, which is being organised by the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

The gathering follows the visit of a top-flight interdenominational delegation of church leaders to Europe, where they had an audience with the Pope and urged continued international pressure on Pretoria.

Legitimacy

In a document prepared for the convocation, SACC general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane, says that if the church is to minister to the oppressed it will have to take a stance on the legitimacy of the present authorities and consider appropriate steps to be taken if it were to judge the present government illegitimate.

"If the church could approve only non-violent methods it would have to lead the way in proving that non-violence could be effective in removing an illegitimate regime from power.

"But if the church stops at the 'traditional' line where religion is said to end and politics to begin, if it does not cross this imaginary line in order to test its non-violent methods in the field, it will forfeit any legitimate right to condemn those who go further into the arena of life and death for the sake of justice."

SACC vice-president Mrs Sheena Duncan, in the same publication, asserts that non-violent protest action by the churches has been mainly symbolic and sporadic.

"These symbolic actions are important but they are not planned with a fixed goal and an ongoing follow-up. It is only in the last months that the church leaders have become serious and unanimous in the need to act in a focussed, planned and strategic way.

"This is in contrast to the secular organisations, which have in recent years undertaken very successful actions involving organisation, discipline, courage, strategic planning and considerable sacrifice.

"These actions have been boycotts, non-participation, work stayaways — the withholding of co-operation in many different ways. The success of these strategies is evidenced by the fact that the emergency regulations seek to prohibit non-violent campaigns of all kinds."

Mrs Duncan reviews some of the anti-apartheid actions taken by the church in recent years. These include:

- Resistance to forced population removals, where ministers have sat in vigil with communities to prevent their removal.
- Church delegations visiting Namibia to witness the horror of war and to reinforce the call for the withdrawal of the South African Defence Force from the territory.
- The institution of alternative birth registers for people who do not wish to submit their children for racial birth registration.
- Plans for paid community service within church structures in southern Africa for young men who are unable to face the harsh penalties applicable to conscientious objection and who do not want to "disappear" to Europe or America.

Censorship provisions

- Refusal by the SACC to submit copies of its publication, Ecunews, to the Minister of Home Affairs as required under emergency censorhsip provisions.

The SACC working document for the convocation also makes it clear that the concept of non-violent action is wider than that of civil disobedience. There are, it says, areas of action to be considered by the convocation which would not involve any statutory defiance such as campaigns of non-collaboration with the State.

But under emergency rule many normal campaign strategies have been made illegal. The advocacy of civil disobedience is itself unlawful in terms of the emergency.

The convocation ends tomorrow.

SA churches get tough on apartheid

Non-violent action program for SACC

By REVELATION NTOULA

THE continuing conflict between the government and the South African Council of Churches will again be highlighted at the council's annual national conference on Monday, when Christians will most likely be called on to act against apartheid.

The conference will follow closely on the heels of the much-publicised emergency convocation at which far-reaching resolutions were taken.

These will be presented to the conference for implementation.

The SACC, which through its member churches represents between 12 and 15 million Christians of all races, voted at its crisis convocation to adhere to a policy of "effective non-violent action".

Another important decision taken by the convocation was its support for the Cosatu/Nactu protests against the labour Bill.

Other resolutions passed by the 290 delegates from 23 churches, 17 church organisations and 23 regional church councils were that:

- A 12-man committee would work out a "non-violent" program to be presented to the national conference.
- Church leaders would be asked to adopt the committee's program.

Also high on the agenda of the conference, to be held at the Saint Barnabas College in Bosmont, near Johannesburg, will be the Foreign Funding Bill now before Parliament.

The proposed legislation seeks to curtail and control the flow of money from overseas into South Africa, and to monitor its use.

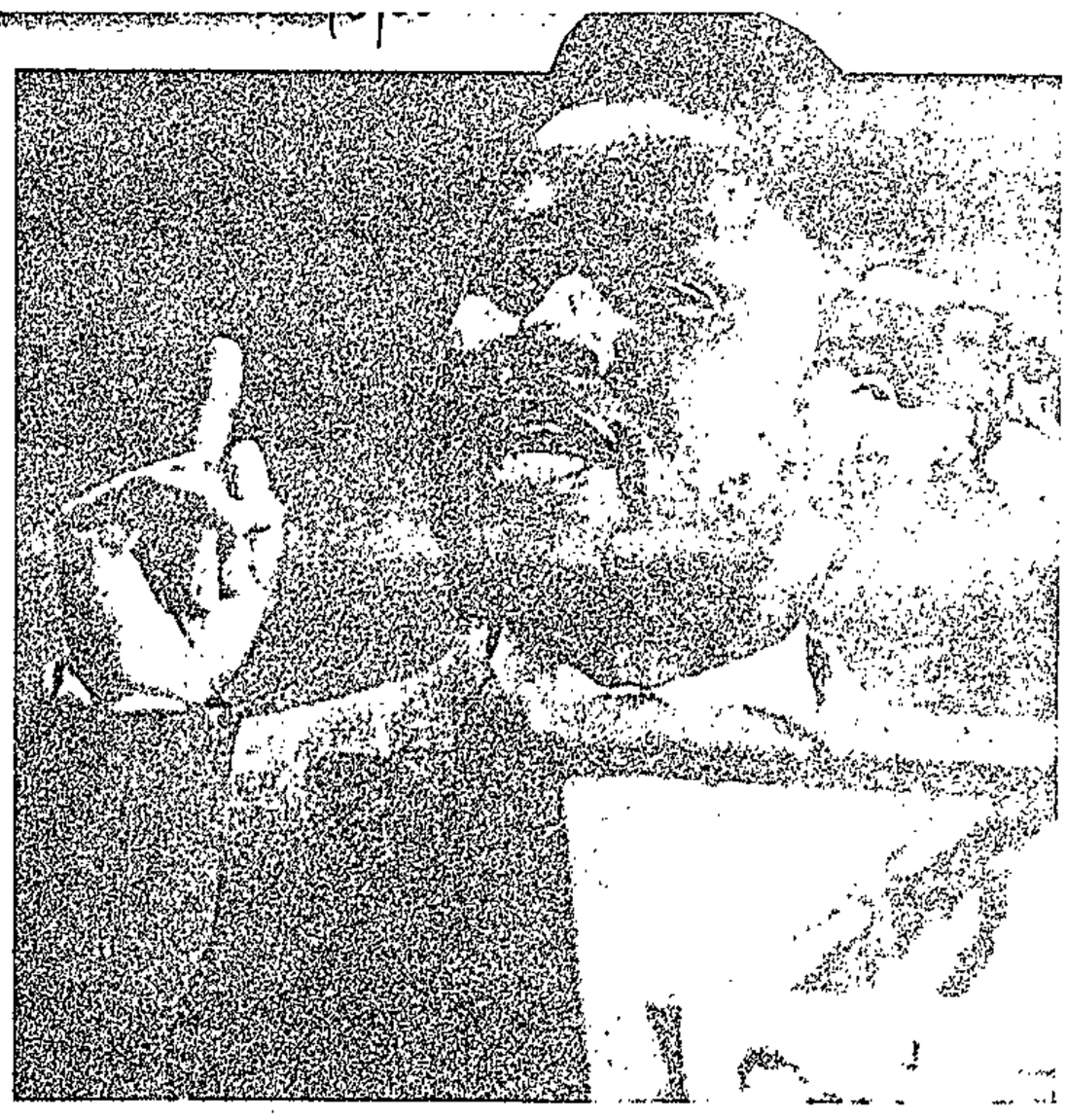
The government has been becoming increasingly opposed to organisations like the SACC getting involved in assisting political detainees, funding political trials and providing funds for education and refugees.

SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane firmly believes that getting involved in such situations is one of the vital ministries of the churches. "This is crisis ministry," said Chikane.

Referring to the funds Bill, Chikane said the churches could never allow themselves to be dictated to by the State. "We refuse to be told by the State from whom we may accept money and to whom we are permitted to give money.

"We see the Bill as an attack on the universality of the Church, because we believe in the ministry of sharing," Chikane said.

He added that the churches interpreted the aim of the Bill as an attempt to fragment the Church.



SACC general secretary Frank Chikane ... "This is crisis ministry."

Political comment and Newsbills by K Sibiya and ZB Molefe. Headlines and sub-editing by P Alberts, all of 204 Eloff Street Ext, Johannesburg.

SACC meets Pope to discuss SA

Star 11/6/88

The purpose of a recent visit to the Pope by a joint ecumenical delegation of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC) was to ascertain how the Holy Father perceived the present situation in South Africa, the SACC said yesterday.

In a statement, the council said the reasons for the May 23-28 visit included:

● "To share the sufferings and hopes of the churches in the crisis in South Africa with the Holy Father and his advisers;

(304)

APARTHEID

● "To discuss the nature of apartheid, its effects on the majority of the people in South Africa, and the hopes of the people for the future;

● "To ascertain how the Holy Father and his advisers perceive the present situation in South Africa; and

● "To explore ongoing links with the various departments in the Vatican and with the religious orders in Rome, in order to develop a common ecumenical strategy to eliminate apartheid in South Africa."

In Rome, the delegation met the Pope, members of the Vatican curia and various religious orders, as well as representatives of the federations of Protestant churches.

DELEGATES

The delegation included: Archbishop George Daniel of Pretoria; Archbishop Peter Buthelezi, Catholic Archibishop of Bloemfontein; Archibishop Desmond Tutu, Metropolitan of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa; Bishop Mansuet Biyase, Catholic Bishop of Eshowe and Dr Khoza Mgoio, president of the Methodist Church in Southern Africa.

Mrs Virginia Gcabashe, senior vice-president of the SACC; the Rev Frank Chikane, SACC general-secretary; the Rev Paul Makhubu, general secretary of the Association of African Independent Churches and the Rev Sol Jacob of the SACC — Sapa.

Did the clerics fail? Or did they expect too much?

Religious leaders deny claims that there was a 'split' at their convocation. A more accurate assessment was that some delegates set their hopes too high. KAREN EVANS reports

THIS week's emergency convocation of church leaders was a "positive step", and if the more politically-motivated delegates were disappointed by the outcome, it was because their expectations were "unrealistic".

This was the opinion of several religious leaders who attended the Johannesburg gathering organised by the South African Council of Churches. They were responding to reports of divisions among the delegates and dissatisfaction with the meeting's outcome.

The convocation was called to discuss the "worsening political situation" in South Africa, and hoped to formulate non-violent strategies for fighting apartheid. It was attended by some 250 people, representing the Christian, Hindu, Moslem and Jewish faiths.

The convocation decided a committee would co-ordinate long-term campaigns and strategies. More immediate campaigns would be support for next week's three days of protest and a support campaign for political prisoners and detainees running from June 12 to July 18.

The "church campaign committee" agreed upon at the meeting is to be a national body comprising three elected members from the convocation, three from the SACC and three other church leaders.

According to Father S'Mangaliso Mkhatshwa, former general secretary of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference and now of the Institute for Contextual Theology, the convocation was not a failure.

"The wheels of the church grind very slowly," he told the *Weekly Mail*. "The announcement of the convocation evoked much interest, and unfortunately resulted in unrealistic expectations.

"People who suffer most in the struggle because of their experiences expected something more meaty and dramatic to come out of it."

According to Mkhatshwa, many "progressive people" were disappointed because there "wasn't really a definite programme of action.

"You don't end unjust rule by talking. Something practical has to be adopted, therefore the convocation did not come up to expectations. It is the 'how' which is worrying the leaders."

However, he believed the long-term effects could be positive if the committee appointed at the meeting, to which he has been elected, succeeded in implementing plans of action.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu participates in a play during the final service of convocation at Regina Mundi in Soweto
Picture: ANNA ZIEMINKSI, Afrapix

Several prominent church leaders who attended the meeting agreed with Mkhatshwa's assessment, and pointed to limitations on debating time as another factor which contributed to the absence of definite decisions.

Further, according to an Anglican representative who asked not to be named, church leaders had not had enough time to obtain mandates from their constituents, especially regarding controversial issues such as next week's three "days of protest" against the Labour Relations Amendment Bill.

But the successful drawing together of such a range of churches and traditions was viewed as a victory by the head of the Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg, Rev Peter Storey. "This is an important advance," he said.

And according to Dr CF Beyers Naude, former general secretary of the SACC: "Over a short period of time we were able to achieve our goal to agree on a strategy for action ... and to set up structures to take the issue further.

"It is the best one could have expected," he said, adding that he was pleased reference had been made to trade unions and detainees.

Rev Stanley Mgoba, general secretary of the Methodist Church and president of the South African Institute of Race Relations, also expressed optimism about the outcome.

Emma Mashinini, the Anglican church's Justice and Reconciliation department co-ordinator and an appointee to the committee, felt reports of a split among the convocation delegates were overstated. "The church made headway — there were only differences of opinion about the specific ways in which we should go forward."

These differences — particularly over responses to next week's days of protest — had prompted Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, to express disappointment at the "level of commitment" of some church leaders. He felt the effective banning of extra-parliamentary groups in February had placed the onus on religious leaders to take a clear political lead.

"It is clear that the commitment we wanted was more than some of the church leaders were willing to make," he said.

Issues to be taken up by the church campaign committee include prayer; pastoral care for victims of apartheid; identification of areas of possible "non-co-operation and non-collaboration" with government such as the Group Areas Act and military service; intervention strategies involving national action during emergencies; theological rationale for effective action to resist apartheid; and international relations.

Regional committees are to be established to "stimulate involvement at local levels", mainly among youth.

June 5 1988 ★

SACC set to collide with State over labour laws

CHURCH-STATE confrontation is rapidly coming to a head with the South African Council of Churches' decision this week to support the three-day trade union protest.

By SIMON ANDREW and CAS St LEGER

The SACC which, through its member churches represents 10-million South Africans of all races, voted at its crisis convocation at the beginning of the week to adhere to a policy of "effective non-violent action" to overcome apartheid.

The campaign, dubbed Standing for the Truth, has as a short-term goal the support of three days of Cosatu/Naetu peaceful protest against the Labour Relations Amendment Bill planned to begin tomorrow.

Voted

Of the three resolutions voted on at the convocation, this labour issue was the only one not passed unanimously.

There were two dissenting voices out of 23 heads of churches.

The other resolutions passed by the 230 delegates from 23 churches, 17 church organisations and 21 regional church councils, were:

- A 12-man committee would work out a "non-violent action" programme.
- Church leaders would be asked to adopt this programme.

Commit

SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane told the gathering at Regina Mundi Church, Soweto, at the close of the convocation: "Called to proclaim and witness to truth in living, and even by dying, we now commit ourselves with solemn resolve in prayer and action to end unjust rule in our country and to see the advent of the democratic society of justice and peace."

As the trade union movement's clashes with the Government had more to do with political rights than with labour, so the church's confrontation with the State was to do with social and human rights rather than with worship and with God.

The strategy of non-violent action has already been used to good effect and much publicity after the banning of 17 organisations on February 24, when 25 church leaders — including Archbishop Desmond Tutu — were stopped by police after attempting to march on Parliament in protest.

The emergency convocation in Johannesburg, attended by Archbishop Tutu and president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, the Rev Allan Boesak, among others, came hot on the heels of their visits to British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and the Pope last week.

'THE church sleeps on though it occasionally talks in its sleep and expects (or does it) the government to listen.' The speaker Father Trevor Huddleston. The period 1958. How much has changed since then? Religious studies expert Charles Villa-Vicencio reviews the SACC's Convocation.

On the side of the poor

THE Convocation of 230 delegates, representing 22 churches, 17 church organisations and 21 regional church councils which met at the invitation of the heads of the SACC member churches in Johannesburg on May 30 to 31, constitutes an attempt to redress this situation.

Consensus has long existed in progressive circles that the institutional churches have failed to seriously seek to counter the social, economic and political evils of apartheid.

It has repeatedly been argued that church institutions have ignored the full implications of the gospel.

Secular organisations, some individuals and groups within the churches, and alternative Christian alliances such as the Kairos theologians and others have carried the burden of prophetic witness — with the churches offering either cautious support or a discrete silence.

A representative event recalled to put such matters right and organise an effective form of protest can only, therefore, be regarded as an historic occasion.

The purpose of the Convocation was to engage the churches in developing effective non-violent actions to pressure for the abandonment of apartheid and participation in a negotiated settlement.

Unjust rule

It committed itself "in prayer and action to end unjust rule," and unanimously voted to establish a National Church Campaign Committee to initiate programmes of non-violent action designed to locate the churches "on the side of those who suffer most".

Keen to demonstrate immediate intent, the Convocation adopted two short terms goals. It agreed to support the "days of protest" called for by the Cosatu and Nactu. This decision proved to be among the most contentious of the Convocation!

It secondly called for the release of all political detainees and prisoners - with a special focus being designed to coincide with Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday on July 18.

The pertinent question is whether the purpose of the Convocation has any likelihood of success?

Some delegates were hoping for a definite programme of action, and there was disappointment at the less than enthusiastic support by some church leaders for the immediate implementation of the proposed campaign.

"The commitment we wanted was more than some of the church leaders were willing to make," said Dr. Allan Boesak - and many of the delegates would have agreed. What is significant, however, is that the Convocation, constituting the most representative coalition of churches and church leaders ever to assemble in South Africa did ultimately agree to launch the campaign.

Body of Christ

The statement of the Convocation also has significant implications concerning what it means to be a Christian and a church member. "We are obliged to regard the suffering, victimisation and oppression of the people of God as a violation of the Body of Christ," reads the Convention statement.

It would be naive, however, not to emphasise the long and costly struggle that lies ahead.

Right-wing religious groups are more determined to win the allegiance of the churches than ever before.

These forces have all helped to shape the moderate character of the churches over many decades and realism suggests that it is likely to continue to do so.

There are, however, two other factors that need to be taken into account. The first is that despite the compromised social witness of the church, it is disturbed (and the oppressed deeply so) by a biblical message which calls it to repentance, requiring it to preach good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and to set free the oppressed.

In the vacuum of resistance, the churches are finding it increasingly difficult not to be engaged in political issues.

Secondly, the majority of Christians within this country instinctively know the importance of the decision of the Convocation. These factors taken together should locate the church where it has not hitherto been in South Africa, which is on the side of the poor and the oppressed.

Relatives coming to
Owern communal lands.
Lambeth Palace as he R120 000 compensation to women.

Publishers exhibit

THE St Charles Lwanga Media Committee will host a communications week from Monday which will feature exhibitions by reputable publishing houses, the South African Council of Churches and the Southern Africa Catholic Bishops' Conference.

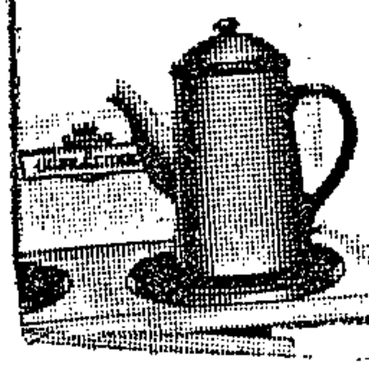
The week will reach a crescendo with the president of the World Reformed Churches, Dr Allan Boesak, giving the main address on Saturday. Sowetan 24/6/88

The event is a project of the St Charles Lwanga Roman Catholic Church in Soshanguve where it will be taking place until July 3.

The popular Afro-rock band, Bayete, jazz saxophonist, Victor Ntoni, and musical group, Occasio, will perform on Monday and Tuesday. (304)

A member of the media committee, Mr Vusi Kunene, said well-known playwright/actor, John Kani, will present a children's play during the week.

reat idea that's still after 40 year



The idea was to build our Univa stoves usin

SACC hopes to find way to end the crisis facing SA

Religion Reporter

The "church in action in a South African crisis" is the theme for this year's national conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) which will be held at St Barnabas College in Bosmont, Johannesburg, from this evening until July 1.

The proceedings will open with a worship service and keynote address by the general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane, tonight.

Mr Chikane said in a statement that in the past the SACC had concentrated on an analysis of the crisis situation in the country and the pain and suffering of the people.

"This conference, however, comes at a time when the majority of the churches have moved beyond talking about the crisis and are concerned about the necessary action to bring this crisis to an end.

"The turning point was signified by the march of the church leaders in Cape Town in protest against the Government's latest round of repression. This need for non-violent action was considered at the recent national convocation of churches," he said.

tion and from President Botha's earlier erous.

SACC a lifeline to blacks, says Chikane

304

Star 29/6/87Y

By Carina le Grange
Religion Reporter

The SA Council of Churches was a "lifeline" to the majority of the people in South Africa, SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said yesterday. He was delivering his annual report at the SACC national conference in Bosmont, Johannesburg.

"After my first year in office I experience the SACC as a lifeline to the majority of the people of South Africa — mostly those who are victims of the apartheid system — and a serious challenge to those responsible for this evil system."

Rev Frank Chikane ... apartheid an evil system.

ABNORMALITY

Mr Chikane said the SACC had assumed "abnormal responsibilities" that councils in other countries did not need to worry about because of the "abnormality of the political situation in this country where more than 70 percent of the population are excluded from representation in the government".

"Because of the repression and disruption of all people's organisations which attempt to address the needs of this oppressed majority, the SACC has assumed abnormal responsibilities.

"In terms of services rendered to the victims of apartheid, the council is seen as almost an alternative to this government which has no interest in the lives of the black people in the country except insofar as the latter services them — the white minority — and insofar as questions of security are concerned."

Those who supported sanctions believed they were the only way to avoid a bloody confrontation between the people of SA and the apartheid regime, he added.

"All of them are aware of the possible pain this strategy could cause but this, they believe, is not comparable to the pain caused by the continued and prolonged violence of the 'system' against the people.

SUPPORT

"We welcome the support of our ecumenical partners in this respect and are looking forward to their continued efforts to put pressure on the governments in their countries to withdraw their support of this system economically, politically and militarily."

SACC'S 'HEAVY LOAD'

Sowetan 2-1-6-88

304

SA PRESS ASSOCIATION

Rev Chikane tells of new role

REV. CHIKANE

THROUGH its service to the victims of apartheid, the South African Council of Churches has almost assumed the role of an alternative government, the general secretary of the SACC, the Reverend Frank Chikane, said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Delivering his annual report to the SACC national conference, he said the church group had assumed "abnormal responsibility" as other organistions which attempted to address the needs of the majority had been repressed and disrupted in their efforts.

He criticised the Government for having no interest in the lives of black South Africans, except in so far as the blacks served the white minority.

"While the council cannot and should never play the role of an alternative government, the abnormal situation the council finds itself in compels it to assume some of the responsibilities which under normal circumstances would be taken care of by the government."

Mr Chikane said the period since July, 1987 had seen a further deepening of the crisis in South Africa and an intensification of • To Page 4

MANY CHALLENGES FOR SACC

Sowetan 24/6/88 (304)

● From page 1

repression.

He was strongly averse to the tightening of the media curbs, saying the Government's ultimate goal was to create space for its own propaganda and programme of deception without being challenged.

This it did at the expense of the free flow of information and expression, he said.

"The Government wants to suppress the truth about what is happening in South Africa, particularly in relation to the brutal acts of the apartheid system.

"In a struggle not to allow the Government to control the church in preaching the gospel, both the SACC and the SACBC have refused to comply with the order of the Minister of Home Affairs to submit copies of the church publications, *Ecunews* and *Internos*. No action has as yet been taken by the Government."

Through the Government's bannings of 17 organisations and restrictions on Cosatu, the Government had indicated it was not prepared to allow any form of peaceful, non-violent resistance or protest against its apartheid policies, he said.

"In fact, the Government has confirmed its commitment to violence as the way of continuing to govern the majority of people against their will."

He said the Labour Relations Amendment Bill and the Orderly Internal Politics Bill were part of the strategy of control of resistance groups in South Africa.

The silencing of people's organisations,

Miss BRIGALIA Hlophe, SACC incoming deputy general secretary, was among delegates who attend the congress.

DELEGATES in high spirits at the SACC annual national conference in Johannesburg yesterday.

he said, had exposed the church and church workers to attacks by "the forces of apartheid".

"Attacks have been particularly directed against the SACC, some church leaders and staff of the council, regional councils and other ecumenical organisations."

Mr Chikane said attacks by conservative and right-wing church groups had intensified and were more co-ordinated than ever before.

"The Government has attacked the SACC and church leaders as agents of what they call an ANC/SACP alliance."

Government's intention, he said, was to use repression to create a "political wasteland" by removing the legitimate leaders of the people and promoting those who were prepared to co-operate and collaborate with the apartheid system.

Mr Chikane said he was concerned about the "2 500 detainees who remained in detention, 10 percent of whom were under 18 years old."

"Some of these detainees are entering a third year of detention turning them virtually into prisoners of war."

The "alarming" increase in the number of executions in South Africa was also of great concern to the SACC.

The SACC needed to campaign against capital punishment because he believed society was, "in the main, responsible for conditions which make people guilty of the offences punishable by the death sentence."

"There is also evidence that in South Afric race is a determinant for the gallows."

Mr Chikane called on the international community to apply sanctions against South Africa as he said they were "one of the most effective non-violent ways to force the Government to the negotiation table."

"Sanctions are the only way to avoid a bloody confrontation between the people of South Africa and the apartheid regime."

ly recognised
nt Qualification
RT AUGUST 3, 1988
IE WITHIN THREE MONTHS BY
E SOUGHT-AFTER CERTIFICATES
M BUSINESS SCHOOL

Dr Pieter de Bruyn
Director

LYCEUM BUSINESS SCHOOL

ons
ng

to Computers

sful candidates who may then enrol for a
ement Diploma.
ours per week on two-week nights or a
day morning.

Pieter de Bruyn at 403-1387 or 403-1388, or
pl at 46 De Korte Street, Braamfontein (one

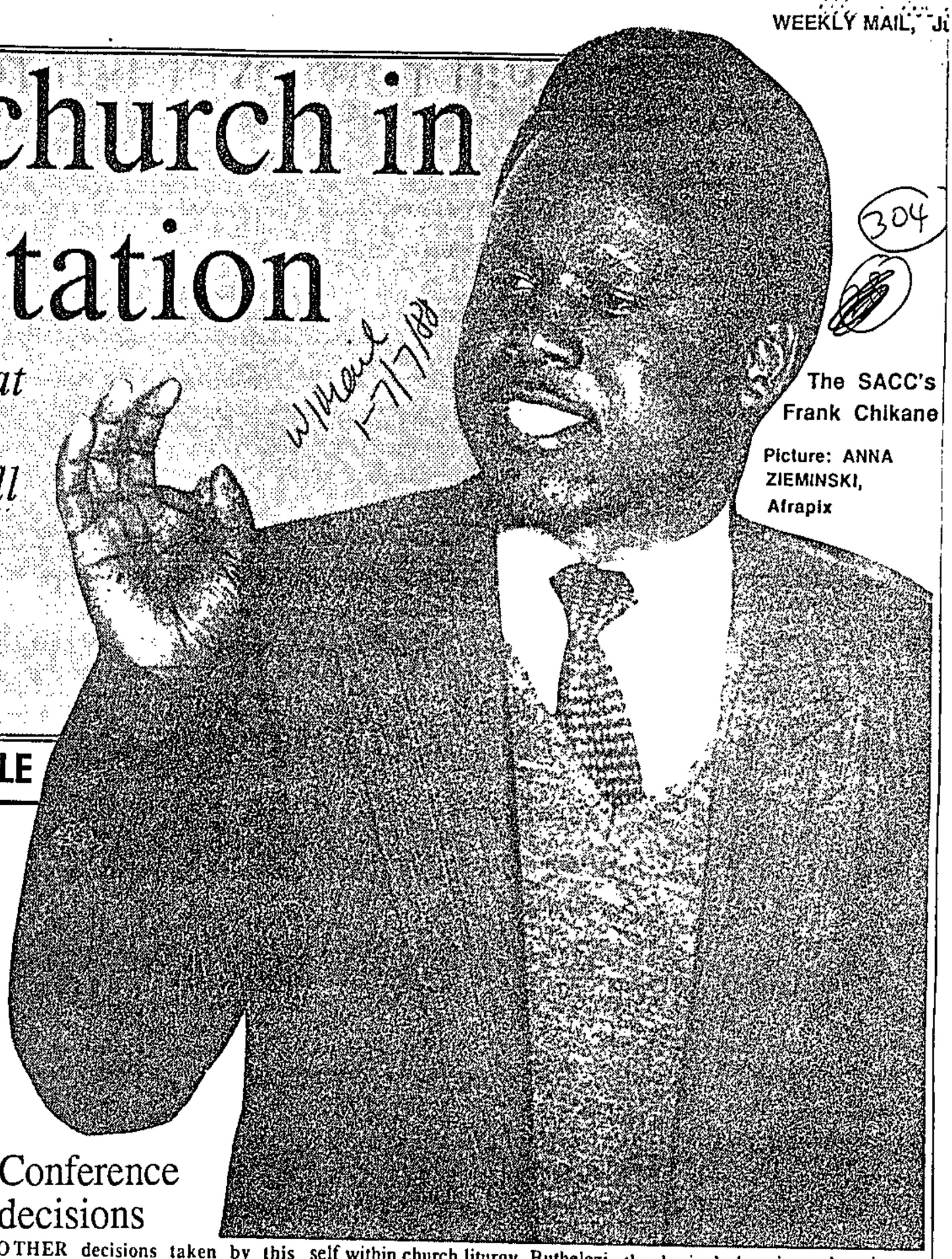
mfontein 2107.

ess School S 20929

KEEP WARM WITH

The church in meditation

Two speeches at the SACC conference spell out the diverse approaches the church must reconcile



The SACC's Frank Chikane

Picture: ANNA ZIEMINSKI, Afrapix

By THANDEKA GQUBULE

TWO differing theological approaches within the South African Council of Churches (SACC) could explain the group's difficulty in hammering out a programme of action against apartheid.

Addresses delivered by SACC general secretary Frank Chikane and president Manas Buthelezi at this week's conference in Johannesburg reflect the ecclesiastical and political dilemma confronting the church.

For some in the SACC, social reality will determine theology, while others hold that "theology must be purified" before it can be applied.

Great hopes were pinned on the conference. Influential church leaders were pressing for a move beyond moral condemnation, and urged the drafting of a concrete programme of non-violent action.

The emergency convocation of religious leaders held in May failed to produce such a programme, settling for the appointment of a committee to "take matters further".

In his keynote address, Chikane said the church was breaking new ground in confronting social realities. "In 1988, the church in South Africa reached a turning-point in its witness against apartheid and the intensified violence against the majority of people in this country," he told the conference.

He cited the march of church leaders in Cape Town on February 29 as an indication of this shift toward active protest. "There will be those who fear that we might be beginning to depart from the 'tested' tradition of the church, doing something that the church should not do.

"There will be those who are doubtful and who prefer not to try until they are sure about it (political involvement). This is natural and part of the struggle."

In a thoughtful speech, Buthelezi debated the theological implications of political action. He identified three ways of characterising the social role of the church. These were:

● The "state church", where a great overlap exists between organised religion and government, and where clerics are manipulated by the state. The Dutch Reformed Church (DRC) was in this position in South Africa, he said, and had been dubbed "the National Party at prayer".

● The "church state", in which political activism had established itself within church liturgy. Buthelezi referred to a "liturgical coup d'etat", represented most graphically by the politicisation of religious funerals. On some levels in South Africa, he said, the "people in the pews" had "gone beyond" theologians concerned with matters of doctrine and practice.

● The "church under the cross", which adhered rigidly to the Gospel. In this view "the church should and must take a stand publicly, even on controversial social questions, but only where it is empowered to do so by its special mandate".

At times in its history "the church was used as a pawn in political intrigues," said Buthelezi. "In gaining breathing space, the church lost its soul." He cautioned against the total politicisation of the church.

"It is important for us as the Church of Christ to assess continually not only where we are and where we should go, but also the extent of any undesirable drifting ... that may defeat our good intentions," he said.

Chikane eschewed the intricacies of theological doctrine, choosing to stress the political crisis at hand. The latest declaration of the State of Emergency, media restrictions, bannings and proposed labour and political legislation demanded a strong response from the church.

"In the face of the attacks from the state, various church groups and unknown forces of darkness, we (the SACC) are now called upon more than ever to reaffirm our commitment to the God of justice, peace and righteousness," he said. "Our obedience is to our God, and our God alone."

The two speeches demonstrated important differences in the approach of SACC leaders — not necessarily signalling conflict — but testifying to a period of intense self-examination within the church.

But it is accepted by all that a political role must be fulfilled, despite the differences. Some even feel that the ferment will benefit the SACC.

Said Buthelezi: "Show me a church that has not suffered, and I will show you a church that has not experienced what growth entails."

Conference decisions

OTHER decisions taken by this week's SA Council of Churches conference were:

●To urge the government to withdraw the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill presently before parliament.

● To send a letter of support to restricted church leader, Dr Simon Gqubule, and a letter to the State President asking for the lifting of his restrictions.

Church conference defies regulations

By THANDEKA GQUBULE

TWENTY-SIX South African church leaders yesterday defied Emergency regulations in a press conference called to discuss the October municipal elections.

The current regulations make it illegal to call for a boycott of the elections and prevent the *Weekly Mail* from reporting the contents of the press conference in full.

It can, however, be reported that the decision to defy the regulations was made on Wednesday night, at a closed meeting of 26 representatives of the mainstream churches, who are attending the annual general meeting of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) in Johannesburg.

The leaders — including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Dr Allan Boesak, Dr Sam Buti, Dr Beyers Naude and Dr Manas Buthelezi — decided to take their stand after intensive discussion.

Speaking yesterday on behalf of the 26, Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SACC, said that it was "unjust" to have elections "in the face of the State of Emergency and all its regulations".

In the light of the church leaders' understanding of apartheid "as a heresy" and its structures as "sinful", they felt compelled to take their stand, Chikane said.

The decision did not come from the SACC but from individual leaders.

At a later press conference, however, the SACC "wholly endorsed" the church leaders' decision. The SACC also resolved to oppose the media restrictions and establish a "vigilance committee" to counteract misinformation about itself.

Chikane said the position of those who participated in apartheid structures was becoming "untenable in relation to the gospel".

Naude, a former SACC general secretary, said each of the 26 had taken into account "the implications of their actions and, despite possible state action, expressed obedience to the law of God."

The stand of the church leaders on the municipal elections was a "specific decision", Chikane said, but "implications could be drawn about the homelands and other apartheid structures."

The conference continues today when the SACC is expected to discuss resolutions dealing with the government's attempts to clamp down on foreign funding.

●See PAGE 5

1-7/7/88 W/Mail

304

Alleged SACC attacker has trial postponed, gets bail

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE

THE trial of a man who allegedly armed himself and then went to the offices of the South African Council of Churches, seeking two prominent church leaders, was this week postponed to August 29.

Denzil Bruce Mellors, 19, of Hewitt Road, Brakpan North, was not asked to plead before magistrate HS van Heerden. His bail of R2 500 was extended.

Mellors plan allegedly went awry when he did not find Archbishop Desmond Tutu or Rev Frank Chikane at Khotso House. Instead he held secretary Beverly Fraser hostage at gun point.

He is facing charges of kidnapping, communicating false messages to Chikane about bombs, possession of unlicenced firearm, ammunition and a stolen firearm.

Earlier, the investigating officer, Felix Tiedt, giving evidence said Mellors told him that he would have preferred to hold Chikane hostage than Fraser, and if he had found Tutu in Khotso House that day, he would have shot him because of his communist ties.

Mellors, a prison warder trainee and a staunch member of the Methodist Church, told the court that he was on 10 days' leave from the South African Prisons Services.

While at the training centre in Kroonstad, he became worried when he heard rumours that Methodists may be ordered by church leaders not to do military training.

Instead of going to Kroonstad as arranged, he went to Khotso House to get more information.

After reading the pamphlets in the library, a secretary came in and he ordered her at gunpoint to close the door and phone the police.

He is also alleged to have told Chikane, over the phone that Khotso House would be blown up.

At his first appearance, Mellors was sent for psychiatric observation, but was found fit to stand trial.

8-14/7/88 w/Mail 304

Defiant churches await state's response

By THANDEKA GQUBULE

SOUTH AFRICAN church leaders this week apprehensively awaited government response to their defiance last Thursday of Emergency regulations.

During a South African Council of Churches (SACC) annual conference last week, 26 church leaders called a press conference to discuss the October municipal elections. Speaking for the leaders, SACC General Secretary Frank Chikane said it was "unjust" to have elections "in the face of the State of Emergency".

Marge Brown, secretary to Chikane, said this week the matter was before Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok and there were "indications" from press reports that the government was investigating.

But neither the SACC nor the church leaders have received any communication from the government. An SACC official told the *Weekly Mail* "I sense the government will go for individual church leaders instead of as a group."

He said the SACC could anticipate an intensified propaganda campaign against the organisation. "The government may try to describe the act (defying Emergency regulations) as non-church, as going beyond the boundaries of church activity and describe church leaders as abusers of the church."

He said this would pave the way for intensified government action against individual church leaders.

Frank Chikane

Picture: Afrapix

Beyers Naude, ex-general secretary of the SACC and a signatory to the decision of church leaders, told the *Weekly Mail* "The state is taking the whole matter very seriously and is aware that the statement was made with deep concern for the situation in the country and a deep desire to promote the cause of justice."

He added that the church leaders were "equally serious about the opposing laws they find totally unexceptable in the light of the Gospel".

Francois Bill, an executive member of the SACC, speculated that the high public profile of some church leaders could be the reason why the government did not act immediately.

Asked what government action he anticipated, Stanley Mogoba, president-elect of the Methodist Church of South Africa, said, "If I were in their boots I would not act." He added that he hoped the government would not act in a way which would "enrage the people".

A Law and Order Ministry representative could not be reached for comment by the time the *Weekly Mail* went to press.

● It is illegal under Emergency regulations to call for a boycott of elections and for journalists to report such calls.

No chance of papal visit to SA — SACBC

304

B/day 19/7/88.

PRETORIA — Although a visit by the Pope to SA during his tour of southern African countries in September was "possibly discussed" at a meeting between Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and Roger Cardinal Etchegaray, the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC) has ruled out any possibility of a papal visit, however short.

A Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman in Pretoria confirmed yesterday that Botha had met Cardinal Etchegaray, chairman of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace — reported to be the the political arm of the Catholic Church — while the cardinal was in SA recently.

The spokesman said a visit by the Pope was "possibly discussed" but that it was not possible for the government to persuade the Pope to visit SA. Nothing could be read into the meeting, he said. Botha would have met with the cardinal as a visiting dignitory anyway. The government would, however, "adopt a constructive attitude" to a papal visit, the spokesman said.

Brother Jude Pieterse, SACBC secretary-general, said that it wished to end all speculation surrounding the Pope's visit and to rule out the possibility of the Pope making even a short stop on SA soil.

"The Pope's very tight programme does not physically allow for a visit to SA," Pieterse said.

The SACBC had not invited the Pope to visit SA but had also not advised him not to visit the country. There was, in fact, every possibility that the SACBC would invite the Pope at a later stage, but definitely not during his September tour.

SACBC president Bishop Wilfred Napier would issue a statement within the next day or two "to end all speculation", said Pieterse.

The Pope's programme for his September tour of southern African countries, released yesterday in Pretoria, does not include any reference to a stop in South Africa.

Apostolic delegate in Pretoria, Archbishop Depaoli, confirmed that the Pope's busy schedule did not allow for a change in the programme to facilitate for a stopover here. — Sapa.

304

Unions gather for big indaba

MBABANE — Trade union delegates from 22 African countries including all SADCC states representing more than two million members of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, began a week-long meeting in the Swazi capital of Mbabane yesterday.

The head of the ICFTU Africa desk based in Brussels, Mr Andrew Kailembo, said in an interview with Sapa's correspondent after his arrival on Sunday, that the problems and rights of migrant workers in SADCC countries, trade union education, and training at all levels and the role of women and youth in national development, would feature among several papers to be presented and debated during the week.

He confirmed that neither South African trade unions nor any observers of "liberation" movements, were among the delegates. — Sapa.

Minister's house is attacked

Own Correspondent

POTCHEFSTROOM — The home of Methodist minister and South African Council of Churches co-ordinator, the Reverend Harold Brooks, was stoned in a midnight attack on Tuesday night.

Mr Brooks and his family were asleep at the time of the attack and were not injured when rocks were hurled at the house, allegedly by a group of white men.

Mr Brooks, who lives in the suburb of Promosa, is the northern Cape and western Transvaal co-ordinator of the SACC.

The following morning, when Mr Brooks arrived at the SACC offices at the Ikageng shopping centre, he discovered a number of defamatory posters plastered on the walls and bogus pamphlets, purportedly issued by Cosatu, scattered throughout the centre.

Grenade at Chikane home

(304) DANIEL SIMON B day

A RUSSIAN-MADE RGD 5 hand grenade was detonated by police after being found wrapped and wedged in a letter box at the home of Erinian Chikane — mother of SA Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane yesterday morning.

Chikane strongly condemned the incident, saying whoever planted the grenade at his 61-year-old mother's Soweto home had intended to "kill or maim" her.

21/7/88.

He said his mother had found a plastic packet containing the grenade at 11am. After experiencing difficulty in loosening the packet, she called builder Eric Hallo, who was renovating her home.

Last night Hallo said on prising the packet loose, he had opened it and had seen an "oval green object with a pin and a ring on top of it. I showed it to Chikane's mother, who asked me to take it away. I took it to a stream about 2km away and then contacted the police."

Police spokesman Colonel Steve van Rooyen confirmed police had detonated an RGD 5 hand grenade at 2pm.

Chikane said: "I am shocked that anyone could place a hand grenade in a letter box. It is clear war has been declared against my family."

SEN 21/7/88

Blacks see Israel as 'an enemy' — SACC

Religion Reporter

As part of the international community, Israel has to choose between collaborating with apartheid and the struggle for a just, non-racist, democratic society in South Africa, the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches said in a statement yesterday.

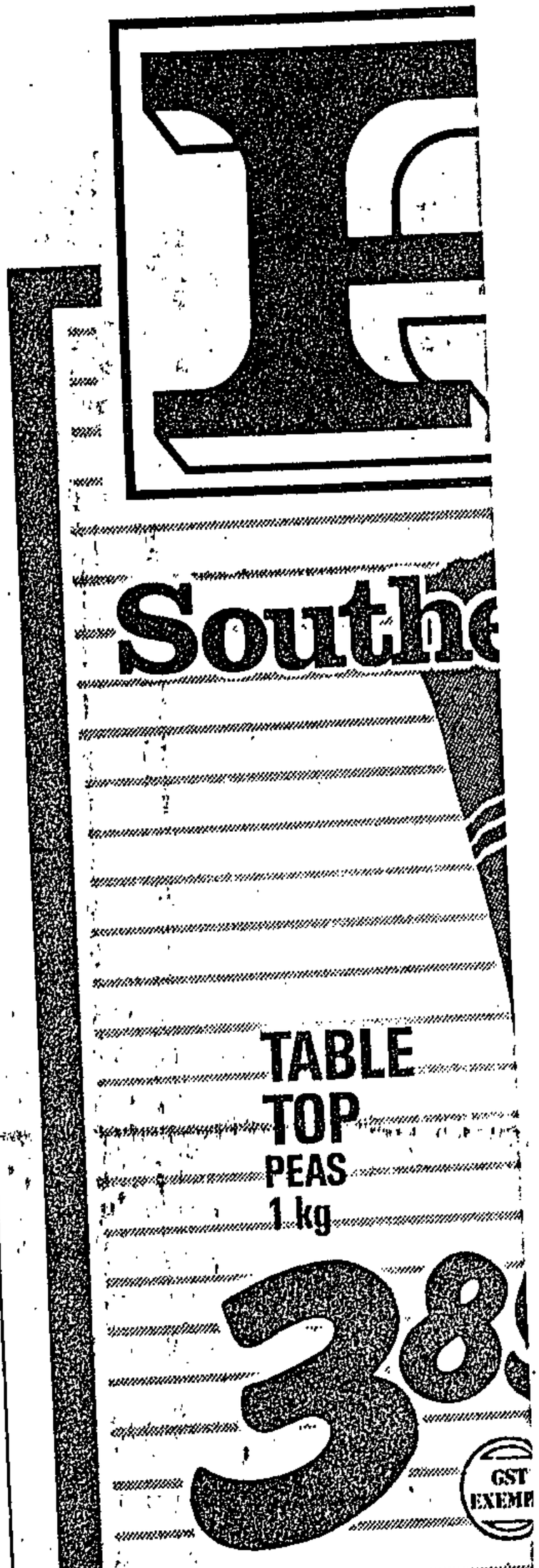
The Rev Frank Chikane made the statement after a seven-day visit to Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Jerusalem organised and sponsored by the Middle East Council of Churches.

Mr Chikane said he had strongly expressed his concern about the economic and military collaboration between Israel and South Africa.

"This relationship, particularly the military collaboration, has created a situation where the black majority in South Africa regards Israel as an enemy country.

"Collaboration with the racist apartheid system is collaboration in our continued oppression, pain, suffering and death," he said.

The SACC hoped Israel would end all co-operation with apartheid.



Blacks see Israel as 'enemy state'

BLACK South Africans regarded Israel as an enemy state and this view would remain as long as Israel collaborated economically and militarily with the SA government, SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said yesterday.

Chikane, who is in Geneva after an official tour of the Middle East, said Israel would have to choose between "collaborating with apartheid and the struggle for a just, non-racist, democratic society in SA".

He said the attitudes of black South Africans and "all progressive, democratic organisations" towards Israel depended on the SA-Israeli relationship and how Israel dealt with the Palestinian question.

"If no significant moves are made on these issues, the negative image of Israel in SA will remain."

Calling on Israel to end all forms of "co-operation with apartheid", Chikane said Israel was "helping the racist government to continue murdering our people", by supplying arms.

Chikane visited Jordan, the occupied territories and Jerusalem at the invitation of the Middle East Council of Churches.

During his visit to the West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said: "The proliferation of temporary military bases, the conspicuous army activity and road blocks, made me feel as if I was in SA." — Sapa.

Grenade sent to mum of SACC man

By Jo-Anne Collinge and Craig Kotze

Police yesterday detonated a Soviet-made hand grenade found in the letterbox of the Soweto home of the mother of SA Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane.

No one was injured when the grenade was detonated at about 2 pm, said Pretoria police spokesman Captain Kurt Marais.

He said the grenade had been identified as a Soviet RGD5 grenade. It was destroyed in an open stretch of veld by Soweto bomb experts.

Mrs Chikane discovered the grenade, in a parcel, in the letterbox of her Tladi home at about 10.30 am, Mr Chikane said. It was clear that the plastic covering concealed a metal object and she immediately became suspicious.

With the assistance of a construction worker, she removed the package from the letterbox and put it in a stream about 500 m away where they felt it could do little damage.

They phoned Jabulani police station at about 11 am. When by 1 pm no help had arrived, the family's lawyers contacted Soweto police headquarters at Protea and a squad of policemen was sent out.

"I'm just shocked that anybody could put a grenade in a letter box," said Mr Chikane. "Whoever placed it really meant to kill."

Post box grenade for Mrs Chikane

304

By MUSA ZONDI

A HANDGRENADE was yesterday found in the post box of Ereniah Chikane, the mother of SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane.

According to a statement released by the South African Council of Churches, Ereniah Chikane noticed the parcel wrapped in plastic at 11am. The parcel was too heavy to be a normal parcel so she called a builder working on a house nearby. The builder removed the parcel and placed it in a stream. The police were called to the Chikane home in Tladi, Soweto, at 11.30am. Frank Chikane arrived at 1.30pm and contacted his lawyers.

The police finally arrived at 2pm and exploded the handgrenade.

"Whoever placed the handgrenade must have known that the likeliest person to collect the mail during the day is my mother. It is clear that the intention was to maim or kill her," said Frank Chikane.

●The police have confirmed that a handgrenade was found outside the home of Ereniah Chikane. The commandant of police in Soweto has been instructed to investigate the alleged failure of the police to respond immediately after they have been told about the grenade, said Captain R Bloomberg.

Wikipedia

egulations

22-28/7/88

RAIDS BY COPS DISTURB CHIKANE

Sowetan 27/7/88

304

He fears for his family

THE Rev Frank Chikane . . . concerned.

THE general secretary of the South African Council of Churches has expressed concern about recent police raids on his family, the discovery of a handgrenade at his mother's Soweto home and what he termed forces of evil which could strike the family at any time.

In an interview yesterday the Rev Frank Chikane said he hoped the police would finish investigating the circumstances surrounding the placing of a handgrenade at his mother, Mrs Erenia Chikane's Tladi house on July 20.

The grenade was exploded by the police after Mrs Chikane found it wrapped in a plastic bag inside a letterbox.

A spokesman for the police in Pretoria yesterday said investigations were continuing and declined to comment further.

The police said in a statement on Monday that they raided Mr Chikane's Pimville house at dawn because they were looking for his brother, Khotso, as they had for a long time wanted to detain him in terms of state of emergency regulations.

Mr Khotso Chikane is the president of the Soweto Students Congress.

The police also confirmed they visited Mrs Chikane's home and alleged that banned publications were found in the room of Miss Salome Chikane who is the Rev Chikane's sister.

Mr Chikane said his concern, especially about the handgrenade incident, was reminiscent of incidents in 1985 during which petrol bombs hurled at his house damaged it extensively.

"We were fortunate that there was no loss of life then, much as my mother would have been killed last week or even a little child who could have discovered the grenade would have been harmed," Mr Chikane said.

MRS Erenia Chikane . . . found handgrenade.

He said the SACC and church leaders had expressed concern about his safety and had been supportive.

"We live by the grace of God and know that the forces of evil could strike our lives anytime," Mr Chikane said.

Apartheid must go for SA to grow — De Beer

Star Times 28/7/88

JOHANNESBURG. — Dr Zach de Beer, executive director of Anglo American and heir apparent to the leadership of the Progressive Federal Party, said yesterday there was no reason why South Africa could not attract investment and grow.

Speaking at the SA Megatrends conference here, he said growth was possible if the country got rid of apartheid.

"The choice is clear and, to us business people, simple. Now get out on to the highways and byways and explain it to those who are responsible for maintaining apartheid, denying South Africa the capital she needs and preventing growth."

He said the ultimate aim should be to run a surplus on South Africa's current account and that meant building a huge export industry, or industries, during the next decade.

For such industries to be competitive, attention would have to be given to productivity, education and training, industrial relations and the reversal of the alienation of the workforce.

There was general consensus among experts that productivity was very low in South Africa, and was probably getting worse.

Business in the '90s would have to identify the major factors which depressed productivity and deal with them effectively. Otherwise the cost structure would rise further, and this, if combined with a continued non-availability of international capital would result in "accelerated impoverishment," he warned.

He said the economy was sound and strong enough to afford a good and rising standard of living for all.

However, this assumed "sensible management" of the economy by the authorities.

Commenting on a possible future trend, Dr De Beer said figures showing the rate of fixed investment in the country were relevant.

From a peak in 1981, annual investment had fallen by no less than 31%.

"This, I am afraid, simply reflects the waning confidence of investors both inside and outside South Africa."

Double-digited inflation was one of the reasons why South Africans were not saving and why other people were nervous about investing in the country.

A government brought inflation under control by adjusting the policies of the central bank so as to reduce the amount of money in circulation.

But if the money supply was to be held down without "throttling" the productive private sector, then the public sector's expenditure had to be reduced.

"We must all get this message — heavy government expenditure makes it difficult or impossible to control money supply and inflation."

Dr De Beer described the South African economy as "basically strong" but real growth had almost ceased, investment had dwindled, inflation had become endemic, people were getting poorer and capital could not be obtained from abroad. — Sapa

Windows broken by vandals, 1985: harassment is nothing new to the Chikane family

Police raid Chikane home for brother

FOUR days after the mother of Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SA Council of Churches, found a hand grenade wrapped as a parcel in her postbox, police raided her Tladi, Soweto house and briefly detained her daughter

By MUSA ZONDI

— allegedly for possession of a book and a poster.

Police arrived at the Tladi house shortly after a raid on the Pimville home of Frank Chikane, where they said they were looking for his brother, Khotso Chikane, 18, president of the Soweto Students' Congress.

Khotso Chikane was a colleague of the late Sicelo Dhlomo, a Detainees' Parents Support Committee fieldworker who appeared in the CBS documentary *Children of Apartheid*. He was found murdered shortly after being released from detention.

The Chikane family has been receiving phone calls from people threatening that Khotso would be killed if he did not hand himself over to police, Chikane said this week.

Khotso Chikane was detained for three months during the 1986/7 Emergency. Two other members of the family were also detained during that Emergency: Roegers and Thabile Chikane.

On Thursday last week, Ereniah Chikane called police after discovering a hand grenade in her post box. Three hours later, police detonated the device.

● Police confirmed raiding the Chikane home in Pimville on Monday, stating they were looking for Khotso Chikane whom they wish to detain under Emergency regulations. They also confirmed a subsequent raid on the Chikane family home in Tladi and said Salome Chikane had been detained briefly, then released.

'Assaulted' Toms wants a transfer

JAILED conscientious objector Dr Ivan Toms, who has charged a fellow prisoner with assault after alleged homosexual harassment, is hoping for a transfer from Pollsmoor to Pretoria's Central Prison.

The 35-year-old Crossroads clinic founder, sentenced in March to 21 months' jail for refusing to serve in the South African Defence Force, had a gash under his right eye stitched after he was involved in an incident with the prisoner.

Friends said that on June 27, a warder witnessed a man, alleged to have previously provoked other prisoners, pushing Toms up against a grille in the bathroom and making sexual advances. He intervened and separated them and Toms laid a complaint.

The next day the man allegedly again approached Toms in the showers. Toms punched him in the mouth, breaking a capped tooth. The man allegedly struck Toms in the face, and

By GAYE DAVIS, Cape Town

knocked him to the ground.

The fight was stopped and Toms received two stitches at Victoria Hospital, while the other prisoner was put in isolation in a cell dubbed "The Bomb".

Prisons Service representative Colonel A van Vuuren confirmed two prisoners were slightly injured in an incident on June 28 and said officials were "in the process of taking the necessary action.

"The Prisons Service regards every complaint of alleged assault, no matter how petty, in a serious light and prisoners are not allowed to intimidate one another."

Prisoners could lodge complaints or requests daily and preventative measures, such as relocation of sleeping quarters or work-places, were applied if there was "reason to believe a prisoner was threatened".

It's 3am and there's a banging at the door. THIS is the reality

A personal view by FRANK CHIKANE

General Secretary of the SA Council of Churches

ON THE morning of 25 July 1988, the police of the apartheid state raided my house in Pimville, Soweto.

Although we have a more than 2m high burglar fence with an electric bell at the gate, we were woken up by flashes of torches through our windows and banging on the door by the police.

After announcing their mission under the State of Emergency regulations, the police swiftly moved into our bedrooms. This was 3am.

The State of Emergency had once more woken us and robbed us of our rights and humanity and allowed the police to violate them "legally".

After having gone through the house, the officer in charge informed me that he was leaving part of his unit in the house until they had completed their operation elsewhere. The purpose of leaving them in my house was to make sure we did not communicate with the outside world. They said we were not allowed to use our telephone.

The occupation of the house lasted until about 5am.

We could not leave the house. We were in effect under house arrest for that period. The family would also not go back to bed. Who could do so when a hostile people were occupying one's house?

Two things frustrated me even more seriously. The first is that a few days before this event a handgrenade was planted at my mother's place, threatening the lives of family members.

The police were called at about 11am. By 1.15pm they had not responded.

Of course, if the explosive device threatened the regime, its agents or members of the white minority community whose interests the regime is put in power to secure, the police reaction unit would have been there within minutes.

It was only after engaging a lawyer to call police headquarters that explosive experts were sent to detonate the handgrenade. They took statements and promised to investigate.

A few days later, whilst the family was looking forward to a progress report of their investigations, they raided my home and occupied it. At the same time, they raided my parent's home, harassed them and detained my younger sister, Salome Chikane.

According to the police, they were looking for my younger brother Khotso Chikane, who is president of the Soweto Students Congress (Sosco).

This is the second frustration. Khotso is sought by the police not because he has committed any crime, If this was so, they could have informed our lawyers as we had asked them to do so, so that the case could be taken up accordingly.

No, this is not the case. Instead, the police say they have been looking for him for a "long time" to detain him under the Emergency regulations.

All of us know that about 1 000 peace-loving South Africans have been in detention now for about two years without charges preferred against them. One thinks of the Reverend M Tsele, V Khanyile, I Mogase and many others who are languishing in jail for no crime.

This is the dilemma of being confronted with what Rollo May in his book, "Power and Innocence: A search for the source's of violence", calls violence from above. The South African racist minority regime, threatened by the resolute intention of the black majority to be free in a just, non-racial, democratic society and in a unitary state, strikes with violence to stave off this threat.

The police and army have lost their rightful role of ensuring the security of all South Africans or that of protecting the weak in society. They have been reduced to a force that protects the minority against the majority of South Africans.

To use May's language, the goverment itself is "reduced to battling on the level of combatants".

This type of state violence, violence from above, is said by students of this field, like Hans Toch, to be regularly "more destructive" than other forms of violence. It leaves its victims completely vulnerable and at the mercy of the perpetrators of this violence.

It is legitimised by violent means: violence against the humanity of the people of South Africa.

This is the reality faced by millions of South Africans

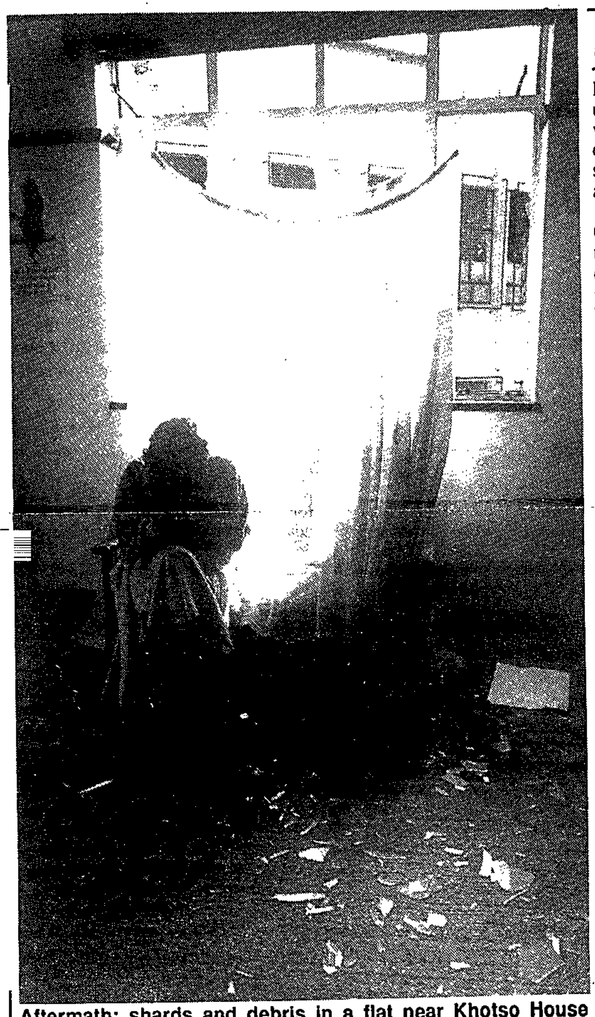
First National Bank of Southern Africa Limited · Registered Bank

W/Mail 2-8/9/88 304

Scenes from the life of Khotso House, bastion of a decades-long struggle ...

Pictures from the past — Black Sash demonstration, police besiegement, and militant mourning for Ben Moloise
Pictures: GILL DE VLIEG and ERIC MILLER, Afrapix

Murdered: The home of protest



Aftermath: shards and debris in a flat near Khotso House
Picture: ANNA ZIEMINKSI, Afrapix

By SHAUN JOHNSON and THANDEKA GQUBULE

IT is not known what device was used to destroy Khotso House this week, but its effect and apparently expert placing signals an ominous stepping-up of extra-legal attacks on anti-apartheid groups.

The South African Council of Churches' Johannesburg headquarters today resemble the aftermath of a commercial implosion: the facade still stands, but the interior is gutted. There is little doubt that the building will be condemned.

At least 23 people have been treated for injuries and shock resulting from the bomb, which exploded in the early hours of Wednesday morning. Damage to Khotso House and nearby buildings is expected to run to R1-million.

Whether a car bomb, a huge mine or some other device was used, the precision of the blast — which almost certainly struck at Khotso House's foundations — suggests the bombers are well-schooled in explosives technology and practice.

Extra-parliamentary activists are viewing the latest — and biggest — attack as part of a national pattern whereby remaining enclaves of anti-apartheid organisation are destroyed, one by one.

The elements perpetrating these attacks work beyond the legal boundaries of Emergency and security legislation, effectively waging a terror war against legally-constituted groups, they say.

According to Frank Meintjies, information officer of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, "the blast is part of the overall campaign of coercion being waged at different levels against the democratic movement."

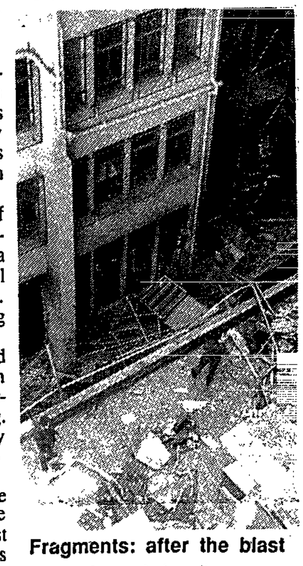
The Khotso House blast has been preceded by at least 14 instances of bombings and arson against trade union, church and community organisations in the past year.

The destruction of Cosatu House in May 1987 most closely parallels this week's attack — the building was also rendered unusable.

The destruction of Khotso House (the "House of Peace") has drawn widespread condemnation from prominent figures and organisations, ranging from parliamentarians to church leaders and labour organisations. Most emphasized the apparent existence of a pattern to the attacks, and expressed concern that the choice of targets indicated a steady tightening of the screws on legitimate organisational bases.

"Thousands of victims of apartheid regard Khotso House as a lighthouse where they have been able to obtain relief and refuge, from the church or one of the human rights organisations housed there," said Cosatu's Meintjies in a statement.

A statement from the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference echoed this view: "Khotso House is very dear to us for what it stands for in South Africa and the wonderful people who work there."



Fragments: after the blast

The damage was a "fearful blow", said the SACBC, and came only two weeks after "we publicly deplored the spate of bombings that has affected so many innocent victims in our country".

A second widely-expressed concern is that those responsible for earlier attacks have not been apprehended.

Cosatu said the Khotso House culprits "would probably never be brought to justice. More than one year after the massive Cosatu House bomb we have heard not a word from the police about the progress of investigations.

"The state should clarify its position in relation to violent attacks on extra-parliamentary organisations."

SACC general secretary Reverend Frank Chikane commented that there seemed to be quick action after alleged African National Congress attacks, but not after those on extra-parliamentary groups.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu has "invited the South African government to condemn the bombing".

Black Sash representative Laura Polecutt said her organisation "questioned the authorities as to why the perpetrators of the bombings such as those at Cosatu House and the offices of the Community Research and Information Centre (Cric) have never been brought to book."

The SACC and other organisations based at Khotso House are temporarily operating from the offices of the Central Methodist Church.

Methodist leader Revered Peter Storey reported that a bomb threat was received yesterday. "We have to live with this hate sickness," he said.

Investigations are being hampered because it is unsafe to move around the wrecked Khotso House, according to a police representative.

Officials have given assurances that all possible avenues will be explored in an attempt to identify the bombers. The Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok has expressed condolences to those injured.

Be like Mandela — Chikane

304 CPress 11/9/88

By ZB MOLEFE

IT was vintage Frank Chikane. Short words and short sentences.

Suddenly the Nelson Mandela book launch at Wits University brought back memories of Chikane's early days on the West Rand. Those were the 70s when, among other things, this fiery churchman was one of the people who helped found the Krugersdorp Residents' Association.

Chikane took the launch audience at the university's Great Hall on a painful spiritual trip – a trip marked by the the ills that continue to plague his beloved country, South Africa.

Time and suffering have not blunted Chikane's oratory skills.

No wonder the audience spontaneously broke into loud cheering and gave him a standing ovation after the speech.

"What can I say when Frank has said all that we have to say," asked the wife of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela, Winnie, when her time came to say her piece.

When Chikane started talking about Mandela, the man who inspired a whole generation of black South Africans in the 70s, his audience little suspected what was about to hit them.

The 37-year-old straight-talking ordained Apostolic Faith Mission pastor, who is leader of the South African Council of Churches as its general secretary, rose to the occassion.

And when he spoke there was obvious pain. Part of his pain hinged on last week's mysterious bombing of the SACC headquarters in Johannesburg. Khotso House had become Chikane's life and work.

Added to that pain was the stern warning from Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok that he would "clip the wings" of certain church and community organisations.

"Vlok chose Friday, when we had no office, to give this warning," Chikane's voice flooded the hall.

But it was the launch of Mandela's biography which was appropriate for Chikane. The biography, said Chikane, was appropriate in many ways. It had come at a time when black South Africa had been prevented from celebrating the 70th birthday of one of her greatest sons, Mandela.

"It (the book launch) has also come at a time when there is debate about his (Mandela's) release," said Chikane.

It was in the 70s that the name of Mandela surfaced in grafitti on countless township churches and community halls' walls, said Chikane. At the same time the University of the North-educated Chikane said Mandela's name also appeared in "bush colleges" in secretly-circulated publications.

"The prescribed books never mentioned Mandela. Since then I knew there was a man who sacrificed everything to identify himself with his peoples' suffering.

"It became clear to me that unless we become like Mandela we will never be free," he said.

It is this picture of Mandela which kept the young Chikane on an even keel when the going got tough. These were the days of his first detention in 1977, in terms of Section 6 of the Terrorism Act, and the January 12, 1978, incident at the Krugersdorp Prison described in Shelagh Gastrow's *Who's Who In South African Politics.*

At 2am on the day Chikane was due to appear in court, his hair was cut and he was forced to collect it from the floor and place it in a dustbin, writes Gastrow.

Gastrow continues: "Later that morning he was driven to Bethal and then returned to court in Krugersdorp at 2pm. His congregation was waiting in court for him and after seeing his shocking physical condition, they all committed themselves to fight apartheid.

"Some young men in the congregation left the country to join the African National Congress after witnessing such brutality against their pastor. Charges against Chikane were dropped."

Chikane remembered those days. But, he told his audience: "In prison, what kept me was comparing my situation with Mandela's. And the days I had spent in prison were negligible."

Chikane turned to the oft-repeated charge that he and a number of churchpeople were deliberately seeking confrontation with the authorities.

The mandate to challenge and confront the authorities was taken in July by 27 concerned church leaders in central Johannesburg.

"We are saying those October elections are not democratic. They (the authorities) want to have a field day. They want to put up their posters all over Soweto and everywhere. We question the basis of the elections in October," said Chikane.

"Whether Khotso House is there or not, the truth will live. Even if they assassinate Frank Chikane the truth will live."

Winnie Mandela flanked by members of the Mandela Football Club.

'It became clear to unless we become we will never be fr

Zinzi Mandela (left) . . daughter of Nelson

like ndela :hikane

'It became clear to me that unless we become like Mandela we will never be free' – Chikane

Mandela, the man who inspired a whole generation of black South Africans in the 70s, his audience little suspected what was about to hit them.

The 37-year-old straight-talking ordained Apostolic Faith Mission pastor, who is leader of the South African Council of Churches as its general secretary, rose to the occassion.

And when he spoke there was obvious pain. Part of his pain hinged on last week's mysterious bombing of the SACC headquarters in Johannesburg. Khotso House had become Chikane's life and work.

Added to that pain was the stern warning from Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok that he would "clip the wings" of certain church and community organisations.

"Vlok chose Friday, when we had no office, to give this warning," Chikane's voice flooded the hall.

But it was the launch of Mandela's biography which was appropriate for Chikane. The biography, said Chikane, was appropriate in many ways. It had come at a time when black South Africa had been prevented from celebrating the 70th birthday of one of her greatest sons, Mandela.

"It (the book launch) has also come at a time when there is debate about his (Mandela's) release," said Chikane.

It was in the 70s that the name of Mandela surfaced in grafitti on countless township churches and community halls' walls, said Chikane. At the same time the University of the North-educated Chikane said Mandela's name also appeared in "bush colleges" in secretly-circulated publications.

"The prescribed books never mentioned Mandela. Since then I knew there was a man who sacrificed everything to identify himself with his peoples' suffering.

"It became clear to me that unless we become like Mandela we will never be free," he said.

It is this picture of Mandela which kept the young Chikane on an even keel when the going got tough. These were the days of his first detention in 1977, in terms of Section 6 of the Terrorism Act, and the January 12, 1978, incident at the Krugersdorp Prison described in Shelagh Gastrow's *Who's Who In South African Politics.*

At 2am on the day Chikane was due to appear in court, his hair was cut and he was forced to collect it from the floor and place it in a dustbin, writes Gastrow.

Gastrow continues: "Later that morning he was driven to Bethal and then returned to court in Krugersdorp at 2pm. His congregation was waiting in court for him and after seeing his shocking physical condition, they all committed themselves to fight apartheid.

"Some young men in the congregation left the country to join the African National Congress after witnessing such brutality against their pastor. Charges against Chikane were dropped."

Chikane remembered those days. But, he told his audience: "In prison, what kept me was comparing my situation with Mandela's. And the days I had spent in prison were negligible."

Chikane turned to the oft-repeated charge that he and a number of churchpeople were deliberately seeking confrontation with the authorities.

The mandate to challenge and confront the authorities was taken in July by 27 concerned church leaders in central Johannesburg.

"We are saying those October elections are not democratic. They (the authorities) want to have a field day. They want to put up their posters all over Soweto and everywhere. We question the basis of the elections in October," said Chikane.

"Whether Khotso House is there or not, the truth will live. Even if they assassinate Frank Chikane the truth will live."

... of the Mandela Football Club.

Zinzi Mandela (left) .. daughter of Nelson and Winnie Mandela.

4 WEEKLY MAIL, Sept

The bombed SACC finds a new home

By THANDEKA GQUBULE

THE South African Council of Churches will set up new offices at Queens Bridge Building next week, after the bombing of their headquarters at Khotso House, Johannesburg.

Francois Bill, one of the council's general secretaries, said the organisation had eventually found premises but not without a struggle.

A powerful bomb placed in the lift shaft wrecked the SACC headquarters, and the building was officially declared an unsafe area by the South African Police. A group calling themselves the "White Wolves" claimed responsibility for the blast.

Before it found new premises in Braamfontein, the SACC was turned away from some sites because many landlords regarded the church organisation as a security risk.

"We phoned a number of estate agents and they would say, 'Oh yes, we have a number of buildings to let': We would either not hear from them again or get the response, 'Sorry, it is not working out'," Bill said.

The SACC considered the AA Building but it was in the process of being sold. The Braamfontein Centre Building, owned by Anglo American, was also considered but SACC lost out to another client.

According to Bill, SACC was looking for a short-term lease as it intends to resurrect Khotso House, headquarters of the majority of churches in South Africa.

Bill said the new premises were "most suitable". But there is one difficulty: the owner will make the SACC responsible if there is an increase in the insurance premium.

Chikane ... doubts about "full investigation"

immediately denied the allegation and voiced doubts about police intentions to embark on a "full and proper investigation" of the blast.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu added his voice to the fray and took the whole matter further by suggesting that a lack of condemnation by government about the placing of the bomb must be viewed against the background of the SADF's suggestion in court last week that since the country is in a state of war, it can act without regard for the courts (see P54).

A police spokesman confirms that Mellet was not misquoted, but adds that the statement has been taken out of context. This was only one possibility suggested by Mellet. It was not the only possibility.

Nevertheless, the innuendo that the bomb belonged to some of the occupants remains. As does the suspicion that any investigation is likely to be prejudiced. The SACC is planning to conduct its own investigation.

The extent of the damage to offices will become clear during the course of the week. At the time of going to press, representatives of the organisations that were housed there were being assisted by the Fire Department to gain access the building for the first time. People are being hoisted up the side of the building since the ground-level entrance area collapsed into the basement.

"The initial intention," says SACC General Administrative Secretary Francois Bill "is to remove essential documentation needed for the day-to-day running of the various projects."

Structural engineers have been employed and once they have erected a protected staircase, other equipment and files will be removed.

The future of the building is undecided. Initial investigation by the engineers has shown that it is structurally safe to enter. A decision on whether to repair and restore the building will be made after an assessment of the likely cost.

The immediate priority, says Bill, is to find suitable temporary premises for all the tenants — at the moment scattered throughout the city. Other organisations disrupted by the bomb include The Black Sash, the Transvaal Rural Action Committee, a number of church organisations and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union.

One obstacle is finding a willing landlord. Before the Black Sash Advice Office moved into Khotso House, they had constant trouble with landlords and fellow tenants who complained about "too many blacks" says the Sash's Sheena Duncan.

Khotso House provided a home for like-minded organisations. At the same time, it was a sitting target to wipe out a number of anti-apartheid organisations in one blow.

Duncan, however, notes that separation will not guarantee survival. "Individual organisations in ordinary buildings have also been attacked and their offices destroyed," she says. "The advantages of being together outweigh the risks because we are under threat in this society anyway." ■

KHOTSO HOUSE

Picking up the pieces

The bombing of Khotso House has exacerbated the already tense relations between the police and the SA Council of Churches (SACC).

The root of the current cycle of accusations is the statement by Law and Order spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet that the Khotso House blast may have been caused by the premature detonation of explosives being stored in the basement.

SACC General-Secretary Frank Chikane

Khotso House future still in the balance after bombing

Religion Reporter

No decision has been taken on whether Khotso House, devastated by an explosion more than two weeks ago, is to be rebuilt or condemned.

The buiding is still unsafe to enter. It is the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and also housed the Black Sash and other community organisations.

Johannesburg's fire chief, Mr Frikkie Kotze, said the responsibility for the building had been handed over to its owners "for their engineers to decide what to do".

The SACC administrative secretary, the Rev Francois Bill, said the SACC was waiting for the building to be made safe enough to enable the police to conclude their investigations and for the SACC to remove furniture.

"We can't remove rubble until the police have finished their investigation and the engineers still have to make a full report before a decision will be made on whether we will rebuild. It also depends on costs."

The initial report said it might be possible that the building could be rebuilt but that the cost might be high.

Chikane writes autobiography

304 By Jovial Rantao 87

The autobiography of the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Reverend Frank Chikane, was launched in Johannesburg yesterday.

"No Life of My Own" covers momentous events in his life over the past 10 years.

"For almost a year from 1986 to 1987 I lived the life of a fugitive and learned at first hand the experience of countless other of my fellow countrymen and women.

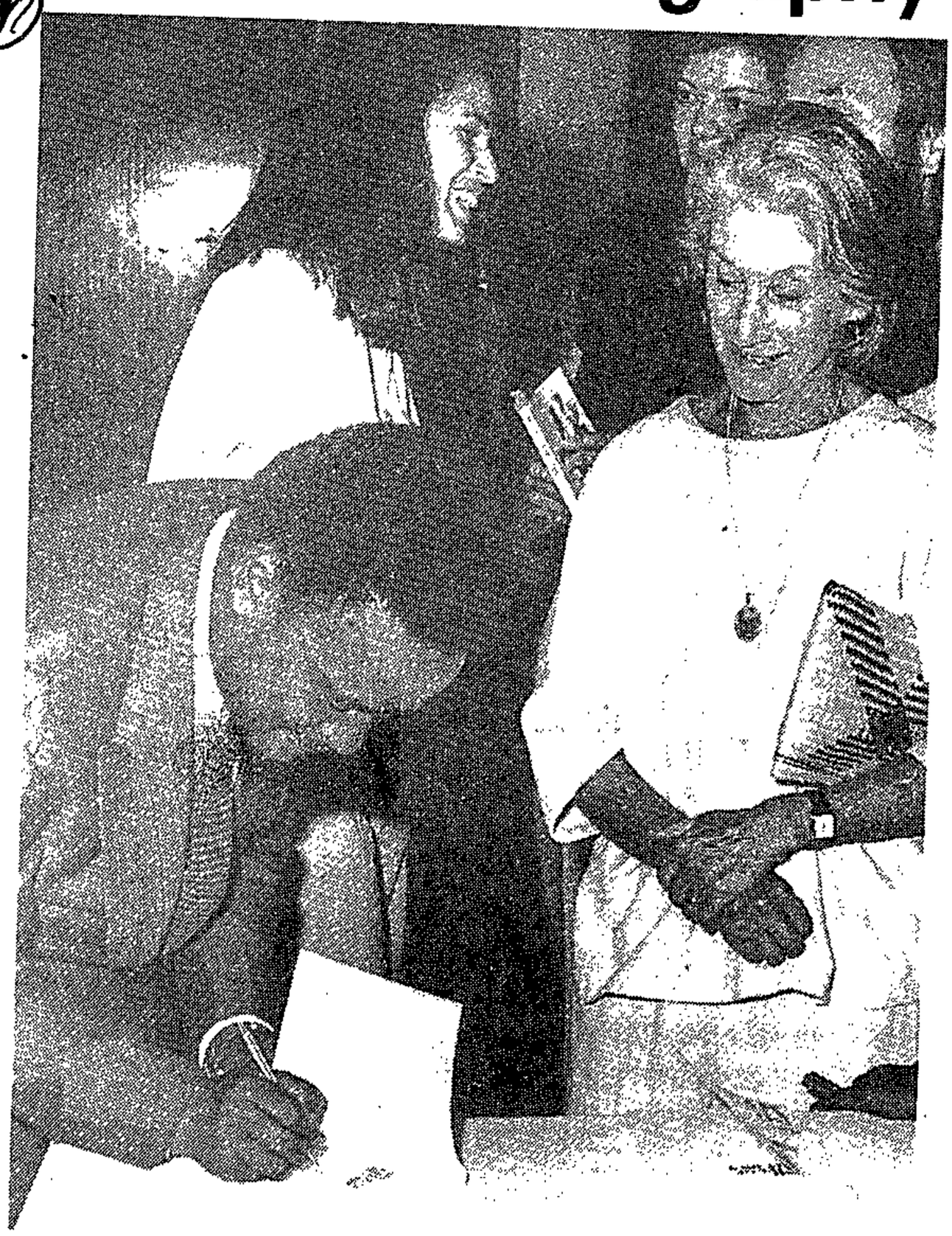
"Part of this time I spent in hiding in South Africa, part of it abroad. I had time to reflect on my life and make the agonising decisions demanded by the crisis in South Africa. The book was part of this process," said Mr Chikane.

"The book covers symbolic routes and the experiences of my family while I was in exile and detention."

Mr Chikane said Zim babwe's former President, Mr Canaan Bana na and the Reverend John Pobee, of the unit of Theology and Education of the World Council of Churches, impressed on him the importance of working on the book.

Mr Chikane said he wrote the book because he felt that his spiritual journey was far from being unique. It was being travelled by many young Christians today.

"I wanted to share my thoughts and experiences with them. I had little idea that within a few months my life would have changed dramatically by an appointment to be general secretary of the SACC," said Mr Chikane.



The Rev Frank Chikane autographs a copy of his book for author Nadine Gordimer at the launch yesterday. ● Picture: Herbert Mabuza.

Star 4/10/88

He said he hoped that the book would help make sense of the journey that Christians were making today under apartheid.

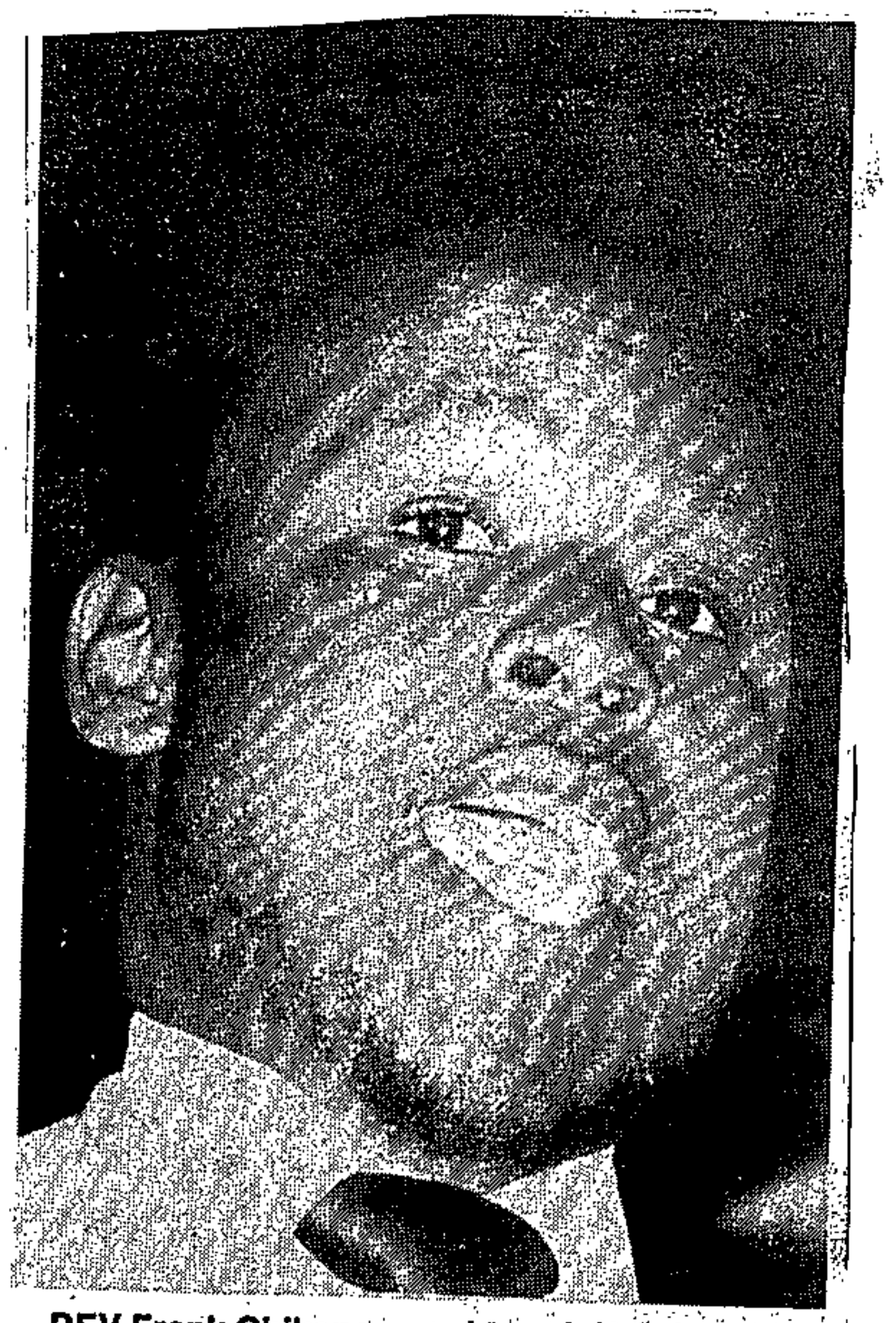
Presenting Mr Chikane with the first copy of his book, Father Smangaliso Mkhatswa, general secretary of the Institute of Contextual Theology, said:

"The book is a testimony that Frank is trying to explain to us what God is trying to tell us through his pen".

The book is published by Skotaville.

"I hope the book will help my fellow pilgrims on their way to our common liberation.

"Above all, I hope it will help all those who face the dilemma of being Christian in this evil apartheid society and who, because of their commitment to the liberation struggle, can truly say they have no life of their own".



REV Frank Chikane . . . released a book on his life.

5/10/84 (304)

CHIKANE STORY

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

ABOUT 300 people packed the Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg this week for the launch of a book, *No Life Of My Own*, written by the Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

The book, published by Skotaville and selling at R12 excluding tax, was launched on Monday.

The autobiography, tells of the period Mr Chikane spent as a fugitive between 1986 and 1987 hiding in South Africa and abroad.

It also tells of his young days when he took priesthood and his time as an activist. He also describes how he was allegedly tortured while in detention.

Addressing the crowd that attended the ceremony, Mr Chikane discussed the question of the forthcoming council elections to be held on October 26.

The former secretary of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference, Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa, also spoke at the ceremony.

He said Mr Chikane was a leader of the people who was playing an important role in the community.

Somewhere in the book, Mr Chikane says it will help those who face the dilemmas of being Christian in "this evil apartheid society and who, because of their commitment to their liberation, can truly say that they have no life of their own".

Kidnap accused 'joined PFP, AWB'

Star 5/10/88 By Celeste Louw 304

The man who allegedly kidnapped a South African Council of Churches (SACC) employee developed such an interest in politics that friends called him "the politician", a Johannesburg magistrate heard yesterday.

Mr Denzil Mellors (19) of Hewitt Road in Brakpan faces charges of kidnapping Miss Beverley Fasser at the SACC's offices in Khotso House on April 11. The State also alleges Mr Mellors made a false bomb threat and stole a pistol from his brother that he unlawfully pointed at another person.

He pleaded not guilty to these charges but guilty to unlawfully possessing a firearm and ammunition.

Mr Mellors told the court he had joined the AWB, PFP and Black Sash to obtain knowledge of all viewpoints. "I also campaigned for the PFP candidate for Springs in last year's elections and subscribed to various political publications," he said.

The court was told Mr Mellors had written letters to Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Ronald Reagan thanking them for their viewpoints on anti-SA sanctions.

"Concerning South African politics, I would describe myself as open minded. I do not support the left or the right wing," he said.

Mr Mellors told the court he was upset when the Methodist Church (of which he is a member) supported an anti-conscription standpoint. "I went to Khotso House to get an answer to my problem from the SACC."

SACC general-secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane, testified that Mr Mellors had telephoned the SACC. "Mr Mellors ordered me to get a person by the name of Gerhard on the line. He said he would blow up the building if people would not leave the area of the library or if we contacted the police," Mr Chikane said.

He got through to Gerhard but became suspicious when he learnt Gerhard was a policeman.

The hearing continues.

Mellors wanted to 'question secretary'

By Celeste Louw

Mr Denzil Mellors (19) wanted to ask a secretary at the South African Council of Churches (SACC) a question about "communism and churches", but took out his gun because "people there knew that I had been a police informer", a Johannesburg magistrate heard yesterday.

Mr Mellors, of Hewitt Road in Brakpan, has pleaded not guilty to charges of kidnapping Miss Beverley Fasser at Khotso House on April 11 this year. He has also pleaded not guilty to making a false bomb threat and stealing a firearm which he allegedly pointed at another person.

Mr Mellors has pleaded guilty to illegally possessing a firearm and ammunition.

He told the court that he wanted to obtain information from the SACC on the Methodist Church's viewpoint on conscription.

While going through literature of the SACC he saw that some church groups were sympathetic towards the ANC's Freedom Charter.

"I was very confused when I realised that some church groups shared values with communism. I wanted an answer and when Miss Fasser entered the library, I wanted to ask her about churches and communism," Mr Mellors said.

"I couldn't just walk up to a person and ask questions about communism, so I took out my gun."

Mr Mellors told the court that he took his brother's pistol before going to Khotso House, because he thought his life could be in danger.

"People from the Detainees' Parents Support Committee knew that I had been a police informer," he said.

The trial was postponed to November 14.

SACC attacks govt for holding leaders

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday attacked the government for detaining 14 of its church leaders since its call for non-participation in the coming elections.

Branding the elections as "undemocratic and racist", the SACC said in a statement last night that since the church group's call to all South Africans not to participate in the October 26 elections, church leaders, various churches and regional councils of churches had been harassed.

"The churches' campaign of 'Standing for the Truth' has angered the apartheid regime and supporters of apartheid. The regime has threatened to act against church leaders particularly Archbishop Desmond Tutu," the statement said.

The SACC alleged that since the statement was adopted on July 26, 1988, Khotso House had been bombed, the SACC's Refugee Ministries Office was raided by police on September 21 and police had surrounded Community House on September 23.

In addition, the Board of Churches had been raided twice within a month and there had been raids on various offices of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference, said the statement.

The August copy of Crisis News, a monthly news service of the WPCC, which published the statement of church leaders, was banned and copies were confiscated.

The SACC also claims the state has opened a docket to press charges against the Western Province Council of Churches in terms of the Internal Security Act. — Sapa

14 detentions anger SACC

Star 13/10/88

The South African Council of Churches has attacked the Government for detaining 14 of its people because of the organisation's attitude to the municipal elections.

The SACC said in a statement that since the church group's call for non-participation in the October 26 elections, church leaders had been subjected to harassment.

The statement said that since July this year, the following staff members of Regional Councils of Churches have been detained:

Mr T Solomon from the Western Province Council of Churches, Mr D Modise of the Northern Cape and Western Transvaal regional councils, and a Mr Grane of the Pretoria Regional Council are still in detention.

Also detained are Mr A Melite of the Boland Regional Council and Mr D Goba, Mr D Mbele, Mr T Maysinje, and a Mr Harrison of the Grahamstown regional council.

304 WMA/L 14-20/10/88

The price to pay for speaking out: Arson

He said he called the police who told him they suspected it was a limpet mine and cleared the area.

When the police asked him to come back inside the building he enquired what they had found.

"They said that they had found these two limpet mines and I asked how they would have been detonated. They said they were enclosed in stable plastic explosives and that the heat from the fire would have ignited the plastic explosives which in turn would have detonated the limpet mines."

Asked whether it was his understanding that the people who set fire to the building also intended to blow it up, Pieterse answered, "Very very clearly. I can put no other interpretation on it.

"The place was absolutely saturated

●From PAGE 1

on the ground floor, first floor and second floor with kerosene, paraffin or petrol. There were fuse wires leading out of the building, up the first floor on to the second floor and these limpet mines were clearly placed there in a central position, which if they had gone off would have destroyed the building completely. I can put no other interpretation on it — the intention was to destroy the building completely.

"It was a really nasty business, and I reject in the strongest possible terms any insinuations, no matter how veiled, that there were any arms or limpet mines or anything else kept on these premises."

He said he had not seen the police statement that limpet mines, hand-grenades and magazines for AK-47 rifles had been found, but added, "I find it strange that they did not tell me (this) when I was called back into the building and I asked them what had been found."

The SACBC added in its statement that this was not a time for political point-scoring. "Whas has occurred at Khanya House is a tragedy, not only for the Bishops' Conference, but for the country as well ... It is time for all South Africans to realise that violence will not solve the problems of this country."

The finding of the explosives was widely reported in the media as the "discovery of an arms cache", with no reference to the probability that the arsonists planted the "cache" in the offices.

The sinister implication — that the bishops' offices were a storehouse for illegal explosive devices — followed the pattern set after the devastation of Khotso House, headquarters of the South African Council of Churches, by a bomb in August.

According to reports at that time police were investigating whether a vehicle packed with explosives, parked in the basement of the building, had been the source of the blast.

The implication in that case was that the SACC was a depot for car bombs, an insinuation angrily dismissed by SACC officials.

The arson and bomb attacks against the SACC and SACBC indicate that the churches — the only groups now able to speak critically of the forthcoming elections — will not escape unscathed from exercising this role.

The government has announced a decision not to arrest and charge high-profile church leaders for speaking on the election boycott, but there is a steep cost attached.

There are not likely to be court cases against the president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Allan Boesak, and Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu. However, there have been continued detentions of lesser-known church figures and the destruction of physical structures which allow the churches to function.

The SACC yesterday issued a statement complaining that 14 members of their staff were being held without trial because of their stand on the municipal elections.

Generous offers of financial assistance to the Catholic bishops have already come from local and international sources.

Statements condemning the attack have come from, among others, the Canadian secretary of state, Joe Clark, and the African National Congress.

A special message of support for the Catholic bishops has also been received from Pope John Paul II.

The message was sent through the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Augustino Caseroli, and reiterated the Pope's appeal for peaceful ways to "resolve the problem connected with the political and racial divisions existing in South Africa".

Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, the president of the Pontifical Justice and Peace Commission, who recently visited South Africa preparatory to the papal tour, also sent a message, expressing his "heartfelt prayers at (the) news of (the) criminal attack against (the bishops') headquarters.

"We are closely united with this courageous episcopate which is seeking to promote justice and reconciliation by peaceful means."

Trocaire, the Irish development agency has offered £20,000 to assist and the European Community has also made offers of financial help.

● The offices of East London's Unemployed Workers' Union were burnt down yesterday morning.

SACC attacks 'harassments'

Allegations of bombings, detentions

THE South African Council of Churches this week attacked the government for detaining 14 of its church leaders since its call for non-participation in the coming elections.

Branding the elections as "undemocratic and racist", the SACC said in a statement to Sapa this week that since the church group's call not to participate in the October 26 elections, church leaders, various churches, church groups and regional councils of churches had been subjected to harassment.

"The churches' campaign of standing for the truth has angered the government and supporters of the system of apartheid. The government has threatened to act against church leaders, particularly Archbishop Desmond Tutu."

The SACC alleged that since the statement was adopted on July 26, 1988, the SACC's refuge, Khotso House, had been bombed.

Ministries office was raided by police on September 21, and police had surrounded the community centre in Cape Town on September 23.

In addition, the Boland Council of Churches has been raided twice within a month and there had been raids on the SA Council of Bishops conference, said the statement.

The August copy of *Crisis News*, which published the statement of the church leaders, was banned and copies confiscated.

The statement said that since July this year, the staff members of regional councils have been detained.

T Solomon from the Western Cape and Western Transvaal Regional Councils, and a Grane of the Pretoria Regional Council are still in detention.

Also still in detention are A Melite of the Boland Regional Council and D Goba, D Mbele, T Maysinje, and a Harrison of the Grahamstown Regional Council.

Rev Tom Mbabane

The Rev S Constance of the Boland Regional Council was released on bail after 33 days in detention.

P van den Heever of the Western Province Council of Churches, Grace Due and the Rev Tom Mbabane of the Wits Council of Churches were detained and released.

"A number of other staff members have gone into hiding.

"This massive action of the government against the church and opponents of the system is a clear indication that the local authorities elections is a farce and meant only for those who have chosen to collaborate with the government as 'junior partners'.

"We call upon peace-loving South Africans and the world at large to condemn these undemocratic, racist elections and demand that the government call them off. We fear that the acts of the government against the majority of South Africas, who are opposed to these elections, could end in a violent outbreak." – Sapa

304

To the SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES and the SOUTH AFRICAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The Council of Churches in the Netherlands supports your courageous biblical witness against the injustices of apartheid and your plea for a just society for all South Africans.
We understand and endorse your call for a boycott of the apartheid elections as a consequence of your witness against apartheid and against the efforts of the SA Government to sustain it.

We see it as the right and duty of churches and Christians to denounce the injustice of apartheid and to call upon others to defy or to disobey.

We in our country would defy and boycott any election in which all people could not participate freely.

We see any action against you and against church leaders in particular as a gross violation of religion, liberty and directed against the Christian community worldwide.

We condemn the attack on Khotso House on August 31 and also the threats and intimidation against churches and their leaders.

May the love and peace of God strengthen you to continue to stand for the truth.

Council of Churches in Netherlands

Prof Dr D C Mulder
President

Rev W R van der Zee
Secretary

SACC writes to US firm over lay-off fears

THE SA Council of Churches has written to Control Data Corporation's US head office to express concern that the disinvestment of its SA subsidiary will lead to the lay-off of all senior black employees.

"In the restructuring imminent within Control Data SA, decisions are being based on racial considerations instead of accepted business practices," wrote SACC deputy secretary Brigalia Bam in a letter dated November 4.

Control Data SA has since been renamed Corporate Data Control (CDC).

Bam said yesterday CDC senior black

CHRISTOPHER TUCHER

employees alerted the SACC to the situation.

CDC MD Ian Wilkinson yesterday rejected the SACC's allegation as probable speculation.

He said: "First we determined which positions were to be retained and then looked for the most qualified employee for the job. Some senior black employees will be retained and some whites retrenched."

Before last week's acquisition by Unidev, 75% of the 163 employees on CDC's payroll were white. Wilkinson said that ratio would remain after restructuring cut the workforce to 123.

He declined to say whether senior black staff would be affected more than white counterparts.

The SACC letter drew attention to conventional procedures for employee — management consultation before restructuring — and urged US management to adhere to them.

● To Page 2

SACC writes to US firm over lay-offs

● From Page 1

Wilkinson said employee consultation was in process but the SACC had addressed its letter to the home office and was not in contact with local management nor Unidev.

The SACC also expressed concern the acquisition would cause corporate social responsibility funding to dry up.

Head office vice-president John Curren said earlier the US company would maintain a legal entity in SA to administer its social responsibility budget.

Control Data SA had been a signatory of the Sullivan principles and its Category I rating.

Wilkinson said Unidev's new subsidiary would withdraw from the Sullivan programme but would not comment on its future social responsibility plans.

SOWETAN, Wednesday,

SANCTIONS: SACC VIEW

THE South African Council of Churches resolved as far back as 1984 to call for comprehensive sanctions against the Government.

In a statement, the SACC says "it is our considered view that if there is anything that can force the South African Government to abandon its belligerent defence of apartheid, it is a drastic reduction on the amount of resources available to it to pursue war against its own people and neighbouring countries.

"It is in that sense that we strongly believe that honestly applied sanctions can be helpful to those of us who seek change in South Africa with minimal bloodshed". Sowetan 16/11/88

It adds that the internal crisis of the apartheid state has led to increasing pressure on transitional companies operating in South Africa to withdraw their involvement in and support of the "apartheid economy".

The SACC said: "The disengagement of companies from South Africa hitherto has been designed to prove, firstly, that sanctions do not work and secondly that, as the argument goes, sanctions hurt blacks more than whites."

Economy 304

It said disinvesting companies have tended to strengthen apartheid by measures ranging from increasing the monopolisation of the economy to drastic reductions of the gains that workers had made at great cost.

"It is in the context of the above observations and concerns that we viewed with extreme concern the proposed restructuring of Control Data in South Africa.

"We have reason to believe that in the restructuring imminent within Control Data decisions are being based on racial considerations instead of accepted business practices."

The SACC had drawn to the attention of the company that trade unions and other concerned organisations in South Africa have worked out a procedure in the interest of justice and fairness and said they requested the mother company in the United States to monitor the situation on the SACC'S behalf.

"We pray and hope that this appeal made by us in good faith in order to avoid a situation that could be nasty will meet the company's favourable consideration."

304 Star 18/11/88

Canada to help terror targets

The Canadian Embassy announced in Pretoria yesterday that its government is to contribute R197 000 to help rebuild Khotso House in Johannesburg, headquarters of the South African Council of Churches and other groups.

It will also contribute R100 000 to assist in replacing vital equipment destroyed in a fire at the offices of *The Namibian* newspaper in Windhoek.

Both Khotso House and *The Namibian* were attacked by members of suspected right-wing terror and arson groups. — Sapa.

Talk less, act more — SACC

Star 23/11/84

309

HARARE — The Rev Frank Chikane believes the time has come for churches to abandon mere rhetoric and take concrete measures to combat apartheid, Ziana News Agency reports.

Mr Chikane, general secretary of the SA Council of Churches (SACC), told the conference of the World Council of Churches here that South Africa had launched a diplomatic offensive aimed at promoting its image as being a "reasonable regime that wants to talk" while it is still carrying out repressive measures at home.

He cited the State President, Mr P W Botha's, recent visit to Mozambique, Zaire and Switzerland as some of the diplomatic examples.

While this was taking place, Mr Chikane said, repression against South Africans had been intensified in the form of banning organisations and newspapers, executions and attacks on church buildings.

South African churches had therefore agreed to move beyond talking to action. They should not engage in welfare activities only, but also take action to stop apartheid.

On what measures could be taken to end apartheid, Mr Chikane said: "We will have to work out a way of jamming the system."

Mr Chikane said Pretoria refused to talk to liberation movements, claiming that this was because they used violence, yet had not asked Angolans to lay down their weapons before embarking on talks with them. — Sapa.

SA church leaders to meet ANC

(304)

Star 25/11/88

A top-level delegation of church leaders is to meet the ANC leadership in an unspecified African country today.

According to a brief statement issued by the South African Council of Churches yesterday, the meeting is expected to discuss "pertinent issues".

The decision for the meeting was taken by the SACC at a recent executive committee meeting.

The church delegation includes the SACC president, Bishop Manas Buthelezi, Cape Town's Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and SACC general-secretary the Rev Frank Chikane. — Sapa.

Accused kidnapper 'worked for police'

By Celeste Louw

Mr Denzil Mellors (19), alleged kidnapper of a South African Council of Churches secretary at Khotso House earlier this year, told a Johannesburg magistrate yesterday he had previously obtained information about leftist organisations for the police.

Mr Mellors, of Boksburg, has pleaded not guilty to charges of kidnapping Miss Beverley Fasser, an SACC secretary, in Khotso House on April 11 this year.

He has also denied charges of stealing a firearm and pointing it at another person and a charge of making a false bomb threat.

Mr Mellors has pleaded guilty to a charge of illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition.

It was put to Mr Mellors that he went to Khotso House to gather information regarding leftist politics to help the police to get rid of those organisations.

"I don't want to answer that because a lot of people could get into trouble," Mr Mellors said.

He told the court that police had not asked him to do anything that day.

He told the court previously that he went to Khotso House to find out more about the Methodist Church becoming a peace church.

There he realised that some church groups shared values with Communism and it confused him.

"I took out the gun because I was scared and confused," he said.

The State and the defence concluded their arguments and the hearing was postponed to January 26 when the magistrate, Mr P du Plessis, is expected to give judgment.

Star 25/11/88

304

SACC to help end rent boycott

By Stan Hlophe

The Soweto Council has agreed to meet a delegation from the South African Council of Churches in a bid to resolve the 30-month rent boycott.

This was announced by the mayor, Mr Sam Mkhwanazi, at a council meeting yesterday.

The SACC delegation, to be led by the secretary- general, the Rev Frank Chikane, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, will meet the executive committee on December 1 at the council offices.

The former council, which was ousted in the October municipal elections, was reluctant to budge on the rent issue, which saw the council faced with a R90 million deficit.

The mayor admitted yesterday that without the assistance of the entire community it would be almost impossible to find a solution.

"Soweto is our city, and every child, parent and civic leader can make a meaningful contribution towards the upliftment of the quality of our day-to-day existence," he said.

Mr Mkhwanazi said the cleaning up of the township was receiving the attention of his council and plans were under way to speed up operations.

The mayor said services such as water, electricity and sewerage were also receiving the council's attention.

Group of top Churchmen meet ANC

Sowetan 25/11/88

A HIGH-POWERED delegation of South African church leaders will hold a meeting with the top leadership of the African National Congress "in an African" country today.

The delegation consists of the president of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), Bishop Manas Buthelezi; Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Desmond Tutu; SACC general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane; a representative of the Southern Africa Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop P Buthelezi; a Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa, the Rev M Moore; a representative of ELCSA, the Rev J A Steenkamp; and the president of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, the Rev Stanley Mogobo.

The decision to meet the ANC was taken by the executive committee of the SACC recently.

Time has come to act against apartheid, says Chikane

THE time has come for churches to abondon rhetoric and take concrete measures to combat apartheid, SACC secretary-general Rev Frank Chikane told the World Council of Churches conference in Harare this week.

Chikane said South Africa had launched a diplomatic offensive aimed at projecting its image as being that of a "reasonable regime that wants to talk", while it still carried out repressive measures at home.

This was evidenced by the banning of organisations, executions which were taking place, attacks on church buildings and the banning of newspapers, he said.

South African churches had, therefore, agreed to move beyond talking to action.

He also said the debate about violence and non-violence was a dishonest one.

"We should not spend time debating with those who have opted for other means to end apartheid," he said.

On what measures could be taken to end apartheid, Chikane said: "We will have to work out a way of jamming the system." – Sapa 27/11/88

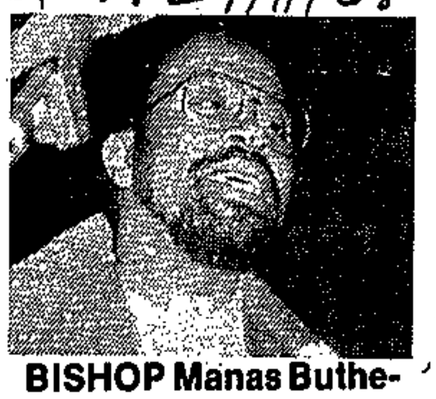
A plea for unity

Sowetan 29/11/88

SOUTH African church leaders and the African National Congress have called for a commitment to unity by all people of South Africa in order to bring about a democratic society.

In a joint statement released after six hours of talks at a Harare, Zimbabwe, hotel on Friday, the two delegations said they "expected" the formation of "broadly based reception committees" to prepare for the imminent release of political prisoners.

The South African Council of Churches delegation was led by its president, Bishop Manas Buthelezi. It included the



BISHOP Manas Buthelezi.

metropolitan of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, president of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, Rev Stanley Mogoba, a representative of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop P Buthelezi, moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa, Rev Michael Moore, a representative of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa,, Rev Jacobus Steenkamp, and the secretary of the SACC, Rev Frank Chikane.

The delegations also discussed the planting of bombs in public places. The ANC had reiterated its opposition to civilian targets, the joint statement said.

"The increase in attacks of this nature had also caused serious concern among its leaders and members. Some of the operations had been carried out by agents of the apartheid regime," the statement said.

S.A. COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

1989 - 1990

...it is absolutely nonsense to say that bombs ... bomb".

...volved in the Khotso House bombing.

Vital facts concealed by Minister of Police, says Cosatu spokesman

AP bombing allegations uproar

Star 11/1/89 304

SAP

rberg
hows
ign
nage

Fabrinus,
l Staff

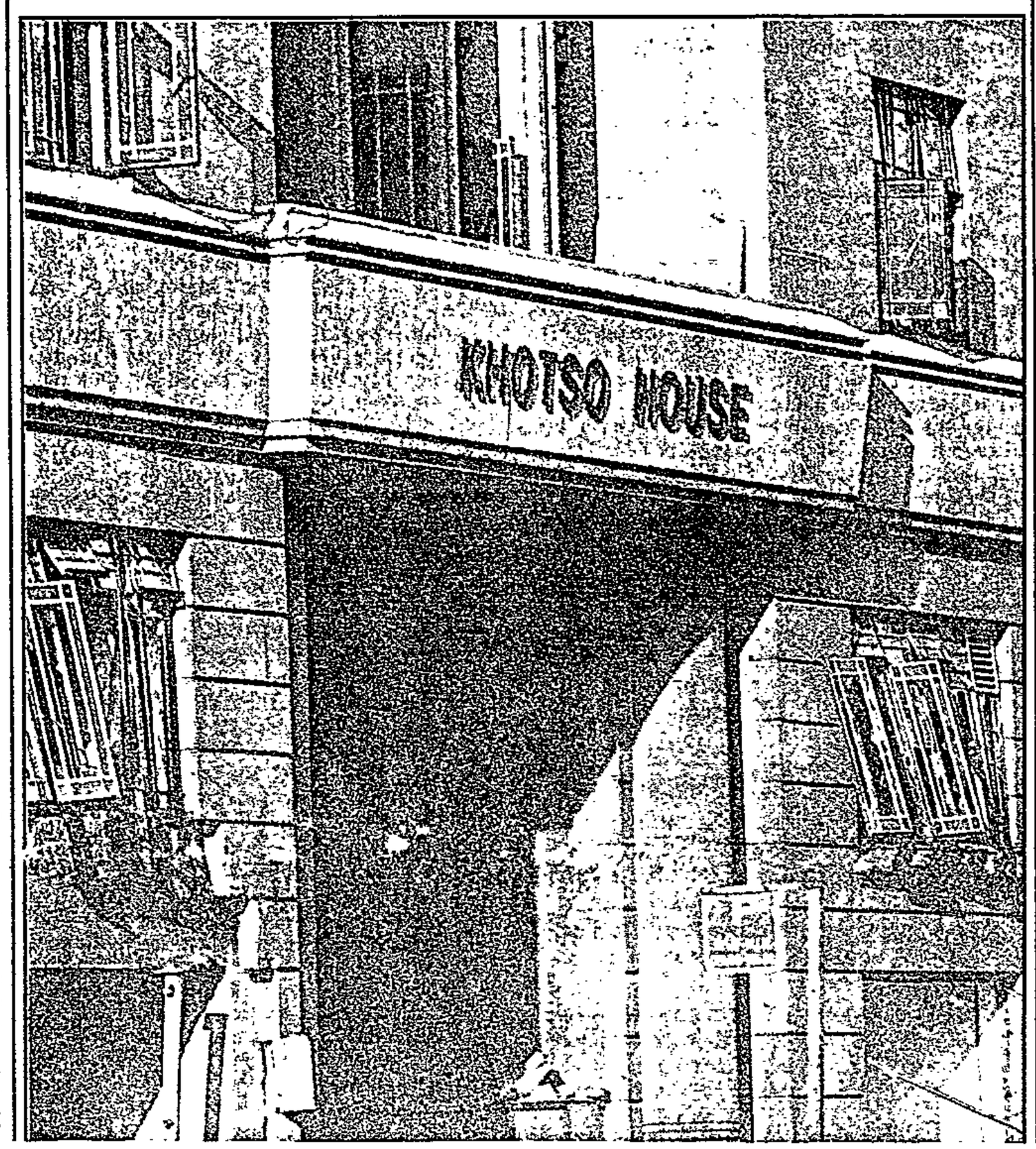
e reorder tape
airline Helder-
sign of damage
ly yield whatev-
on it during the
it's last 30 mi-
eforeit crashed

of transport
tape recovered
d off Mauritius
the aircraft's
d been cleaned
howed no signs

be sent to the
port Safety Bu-
n Washington
working copies

ll be returned to
be transcribed
...l % be known
g was said dur-
utes of the flight
the crash oc-

said that the
be made by the
t was an impar-
e mater.
oid any sugges-
ad deliberately
pes if anything
...the pro-



Staff Reporters

A bitter dispute broke out today over who bombed the Cosatu House and Khotso House buildings in central Johannesburg after details of police investigations into the terror attacks were released in Pretoria yesterday.

Organisations which occupied offices in the two bombed buildings have challenged official announcements that frequent visitors to Cosatu House may have been responsible for the terror attack and that security at Khotso House had been too stringent for a bomb to have been smuggled in.

The row broke out as police hunted for a white, alleged ANC woman saboteur said to be linked to last year's Khotso House blast.

She is Ms Shirley Renee Gunn (33), said by police to have been trained by the ANC at Pango Camp in Angola.

Details of police investigations into the attacks were made public at a press conference in Pretoria yesterday.

Police say:

It was announced that two men, one white and the other coloured, who were seen with Ms Gunn before the Khotso House blast on August 31 last year, are also being sought.

Police also said "Wit Wolf" Mr Barend Strijdom — who allegedly killed seven people and wounded 15 others in Pretoria — is the main suspect in connection with last year's arson attack on Khanya House in Pretoria.

Miss Shirley Gunn ... allegedly trained at ANC's Pango camp.

Limpet mines, AK-47 rifle magazines and Soviet grenades found at the Khanya House headquarters of the Southern African Catholic Bishop's Conference after the attack were probably planted by the arsonists, police said.

Police said that those responsible for the Cosatu House blast were "in all probability", residents or frequent visitors to the building.

The deputy SAP CID chief Major-General Jaap Joubert said Ms Gunn was seen entering Khotso House with two men — one white and one coloured.

They allegedly carried military-type high explosives, destined for a car bomb, in a heavy round case.

The explosives, weighing more than 30 kg, were allegedly placed in the parking basement near the lift but exploded prematurely, claim police.

In a statement read out by General Joubert, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok said security at both Khotso House and Khanya House was too strict for bombs to have been smuggled in.

Cosatu says:

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) strongly rejected the statement by Mr Vlok that Cosatu House was probably bombed by frequent visitors to the premises.

Cosatu spokesman Mr Frank Meintjies said Mr Vlok "should be aware that on the night before the bomb blast a hole was cut in the back fence and the building was broken into.

"We wonder why Mr Vlok has chosen to conceal the fact that entry was gained, probably with the use of a cutting torch, at the back of the building. Our suspicion will remain until a thorough investigation has been conducted and no facts are concealed."

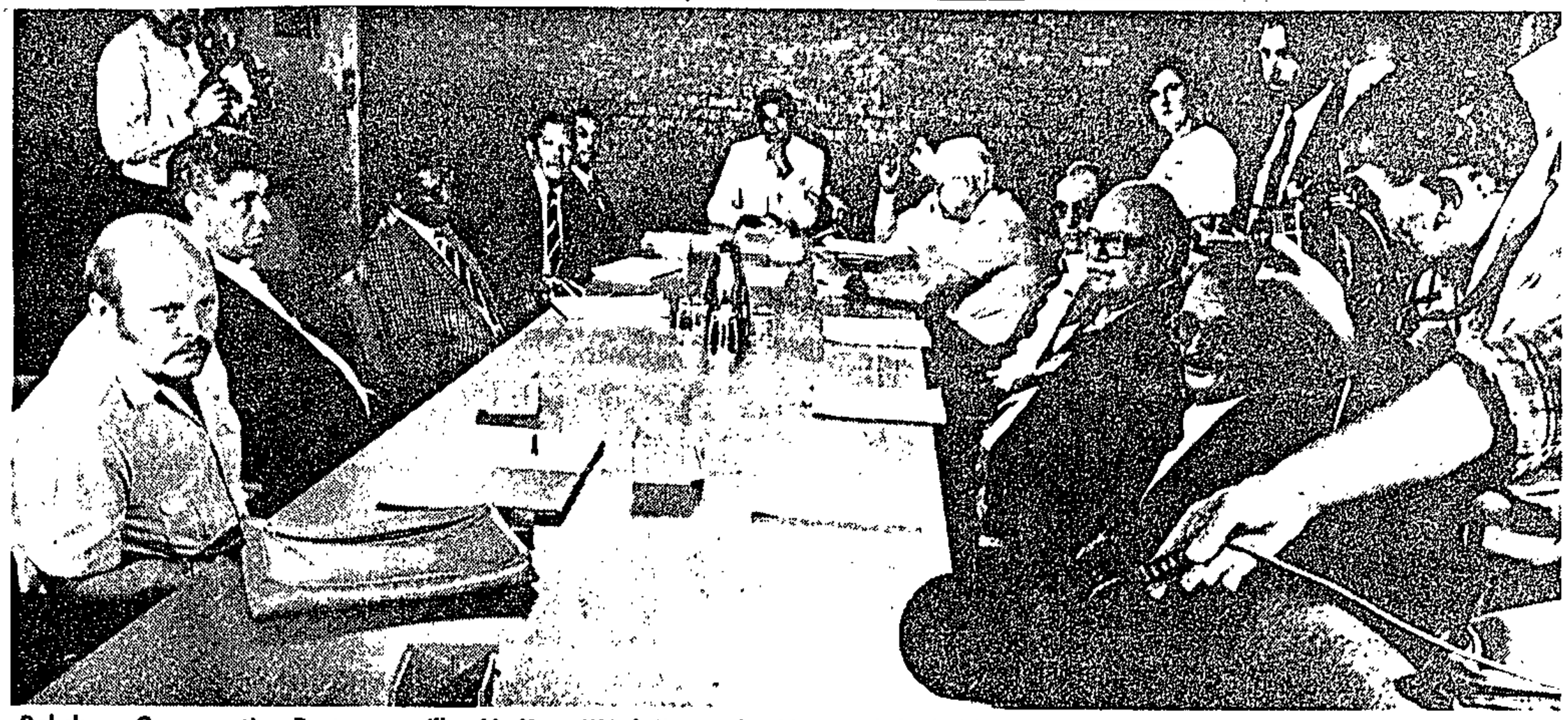
He said Cosatu was never questioned by police or confronted with evidence concerning Mr Vlok's allegation that "trained guerillas had regular and free access to Cosatu House".

SACC says:

Today the Reverend Frank Chikane, secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, which was housed in Khotso Hou... denied that trained terrorists had visited the building or that the premises had ever been used to store weaponry.

Mrs Sheena Duncan, the national co-ordinator of the Black Sash's Advice Offices, said it was "absolutely untrue" that security at Khotso House had been tight.

● See Page 7.



Boksburg Conservative Party councillor Mr Koos "Little" van der Merwe (left) fields questions from the news media at yesterday's meeting. Seated alongside him are (from left) Reiger Park councillors Mr E C Hansrod, Mr P Plohantjies, Mr P Lottering, Mr J H Arends and (at head of table) Mr Bush Jantjies.

● Picture by John Hogg.

Star 11/11/89

Reiger Park council hits back at Boksburg

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

Reiger Park management committee adjourned its monthly meeting yesterday — it was attended by a Boksburg town councillor — to protest against the Conservative Party-controlled Boksburg Town Council's apartheid policies.

Addressing the press before the adjournment of the meeting, Reiger Park management committee chairman Mr Bush Jantjies said Boksburg Town Council's re-introduction of petty apartheid had engendered tension and animosity.

"We have adjourned our monthly meeting in protest against the CP policies of Boksburg. These ungodly, cruel and cunning policies are killing our beautiful town, and we would like to prevent the worsening of this situation. Whites, blacks and coloureds have lived in harmony in Boksburg (in the past)."

Mr Jantjies said Boksburg businessmen were "bleeding to death" because of the seven-week-old consumer boycott.

He read letters sent to him by Boksburg businessmen asking that the boycott be called off because they were sustaining great losses which would soon force them to close down.

He accused the Boksburg council of having abdicated its responsibility to Boksburg's people.

In his response, Boksburg CP councillor Mr Koos van der Merwe said he and his colleagues were running the town on council issues, but reserved the right to consult national leaders.

The R16 500 which Boksburg Town Council said Reiger Park owed Boksburg had been allocated to the coloured township by the Regional Services Council and was therefore not a repayable loan, according to Mr Jantjies.

In a reply to a question by The Star, Mr Van der Merwe said his council would never rescind its resolutions.

WEDNESDAY
January 11 1989
Johannesburg

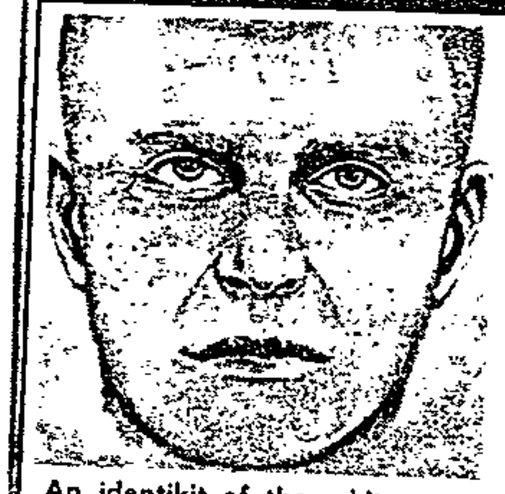
45c + 5c GST
Natal and Cape
54c + 6c GST

The Star

South Africa's largest daily newspaper.
Established 1887.

LATE EDITION

"Tasty Two"
R2.99 Excl. GST
2 pieces of Chicken with Hot Chips.
You can't beat chicken like your's, try our Chicken Lickers
Joubert, Graham, Scott & Partners 25706888/1



An identikit of the white man alleged to have been with Miss Gunn.

Khotso House occupants slam police 'ANC terrorist' claims

By Carina le Grange

Occupants of Khotso House today lashed out at police allegations that the bomb which destroyed the building was probably planted by an alleged ANC-trained woman and accomplices.

The South African Council of Churches today denied allegations by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, that trained terrorists had visited their headquarters or that the premises were ever used to store, construct or transport bombs and explosives.

In a statement, the secretary-general, the Rev Frank Chikane, said he "rejected with contempt any innuendo that explosives were openly brought into Khotso House or that the SACC had ever participated in acts of violence".

He said the SACC was taking legal advice over the SABC's coverage of the statements by Mr Vlok, which the SACC regarded as "defamatory".

Former tenants of the building all denied security had been very good.

Black Sash official Mrs Sheena Duncan said that people visiting the Black Sash offices merely had to walk through the front door.

"It is absolutely nonsense to say that our security was good during the day. Black Sash had no security at all. On the other hand, security at night was exceptionally good and it was impossible for people to gain access to the garage (where the bomb went off) at night."

She added: "I very much resent the implication in General Jaap Joubert's statement that Khotso House was used for the manufacture of bombs. The security police were in and out of Khotso House so often, rarely introducing themselves, that they knew Khotso House was not ever used for the manufacture of bombs ...

"We challenge the SABC to publish on TV and radio the comment of officers of the SACC and other tenants, and give them the same prominence they have given Mr Vlok's statements."

Dr David Webster of the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (restricted from operating last year) said in his personal capacity that Khotso House was under constant police surveillance and "every one who used it knew that — and it is thus ludicrous to suggest that a trained ANC guerilla would openly enter the building with a large and bulky bomb".

The coloured man allegedly involved in the Khotso House bombing.

Khotso House suspect 'trained by ANC'

By Craig Kotze,
Crime Reporter

The 33-year-old woman thought to have carried explosives — which detonated prematurely before they could be made into a car bomb — into Khotso House in Johannesburg last year was trained as a sabotage expert by the ANC, police said.

The woman, Ms Shirley Renee Gunn could now be out of the country, they added.

SABOTEUR

She allegedly left South Africa in 1986 to undergo military training in the ANC's Pango Camp near Luanda in Angola. She then infiltrated South Africa as a trained saboteur of the Umkhonto we Sizwe, the ANC's military wing, security sources said.

Police said it was known that she was in South Africa in 1987 and 1988.

Sources said she had already come to the attention of police as far back as 1983 because of United Democratic Front (UDF) and other anti-apartheid activities before she was allegedly recruited by the ANC in Cape Town.

The former University of Cape Town student — she studied social work — has been romantically linked to prominent Cape Town anti-apartheid activist Mr Johnny Yssel.

Very little is known about the two alleged accomplices said to have helped her carry the explosives into Khotso House.

One is white and the other is coloured.

The white suspect is about 40 with black hair. He is about 1,59 m tall and of medium build. He was wearing a three-piece suit before the blast.

The coloured man is about 30 and about 1,78 m tall with a lean build. He was wearing a brown jacket.

Nine people injured in the Khotso House blast could also not be traced at addresses given to police.

A security guard present at the time is also being sought for questioning.

Those injured were: Ms Florence Marabi, Loca Phelise, Ms Constance Kubeka, Ms Maria Dlamini, Mr Vincent Mbeke, Mr Philemon Khanyile, Mr Victor Radebe, Mr Anthony Tollins and Mr Zulu Ndala.

The security guard is Mr Welcome Ntumba of 91 First Street, Kliptown.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Colonel Krappies Engelbrecht at (012) 310-1134.

Blasts: Police reply to SACC

Political Staff

The Ministry of Law and Order denied yesterday that it was withholding evidence on the bombings at Cosatu House and Khotso House.

Brigadier Leon Mellet, spokesman for Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok, was responding to a challenge by the South African Council of Churches to produce evidence in support of police "innuendos."

The SACC denied police statements that Khotso House had been visisted from time to time by trained ANC terrorists or that it had ever been used to construct or store bombs.

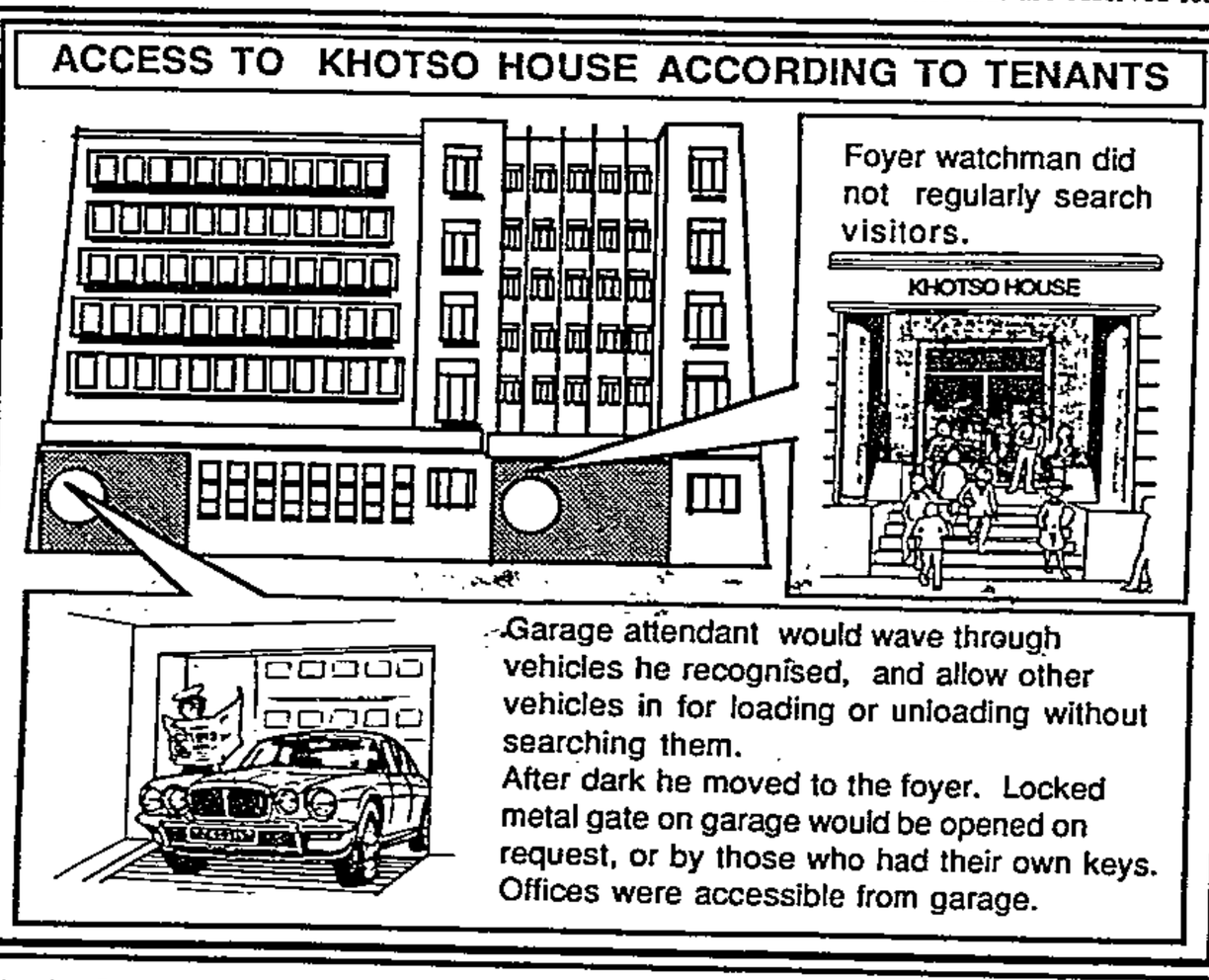
Brigadier Mellet said police never claimed they had all the evidence needed to solve the case.

answer he gave a recent interviewer: "I've been

But it is still diamonds that are reserved for the

handed over to an heir already revered in the dist— became the new chairman. But the close direct rain—

achievements.



Controversy over police assertions

(304) Star 12/1/87

By CLARE HARPER

The occupants of Khotso and Cosatu Houses both reject the police version of how the explosions occurred in their buildings.

Was entrance control at Khotso and Cosatu Houses so strict that only persons entitled to enter the building could do so?

According to the police it was.

However, former occupants of the building have a different version of Khotso House security.

Regional chairman of the Black Sash Mrs Ethel Walt said that although there was a watchman in the foyer of the building all day and night, he let everybody in.

She said access to the Black Sash offices had always been freely available.

Although at one stage visitors had to be "buzzed" through a door to reach the other organisations, this lapsed soon after it was introduced.

The basement garage, Mrs Walt said, was open all day and an attendant would signal you in if there was parking and wave you away if there was not.

The attendant might have allowed somebody access to the basement to just "drop something off" if the garage was full and he recognised them.

"At night the garage was closed with a metal gate, but the attendant (who sat in the foyer at night) would open it for you if he recognised you, or you could open it yourself if you had a key.".

She said that anybody who attempted to assemble a bomb or store explosives in the basement would have to have done so at great risk of being seen by the garage attendant and anybody driving into the basement, or anybody entering the basement from the lift, at any time.

Even at night there were people entering and leaving the building, she said.

The inference that the bombers must have been frequent visitors to Khotso House — and recognised by security staff — begged the question why they did not drive into the basement, she said.

Police surveillance

Occupants also pointed out that the building was under constant security police surveillance and was frequently "visited" by security police.

The bomb, which went off at about 1.20 am on August 31, exploded with such powerful force that it caused the collapse of the foyer and injured a security guard who fell into the gaping hole.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said three people arrived at Khotso house shortly before the explosion.

"These persons had a heavy, round case in their possession while one of the men apparently also had certain objects hidden on his person".

The damaged lid of a case was found among the rubble after the explosion. Police suspect that explosive was taken into Khotso House with the intention of constructing a car bomb which was to have been used elsewhere, but the bomb exploded prematurely.

They added that the organisations occupying the buildings had not been linked to the incidents.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) have also rejected Mr Vlok's statement that the union's Jeppe Street building was probably bombed by "frequent visitors" to the premises.

Police said control over entry into Cosatu House was manned on a 24-hour basis and it would have been "virtually impossible" for a stranger to enter the building unnoticed.

According to reports at the time of the bombing on May 7, 1987, a security guard in the control room at Cosatu House, Mr Stanley Khumalo, heard a loud bang at 1.45 am followed by another blast shortly afterwards.

Another security guard, Mr Monde Dyantyi, was on the tenth floor of the building when he heard footsteps. He reportedly fetched a colleague and they saw torchlight on the fifth floor, which should have been unoccupied at that time.

Mr Dyantyi also said he saw a beige kombi parked against the wall of the building.

A Cosatu spokesman rejected the police account, saying that Mr Vlok should have been aware that on the night before the bomb blast a hole was cut in the back fence and the building was broken into.

SA's sulphur fallout

Regulations put pressure

SACC service in support of 'Upington 25'

By Janet Heard

A service to express solidarity with the "Upington 25", who were convicted of murdering a policeman, has been organised by the South African Council of Churches in Paballello township, Upington, on Sunday.

The 25, three of them women, were found guilty in April last year of the murder of Constable Lucas Sethwala in November 1985.

Next month, lawyers will give evidence in mitigation of sentence.

Several of the 25 were convicted on the basis of "common purpose".

"The Upington case deserves even more attention (than the Sharpeville Six) because of the number of people involved, as well as the possible devastation 25 death sentences can have on morale in the platteland town" the SACC said in a statement.

Blast reports 'defamatory'

SACC may sue

Sowetan 12/11/89

(304)

THE South African Council of Churches said it regarded as defamatory the SABC's coverage on Tuesday night of statements made of the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok and police concerning the bombing last year of Khotso House, the SACC's Johannesburg headquarters.

SACC general secretary, Reverend Frank Chikane, said the organisation was taking legal advice over the matter.

Mr Chikane denied Mr Vlok's allegation that trained guerillas had visited Khotso House last year or that Khotso House had ever been used to store, construct, or transport bombs or explosives and rejected "with contempt any innuendo that explosives were openly brought into Khotso House, or that the SACC had ever participated in acts of violence.

"We object to the fact that Mr Vlok and the South African Police chose to make these contradictory statements public before disclosing or even discussing their findings with us, or our lawyers, despite the assistance given by us and our lawyers, and the regular contact our lawyers have had with the police."

He challenged Mr Vlok and the police to produce the "positive evidence" referred to by state-controlled SABC TV news on Tuesday and "to produce evidence in support of their statements and innuendos.

SABC

"We note that SABC TV, in their 'news' report, made no mention of General (Jaap) Joubert's statement that the organisations occupying Khotso House had not been linked to the explosion, but, rather chose to emphasise the contradictory innuendo that the SACC was in some manner responsible for the explosion.

"We have never doubted that the SACC or any other organisations and staff of Khotso

REV Frank Chikane.

House were not linked to the explosion in any manner whatsoever.

"It is our belief that the bomb was deliberately placed at Khotso House to destroy the building and thereby disrupt the work of the SACC and the other organisations."

Miss Gunn's mother, Mrs Audrey Gunn, said from Namibia on Tuesday that she "did not believe at all" the claims police were making about her daughter and the bombing of Khotso House.

As she spoke, the house was being raided by the security police.

"I believe this phone is tapped," she said later. "I am not prepared to speak about my daughter (Shirley) over the phone, I am not prepared to say a word. I'm sorry". — Sapa.

Stoffel warns 4 newspapers

Sowetan 12/11/89

THE MINISTER of Home Affairs and Communications, Stoffel Botha, yesterday served notifications in terms of the Media Emergency Regulations on the publishers of four newspapers — *Al-Qalam, Work in Progress, New Era* and *Grassroots.*

In a statement yesterday, Mr Botha said in his opinion reports in a specific series of these publications warranted examination to see if they contained repetitive, subversive propaganda.

They also contained numerous articles which may have the effect of promoting the public image or esteem of the ANC and/or the SA Communist Party, he said.

Mr Botha has given the publications two weeks to submit representations which he would study.

"The publishers of *Work in Progress, New Era* and *Grassroots* had previously been warned in the Government Gazette about the repetitive publication of subversive propaganda," the Minister said.

"If after the current examination, I should decide that action against any of these three publications is warranted, I shall have to consider the temporary suspension or pre-censorship of such publication or publications." — Sapa.

Hand over houses'

Sowetan 12/11/89

DAVEYTON township residents are to meet the council to demand that houses in the township built between 1958 and early 60s be handed over to their owners as they have paid up the building costs of those houses.

This was disclosed to the *Sowetan* yesterday by the leader of a delegation which presented a petition requesting the cancellation of a contract with a legal company in the area hired by the council, Mr Rhoo Hlatshwayo.

He said scores of residents, who are in financial difficulties, flocked to his home to thank him and urge him to continue his good work after he presented a petition signed by 371 residents to the council last week.

304

Churchmen

29/11/89 Sowetan

LONDON — A group of leading churchmen including SACC secretary general, the Rev Frank Chikane, convened here this week for a new round of pro-sanctions lobbying in the capitals of Europe.

One of the first stops for the eminent churchmen's group — an ad hoc body which campaigns for comprehensive mandatory sanctions — was the British Foreign Office for talks with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

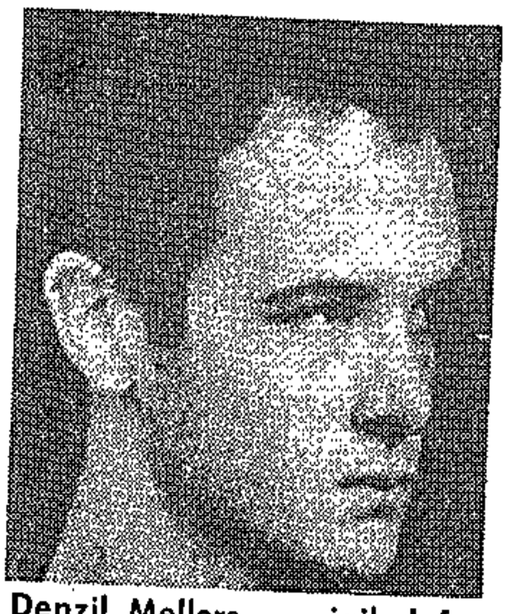
uary 27 1989

'Wanted his views publicised'

Mellors jailed for kidnapping SACC woman

Star 27/1/89

304



Denzil Mellors . . . jailed for five years.

By Celeste Louw

Denzil Bruce Mellors (19) had gone to Khotso House, where a South African Council of Churches (SACC) employee was kidnapped, to draw attention to his viewpoints, a Johannesburg magistrate found yesterday when he sentenced Mellors to an effective five years' jail.

Mellors, a former prison warden, of Hewitt Road in Brakpan North, was found guilty on charges of kidnapping, making a false bomb threat, theft of a firearm and illegally possessing ammunition.

The magistrate, Mr P du Plessis, found that Mellors had gone to Khotso House on April 11 last year where he held Miss Beverley Fasser, an SACC secretary, hostage for more than two hours.

Mr du Plessis rejected Mellors's claim that he had gone to the SACC just to ask questions about the view of the Methodist Church on conscription.

"You had reasons for going to Khotso House. You wanted to draw public attention to your standpoints," Mr du Plessis said.

The court heard that Mellors had realised that some church groups were sympathetic towards the ANC and the Freedom Charter.

Mellors said he had taken out his gun because he wanted to ask questions about communism, but he was scared because people knew that he had previously assisted the police.

"People must be deterred from demonstrations of this nature, whatever the cause may be," Mr du Plessis said.

Bishops anounce: We'll defy the new funding rules

By VUSI GUNENE

THE Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC) has decided to defy a proposed foreign funding Bill if it is passed by parliament.

The proposed Bill will regulate the disclosure of funds from outside South Africa by designated organisations or individuals.

An official, known as the Registrar of Reporting Organisations and Persons, will be appointed by the minister of justice to police the Act.

At a press conference yesterday after its week-long plenary session, the SACBC said the Bill would "mean that the state could dictate to the church what it could or could not do".

The plenary session is an annual meeting of diocesan bishops and their auxiliaries to discuss matters pertaining to the Catholic Church in Southern Africa.

The conference said: "We want to record publicly our complete opposition to this proposed legislation, and we call upon all people who have freedom of religion at heart to join us in making this opposition known, and to see to it that it does not become law in our country."

The conference was opened by Archbishop Ambrose di Paoli, the Apostolic Delegate for Southern Africa, who urged the bishops "not to be silent spectators where a denial of fundamental human rights is concerned".

The president of the SACBC, Bishop Wilfred Napier, spoke of the deepening crisis in the country in his opening address.

This was reflected in the state attack on the Catholic-owned *New Nation*, which Napier said served as an outlet for the thoughts and experiences, frustrations and aspirations of the voiceless.

The conference resolved to stand firmly behind the *New Nation*, despite state attacks and media restrictions directed at it and similar publications.

Noting the release and restriction of *New Nation* editor Zwelakhe Sisulu and Eric Molobi, co-ordinator of the SACBC/SACC joint enrichment project, and the recent move of ANC leader Nelson Mandela to a house on prison property in Paarl, Napier said "these acts of 'generosity' are cruel and cynical, as they simply change the nature and location of incarceration".

Napier said the attacks on church leaders by the state over the past year had created the climate for the attacks on the South African Council of Churches headquarters, Khotso House, and the SACBC's Khanya House in Pretoria.

Churches act against apartheid

Eminent clergy to urge much tougher sanctions against South Africa

By LULAMA LUTI

FOR the first time in its history the World Council of Churches has assembled a group to mobilise international efforts towards the imposition of comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa.

The Eminent Church Persons' Group – whose members include former Zimbabwean president, Rev Canaan Banana, former South African Council of Churches secretary general, Beyers Naude and current SACC secretary general Rev Frank Chikane – will visit the United Kingdom, France, West Germany, Japan, Switzerland, the United States and the other countries in the European Community.

These countries have been chosen because of their "fairly high" economic ties with South Africa. The delegation is scheduled to meet influential politicians and other people who can "help shift national policies towards the imposition and application of comprehensive, tighter and ultimately more effective, economic sanctions against South Africa".

For the past 20 years, the WCC has sought to educate and mobilise the international church community against apartheid and white minority rule in the Southern African region. At the Fourth General Assembly in 1968 WCC delegates decided that all investments in "institutions that perpetuate racism" should be terminated.

Dr Beyers Naude

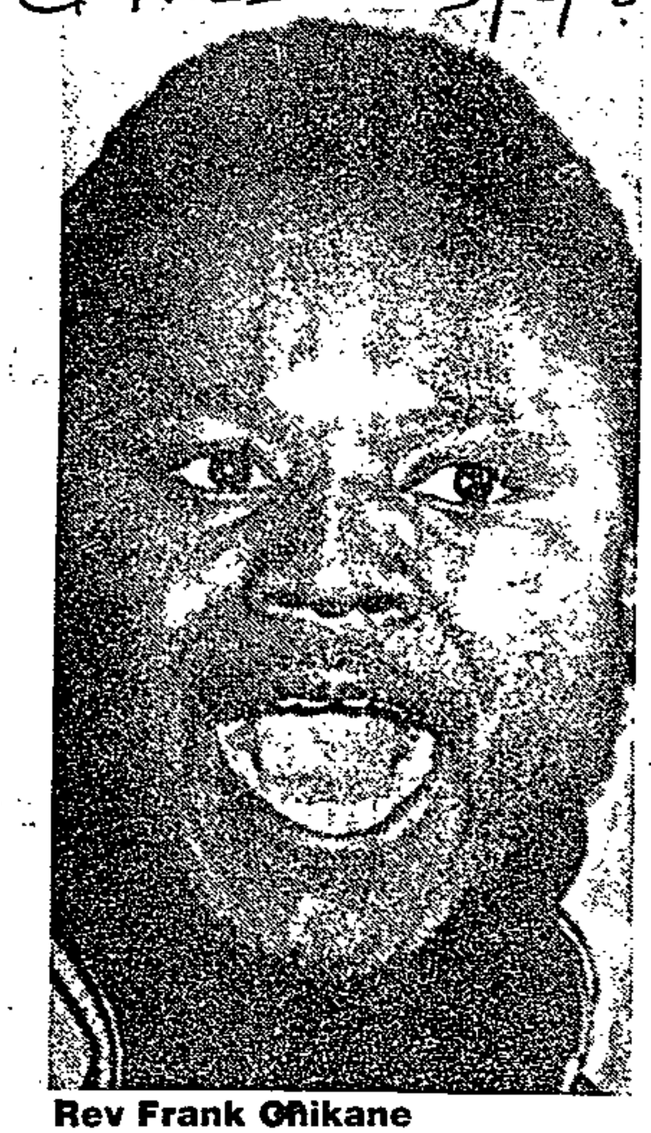
Endorsing the 1968 resolutions in 1976, the WCC called on all member churches, Christian agencies and individual Christians outside South Africa, to use all their influence – including stockbroker action and disinvestment – against those countries.

In Lusaka in May 1987, 250 church leaders from around the world called for the setting up of an Eminent Church Persons' Group to visit specific nations with strong economic ties with South Africa. The meeting emphasised the urgency of such a mission on the grounds of:

- The deteriorating political situation in South Africa.
- The denial of human rights in South Africa and the perpetuation of the "apartheid reign of terror".
- The "intransigence and unwillingness of the government in South Africa to abolish apartheid, which is a monstrous system characterised by the international community as a crime against humanity and which has caused incalculable losses of life and property both inside and outside South Africa itself".
- The "recognition that apartheid is the main cause of the present conflicts in the whole of Southern Africa, conflicts which have resulted in the sad and tragic murders and mutilations of innocent civilians in the Frontline States".

The WCC said it recognised that, in its attempts to defend itself, the government had caused havoc to the economies of other countries in Southern Africa and therefore to the lives of thousands of people by its well-orchestrated policy of destabilisation.

Said the WCC: "Churches have a moral responsibility to do everything possible to end apartheid as a reponse to the Gospel imperative.



Rev Frank Chikane

"Apartheid has caused misery, suffering, pain and death for the people of South Africa and the neighbouring states. The system cannot be reformed, and we cannot wait."

The WCC said it was aware of the many efforts made in the past to confront and abolish apartheid, particularly the Commonwealth Eminent Persons' Group's mission to South Africa.

"We believe the primary source of the violence in South Africa is the apartheid system. The violence has now gone beyond the borders of South Africa and is expressed in the form of aggressive destabilisation policies towards the Frontline States.

"Unless concerted action is taken, in the words of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons' Group, there 'could be the worst bloodbath since the Second World War'. To avert that bloodbath, we need to create the necessary conditions to bring the South African government to the negotiating table with the legitimate and authentic leadership of the people of South Africa. This is the reponsibility of individuals, churches and nations.

"We believe that for this to happen it is essential to create a balance of power within the country so that the government will not be able to continue its State terrorism against the oppressed majority which incurs enormous costs, politically, economically and in terms of human life. There must be no option for the South African government but to enter genuine negotiations," said the WCC.

SACBC rebuilds offices

By SOL MORATHI

THE Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference has announced it will rebuild its Khanya House headquarters in Pretoria, gutted by fire last October.

The decision was taken at the annual plenary session of the SACBC held in Waterkloof, Pretoria, this week.

Three months after the arson attack police said a prime suspect was self-confessed member of the ultra right-wing White Wolves, Barend Strydom, also accused of killing seven people and wounding others in a shooting spree last year.

Police also conceded that weapons found at Khanya House after the fire were probably planted by those responsible for the fire.

SACBC secretary-general Father Jude Pieterse told newsmen yesterday the conference would return to Khanya House after extensive renovations were made to the damaged building.

He said the SACBC would stand behind its newspaper, *New Nation*, which was suspended for three months last year.

Delegate detained

Sowetan 15/2/89

THE delegation dealing with the rent crisis in Soweto was seriously disturbed and concerned about the detention of Mr Nat Ramokgopa on Sunday, the South African Council of Churches said yesterday.

"Nat was crucial in facilitating consultations with the community and for co-ordinating the research process for the Soweto delegation," the SACC said in a statement. (304)

"We are concerned that this action by the police is a direct interference in the negotiation process to end the rent crisis in Soweto.

"We appeal to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Vlok, to intervene in this matter and release Mr Ramokgopa for the sake of a peaceful solution of the Soweto rent crisis," the statement concluded. — Sapa.

SACC urges suspension of hunger strike

THE South African Council of Churches will request that those hunger striking detainees in a critical condition suspend their fast until after church leaders had consulted with Law and Order Minister, Mr Adriaan Vlok, today.

SACC secretary general, the Reverend Frank Chikane, yesterday said at a Press conference in Johannesburg that church leaders, including himself, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Allan Boesak would put it to Mr Vlok that the only solution to the detainee hunger strike crisis would be to release them.

"We are concerned that detainees who are now on the 23rd day of the hunger strike are entering a critical phase in which their health could be permanently damaged," Mr Chikane said.

"Among these are many youthful detainees who may never recover unless a resolution is immediately found to the problem."

He said the SACC urged detainees in hospital and at Diepkloof Prison, "who are already in the danger zone" to suspend their hunger strike while church leaders, lawyers, community leaders and the public attempted to resolve the problem.

"We are not asking them to end the hunger strike, only to suspend their action." — Sapa.

SACC to send team to Namibia

Staff Reporter

The South African Council of Churches is to send a team of experts to observe the independence elections in Namibia, the council announced yesterday.

An SACC statement said its executive committee, noting factors like the reduction of the Untag force and "the use by South Africa of its army and police force in campaigning against Swapo", had resolved to support the Namibian Council of Churches by sending the delegation.

"The executive resolved to provide whatever help it can to the Namibian churches as they deal with the problem of reintegrating refugees into the population," the statement said.

SACC's appeal on Winnie furore

304
16-22/2/89.
South

THE South African Council of Churches (SACC) has expressed its concern at events surrounding Mrs Winnie Mandela and the "so-called Mandela Football Club".

"Being aware of the explosive situation and the potential loss of lives, the SACC executive calls on the community and all parties involved in this conflict to exercise extreme humaneness and restraint in the present situation.

"The church regards life as given by God and therefore as Christians we uphold the sanctity of life," the SACC said in a statement.

Mrs Mandela and her daughter Zinzi visited ANC leader Nelson Mandela at his "house" at the Victor Verster prison near Paarl on Wednesday.

Sources close to the family indicated that Mrs Mandela, after discussions with her husband, would not be making any statements on the controversy surrounding the "Football Club".

Members of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad stopped a kombi in which Mrs Mandela was travelling and briefly held a young man.

Mrs Mandela was on her way to her Soweto home after arriving from Cape Town.

After stopping the combi between the airport and Johannesburg, the police allowed Mrs Mandela to go home but ordered the driver of the combi to drive to a police station where he was questioned.

Police have confirmed the incident and said they took the man for identification.

The police would not confirm that their action was related to the controversy surrounding the death of young Tumahole activist, Stompie Moeketsi, 14, allegedly abducted by the soccer team.

The police have identified the body found in Soweto on January 7 as that of Stompie.

• **Picture page 3**

Winnie: More violence feared

CAPE Times 16/2/89

304

Talks lead to freedom for detainees

CAPE Times 16/2/89

ABOUT 100 of South Africa's roughly 800 emergency detainees are likely to be released soon following two days of intensive consultations between lawyers and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

More releases could follow as a result of an undertaking by Mr Vlok to look into the detailed circumstances of all those emergency detainees who do not have legal representation.

Sources close to the talks described them as "a triumph" for all concerned and it is reliably understood that the vast majority of detainees whose cases were discussed would be released in the next few days.

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has meanwhile called on hunger-striking detainees in [illegible] to end their fast.

It said all seven were recovering from the effects of the hunger strike and were able to walk around the hospital ward. It was not immediately clear why they had decided to end their fast.

At least 13 other hunger strikers have been admitted to hospitals suffering from giddiness, failing eyesight, severe weight loss and dehydration.

Lawyers attending the talks with Mr Vlok have described them as "useful" and noted that it was clear that the minister was carefully assessing the situation of all detainees.

A spokesman for Mr Vlok said last night that the minister had met detainees' legal representatives for the second day running for detailed discussions in which the situation of "each and every individual case" was considered.

CHURCH leaders fearing a community backlash yesterday warned of a "potential loss of life" over the escalating Mandela United Soccer Club affair.

The warning topped a day of drama which earlier saw Mrs Winnie Mandela's driver briefly held by police investigating two murders linked to the soccer club.

And police echoed the clerics' warnings, saying they had positively identified the hacked body of one of the Mandela United Soccer Club members and that the lives of several other people are in danger.

In quick succession yesterday:

- Police announced that they had identified the bodies of 14-year-old missing activist Stompie Moeketsi Seipie and 19-year-old soccer team member Zondile Maxwell Madondo.
- Mrs Mandela made a whirlwind visit to Cape Town with her daughter Zinzi and held two 40-minute meetings with her jailed husband Mr Nelson Mandela in his Victor Verster Prison home. It is believed they discussed growing township and ANC resentments about alleged misbehaviour of her bodyguard "soccer club".
- Mrs Mandela returned to Johannesburg, declining to comment on her meeting with her husband, but was stopped by police on her way to Soweto and her driver was arrested.

Police said they held the driver for questioning — apparently in connec-

...phone. It is believed they discussed growing township and ANC resentments about alleged misbehaviour of her bodyguard "soccer club".

● Mrs Mandela returned to Johannesburg, declining to comment on her meeting with her husband, but was stopped by police on her way to Soweto and her driver was arrested.

Police said they held the driver for questioning — apparently in connection with Stompie's death — and impounded the van he was driving "for examination purposes". He was later released.

● The SA Council of Churches made an urgent appeal for calm amid fears of escalating violence in Soweto where civic leaders attempted to resolve community complaints over the activities of Mrs Mandela's bodyguards.

In a significant announcement, SACC secretary-general the Rev Frank Chikane said a two-day meeting of the executive committee had "noted with concern the events surrounding Mrs Winnie Mandela and the so-called Mandela football club.

"Being aware of the explosive situation and the potential loss of lives, the SACC executive calls upon the community and all parties involved in this conflict to exercise extreme restraint," he said.

The SACC was concerned that lives could be lost in consequent community actions, he said.

Earlier, police investigating Stompie's disappearance said they had identified the decomposed body found in Soweto on January 6 as that of the youth, one of the four youths allegedly abducted on December 29 from a Soweto Methodist church by members of the soccer club.

A post-mortem indicated that Stompie — said to have "commanded" a 1 500-strong "children's army" during the 1984-86 riots — had been brutally beaten but that death was caused by the slashing of his jugular veins.

Police confirmed that they had formally opened a murder investigation.

Major-General Jaap Joubert, appointed by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, to investigate Stompie's disappearance and allegations of misconduct against the soccer club, said a fingerprint test done in Pretoria laboratories proved conclusively that the body was Stompie's.

The corpse's fingerprints were compared to those on police records from a pending charge against Stompie.

The young activist was to have appeared in Parys on February 22 on a charge that he incited people to boycott the municipal elections.

To page 3

From page 1

Police also said they had positively identified a hacked body found in Soweto this week as that of soccer club member Mr Zondile Madondo and warned that the "lives of several (other) people are in danger".

Meanwhile, Mrs Mandela and her daughter Zinzi had flown to Cape Town where they were met at D F Malan Airport by local and foreign media representatives, as well as the Mandela family's Cape Town legal representative, Mr Essa Moosa, and Mrs Farieda Omar, wife of local advocate Mr Dullah Omar.

Mrs Mandela spent 80 minutes with her husband but emerged tight-lipped from Victor Verster Prison and ignored media questions.

After returning to Johannesburg, Mrs Mandela was was stopped by police about a kilometre from Jan Smuts Airport.

Police said last night that Mrs Mandela's car was impounded "for examination purposes" in connection with the Stompie affair. "Mrs Mandela was immediately allowed to proceed to her residence," they said. — Staff Reporter and Own Correspondent with Sapa and UPI

...tures in the Cape Times

Star 11/3/89

NATIONAL DETAINEES DAY

12 MARCH 1989

CHURCHES IN SOLIDARITY WITH DETAINEES

In recent weeks detainees throughout the country have taken the sacrificial action of a hunger strike to draw the attention of the world to their plight. The action is not only an indictment against the evil system that produces detention but also against those of us who have gone on with our lives as if nothing was happening.

EXPRESS **YOUR** SOLIDARITY WITH DETAINEES AND THEIR FAMILIES:

1. Focus or organise worship services on the plight of detainees on 12 March 1989.
2. Light candles between 7 pm and 8 pm in your home on 12 March 1989.
3. Ring church bells for 5 minutes at 6.30 in the morning and in the evening on Sunday 12 March 1989.
4. Remember detainees in your area by name during intercessionary prayers at normal services at your local church.
5. Participate in vigils and fasts which will be held in solidarity with the detainees.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE VENUES ON SUNDAY 12 MARCH 1989

JOHANNESBURG: Regina Mundi, Soweto — 2 pm
Rev Lionel Louw, Bishop Buchanan, Bishop Xulu, Bishop Mvemve.

PRETORIA: St Alban's Cathedral — 2 pm
Rev Frank Chikane, Bishop Daniels.

VAAL: Roman Catholic Church, Sharpeville — 2 pm
Sr Bernard Ncube, Rev Mtimkulu.

RIVERLEA: Riverlea Methodist Church — 2 pm
Beyers Naude, Rev D Matthews.

BLOEMFONTEIN: St Thomas Methodist Church, Rocklands — 2 pm
Rev T Senokoene.

Issued by the SA Council of Churches and the SA Catholic Bishops' Conference.

0573403

Khotso House bomb poser

Sowetan 21/5/89

ALTHOUGH the police had said they were investigating several possibilities with regard to the bombing of Khotso House in Johannesburg, the only one that the Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok had chosen to reveal was the one that put the Khotso House community under suspicion, the South African Council of Churches claims.

It said the announcement by Mr Vlok in Parliament last week, that the identity document of a Mr Mabodja who was allegedly linked to a limpet mine incident, was calculated to support "the strange and unsubstantiated police claim that the occupants of Khotso House accidentally blew up their own building."

Conviction

The SACC said in a statement that the announcement "has served to strengthen our conviction, borne out of the general attitude of the authorities, that we should not expect justice from the Ministry of Law and Order in this issue.

"Although the police have said that they were investigating several possibilities with regard to the bombing of Khotso House the only one that Minister Vlok has chosen to reveal is the one that puts the Khotso house community under suspecion.

"We believe that the police are not investigating any other possibility. That belief is based on the fact that the police have not been in touch witi. the victims of that horrible bomb blast.

Black Sash

"It was probable that Mr Vlok was informed "of the fact that the Black Sash office, which dealt with pass related complaints was on the first floor of Khotso House.

"The force of the Khotso bomb scattered files around the building including reference books of hundreds of other people who had been or were being assisted by the Black Sash.

"Therefore, the fact that someone's reference book may have been found in the basement of Khotso House is of no consequence.

"The Minister's insinuations are, therefore, baseless and are actuated by a desire to get political capital out of a tragic act," the statement said. — Sapa.

Chikane may be blocked by illness

SERIOUS illness may prevent the Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, from seeing US President George Bush with three other South African church leaders later this week, the SACC said in a statement yesterday.

Chikane, who is already in the United States, is suffering from suspected pancreatitis.

Three weeks ago Chikane had to cut short a tour of northern Namibia because of a serious stomach problem. He had to be flown to Johannesburg where he received treatment in a clinic for about a week.

Chikane's present illness may also prevent him from honouring other appointments in South Africa at the end of this month and in Germany early next month.— Sapa.

304

SRC TWO 'SIGNED AS INFORMERS'

TWO members of the Students Representative Council of the University of the North were allegedly questioned by security police and made to sign a declaration in which they acknowledged that they were police informers.

By MATHATHA TSEDU

This is contained in a circular issued to all students by the SRC on Monday. The circular says that SRC president Mr Ernest Khoza and Mr Victor Kgomoeswana, a correspondence secretary were visited by four members of the security police in a dawn raid on Monday.

A statement issued by the South African Council of Churches yesterday condemned the police action which they claim is aimed at scuttling their mission to Turfloop.

The SACC said Mr Ernest Khoza, SRC president at the University of the North, was threatened with death in an early morning raid at the University of the North this week.

Mr Khosa was told that if he continues with his activities he would go the same way as David Webster.

Mr Khoza and another SRC member, Mr Victor Kgomoeswana, were raided in their rooms by four people, two of whom they recognised as Sgt Lawrence and Constable Geyser.

The two student leaders were told that the church/community delegation that met the management of the University of the North on April 21 1989 included people who have links with the ANC.

They were told that the delegation was unacceptable. The term of the SRC, the students were told, could be terminated at any time. Mr Khoza and Mr Kgomoeswane were made to write and sign their names, under duress, on a form whose contents they could not see because they were covered.

After signing the form the contents were read to them. They were shocked to hear that they had signed a form that set out their agreement to being police informers. The students fear that the form is going to be used in attempts to discredit the SRC leadership.

In response to the allegations a police spokesman said:

We reject as false the allegations contained in your telex and which were allegedly made by or on behalf of Mr E Khoza and Mr M V Kgomoeswana.

The persons concerned were neither threatened nor forced to sign any declaration as mentioned in your telex.

However, should either one of them feel that he has a legitimate complaint against any member or members of the SAP, he should lodge his complaint with the police (by way of written affidavit) through any one of the existing recognised channels in order that the matter be thoroughly investigated.

Fort Hare principal replies

STUDENTS at the University of Fort Hare had not "pleaded" with fellow students writing a test last Tuesday — they had stormed in and ripped up the exam papers, the university's vice-chancellor, Professor J Lamprecht, said yesterday.

Lamprecht was commenting on student claims that teargas was fired at them after they had pleaded with 3 students to stop writing a geography test.

He said that the test was at 2pm, and not in the evening as reported, and that about 50 men "stormed into the classroom and tore up the examination scripts, question papers and maps as well as the attendance register."

Prof Lamprecht was earlier reported as saying that no more than six policemen had arrived, and that some shots had been fired into the air.

Students claimed that they were fired at, and that eight had been injured.

'MEDUNSA STUDENTS NOT

Sd Times 28/5/89

Outcry set to follow death for 14

By HAMISH McINDOE

THE 14 death sentences handed down in the Upington murder trial are set to unleash a storm of international protest similar to the furore over the "Sharpeville Six".

The 14 were sentenced by Mr Justice J J Basson in the circuit court at Upington on Friday for their part in the mob killing of a black policeman during township violence in 1985.

As with the Sharpeville Six, the Upington trialists were convicted on the doctrine of "common purpose".

Extenuating circumstances were found in the case of the other 10 accused. They are due to be sentenced tomorrow.

Another accused, Enoch Mopondwana, 30, was convicted of attempted murder and he will also be sentenced tomorrow.

Hang

The South African Council of Churches, which groups Anglican and Methodist churches, yesterday described the Upington sentences as an outrage "that only the apartheid system can produce".

Lawyers said it was the biggest single group sentenced to hang for a crime in recent South African history.

In its statement, the SACC said: "The church believes that all life is God-given and should not be taken away, even by judicial means.

"South Africa cannot afford to hang her citizens at the rate at which hangings are presently taking place."

The national director of Lawyers for Human Rights, Mr Brian Currin, repeated his call to Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee to hold a commission of inquiry into capital punishment.

Star 5/6/89 304

Mid-winter evictions in townships

Removals calculated for cruelty SACC

By Junior Motsei

The crackdown on rent defaulters at Daveyton and the demolition of shacks at Protea South in Soweto last week was calculated to achieve maximum cruelty and hardship, according to the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

At least nine families were left out in the cold by the Daveyton Town Council when evictions were carried out by municipal police. This followed a court order to the council in August last year to eject residents in rent arrears.

And 36 shacks were pulled down at Protea South by the Soweto City Council employees, accompanied by armed municipal police. The decision to demolish those shacks followed a resolution passed at the council's executive committee meeting last Monday.

Ms Brigalia Bam, deputy general secretary of the SACC, said: "The demolition of shacks and the evictions happened during the coldest nights of winter. This is the height of mercilessness. We continue to oppose all forms of forced removal. This is unspeakable inhumanity."

Ms Bam appealed for Government intervention. "We call upon the Government to exercise Christian charity and to ensure that these people are not left destitute and without shelter. In the name of God, we implore for the stoppage of forced removals," she said.

'Real savagery'

Community leader Dr Nthato Motlana, who had just arrived in the country fom New York, also appealed to the Government to step in. "May the Government do something about this barbaric act," he said."How can people be harassed like this in the middle of winter. This is real savagery. Sufficient land should be provided for people."

It was reported in a daily morning newspaper that evictions in Daveyton have started rows between house-owners and and their backyard shack tenants who were evicted.

The mayor of Daveyton, Mr Shadrack Sinaba, refused to comment, saying he had to get the feedback from the department concerned with evictions.

At Protea South, the people claimed they had been given permission by the Sofasonke Party Councillor, Mr Zakhele Twala, to erect shacks there.

Mr Jabu Mguni, the deputy chairman of Soweto City Council, said Mr Twala would be called before the disciplinary committee of the council to explain why he gave people per mission to erect the shacks.

Families have been sleeping in the open since the demolition of shacks and they said they had nowhere to go. They said they were surprised at the demolitions because they had paid Mr Twala the money he asked for.

Tests will show if Chikane is being poisoned – US doctor

The Rev Frank Chikane.

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Medical experts in the United States are conducting tests to establish whether poison is causing the repeated spells of acute illness suffered by South African Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane.

Mr Chikane has been admitted to hospital four times in the last six weeks following what he describes as "strange episodes of sudden illness that were completely new to me".

The clinical and laboratory evidence gathered to date has been described by his doctor as "very suggestive" of the presence of a toxin absorbed by skin contact or inhalation.

Mr Chikane is presently in Madison in the United States where he is under the care of Dr Daniel Smith, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin Medical School.

Dr Smith states that an extensive medical evaluation during the third of Mr Chikane's attacks revealed "except during the acute illness that the Rev Chikane is in excellent physical health".

Dr Smith says: "The clinical syndrome and metabolic abnormalities noted on laboratory testing were all consistent with exposure to organophosphate anticholinesterase or a pharmacologically similar compound."

The low levels of the enzyme cholinesterase in Mr Chikane's blood tended to confirm the presence of suspect toxin, Dr Smith said.

Mr Chikane has been travelling beyond South Africa's borders during all four attacks.

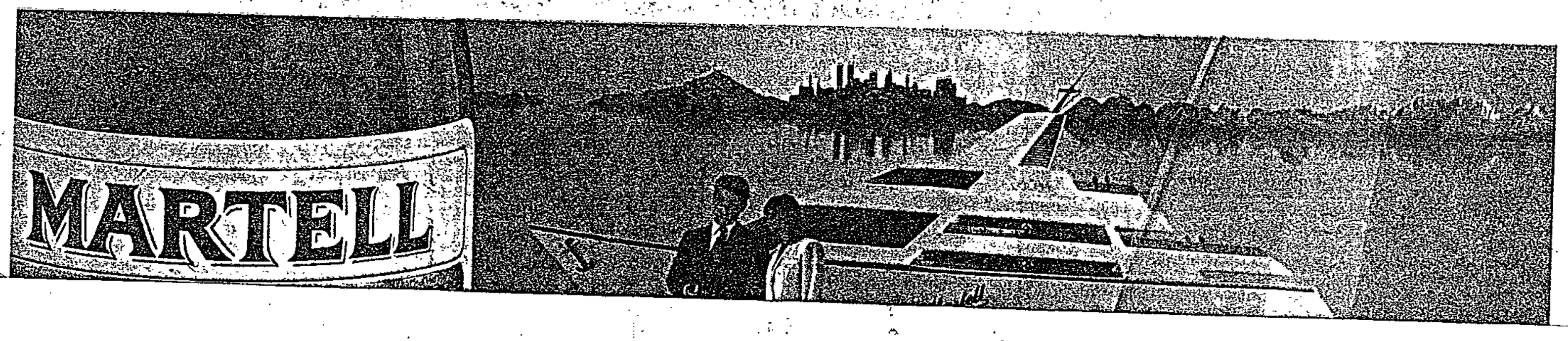
The first occurred during a trip to Namibia in late April when he was scheduled to meet top United Nations representatives.

The next attack occurred within 24 hours of his departure on May 10 to the United States as part of a group of church leaders scheduled to meet President Bush. His illness prevented him from meeting the president. He has had two further attacks since then, both in the United States.

Mr Chikane says the symptoms were similar on the four occasions but varied in intensity.

"I felt nauseous, I started sweating, salivating and vomited. My body started shaking and twitching. I could hardly walk or turn my body when in a sleeping position."

Mr Chikane says his baggage appears to be the only common denominator in all episodes.



Was Chikane poisoned?

304

MEDICAL experts in the United States are conducting tests to establish whether poison is causing the repeated spells of acute illness suffered by South African Council of Churches general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane.

Chikane has been admitted to hospital four times in the last six weeks following what he describes as "strange episodes of sudden illness that was completely new to me."

The clinical and laboratory evidence gathered to date has been described by his doctor as "very suggestive" of the presence of a toxin absorbed by skin contact or inhalation.

Chikane is presently in Madison in the United States where he is under the care of Dr Daniel Smith, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Wisconsin Medical School.

Smith states that an extensive medical

SOWETAN Correspondent

evaluation during the third of Chikane's attacks revealed "that except during the acute illness that the Reverend Chikane is in excellent physical health."

Toxins

Smith further states: "The clinical syndrome and metabolic abnormalities noted on laboratory testing were all consistent with exposure to organophosphate and anticholinesterase or a pharmamacologically similar compound."

Chikane has been travelling beyond South Africa's borders during all four attacks.

The first occurred during a trip to Namibia in late April when he was scheduled to meet top United Nations representatives.

The next attack occurred within 24-hours of his departure on May 10 to the United States as part of a group of church leaders scheduled to meet President Bush. His illness prevented him from meeting the president. He has had two further attacks since then, both in the United States.

Chikane says the symptoms were similar on the four occasions but varied in intensity. "I felt nauseous, I started sweating, salivating and vomited. My body started shaking and twitching. I could hardly walk or turn my body when in a sleeping position."

SAP vow on Chikane poison claim

Star 10/6/89.

POLICE yesterday promised to investigate the suspected poisoning of the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, if a statement is submitted to them.

"The matter has so far only been reported in the press. We cannot investigate or open a docket on the incident unless we receive a statement from the Rev Chikane," said police liaison officer Colonel V Heyns.

Mr Chikane, at present visiting the United States, was at first believed to be suffering from inflamation of the pancreas. He has

PAT DEVEREAUX

collapsed four times in the past six weeks.

The first attack was on April 23 on a trip to Namibia, said Mr Chikane in a statement. "In all four episodes I felt nauseous, started sweating, salivating, and vomited. My body started shaking. My vision became blurred."

He was admitted to hospital. Medical experts in the US have confirmed that the symptoms are consistent with "organophosphate anticholinesterase" poisoning, which is found in agricultural insecticides.

304

At a press conference yesterday, South African Council of Churches executive committee member Dr. Allan Boesak, who returned this week from the US, said medical evidence showed that Mr Chikane had been "deliberately" poisoned.

He said it was a sophisticated attempt (on Mr Chikane's life).

Now out of hospital, Mr Chikane is under the care of a US doctor.

Johannesburg poison expert Dr P Catzel yesterday said Mr Chikane could be suffering from an agricultural poison which is freely available in South Africa.

The killer in your cupboard!

S/Times 11/6/89.

304

Pesticide is suspected in Chikane 'death plot'

THE killer poison suspected to have been used in an attempt to murder the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SA Council of Churches, can be bought over the counter in South Africa.

It is found in a wide variety of household products — including dog shampoo and flea powder.

These products contain anticholinesterase, an organophosphate, which can be lethal if inhaled, swallowed or absorbed through the skin in sufficient quantities.

Leading Johannesburg toxicologists said yesterday that the poison inhibited the enzyme cholinesterase and lowered the blood cell count, giving rise to symptoms similar to those exhibited by Mr Chikane.

FRANK CHIKANE

By MANDLA TYALA

"Labels on dog shampoos warn pet owners to wear gloves and wash the dog off immediately after shampooing it," said one toxicologist.

"But pet products contain the organophosphate only in very small quantities.

"More lethal levels can be found in a chemical used to spray vines. I have seen a man die after taking a teaspoonful of it to avoid going to work," he said.

Mr Chikane became seriously ill in the Unites States after coming into contact with the toxic pesticide which, his associates believe, was placed in his baggage before he left South Africa.

He is now being treated at the University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison.

Mr Chikane arrived in the US on May 11 for a meeting with President George Bush, but fell ill the next day. Doctors believe the poison was absorbed through his skin after he put on a change of clothes from his suitcase.

The cleric suffered a similar illness in April while visiting Namibia with an SACC delegation. He was rushed to hospital when he started vomiting and had to remain there four days.

When Mr Chikane again fell ill in the US, the symptoms were even worse.

Although his condition improved temporarily on three occasions, each time he had to be rushed back to hospital when he lost consciousness.

Two South African toxicologists agree with doctors treating Mr Chikane in the US that the symptoms pointed to organophosphate poisoning.

Said one: "We don't have all the facts, but it is difficult to see how Mr Chikane could have come into contact with the substance.

"If it was in powder form, he would have seen it on his clothes. If it was in liquid form then he would have smelt it — the substance is usually mixed with a volatile petrol-like substance that gives off an awful smell."

A special test is likely to be ordered to prove whether Mr Chikane was poisoned by the substance.

Some church leaders suspect that the failed attempt on Mr Chikane's life may have been part of an escalating campaign against high-profile critics of apartheid.

Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, said this week that anti-apartheid activists — already the targets of gunmen and bombers — now had to look out for "more subtle dangers".

SACC president Dr Manas Buthelezi said his staff initially attributed Mr Chikane's mysterious illness to stress and overwork.

Frightening

"But by a process of elimination and controlled observation, his clothing has been identified as the source of the toxin. The questions and implications this raises are both frightening and disturbing," said Dr Buthelezi.

"In the absence of proof, we are not in a position to level accusations.

"However, against a background of escalating attacks on churches that continue to fight for justice and truth, we are entitled to question the validity of accidental contamination and to ask instead whether it was not a deliberate attempt to assassinate our general secretary."

● Patricia Cheney reports from Washington that one of the world's leading toxicologists doubts that Mr Chikane could have been poisoned by clothes contaminated with a toxic pesticide.

Professor A Heyndrickx, of Ghent University in Belgium said toxins were generally "quite volatile" and thus evaporated quickly.

Women flee city flatland in fear of burglars and rapists

Chikane home as U.S. drops poison probe

S/Times 18/6/89

304

By MANDLA TYALA and PATRICIA CHENEY

THE Rev Frank Chikane, secretary-general of the SA Council of Churches, arrives today from America where he was hospitalised after allegedly being poisoned with what is thought to be a lethal pesticide.

Mr Chikane is expected to answer questions about the episode at a Press conference tomorrow.

The U.S.investigation into the alleged poisoning has ground to a halt, with further tests on his clothing coming up negative.

"We haven't been able to find any evidence of poisonous substances," Mr Ralph Hanson, chief of campus police at the University of Wisconsin said on Friday.

"We can't go any further unless we find some evidence of a crime," he added.

The FBI has refused to take up the investigation.

Speculation

Analysis of Chikane's urine confirmed this week that he had been exposed to organophosphate anti-cholinesterase compounds — substances also found in nerve gas.

The chemical, p-nitrophenol, a breakdown product of the compounds, was found in the urine.

One theory is that the anti-apartheid activist might have come into contact with the poison while travelling in Namibia, and for the next six weeks carried minute quantitites of it on his skin.

Chikane became ill four times with classic symptoms of nerve gas poisoning, almost dying last month in Wisconsin.

While the substance in question evaporates quickly, it can remain on the skin, for example under the fingernails, for extended periods of time, despite frequent washing.

Poisoning of Chikane: still no answers

SOUTH African Council of Churches general secretary Rev Frank Chikane, whom doctors say was the victim of poisoning, is to return to South Africa in a few days.

According to his physician at the University of Wisconsin Hospital, the church leader is in excellent health.

Final tests conducted on Chikane in the United States show that his urine contained large quantities of P-nitrophenol, suggesting that he had been exposed to a toxic organophosphate.

There is still no clarity as to whether anyone was responsible for poisoning the anti-apartheid church leader.

Police in the US this week took all the items Chikane brought with him from South Africa for further tests.

● Chikane has been awarded an honorary doctorate in theology by the Groningen State University, in the Netherlands.

The award was in recognition of his spiritual leadership and work at the Institute for Contextual Theology in Johannesburg.

The citation refers to "his practice of theology, which seeks to interpret the contradicting forces and motives in a conflict-ridden society".

Upington 14 campaign

304

A CAMPAIGN to Save the Upington 14 will be jointly launched in Johannesburg on Wednesday by the South African Council of Churches and the Save the Patriots Campaign.

Sowetan 19/6/89

The Rev Frank Chikane and family members of the Upington 14 will address a meeting which will be held at the Central Methodist Church between 12 and 2pm.

The campaign aims to generate public support for the abolition of the death penalty.

Those who talk to ANC risk Nelspruit blacklist

ARGUS 20/6/89. (3049)

The Argus Correspondent

NELSPRUIT. — South Africans who have met the African National Congress as well as those planning to will end up on a "blacklist" being drawn up by some Nelspruit residents.

This was decided at a weekend meeting of 10 sparked by the news that 120 white South Africans, the biggest group yet, would be leaving soon for Lusaka and a conference with the ANC.

"Some of us felt a blacklist for the odd person who had already visited Lusaka should have already have been made, but this massive delegation convinced everybody," group member Mr Ben van Schalkwyk said.

Now the group is determined to hold regular meetings and take appropriate action against the "traitors". What action is still to be decided.

However it was decided that while nobody would be confronted violently or physical harm casused to them, everything possible would be done to exclude them from all community life.

It was announced last week that 120 South Africans would visit Lusaka next month for a conference with the ANC.

The talks would be attended by about 40 ANC members and funded by the United States, Canadian, Dutch, Danish and Swiss governments.

This has also angered the group, which feels some sort of government action should have been taken.

Star 20/6/89

304

We will investigate this poisoning ourselves – SACC

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The South African Council of Churches will institute an independent investigation into the apparent attempt to poison its general-secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane.

The initiative, announced yesterday at a Johannesburg press conference attended by Mr Chikane, has won the immediate support of major anti-apartheid, church and labour organisations.

Mr Chikane returned at the weekend from the United States where he was admitted to hospital on three occasions and medical tests revealed "strong evidence" he had been poisoned by exposure to an organophosphate.

SACC assistant general-secretary Ms Brigalia Bam indicated that although the poisoning of Mr Chikane had prompted the idea of an independent probe, it would embrace other "seemingly orchestrated and systematic attacks" on persons and organisations opposing apartheid.

"The apparent inability of the State's investigative machinery to bring to book any of those who are guilty of attacks against the opponents of the system of apartheid has convinced us that if justice is to be done on this and previous attacks we have to conduct our own investigations," a statement by the SACC read.

"We do this fully aware that in past incidents such as the people's investigation into the assassination hit list of prominent anti-apartheid activists in 1985, the police have moved in and commandeered the information collected with no follow-up on the leads uncovered by the people."

Mr Chikane said it was his firm belief he had been poisoned but that this had to be proved scientifically by a team of experts.

He was consulting lawyers to decide what action to take.

Mr Chikane said it was necessary to correct the impression given in a Sunday newspaper that US police had abandoned the investigation. Tests to establish whether the poison had been contained in his baggage were continuing but only very specialised agencies with knowledge of chemical warfare were able to conduct these.

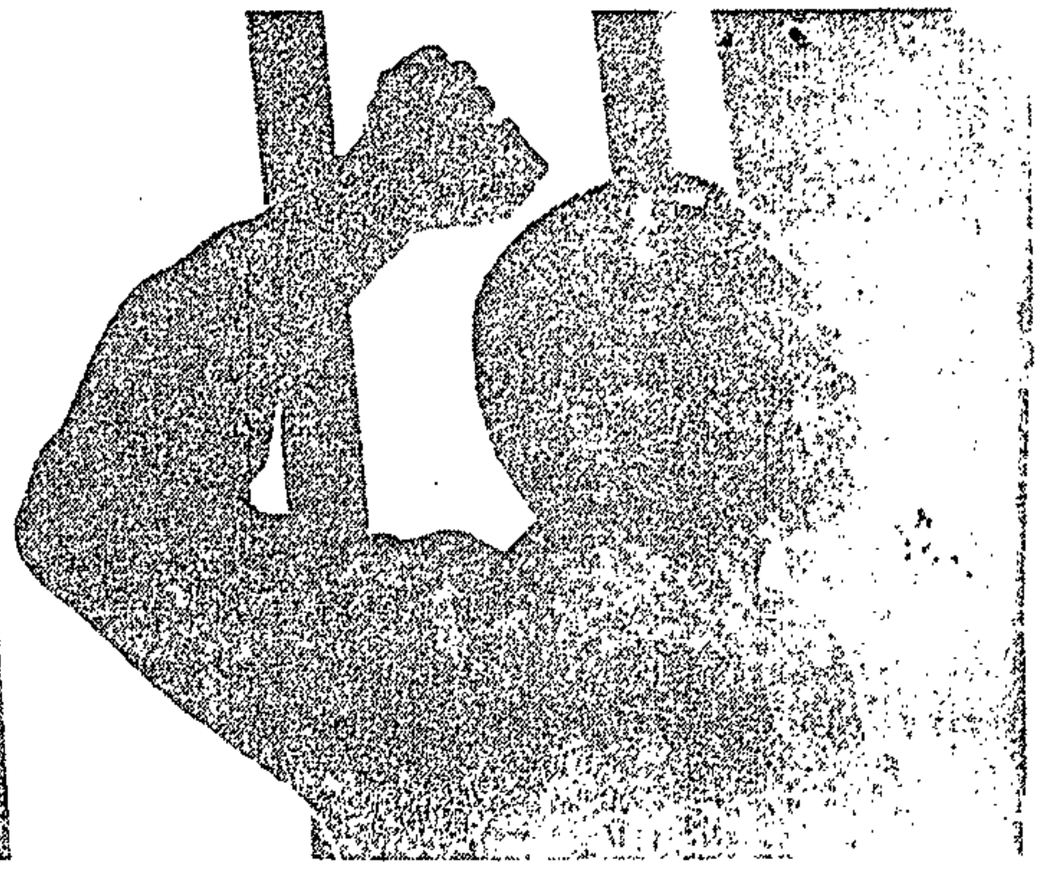
The SACC has written to the newspaper in question pointing out that the results of tests on Mr Chikane's clothing were still awaited and the FBI's final decision whether to take on the case or not would depend on evidence of a "cross-border crime".

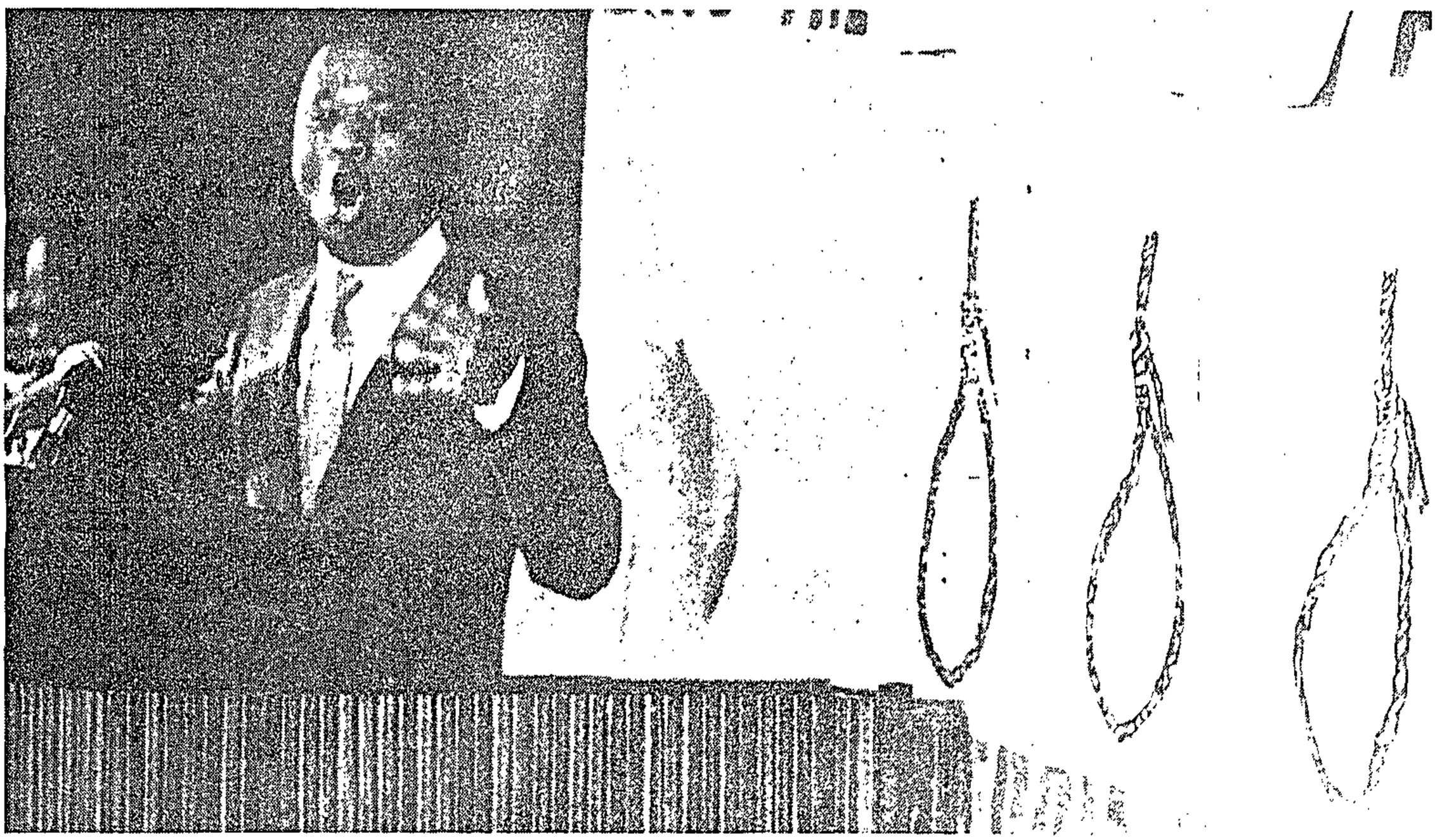
Representatives of Cosatu, the Mass Democratic Movement, the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, the Institute for Contextual Theology, the Human Rights Commission and the Black Sash attended the press conference to express support for an independent inquiry.

The Rev Frank Chikane: poisoning prompted idea of an independent probe.

Star 22/6/89.

304





The Rev Frank Chikane addresses the crowd at the prayer service for the Upington 14 sentenced to death. (Above) The stained glass window of the church opposite a fist-waving member of the audience. ● Pictures by Ken Oosterbroek.

By Jo-Anne Collinge

State has no right to kill, says Chikane

Hundreds of people attended a Johannesburg prayer service in solidarity with the Upington 14, condemned to death in a single trial last month for the murder of a policeman, and with the estimated 290 other inmates of Death Row in Pretoria.

About 20 family members of the Fourteen attended the ceremony, which ended with a singing throng moving through Smal Street Mall with about a dozen police in pursuit. There were no violent incidents and it appeared that no arrests were made.

The South African Council of Churches general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, addressed the service, arguing that there were reasons over and above the Christian concern for the sanctity of life which caused him to call for an end to executions in South Africa.

He emphasised that the law itself in South Africa allowed policemen and other officials to act against human rights. Political decisions in South Africa were made on the basis of negating human rights and preserving the privileged few, he said.

"Because we are a violent society no organ of the State has the right to execute anyone — because the State itself is violent," said Mr Chikane.

People in the community were brutalised by officials acting with the force of law — their schools were raided as well as their homes, they were detained, released without charge and re-detained.

It was small wonder that youths subjected to such treatment began to think that the best way to solve their problems was to resort to violence, he said.

Youth respresenative Mr Peter Mokaba noted that the Upington 14 had been convicted according to the legal concept of common purpose — because they had associated themselves with the mob which killed the policeman, not because they themselves had inflicted the fatal injuries.

If the same doctrine were applied to Wit Wolf Barend Strydom, Mr Mokaba said, the death penalty should "apply to the apartheid regime as a whole".

Therefore, Mr Mokaba said, the youth did not call for the execution of Strydom but for an end to the system of apartheid.

He called on the international community to campaign vigorously to save those on death row. Mr Mokaba said that international business interests claimed they remained in South Africa to save lives. "Let them stop the hangings," Mr Mokaba challenged.

Rev Chikane . . . secretary general.

SACC holds 31st indaba

THE South African Council of Churches is to hold its 21st national conference at the St Barnabas college, in Bosmont near Johannesburg, from Monday.

The theme of the confenrence is "Your Kingdom Come: Your will be done". It will be addressed by speakers from Africa and overseas church representatives.

SACC's information officer, Mr Jackson Mthembu said the delegates will discuss issues such as apartheid, the state of emergency and the role of the church in bringing about change in South Africa.

"The churches regard themselves as part and parcel of the community and deplored all the vexatious laws imposed on the nation," he said.

One of the highlights of the conference will come when the SACC's general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, makes his report on the council's position.

The SACC has decided to investigate the alleged "poisoning" of Chikane, who took ill while on a visit to the United States recently, he said.

Poisoning opponents: An old story

Star 23/6/89

304

A poison from the organophosphate group — the same family of toxins as the one that allegedly took anti-apartheid leader Frank Chikane close to death — was widely used in Rhodesia against guerillas in the liberation armies. JO-ANNE COLLINGE reports.

In the wake of Zimbabwean independence, information has emerged that the Rhodesian Central Intelligence Organisation resorted to poisoning guerillas — by lacing their food supplies and by saturating clothing supplies in toxic solutions.

In recent weeks medical tests on Mr Frank Chikane, general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches, showed an organophospate was present in his system on at least one of the four occasions when he was admitted to hospital acutely ill.

Mr Chikane says the only "common denominator" in the four attacks which occurred while he was travelling abroad was his baggage — including the clothes it contained — which is now being tested in laboratories in the United States.

The substance used in Rhodesia to poison clothes of guerillas was parathian, an expecially toxic member of the organophosphate group which experts state is no longer available commercially in South Africa.

Reference to the use of poisons during the Rhodesian war is made by author Peter Stiff in his book on the activities of the Central Intelligence Organisation, "See you in November".

Telling the tale of an agent identified only as Taffy, Stiff recounts how Taffy consulted a Salisbury poisons expert on the "official business" of killing a key opponent — the future Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe.

That the assassination, due to have taken place during the Lancaster House talks in London in 1979, did not occur is history. Stiff records that it was called off, for reasons unknown to Taffy.

But Stiff describes in detail the assistance offered Taffy by poisons expert Mr Sam Roberts, of whom it was said that "there were some months that he had killed more terrorists than the Rhodesian Light Infantry".

Stiff relates that Mr Roberts advised that thallium could be used to poison opponents by lacing their food with it, while parathian could be used to saturate clothing which would be worn by the enemy — with fatal results.

Underpants and T-shirts

He explained how thallium would be placed in mealie meal and left in farm stores, which guerillas were likely to raid and appropriate the food, and that clothes treated with parathian were left in similar places.

The parathian trap was set using hundreds of sets of underpants and T-shirts, the book relates, and it states that Mr Roberts described "the score achieved" as "considerable".

He explained that the poison would work its way into the body through the hair follicles.

The allegations are corroborated by Ken Flower — who served in the Rhodesian intelligence service and went on to serve under the Mugabe Government — in his book, "Serving Secretly", which was published shortly after his death in 1987.

Flower stated that hundreds of young recruits on their way to liberation movement camps died as a result of poison placed in the shirts and underwear with which they were issued.

He alleged that the Reverend Arthur Kanodareka, seemingly Bishop Abel Muzorewa's right-hand man, was really in the service of the CIO and was eliminated by his spymasters once his job was done.

On the subject of thallium poisoning, Stiff's book records that in April 1978 a group of 17 Zanla fighters were killed by thallium; that they staggered to rear bases in Mozambique "vomiting, defecating and writhing in pain" before they died one by one in hospital in Beira.

In one of the few cases of alleged political poisoning recorded in South Africa, a Port Elizabeth youth, Siphiwe Mtimkulu, was allegedly poisoned while he was held in detention. Mr Mtimikulu ended up in a wheelchair and made a sizeable damages claim against the Minister of Law and Order.

Before the claim was settled, six years ago, the crippled claimant disappeared without trace while on his way to get his regular medical treatment at Livingstone Hospital.

The friend accompanying him also simply vanished.

In recent years, Amnesty International has recorded 40 cases of thallium poisoning of Kurdish opponents of Iraq's government.

Chikane: passionate pastor with a sharp eye for hypocrisy

Star

304

24/6/89

Personality

FRANK CHIKANE

Written by: JO-ANNE COLLINGE

WHEN the South African Council of Churches holds its annual conference next week it will have to consider how to respond to the possibility that someone might have tried to poison its general secretary.

The Reverend Frank Chikane is used to walking in troubled territory. He explains that by doing so he is only doing his pastoral duty.

As part of the Soweto Rent Delegation — with Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Mrs Albertina Sisulu — he demanded that Soweto and Johannesburg be reintegrated as a single city with one tax base.

This would mean services in the township could be subsidised by city businesses. People could once again afford to pay for them — and end their three-year boycott.

Aware that this solution demanded nothing less than a reversal of apartheid, he acknowledged its chances of acceptance by the authorities were slim.

But, he explained, intervention in the rent boycott and the opening of talks with the authorities had not been calculated purely in terms of victory.

For him it had started as an urgent pastoral duty — an attempt to care for the weak and the old who were being evicted for non-payment of rent. "We had to intervene in that situation," he said. The suffering had to be ended.

As controversy about the Mandela Football Team raged early this year, with accusations that some of its members had abducted young comrades and killed one, Mr Chikane stood close to the centre of the storm. At all points he insisted his role was not to judge but to act so as to ensure the restoration of peace.

Crossing into Namibia in April in defiance of a prohibition on him entering the territory, Mr Chikane once more insisted he was merely fulfilling his duty by going to see United Nations officials there.

Clearly Frank Chikane is a pastor of somewhat more robust dimensions than the term conventionally conjures up.

His urbane appearance — a broad, unlined face often slightly smiling in repose; a trim, suit-encased figure — belies his temperament.

He is a passionate Christian. A fiery speaker, with a sharp eye for hypocrisy and for social paradox. He often captures these in tight phrases, like: "The law in South Africa is the law of injustice."

Not surprisingly, he has enthusiastic supporters and determined enemies.

The 38-year-old Soweto cleric and father of two young sons has been the target of a series of sinister attacks and threats. In 1985, just a week after he was released on bail in the Maritzburg treason trial, his Pimville home was petrol bombed.

Later that year the name Frank Chikane appeared on a hit list disclosed by one of an alleged team of would-be assassins undergoing training for their deadly mission.

In 1988, when gunman Denzil Mellors held an SACC librarian hostage, he confessed to police he would have preferred to have had Frank Chikane in his clutches.

And just last year a limpet mine was discovered at the home of Mr Chikane's mother, Mrs Erenia Chikane. It was eventually detonated by police.

Against this background the possibility that someone might have tried to poison Mr Chikane during his travels abroad appears much less fantastic than it might in the abstract.

All general secretaries of the SACC have come in for their share of conflict with the State and pro-apartheid forces. But not even Archbishop Tutu has been so threateningly pursued as Mr Chikane. In some obvious ways Mr Chikane is different from those who walked before him.

Taking on the SACC position at the age of 36 years in 1987 — half the age of his predecessor, Dr Beyers Naude — Mr Chikane came from a denomination not party to the SACC, the Apostolic Faith Mission. Furthermore, he came as a minister who had been indefinitely suspended by his church because its leaders had suspected back in 1981 he was "involved in the so-called liberation struggle".

In addition, he came to the position clearly aligned politically. He had served as Transvaal vice-president of the United Democratic Front and on its national executive committee. He had been vice-president of the Soweto Civic Association. And he had been tried, and acquitted, on charges of treason for his role in the UDF.

Mr Chikane is also a highly qualified prison "graduate" — repeatedly detained from 1977 onwad; held in the John Vorster Sqare cell adjacent to Dr Neil Agett in 1981; but never convicted f any offence.

l appears the imposition of the 198 state of emergency and the sixmonths that Mr Chikane spent aboad in the wake of this deveopment were a watershed in hislife.

'or several years he had dividedhis energies between his work atthe Institute for Contextual Thology and his role in communityand political organisations.

3ut during his time abroad he apeared to make a choice to wrk exclusively through church stuctures.

Within days of his return in Aril 1987 it was announced that Fank Chikane had been appointed aSACC general secretary. Although he resigned all other positins to concentrate on this job, his pblic profile grew ... and grew.

Just four short years ago Frank Cikane was largely a behind-thesenes man, concentrating on the nts and bolts of organisational lib. Now his role is highly visible. H is the special emissary sent in tt talk behind the bars with detnees on hunger strike. He is the rnagnet drawing the gaze of the pblic to threatened removals in remote shanty towns and to the security grip on Turfloop campus. He is a strident voice against capital punishment.

When he sat down to reflect on the first 35 years of his life, he summed them up in the title he chose for the autobiographical book that emerged: "No life of my own".

mains of what seemed to be a 900 m sacred avenue and artificial island surrounded by swords, daggers, jewellery and human and animal corpses. — Sapa-Reuter.

business could become involved in these river trails."

Mr King is the main speaker at tomorrow's meeting (open to the public) which begins at 7.30 pm.

Spotlight on church's mission

Star 26/6/86 By Carina le Grange (304)

A fundamental reconsideration of the Church's mission in South Africa is expected to emerge at this week's annual national conference of the South African Council of Churches.

The theme of the conference is "Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done: The Mission of the Church in South Africa Today."

The administrative secretary, Dr Francois Bill, said the SACC had for too long been seen as an organisation which handed out money for projects, while the main purpose was in fact for the Church to fulfill its mission.

The conference, the highest policy-making body of the 22-member organisation, will be held at St Barnabus' College in Bosmont.

The official opening tonight at 7.30 is open to the public. The opening address, on the theme of the conference, will be given by Father Buti Thlagale, director of the Educational Opportunities Council.

newspaper.

Chapel 'poisoning' Chikane link probe

SJ&I 27/6/18-7

By Craig Kotze and Carina le Grange 304

The police are to investigate if the alleged poisoning of a Johannesburg venue where the South African Council of Churches was due to hold a meeting yesterday is linked to the contamination by an alleged toxic substance of the clothing of the Rev Frank Chikane.

Forty-six people were taken to the Coronation Hospital for observation after they inhaled a toxic substance sprayed in a chapel at the St Barnabas College in Bosmont.

A preliminary investigation carried out by the school's science section indicated the substance was a cyanide-based weed killer or insecticide.

● See Pages 2 and 3.

Star 27/6/89 (SB) 304

Priest accuses Church

By Carina le Grange,
Religion Reporter

The Church stood accused of not confronting the State, Father Buti Thlagale, a Catholic priest from Soweto and director of the the Educational Opportunities Council, said last night at the opening ceremony of the annual conference of the South African Council of Churches.

The opening ceremony was held in the hall which was sprayed with a toxic substance on Sunday night by unknown intruders. About 40 people were treated at Coronation Hospital after they came into contact with the substance.

Father Thlagale said while a small number of clerics had distinguished themselves by their opposition to the State, this was not true for most of the Church leadership.

He said the legitimacy of the State needed to be openly challenged.

South Africa, he said, was a "sick society where people worried more about the ill-treatment of pets than about the health of children living in shacks".

46 delegates taken to hospital

POISON AT SACC VENUE

Sowetan 27/6/89

304

SACC president Dr Manas Buthelezi (left), general secretary Chikane and Father Buti Tlhagale at the opening of the conference last night.

Pic: JOE MOLEFE

POLICE will investigate if the poisoning of a South African Council of Churches meeting venue in Johannesburg at the weekend is linked to the contamination by an alleged toxic substance of the clothing of the Reverend Frank Chikane, a spokesman said.

SOWETAN REPORTER

And in another development, the SACC executive committee is to send a letter to President George Bush of

TO PAGE 2

Sowetan 27/6/89

304

Poison attack

From Page 1

America appealing for assistance in the testing of Chikane's clothing.

The committee yesterday also confirmed an independent investigation into the incident would be launched.

Forty-six people were yesterday taken for observation to the Coronation Hospital for treatment after they inhaled a toxic and acrid-smelling substance sprayed in a chapel at the St Barnabas College in Bosmont at the weekend, police said.

Witwatersrand police spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe said detectives had opened a malicious damage to property docket. No arrests have yet been made.

The substance would be tested forensically by the SAP and by the Johannesburg Fire Department, which also took samples from the scene.

However, a preliminary investigation carried out by the school's science section indicated the urine-like substance was a cyanide-based weed killer or insecticide, said the headmaster, Mr Michael Corke.

The SACC was due to have held its annual meeting, with Chikane as its guest speaker, at the college yesterday.

"As a result of an incident in which it was alleged in America that Chikane's clothing was contaminated with some poisonous substance and the fact he was to have been the guest speaker at St Barnabas, we will investigate the possibility of a link between the two incidents," said Malherbe.

Tests show acid 'not toxic'

THE substance sprayed at a venue where the South African Council of Churches was due to have held a meeting on Monday, is an irritant acid but is not toxic, a Johannesburg Fire Department spokesman said yesterday.

The substance had absolutely no cyanide content, said the spokesman.

Suspected right-wingers broke into the St Barnabas College in Bosmont at the weekend and sprayed the substance over the floor, fittings and walls of a chapel in an attempt to disrupt the SACC meeting.

Inhale

About 46 workers were taken to the Coronation hospital after they inhaled the fumes but were later discharged.

The fire department spokesman said tests had revealed the substance was a combination of three "vinegar-like" acids, including butanoic acid and hexanoic acid.

"These three were used in combination. They are bad-smelling and slighly corrosive acids which irritate the respiratory tract but do not cause any lasting damage," he said.

The acids were used in certain foodstuffs and in the manufacturing of perfumes.

No cyanide

"We can categorically state that there was no cyanide whatsoever in the substance," he added.

Police are investigating if the incident is linked to the contamination by an alleged toxic substance of the clothing of the Rev Frank Chikane recently.

Chikane was to have been a guest speaker at the meeting.

Witwatersrand police spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe said on Monday SAP forensic experts would also test the substance sprayed at St Barnabas.

SACC disputes finding on spray at venue

304

Sowetan 29/6/89

THE South African Council of Churches has called on the police to address it following an official statement that the substance sprayed at its conference venue was an irritant acid which was not toxic.

A spokesman of the Johannesburg Fire Department on Tuesday said the substance sprayed inside the chapel of St Barnabas by unknown intruders on Sunday night had no cyanide content.

General secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane, described the statement as a cover-up. He said St Barnabas principal, Mr Michael Corke, yesterday re-affirmed preliminary tests done by the head of the science department confirming a cyanide base in the substance.

"The issue is not what the substance is but that it was sprayed at our conference venue and by people who should be brought to book, just as those who attempted to poison me recently," Chikane said.

A senior official of the

By THEMBA MOLEFE

SACC, Mr Saki Maxozoma, said the SACC differed with the fire department's finding and regarded it as an attempt to defuse the situation.

"This is a political blunder on the part of those who did it particularly after the incident has received worldwide coverage," Maxozoma said.

Liaison officer for the Witwatersrand police, Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe, said he did not wish to comment on the findings of another department.

The police were awaiting the results of their own forensic tests and would contact the SACC on the issue if the need arose, he said.

SACC to probe 'harassment'

CAM-Trufs 11/7/89 304

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) committed itself yesterday to a three-pronged, non-violent programme aimed at demonstrating its "abhorrence" of government policy.

At the end of its 21st annual general conference here, it said: "The first tactic must be direct non-violent actions to force the regime to abandon apartheid and enter into negotiations that will lead to the establishment of a new society.

"The second measure must contain our support for and solidarity with those who are working to end apartheid . . .".

The SACC also decided to establish an independent group to monitor "harassment of opponents of apartheid".

Non-violent end sought to apartheid

This decision was hastened by the alleged poisoning of Mr Chikane.

"In view of the increasing number of mysterious killings, attacks on property, the recent very serious poison attack on our general-secretary and the unwillingness or inability of the police to bring these culprits to court, we have no alternative but to launch our own independent investigations into these matters."

The proposed body is expected to be functionable within the next month and, according to sources at the conference, will include doctors, lawyers and private investigators.

The SACC wound up the conference with a strong appeal to the Ned Geref Kerk to pressure government into negotiations with anti-apartheid forces.

Describing the NGK as occupying a strategic position in relation to government structures, SACC president Dr Manas Buthelezi said such a call would "open the floodgates of peace" in South Africa.

"This church, thus, has a major responsibility in ensuring that the present crisis in the country is not perpetuated or turns totally demonic."

The SACC said such a radical step by the white church could have a profound effect on its membership.

Churches set to probe attacks on activists

AS yet another arson attack on a trade unionist's home occurred this week — leading to the death of one person — the South African Council of Churches announced the formation of an independent board to investigate attacks on anti-apartheid groups and their officials.

On Wednesday "Ace" Sopotela, the brother of a National Union of Metalworkers' shop steward, died after his kwaNobuhle home was firebombed.

In a statement, Numsa said: "We note with concern that the fire gutted the house in a short space of time and can only conclude that the rage of the fire was due to the use of some sophisticated chemical agent."

In another development, newly

Weekly Mail Reporters

elected Congress of South African Trade Unions vice-president and shop steward at Volkswagen, Uitenhage, John Gomomo, has received several death threats, including one in a letter from a group calling itself "White Wolf II".

Yesterday the SACC issued a press statement saying "anti-apartheid activists in South Africa disappear and are killed, offices are firebombed and whole buildings are rendered uninhabitable through explosives. However, it is apparent the South African Police are not able to come to grips with the situation, and that failure dogs their every move".

The SACC responded by forming the Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression on July 15, in the wake of escalating "informal repression" and "a lack of faith in the police's ability or willingness to bring criminals to book".

The board consists of a range of prominent individuals from church and legal institutions and, according to the SACC, has the full support of a wide range of organisations which have been the victim of right-wing attacks.

Recent attacks include the bombings of Cosatu House, Khotso House and Khanya House; arson attacks on various offices and homes of individuals opposing apartheid; the destruction or theft of office equipment and documents; and vendettas against individuals, such as the poisoning of SACC secretary general Frank Chikane.

In the last two years, offices and officials of the Congress of South African Trade Unions had been attacked at least 50 times, and the SACC had been the target of a similar onslaught, the statement said. "Yet, to our knowledge this board is aware of only one criminal prosecution arising out of these incidents."

The SACC says the newly formed board is not simply a commission of inquiry, but an independent forum for thorough, in-depth investigation and research.

Chemical war launched

Fears mount that more will be killed

By CHARLES MOGALE

SUSPECTED rightwingers have launched a chemical war against blacks and anti-apartheid activists.

Fears are mounting in black political circles that if the frequent acid attacks are not stopped, more toxic chemicals may be used to claim lives.

Already, three attacks involving toxic and chemical substances have been reported within a month.

The latest incident disclosed this week was at Regina Mundi Church in Rockville, Soweto, where awful smelling chemicals were sprayed just days before Soweto Day on June 16.

Repeated attempts to deodorise and spring-clean the church failed to rid it of the smell.

Recently, SACC Secretary-General, the Reverend Frank Chikane, was taken ill as a result of toxic chemicals traced to his clothing. Tests proved the chemicals were normally found in pesticides.

Chikane, who collapsed several times and had to be hospitalised in the United States, failed to honour an appointment with US president George Bush because of illness.

Last week 46 delegates to the South African Council of Churches had to be treated at the Coronation Hospital after the discovery of "toxic" acid-smelling chemicals at the St Barnabas College, where the SACC was holding its annual congress.

The police later refuted claims that the chemicals were toxic, and said they were "stink bombs".

The resident pastor at Regina Mundi, Father E O'Reilly, is baffled about how the culprits got into the church.

Independent tests indicated at least butanoic, pentanoic and hexanoic chemicals were present in the smelly substance.

"The chemicals might not be poisonous, but they are not Holy either," O'Reilly said.

SACC appeals to NGK: force Govt to negotiate with leaders

By Carina le Grange, Religion Reporter

The annual national conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), in Bosmont last week, heeded the voice of its general secretary in more than one aspect.

Opening the conference, the Reverend Frank Chikane appealed to white South Africans to take a position on apartheid; he called on the white Ned Geref Kerk to change its attitude to apartheid; and he said the general international situation had become such that apartheid had become more untenable than ever before.

The conference subsequently appealed to the NGK "to be courageous and act courageously".

The NGK, it said, constituted the majority of the leadership of the ruling party in government and thus had a "major responsibility in ensuring that the present crisis in South Africa is not perpetuated".

It called on the NGK to "force the government into negotiations with the legitimate leaders of the oppressed people".

MESSAGE

Such prophetic witness and action could cost the church a large part of her membership but would remove the "inhuman and heretical regime of apartheid".

The conference sent an official message to white South Africans countrywide to reject apartheid.

It said hard times were ahead for white South Africans and the SACC would not be honest if it did not issue this warning.

Whites, the message said, were "prisoners of ignorance, fear and mistrust". This blocked the possibility of changing the attitude of whites.

"Apartheid cannot be reformed and will have to be destroyed. Such a reversal will inevitably create upheaval but it can also be the catharsis which brings real change in attitudes, belief and the way of life."

The conference said Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's "new thinking" held much promise not only for international stability and peace, but also opened new opportunities for resolving regional conflicts. This introduced a new opportunity to end the apartheid system in South Africa.

It called on the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union to help South Africa out of the logjam of apartheid, but also called on Western powers "not to conceive and hammer into shape a package for South Africa without proper consultation with the oppressed people of the country".

SA-Israeli collusion questioned

By Carina le Grange

The measures of repression suffered by Palestinians in Israel and in occupied territories "resemble in many ways the measures of repression of the apartheid system", the South African Council of Churches (SACC) has said.

In a statement adopted at its national conference last week, the SACC said it questioned the "collusion" between the South African and Israeli governments, especially in the diplomatic, economic and military fields.

Stating that the SACC condemned all forms of anti-semitism, the SACC expressed its sympathy with the Palestinian people, saying it shared their grief at the loss of thousands of Palestinian lives and the suffering of Palestinian refugees.

It also expressed its concern that the people of Israel, stateless for centuries, can now "deprive the Palestinians of a homeland".

"The policy of Israel denies basic human rights to Palestinians."

The statement on the Middle East conflict comes after two SACC delegations visited the region over the past year.

The SACC, it said, "expresses its gratitude to those Jewish people who, through their own experience of suffering, have become aware of the suffering of others."

304

SACC pledge on apartheid

From MONO BADELA

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has committed itself to a three-pronged, non-violent programme aimed at demonstrating its disapproval of the government's policies.

In resolutions adopted at the end of a week-long national 21st annual conference in Johannesburg last week, the SACC decided to set-up an independent group to monitor the harassment of anti-apartheid activists.

The church body deplored the continuation of the state of emergency and the restrictions imposed on released detainees.

It urged member churches to put pressure on the ministers of Law and Order and Education to lift all restrictions which prevent ex-detainees from continuing their education.

It also called on its member churches to help respond positively to restricted persons and to afford practical, moral and legal support to those who challenge their restriction orders.

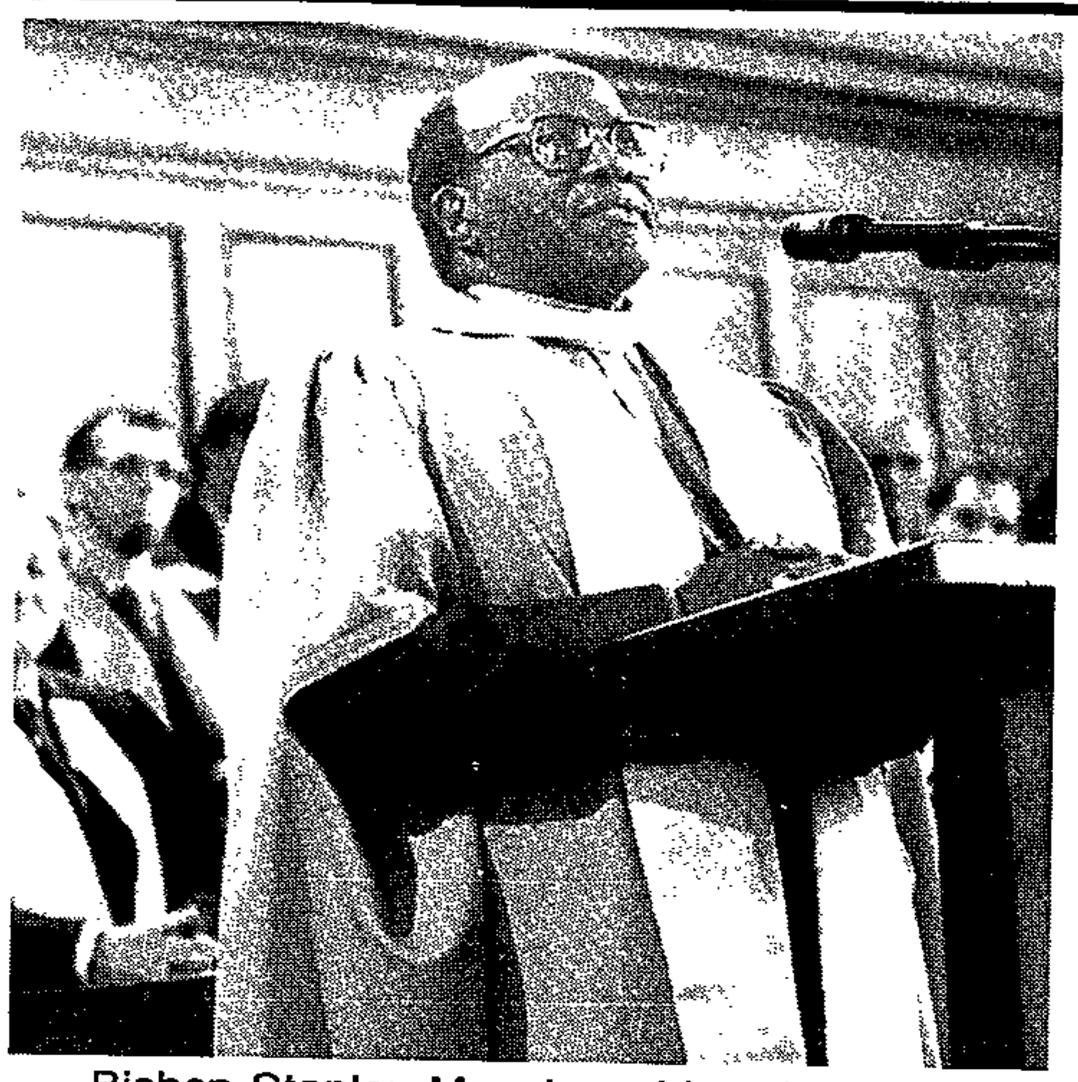
The church body also committed itself to action that will increase pressure on the apartheid government.

It will involve itself in direct non-violent actions to force the regime to abandon apartheid and enter into negotiations that will lead to the establishment of a new society.

The SACC expressed solidarity with those working to end apartheid here and abroad and said it would campaign to isolate the government politically, culturally and economically.

In committing itself to this action, the church body noted that the crisis created by apartheid and the destabilisation of neighbouring states, were worsening.

It said the Church had constantly called on the government to abandon apartheid and to negotiate a peaceful and just settlement. The government answered these calls by victimisation and harassment.



Bishop Stanley Mogoba addressing UCT's Graduation ceremony

Talks must involve all, says bishop

POLITICAL negotiation and mediation to determine a new constitutional dispensation for South Africa must involve all interested parties, Bishop Stanley Mogoba told a graduation ceremony at the University of Cape Town last week.

Mogoba was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws by the university.

Mogoba said the time had come for people to move away from the view that only "one or two" parties could be involved in such negotiations.

It would "a dangerous and selfish notion" to exclude any party from negotiation, he said.

Mogoba said the task facing South Africans was to grasp the "nettle of reconciliation and negotiation".

If South Africans were to achieve a stable future, the ethic of sharing, paired with the ethic of hard work, had to become paramount in their thinking.

Gorbachev asked to 'enter SA political arena'

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches (SACC) ended its annual general conference here last week by backing a call for the Soviet Union to enter the Southern African political arena.

"We call upon President Mikhail Gorbachev to use the climate he has helped to create in Europe and elsewhere to secure a free and democratic South Africa."

The resolution said this should be done jointly with the United States and other Western powers with the view to forcing South Africa out of the "apartheid logjam" and into negotiations with the "legitimate" leaders of the black population.

However, the resolution made it clear that international powers should "not conceive and hammer into shape a package for South Africa without proper and adequate consultation with the oppressed people of the country".

The resolution urged the international community not to ease pressure on Pretoria.

"That the international community should strengthen various anti-apartheid measures including the introduction of comprehensive and mandatory eco-

"It is the pressure on the apartheid regime and the limitations of its options that forced Pretoria to posture on the question of negotiations. This pressure must not end at all until a new constitution acceptable to all is drawn up," SACC general secretary, Frank Chikane, explained.

The church body also called on South Africans to intensify the struggle against apartheid with a view to creating, as a matter of urgency, conditions that would force the government to abandon its "heretical policies and open the way for the creation of a democratic and nonracial South Africa".

SADF 'to leave Turfloop'

A SOUTH African Council of Churches delegation which was stopped and searched at a SA Army roadblock on Wednesday was later told by University of the North management that an end to the presence of South African soldiers on the Turfloop campus was in sight.

An SACC statement said "scheduled" talks between its delegation and the university's administration almost did not happen because the visiting party was held up for more than an hour at the roadblock, manned by troops from the SA Defence Force base at the university.

Roadblock

Wednesday's discussions were a sequel to an earlier meeting between the two groups and once again the presence of security forces on the campus, their alleged interference in the normal life of the university and the issue of the students' right to organise there raised.

The statement said the SACC delegation was stopped at a roadblock a few kilometres from the university by SADF troops who identified themselves as coming from the Turfloop base.

"Though claiming that the delegation was not under arrest the soldiers prevented it from sending a message to the university to tell the authorities there what had happened to them.

"It was clear that the roadblock was hastily set up to detain the delegation and to prevent it from arriving at the university on time for the meeting," the statement alleged.

A SADF spokesman confirmed the SACC delegation "encountered a roadblock and were stopped in accordance with normal practices." — Sapa.

Stompie case: 'a tactic to defuse release of Mandela'

Star 15/7/89

304

PAT DEVEREAUX

WHILE Mr Nelson Mandela occupies centre stage in South Africa's political life at the moment, a shadow looms over his possible release — death of young activist "Stompie" Mokhetsi.

The South African Council of Churches said this week that it believed there was a deliberate attempt by the Government to defuse the political impact of Mr Mandela's release by simultaneously making maximum publicity of Mrs Winnie Mandela's apparent connection with the case.

See PAGES 3 and 12.

An SACC statement just released says: "The Government has calculated the timing of the Mandela/Botha meeting with a view to making maximum political gain out of it. The Government also has an ace up it's sleeve, namely the 'Stompie' issue.

"There are people who argue that the Government may release Mr Mandela at the same time as it blows up the case.

"If it does so, it will subject Mrs Winnie Mandela to a trial by media and the objective will be to tie Mr Mandela's hands and defuse the political implications and impact of his release."

The SACC statement added: "The Government has been sitting on this case probably because it realises its usefulness."

A dossier examining the death of teenage activist "Stompie" and Mrs Winnie Mandela's alleged involvement in the incident had been submitted to the Attorney-General.

The AG spokesman said Mrs Mandela had been linked to Stompie's death in statements and evidence in the dossier. However, it was up to the AG to decide if she had committed any punishable offences.

● TO PAGE 2.

A shadow over Mandela release

Star 15/7/89

304

● FROM PAGE 1.

Nine suspects, among them members of the Winnie Mandela Soccer team including the coach, Mr Jerry Richardson (41), bus driver for the soccer team Mr John Morgan (61) and seven others have appeared in court and are in custody.

Their pending trial follows the murder of a Free State child activist whose body was discovered on January 7 this year after he was allegedly abducted and assaulted by members of the soccer team at Mrs Mandela's Soweto home.

The SACC said the meeting with Mr Botha seemed to have been timed to coincide with the AG's statement. At the time of the meeting, the Mandela home in Soweto was raided by police.

"Routine visit"

Police spokesmen this week said they considered the visiting of the Mandela premises "routine" and were not prepared to comment on it.

The relationship between Mrs Mandela and the mass democratic movement has been "less distanced" of late.

In March, MDM representatives including Cosatu and the United Democratic Front leaders expressed their "outrage" after Mrs Mandela's football team was allegedly linked to the abduction and murder of Stompie Mokhetsi.

This week the African National Congress call that Mrs Mandela work closely with members of the democratic movement and be "rehabilitated" appeared to be effective. Flanked by leaders of the movement, Cosatu's Mr Sydney Mafumadi, National Union of Mineworkers' general secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa and the SACC secretary general, Rev Frank Chikane, Mrs Mandela issued statements denying Mr Mandela's birthday party rumours and spoke on Mr Botha's meeting with him.

● See PAGES 3 and 10.

passageway, she said.

Terre'Blanche could not be contacted for comment.

British foreign secretary to meet leaders on visit

RIAAN SMIT

BRITISH Labour Party shadow foreign secretary, Gerald Kaufman, arrives in Johannesburg today on a 10-day visit at the invitation of the SA Council of Churches (SACC).

Kaufman will also visit Namibia on Wednesday and Thursday, SACC spokesman William Smith said last week.

Kaufman would visit Soweto, Cape Town, Crossroads, Durban and Port Elizabeth, a SACC statement said.

He would meet community leaders, including the UDF, Cosatu, Azapo, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Allan Boesak, and Govan Mbeki, but no government ministers.

Government had refused a request by Kaufman to see jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela at Victor Verster prison near Paarl. the statement said.

Sapa reported from London the Independent newspaper on Friday quoted Kaufman as telling a visiting delegation of the UDF if the situation in SA had not changed "a Labour government would impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions from day one — at its first Cabinet meeting".

The newspaper said the Labour leader, Neil Kinnock, was with Kaufman when he made the statement.

SACC board to probe attacks

THEO RAWANA

ATTACKS on anti-apartheid organisations and individuals and lack of faith in the police has prompted the SA Council of Churches (SACC) to found the Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression.

Law and Order Minstry spokesman Lt Peet Bothma said yesterday anyone was welcome to gather information and hand it to the police — but warned that no-one was allowed to take the law into their own hands.

Prominent anti-apartheid personalities are to serve on the board, which will conduct in-depth research and collect data on such attacks.

An SACC statement said yesterday the founding of the board was prompted by the increasing number of attacks on anti-apartheid organisations and their officials, and a lack of faith in the ability of the police to bring the perpetrators of these crimes to book — as well as their apparent unwillingness to do so.

Among the incidents cited were the bombings of Cosatu House, Khotso House and Khanya House; the murder of Wits lecturer David Webster and the poisoning of SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane.

Members of the board include Laurie Ackerman, Professor of Human Rights Law at Stellenbosch University; World Alliance of Reformed Churches president Allan Boesak and Idasa executive director Alex Borraine.

Bothma said: "We have in the past invited anyone with information to come forward and help us with our investigations. So far I have not heard of any case that had been reported to the SAP and had not been investigated to the fullest and sent to the attorney-general for a decision whether to prosecute or not."

SACC has a right to probe violence — SAP

PAT DEVEREAUX

IT IS the South African Council of Churches' democratic right to form an independent board to investigate matters such as "informal repression", said police yesterday.

This followed the SACC's announcement that it had appointed an independent board to investigate attacks directed at anti-apartheid organisations and individuals, including assassinations and bombings.

However, the SAP's General H D Stadler said that he would advise the SACC board — should they find any substantial evidence — to liaise with General Jaap Joubert, who had been appointed by Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok to head investigations of this type.

The assassination of Dr David Webster, the poisoning of the Rev Frank Chikane, the bombings of Khotso House and the headquarters of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) and the attack on the Southern African Bishops Conference's Khanya House in Pretoria are among the major unsolved cases which the SACC board plans to investigate.

Other cases of informal repression which will be probed are petrol bombings, arson attacks on homes, vandalism and the destruction of office equipment.

The decision to form an investigative board was prompted by "escalating informal repression and a lack of faith in the ability and apparent unwillingness of the South African Police to apprehend the perpetrators of these crimes", said the SACC in a statement.

In response, General Stadler said: "The police are not shirking their responsibility. The success of any investigation depends on the availability of information and witnesses. A high premium has been placed by the police on investigations which the SACC lists — so much so that Mr Vlok appointed a very senior officer to personally supervise and direct these investigations.

"A further step was taken to facilitate the free flow of information by establishing a special telephone number for anonymous informers," he added.

● Cosatu second vice-president and senior Volkswagen shop steward John Gomomo was warned this week in a letter from an individual calling himself "Wit Wolf No 2" that he would be assassinated because of his union activities.

This is the latest in a series of threats made against workers since members of the National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) began their campaign for national negotiations in the industry.

Workers at all the motor vehicle manufacturers have held regular lunchtime placard demonstrations for the past few weeks in support of the demand for national negotiations.

The frequency of the threats, which are seen as part of a broader campaign of harassment, have increased since the demonstrations started.

The letter from the "Wit Wolf 2" to Gomomo says: "You are being watched by members of a group who are sick and tired of your disgusted (sic) behaviour.

"Labour unrest and hate towards white people is your only object and that has to end unless you wish to call our bluff."

It goes on to warn Gomomo that he would "meet with an unfortunate accident if he did not change his attitude".

VW workers say they are taking the threat seriously.

The VW case is not the first of its kind. Just two weeks ago whites reportedly calling themselves Wit Wolwe attacked and killed a member of the South African Chemical Workers Union.

Police have said that investigations have revealed that no such group as the Wit Wolwe exists.

WEBSTER WATCH

IT HAS been 83 days since Wits lecturer Dr David Webster was gunned down outside his Johannesburg home. Police this week said there had been no breakthroughs in their investigation into his assassination. It was confirmed that the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad would be continuing its investigation.

SACC has a right to probe violence — SAP

304

PAT DEVEREAUX

IT IS the South African Council of Churches' democratic right to form an independent board to investigate matters such as "informal repression", said police yesterday.

This followed the SACC's announcement that it had appointed an independent board to investigate attacks directed at anti-apartheid organisations and individuals, including assassinations and bombings.

However, the SAP's General H D Stadler said that he would advise the SACC board — should they find any substantial evidence — to liaise with General Jaap Joubert, who had been appointed by Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok to head investigations of this type.

The assassination of Dr David Webster, the poisoning of the Rev Frank Chikane, the bombings of Khotso House and the headquarters of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) and the attack on the Southern African Bishops Conference's Khanya House in Pretoria are among the major unsolved cases which the SACC board plans to investigate.

Other cases of informal repression which will be probed are petrol bombings, arson attacks on homes, vandalism and the destruction of office equipment.

The decision to form an investigative board was prompted by "escalating informal repression and a lack of faith in the ability and apparent unwillingness of the South African Police to apprehend the perpetrators of these crimes", said the SACC in a statement.

In response, General Stadler said: "The police are not shirking their responsibility. The success of any investigation depends on the availability of information and witnesses. A high premium has been placed by the police on investigations which the SACC lists — so much so that Mr Vlok appointed a very senior officer to personally supervise and direct these investigations.

"A further step was taken to facilitate the free flow of information by establishing a special telephone number for anonymous informers," he added.

● Cosatu second vice-president and senior Volkswagen shop steward John Gomomo was warned this week in a letter from an individual calling himself "Wit Wolf No 2" that he would be assassinated because of his union activities.

This is the latest in a series of threats made against workers since members of the National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) began their campaign for national negotiations in the industry.

Workers at all the motor vehicle manufacturers have held regular lunchtime placard demonstrations for the past few weeks in support of the demand for national negotiations.

The frequency of the threats, which are seen as part of a broader campaign of harassment, have increased since the demonstrations started.

WEBSTER WATCH

IT HAS been 83 days since Wits lecturer Dr David Webster was gunned down outside his Johannesburg home. Police this week said there had been no breakthroughs in their investigation into his assassination. It was confirmed that the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad would be continuing its investigation.

The letter from the "Wit Wolf 2" to Gomomo says: "You are being watched by members of a group who are sick and tired of your disgusted (sic) behaviour.

"Labour unrest and hate towards white people is your only object and that has to end unless you wish to call our bluff."

It goes on to warn Gomomo that he would "meet with an unfortunate accident if he did not change his attitude".

VW workers say they are taking the threat seriously.

The VW case is not the first of its kind. Just two weeks ago whites reportedly calling themselves Wit Wolwe attacked and killed a member of the South African Chemical Workers Union.

Police have said that investigations have revealed that no such group as the Wit Wolwe exists.

SACC TO PROBE ATTACKS

THE executive committee of the South African Council of Churches has announced the formation of an independent board to investigate attacks on anti-apartheid groups and activists.

The SACC said yesterday the investigations into "informal repression" were prompted by the increasing number of attacks on anti-apartheid organisations and a lack of faith in the ability and the apparent unwillingness of the South African Police to bring the perpetrators of these crimes to book.

This step follows yet another arson attack on a trade unionist's home. Mr "Ace" Sopotela, brother of a National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) shop steward died after his home at KwaNobuhle, near Uitenhage, was firebombed this week.

"Many people are convinced that most of the recent acts of sabotage and assinations, aimed at curtailing activities of resistance organisations," said the SACC.

Church team to probe mystery murders, bombings

AK645 26/7/89

304

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches has announced the formation of an independent board to investigate attacks on anti-apartheid groups and activists.

The SACC said yesterday that the investigations into "informal repression" were prompted by the increasing number of attacks on anti-apartheid organisations and a lack of faith in the ability and the apparent unwillingness of the police to arrest the lawbreakers.

This step follows yet another arson attack on a trade unionist's home. Mr "Ace" Sopotela, brother of a National Union of Metalworkers shop steward, died after his home at Kwanobuhle, near Uitenhage, was firebombed this week.

The SACC said: "Many people are convinced that most of the recent acts of sabotage and assassination, including the bombings of Cosatu House, Khotso House and Khanya House, are a result of action aimed at curtailing the activities of resistance organisations."

WEBSTER MURDER

More recently, the statement said, events had occurred involving well-known anti-apartheid figures, including the murder of Dr David Webster and the alleged poisoning of the general secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane.

The statement said many of these incidents were reported to police, but in most cases no prosecutions resulted.

Anti-apartheid activists disappeared and were killed, offices were firebombed and whole buildings made uninhabitable through explosives.

The failure by the police to prosecute those responsible was a cause for great concern, the statement said.

"Unless urgent action is taken there is a strong possibility that such attacks upon the persons and property of anti-apartheid organisations will continue and increase over the next few years."

Star 26/7/89 (304)

SACC appoints own team of investigators

By Stan Hlophe

The SA of Churches' executive has announced the formation of an independent board to investigate attacks on anti-apartheid groups and activists.

The SACC yesterday said the investigations were prompted by the increasing number of attacks on groups and a lack of faith in the ability and willingness of the police to bring the perpetrators to book.

This step follows yet another arson attack on a trade unionist's home. Mr "Ace" Sopotela, brother of a National Union of Metalworkers shop steward, died after his home was firebombed this week.

"Many people are convinced that most of the recent acts of sabotage and assassination, including the bombings of Cosatu House, Khotso House and Khanya House, are a result of action aimed at curtailing the activities of resistance organisations," said the SACC.

Police search British MP

304

By LANCE NAWA

AN eye-witness from the Western Cape Council of Churches insists police stopped and searched British shadow foreign secretary Gerald Kaufman at a roadblock in Cape Town on Friday.

A report published in the *Citizen* newspaper yesterday said "neither the SAP nor the Department of Foreign Affairs could shed light" on the incident.

However, the WCCC organising secretary, Theresa Solomon, who accompanied the Labour Party MP on a trip around Cape Town's townships, told the *Weekly Mail* that police stopped their car on two separate occasions.

"We were first stopped by two plain-clothes policemen on our way from a squatter camp, Brown Farm."

The group were stopped a second time near Khayelitsha. "We were stopped by six uniformed police, who ordered us to produce our identification. Kaufman refused and told them he was a member of the British parliament. They forced him to open his bag to prove his statement, after which they left."

Asked for comment, Captain R Bloomberg, of the police public relations directorate in Pretoria, said that "although inquiries were made as thoroughly as possible in the time allowed, no trace of such incidents could be found".

28/7 1 3/8/87

SACC calls for an attack on apartheid

B|Day 31 7 87 . DAVE LOURENS (304)

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) committed itself to action that would "increase the pressure on the apartheid government" at its national conference in Johannesburg last week.

The newly unveiled SACC strategy calls for a three-pronged attack on apartheid, involving: "Direct non-violent actions to force the regime to abandon apartheid and enter into negotiations that will lead to the establishment of a new society"; support for and solidarity with those working to end apartheid; and "a campaign to isolate the regime politically, culturally and economically."

The national conference deplored the continuation of the emergency, warning that the political problems in SA could not be solved through repression.

It demanded the immediate lifting of the emergency and restriction orders, and the unbanning of organisations. It said a "democratic and acceptable" solution could be found only through negotiation with "authentic" black leaders.

Suffering

The conference said the Church in SA had consistently called on government to abandon apartheid and negotiate a "peaceful and just" settlement.

It said government answered these calls with "decades of victimisation and harassment", causing "immeasurable suffering" to opponents of apartheid.

The conference repeated the urgent call made to the Dutch Reformed Church at the 1986 conference reminding this church "of its grave responsibility as one of the largest churches in the white community".

"We call this church to a radical re-interpretation of the gospel by rejecting apartheid in its entirety as being fundamentally incompatible with the Gospel."

The conference accused the SABC of "highly selective and often prejudicial" coverage of church events. It said this was "a symptom of the general malaise of the SABC which is exploited by the government as a propaganda medium".

"This leads us to believe that any association with the SABC gives unmerited credibility to an evil organisation and that the Church and its organisations should have nothing to do with it. They therefore advocate the withdrawal of the churches from religous broadcasting."

B/Day 22/12/89

ANC men seek passports again

EDYTH BULBRING

FIVE of the seven recently released ANC leaders have reapplied for passports, a Home Affairs spokesman confirmed yesterday.

They are expected to travel to Lusaka in January to consult the ANC. The spokesman said he had received fresh applications from Walter Sisulu, Andrew Mlangeni, Elias Motsoaledi, Wilton Mkwayi and Ahmed Kathrada. The five initially withdrew their applications for passports on December 12. (304)

A separate passport application by Raymond Mhlaba was still under consideration, he said.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports Sisulu said in a Christmas message in the New Nation newspaper yesterday that South Africans had a duty to intervene in the troubled Natal townships to minimise, if not to eliminate, the violence there.

He added that the end of the decade gave South Africans some hope for the relaxation of tension in the country as a whole.

□ SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane has invited leaders of Azapo and the Pan Africanist Movement to a meeting to discuss allegations that the SACC had funded the Jeff Masemola Welcome Rally after some "arm-twisting".

"The matter is considered by the SACC to be serious enough to warrant an urgent meeting before the Christmas break," said Chikane in a letter to Nkosi Molala, president of Azapo and Benny Alexander, PAM general secretary. Chikane said no response had yet been received from the two organisations.

SACC defies Act

THE South African Council of Churches on Wednesday said it would resist the Disclosure of Foreign Funding Disclosure Act.

The Church-connected Wilgespruit Fellowship has been affected by the Act, which the SACC called "iniquitous legislation".

304

South 1/2 - 7/2/90

First funding act victim: Wilgespruit

W/Mail 2/2 – 8/2/90 (304)

By CARMEL RICKARD, Durban

THE government's decision to declare the Wilgespruit Fellowship Centre a "reporting organisation" has been slammed by the South African Council of Churches as an attack on the churches and as a trial run for a similar onslaught against the SACC.

The centre, which has survived many earlier state attempts to close it down, was warned last year along with other organisations that it was in line to be declared a reporting organisation in terms of the Disclosure of Foreign Funding Act.

It has become the first to be affected in this way, a move which had caused little stir until this week's meeting of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference and the church leaders' meeting of the SACC. Both condemned the action taken against Wilgespruit.

Last year, before the Foreign Funding Bill became law, the SACBC threatened if it were enacted, they would not comply with the provisions. They claimed it could disrupt the work of the church and that the state would be able to dictate to the church what it could or could not do.

The synods and decision making bodies of other churches have taken a similar stand.

The SACC said the Act enabled the state to exercise surveillance over the churches and related organisations and control their activities. With its implementation against Wilgespruit it had been used "against an arm of the church" and now threatened the curtailment of the work of the centre.

The heads of the SACC member churches added that the state had no right to interfere in the life, witness and legitimate work of the church. When it did so, it placed itself "on the side of the forces of the anti-Christ".

The churches said they would do all in their power to resist it and appealed to their members and other organisations, inside and outside South Africa, to do the same until the Act was repealed.

The overt aims of the Act are to "regulate the disclosure of the receipt of money from outside the Republic by or for certain organisations and persons; and to provide for matters connected therewith".

However, it met deep suspicion as it was common knowledge the Act was intended to replace the Orderly Internal Politics Bill, withdrawn after local and international pressure, which was designed to control foreign funds coming into the country.

Once organisations or individuals are declared "reporting organisations", they have to notify the registrar when they receive foreign money and this has to be deposited into a separate bank account.

The registrar must be given extensive information about the funds, their origin and purpose, and may then require any other information "deemed necessary or expedient".

The funds have to be used for the purpose for which they were provided, and the registrar is entitled to enter any premises without notice and seize any document if this is considered necessary.

Those who have threatened not to comply face stiff penalties if convicted: the law provides for a fine of R40 000 and/or 10 years in jail.

One of the provisions which has drawn most anger is the clause allowing the registrar to "freeze" funds after initiating a prosecution against a reporting organisation.

Wilgespruit executive director Griffiths Zabalala called the move against the centre a "damning indictment" of the state president's reform initiatives.

STAR 6/2/90 (304)

'Breakthrough' on violence

By Carina le Grange

A peace agreement, described as a "breakthrough", was signed between a delegation of the South African Council of Churches and Chief Minister Nelson Ramodike of Lebowa to find ways to stop violence in the Bushbuckridge area.

The SACC delegation, led by general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane, met Chief Ramodike and his delegation late last week, according to the SACC Communications Division.

Other SACC delegates included Anglican Bishop Richard Kraft and Bishop John Ruston of Pretoria. Chief Ramodike was accompanied by members of his Cabinet while representatives of the United Democratic Front, the Youth Congress and other organisations also took part in the discussions.

It was agreed that a commissions of inquiry would investigate the causes of the violence and the conduct of the police, and that there would be freedon of association and expression and that residents would have the right to participate in any organisation of their choice.

A working relationship between local chiefs and community organisations will be established, and grievances should be directed to the relevant authorities.

It was also agreed that pupils not accepted at schools should be readmitted, that efforts would be made to assist those who have lost their houses and property, and the safe return of all displaced persons have been guaranteed.

The SACC described the peace agreement as a "breakthrough" and said it could be used as a model to resolve other violent situations like that in Natal.

The SACC said Chief Ramodike was committed to finding a solution to the violence.

Church will assist exiles

South 1/3 - 7/3/90

304

CHURCH bodies will assist exiles expected to return to South Africa in the coming months, following the unbanning of the African National Congress and other organisations.

A South African Council of Churches (SACC) Dependents' Conference staff-worker said the question was "receiving a lot of attention".

However, many of the returnees were members of the now unbanned organisations, not primarily of the churches.

"Therefore, we first need to liaise with the organisations involved," he said.

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC) secretary general, Brother Jude Pieterse, said the Catholic Church would "very definitely give as much assistance as it is able, working closely with the SACC and other bodies".

The UN's High Commissioner for Refugees, the ANC and the PAC estimate up to 50 000 refugees.

Course in Islam at UWC

THE University of the Western Cape (UWC) hopes to offer a course in Islamic Culture and Civilisation from next year, according to its Arabic Studies lecturer, Mr Y Mohamed.

It could not be offered this year as the university is still awaiting approval for the course from the House of Representatives.

In the meantime, Arabic has been approved as a school subject.

Mr Mohamed said he hoped the subject would be introduced at schools next year.

The inter-disciplinary course will deal with Islamic beliefs, practices, philosophical and theological develpments, Sufism, law, political thought and social ethics.

It is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of both continuity and change within the Islamic culture.

Lutherans welcome release

THE Human Rights and Social Affairs Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (Cape Orange Diocese) has added its voice to those welcoming the release of Mr Nelson Mandela.

Meeting in Port Elizabeth recently, the committee members reiterated the demands made in the Harare Document which the government has not yet addressed.

Religion in Focus

BY NOEL BRUYNS

Star 1/3/90 304

'Blacks must ignore differences'

All must join talks – Chikane

By Chris Whitfield,
The Star Bureau

LONDON — The Rev Frank Chikane has said in a remarkably conciliatory interview here that political differences should not prevent black groups such as the ANC and Inkatha from joining negotiations on a new constitution for South Africa.

The general secretary of the South African Council of Churches said on BBC television yesterday: "I think we need to accept that black groups will have different political perspectives. So there is nothing strange about them having different views about sanctions and about violence.

"But the key issue is that they can all sit around the table and on the basis of the support of the majority, produce a constitution that will serve the interests of South Africa."

Mr Chikane, whose organisation has in the past clashed with Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, was being interviewed after Mr Nelson Mandela's appeal to end the fighting in Natal.

He had been asked how significant, in the light of the differences between the ANC and Inkatha, the township war was to the future of South Africa.

Mr Chikane did, however, make a pointed reference to Chief Buthelezi when he said he was expecting the Inkatha leader would "also act as a statesman and call on his people to stop the violence which is not advancing anybody's cause".

He said President de Klerk was using the Natal violence as a reason to retain the state of emergency, "which I do not believe is the basis on which the state of emergency was called".

Mr Chikane added that Mr Mandela had a lot of influence in South Africa and he was convinced the "people of Zululand" would heed the ANC leader's call to cut out the violence.

Mr Chikane was due to take part yesterday in the Southern Africa Coalition's national lobby of the British parliament to support sustained sanctions.

Sister of murdered Swapo man present

By Michael Shafto

An unexpected visitor to yesterday's second session of the Harms Commission of Inquiry in Pretoria, was the sister of the assassinated Swapo executive, Mr Anton Lubowski. She is the well-known Afrikaans TV presenter of religious programmes and Pretoria housewife, Mrs Jolene du Plessis.

The wife of Mr Philip du Plessis of Verwoerdburg, she sat in the back row of the room where the inquiry is being held.

Ironically, her seat was near that of Major-General Edward Webb, the commanding officer of the SADF's Special Forces who refused on Monday to answer questions put to him by Mr Justice Louis Harms which he felt would incriminate him.

He denied knowledge of possible murder attempts on activists and refused to answer questions about bomb blasts.

Mrs du Plessis, who was estranged from her brother at one time because of his political views, visited him in Windhoek and they were reconciled shortly before he was assassinated.

The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, has alleged that Mr Lubowski was an undercover agent, working in the heart of Swapo for the SADF.

Probe Chikane luggage plot – SACC

Star 7/3/90 (304)

By Michael Shafto

The South African Council of Churches has called on the Harms Commission to investigate thoroughly evidence that members of the Civil Co-operation Bureau plotted to tamper with luggage belonging to the SACC general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane.

The SACC said last night this week's evidence had merely confirmed long-held suspicions.

"We call on the Harms Commission to go deep into this matter because the attack against Rev Chikane was not only plotted, it was executed. We want to know who did it and how, because such disclosures may spare many lives."

304

ECC members followed, Frank Chikane poisoned in US last year

Activists knew of plot against them

By Helen Grange

The Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB) plots against two leading activists were well known to them long before being finally exposed in the Harms Commission of Inquiry this week.

And evidence to the commission that the CCB plotted to tamper with the luggage of the General Secretary of the SA Council of Churches (SACC), Dr Frank Chikane, was long suspected, the SACC said yesterday.

Activists Mr Gavin Evans and Mr Roland Bruce White — both of whom were being monitored with the aim of assassination, according to evidence — told The Star they were long aware of the fact that they were "marked men".

Mr Evans, a leading figure in the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) and Five Freedoms Forum (FFF), said he was tipped off about four months ago that his name was on a military intelligence list.

He had been harassed by security police since 1983 and 18 months ago was threatened while in brief detention to "watch my back". "My motorbike tyres were slashed on occasion and a teargas canister was thrown into my home once," he said.

Campaign against ECC

"I believe it was part of an SA Defence Force campaign against the ECC and was justified by the attitude that it was a 'state of war'," he said.

Mr Evans said that when he had been given "informal confirmation" of the plot against him, he had felt angry because his political involvement was always in the spirit of non-violence. "I wasn't expecting to be marked as a target," he said.

He disbelieved General Malan's statement that he knew of the CCB's existence only late last November.

Mr White, a key figure in the launch of the United Democratic Front in the eastern Cape and a member of the ECC at its inception, said he became aware of the fact that his place of work was "under surveillance" in May last year. He said Mr Ferdi Barnard and Mr Calla Botha were both involved.

"I reported my suspicions to the police, but the significance of my being followed was not clear at that point. I was subsequently contacted by the Brixton Murder and Robbery unit which revealed to me that it was part of a CCB operation under investigation," he said.

'Continue this work'

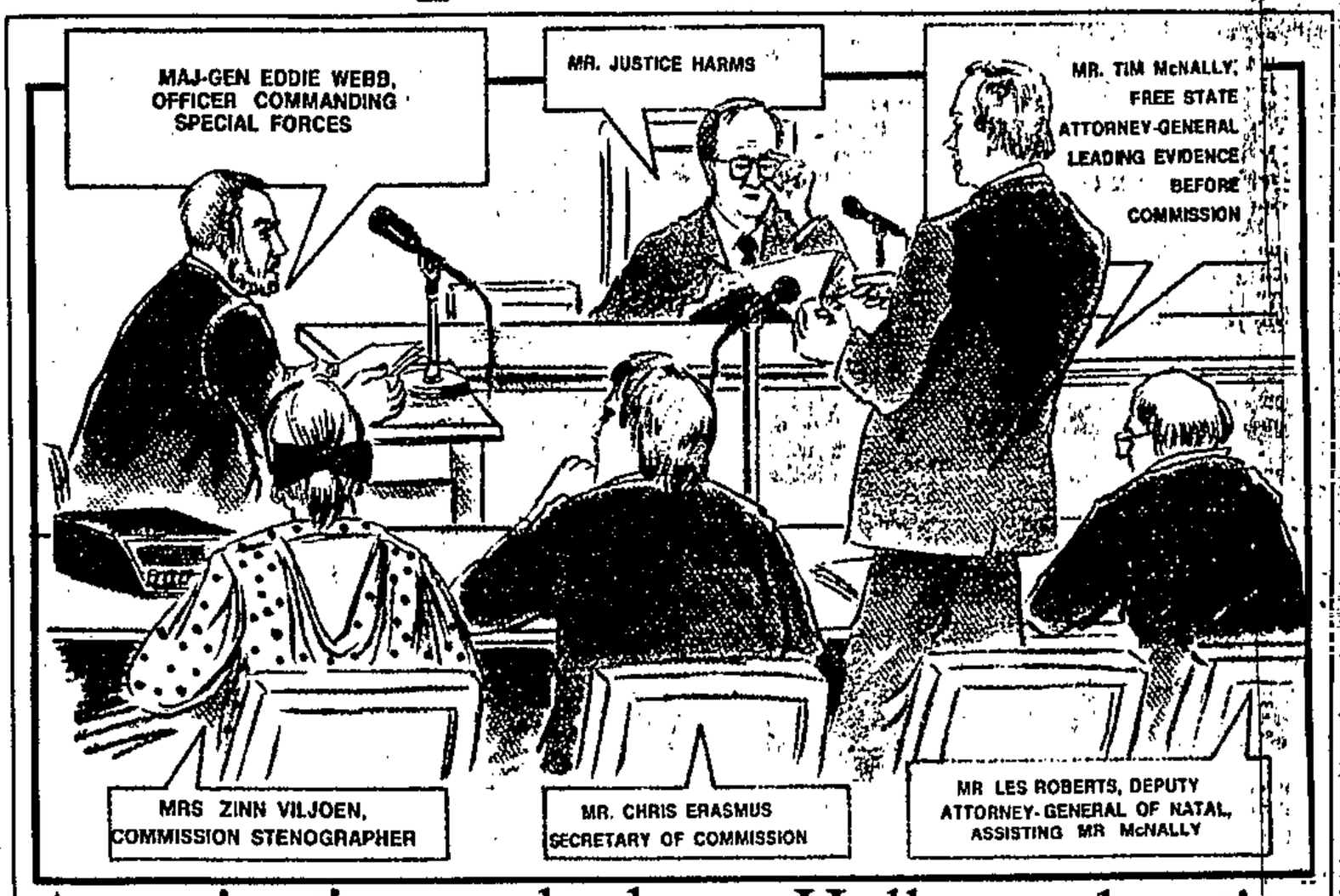
Mr White said he had since been co-operating with the unit's investigation team. Reference had been made to Mr White in a court affidavit opposing the release of Mr Barnard and Mr Botha.

"I can't speculate on why I was marked, but it is quite possible that my links with the ECC were part of it," he said.

Both Mr Evans and Mr White said they were sceptical that such operations would stop with the exposure of the CCB. There would be other right-wing parties within the state apparatus who would continue this work, they said.

The SACC said evidence in the commission regarding Dr Chikane had confirmed their suspicions. "The Reverend was poisoned in May 1989 and investigations pointed to the placement of an organo-phosphate compound on his clothing."

"We call upon the Harms Commission to go deep into this matter because the attack against the Reverend Chikane was not only plotted. It was executed. We want to know who did it and how because such disclosures may spare many lives," an SACC statement said.



Assassination probe has a Hollywood setting

By Michael Shafto

No one here can avoid being in Harms' way.

From the desk at which he sits on an outsized chair, Mr Justice Louis Harms has only to move his head slightly to either side for his gaze to encompass all there is to see in the long, gloomy room.

Facing him at a curved row of tables is the rest of the legal machinery investigating the activities of the Civil Co-Operation Bureau, with Mr Tim McNally, the leading State attorney, its centre piece.

Overhead is modern, strangely shadowy lighting, and beyond the legal tables sit the press in two rows. Everything about the setting comes from the movies — except, unlike judicial investigations in Hollywood films, no one seems to appreciate the boon of the modern microphone.

If you're in the second row with the ocean drone of the air conditioning immediately behind you, the chances of hearing the proceedings are practically nil. There are no Oliviers here, or Charlton Hestons.

OUTWHISPERED

Mumbling Marlons there are aplenty. Mr McNally himself has the quietest of voices, but at yesterday's second day of the hearing even he was outwhispered.

"You'll have to speak a little louder," he told the brown-suited Brigadier Hein Pfeil, retired SADF auditor.

In the cloak and dagger world of the John le Carre spy thrillers, nothing is as it seems.

Even the fact that the Harms Commission of Inquiry is meeting in a second floor lecture room of the NG Kerk Sinodal Sentrum in Pretoria makes perfect sense.

That's how Le Carre would have it.

The author would be hard-pressed, be, to find more twists than have surfaced in just the first two days of the inquiry. In the true tradition of the spy story, people are 'eliminated". Pills to sustain the life of a man with a weak heart are swopped for pills to induce a heart attack.

Code names ... before it was named the CCB, the shadowy organisation allegedly responsible for politically inspired assassinations, was called D 40, then "Bamacle".

It would all be vaguely amusing, if it weren't so deadly serious.

I will not be intimidated, says advocate

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — No attempt on his life would cause him to abandon the struggle for liberation, Cape Town advocate Mr Dullah Omar said yesterday.

Mr Omar, regional vice-president of the United Democratic Front, was one of the targets of the Civil Co-operation Bureau, according to Free State Attorney-General Mr Tim McNally, who questioned the head of the SA Defence Force Special Forces, Major-General Eddie Webb, before the Harms Commission yesterday.

"I have no intention of being intimidated or silenced and neither will I allow this to interfere with my contributions to the liberation struggle," he said.

Mr Omar said he had been aware at times that he was being followed.

"I took no notice of it for the simple reason that we live only once and we must make a contribution for as long as we live."

He would have been useless to the community had he become paranoid about threats to kill him, he added.

"I suppose I'm lucky that plans to kill me did not materialise. What alarms me is that this may just be the tip of the iceberg."

The Harms Commission

(304)(Rtd) Star 16/3/90

Probe into E Rand violence completed

'Rumours sparked fighting'

Staff Reporter

Violence in East Rand townships had been started by rumours "setting communities at each other's throats," the organising secretary of the Witwatersrand Council of Churches (WCC), the Rev Gideon Makhanya, said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Last week residents said the "war" started as a fight between two taxi groups and escalated into a battle between township youths and taximen.

Yesterday the WCC called a press conference to give the results of its probe into the violence.

"In our assessment of the situation in Katlehong, Tokoza, Vosloorus and Tembisa, we found there was a common factor in these areas. Our communities have been deeply polarised and divided.

Hostel inmates

"The violence in these areas has been preceeded by an obvi-ous call from communities to local black authorities to relinquish their positions. Thereafter, there have been rumours from certain quarters setting communities at each other's throats," the Rev Makhanya said.

He said the vehicle and instrument of conflict had been rumour and this usually resulted in hostel inmates fighting against local communities. Those causing conflict had taken advantage of the three-year-old Inkatha/UDF war in Natal.

These *agent provocateurs* had found people of Zulu origin to be an easy target. He said these were political tricks used by those "in power" to drive a wedge between hostel inmates and urban communities.

WCC president the Rev Ezrom Tlholwe told the press conference 45 families of people killed in the Katlehong violence had approached churchmen for assistance last night.

Yesterday, at a peace rally in the township, a member of the Katlehong Civic Association said 26 victims of the conflict would be buried this weekend.

2-chamber parliament idea hailed

Sun 28/3/90 (3047)

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Government's suggestion that it is considering the possibility of a two-chamber Parliament with a one-man one-vote lower chamber and a second chamber with veto rights for minorities has been welcomed by the Democratic Party.

Umhlanga MP Mr Kobus Jordaan, a former constitutional adviser to the Government, said this was a promising sign.

He was reacting to a report that Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen had proposed a bicameral system in an interview with the New York Times.

The lower legislative chamber would be elected on a one-man, one-vote basis, presumably on a common voters roll.

The second chamber would be composed of geographic and racial groups, each of which would have the right to veto legislation which affected matters that were "important politically" to it.

According to the report, Dr Viljoen said these might include regular elections and also the economic system, suggesting that he felt whites would need safeguards against nationalisation and other socialist policies.

Dr Viljoen's suggestion is very similar to the kwaNatal Indaba proposal, except that in that plan the upper house would only have veto rights over purely cultural matters.

The Government has so far rejected the Indaba proposals, but has shown recent signs of coming round to accepting them.

Mr Jordaan said today Dr Viljoen's remarks were one of the hopeful signs coming from Government.

Sowetan 2/4/90

Tutu, ANC to meet

By MATSHUBE MFOLOE

ANGLICAN Archbishop Desmond Tutu and several other church leaders are to meet ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela and Inkatha president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi in a new attempt to end the escalating violence in Natal.

Tutu said this after conducting church services in the Vaal Triangle yesterday. The talks will follow the cancellation of a peace rally which was to be addressed by Buthelezi and Mandela today.

In a brief interview outside the Anglican church in Evaton, Tutu announced the new initiative.

By late last night it was not clear if Mandela would meet Buthelezi today.

However, an Inkatha spokeswoman, Ms Suzan de Vos, confirmed that a delegation of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) led by the Rev Frank Chikane would meet Buthelezi in Ulundi. She denied knowledge of any meeting planned between the Inkatha leader and Tutu or Mandela.

● To page 2

Clashes

● From page 1

According to the latest police unrest report, another eight people were killed and at least 27 wounded in the region.

Five people were killed and one injured at Tafelberg near Doornplaas in clashes between rival groups. Police used R-1 rifle fire and birdshot to disperse a crowd that shot at them, wounding one man. Sowetan 2/4/90

Two died and 24 were injured after the roof of a police "strong point" was damaged by bullets. It was unclear from the police report if the dead were policemen or civilians.

A police vehicle was also damaged by gunfire.

A man was shot and killed by a large crowd at Mpophomeni near Howick. Another man was injured by the crowd.

Police used R-1 rifle fire, birdshot and tearsmoke to disperse fighting groups that shot at the police in two other incidents in the area.

Extensive damage was caused to several houses at Hlangweni, where a large crowd threw petrol bombs at the houses.

A restaurant was also set alight and extensively damaged.

Church leaders shocked

CHURCH leaders of the member churches of the South African Council of Churches who visited the violence-torn areas of Pietermaritzburg last week expressed "extreme shock" at what they saw and heard.

The church leaders have decided to declare the area a disaster area, after the government failed to do so.

SACC general secretary, Dr Frank Chikane, said: "We want South Africans to do something about the crisis in Pietermaritzburg, to open their hearts, homes and their purses, so that we can take care of our people and not have to run abroad for money when there is so much we can do."

Donations can be sent to the SACC head office, 62 Marshall Street, Johannesburg or through local churches and regional councils, who will channel the donations to the head office.

'Pray for peace in Natal'

By Kaizer Nyatsumba 9/4/90

This week is "Holy Week" and the South African Council of Churches has set it aside for prayer and fasting aimed at ending violence and conflict in the country, especially in the war-torn Maritzburg area.

The SACC said in a statement last week that the call had been endorsed by representatives of all faiths in South Africa, and congregations throughout the country were called upon to participate.

This Wednesday, the day on which the Government planned to hold talks with the African National Congress, will be observed as a special day of prayer for the victims of the war in Maritzburg and to call for an end to the violence in Natal. Church leaders will also converge on Maritzburg to express their solidarity with the people in the area.

The call follows a decision taken by church leaders at a two-day meeting last week to intervene in the widening crisis in the country, particularly in Natal, and to facilitate the process of negotiations and a peace-settlement in the battle-scarred province.

sday April 11 1990

SACC delegates meet FW today

Sowetan 11/4/90

PRESIDENT FW de Klerk will meet a South African Council of Churches delegation at Tuynhuys today.

It will be his second meeting with major church leaders since taking office.

Well-placed sources yesterday confirmed a Council of Churches statement that Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Dennis Hurley, the Rev Frank Chikane and Dr Alan Boesak would be seeing De Klerk.

On October 11 last year, he met Tutu, Boesak and Chikane at the Union Buildings for talks - scheduled for 45 minutes - lasting almost three hours.

The churchmen presented De Klerk with a six-point memorandum listing obstacles to negotiations on a constitution for a "new South Africa".

They said he should immediately: Lift the state of emergency; lift restriction orders on people in terms of the emergency and other legislation; release those detained without trial; unban and derestrict political organisations; release all political prisoners; and reprieve all Death Row prisoners and declare a moratorium on executions.

The clerics also set a six-month deadline for De Klerk to allow all exiles to return to South Africa; to repeal all regulations and laws inhibiting political activities; repeal the Separate Amenities Act, Land Acts, Population Registration Act and the Group Areas Act; and start negotiations with movements including the African National Congress.

SACC delegates meet FW today

Sowetan 11/4/90

304

PRESIDENT FW de Klerk will meet a South African Council of Churches delegation at Tuynhuys today.

It will be his second meeting with major church leaders since taking office.

Well-placed sources yesterday confirmed a Council of Churches statement that Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Dennis Hurley, the Rev Frank Chikane and Dr Alan Boesak would be seeing De Klerk.

On October 11 last year, he met Tutu, Boesak and Chikane at the Union Buildings for talks - scheduled for 45 minutes - lasting almost three hours.

The churchmen presented De Klerk with a six-point memorandum listing obstacles to negotiations on a constitution for a "new South Africa".

They said he should immediately: Lift the state of emergency; lift restriction orders on people in terms of the emergency and other legislation; release those detained without trial; unban and derestrict political organisations; release all political prisoners; and reprieve all Death Row prisoners and declare a moratorium on executions.

The clerics also set a six-month deadline for De Klerk to allow all exiles to return to South Africa; to repeal all regulations and laws inhibiting political activities; repeal the Separate Amenities Act, Land Acts, Population Registration Act and the Group Areas Act; and start negotiations with movements including the African National Congress.

FW considers SACC proposals on Natal

CAPE TOWN — President F W de Klerk would give serious consideration to proposals by an SA Council of Churches delegation aimed at ending the violence in Natal, his office said in a statement last night.

The proposals included the creation of an effective and impartial peacekeeping force, and the appointment of a commission of inquiry into the causes of the violence.

The statement was issued after a two-hour meeting between the church delegation and De Klerk, Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Education and Development Aid Minister Stoffel van der Merwe at Tuynhuys yesterday.

The statement said the delegation also presented De Klerk with documents which would be studied. If necessary this could lead to follow-up discussions.

After the meeting the Anglican Bishop of Natal, the Rt Rev Michael Nuttall, said the churchleaders had also called for the affected areas of Natal — particularly Edendale and Vulindlela — to be declared disaster areas.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu said the delegation had also discussed other general issues with De Klerk. — Sapa.

● See Page 2

Sta 18/4/90 (304

Chikane is reinstated

The executive council of the Apostolic Faith Mission of Africa has formally apologised to the SA Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane and reinstated him unconditionally as an ordained pastor of the AFM.

In a letter which was accompanied by an ordination certificate and a certificate of fellowship, the executive council said they would like to express their "formal apology for the inconvenience that the prolonged suspension" caused to Mr Chikane and his family.

According to a statement from Mr Chikane, he had originally been suspended for one year and the suspension was never reviewed. The reason for the suspension was that he was involved in politics.

Mr Chikane said he was "overjoyed" by the reinstatement.

Church workers in court battle to settle dispute

By DAN DHLAMINI c/press 22/4/90 (304)

DISGRUNTLED workers of the Northern Cape and Western Transvaal Council of Churches (NCWTCC) an affiliate of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) are to take their employers to the industrial court for unfair dismissal.

The workers – Samuel Present, Duduetsang Modise, Andrew Phiri, Maria Tlhakane and Roseline Phillips – who had worked for the NCWTCC since 1987 when the office was established in Potchefstroom, also claim in their affidavits that they were not paid their salaries for December 1989 after being fired.

In their affidavits the workers claimed they had been reluctant to start litigation and were trying to resolve the matter amicably.

They said they had also asked the SACC's secretary-general, Rev Frank Chikane, to intervene in the matter without any success.

The workers, who are adamant that they want reinstatement, have stated in their affidavits that the NCWTCC started it all by instituting an urgent application to the Supreme Court, asking for an order for their eviction from the Potchefstroom offices.

In his affidavit, Present claims that on November 7, their employer informed them that the office was moving to Klerksdorp in six days' time.

He said they requested to meet the organising secretary, Rev Harold Brooks, in connection with the move to Klerksdorp and the sudden change of conditions of employment, but he did not respond.

Present said his argument was based on the fact that moving to Klerksdorp would cause problems for the workers as they all live in Potchefstroom and that their clients and the projects they ran in Potchefstroom would be affected.

Responding to *City Press's* inquiry about the strained relations between the NCWTCC executive committee and its employees, Chikane said he was aware of the problems in the area.

However, he said the NCWTCC employees had approached the SACC to act as mediator in the dispute.

He said the NCWTCC was an autonomous body which was not under the jurisdiction of the SACC.

"I learnt the workers have decided to take the matter to court and I cannot stand in their way, it's thier democratic right," said Chikane, who claimed that he would only comment on the role of the SACC as mediators in this regard.

The executive committee of the NCWTCC, who are said to be in Lesotho, attending workshops could not be reached for comment regarding the dispute with their employees.

Detentions 'disturbing' SACC

South 26/4 — 2/5/90

304

The increase in detentions without trial in South Africa "during this time of talks about talks" was disturbing, the South African Council of Churches (SACC) said in a statement.

It quoted an HRC report, saying 568 people were in detention in South Africa — including the "independent states" — on April 11.

"We do not believe the way of resolving the conflict in South Africa is by detaining people without trial or killing them," the SACC said.

"We believe a long-term solution to the problems of South Africa lies in ending the apartheid system and negotiating a new, just, non-racial democratic society."

304

Churches to help exiles

By HENRY LUDSKI and MBULELO LINDA

CHURCH bodies will hold a major conference in South Africa to deal with the repatriation and resettlement of thousands of exiles.

They decided this at a consultation in Lusaka on April 21 and 22 when 37 church leaders and representatives of service organisations met representatives of the ANC's executive committee and others from various ANC departments and a team of theologians of the movement's Department of Religious Affairs.

The SACC, SACBC and MJC will constitute an ad hoc committee to convene the meeting to solicit broad support and to seek the opinion of the democratic movement on repatriation of South African exiles.

The meeting will discuss the possible presense of the UN High Commission for Refugees inside the country.

The ANC is asking its constituency inside the country to deal with this issue, as it feels the presense of the UNHCR inside South Africa might create misunderstanding among its members.

"It would be necessary to sensitise our people on this issue, to make sure that such involvement does not create an impression of a change of policy," an ANC representative said.

Logistics

An UNHCR representative was also present at the meeting, which covered all aspects of the return of an estimated 50 000 exiles from 35 countries.

Sheikh Faaik Gamieldien, MJC chairperson, said the council committed itself to assist on a provincial level.

"There are a lot of logistics to be sorted out before people are able to return, and the church bodies have undertaken to assist," said Gamieldien.

The mammoth task of resetling the returning exiles, an issue which the churches now seem have "adopted", includes looking for jobs, housing, schooling, integration into communities and the setting up of reception centres for returning exiles and their families.

In a recent interview in Lusaka, ANC general secretary, Mr Alfred Nzo, said the ANC was working "furiously" with a number of internal organisations and governments on the issue of the return of exiles and had already been offered some assistance.

However, he added that it was the ANC's "full political conviction" that the return of exiles was above all a South African concern.

He said it was important to ensure that there was an orderly return of cadres — not an aimless drifting back of refugees.

Mammoth

"The employment, housing and general orientation of these returning cadres are bound to be a mammoth task."

The UNHCR, the ANC and the PAC estimate that there are up to 50 000 refugees. Most of these are in Tanzania, where the ANC has camps housing up to 20 000 people, and the PAC accomodates 2 500 people.

The ANC's director of international affairs, Mr Thabo Mbeki, said his organisation's Repatriation Sub-Committee had already started working on a census of the people to be repatriated.

Indemnity

The sub-committee's coordinator and ANC NEC member, Mr Jackie Selebi, said his organisation's delegation to meet State President FW de Klerk next Wednesday would demand the granting of indemnity and a declaration of a general amnesty to the returnees and political prisoners held in South African jails.

SACC deputy general secretary, Ms Hlophe Bam, said after the consultation the ANC would collect statistics also on exiles who were not its members.

The weekend conference also covered the Natal unrest and negotiations.

The consultation was sponsored by the ANC's Department of Religious Affairs.

Alfred Nzo

- WECTU -
Western Cape Teachers Union

SHAWCO
(w.o. no. 0002)
Khayelitsha

By S'BU MNGADI

'Action needed to help Natal's brutalised kids'

A BIG iron pot saved young Mandla from certain death.

The terrified boy hid in the pot while attackers shot and hacked to death everyone in his Mpumulanga home during a 30-minute massacre.

The screams of dying people still ring in his ears, he says.

At 1am, Mandla walked two kilometres to his aunt's house to tell of the massacre. When he returned the next morning, six bodies lay strewn about the house. The horrific sight still gives him nightmares.

Mandla is just one of the many children left emotionally brutalised by the Natal violence, with little or no hope for the future.

Psychologists say immediate short-term relief for these victims lies in proper political education.

They say political groups in the province could provide "group therapy", but all agree on the need for immediate intervention. If the children are not counselled, their anger could explode against a post-apartheid government.

The brutalised children, ranging in age from four to 15, are commonly found in refugee centres, safe houses and in the remains of their burnt-out homes.

Some found their way to ANC headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, hoping to receive crash military training.

Shocked by what he saw in Lusaka, Dr Khoza Mgojo, chairman of the South African Council of Churches refugees committee, last week remarked: "Children aged four to 17 are forced by circumstances to flee their homes and travel as far as Zambia. This means the situation is very serious and the healing will take a long time because these children are going to carry wounds in their hearts for years."

In the past five years of political violence these children have witnessed massacres, the killing of their loved ones and the destruction of villages and neighbourhoods. Many took part in these grisly deeds.

Headmistress of the Maritzburg-based Ekukhanyeni Training Centre for mentally retarded children Miriam Gqubule, who holds a master's degree in counselling, warned that these kids would carry emotional scars for life unless there was immediate intervention.

Gqubule recently spent several days talking to children at refugee camps in the Maritzburg region. She probed their feelings about the war.

Questions about the violence, she observed, aroused negative feelings.

Mandla is one of the victims who faces an uncertain future in a refugee camp.

Gqubule said: "Mandla takes everything literally. At his age he is not capable of analysing everything properly. All he says is 'Inkatha iyasizonda' (Inkatha hates us).

"He vents his anger on his peers at the refugee camp who have also been traumatised in different circumstances."

She said although children tended to survive the psychological effects of violence, those from poor socio-economic backgrounds were hardest hit by its effects.

"I once found children at my school trampling over a fellow colleague. When asked why, the reply was: 'She lives in an Inkatha area, so she must be a vigilante'."

There is nowhere in the world where political deaths occur on the scale they do in Natal, according the South African Institute of Race Relations. Deaths from political strife in the province are above that of battle-scarred Beirut and Belfast.

Children in the province have become highly politicised, but without any clear direction.

Gqubule cited the case of one boy who returned from school to find a line had been drawn between his village and the Inkatha-controlled area. He was told his village had been renamed "Moscow" and everyone living in the area was a comrade.

She said "mass labelling" had produced highly-politicised, leaderless, aimless, dissatisfied and angry children.

Many children did not attend political meetings and rallies before deciding to join the comrades. Their political affiliation was instant and overnight, she said.

Gqubule asked several children what Inkatha and the United Democratic Front were. The answers, she says, were startling: "Inkatha attacks us in the company of police. The UDF protects us against Inkatha and the police at night." This formed the basis for choice of political affiliation.

She warned unless there was intervention to address the psychological needs of these children, any future government would have a crisis on its hands – created by the brutalisation of children who could easily turn into psychopaths.

Political organisations could provide this kind of therapy through political education.

There is a great need to counsel young victims of violence, according to Father Martin Moore-Corry of St Paul's Church in Ntuzuma.

He warned that by neglecting this aspect of the violence, leaders were sitting on a time bomb which could explode at a time when they wanted stability.

The height of the violence was in December and January, but Moore-Corry observed during counselling of brutalised children and their families that the violence was still fresh in the children's minds.

He said the children never grasped why their loved ones had been killed.

There are limits to what groups can do to alleviate the problem, according to Sipho Shezi of the Department of Political Science at Natal University in Maritzburg.

"Political education will allow them to rise above the Inkatha/-UDF syndrome, but it won't address the direct effects of what is happening. Political education may move their anger away from Inkatha and towards the 'system'. This system could unfortunately include a post-apartheid government."

Refugee camps are filled with orphaned children who have been brutalised by the violence.

SACC man gunned down

Anger mounts in Natal after armed suspect walks free

By S'BU MNGADI

NATAL was yesterday still in a state of grief and shock after the assassination on Friday morning of Rev Victor Sipho Africander, chairman of the Maritzburg Council of Churches and executive member of the SACC.

The tension was aggravated as a 40-year-old man, earlier arrested in connection with the murder, was later released.

According to Maritzburg police spokesman Henry Budhram, a gun was found in the man's possession.

He said although witnesses had pointed the suspect out to police, there was insufficient evidence to connect him with the killing.

Africander was driving the daughter of a relative, Thandekile Khumalo, 6, to school when he was shot at point-blank range at about 7.30am. He was hit in the head and chest.

Thandekile, a pupil at St Nicholas School, was grazed above her right ear by a bullet. She was discharged from Edendale Hospital later in the day.

The shooting happened in Imabali's Sutherland Road, not far from Africander's home and the St Mark's Anglican Church where he was a priest.

According to one witness, Africander stopped at an intersection near St Mark's. The witness had earlier noticed two young men – one with a balaclava pulled over his face – standing in a nearby bus shelter.

"The man wearing a balaclava ran towards the car. I heard three loud noises and my first thought was that a car had backfired.

"The two men ran off immediately and got into a silver grey car, which was parked some distance away. The driver was waiting for them," said the eyewitness.

The man arrested after the incident could not be positively connected to the killing, police confirmed.

The spokesman said the man's firearm was confiscated after the arrest, but it was established no shots had been fired with it recently.

The firearm will be sent to Pretoria for forensic tests.

Chikane visits Natal in new bid for peace

SUSAN RUSSELL

SA COUNCIL of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane left for Maritzburg and Durban late last week in a bid to revive the Natal peace talks. (304)

Chikane was to hold talks on Friday with Harry Gwala and other UDF officials in the area.

In a statement issued on Friday the SACC said church leaders had already held discussions with Inkatha, the ANC and President F W de Klerk on the Natal violence.

On Friday the Australian goverment's local representative David Sprott handed Chikane a cheque for R399 200 to assist victims of the Natal violence.

Chikane's visit coincided with the murder of Maritzbug Council of Churces chairman the Rev Victor Africander, 60, at Imbali on Friday while driving his granddaughter to school.

A 40-year-old man was arrested on Friday in connection with Afrikander's shooting, but released on Saturday because of a lack of evidence. BIDay 7/5/90

Our Maritzburg correspondent reports that Africander's six-year-old granddaughter was slightly wounded in the attack. She was treated at Edendale hospital and discharged.

Many victims of the unrest in the Maritzburg area were buried from St Mark's Church, where Africander was rector for many years.

NATAL UNREST DEATHS

September 1987 — January 1989:	668
February 1989 — May 4 1990:	962
Past 72 hours' official toll:	3
TOTAL:	1 633

Policeman stabbed to death

PRETORIA — A special constable was stabbed to death and an off-duty policeman seriously injured while his girlfriend was allegedly raped in two separate incidents in the Kimberley township of Galeshewe on Saturday, police said yesterday.

The Kimberley incidents were carried out by mobs and so far no arrests have been made.

The official unrest report issued by the SAP's public relations division here also recorded the arrest of 12 people at an illegal gathering at the old Wits Technikon in Johannesburg and nine people — striking municipal workers — in New Brighton near Port Elizabeth. In both instances police orders to disperse were ignored.

Seven youths were arrested after a stone-throwing incident at Constantia near Kroonstad.

Five houses were extensively damaged at Inhlalakahle near Greytown by a mob with petrol bombs. — Sapa.

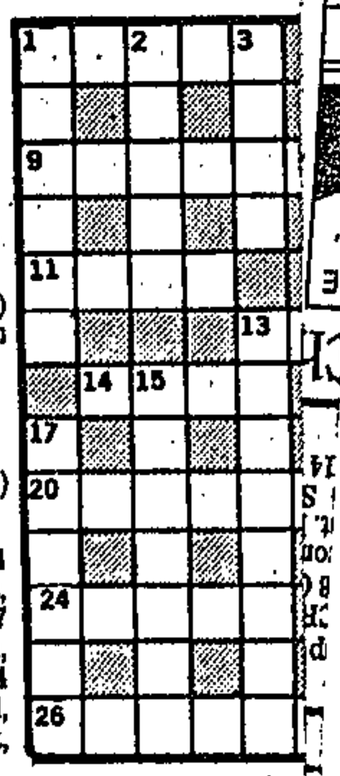
30 MINUTE X-WORD 7584

ACROSS

1 Entire (5)
4 Mariner (6)
9 Breathing space (7)
10 Flat-bottomed boats (5)
11 Uncomplicated (4)
12 Citrus fruit (7)
13 Fitting (3)
14 Young ox (4)
16 Shipshape (4)
18 Payable (3)
20 Hiker (7)
21 Luminary (4)
24 Long note (5)
25 Handel oratorio (7)
26 Artifical (6)
27 Overlord (5)

DOWN

1 Prison officer (6)
2 Watering hole (5)
3 Nefarious (4)
5 Bodily craving (8)
6 Lethargic (7)
7 Scallywag (6)
8 Banquet (5)
13 Prosperous (8)
15 Lacking purpose (7)
17 Fit for cultivation (6)
18 Stagecraft (5)
19 Toxophilite (6)
22 Experiment (5)
23 Russian monarch (4)

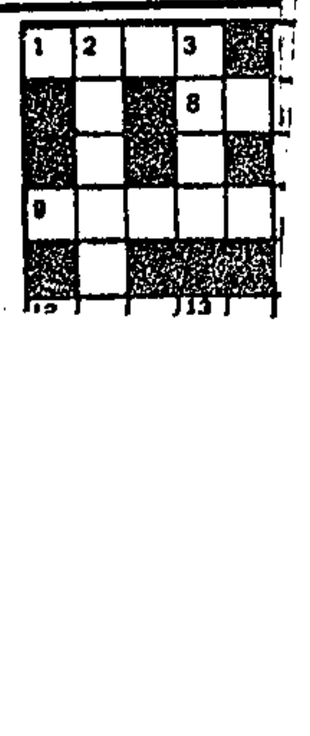


SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD PUZZLE No 7584 — Across:1 Whirled, 5 Weary, 8 Rumba, 9 Pencils, 10 Honiton, 11 Opium, 12 Precis, 14 Remark, 17 Elect, 19 Taploca, 22 Entered, 23 Llama, 24 Denim, 25 Outcome. Down: 1 Worth, 2 Immense, 3 Least, 4 Depend, 5 Winsome, 6 Alibi, 7 Yashmak, 12 Pretend, 13 Interim, 15 Avocado, 16 Studio, 18 Eaten, 20 Pilot, 21 Adage.

30 MINUTE X-WORD 7795

ACROSS

1 Go directly South to pick up owings (4)
8 Choosy as a matter of fact (10)
9 Badly rue earlier open opening move (8)
10 It is a foot long and more (4)
12 Game stand for the captain (6)
14 Being flexible gets one into the works (6)



SACC urges end to strike deadlock

From MONO BADELA

JOHANNESBURG. — More than 8 000 striking hospital workers could be back at work by the weekend — if exhaustive talks between hospitals and trade union leaders lead to an agreement.

Until then, patients will continue to be caught in the middle of a bitter dispute between health workers fighting for better wages and job security and hospital authorities administering a health system on the brink of collapse.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) were unable to reach an agreement at their marathon talks on Wednesday.

Optimistic

However, they were still optimistic that a settlement could be thrashed out before the weekend.

A TPA spokesperson said an agreement could cover the wide spectrum of workers' demands and would include the sensitive issue of privatisation.

Meanwhile, the South African Council of Churches expressed its "grave concern" over the hospital crisis which, it said, threatened the health and lives of many people.

The SACC said the strike should not be handled as an ordinary industrial dispute because of the threat to lives. Extra-ordinary measures should be used to to resolve the dispute as a "matter of urgency".

SACC general secretary, Dr Frank Chikane, has conveyed his concern to Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Rina Venter, and Minister of Administration and Privatisation, Dr Wim de Villiers, urging them to be guided by the "principles of safeguarding human life".

● Pages 8, 17

vie
s!
see
SA film
ge 9

Dreams come true

Maimed exile's emotional homecoming

● See page 7

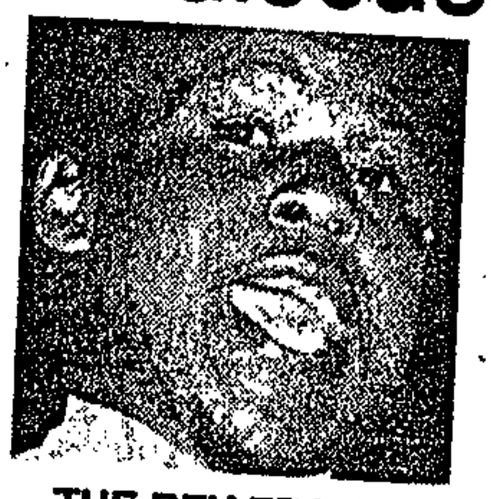
Churches to discuss exiles

304

THE South African Council of Churches (SACC) is to hold a three-day national consultation to prepare for the return of South African exiles.

The meeting, to be held from today at Koinonia in Johannesburg, will seek to clarify the role of the church on the return of exiles, according to the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SACC.

Chikane said the meeting would be attended by member churches of the SACC, the South African Catholic Bishops Conference, regional councils of churches and associate members of the SACC. The Baptist Convention of South Africa and the National Baptist Convention have also been invited, he said.



THE REV FRANK CHIKANE

He said a broader consultation involving liberation movements such as the ANC, the Black Consciousness Movement and the PAC would take place immediately afterwards.

Last month the SACC had a consultative meeting with the ANC in Lusaka on the issue.

Church, PAC meet

A DELEGATION of church leaders of the member churches of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) met members of the executive of the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) on Wednesday to discuss recent political developments and the issue of negotiations.

"This meeting follows a decision taken by church leaders at their meeting in March to consult — as extensively as possible — all organisations within the liberation movement on issues of national importance," an SACC statement said.

Religion in Focus

BY NOEL BRUYNS

without access to the ballot box, the liberation movements were compelled to use force, besides other means, to end oppression.

"However, it is incomprehensible that the AWB, which has access to the vote and the available democratic procedures, should be left with impunity to resort to military tactics to preserve their interests," he said.

In the face of unchecked rightwing mobilisation, it would be difficult to persuade the ANC to pursue its commitment to the possibility of suspending the armed struggle, Chikane warned.

Church plans for return of exiles

From MONO BADELA

JOHANNESBURG. — Advanced plans were made here this week to receive home South Africa's estimated 400 000 exiles.

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has offered to take responsibility for the return of exiles of all political affiliations.

This would include setting up reception structures and settlement areas.

SACC general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, said this week he felt churches were "better placed to take overall responsibility for receiving exiles, irrespective of their affiliations".

He was speaking at a national consultation attended by more than 60 delegates from all over the country.

Chikane emphasised that individual liberation movements would have programmes of their own to receive their members, but church buildings would be available to all needing help.

A national coordinating structure comprising church leaders and members representing various liberation movements, including the African National Congress (ANC), Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) and Black Consciousness Movement (BCM), was set up in Johannesburg this week to help prepare for the return of South African exiles.

Conferences

Two national consultative conferences, the first attended by member churches of the South African Council of Churches, the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC), regional councils of churches and associate members of the SACC, clarified the role of the church on the return of exiles.

Members of the Council of Churches of Namibia (CCN), led by the Rev Immanuel Dumeni, were invited as guests and advisors because of their practical experiences in repatriating exiles.

A broader consultation involving liberation movements such as the ANC, the BCM and the PAC was also held. It established a coordinating structure for the activities of other groups.

Chikane said the effective resettlement of exiles made it necessary for issues such as welfare, health, education, shelter and employment to be investigated.

The consultation conference recognised that the welfare of all exiles, especially people with special needs, should receive attention.

The conference also focused on:

- The need for families receiving exiles to be prepared to incorporate them.
- The training of counsellors.
- The gravity of the shelter problem. It was felt the provision of land remained the responsibility of the government.
- Research on employment opportunities and skill profiles, which had to be undertaken immediately.

Consensus was reached on the seriousness of the education crisis and its implications for returning exiles.

Mr Horst Klindsmidt of the International Aid and Defence and Rev Frank Chikane (SACC) at the planning meeting this week

304

SACC plan for returning exiles today?

THE South African Council of Churches is expected to make a statement today with regard to a programme for the repatriation of exiles to the country.

The return of exiles is part of an initiative sparked by State President FW de Klerk on February 2 when he unbanned the ANC, PAC, South African Communist Parties and deristricted most of the remainder of extra-parliamentary opposition to the Government.

The February initiative was followed by a meeting three months later on May 2,3 and 4 between historical foes, the ANC and Government, where stumbling blocks were identified before a negotiation process could start.

One of the stumbling blocks suggested by the

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN

ANC was the return of exiles and the possibility of summarily arrest upon arrival back in South Africa.

Government undertook to look at a general amnesty and a Bill in this respect was eventually passed - not without much consternation form Conservative Party parliamentarians - effecting moves to repatriate exiles.

It has been speculated that close to a million people have left the country over the past three decades and most of them would like to return. Not all of them are effected by the Indemnity Bill.

Reasons

People who left for personal reasons and later boarded a bandwagon as exiles are free to return and have been for many years.

Former State President, Mr PW Botha's said during his term that people like Mirriam Makeba could come back at any time.

Makeba and her contemporaries Hugh Masekela, Abdullah Ebrahim and others have travelled throughout the world extensively.

Many of the exiles effected by the Bill are people who, as ANC leader Joe Slovo said upon his return to South Africa recently, left by the back door...

Centres set up for returning refugees

M Mail 15/5 - 24/5/90

BY THANDEKA GQUBULE

REFUGEE reception centres will be set up at border posts and at international airports throughout South Africa from Monday. (304)

The South African Council of Churches moved swiftly this week to gear itself up for major reception operations throughout the country.

Refugees are expected to start their exodus home after the report back of the joint Government/African National Congress Working Group on Monday

It is expected that most exiles will be permitted to return but that some may still be the subject of negotiations.

The SACC has called for a general amnesty for all exiles and a cessation of hostilities to be declared by the government and the resistance movements.

"There is a need for the government and the Liberation Movement to agree on a cessation of hostilities under which the status of exiles in the armed forces will be decided," SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said this week.

According to the United Nations, each applicant for repatriation will be interviewed and is required to complete the standard UNHCR voluntary repatriation form.

SACC representative Wanita Meyer said there were no accurate statistics of the number of South Africans in exile.

The ANC, however has said it has 20 000 refugees within its own ranks. There is an unknown number of exiles in other political organisations such as the Black Consciousness Movement, and the Pan Africanist Congress.

C/Pleas 20/5/90

304 350

Church 4 to advise on exiles

A DELEGATION from the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) will advise the South African Council of Churches on the repatriation of exiled South Africans.

Namibia Today reported in Windhoek that four members of the CCN's Triple R (Repatriation, Resettlement and Reconstruction) co-ordinating committee are to meet SACC executive officers this weekend.

The delegates will also attend a national consultation of churches and progressive organisations to prepare a resettlement programme.

The CCN worked with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to bring home 40 000 Namibian exiles before elections last November. – Sapa.

Warlord did not live to face murder charges

By S'BU MNGADI and SAPA

NOTORIOUS Inkatha warlord and Imbali town councillor, Jerome Mncwabe, who died in a hail of AK47 gunfire in his own backyard this week, is believed to have been behind the recent killing of South African Council of Churches official Rev Victor Africander.

But Mncwabe's family and Inkatha colleagues this week claimed he "would not hurt a fly" and was a "scapegoat for others' offences".

Across the road from his house and elsewhere in Maritzburg, people openly celebrated, saying "it's long overdue".

Police spokesman Lt Henry Budhram said Mncwabe was shot in the left shoulder and back at 7.30pm on Wednesday as he opened his kitchen door. He was certified dead on arrival at Grey's Hospital.

At 9.30pm on Thursday, Mncwabe's neighbour Mbhaveni Ngcobo – a UDF activist – was also gunned down in his taxi.

Police confirmed Mncwabe had been held for a few hours after the assassination of SACC executive member Africander at Imbali on May 3. The priest was driving his six-year-old granddaughter Thandekile to school when he was shot by a man wearing a balaclava.

A pistol found in Mncwabe's possession a few metres from the scene was sent to ballistics experts in Pretoria for tests, but police cited lack of evidence for the suspect's release.

Mncwabe had two murder charges and one interdict over his head at the time of his death.

In November 1987, Mncwabe – a former security guard – was charged along with Nkosinathi Mncwabe, for the murder of Mduduzi Dlamini, Bongani Mselelu and Victor Mthiyane in Imbali. Mncwabe admitted shooting the two youths at point blank range, but said it was in self-defence. He was found not guilty.

Mncwabe appeared in court charged with the murder of Sipho Magubane in August 1988. He was released on bail of R200.

He appeared in court again in August 1989, accused of murdering National Metalworkers' Union of South Africa shop steward Jabu Ndlovu, her husband and their daughter, Khumbuzile. He was released on R750 bail.

With Themba Mtshali and a 17-year-old youth, he was charged with the murder of Sifiso Zondi, who was shot dead on December 2, 1989.

Prosecutor SG Maritz said Mncwabe was known as a "warlord" in Maritzburg.

Mncwabe denied this. He was released on R1 000 bail in February.

On Friday police confirmed several people had been questioned in connection with Mncwabe's death and that two AK47 cartridges were found at the scene.

Political comment and newsbills by K Sibiya, headlines and sub-editing by K Naidoo, both of 2 Herb Street, New Doornfontein, Johannesburg.

Cape Town hosts SACC

South 23/5 - 29/5/90
(304)

THE annual national conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) will be held at the Peninsula Technikon on Bellville from June 25 to 29.

This is the first time in recent years that the conference is not held in Johannesburg, where the SACC is based.

The opening ceremony, during which the presidential address will be delivered by Bishop Manas Buthelezi, is open to the public. It will take place on June 25 at 8pm.

Churches for exiles

South 23/5 - 29/5/90
304

A CONSULTATION hosted by various religious bodies to work out a programme of action on the repatriation of South African exiles was held in Johannesburg recently.

The meeting was hosted by the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference (SACBC), the Muslim Judicial Council (MJC), Jews for Social Justice and the SA Hindu Maha Sabha.

It was attended by the ANC, PAC, Black Consciousness Movement and 23 service organisations.

The consultation also worked out structures to carry out the programme.

"A national coordinating committee comprising representatives of religious groups and the liberation movement would be the policy-making body of the structure that will oversee the repatriation of exiles," the SACC said in a statement released this week.

Religion in Focus

BY NOEL BRUYNS

SACC wants army dodgers back

Star 31/5/90 304 283

By Janet Heard

White male conscripts who left South Africa to avoid military service will be included in the South African Council of Churches (SACC) programme for repatriation of exiles, the Rev Frank Chikane said yesterday.

SACC general secretary Mr Chikane told a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday that in order to handle the "mammoth task" of preparing the return of exiles, their legal status had to be clarified to ensure they were not harassed or arrested.

The costs involved were enormous, because they would have to be provided with shelter and education.

Giving a report-back on conferences involving the SACC and political groupings, he said that before exiles returned, there had to be a general amnesty.

Various task forces dealing with specific issues in the repatration process included reception, protection, counselling, health, welfare, housing, transport, education, employment and reconstruction.

"There is an urgent need for the Government to remove Land Act laws from the statute books and make land available to be used by the returnees," Mr Chikane said.

The task force was established earlier this year by the SACC and the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference.

formalities had been completed. - Sapa.

Chikane mission

Sowetan 6/6/90 304

THE general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, the Rev Frank Chikane, left for Nairobi yesterday to meet ANC and PAC dissidents.

An SACC statement yesterday said Chikane would meet people "who have allegedly experienced difficulties with their respective organisations".

UN team to meet SACC

Star 15/6/90

DURBAN — The United Nations fact-finding mission visiting South Africa will meet members of the SA Council of Churches in Johannesburg this afternoon.

The team flies from Durban to Johannesburg today after talks here with the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, as well as KwaZulu Ministers.

A spokesman for the UN team, Michael Moller, said they would also meet a delegation from the Consultor Business Movement and members of the National African Chamber of Commerce during its five-day visit to Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The team has spent two days in Natal and has had discussions with the African National Congress, Natal Provincial Administration officials and members of Inkatha, among others. — Sapa.

SACC 'vindicated'

Staff Reporter

THE stand taken by the SA Council of Churches (SACC) has been vindicated by recent changes in the country, the Rev Frank Chikane said at a service yesterday to open the SACC national conference in the city.

At the "service of celebration", Archbishop Desmond Tutu delighted the congregation of 600 at one stage by dancing to the rhythm of a marimba band playing in the church.

Mr Chikane, general-secretary of the SACC, said when the organisation had called for the release of detainees, it was accused of supporting violence. When it called for the unbanning of organisations, it had been called communist.

Star 27/6/90 (304)

'SACC must redefine role in a new SA'

CAPE TOWN — Political change in South Africa will make it necessary for the Church to redefine its role when apartheid is buried.

This applied particularly to the SA Council of Churches, its general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, said at the SACC's national conference in Cape Town yesterday.

He said it would also be necessary for Churches to rely "more and more on our own resources to continue the new type of ministry which we will be called upon to exercise".

The expenditure of the SACC had increased "incredibly", particularly over the years during which the state of emergency was enforced, he said.

During those years the Church "was called on to play an unusual role in response to the political crisis".

The SACC's budget had risen from R10 million in 1986 to just under R34 million by 1990.

Sanctions

Mr Chikane urged the SACC not to change its policy on sanctions, to call for a constituent assembly and to ask the Government to remove all remaining obstacles to negotiations.

The lifting of sanctions could only be considered when the dismantling of apartheid had reached an irreversible stage, he argued, and he urged the conference to adopt a definition of "irreversibility".

According to this definition, irreversibility could only be arrived at when the white minority could no longer use unrepresentative legislative structures legally to reverse the process to change the status quo.

In a section of his report entitled State of the Nation and tabled yesterday, Mr Chikane urged the SACC to call for the widening of the Harms Commission and for the immediate dismantling of the Civil Co-operation Bureau.

He called for the immediate dismissals of Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Defence Minister Magnus Malan.

Neither had been called to account "for what ultimately must be their individual responsibilities". — Own Correspondent-Sapa.

Security is a priority

CAPE TOWN — An official residence for the secretary-general of the SA Council of Churches, built at an estimated cost of R700 000 in Diepkloof, Soweto, is expected to be completed soon.

The national executive committee of the council decided to build an official residence and to ensure it was fitted with adequate security after the bombing of Khotso House, general administrative secretary, the Rev Francois Bill, has reported.

He said funds for the house had been pledged by churches in Norway, Germany, Switzerland and Canada.

The insurance claim paid out after the bombing was R3,3 million. — Own Correspondent.

SOWETAN Wednesday June 27 1990

Chikane calls for SACC action

304
Soweton 27/6/90

REV CHIKANE

THE South African Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane yesterday called for "deliberation and action" by the SACC on an 11-point list of recommendations he outlined to it.

Delivering his address to the SACC's National Conference in Bellville, Cape Town, Chikane discussed:

- The adoption and popularisation of the concept of "irreversibility" in the political process;
- The maintenance of sanctions and other pressures;
- The encouragement of groups and churches abroad to present the SACC's views to their governments; and
- A call on the Government to remove all remaining obstacles to negotiations.

Further points included a call for a constituent assembly; churches to take responsibility for economic justice in a post-apartheid South Africa; widening of the terms of reference of the Harms Commission and dismantling of the CCB; the abolition of capital punishment; the repeal of the Disclosure of Foreign Funding Act; a campaign to repeal the Land Act; and endorsement of plans for the repatriation of exiles. - Sapa.

SACC to see politicians on violence

CM Times 27/6/90

A CONSULTATIVE meeting should be held soon between South Africa's various liberation movements "to put a stop to the disturbing differences which have the potential for future violent conflict", the Rev Frank Chikane, SA Council of Churches general secretary, said yesterday.

In his "state of the nation" speech to the SACC's national conference in Bellville, he said the differing stances taken by organisations such as the ANC, PAC and Azapo on negotiations had already created "elements of this kind of violence".

Only quick action would ensure that it was "nipped in the bud".

Church leaders had decided to "intervene in this regard by engaging these organisations in critical dialogue" with a view to identifying common positions and possible compromises.

All organisations, he said, argued that a constituent assembly, similar to that of Namibia, "was the most productive way of legitimately producing an acceptable constitution".

The best formula for a negotiation process was believed by the ANC, PAC and Black Consciousness Movement to be that of a constituent assembly, and there also had to be a formula "to produce economic justice".

"It is inconceivable to expect the victims of apartheid to accept the maintenance of the status quo which will perpetuate the gross systematic inequalities in the name of free enterprise and guarantees of rights to freedom of property," he said.

Effective corrective measures would include the redistribution of land and affirmative action programmes. These would involve massive training and the restructuring of the educational system.

The churches would "have to speak out vigorously on this matter of economic justice and the need for structural corrective measures".

In discussing the Harms Commission and the role of the CCB, Mr Chikane called for the immediate dismissal of the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan. — Sapa

SACC urged not to change sanctions stand

By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN, Staff Reporter

THE South African Council of Churches has been urged by its secretary general not to change its policy on sanctions, to call for a constituent assembly and to ask the government to remove all remaining obstacles to negotiations.

In a section of his report entitled *State of the Nation* and tabled yesterday, the Rev Frank Chikane also urged the 22nd national SACC conference to call for the widening of the Harms Commission and for the immediate dismantling of the Civil Co-operation Bureau.

He recommended the SACC call for the abolition of capital punishment "rather than only for the reform of the law", support a campaign to repeal the Land Act, and deplore the attack on the Wilgespruit Fellowship Centre.

He also recommended that the SACC deplore the Disclosure of Foreign Funding Act and call for its immediate repeal "as an act of good faith on the part of the State President".

Economic justice

He recommended that the conference call on member churches to take responsibility for ensuring that economic justice would prevail in a post-apartheid society.

He urged the conference to encourage its international partners to present the views of South African churches to their governments and institutions.

The lifting of sanctions could be considered only when the dismantling of apartheid had reached an irreversible stage, he argued, and he urged the conference to adopt a definition of "irreversibility".

Unrepresentative structures

According to this definition, irreversibility could only be arrived at when the white minority could no longer use unrepresentative legislative structures to legally reverse the process to change the status quo.

The prospects for a negotiated settlement in South Africa were greater today than at any other time, Mr Chikane said.

"There are, however, several problems in the area of negotiations that need our attention."

He hoped that the Joint Working Committee, created after the Groote Schuur meeting between the government and the African National Congress, would remove these obstacles.

● An official residence for the secretary general of the South African Council of Churches, built at an estimated cost of R700 000 in Diepkloof, Soweto, is expected to be completed by July.

The national executive committee of the SACC decided to build an official residence and to ensure it was fitted with adequate security after the bombing of Khotso House, said general administrative secretary the Rev Francois Bill in his administration, finance and personnel report.

Funds for the house were pledged by churches in Norway, Germany, Switzerland and Canada.

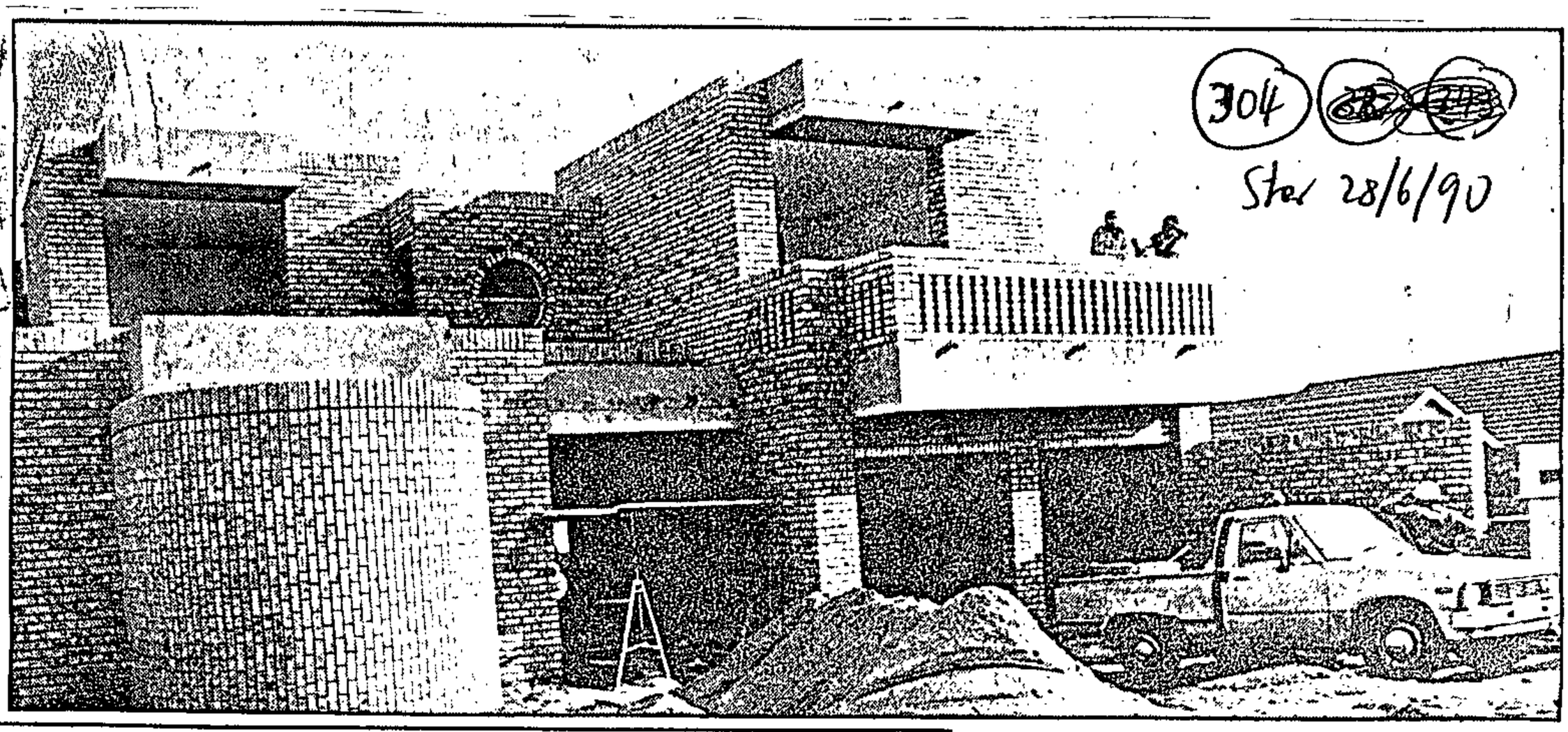
The insurance claim paid out after the bombing was R3,3 million and the SACC was left with R2,6 million after various payments. Khotso House is now up for sale "voetstoots".

This year's SACC budget amounted to R34,6 million.

Donor partners pledged a total of R22 million, leaving the SACC with a shortfall of some R12,5 million.

304

Star 28/6/90



SACC mansion nearly ready

The South African Council of Churches' R700 000 mansion in Diepkloof Extension, Soweto, will be completed next month and the Rev Frank Chikane will be the first SACC general secretary to occupy it. The house has eight bedrooms and 4½ bathrooms. The Rev Francois Bill, SACC general administrative secretary, said churches in Norway, Germany, Switzerland and Canada had pledged funds for the house. He said the house would be fitted with adequate security.

● Picture by Herbert Mabuza.

and
nglo
ices
tary)

e)

er
ted

pe)

cheaper on a centralised basi

SACC concern over funding

B ID Cm 28/6/90

CAPE TOWN — There was concern over whether the traditional funding sources of the SA Council of Churches would remain "in these days of reform", the SACC National Conference was told yesterday. (300)

Dependants Conference director Sophie Mazibuko expressed concern over the availability of funds for various projects, especially in areas of welfare and the rehabilitation of political prisoners. (304)

She also said current discussions "with the regime should involve a moratorium on removal of people from their land".

The Dependants Conference funded 1 230 legal cases in 1989, excluding those handled by its Cape Town office. — Sapa.

ed in Unidata taking a leading
nent of open systems.
our business we are able to
on best suited to your needs.
t will give you maximum

commitment and history of
tionships make us the ideal
er.
the freedom to extend your

DATA

on, contact Unidata's Marketing
) 441-4111.

R700 000 double storey Soweto mansion is built for SACC official Chikane

Fit for a king

(304) Sowetan 28/6/90

THE South African Council of Churches is building a R700 000 double-storey mansion for its general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane.

By MOKGADI PELA and Sapa

The Diepkloof Extension, Soweto, house should be ready for occupation next month.

SACC general administrative secretary the Rev Francois Bill said yesterday at the organisation's 22nd national conference in Cape Town that it would ensure that the house had adequate security.

This was because of the the bombing of Khotso House two years ago.

He said in his finance and personnel report that funds for the house were pledged by churches in Norway, Germany, Switzerland and Canada.

The insurance claim paid out after the bombing was R3,3 million and the SACC was left with R2,6 million after various payments. Khotso House was now up for sale "voetstoots".

Bill said this year's SACC budget was R34,6 million. Donors pledged a total of R22 million, leaving the SACC with a shortfall of about R12,5 million.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports that the conference was told that there was concern whether the SACC's "traditional funding sources" would stay with it "in these days of reform".

In her report to the conference, director of the Dependants' Conference Ms Sophie Mazibuko expressed concern over funds available for various projects, especially in areas of welfare and the rehabilitation of political prisoners.

"The release of political prisoners in great numbers will require more money from the Dependants' Conference than is presently available," she said.

The Dependants' Conference funded 1 230 cases under its legal programme in 1989, excluding those handled by its Cape Town office.

A total of more than R2,5 million was spent on legal fees in 1989, she said.

SACC general secretary Frank Chikane

July special tomorrow

CASINO
ALL HAM
Casino is C
STOCKS AT
OUR FRIENDL
Men's Socks
Men's Lambs
Men's Fashio
Men's Shirts
St Geran T-Sh
Men's D/B Su
T-Shirts (All
Freego Skirts
Ladies' Heav
(No Lining
Ladies' Hea
(Lined) fro
Barathea Li
(Size 32-44) .....
Ladies' Skir
Boys'
Trousers ....
Blankets
Children's Fa
Casino buys
HELP-FO

Electric fence has killed 94 SACC

Sowetan 28/6/90

304

THE electric fence erected on the Mozambique border by the South African Government to keep out illegal immigrants had caused the deaths of 94 people between 1986 and 1989, the South African Council of Churches said yesterday.

The SACC national conference, meeting in Cape Town this week, split into three commissions yesterday to discuss various departmental reports.

The commissions are those of Church and Mission, Education and Development and Justice and Service.

In the Justice and Service commission, under the section dealing with refugees, the question of the 63km-long electric fence was raised by the Rev Sol Jacob, director of refugees ministries.

He said in his report that calls in September 1989 by the SACC for the fence to be switched off "have been unheeded by the authorities".

"Renewed efforts need to be undertaken by the churches to have the electricity to the fence switched off and there should be a campaign to have the fence dismantled," he added.

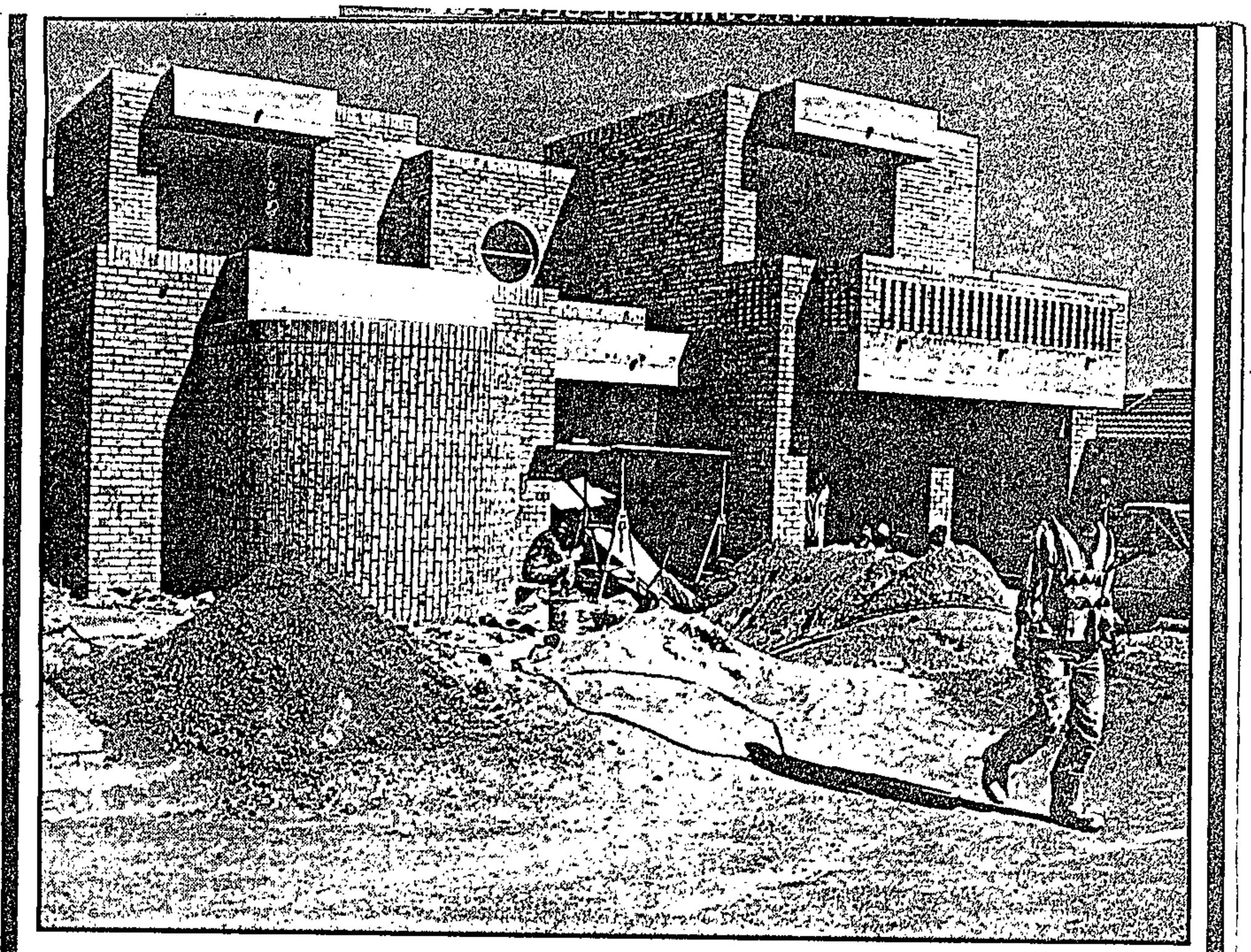
The fence continued to be a concern as it was activated by an electric voltage of 3 500 volts and had caused the recorded deaths of 94 people between 1986 and 1989, he said.

Most refugees escaping into South Africa were "rural people fleeing from the atrocities committed by Renamo".

These refugees - some 250 000 from Mozambique alone - were registered as "illegal aliens" by the Government and about 1 500 were deported each month.

The churches needed to "approach the South African Government and request them to accord refugee status to the refugees in South Africa and to halt all deportations," he said.

The SACC refugee programme was currently catering for more than 197 000 refugees in six areas bordering Mozambique and as far west as Winterveldt, Jacob revealed. - Sapa.



The South African Council of Churches' R700 000 mansion in Diepkloof Extension, Soweto, will be completed next month. The house has eight bedrooms and four-and-half bathrooms.

Sowetan 29/6/90

(304)

See Page 2

Pic: LEN KUMALO

R700 000 for house 'not true'

304

Sowetan 29/6/90

A REPORT in *Sowetan* yesterday that a R700 000 mansion was being built for South African Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane was "not strictly true," an SACC spokesman said in Cape Town yesterday.

Although R700 000 would be spent, the cost of the house would be around R300 000, "with the balance being for sophisticated security equipment", said SACC media and communications director Mr Saki Macozoma.

"A decision was taken by the national executive committee of the SACC

SAPA

to install this equipment following the bombing of Khotso House in Johannesburg, and after attempts on the life of Chikane," he said.

"The house will only be available to Chikane until the end of his tenure as general secretary.

"Thereafter his successor will occupy the house, and it will continue to be the official residence of whoever holds the post of general secretary in the future," he added.

In the past, an attempt had been made to poison Chikane, Macozoma said.

The house, in Soweto's Diepkloof Extension, is being built with funds donated by churches in Norway, Switzerland and Canada.

SACC gives details of R700 000 to be spent on house

CAPE TOWN — Press reports that a R700 000 mansion was being built for SA Council of Churches General Secretary the Rev Frank Chikane were "not strictly true", an SACC spokesman said in Cape Town yesterday.

Although about R700 000 would be spent, the cost of the house was R300 000, "with the balance being for sophisticated security equipment", SACC media and communications director Saki Macozoma said.

"A decision was taken by the national executive committee of the SACC to install such equipment following the bombing of Khotso House in Johannesburg, and after attempts on the life of the Rev Chikane," he said.

A poisoning attempt had been made on Chikane's life in the past, Macozoma said.

"Furthermore, the house is only available to the Rev Chikane until the end of his tenure as general secretary of the SACC.

"Thereafter, his successor will occupy the house, and it will continue to be the official residence of whoever holds the post of general secretary in the future," he added.

The house, in Soweto's Diepkloof Extension, is being built with funds donated by churches in Norway, Switzerland and Canada. — Sapa.

SOUTH AFRICA IS POISED TO RE-EMERGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCENE — ARE YOU READY?

...busting you need an update. MICHAEL ...ALAN

WM cutt 29/6/90. 304

Code of Conduct agreed on for the week of protest

By PAT SIDLEY: **Cape Town**

THERE will be an agreed code of conduct during next week's protest action over Natal violence.

The South African Council of Churches has facilitated an agreement among all concerned parties — and hopes the week of action will promote the peace process and wider negotiations in South Africa.

The "protest for peace" has been called by the African National Congress, United Democratic Front and Cosatu, and involves a week of marches culminating in a mass rally.

Fears of violent eruptions during the week led to the SACC proposal and the acceptance of a code of conduct.

It is the first agreement to have been endorsed by such a wide-ranging group. Inkatha, the ANC, Cosatu, the UDF, the National Council of Trade Unions, the Natal Chamber of Industries and the Natal Church Leaders' Group have all agreed to abide by the code.

It was concluded after meetings held throughout most of this year, and it is believed that contact was made with State President F W de Klerk.

During the process SACC General Secretary Rev Frank Chikane met various ANC officials, including Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu. He also consulted Cosatu officials, including general secretary Jay Naidoo, and last Friday met kwaZulu Chief Ministe Man-

Frank Chikane ... call for code of conduct

gosuthu Buthelezi — a meeting Chikane described as "extraordinary".

The nine-point code of conduct includes agreement that:

- Those who choose to stay away from work must be allowed to do so without interference
- Those who choose to go to work must also not be hindered
- Organisers of marches or other protest actions must publicly declare their plans
- Organisers must ensure that protest action is peaceful, and members must be encouraged to act with discipline
- The security forces must uphold the right of people to protest peacefully and must not interfere with meetings, marches, rallies and stayaways. Their duty is to protect all people equally, and
- All organisations must condemn attacks on people's homes and families.

Chikane said he hoped the code could lay the ground for a lasting peace in Natal. Such a peace process would also remove one of the major obstacles to negotations — Natal violence.

Chikane said the government had a very important role to play in monitoring and in the maintenance of law, order and peace. He said the South African Police, kwaZulu police and SADF were believed by many in Natal to be partisan.

Chikane said people had taken the law into their own hands when known murderers had not been arrested, and were seen to continue their killing.

Chikane said the code would help "create a climate for the implementation of a peace plan". In his opinion, the peace process was already under way.

Bishop Khoza Mgojo, presiding bishop of the Methodist church and leader of the Natal Church Group, also addressed yesterday's media conference.

Expressing wholehearted support for the multilateral code of conduct, he said it could act as a "midwife" for the "birth of a child of peace".

Churches to act on education crisis

By PAT SIDLEY: **Cape Town** 304

THE SACC has resolved to send a delegation of church leaders to all the relevant Ministers of all relevant departments of education to address the education crisis.

Among the issues to be taken up are:

- The failure to provide enough text books to African schools, which has caused anger and frustration, and made it impossible to study
- Overcrowding in African schools and the under-utilisation of facilities in white schools
- Grievances of teachers with regard to the payment of salaries and working conditions W\Mail 29/6/90
- The demand of the people of South Africa for the immediate establishment of a non-racial education system.

The SACC said it believed that "the cause of the present crisis in education is the absence of a single department of education, and that the crisis is likely to escalate until this problem is addressed."

The SACC has also called for its general secretary and church leaders to tell President FW de Klerk to restore land expropriated over the years.

A resolution said the "SACC recognises the anger and distress of a number of communities in Natal, Namaqualand, the Transvaal and elsewhere, which have been evicted from land on which they have lived for many years and where many members of their families are buried".

The SACC has asked the president to ensure that all communities which wish to return to these areas should be allowed to do so speedily, and with state assistance.

Mgojo beats Tutu and becomes head of SACC

CAPE TOWN: The Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of South Africa, Dr Khoza Mgojo has been elected president of the South African Council of Churches at its annual meeting here.

In a narrowly fought election he beat Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and and lay Anglican, Sheena Duncan.

Mgojo won 26 votes, Tutu 23 and Duncan 21. W/Mail 29/6/90

As well as being head of the Methodist church, Mgojo is head of the Natal Church leaders group which has played a leading role in attempts at making peace in war-torn Natal. (304)

Duncan has been elected senior vice president of the SACC.

Gag on worker condemned – and 'consolidated list' blamed

W/Mail 29/6/90

CAPE TOWN: The South African Council of Churches has condemned the "listing" of a Western Province Council of Churches worker who has effectively been prevented from speaking out and being quoted.

Buyiswa Jack was told by the government in May that her name had been added to the "consolidated list" because of a conviction in terms of the Internal Security Act for which she was sentenced to a four years suspended.

A resolution stated that "This action of the authorities contradicts the stated aim of the state president to create a climate conducive to negotiations. The very existence of the consolidated list militates against such an aim."

The SACC has also called for churches to monitor environmental issues and "publicise and oppose any moves which could displace people as has happened in Bushmanland where people were removed to allow the dumping of nuclear waste".

304

In a resolution dealing with the environment, the SACC said it "believes that the ecological crisis needs to be addressed urgently both nationally and internationally".

The SACC has called on member churches to alert the public through a publicity campaign and to save the environment by reducing pollution, waste and the destrcution of the ozone layer.

ANC will end armed struggle — Chikane

'Question is not when but how'

SUE OLSWANG and SAPA

THE African National Congress was expected to end the armed struggle soon so the negotiation process in South Africa could continue unhindered, SA Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said yesterday.

He said in an interview in Cape Town the question was not whether the ANC and Government must end violence, but how.

From a political and tactical viewpoint, ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela could not afford to lose his power base.

The ANC spoke a lot of the armed struggle, but it was political expression, said Mr Chikane.

Meanwhile a Unisa academic who specialises in black politics says that leaders of liberation movements should personally address the country's black youth to help stop the spiral of "black-on-black" violence which has killed thousands.

Political science lecturer Phil Mtimkulu said violence often occurred between youths, who tended to have a different concept of political power.

"At the higher, more responsible level, this violence is not prevalent," he said.

"We are aware of cordial relations between the leaders of organisations, but at the lower level the youth want to conquer territory."

Mr Mtimkulu said there had been peace talks between leaders since the outbreak of violence in the early 1980s, but they often neglected to "go back to their people to tell them not to engage in this type of violence".

He said leaders would personally have to address the youth to help put an end to violent behaviour.

"This should not be done through the media or in stadiums and halls," he said.

"Leaders must go to the structures — the youth congresses and student organisations — to speak to the youth. This is a big task, but it is worth it where unity is concerned."

Mr Mtimkulu said the youth tended not to see a proper transition to power.

"They believe the only way to gain power is to use force instead of persuasion.

"There is also no acceptance of one another's political ideologies. Leaders must try to temper their public speeches because their verbal attacks against other organisations often have a bearing on the violence.

"If leaders disregard an organisation, the youth tend to believe there is latitude for them to act against it. Criticism is, of course, allowed, but it must be done in a responsible manner."

Mr Mtimkulu said the violence was previously largely between Charterists (supporters of the Freedom Charter) and Black Consciousness groups.

"Today it seems as if the focus is moving away from the Charterists and BC movement towards the ANC and Pan Africanist Congress."

NEWS

SACC wants to act as 'facilitator'

30/6/90

THE South African Council of Churches conference ended yesterday, with its main aim for the next year being to "act as a facilitator to make sure obstacles in the way of peaceful negotiations are removed", according to SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane.

At a brief press conference at the end of the final meeting, Mr Chikane said the SACC in the past had to be "the voice of the voiceless, of the victims of apartheid".

In these changing times, the SACC would still have a role in ensuring "peaceful and just" solutions, and clearing obstacles, especially those of freedom of association and interaction, he said.

He singled out the Internal Security Act as an obstacle he hoped would be removed, saying its removal was "critical" as it was an Act "geared for repression".

SACC plans future political role in SA

South 28/6 – 4/7/90 (304)

MEMBER churches of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) should endorse and support plans for the repatriation of South African exiles, SACC general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, recommended at the church body's annual national conference this week.

More than 100 delegates and international observers are discussing political developments, differences between liberation movements, the Mozambican refugees and other events related to the state of the nation at the conference, which is being held at the Peninsula Technikon until Friday.

Other recommendations Chikane made in his report included:

- A call for a constituent assembly as the most effective means of negotiating a future, non-racial, democratic South Africa;
- A call on the government to remove the remaining obstacles to negotiations;
- A call on member churches to ensure that economic justice will prevail in a post-apartheid South Africa;
- The maintenance of the SACC's current position on sanctions and other pressures until irreversible changes have been achieved;
- An adoption of the "definition of irreversibility" which should be popularised nationally and internationally;
- A call for the total abolition of capital punishment rather than only for a reform of the law; and
- A call for the widening of the terms of reference of the Harms Commission and the immediate dismantling of the Civil Cooperation Bureau (CCB).

Refugees

Another major issue discussed at the conference concerned Mozambican refugees.

Ms Brigalia Bam, deputy general secretary of the SACC, said there were currently a quarter million Mozambicans in South Africa.

Most were defined under South African law as "illegal immigrants".

She said they were recognised by the UN High Commission as refugees, although those in South Africa were not protected or assisted by the UN High Commission for Refugees.

Rev Frank Chikane

Delegates were also informed that the SACC had spent millions of rands providing material and legal support for political prisoners and detainees and their families.

However, they were warned there had been "a decrease of interest from the funders" overseas since South African major political organisations had been left to organise freely.

Religion in Focus

BY NOEL BRUYNS

"With all these problems, the post-apartheid South Africa will need all the support it can get from the churches," Hurley said.

"But the churches will not have much to offer if their involvement is limited to what it has been in the past and does not include a massive mobilisation of membership to make it far more socially conscious and far more socially concerned," he said.

Top security for SACC head's house

(304 South 517-111 7/90)

THE South African Council of Church has defended its building of a house believed to cost R700 000 for its general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane.

"Following the bombing of Khotso House in August 1988, an attempt to kill the present secretary by poisoning nearly

draw lessons from what had happened.

succeeded," SACC senior vice-presiden Mrs Sheena Duncan said in a statemen released this week.

There had also been other violent at tacks on his home and family and sev eral "alarming incidents" in the SACC' offices. South 517-111 7/90

"The executive committee therefor decided security must be a priority i any accomodation provided for the gen eral secretary and in the offices.

Costly (304)

"The installation of an efficient secu rity system is exceedingly costly and i the major item in the construction of th house," she said.

SACC spokesperson Mr Saki Ma cozoma said the double-storey residenc in Diepkloof cost R300 000.

The balance was for "sophisticate security equipment" and a 24-hou armed security guard system.

Duncan said the house was the officia residence of the SACC and was for th use of any person appointed to the per son of general secretary.

The money for the house and for th purchase of the new Khotso House, th SACC's general secretariat, did not com from SACC funds.

"It was donated for the specific pur pose by churches in other countries wh were concerned about the dangerou circumstances in which the Church i South Africa must do its work," Duncar said.

Star 25/7/90 (304)

No priests in party politics, insists Tutu

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, brushing aside criticism from other South African anti-apartheid churchmen, yesterday restated his opposition to Anglican priests joining political parties.

"Party political alignment makes it quite impossible for priests to carry out their pastoral responsibilities," said the archbishop, who heads the Anglican church.

"A priest must be able to minister to people from all political parties, " he said in a statement.

The Anglican Synod of Bishops has ruled that Anglican priests must not join political parties.

Criticise

The left-leaning Institute of Contextual Theology criticised the policy at a weekend conference, accusing the Anglican church of drifting towards political neutrality.

Archbishop Tutu, however, rejected the fact that he was advocating neutrality.

"We are not neutral, we remain committed to the struggle for justice and liberation in South Africa."

He promised to take a lower profile as a prelude to negotiations between the ANC and the Government on a new democratic constitution which will give blacks the vote.

The archbishop and his fellow Anglican bishops ruled that priests should not join any parties — including the ANC.

According to Archbishop Tutu, members of the Pan Africanist Congress have also attacked the Anglicans for being pro-ANC.

Beyers Naude, who backs the ANC but has not joined, criticised the Anglican stance.

"They made this a rule, that people of the Anglican church may not be members. That is an area of concern for me," Dr Naude said, adding that the reformed church tradition allowed its clergy to choose.

Earlier this month, the archbishop admitted there was strong protest in his own church over the ruling and apologised for not allowing more time for debate.

"Many of my young priests want to eat me up raw," he said. "We have said that we support the ANC in its goals but we will not be the ANC at prayer," he said in another interview. — Sapa-Reuter.

'Strydom gets SACC money'

Star 1/8/90 (304)

The SA Council of Churches has been condemned by the Pan African Congress for allegedly contributing R40 a month to Pretoria mass murderer "Wit Wolf" Barend Strydom.

This amount was made available to everyone who was condemned to death including Strydom, said SACC director of communications Saki Macozoma.

The money was intended to be spent on cigarettes, newspapers and food, he said.

PAC general secretary Benny Alexander said today an immediate investigation would be launched to check if the donation was in fact being made.

"If this is indeed so, it is highly irregular ...," he said. — Staff Reporter.

New era of 'rooi gevaar'?

South 2/8 - 8/8/90

GOVERMENT allegations of a planned insurrection smacked of the "total onslaught" and "rooi gevaar" era, SA Council of Churches general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, says.

He said he was concerned about the "Red Plot" allegations. 304

"I am seriously concerned that it looks like we are returning to the old 'total strategy' and 'total onslaught' era where the 'rooi gevaar' clouded all issues and made any peace process impossible."

There would always be evidence to show people were still actively engaged in the war on both sides while obstacles to negotiations were still in place and there was no formal agreement on a ceasefire or suspension of hostilities between the government and the ANC.

"A ceasefire in a climate where all the obstacles for negotiations are cleared up is the only way to ensure that the peace process will not be derailed by whatevers forces that might want to do so, from whichever quarter," Chikane said.

Top secret deal to buy Ponte City for exiles

Sto 2/8/90

304

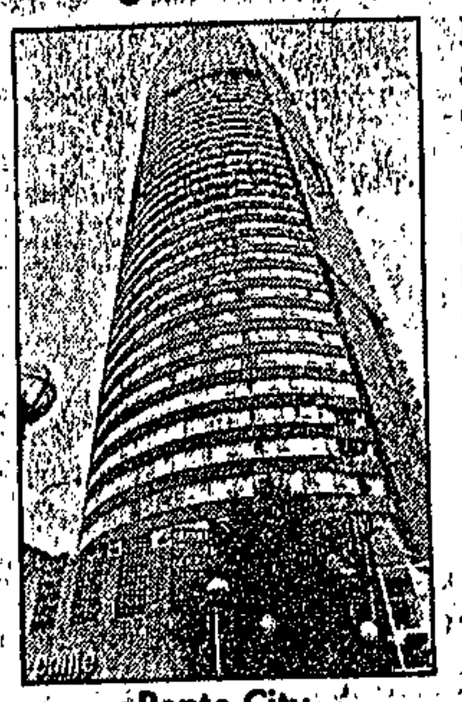
By Shirley Woodgate

Top secret negotiations are in progress for the sale of one of South Africa's biggest blocks of flats, Ponte City in Berea, to eventually house up to 2 000 returning ANC exiles.

South African Council of Churches general secretary Frank Chikane today confirmed the National Co-ordinating Committee had set up task forces to deal with issues relating to the return of some 20 000 exiles, including housing. He said it was likely the possibility of acquiring Ponte was being explored, but he did not believe such a deal had been clinched.

Informed sources indicate the contract with the owners, Gazebo Beneficiaries, and the as-yet unnamed purchaser were at an advanced stage.

Bankorp Property Services, who administer the property, indicated the building "had always been in the market" and a sale had been concluded.



Ponte City

While ANC spokesman Gil Marcus denied any involvement by the ANC, Ahmed Kathrada said he had only heard of the deal yesterday and confirmed: "We have 20 000 exiles in South Africa and we have said we will look at housing, schooling, clothing and so on."

The building falls within the area recently identified for investigation as a free settlement area by the Free Settlement Board.

Wit Wolf cash row

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG.— The South African Council of Churches has been condemned by the Pan Africanist Congress for allegedly contributing R40 a month to Pretoria mass murderer "Wit Wolf" Barend Strydom.

This amount was made available to everyone who was condemned to death including Mr Strydom, according to SACC director of communications Mr Saki Macozoma. It was intended that the money be spent on cigarettes, newspapers and food.

PAC general-secretary Mr Benny Alexander said today an immediate investigation would be started to check whether the donation was in fact being made.

"If this is so, it is highly irregular that an institition which is expected to side with the oppressed should finance people bent on keeping oppression alive to the point of slaughtering innocent people."

Lawyer denies move to sell Ponte City to house exiles

Sowetan 31/8/90 (304)

PONTE City lawyer Mr Henry Vorster has denied any negotiations with the South African Council of Churches "or any other political organisation" for the purchase of the complex in Johannesburg.

It has been revealed that secret negotiations are in progress for the sale of the Berea building, and sources indicated it was planned to eventually house 2 000 ANC exiles.

SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane confirmed yesterday that the National Co-ordinating Committee of the SACC had set up task forces to deal with the return of some 20 000 exiles.

He said the committee's brief included housing and it was likely the possibility of acquiring Ponte was being explored. He did not believe the deal had been clinched.

Bankorp Property Services, who administer the property on behalf of the owners, said the building "had always been in the market" and indicated a sale had been concluded.

Sowetan Correspondent.

No Ponte deal yet, says Chikane

Staff Reporter

Ponte City was just one of many buildings or projects suggested as possible housing for returning exiles, but no contract had been entered into, the South African Council of Churches said today.

Reacting to reports that the Johannesburg building was seriously being considered by the National Co-ordinating Committee as a housing prospect, SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said it was untrue that any negotiations to purchase Ponte had taken place.

Various possibilities were being explored, he said.

The housing company Quantum, reported to have been involved in the Ponte negotiations, had, like many other companies, approached the SACC and indicated their interest in the task force involved in the project.

Informal discussions had been held with some of the companies, including Quantum.

"I personally have not met Quantum," said Mr Chikane.

304

Call on Mandela is 'disturbing', says Chikane

By Kaizer Nyatsumba,

South African Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane, said yesterday the Rhema Bible Church's call on ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela to publicly declare his stand on Christianity was disturbing.

In a statement, Mr Chikane said South Africans had a right to choose whether to be Christians or communists.

He was responding to a call on Mr Mandela this week by Rhema Bible Church pastor Ray McCauley to make public his stand on Christianity.

At a press conference in Randburg on Wednesday, Mr McCauley took exception to South African Communist Party chief Joe Slovo's remarks at the weekend that Jesus would have joined the armed struggle had he lived in South Africa.

Mr McCauley, leader of the International Fellowship of Christian Churches and the Pentecostal Church in South Africa, challenged the ANC and the SACP to spell out their stand on freedom of religion.

The moderator of the Dutch Reformed Church, Professor Johan Heyns, shared Mr McCauley's views.

Yesterday, Mr Chikane said the position of Mr McCauley and Professor Heyns was not surprising to him given the radical differences of opinion and experiences between white and black Christians in South Africa.

White Christians are part of the European history of East-West communist fear and hatred.

Mr Chikane said blacks had no experience of communist oppression. Their experience was that of oppression "by whites who claim to be Christians in the name of Christianity".

We never helped Strydom — SACC

WMail 3/8-5/8/90

MASS murderer Barend Strydom — on Death Row for his killing spree in Pretoria — has received no assistance from the South African Council of Churches.

The SACC reacted to reports that Strydom was among Death Row prisoners receiving a monthly comfort allowance from the church grouping by saying its records showed no help had been given to the murderer.

The SACC recently extended its ministry beyond political prisoners on Death Row to include common law prisoners sentenced to death, said SACC general secretary Frank Chikane. (304)

"Barend Strydom would theoretically qualify to be ministered to by us However, our records show that no assistance has in fact been given to him," said Chikane. — Sapa

Warring clerics: Chikane tackles Rhema's McCauley

304

WIMAN 3/8 - 5/8/90

By JOHN PERLMAN

THE general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Reverend Frank Chikane, has hit back at Rhema Church leader Reverend Ray McCauley for challenging Nelson Mandela to distance himself from the South African Communist Party and publicly declare his commitment to Christianity.

Chikane said this call, issued two days ago in response to speech made by Joe Slovo at Sunday's SACP launch, was "not only disturbing but adds insult to our injury. What we expect from white Christians at this stage is to confess their sins of brutal black oppression" rather than "preoccupy themselves with the rooi gevaar".

Chikane said McCauley's reaction, and similar sentiments by Professor Johan Heyns of the Dutch Reformed Church, made it clear that "the experience of black Christians in South Africa is radically different from that of white Christians.

"We have no experience of communist opression and attack on our faith. Our experience is that of oppression by whites who claim to be Christians in the name of Christianity," Chikane said.

"No communist attacked us while worshipping and praying in our churches. It is apartheid forces in the name of defending western Christian civilization, meaning the apartheid system, who attacked us. No communist justified apartheid. It is Christians who developed an elaborate theological justification of an inhuman, evil and racist apartheid system.

"Our experience, like that of Dr Mandela, is that of white communists who expressed solidarity with the oppressed black majority while white Christians were supporting apartheid," he said.

Chikane said the priority was to end apartheid and establish a non-racial democratic South Africa "where there will be freedom of religious expression and practice which both the ANC and the SACP have guaranteed. In that society all South Africans will have the right to choose."

Star
6/8/90 (304)

NEWS

SACC denies assisting mass killer Strydom

Mass killer Barend Strydom has received no assistance from the SA Council of Churches, SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said at the weekend.

His statement follows reports that Strydom may have received SACC financial assistance.

Dr Chikane said the SACC had decided to oppose capital punishment in principle because of its belief in the sanctity of human life and that most Death Row prisoners were victims of "apartheid-induced socio-economic deprivation".

In co-operation with other human rights organisations, the SACC decided to extend its ministry beyond political prisoners to include other condemned prisoners.

"In terms of this decision, Strydom would qualify to be ministered to by us. However, our records show no assistance has been given to him." — Staff Reporter.

No rights ... Border collie Frolic, and friends who came to Randburg Magistrate's Court last week.

9cr 7/8/90 30¢

'Chikane is dividing Christians'

Political Staff

The controversy surrounding South African Communist Party chief Joe Slovo's remarks about Jesus a week ago deepened yesterday when Rhema Bible Church leader Ray McCauley challenged Mr Slovo to a public debate on religious freedom and accused South African Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary the Reverend Frank Chikane of racism.

In a statement to The Star, Mr McCauley said Mr Chikane, who last week came to the defence of ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and Mr Slovo after the Rhema pastor had challenged both men and their respective organisations to spell out their position on freedom of religion, was dodging the issue.

Mr McCauley said Mr Chikane, in responding to his challenge to Mr Mandela to make public his stand on Christianity, had attempted to divide Christians "into white and black camps. His remarks appear racist to me because he wrongly accuses me of speaking for 'white Christians'".

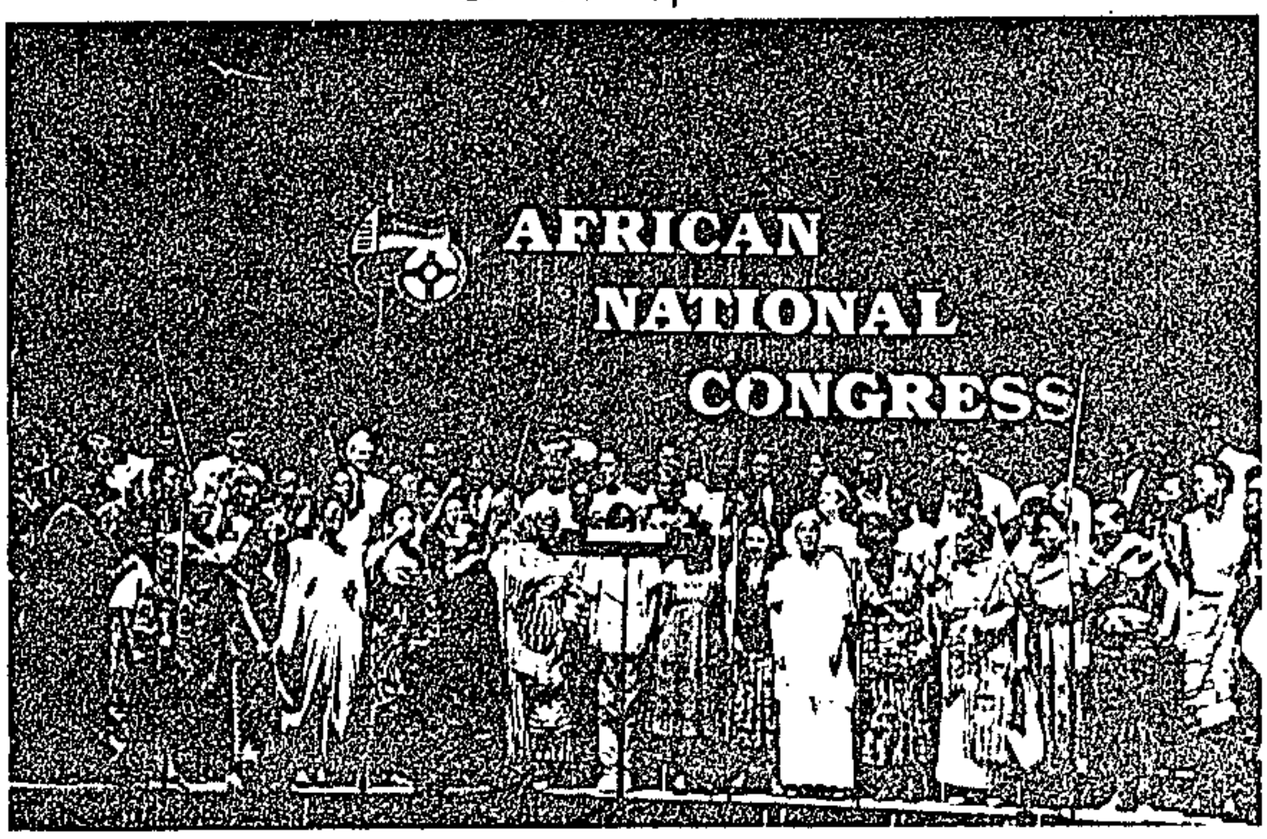
Christians were demanding straight answers on the issue of religious freedom, and had a right "to demand an answer from Mr Slovo and Mr Mandela on the issue of freedom of religion in the new South Africa".

Mr McCauley said he was concerned South Africans could find themselves voting for a party "whose leader avoids declaring his religious conviction".

Getting ready for the returnees

304
South 9/8 - 15/8/90

Most exiles outside the country are still waiting for the green light to return, once their safety has been guaranteed. In the meantime, the wheels have been set in motion to facilitate their return. CHIARA CARTER reports:



ACROSS THE OCEAN: ANC exiles in New York welcome Nelson Mandela with a song during his recent visit there

THE return of the exiles is one of the cornerstone demands of liberation movements in South Africa.

After February's unbannings, the first returnees began to trickle home.

Now, nearly six months later, those who have returned remain only a handful.

Most exiles are still outside the country, waiting for the go-ahead to return.

The key issue holding up their return is the security situation in SA and liberation movements have advised their members to stay put until their safety is guaranteed.

In preparation for large scale repatriation, the wheels have begun to be set in motion for a massive "operation homecoming".

Following a national consultation meeting attended by a wide range of organisations and religious groupings in Johannesburg in May this year, a national coordinating committee (NCC) was established to oversee the return of the exiles.

Consensus

The NCC includes representatives of the major denominations as well as the ANC, PAC and BCM.

While the movements hold different positions on negotiations with the government and the return of their members in exile, there is general consensus that all groups will cooperate with the NCC.

The NCC convener is the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, the Reverend Frank Chikane.

The NCC is anxious not to be caught on the wrong foot, should SA's diaspora flood back.

Already the NCC has begun to establish task forces drawing in specialist service organisations to begin preparations for the return.

The NCC is about to set up an office in Johannesburg with a fulltime coordinator and administrative staff.

"We are preparing for the return of the exiles as if they will be arriving tomorrow," Chikane said.

"We do not want to find ourselves in a siuation in which they arrive and we are not prepared".

The logistics involved in the repatriation scheme are enormous.

Chikane said that the NCC is presently redrafting a budget which is likely to run into billions for the project.

The NCC has approached governments throughout the world as well as the international religious community for funding.

The United Nations Commission on Refugees has been asked to assess the extent to which it can render assistance.

The South African business community will also be challenged to come up with funding.

According to Chikane, this will be done in consultation with the trade union movement.

The NCC has not yet decided on the involvement of the SA government in the project, a matter which Chikane described as a "thorny issue".

At present all are agreed however that the government will be expected to provide services like pensions, health and education for the exiles.

The breakdown of expenditure per person will depend on how many exiles there are.

At present no one knows the exact numbers involved. Estimates range from 20 000 to 400 000.

This haziness is partly because many people who went into exile simply became invisible.

Some went into self-imposed exile for reasons not directly related to politics. These people do not have any contact with the liberation movements and have had no reason to declare themselves.

Others joined the external forces of the liberation movements, changed their names and "vanished".

Census

For security reasons they have not declared themselves.

The ANC is conducting a census into its membership abroad but the number of exiles is expected to far exceed ANC figures.

Reverend Frank Chikane

Commented Chikane: "We don't have a classical refugee situation. The vast majority of exiles never officially declared themselves refugees or went through the process of applying for refugee status. It is only after a general amnesty is declared that we will start getting a more accurate idea of the exact figures involved."

For the interim, the NCC is working on an estimate of 100 000 exiles.

The NCC has categorised exiles into seven different groups: members of the liberation movements, trained and armed soldiers of the liberation movements, non-aligned groups, defectors from the liberation movements, internal defectors, prisoners on both sides, conscientious objectors and those who left for other reasons.

Amnesty

For most of these categories protective guarantees are needed. These would include a general amnesty, the SA government becoming a signatory to the Geneva Convention and Protocols on Refugees, special protection for combatants and a protective monitoring group.

According to Chikane, no South African who wants to return will be refused assistance.

The key, he said, would be "need".

While some exiles will return on their own steam because they have the means to do so, others will need assistance all the way.

"We anticipate most of the exiles will be refugees in the sense that they left SA because of political reasons and harassment. However as churches we hold the view that we assist any South African living outside the country who wants to return," Chikane said.

The qustion of whether there will be a staggered return with armed forces waiting until last is, Chikane said, a matter for the liberation movements to decide.

The NCC envisages a series of primary and secondary reception points where staff will meet exiles and begin assisting them in what is likely to be a lengthy re-orientation process.

The primary reception areas will be entry points, including airports and border posts.

Secondary reception areas will cater for those who do not know where their relatives are or can't immediately return to their families.

Exiles will be sent to the reception areas nearest their homes. For example, someone whose family comes from Port Elizabeth will be housed in a reception area in PE.

For exiles living in far away countries it is likely that church groups or the UN will set up points where exiles can go to begin the long journey home.

Adjustments

Chikane said the NCC was presenty investigating accommodation for the exiles but faced problems with the Land and Group Areas acts.

The massive adjustment which repatriation involves cannot be estimated.

The NCC is investigating questions like medical checkups, employment, counseling and helping build systems of support for exiles, some of whom have been out of the country for decades.

Just simple geography lessons will be essential for exiles to find their bearings in cities and towns which have changed face dramatically.

The committee anticipates immense cultural difficulties, including language, for the children born in exile.

Students

The NCC is presently advising high school, college and university students to finish their education abroad rather than return to the apartheid education crisis.

Said Chikane: "We will have to introduce people systematically to a new reality".

A major problem is the question of documentation and how people will prove that they are indeed South Africans.

Many exiles have changed their names and there are no records of them being South African. Others are children born abroad or the spouses of South African exiles.

Chikane described these as the "grey areas" which the commitee will have to sort out.

Tutu under fire at ANC launch rally

Star 13/8/90

LOUIS TRICHARDT — Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu came under fire yesterday at an African National Congress rally near Louis Trichardt over his recent remarks that priests should not take part in party politics.

Venda Lutheran priest Dean Tshenuwani Farisani — in a speech to about 20 000 people who had braved ice-cold weather to launch an ANC branch at the Muima Hlanganani — emphasised priests should take part in politics.

Mr Farisani returned recently from self-imposed exile in America.

He told the crowd: "Student structures will not be joined by locusts but by you (the crowd). MK (Umkhonto we Sizwe, the ANC military wing) will not be joined by angels but by you."

He likened the call by the archbishop that priests should not take part in politics to "telling Moses or Joshua to leave their flock in the desert". — Sapa.

August 20 1990

Call to halt auction of mega-block

Star 20/8/90

By Shirley Woodgate

Pressure is mounting to halt Wednesday's auction of the mega-block Octavia Hill in Fordsburg, with the National Co-Ordinating Committee on Repatriation, the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and the Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC) all urging President de Klerk to intervene and help stop the sale.

Stressing the current housing shortage, South African Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said the complex would be an excellent reception centre for exiles returning to the southern Transvaal region.

Worse off

PAC spokesman Philip Dlamini said: "Octavia belongs to the poor and it is our duty to take it back to this sector of the population when we take over.

"This sale by the House of Assembly is part of Government strategy to remove all property in its care and give it to the rich.

"Ultimately, when the so-called new South Africa comes into being, we will find that the poor have nothing — in fact they will be worse off than they ever were before."

Recalling the irony that the eight-block complex was named 50 years ago after the British social worker renowned for her work among the poor, TIC president Cassim Saloojee said: "First we had the Crown Mines property deal which only the rich could afford, now we have Octavia Hill.

Housing shortage

"It is the rich who will benefit and the poor attempting to find accommodation near to the city who will be left out.

"The Government is disposing of its housing stock without reference to the desperate needs of the poor.

"If agreement were to be reached between the Government and the ANC over the return of the exiles, this complex would be useful.

"The authorities should take note that the housing shortage will be further increased once the 20 000 exiles return," Mr Saloojee added.

Calling the sale irresponsible, Mr Dlamini urged the Government to halt the auction.

Disarm - Churches say

Sowetan 20/8/90

SOWETO church leaders said it was not impossible for the Government to stop the recent township violence and called on police to disarm all people involved in the conflict.

The General Secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane, said an urgent meeting would be requested with Mr Adriaan Vlok.

The church would recommend that hostels be converted to family units. - Sapa

Repatriation committee loses complex for exiles

SOWETO 23/8 - 29/8/90 (304)

THE National Coordinating Committee on Repatriation has failed to stop the auctioning of a complex in Mayfair, Johannesburg, which would have "served excellently as a reception centre for exiles returning to the Southern Transvaal Region".

The Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) which is coordinating the return of exiles, had appealed to State President FW de Klerk to stop the auctioning of Octavia Hills — a complex which includes 104 flats, a community centre and offices.

The complex was auctioned on Wednesday. Co-workers on the repatriation committee picketed the auction site.

Chikane had told De Klerk in a letter that the state should instead consider the temporary use of the building for the immediate housing of returnees.

The complex was owned by the House of Assembly.

The repatriation committee is investigating options to give returnees temporary accommodation, education and employment opportunities.

"However, the National Coordinating Committee feels strongly it is the responsibility of the state to cater for all the education, health, welfare and accommodation needs of *all* South Africans," Chikane said.

Security failure the obstacle, says SACC

THE failure of the security forces to protect residents of Reef townships in factional fighting was a serious obstacle to a possible meeting between ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, according to the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, the Rev Frank Chikane.

In a statement on Tuesday night, Chikane said church leaders were convinced that if any group of people planned to attack any white area or whites, the Government would have used all the power within its disposal to stop them.

He was convinced that if State President Mr FW de Klerk could get his security forces to act impartially to disarm the perpetrators of the war and end it, it could be possible in a climate of peace to get leaders like Mandela and Buthelezi to meet. - *Sapa*.

Tutu visits Tokoza's trouble-torn streets

Star 24/8/90 (304)

By Patrick Laurence

Archbishop Desmond Tutu yesterday visited Tokoza, the scene of some of the fiercest fighting in the violence which has claimed the lives of more than 500 people in the cluster of townships around Johannesburg.

Minutes before the prelate entered the squatter camp at Tokoza — a pro-ANC stronghold which has been repeatedly targeted by pro-Inkatha hostel inmates — shots were fired in or near one of the adjacent but deserted hostels.

The Star, which was trying to trace Archbishop Tutu in the labyrinthine tangle of roads and shacks, asked two policemen whether they had seen him.

One of the policemen replied incredulously: "Bishop Tutu! You won't find him here. People are shooting here."

Archbishop Tutu, however, was not much more than 500 m away. Surrounded by women and children, he was making his first stop at the camp.

Later he spoke to a large number of armed men gathered on the edge of the camp. He told them he had come as an "apostle of peace" to show solidarity with them in their plight.

Some of the men responded with cries of "Panzi Inkatha — Down with Inkatha." They urged Archbishop Tutu to remove the police, saying they were ready to take on Inkatha. "Inkatha is nothing," one man said. "Just get rid of the police."

Deserted

Both at Tokoza and a makeshift refugee centre for women and children, Archbishop Tutu and his fellow churchmen, who included the general secretary and the president of the South African Council of Churches, heard complaints that the police sided with pro-Inkatha migrant workers from the hostels.

Later Archbishop Tutu, who cut short a visit to Canada because of the township conflict, visited a deserted hostel. A fire was still burning in one of the hostel rooms. Smoke poured out of the broken windows and the blackened walls exuded heat.

One of the purposes of the visit to Tokoza was for Archbishop Tutu and his companions, the Rev Frank Chikane and Dr Xhoza Mgojo, to gain first-hand knowledge of the situation in preparation for planned talks with President de Klerk.

Addressing journalists, Dr Mgojo, who comes from Natal, said: "There seems to be the same pattern of police involvement." Judging from what was said, the police were encouraging the violence, he remarked.

Mr Chikane made the same point: "The people say the problem is not Inkatha. The people say the problem is the police."

"The people" referred to by the clergymen did not include Zulu migrant workers from the hostels. Their conversations were with people in the squatter camp and with refugees from it.

☐ MY WAY

With Khulu Sibiya C/Press 26/8/90

Mandela must stay

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu cut his overseas visit short in order to help stop the bloody conflict in the townships.

Shortly after his arrival from Canada this week, Tutu visited Thokoza, scene of fierce fighting.

He also visited Soweto and other trouble-torn areas where more than 514 people have so far been reported killed.

At the same time, the ANC announced that its deputy president Nelson Mandela – undoubtedly the leader of the majority of black people in this country – is to pay a follow-up visit this week to Norway, Libya and Algeria.

The ANC said on his return Mandela will travel to the Western Cape to meet a cross-section of rural communities and then take a brief holiday before resuming duties.

Surely, something is not right here. Why did the ANC not advise Mandela to postpone his trip until the situation here at home has normalised?

We know Mandela alone cannot wave a magic wand and normalise things in the townships. We also know that his meeting with Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi – important as it may be – will not bring instant results.

However, it is foolhardy for a leader of Mandela's stature to leave his country when it is on fire.

One would have thought the ANC had a better understanding of what it means to look towards leadership in times of crisis.

Recently, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda had to cut his holiday short when unrest erupted in Lusaka after demonstrations against food price increases.

Mandela may not be president, but to many of us, he is president-in-waiting. Besides that, Mandela's followers are dying in their hundreds.

The situation in the country is far from normal, and the ANC is aware of this. At a Press briefing this week, ANC information head Pallo Jordan painted a grim picture of the unrest and attributed the escalation of violence to a third force.

Since unrest started, we have been receiving disturbing reports of police complicity in the conflict. It is increasingly difficult for victims to come out with concrete evidence about these allegations, hence the outright denials of the police.

Reports of a hard-core vigilante group which uses sophisticated machinery gives rise to speculation that the civil war is no longer a simple one between Xhosas and Zulus or between hostel dwellers and townships' residents.

It is common knowledge in the townships that not all policemen are capable of handling a volatile situation without being seen to be taking sides.

A white woman called Pamela who spends most of her leisure time in Soweto with friends told me her experience in Orlando East on Thursday night left her with no doubt that certain people linked with the police were bent on destabilising the situation.

"Orlando was as quiet as a grave and all of a sudden, there was this white Skyline moving from one street to another making an announcement in three languages that people should arm themselves because the Zulus were about to attack," she said.

She is convinced the people inside the car were linked to the police. These reports come in daily to newspapers. Inquiries to the police are always met with: "We will investigate if the person comes to us", or "we are now used to such unfounded allegations".

The ANC has received many such allegations and is conducting its own investigation. Given this scenario, why still allow Mandela to travel abroad and leave Rome burning?

Another disturbing point is the joint monitoring group which is comprised of the ANC and Cosatu.

It would have been much better to have a cross-section of political groups monitor the situation. Past experience shows that in times like this, vigilantes become more vicious.

There are still many unsolved murder cases dating back to the period 1984 to 1986. Take for example the mystery which still surrounds the death of Dr and Mrs Fabian Ribiero who were gunned down during unrest at their home in Pretoria.

One can only hope that after operating outside the country for 30 years, the ANC is now aware that certain elements can reverse whatever political gains have been made.

ANC, PAC co-operate on return of exiles

By SANDILE MEMELA

IN an effort to make the reception committee for returning exiles non-sectarian, care has been exercised to include many prominent clerics as well as representatives of the ANC, the PAC and Azapo.

About 20 000 ANC exiles are presently planning their return to South Africa in the wake of the negotiated release of political prisoners and indemnity to exiles starting in a phased process from Saturday.

SACC Task Force co-ordinating member Venita Meya said the National Co-ordinating Committee (NCC) members were largely drawn from the religious section of the community to prevent the body being seen as sectarian.

The chairman of the NCC is SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane, who initiated the programme to address the issue of returning exiles.

Other members include Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, president of the Methodist Church in SA, Bishop Stanley Mogoba, Catholic Bishop WF Napier, Methodist Bishop Khoza Mgojo, AME Bishop Sentatle and the Rev Paul Makhubo, general secretary of the Council of Independent Churches.

The ANC, PAC and Azapo which will each have two members on the NCC.

The ANC representatives will be Vusi Khanyile and Zanele Mbeki, wife of Thabo Mbeki.

The PAC will be represented by its head of legal affairs, Phillip Dlamini, and a yet-to-be-named delegate.

Azapo will be represented by its vice-president of finance, Peter Jones, and spokesman Pule Pule.

Rev Frank Chikane ... initiator of the programme.

Bishop Stanley Mogoba ... member of the NCC.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu . . . 'I haven't slept either'.

Pic: TLADI KHUELE

304

c/Press 26/8/91

Fighting leaves many destitute

By ELIAS MALULEKE

BLACK townships hit by the two-week-old violence between Zulus and residents in the East and West Rand resemble the embattled Natal townships where refugee camps are a way of life.

Squatters, hostel inmates and township residents made homeless by the violence in Katlehong, Thokoza, Vosloorus, Soweto and Kagiso are now refugees being housed in church halls, community halls, police stations and with relatives. Hardest hit are some who spend cold nights in the veld.

In addition, many of them have been absent from work since the fights started in their areas and some have lost their jobs.

According to church leaders, many of them have been left destitute after having their homes looted and burnt down.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said it was vital that violence should be stopped to enable people to lead normal lives in their homes with their families and to return to work.

"Although some of us still have our houses, we cannot sleep or eat because we share your suffering. We know you cannot sleep, eat and go to work because you are not in your homes," he said in Kagiso this week.

Most of the refugee camps have communal facilities, particularly the church halls and the makeshift camps, but for the refugees it is better than being in the violence-stricken areas.

"I want to return and rebuild my house in Crossroads but I am afraid because the Zulus can attack us again," said grief-striken Dolly Mavaso in a church hall in Katlehong.

The refugees live on handouts and depend on soup kitchens for their survival. They sleep on the floor and have a cardboard box or two where they keep their only possessions, mostly old clothes and sometimes food parcels.

Social worker Sally Petersen said the life of refugees was nothing compared to the anguish of not knowing whether a loved one was still alive or dead.

"Many people are missing and many people requests help daily to find children, parents, husbands, wives and relatives."

Presently, Petersen is looking after more than 950 refugees at the JD Thomas Hall in Eden Park – a coloured township near the strife-torn Phola Park in Thokoza.

She said the way refugees were living was not conducive to a healthy, normal life where children could be brought up decently.

"This type of life break up families and induces a lack of self-respect to those who lead it," Petersen said.

To ensure that nothing happens to the refugees at the hall, and to be a witness should something happen to them at night, Petersen has left her family and the comfort of her house to live among them.

"Most of them wander around like dazed people, not believing this has happened to them and the others leave the hall in the morning and come back at night," she said.

Petersen said the refugees were being well cared for by local residents and a retired nursing sister. They receive food and clothing donations from companies and individuals.

When the church delegation led by Tutu visited the refugee camp this week, Petersen told them that staying at the hall was not a problem to the local community as it had given its wholehearted support to the refugees, the question was how long the fighting would last.

Tutu peace mission to meet government

Cl Pers 26/8/90 (304)

By ELIAS MALULEKE

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu is to lead a high-powered delegation of church ministers to meet State President FW de Klerk and Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok in his ongoing "peace mission" to end the carnage in black townships on the Reef.

Tutu this week led a church delegation that collected affidavits and statements from residents concerning the violence. Serious allegations have been made against the police who are accused of siding with Inkatha supporters and of "shooting residents".

The church delegation is to talk to De Klerk and Vlok about these issues when they meet and will try to find "more acceptable means" to end the violence.

On Friday Tutu met the deputy district commissioner of police in Krugersdorp to discuss the allegations and ask for police impartiality.

Tutu said the deputy commissioner gave an undertaking that police would disarm all people on both sides.

No date has yet been arranged for the meeting with the government, but Tutu hopes it will be held this week.

Tutu's spirited mission to end the violence – which started a fortnight ago as a Zulu-Xhosa war before it turned into widespread fighting between township residents and Zulus in hostels – began on Thurday.

Accompanying Tutu were South African Council of Churches president Bishop Khoza Mgojo, SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane, Bishop David Beegte, Bishop Peter Storey and Bishop Duncan Buchanan.

Some residents welcomed the delegation warmly and sang praises to Tutu, while others turned the "peace mission" into a rowdy affair as they vented their anger and frustration.

At one stage Tutu and Chikane were shouted down by a rowdy crowd in Kagiso which chanted: "No more peace, we want arms!"

The delegation started at the flashpoint of violence in the East Rand's Phola Park squatter camp, a filthy, overcrowded piece of ground in Thokoza township. From there they went to Katlehong, Soweto and Kagiso in Krugersdorp.

In all the affected areas, residents said there would not be a solution until all Zulus in their area were forced out of hostels and the police restrained.

"Police are helping Inkatha by disarming and shooting us and not taking action against the Zulu impis," said residents.

The violence, which has claimed more than 514 lives, was concentrated in Kagiso and Vosloorus this week.

In spite of being surrounded by crowds of angry people who brandished pangas, knives and other self-made weapons, Tutu did not flinch in his call for peace and urged residents to stop the "black-on-black" violence for the sake of their liberation.

"By fighting and engaging in violent acts we give others the excuse to say we are not yet ready to govern ourselves," Tutu said.

He said the church was not in a position to condone violence of any nature.

"We have engaged the government and forced them to the negotiating table through peaceful means. Our liberation is near, but these violent acts make other people laugh at us and we cannot continue this way.

"Let us negotiate a new non-racial South Africa and not destroy the prospect of peace with violence," said Tutu.

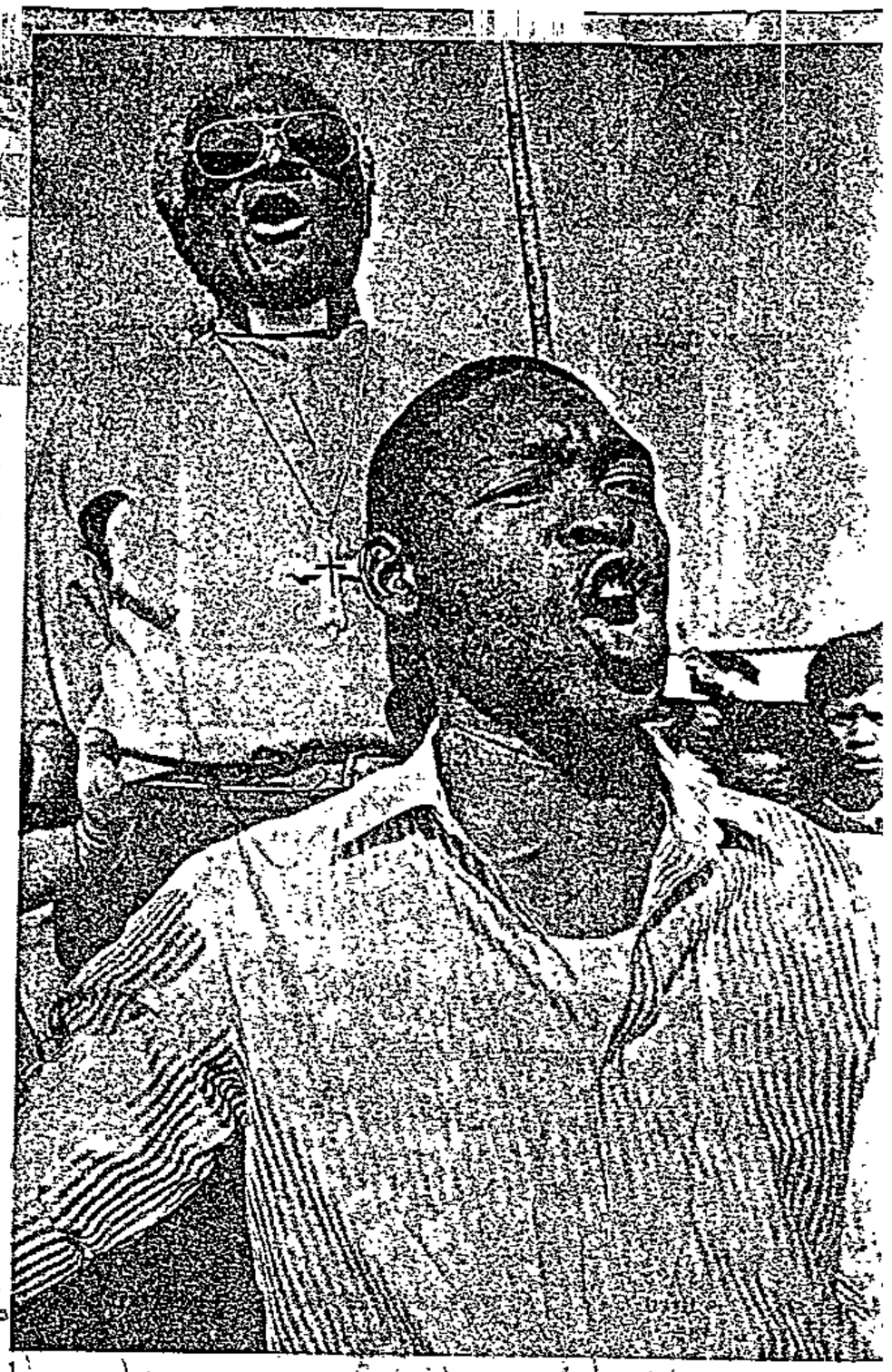
Tutu said he has personally been trying to get ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi around a table since April without success.

"It is a matter of urgency that the two leaders meet, but it will be disastrous to hold a meeting under the present circumstances."

In a scathing attack on the police, Mgojo, who is from the embattled Maritzburg area in Natal, said after seeing for himself and hearing the personal accounts of people affected by the violence, he was convinced police were aiding Inkatha supporters in the violence.

"It is what they are doing in Natal and their (police) involvement is deep. We want to tell the government they should be promoting law and order but that its agents are promoting violence," said Mgojo.

The government has refuted allegations that the police are aiding Zulus, and Vlok has demanded "concrete evidence on these allegations".



Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other church leaders this week toured Reef townships in a bid to end the violence. ■ Pics TLADI KHUELI

Churchmen, FW to talk on police role in conflict

Star 29/8/90 (304)

By Shehnaaz Bulbulia

Church leaders will meet President de Klerk tonight to discuss the role of the police in the townships on the East Rand where conflict has left scores dead and many hundreds homeless.

In a statement issued yesterday, the South African Council of Churches (SACC) expressed grave concern about reports pointing to police partiality and their "seeming complicity with Inkatha".

Archbishop Desmond Tutu of the Anglican Church and SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane are among the eight-person delegation to meet Mr de Klerk at the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

State President F W de Klerk flanked by Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha and Bishop Lawi Imathiu.

Reports from township residents suggested that police had actively assisted hostel dwellers, and in many instances had done little to disperse or disarm them, the SACC claimed.

"The SACC is disturbed that hostel dwellers have been allowed to roam freely."

The SACC said that when police acted impartially, the violence subsided, as was the case in Soweto when police officers stood between the factions and maintained a level of calm.

The police could play a significant role by disarming all people and dispersing all militant crowds. Hostels should either be closed or converted into family units, the SACC said.

FW ready to negotiate - clerics

PRESIDENT FW de Klerk met a top-level international Methodist Church delegation in Pretoria yesterday and told them he was ready to come to the negotiating table immediately, the delegation said.

World Methodist Council (WMC) chairman Bishop Lawi Imathiu told a news conference afterwards the delegation had received positive answers to several important points raised in the meeting.

"The meeting was so good and encouraging."

De Klerk argued his case for a new constitution and firmly stated his intention to remove the Population Registration and Group Areas Acts, Bishop Imathiu said.

The delegation is due to meet representatives of the ANC, PAC and Azapo today.

A second group of church leaders met De Klerk last night to discuss the role of the police in the conflict-ridden townships on the East Rand which have left scores dead and many homeless.

In a statement issued

SA Press Association

yesterday, the South African Council of Churches (SACC) expressed grave concern about reports pointing to police partiality and its "seeming complicity with Inkatha."

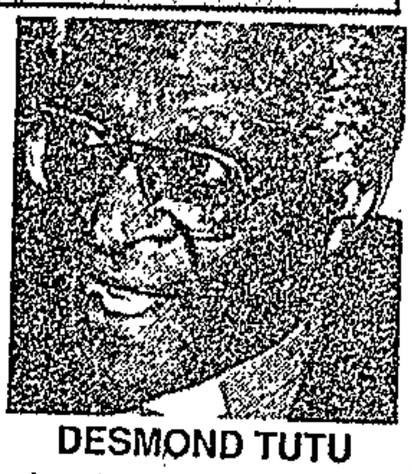
Archbishop Desmond Tutu of the Anglican Church and general secretary of the SACC, the Rev Frank Chikane were among the eight-man delegation that met Mr De Klerk at the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

Reports from township residents also suggested that police had actively assisted hostel dwellers, and in many instances had done little to disperse or disarm them, the SACC claimed.

"The SACC is disturbed that hostel dwellers have been allowed to roam freely, fully armed, while township residents have been disarmed and dispersed with tear smoke."

The SACC said when police acted impartially the violence subsided as was the case in Soweto when police officers stood between the factions and maintained a level of calm.

The police could play a significant role by disarming all people, dispersing all militant crowds, and either close



DESMOND TUTU

the hostels or convert them into family units, the SACC said.

The church leaders called on Christians to find peaceful methods to deal with ideological differences. "The Christian Gospel demands the need to listen and hear each other and not to resort to violence with those with whom we disagree."

Get the famous Damelin Management School

Tutu irate at reporting slip in papers

Star 29/8/96

304

By Helen Grange

Archbishop Desmond Tutu is outraged over statements incorrectly attributed to him in two Johannesburg newspapers.

The statements — on "seizing power" and "taking the struggle into white areas" — were attributed to the archbishop in the Citizen and Transvaler.

In fact, these were excerpts from a fiery address by South African Youth Congress president Peter Mokaba at a mass funeral in Soweto on Monday.

Archbishop Tutu's office yesterday said the Anglican Church would demand an unconditional retraction and apology from the Citizen and would refer the matter to lawyers for "discussion of further steps".

WEDNESDAY
August 29 1990
Johannesburg
★★★★

53c + 7c GST

The Star

South Africa's largest daily newspaper.
Established 1887.

FINAL

DIXIE
s'good s'nice Chicken Licken
R7-99 EXCL GST
FIVE PIECES CHICKEN WITH HOT CHIPS OR SPICY RICY
WILSENACH/0004

State President to look into church leaders' evidence of police partiality

By Brendan Templeton

President de Klerk was deeply concerned about perceptions that police acted partially in the recent upsurge of township violence and would consider establishing an independent board of inquiry into such allegations, church leaders said after meeting him yesterday.

South African Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said the delegation of leaders, which included Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, handed a thick pile of affidavits alleging police partiality to Mr de Klerk, who promised he would investigate them.

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok was also at the meeting.

The State President also promised to investigate the possibility of compensation for victims of the recent violence, Mr Chikane said. It was clear to the SACC that police could easily have stopped the violence if they wanted to. It dismissed police claims that they did not have enough men.

"If the impis had planned an attack on the State or white areas, they (the police) would have got information on it and would have stopped it," he said.

If the police had acted properly, the 515 people who had died in the recent violence would not have died, he said.

Archbishop Tutu said they were impressed with Mr de Klerk's willingness to discuss the issues and were confident he had taken them seriously.

Mr de Klerk promised to investigate the possibility of setting up a monitoring group to keep an eye on police activities, he said.

"We told him we were concerned that departmental inquiries are unlikely to be wholly satisfactory and may take too long," he said. "The police do not want to give evidence against each other."

The hostel system was another cause for concern and Mr de Klerk "understood that hostels are a malice in the communities," he said.

The State President promised to look into demands that the hostels be converted into family quarters where friends and family were able to live with workers, he said.

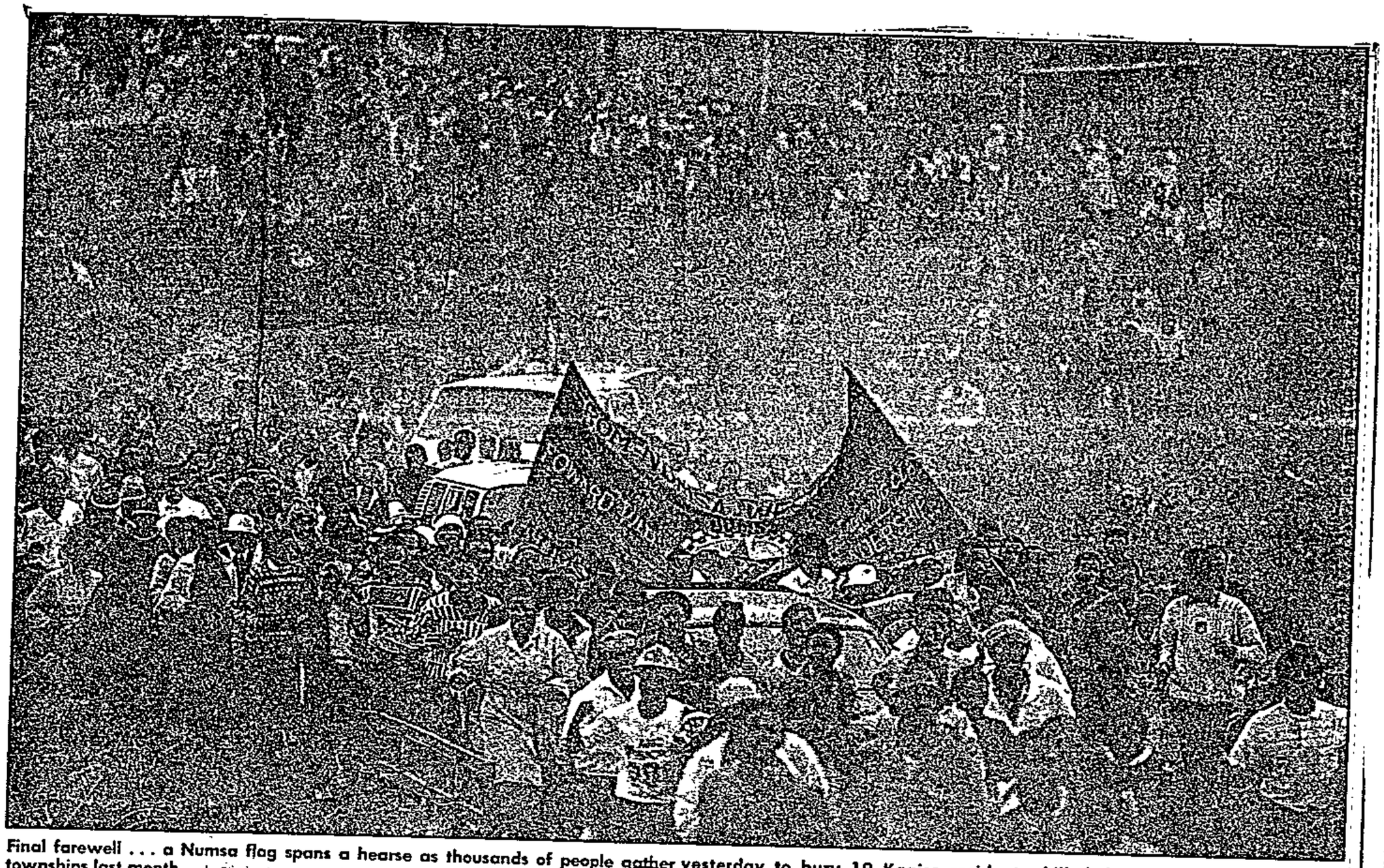
He also asked for the SACC leaders to assist him in ending the spiral of violence, Mr Chikane said.

Archbishop Tutu said they would have to "wait and see" what Mr de Klerk did about their demands.

"The difference between him and others was that there was no finger wagging. He takes us as serious responsible leaders," he said.

The meeting was scheduled to end at about 6 pm, but was extended to 7.30 pm by Mr de Klerk.

● Archbishop Tutu said after the conference he intended taking legal action against The Citizen newspaper, which allegedly misquoted him at the funeral at Jabulani Stadium in Soweto on Saturday.



Final farewell ... a Numsa flag spans a hearse as thousands of people gather yesterday to bury 19 Kagiso residents, killed during violence in Transvaal townships last month. ● Picture by Ken Oosterbroek

Star 3/9/90 (304)

Azapo speaker shouted down at Kagiso burial

Thousands of mourners in cold and rainy weather yesterday buried 19 Kagiso residents, killed during the violence which swept through the West Rand township last month.

The funeral service was peaceful, although marshals battled to control the large crowd gathered in the small local stadium.

Tension could have erupted into violence when a police video team walked through the crowd and started filming proceedings. People started throwing stones and hurling verbal abuse, and a policeman pulled out his service revolver.

Further confrontation was avoided when ANC marshals removed the policemen from the area. The only other signs of police surveillance were three police vans driving past and a helicopter which briefly circled above the stadium.

The Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo) today accused the ANC of political thuggery after a speaker representing the organisation was shouted down while addressing mourners at the funeral.

Azapo deputy president Nchaupe Mokoape, in a statement released to Sapa, condemned "the unruliness of the ANC and its affiliates during the funeral".

He said Azapo speaker Dan Matsobane was "hounded and harassed" by people wearing ANC colours and SA Communist Party T-shirts when he attempted to address the large crowd from the stage.

He was forced to leave the platform, despite ANC appeals for the crowd to be tolerant.

When a Kagiso councillor tried to speak, people jeered, chanted and sang until he too left the platform.

Also, Azapo banners displayed at the funeral were "torn by knife-wielding thugs", Mr Mokoape said.

"We in Azapo are truly disgusted. Is this a glimpse of the new non-racial, democratic South Africa for which the ANC says it is working?" he asked.

Azapo had always welcomed ANC speakers on its platforms without any difficulty.

"We were shocked that the unruly element of the ANC would not even listen to the impassioned pleas of their leadership," Mr Mokoape said.

"We are worried that there may be an undisciplined element within the ANC who are not only creating problems for other organisations, but who may also become an uncontrollable monster for them," the statement said.

A claim by SA Council of Churches general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, that police knew about and planned last month's Inkatha attack on ANC members, was enthusiastically received by the mourners. Mr Chikane said the Goldstone Commission of Inquiry's findings into the Sebokeng shootings showed that police were colluding with the enemy and "murdering our people in cold blood".

"The commission showed police had no need to kill those people in Sebokeng. When we accused the police of doing so, they said we were lying.

"The majority of police are trained to murder us and are given guns to shoot us to protect the white minority.

"Police must be re-trained and re-educated so they can be part of the new South Africa."

SA Youth Congress president Peter Mokaba alleged that police and vigilantes had killed ANC comrades.

He called on youths to swell the ranks of Umkhonto we Sizwe so that the ANC could resort to armed action if the Government refused to negotiate.

— Staff Reporter and Sapa.

SO

Chikane in Kenya to help exiles

South 6/9 - 12/9/90

304

By NOEL BRUYNS

THE Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), was in Nairobi this week to discuss the return of South African exiles in Kenya and their problems.

Both the ANC and the PAC have welcomed the efforts of the churches, in particular those of Chikane, to help solve the problems of these exiles.

An SACC statements said both liberation movements expressed concern about grievances and complaints expressed by some of these exiles against their respective organisations.

They were ready to address their problems as soon as contact could be made with them.

Rev Chikane

The exiles fled to Kenya after a misunderstanding with the ANC and the PAC earlier this year, a statement from the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), based in Nairobi, said.

Earlier this year, Archbishop Desmond Tutu — who is president of the AACC — made arrangements through the conference and the National Council of Churches of Kenya to secure temporary accommodation for the exiles.

The ANC and the PAC have stated they would have no problems with the churches facilitating the return of these exiles to South Africa once the government granted indemnity against prosecution.

The SACC said Chikane would hold further discussions on the return of exiles with the ANC and the PAC.

He would also seek an urgent meeting with the government to arrange for indemnity against prosecution and ensure their safety on their return.

Chikane and the National Coordinating Committee for Repatriation of South African exiles have made it clear they will not assist exiles if they would be detained or persecuted by the government on their return.

The Star Friday

Star 7/9/90 (304)

Tutu goes to Sebokeng

By Thabo Leshilo

Archbishop Desmond Tutu and bishops of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa received a rousing welcome from residents of Sebokeng during a visit to the strife-torn township yesterday.

The churchmen had abandoned their synod, held in Lesotho, to pledge solidarity with the people of Sebokeng and pray for peace in the area.

The bishops visited Sebokeng Hostel — the scene of Tuesday's clashes which left 40 people dead — and Sebokeng Hospital.

During a church service in Zone 13, Archbishop Tutu told about 500 residents the bishops were shattered by events.

and two co-accused were grant-

Beware of possible coup plot, Tutu tells FW

Star 11/9/90 (304)

By Peter Fabricius,
Political Correspondent

President de Klerk has promised further investigations into last week's killings in Sebokeng after being told by Archbishop Desmond Tutu that he suspected a sinister "third force" was fomenting township violence — possibly to create a climate for a coup against the Government.

An Anglican delegation led by Archbishop Tutu said after meeting Mr de Klerk yesterday that he had also promised to consider their proposals for a permanent judicial inquiry into the township violence, a "purge" of the security forces, the creation of a new unrest unit respected by the community, and independent monitors to accompany security forces in the townships.

At least 36 people died in the Sebokeng violence last Tuesday, including 11 shot dead by soldiers.

Mr de Klerk announced last night after meeting the delegation in the Union Buildings that "certain further follow-up investigations would take place".

Mr de Klerk was accompanied by Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and the Commissioner of Police, General Johan van der Merwe.

In an hour-long meeting, the church delegation gave a detailed account of the visit by Anglican bishops to Sebokeng

The delegation included Bishop Michael Nuttall of Natal; the Dean of the Church of the Province, Bishop Peter Lee of the Diocese of Christ the King — which includes Sebokeng — and Archdeacon Ben Photolo, a senior priest of the Diocese from the Vaal Triangle.

"A full description was given to the State President of eyewitness accounts of the killings on September 4. The delegation told of how wounded people had reported that whites with blackened faces participated in the attack on hostels which marked the beginning of the killings on September 4.

"It also related eyewitness accounts alleging that police and troops failed to disarm alleged Inkatha members.

"The bishops told of their suspicion that a sinister 'third force' in the country was fomenting chaos, possibly with a view to creating a climate for a coup against the Government."

Star 14/9/90

A brave prayer for peace

By Abel Mushi

Anton Lamola wept.

The Zulu hostel dweller who, with his colleagues at Merafe Hostel, had been ostracised by local residents since the conflict in the townships escalated, was so overcome when a group of women came to pray that tears rolled down his cheeks.

In a move aimed at contributing towards resolving the violence in the country, about 50 members of the Inter-denominational Women's Prayer League yesterday entered the "males only" Merafe hostel in Soweto, then shook hands and prayed with Inkatha men.

The women dared to go in "in pursuit of national peace".

Their leader, Masechaba Mabaso, spoke to security police who were monitoring the situation and stepped on to the grounds to seek permission from senior Inkatha men.

Mrs Mabaso, a prominent religious leader, returned to her flock and confirmed that the men would see them.

As the group walked gingerly towards the hostel entrance, more than 200 Inkatha men, some of whom carried sticks, began to assemble at a spot where they had held a brief meeting with a male delegate of religious leaders headed by the Rev Frank Chikane, secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

Mrs Mabaso told them: "We have held prayer services at hospitals, mortuaries and squatter camps. We have buried the dead and visited bereaved families all over the townships but we haven't as yet met you. You too belong to us and it is time we came together as one and stopped the fight."

Visibly overcome by emotion, Anton Lamola, one of the Inkatha leaders in the hostel, expressed his "kindest thankfulness" to the women for treating them "like people" as opposed to what was the trend in the townships, where they were regarded "as animals".

Everyone was asked to pray for peace, then Mrs Mabaso bade the men farewell.

HELPING HAND: A man holds a saline drip for a commuter wounded when a gang, wielding knives and guns, attacked fellow passengers on a Johannesburg train on Thursday night.

Star 15/9/90 (304)

Church leaders tour Soweto battle-zones

ABBEY MAKOE

CHURCH leaders concerned about ongoing township violence this week held a prayer service in Soweto before conducting a tour of various trouble spots.

The exercise was part of a broader initiative to highlight the violence for people unfamiliar with the extent of suffering in the townships.

The churches involved were the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Dutch reformed, Methodist, African Methodist, Episcopal and the Apostolic Faith.

The first trouble spot visited was the Tladi squatter camp, where 11 people were recently killed. Here, Catholic Bishop Reginald Orsmond conducted a prayer service.

The next stop was at the home of a Mr Mlangeni, who was allegedly killed with his son.

About 500 m away, Rev Gideon Makhanya stopped journalists and other visitors. He said: "This is a house of the Nonyane family, where a five-year-old baby was chopped with a panga. The mother was also chopped and shot. They are still in hospital."

The group moved on to the Merafe hostel in Mapetla, also the scene of violent clashes between local residents and hostel dwellers.

Things almost turned sour when the apparent leader of the inmates, Anton Lamola, accused the Rev Frank Chikane of passing biased judgement on the violence.

"It is you (Mr) Chikane who called for the total destruction of our hostel on the TV," Mr Lamola charged. Mr Chikane at times battled to explain that he was a church leader whose main concern was to stop unnecessary killing.

The group and Mr Lamola agreed to organise a peace meeting later during the week.

The church team was taken inside the hostel. Mr Lamola called his mates and asked them to gather and join in prayer, as requested by the church leaders.

Looking comfortable and relaxed, hostel residents sang a hymn and then jubilantly sang "Nkosi Sikelel'i Afrika".

Addressing a press conference after the tour, Mr Chikane expressed hope that as long as there was understanding, it was still possible to end the violence.

EXILES FM 21/9/90 304

COLD COMFORT

The ANC is expecting 3 000 of its exiled supporters home in October, and 600 a week thereafter. But no accommodation has yet been organised, few jobs have been found and arrangements are generally chaotic — and there is no money.

In terms of the Pretoria Minute, exiles can begin returning home from October 1, and all should be home — those of the estimated 20 000 who wish to return, that is — by the end of April next year.

The SA Council of Churches (SACC) has set up temporary housing and interim relief grants — but not nearly enough to cope with such an influx. In addition, says an SACC spokeswoman, there is poor communication between the SACC and the ANC, and not much of the money promised by foreign donors has arrived.

FM 21/9/90 304

No SA company has offered cash to help repatriate exiles. The SACC spokeswoman says some SA companies have offered jobs, but these are for "the cream, they want PhDs because they want token people, they are not interested in the others who are less qualified."

While many returning exiles will be put up in private homes, the accommodation shortage everywhere means this is not a solution.

The ANC has been criticised — by organisations and subcommittees set up to discuss the return of exiles — for not working fast enough or providing clear instructions about the nature and number of returning exiles.

The ANC also keeps replacing the people appointed to look after repatriation; organisations which have offered assistance have, in most cases, not been told how they can help — or even had their offers acknowledged.

The ANC failed to respond to requests from the *FM* for interviews with members of its repatriation committee.

"The whole thing is a shambles," says a senior SACC official involved with repatriation.

Charlene Smith

NEW

Partly clothed body of priest found in bushes

Star 25/9/90 304

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The partly clothed body of Roman Catholic priest Father Noel Stanton was found yesterday in bushes off Eisleben Road in Philippi.

Soon afterwards police arrested two men, aged 24 and 26. They are expected to appear in court tomorrow.

Father Stanton (46), parish priest at the Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church in Manenberg, disappeared from his rectory home on Saturday night.

Burgled

He was last seen at about 9.30 pm on Saturday.

Housekeeper Pearly Lategan discovered that the rectory had been burgled when she arrived at work at about 7.30 am on Sunday. There was no sign of forced entry, but goods had been taken from a safe and blankets, groceries, a video recorder, a candelabra, a clock and a crucifix were missing.

Father Stanton's bed had not been slept in. His car was missing but was found later in Heideveld.

Construction worker Cederick Maarman (25) discovered Father Stanton's body as he walked to Eisleben Road from his home in Happy Valley at 7.30 am yesterday.

Mr Maarman ran home and called his wife Jeanette (23). They found Father Stanton lying face down in a clearing.

He was clothed only in a white sweater and a pair of underpants, Mrs Maarman said.

A blue jersey was tied around his neck and he had a wound on his forehead.

The couple telephoned the police.

As police and parishoners scoured Manenberg on Sunday, the Americans and Hard Living gangs met on sports fields next to the church and vowed to cooperate with the police.

Gangsters said Father Stanton had not been abducted and robbed by a Manenberg gang but rather by "outsiders".

(304)

Star 27/9/90

Sanctions must stay, says Tutu

KANSAS CITY — Archbishop Desmond Tutu yesterday hailed the meeting on Monday between President de Klerk and President George Bush, but said economic sanctions should remain in place until apartheid had been abolished.

Archbishop Tutu, who was in Kansas City to receive an honorary degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, praised the meeting as "movement in the right direction".

He warned, however, that there was much work left to be done before South Africa's problems could be solved.

Although the meeting between Mr de Klerk and the US president represented a thaw in the cool relationship between Washington and Pretoria, it was economic sanctions that had forced the South African leader to move towards abandoning apartheid, and it would be sanctions that would end white rule, the archbishop said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Tears of joy as churches unite

The Rev Sam Buti ... his emotional speech swung the decision for unity.

Emotional address persuades both Synods to accept

Special Correspondent

THE Rev Sam Buti had tears of joy in his eyes. The Rev Nic Apollis had a stern expression on his face – obviously unhappy.

After a day of uncertainty it was eventually decided that the NG Sendingkerk (Dutch Reformed Missionary Church) and the Dutch Reformed Church in Africa will unite immediately. The new church will be called the United Reformed Church in Southern Africa.

Apollis, Moderator of the NG Sendingkerk, voted with the Rev Sakkie Mentor against the motion to become a united church.

There was an unproar in the NGSK Synod earlier in the week when a resolution was accepted that unity between the two churches should be postponed for at least a year because the NGSK was not satisfied with the manner in which the DRCA had accepted the Belhar Confession.

During an extraordinary meeting of its Synod in Mitchell's Plain, the DRCA had accepted the Belhar Confession – and then scrapped a clause in its church ordinance which demanded that unification could only take place after two-thirds of its regional synods had approved.

The Moderature of the NGSK was dissatisfied with this, fearing the new church could possibly become involved in litigation if the procedures for unification were not adhered to. The Moderature of the NGSK has conveyed its displeasure to the Synod of the DRCA in a strongly-worded letter.

Soon after receiving the letter, the full Synod of the DRCA turned up at Belhar. Buti, Moderator of the DRCA, said the decision of the NGSK to postpone unification for a year amounted to paternalism. He said the NGSK should not prescribe to the DRCA how it should conduct its affairs and that his church is only interested in immediate unification.

Many delegates to the Synod of the NGSK were also unhappy about the resolution which was passed earlier in the week.

The Synod of the DRCA then met at Belhar and issued a statement expressing its disappointment about the NGSK decision.

The DRCA also took the unusual step of changing its name to the United Reformed Church in Southern Africa with immediate effect. This name was proposed for the new united church by the NGSK earlier this year. The DRCA said it would continue to talk to other reformed churches using the new name.

Reacting to the statement, Dr Beyers Naude of the DRCA said the church had arrived at a big moment in its history.

"The decision of the NGSK will, in my opinion, determine the direction of the reformed churches inside and outside South Africa for the next 100 years. The fundamental obstacle in the way of unification, the Belhar Confession, has been removed. What is the remaining obstacle? Everything can be summarised in one word – fear," said Dr Naude.

After a long delay, both Synods met in the Synod Hall where delegates of the NGDK insisted that the Rev Buti should address the meeting. In an emotional address Rev Buti persuaded the meeting to accept his views. He said he considered it the duty of the NGSK to enter into discussions with his church before it could say the procedures of his church were wrong.

"To think that a sister church could decide without consulting us. I think it was paternalistic. After all the years of struggle, let us co-operate. We have come a long way to reach unification. We spent time, money and energy.

"We derive from communities filled with problems. Where people kill one another. We cannot return to our people with empty hands," he told the attentive audience.

After his speech, the audience applauded him spontaneously. The Rev Stevens of Elsies River said he had tears in his eyes because the churches had been separated again after unification. The NGSK could not "send our brothers back with empty hands", he added.

The Synod of the NGSK then took another vote and rescinded its previous decision in favour of immediate unification by a large majority.

CITY PRESS, October 7, 1990 PAGE 5

Mother church out in the cold

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE white Nederduits Gereformeerde Sendingkerk will have to decide whether or not to unify with the Coloured Nederduits Gereformeerde Sendingkerk (NGSK) and the black Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk in Afrika (NGKA).

This week's decision by the NGS and the NGKA to unite leaves the mother NGK out in the cold.

Moderator of the white NGK, Prof Johan Heyns, told *City Press* after his return from the synod this week that the mother church would decide what steps to take at its synod in Bloemfontein starting on October 16.

Heyns said, however, that unity in the four churches had existed in principle and all that remained was how to implement that principle.

The fourth church is the Indian Reformed Church of Africa.

"We also have to take into account the cultures and languages of the different people in the church when working on the principle of unification," said Heyns.

"To prove that the mother church was working on such a principle, in 1986 the Churches Society opened its membership to all races and in certain congregations, so people of other race groups are in principle already members of the NGK.

"The Church of Christ is based on the unity of Christ, therefore we cannot have a church that has closed its doors to other people."

Commenting on the new move, members of the NGS and the NGKA said this could lead to a complete breakaway from the mother church if the three could not stand united.

Newly appointed moderator of the NGS, Dominee Nic Apollis, said the time when the mother NGK was in the background and pulling the strings "was dead and buried".

"We are now preparing for a new church with a different moderator and when it happens, the new church will bear little or no resemblance to its apartheid past.

"Some people are worried by different customs. We agree that there will be some customs that will be strange to us, just as some of our customs will be strange to them."

Several Ministers of the NGKA said the mother church has been "a monument of the apartheid system for many years and black ministers and their congregants were made to suffer under the yoke of separate amenities, including worship".

'Chikane's info

8Bc 13/10/90

304

Vlok replies to attack

MINISTER of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok last night dismissed as inappropriate and misplaced an earlier attack on him by the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), about alleged security force involvement in the recent Reef violence.

In a statement issued by Mr Vlok, he appealed urgently to Mr Chikane and others involved in providing the alleged evidence "to bring witnesses as promised".

'No evidence'

"To date the SAP has not been able to find a single shread of real evidence or even credible information in the material presented for investigation," Mr Vlok said.

Mr Chikane said earlier yesterday that he was disappointed to read in the press that Mr Vlok was not going to follow up on the statements of witnesses to security force involvement in the violence which claimed almost 800 lives since the beginning of August.

Mr Chikane was referring to statements from alleged witnesses that he, together with leaders of member churches of the SACC, submitted to Mr Vlok at a recent meeting.

According to Mr Chikane, "we offered the police every assistance by placing information before them, in tracing evidence and, most importantly, by getting witnesses to speak to them".

He alleged Mr Vlok "is clearly out to protect the security forces irrespective of the crimes some of them are alleged to have committed".

According to the statement issued by Captain Craig Kotze, a spokesman for Mr Vlok's office, "the Rev Frank Chikane's attack on Minister Vlok is both inappropriate and misplaced".

"The SAP has been conducting a large-scale and intensive investigation under the leadership of Major-General Ronnie van der Westhuizen of the CID into the so-called evidence and affidavits presented by the SACC and the Rev Chikane."

"The help promised by the Rev Chikane in order to trace witnesses quoted in these documents — either unsigned or unsworn — has failed to materialise," Mr Vlok's statement said.

Mr Vlok added: "Many of those quoted in the documents cannot be traced in spite of urgent appeals to the Rev Chikane and the SACC for help in finding them. In addition, those who were eventually traced by the SAP were unable to substantiate what they had allegedly written or had given as so-called evidence.

'Useless'

"Until this urgently needed help is forthcoming the allegations contained in the documents now in the possession of the the police will remain a useless mass of hearsay, second- and third-hand information and press reports," Mr Vlok said.

Mr Chikane, apparently referring to press reports about a speech given by Mr Vlok at the Cape National Party congress in Port Elizabeth on Monday, said: "The Minister has dismissed testimonies because they were not signed and sworn affidavits. Our lawyer has confirmed that, as this was not evidence to use in a courtroom, there was nothing unusual about forwarding unsigned and unsworn statements."

useless

'Most do not expect expensive education'

By David Braun,
The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — The majority of parents in the new South Africa would not expect the State to provide the kind of education white children were getting in the current system, simply because this would cost too much money.

This was the view expressed by Sheila Sisulu, education adviser to the African National Congress, at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington last week.

Mrs Sisulu, education co-ordinator of the SA Council of Churches and daughter-in-law of ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu, was addressing the Endowment on black education in the '90s.

She said that until now the education system in the country had been characterised by a few having everything at the expense of the many.

The majority of South Africans would of course demand and expect vastly improved education for their children, but they would not expect to get it at the same rate and level as the whites had enjoyed.

"I anticipate we are going to have more problems from those who will be expected to do with less rather than from the majority who will want more," she said.

Sheila Sisulu, education adviser to the ANC.

Mrs Sisulu said an entire new education dispensation would have to be worked out for the new South Africa. This would have to be done in close consultation with the community.

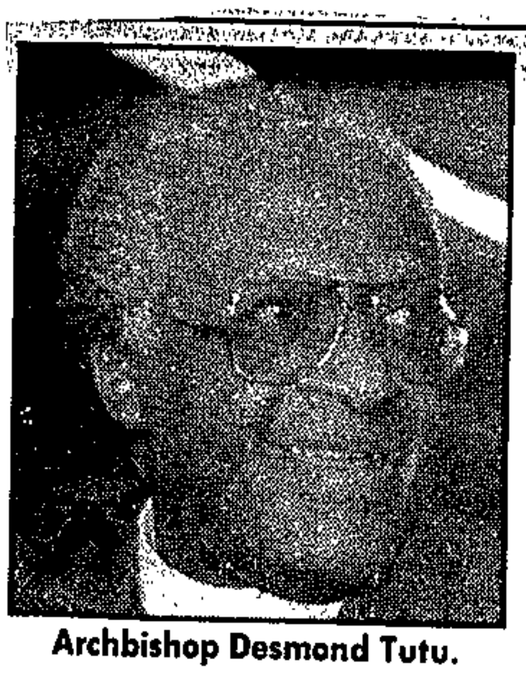
She envisaged that all school text books would eventually have to be rewritten, but that it would still have to be worked out as to who would do this and what the content of school education would be.

Mrs Sisulu, in the US to study various education programmes, said she had been greatly impressed by the American Job Core program, which enabled children to stay at school all the way to the point of opting to continue with university education or joining the job market with a real marketable skill.

The program taught each child a real skill while continuing with an academic education. The skills taught were offered on the basis of what the market required and were determined in conjunction with the market place.

Mrs Sisulu said there was an urgent need for pre-primary education for black children, as the drop-out rate between the first and second grades was 23 percent. The drop-out rate for blacks was 50 percent by the end of primary education. Pre-primary education would make a large contribution towards lowering these high rates, she said.

She said demands for a single education system in South Africa needed to intensified. The Government was "dilly-dallying" about this, saying a new Constitution should first be negotiated, but there was an urgent need to act before then so that access to education could be assured for all South African children as soon as possible.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Tutu to call meeting on negotiations

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Archbishop Desmond Tutu is to invite the leaders of all major black political movements to an urgent summit at Bishopscourt to hammer out a joint strategy on negotiations.

In his opening address at the 56th session of the synod of the Anglican Diocese of Cape Town in Rondebosch yesterday, Archbishop Tutu also called for Defence Minister General Magnus Malan to be fired, for a constituent assembly to be convened urgently and an interim coalition government established, and for the present Government to apologise for its former apartheid policies.

In a lengthy and often hard-hitting address, Archbishop Tutu said black leaders needed to adopt a code of conduct in their political dealings, and to decide how to handle factional violence and to promote unity and peace.

Archbishop Tutu said he believed much of the violence in South Africa was being stoked by a "sinister Third Force" opposed to President de Klerk's initiatives.

The Harms Commission had revealed that people "fairly high up" in the security establishment had ordered the assassination of those perceived to be enemies, the Archbishop said.

Fired

Now that the commission had reported, General Malan should be fired.

"If we say General Malan must go, we do not suggest that he is guilty. It would be obeying a convention observed in democratic countries that a Cabinet Minister must resign when his underlings are found guilty of a serious misdemeanour."

The Archbishop also called on senior Government members to apologise for apartheid.

"We blacks for our part are ready to forgive but the other party must be contrite and ready to do reparation to demonstrate the seriousness of their contrition, and then reconciliation can happen."

He called on the police to take action against the AWB by disarming them and charging them for "uttering such insulting, racist slurs . . ."

President de Klerk's initiatives deserved to succeed and he needed "the engine of a thriving economy", Archbishop Tutu said.

Once the process of ridding South Africa of its apartheid "albatross" was irreversible, he would call for sanctions to be lifted and for "massive investmnent or reinvestment".

NGK says apartheid a sin

Star 19/10/90 (B) (304)

Carina le Grange

The Ned Geref Kerk general synod in Bloemfontein last night accepted a major revision of its policy document, Church and Society.

The document was first drafted and approved at the NGK's previous synod in 1986.

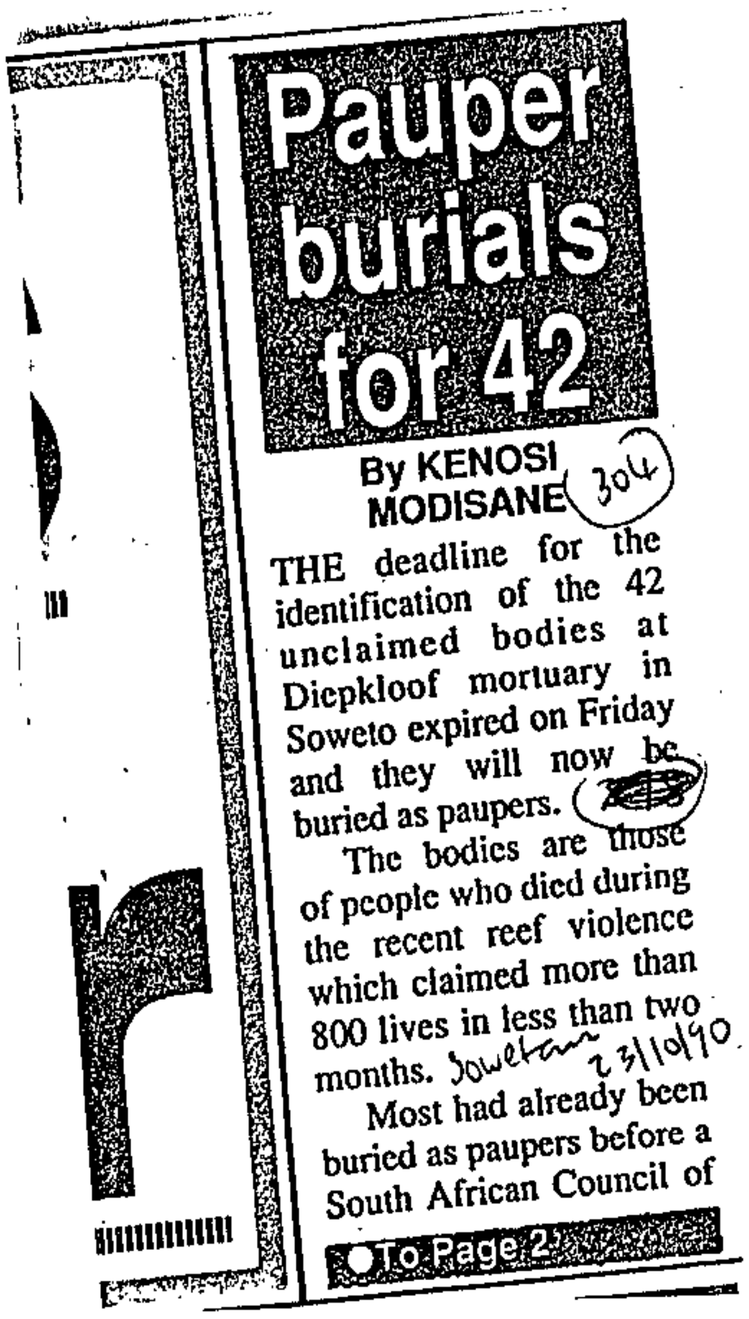
In the form accepted last night, Church and Society says that a system such as apartheid is, in the light of Scriptures and Christian Conscience, unacceptable and must be seen as sinful.

"Any attempt of a church to defend such a system on the basis of the Bible must be considered to be a false teaching."

In its 1986 form Church and Society was hailed as a breakthrough in terms of the NGK policy on apartheid and current affairs in comparison with the NGK's previous policy document: Ras, Volk and Nasie.

Church and Society, however, was still rejected by anti-apartheid churches and other critics.

● Yes to women's ordination — Page 6.



Pauper burials for 42

By KENOSI MODISANE

THE deadline for the identification of the 42 unclaimed bodies at Diepkloof mortuary in Soweto expired on Friday and they will now be buried as paupers.

The bodies are those of people who died during the recent reef violence which claimed more than 800 lives in less than two months.

Most had already been buried as paupers before a South African Council of

To Page 2

42 bodies still unidentified

From Page 1

Churches delegation, led by the Rev Frank Chikane, met the police last week to discuss ways of establishing the dead people's identitites.

Brigadier Kobus Malan, deputy regional commissioner of police in Soweto said yesterday the police had given local authorities the go-ahead to continue with the burials.

He said: "It was agreed at the meeting with Chikane that the burials should be halted. And an October 19 deadline was set by the two parties.

"But he has since not contacted us - leaving us with no option but to continue with the burials."

Malan, however, said: "The SACC is still welcome to arrange for burials with the undertakers in charge of burying the bodies."

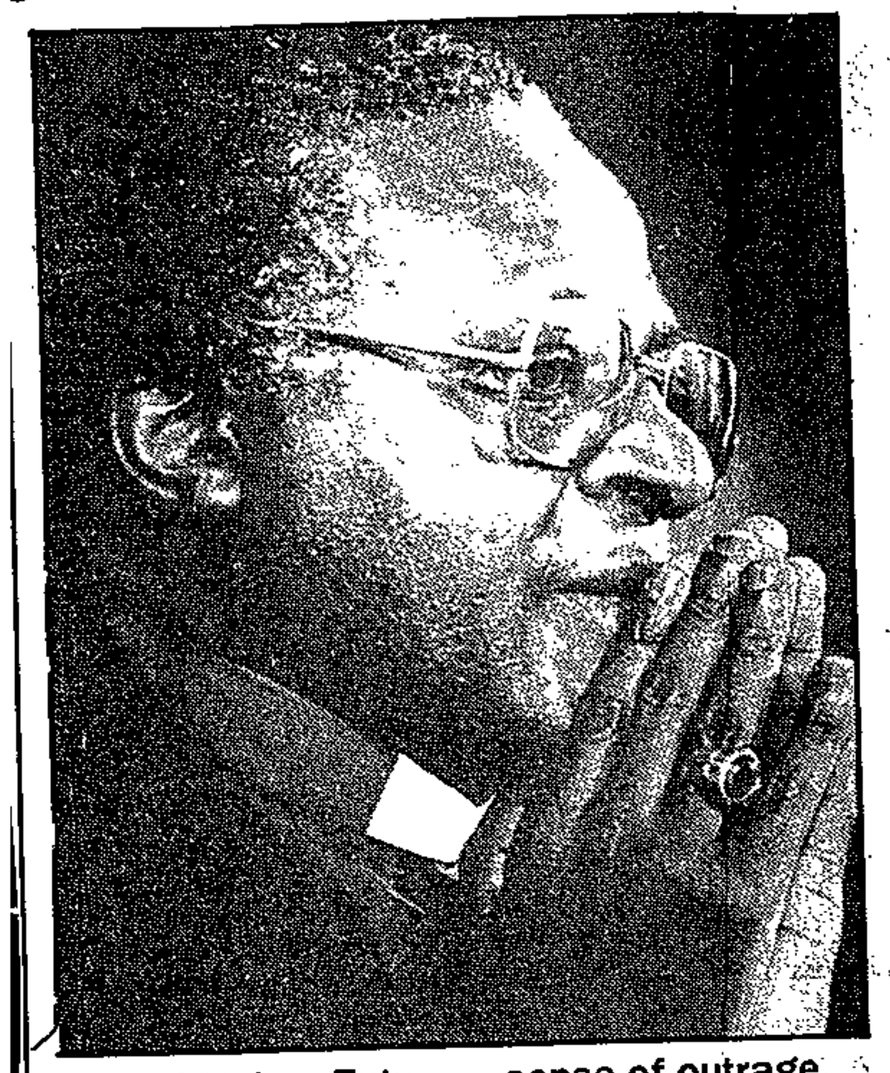
East Rand police could yesterday not release the number of unclaimed bodies. However, *Sowetan* established that the Springs police only had two unclaimed bodies.

The Roodepoort mortuary on Friday released pictures of three victims of the unrest in Kagiso, Krugersdorp.

A spokesman said the bodies had already been buried.

"Exhumation can be arranged if the victims' next of kin can be traced."

Chikane could not be reached for comment but an SACC spokesman said "plans by the church council to help where possible in the burials would continue".



Archbishop Tutu . . . sense of outrage.

Temple Mount tremors shake SA

Star 29/10/90 (304)

The "Bloody Monday" massacre has created a rift between local Anglican and Jewish leaders. SHEHNAZ BULBULIA reports.

A war of words was triggered between the Chief Rabbi of the Union of Orthodox Synagogues of South Africa, Cyril Harris, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu after the Synod of the Anglican Diocese in Cape Town had upheld the rights of Palestinians to resist Israeli aggression and organise themselves politically.

The synod's support of Palestinians came in the wake of the recent fatal shooting of 21 Muslims at Temple Mount when Israeli troops opened fire after Israelis at prayer had been stoned.

Reacting to the synod's latest resolution, Rabbi Harris told The Star the church had gone overboard in condemning every action of the Israeli government. He accused it of being one-sided.

Rabbi Harris argued that it was sufficient for the church to express sadness at the loss of life.

He said Christians "resented the Israelis for being in possession of the whole of Jerusalem, including the holy sites".

He accused Christians of forgetting the Arab attack on Israelis in 1967, when Israeli troops did their utmost to save mosques and churches from being destroyed.

If the Israeli government was undemocratic, it would have stopped Arabs from gaining access to their holy sites, he said.

Between 1948 and 1967, the Arabs forbade Jews from praying at the holiest of Jewish sites, Rabbi Harris said.

The recent incident at Temple Mount would have been averted if the Israeli government had barred Arabs from their holy sites.

It was a pity, he said, that the Anglican Church's sense of moral outrage did not extend to condemning the Palestinians' wholehearted support for President Saddam's barbarous seizure of Kuwait.

Rabbi Harris added that the Anglican bishops and their clergy were guilty at best of naivete and, at worst, anti-Semitism.

A spokesman for the office of Archbishop Desmond Tutu said the church was sticking steadfastly to the resolution.

The church could not agree, he said, that criticism of the policy of the present Israeli administration — or the actions of a unit of its forces — was anti-Semitic.

He pointed out that many Israelis disagreed with the present Israeli administration's policies.

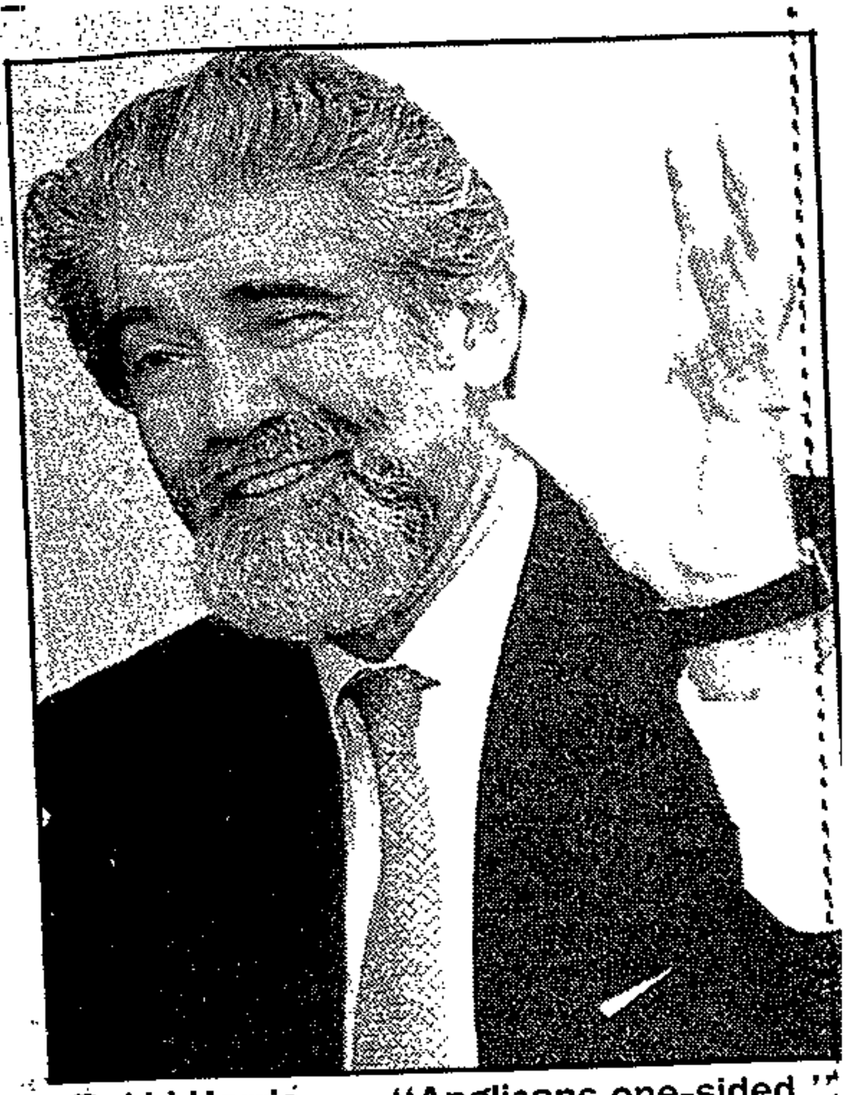
The Cape Town Diocese's position on the shootings was in keeping with the international Anglican position, expressed by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Anglican Church reiterated its dismay at the appaling loss of life in Jerusalem on October 8, Archbishop Tutu said. This view was shared with the deepfelt sense of outrage expressed by Muslims, Jews and Christians at the behaviour of the Israeli security forces at Temple Mount.

The church recognised that the shocking incident arose out of the profound sense of injustice of the Palestinian people and their continuing frustration of hopes for a just settlement based on Resolution 242 of the United Nations Security Council, Archbishop Tutu said.

The Anglican Church urged Israel to enforce the utmost restraint by its security forces.

He and the Anglican Church's bishops subscribed fully to the policy of the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the right of Israel to exist within recognised and secure borders, the archbishop added. □



Rabbi Harris . . . "Anglicans one-sided."

Star 29/10/90

Most churches to attend conference

By Carina le Grange

Despite historically deep-rooted political and doctrinal differences, 95 percent of invitations to the historic National Conference of Churches have been responded to, according to the organisers of the NCC meeting.

The conference will take place near Rustenburg next week. More than 200 delegates are expected.

The organisers of the conference — in which more than 80 denominations and church bodies are expected to come together — are in the process of finalising procedures for the event.

Co-chairman Dr Louw Alberts recently said it was a "unique event in the world" for so many diverse bodies of the Christian faith to sit down together to try to thrash out a common Christian response to present and future changes in South Africa.

Unlikely bedfellows are attending.

This is attested to in the co-chairmanship positions held by Dr Alberts — initially appointed by the State — and South African Council of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane.

The co-ordinators are Barney Pityana, the South African exile who is director of the World Council of Churches' Programme to Combat Racism; and Dennis House, Billy Graham's representative in South Africa.

Ad hoc committee members include former trade unionist Emma Mashinini of the Anglican Church, Ned Geref Kerk official Johan Heyns, Rhema Church leader Ray McCauley, independent church archbishop Temba Ntongana and Catholic bishops president Wilfred Napier.

The aim of the week-long conference includes the reconciliation of churches in South Africa — many of which had been coolly disposed towards each other in the past or even openly hostile — and their role in facilitating and contributing towards a new society as well as preparing Christian input towards a new future dispensation to form the basis of united Christian witness.

The aim does not include the formation of a new ecumenical movement.

Mr Chikane said of the conference: "I am convinced the success of this conference is the hope for the country and the fulfilment of God's will for South Africa's people.

"Given that 78 percent of the population here is Christian, a common, united Christian witness in the process of change will have an enormous impact on South African society," he said.

Star 29/10/90 (6) 304

Tutu not impartial, says Inkatha

KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi has refused to attend a meeting of black leaders proposed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, saying the cleric was biased in favour of ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela.

Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party said in a statement at the weekend that support for the policies of Mr Mandela's African National Congress expressed recently by the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town had brought his impartiality into question.

Archbishop Tutu has asked leaders of all black political organisations to meet at his official residence at the earliest opportunity to discuss boosting anti-apartheid unity and ending violence.

The Inkatha statement did not affect Chief Buthelezi's acceptance of an ANC invitation to attend top-level talks on ending the violence on the Reef and in Natal.

A date and venue for those talks have yet to be agreed to. — Reuter.

form, map and details in the 230[illegible]

Naude preaches at NGK for first time in 27 years

Star 29/10/90 Bc4

"I never thought I'd see this day," the Rev Beyers Naudé said upon taking the pulpit of a white Dutch Reformed Church for the first time in 27 years yesterday.

When Dr Naudé began preaching against apartheid in the 1960s, he was shunned by his white congregation and later banned by the Government.

"There's no bitterness in my heart. I've always wanted to preach the message of social justice and now some whites are beginning to listen," he told the worshippers.

As the congregation filed out of the church, they greeted the 75-year-old Dr Naudé with warm handshakes and hugs.

"This is good news for South Africa. This is reconciliation," said Louis Lillie, a long-time church member. "This proves that Dr Naudé was right all along," he said.

The Germiston congregation is officially part of the white branch of the Ned Geref Kerk, which has separate branches for blacks and coloureds.

But Germiston's minister, Pieter Dumas, has been encouraging people of other races to attend his services since 1985. Many whites oppose integration and have left the church.

"I hope this will spread to other congregations," Dr Naudé said.

"It will help (whites) see the other side of the racial picture," he said.

Dr Naudé does not belong to any political group. But the ANC asked Dr Naudé to be part of its delegation when it held talks with the Government in May.

Dr Naudé says he does not expect to be play any political role in the future.

"I've never seen myself as anything but an Afrikaner," he said. — Sapa-AP.

Still hope for [illegible]

N'T
R.

te only

VALDRON 0060/E/KS

Accept different views - SACC

(304)

2/11/90

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) has welcomed changes in the political situation but said urgent attention should be given to "important areas of concern'.

The SACC said in a statement this week there was a "crucial need for tolerance".

South Africans had never known democracy and through years of repression they had developed a culture of intolerance in which the right to ideological diversity was repeatedly denied by intimidation and coercion in the name of one or other party or movement.

Democracy

"True democracy will never exist in such an atmosphere and we call on all involved in political activity to end this tendency among their followers and to commit themselves unequivocally to the multi-party diversity which alone will guarantee a genuinely democratic South Africa," the SACC said. - Sapa

EDUCATION

'School nostalgia' hits SA churches

W/Mail 2/11 - 8/11/90 304

SOUTH AFRICAN churches are trying to resolve a dilemma over where best to channel their resources: into non-racial schooling which reaches only a few, or into broader projects which could benefit many more through basic literacy and other skills.

Before the Bantu Education Act was passed in 1953, churches provided education through their mission schools to large numbers of black pupils.

Many church leaders now appear to believe the churches should get back into running schools — even if this time it is to provide non-racial education for only a few.

The dilemma emerged starkly at a "South African Week" consultation held in Bad Boll, southwest Germany, last month.

Organised by the Protestant Academy of Bad Boll together with the South African ecumenical agency Diakonia, the consulation was attended by representatives of European and North American churches, non-governmental organisations and funders as well as a large delegation representing education organisations from the Durban area.

During the consulation a "school nostalgia", said to be "sweeping through South African mainline churches" and through churches in a number of other African countries, came in for strong criticism.

Speakers said memories of church schools in the pre-1953 period had been kept alive, particularly by those who had experienced it themselves.

Inspired by rosy memories of their own days at church schools and by concern at the deteriorating conditions in government schools, many black clergy are encouraging the establishment of new church schools and also the idea of the church turning the many empty white schools non-racial.

Despite its initial appeal however, the trend was sharply criticised.

Critics pointed out that setting up and maintaining schools is prohibitively expensive, and much less possible for the church than it was in the 1950's heyday. It was only with generous funding from big business that churches have been enabled to re-establish a few schools. For example, the two most significant educational interventions by the churches in Natal are non-racial primary schools, one of which cost R8-million to establish.

Delegates questioned whether the church should be spending such vast sums of money on a few privileged children, given the enormity of the education crisis in the region.

Funders attending the conference said the churches in many other parts of Africa are similarly tempted to move back into providing formal schooling. This development has become particularly marked with the crisis in government-funded education in these countries, and the state is asking the church to save the situation by taking over the schools.

Funders said the churches in turn welcome this development, as it gives them renewed power over education, and they are presenting international donors with applications to fund expensive private schools for a small elite — a trend described as "alarming".

Asked how the churches should respond, Enver Motala of the South African Council for Higher Education (Sached) suggested that as a starting point, the churches should assess very carefully their personnel and financial resources and decide where they could make the most strategic contribution.

During discussion, delegates considered how the churches could make a more effective contribution than by owning and running educational institutions which were "either too expensive or elitist".

Several examples were given, such as that of a Catholic nun who has given up her teaching post at a prestige church school and is teaching street children. It was suggested this might be the kind of model the church should follow.

Carmel Rickard

Church groups get together for historic talks

304

w|Mail 2|11| - 8|11|90

By PAT SIDLEY

CHURCHES across the political spectrum will be meeting next week, the first such gathering since the Cottesloe Consultation in 1960 which saw the start of the bitter 30-year political division among South African churches.

Most South African Council of Churches members and several independant churches and white Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerke will gather at a Rustenburg resort to talk.

The delegation will also include a number of pentacostal and fundamentalist churches — which is causing some apprehension among the larger established churches.

The meeting arises out of President FW de Klerk's invitation at Christmas last year for all the churches to get together under his auspices.

This was rejected by the SACC members who believed churches should arrange their own meeting to settle their differences. They also believed it was not desirable for the churches to meet under the auspices of the state.

Eventually De Klerk withdrew from the scene and next week's conference will be chaired jointly by SACC general secretary Frank Chikane and state representative Louw Alberts.

The main item on the agenda is the political situation and the hope of finding some common ground between the churches on this issue.

But observers see problems ahead.

Among the obstacles is the number of delegates each church is allowed — the large mainstream churches will have four delegates each and the small pentacostal and fundamentalist churches are permitted one representative. The SACC churches believe they will be outnumbered by the smaller groups.

An additional hurdle to overcome is the fact that delegates come from vastly different worlds.

One observer sees the event as testimony to Chikane's magnanimity.

"Many of these churches have made it very difficult for us in our struggle ..." and he questions whether it is possible to come to some fundamental common witness with these problems.

SA land should be for all, clerics indaba told

Sowetan 6/11/90

Sowetan Correspondent

SOUTH African Council of Churches president Dr Khoza Mgogo yesterday urged the National Conference of Churches in Rustenburg to adopt strategies to facilitate the re-distribution of wealth in South Africa.

Not to do so may retard the process of reconciliation, Mgogo said during the opening session.

"This conference must at least address one specific area. This is the question of land. We cannot avoid it," he said.

"The land must be returned to the people. The land cannot be owned by the few and worked by the many. The land is the future for the people and without it, the majority of the people will be lost."

304 **Issue**

Mgogo said the issue of land could not be overlooked and would have to be at the forefront at every available opportunity during the five-day conference.

Leader of the Maritzburg-based Africa Enterprise Mr Michael Cassidy said the key question for the conference was whether it could confess, acknowledge and repent its "national sins", both before God and before those sinned against and to find a way to point and show the way to the future.

More than 250 delegates from 85 denominations are meeting at the Hunter's Rest Hotel near Rustenburg for the historic conference. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

SACC president urges churches to act on land

By Carina le Grange

RUSTENBURG — South African Council of Churches president Dr Khoza Mgogo urged the National Conference of Churches (NCC) yesterday to adopt strategies to facilitate the redistribution of wealth in South Africa.

Not to do so might retard the process of reconciliation, he said during the opening session yesterday.

"This conference must at least address one specific area. This is the question of land. We cannot avoid it," Dr Mgogo said. "The land must be returned to the people.

"The land cannot be owned by the few and worked by the many.

"The land is the future for the people and without it, the majority of the people will be lost.

"I believe this conference must take the prophetic step on this issue as this may recharge the process of reconciliation in our country.

"This conference must urge churches to set up strategies of addressing the question of redistribution of the wealth of the country.

"This entails all social means such as housing, education, health, wages, leisure facilities, pension and ecology."

He said the issue of land could not be overlooked and would have to be at the forefront at every available opportunity during the five-day conference.

More than 250 delegates from 85 denominations met yesterday near Rustenburg — the first time in South Africa so many diverse churches have come together.

Address land issue church told

JOHANNESBURG. — South African churches attending an historic conference near Rustenburg have been urged to adopt strategies to facilitate the redistribution of wealth.

The president of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Khoza Mgojo, told delegates attending the five-day National Conference of Churches that the process of reconciliation in South Africa would be retarded if these strategies were not adopted.

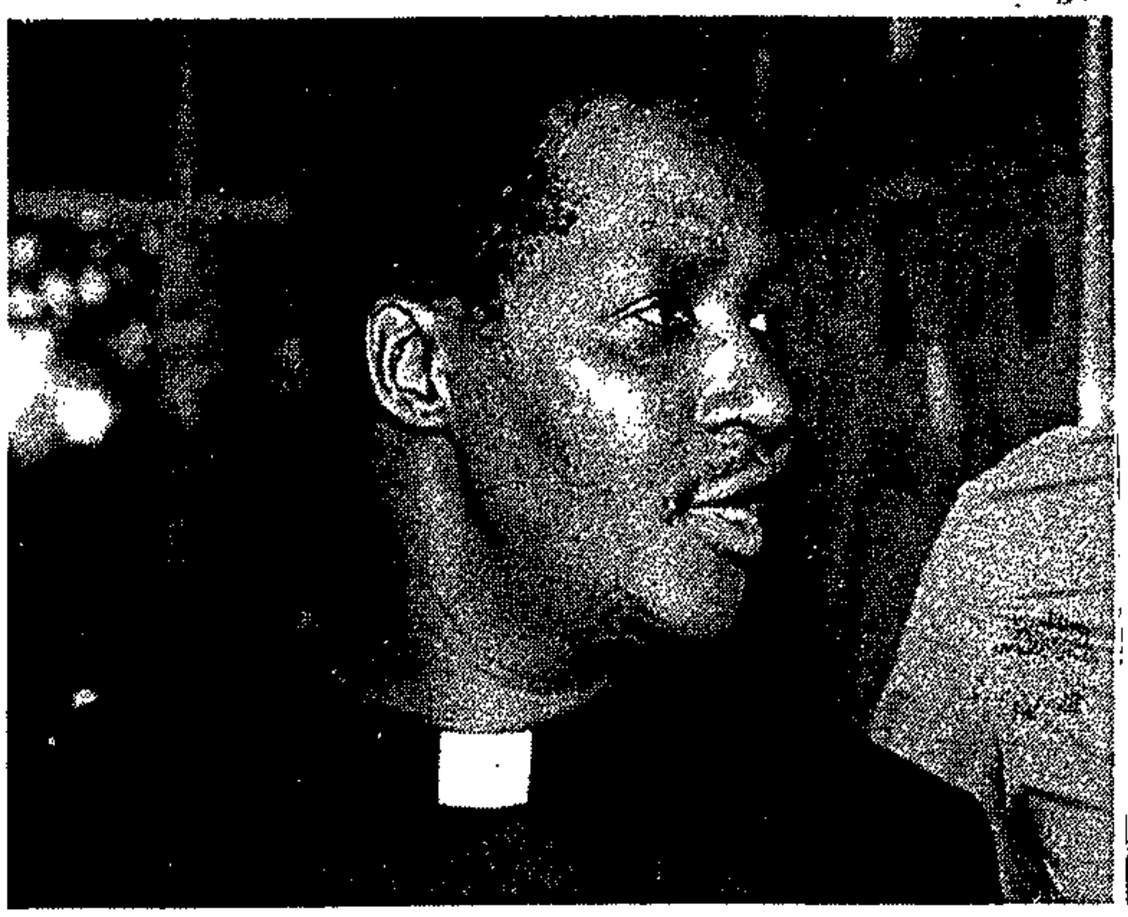
He urged the conference to address at least the question of land.

"The land must be returned to the people. The land cannot be owned by the few and worked by the many."

One of the aims of the conference, according to the Rev Barney Pityana, is to produce a joint document or a declaration setting out a set of Christian principles to be adhered to by a future South African government.

Pityana was the director of the Programme to Combat Racism of the World Council of Churches in Geneva. He was an executive member of the SA Students Organisation (Saso) and a confidante of Black Consciousness leader, Mr Steve Biko.

Pityana recently returned to South Africa after being in exile since 1977.



BARNEY PITYANA at the national conference of churches in Rustenburg this week

'We don't want cheap NGK confession'

Star 8/11/90

304

By Carina le Grange

RUSTENBURG — Serious dissent between the white Ned Geref Kerk and its sister black and coloured churches threatened at the National Conference of Churches yesterday.

It followed a personal confession of guilt about apartheid by an individual NGK member, which was later endorsed by an official NGK delegation.

The deepening of the already-existing rift between the NGK, the (black) NGK in Afrika and (coloured) NG Sendingkerk was triggered by the confession of guilt by theologian Professor Willie Jonker on Tuesday morning, which he made on behalf of the NGK.

This was followed by the spontaneous forgiveness and acceptance of the confession by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Yesterday, NGK moderator Professor Pieter Potgieter told the conference that the NGK delegation had unambiguously stated that they identified with Professor Jonker's statement.

The black and coloured NG churches had however required an urgent clarification on whether the confession had been accepted by Archbishop Tutu on behalf of the entire conference.

As the matter became a dominant issue, both inside and outside the proceedings, these two churches also said they would be "enormously compromised" if the conference were to become a platform for the theological viewpoints of the white NGK.

In a statement and at a press conference, these churches said their position of protest was not aimed personally at Archbishop Tutu or Professor Jonker and that they also accepted the latter's confession.

They pointed out that the NGK had not yet clearly committed itself to a structurally united church and that many ministers were members of the Broederbond.

Their major objection centred on the fact that recent progressive developments in the white church were couched in words which could be interpreted in more than one way.

Sam Buti, of the NGKA, said: "We do not want a cheap confession. You can only confess after you have repented that you have done wrong in the past."

Rusell Botma of the NG Sendingkerk said the NGK confession meant that Dr Andries Treurnicht and Professor Carel Boshoff, both NGK members, had also confessed their sins and guilt over apartheid.

"If that is true, we must also hear it from them," he said.

The Rev Frank Chikane said: "The trauma we are going through is part of the pain of confronting one another. It is a constructive event, in my opinion".

Churches to meet over interpretation of apartheid

Star 9/11/90

By Carina le Grange

RUSTENBURG — The white Ned Geref Kerk and its two younger black and coloured churches will meet officially early next month to clear up their differences over the interpretation of apartheid, it was announced at the National Conference of Churches (NCC) yesterday.

This meeting is considered a breakthrough out of the deadlock which exists between the churches.

It is the outcome of a rift which has existed for some years, but which surfaced publicly at the NCC after the white NGK confessed its sin and guilt over its support for apartheid.

The (black) NGK in Afrika and (coloured) NG Sendingkerk have responded to the confession by saying there are differences in the interpretation of apartheid between the white and black churches, creating problems for the latter to accept the confession of guilt.

The announcement of the scheduled December meeting came after a consultation during which the "air was cleared" with regard to the NGK's confession to the conference this week, according to NGSK moderator Nic Apollis.

This has defused an issue that had been dominating the conference since Tuesday and created much soul-searching over the nature of confession and forgiveness which should follow it.

The initial spontaneous personal confession of NGK theologian Professor Willie Jonker was accepted by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Yesterday Professor Jonker was thanked for his confession by close friend Beyers Naudé.

Pastor Ray McCauley, on behalf of the Rhema Bible Church, the Network of Christian Ministries and Christian Fellowship International, also formally confessed guilt yesterday.

Naude urges the NGK to confess guilt

By Carina le Grange

RUSTENBURG — One of the ways in which the Ned Geref Kerk could make a confession of guilt over apartheid would be to do it at Blood River or the Voortrekker Monument in front of the widest possible representation of blacks, Dr Beyers Naudé said yesterday.

Healing

Similarly, the English churches could confess at the Bloemfontein Vrouemonument over the deaths of 26 000 Afrikaner women and children in concentration camps during the Anglo-Boer War, he said.

Speaking at the National Conference of Churches (NCC) near Rustenburg, Dr Naude said: "All the churches in South Africa should participate in an expression of guilt.

"No healing is possible without reconciliation, no reconciliation is possible without justice and no justice is possible without genuine restitution."

He said the NGK had a special role to play in this regard, as it was responsible for specific laws and actions which promoted apartheid.

He said the NGK also owed the World Council of Churches (WCC) an apology for the serious wrongs which the NGK's rejection of the international ecumenical body in 1961 had caused the WCC.

Added to this was National Party propaganda which, "through decades, deliberately created and sustained a totally distorted image of the WCC and its important ecumenical role of love, service and reconciliation".

Dr Naudé also said: "My deepest concern today is not focused on the political but on the economic issues in South Africa."

Later, at a press conference, he said sanctions could not be lifted yet.

"We need to resolve political problems as soon as possible so that the door can be opened to investment."

In the meantime, the pressure of sanctions on the Government was still necessary.

Mistake

He said the immediate lifting of sanctions might cause a division within African National Congress ranks and hamper Nelson Mandela's handling of the negotiation process.

Earlier, Dr Naudé cautioned that it would be a "grave mistake if the NCC, in our urgent longing to achieve a united Christian witness, denied or ignored the deep differences in our midst to reach an acceptable compromise".

"This will not lead us to the truth, or help in removing deep-rooted injustices, nor help pave the way for lasting reconciliation and peace."

Star 10/11/90 (3rd)

Apartheid definitely an evil, says NGK

CARINA LE GRANGE

The Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk issued its strongest repudiation of apartheid yesterday, joining other Christian denominations in confessing the sins of segregation and denouncing the policy as "evil".

Then it unexpectantly issued a statement distancing itself from some points of the Rustenburg Declaration adopted by the National Conference of Churches because they found some political trends in the declaration "very one-sided".

The dramatic move by the NGK came while the conference was in the plenary session during which the declaration was being debated and adopted — but long before proceedings were over. The statement was released to the media only, and immediately led to the NGK once again dominating the scene, albeit off-stage.

Jeopardy

The precarious unity fashioned during the week-long conference of churches of every persuasion in the country, which came about largely due to the NGK's confession of guilt over apartheid, seems once again in jeopardy.

Reacting to the NGK statement, Dr Beyers Naude said it would create serious problems for other participants at the conference, and that unless the NGK clearly indicates which points it cannot support as well as the reason for it, the integrity of the whole church would be at stake.

"They have found it difficult to go the whole way with us," said the Rev Frank Chikane, a conference co-chairman and leader of the anti-apartheid South African Council of Churches. "I feel that we have started a process and I'm just hoping the Dutch Reformed Church will be able to move ahead with us."

The Rev Sam Buti of the (black) NGK in Afrika responded to news of the statement by saying the NGK's confession earlier in the week had been a "cheap confession, not one of repentance".

"You can't trust what they say," he said.

Warning that the NGK would not unreservedly endorse the Rustenburg Declaration came early on during the session when moderator Professor Pieter Potgieter said that although the church could comply with many things in the statement, he had to state very clearly that the church had difficulties with some "political trends".

He referred to a provision made in the preamble — saying "some of us are not in full accord with everything said at this conference" — and added that the NGK delegation was bound by church order to remain within the parameters set by decisions taken at its last synod in October.

(The declaration calls on the Government to remove all apartheid laws, calls for a one-person, one-vote democracy in a muti-party state, and appeals for a redistribution of wealth.)

Rev Chikane, however, later said he understood the Dutch Reformed Church's hesitation to give full support.

"I understand they're constrained, they have to answer back to their own membership."

My politics barred me from conference, claims archbishop

Star 10/11/90 (304)

ABBEY MAKOE

ARCHBISHOP Mzilikazi Masiya this week claimed he was barred from attending the historic church conference which was held for five days at Hunter's Rest, Rustenburg.

He said the reason given to him was that his credentials were suspect, and the organisers "seemed unsure" when he told them he represented about 2,5 million Christians. The Archbishop is the head of the Council for Apostolic and Zion Churches in Southern Africa.

The Archbishop said when he arrived at the conference, the Rev. Barney Pityana "told me the steering committee decided I was not welcome".

One reason given to him was that he was the leader of a political party, he claimed.

The disappointed church leader said the treatment he received at the hands of the organisers reminded him of the Book of Matthew 23: 13—14.

He said it read: "How terrible for you, teachers of the law and Pharisees! You hypocrites! You lock the door to the Kingdom of Heaven in people's faces, and you yourselves don't go in, nor do you allow in those who trying to enter!"

He said he had no apologies to make for his anti-sanctions campaign.

SACC calls for morality in politics

304

South 11-7/11/90

Religion in Focus

BY NOEL BRUYNS

THE South African Council of Churches has pinpointed six areas of concern raised by the "rapidly changing political situation" in the country.

SACC leaders, meeting in Johannesburg last week, said the areas were:

- "The crucial need for tolerance;
- The need for disciplined organisations;
- Reclaiming of 'lost generations';
- The confidence that casts out fear;
- Morality in politics; and
- Building our dignity by cleansing our land."

The SACC in a statement condemned "intimidation and coercion in the name of one or other party or movement" as it denied the right to ideological diversity.

Childhood

It called on newly-emerging political forces and government agencies to make discipline at every level a priority.

Young people who had "sacrifice their childhood" in the "turbulent years since 1976" had to be reintegrated into society.

Commenting on morality in politics, the SACC warned:

"It is sometimes easier to prove courageous in the time of powerlessness than it is to demonstrate moral stature through honest use of power.

"We call for vigilance to ensure in those who lead us an example in fairness, justice and accountability that will strengthen our trust in the future."

Declaration helps church unity

By Carina le Grange

The good news of the National Conference of Churches was that more than 85 denominations had "come together at all", co-chairman the Rev Frank Chikane said at a concluding press conference shortly after the adoption of the Rustenburg Declaration, which broke new ground for church unity in South Africa.

"This is the beginning of a new kind of relationship for the future," Mr Chikane said.

The declaration adopted by the conference allows for individual differences.

It says, however, that all the churches — including the Ned Geref Kerk — agree on the unequivocal rejection of apartheid as a sin.

Churches which took part ranged across a spectrum from the traditional anti-apartheid South African Council of Churches, to apolitical African independent churches and pentecostal, charismatic, Baptist and two Afrikaans reformed churches, including the Gereformeerde Kerk to which President de Klerk belongs.

Frank Chikane . . . meeting broke new ground.

The Rustenburg Declaration, which will be sent to all the parties involved in constitutional negotiations, calls for the negotiation of a new constitution and a political dispensation based on one man, one vote on a common voters roll.

It stresses that priority should be given to upgrading conditions for the poor and that the redistribution of wealth should accompany economic growth.

Coupled with this is an appeal for the Church to be involved with the State in restoring land to dispossessed people.

Other areas of action to ensure parity for all include health, housing, education and employment, the declaration says.

Star 12/11/90

Curfew follows shootings

Own Correspondent

Atteridgeville was yesterday declared an "unrest area" by Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok after two youths were allegedly shot dead by police and three houses, including that of a town councillor, were petrol-bombed at the weekend.

Mr Vlok also announced that a 9 pm to 4 am curfew had been imposed in the township with effect from last night.

Two youths, Joseph Lucky Phatlane (19), a Form 3 pupil at the D H Peta High School, and Prince Makhuba (9), were allegedly shot dead by police on Saturday.

Anna Phatlane, Lucky's mother, said her son was killed while walking with his sister, Maphefo (2).

A spokesman for the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Association said yesterday they had received information that Prince was shot by police in the yard at his home.

He said about 100 people, mainly youths, sustained birdshot wounds after being shot by policemen.

Reconnect

The shootings apparently occurred while the youths were trying to reconnect electricity supplies in the township.

The youths had allegedly been shot with a heavy-calibre firearm.

"Police in the area only use birdshot, rubber bullets and tearsmoke," a police spokesman said.

He also confirmed that the houses of councillor Piet Makwe, former town clerk Solly Rammala and ex-deputy mayor Jerry Phiri were damaged after being petrol-bombed on Saturday.

A business complex, Tsherama, owned by an Indian woman, was extensively damaged after being gutted by fire.

A truck was set alight at Thabang bottlestore which also belongs to the woman.

A post office was slightly damaged and a bus burnt out after being petrol-bombed.

Police used teargas to disperse youths who were involved in running battles with them.

The litany was: restore the land

CARINA LE GRANGE reviews last week's National Conference of Churches, which met to thrash out a "united Christian witness in a changing South Africa".

THE meeting opened with a programme of worship. The moving liturgy of music, scripture reading, prayer, moments of silence and meditation on signs of unity, which were also the means of division, was titled "Gathering the People of God". It fuelled expectations of closeness to come, some later said.

Put together by World Council of Churches representative Barney Pityana, it was a promising start for many as they cast their eyes on fellow delegates — most of whom had never seen each other before, much less talked to each other, or who knew each other only from television screens and newspaper reports.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu started his sermon with a telling joke on racism, recapped recent historical events locally and internationally, moved on to injustice; then to the work of "the God of surprises", to visions of repentance and forgiveness, and said "the wronged must forgive".

He could not have known he would be called to act on his words so soon.

The sense of togetherness was soon, however, shocked to a stark realisation of how some of the wronged saw the consequences of repentance when the large, and usually reassuring, Dr Khoza Mgojo, Methodist and South African Council of Churches president, spelt out clearly what would be required for restitution to take place.

It revolved around land. The land had to be given back to those it had been taken from — and the words became a litany as others took it up in the following days in group discussions and report-backs, group after group, again and again: restore the land to the people, redistribute the land.

By the second day, however, almost everything had become overshadowed by the confession of guilt over apartheid by an individual member of the Ned Geref Kerk — implicated more than any other church in the support of apartheid — who dared to confess also on behalf of his church.

The confession — spontaneous and moving to all present — was answered by Archbishop Tutu. When he was later challenged by the younger, bitter Ned Geref Kerk black and coloured churches for taking it upon him to forgive on behalf of all, he said: "I cannot, when someone says 'forgive me', say I do not".

The bitterness of the black and coloured Ned Geref churches was explained by co-chairman Frank Chikane, who said they had been the "brutalised childdren", who still felt scorned by the founding (white) church which had not committed itself to unity.

Throughout the week, speakers delivered papers, and group discussion followed, but over all of this lay the unfolding drama of the Ned Geref churches. The aim of the conference was to reach unity: the reality was that apartheid, past and present, dominated hearts and minds.

Then the initial confession was backed up by the official Ned Geref Kerk delegation as a whole — which had later to promise again and again it would not back down from this stance as it clung to guidelines laid down by its synod when confronted by other, political, issues.

Outside the conference other forces were at work: Afrikaans politicians criticised the Ned Geref Kerk publicly, and even former State President P W Botha stepped back into the limelight for a moment when he telephoned the new moderator, Professor Pieter Potgieter.

But the work of the conference continued unabated: through listening to the victims of apartheid, understanding seemed to grow for the neccessity for practical suggestions to be included in a united witness from those who had traditionally not taken part in the struggle against a system branded sinful.

In the words of Mr Chikane, it was the start of the beginning of a new kind of relationship for the future. In that sense, the aim had been achieved: "Towards a united witness ...." □

Political Editor **John Patten** discusses the Ned Geref Kerk apology for apartheid

Not all ready to confess

RETIRED State President P W Botha does not break cover and expose himself to political crossfire without good reason these days. His intervention in the Ned Geref Kerk row over its confession of sin for its part in apartheid was therefore much more than just another outburst of bad temper. It was a defence of his own integrity.

What is more, he knew Afrikaner congregants — innocent of malice in spite of their racial conservatism — would feel the same. His protest would therefore sound a chord that could have an immediate effect.

On the political side, it articulated the extent to which Afrikaner Nationalist politicians of the past four decades (and more) believed in the rectitude and even the pragmatism of their policies. The role of the church, on the other hand, was to see whether these could be reconciled with morality irrespective of practical policy.

Apartheid to the Afrikaner Nationalist politician — especially as the policy was spelt out and refined by its main architect, Dr Hendrik Verwoerd — was a theoretical solution to the problem of cultural preservation and sovereignty. It was seen as being as ethically defensible for the protection of black cultural and tribal values as for protection of those of the Afrikaner (to which Englich cultural interests were tagged for convenience), with difficulties apparent only in the area of practical application.

The Ned Geref Kerk's initial acceptance of the policy, and attempt at finding biblical justification for it, was always on shakier ground. The truths of the Christian faith had to be bent to accommodate the very human fears of a small cultural minority that had known previous domination and was determined never to submit to it again.

That was the subjugation of religious belief to the human threat of domination, a situation that should have been untenable in the church from the beginning, even while politicians were still trying to prove (with increasing lack of success) apartheid was a theoretical and practical answer to a situation that required unusual solutions. Human frailty and fear should never be an excuse for bending religious conviction, which is based on deep and eternal truths not capable of compromise.

The fact is that the Nationalist politicians, and especially Dr Verwoerd, the zealot with the powerful intellect, pressured the church into accepting compromises their faith should never have allowed them to accept.

Morality to the Nationalist politicians, however, was of a different order. It was important only insofar as the theory of apartheid was concerned, not in its practical effect — where imperfection could be worked on to eliminate inequities that might be exposed.

To them the theory of apartheid looked ethical. Separate but equal in a compartmentalised society sounded fine as a concept for avoiding friction and domination, even if it was difficult to apply. Apartheid accepted equality of status, equality of separate sovereignties, and also saw nothing wrong with the role of mutual inferiority in each other's territories.

The idea that there really were no black South Africans (because South Africa was the white man's state) was not perceived by Nationalist politicians as an insult to blacks in the country, just as Germans depriving Turks working in Germany of political rights there is not considered an act of oppression (because Turks can exercise their political rights in Turkey).

There are Nationalists who no longer believe in apartheid who today would still claim there was nothing unethical or wrong about the theory. They no longer believe in apartheid for a different reason: experience in trying to apply the experiment has convinced them the theory is not capable of application — or achieves equality for so small a section of an increasingly mixed population that it cannot be seen as a final political answer.

Perhaps Mr Botha himself is one of these, for he also saw apartheid was failing and that reform was essential, though he never confessed that previous policies were sinful, and apparently to this day is unwilling to do so.

Other Afrikaner politicians have not yet conceded even that apartheid cannot be applied in any other way than as baasskap. They include Conservative Party leader Andries Treurnicht and HNP leader Jaap Marais, both of whom also objected strongly to Professor Willie Jonker's confession of sin and heresy when he spoke at the recent historic conference of churches in Rustenburg, and are mobilising resistance to it.

Though there is obviously a difference in the way politicians and churchmen look at moral issues, there were many South Africans who always believed (and a growing body who now accept) that apartheid was so inherently unjust in its foreseeable effects and so inappropriate to the interwoven fabric of South African society that its political base of projected equality could never be realistic. To them apartheid was, or has become, sinful by definition.

The political failure of apartheid has also freed Afrikaner churchmen of the considerable political and cultural pressures which previously caused them to bend their faith. It has now become possible for them to stand up and confess their sin to clear the air ... only to find that some

P.T.O.

black churchmen do not find those words of confession are enough, but demand restitution (for instance of stolen land) as proof of genuine reform.

There is a long way to go before apartheid will be accepted fully in the Afrikaner community as a sin, let alone acceptance of the need for a purging process. And it is complicated further by some of the sins of black churchmen in their own area of influence — involvement in radical rabble-rousing where the consequence was foreseeable violence, and even acceptance by some churchmen of the need for violence to remove apartheid.

That was a further reason for Mr Botha's anger at Professor Jonker's confessing sin before Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, whom Mr Botha long regarded as a serious political provocateur.

Before South Africans are ready for heaven, a lot more acceptance of sin may be needed ... and a lot more acceptance that honest intent in political policy is no substitute for genuine morality. □

Star 16/11/90

304

Row over confession escalates

By Peter Fabricius and Esmaré van der Merwe

Concern is mounting in Government circles about the potentially damaging political consequences of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk's confession of guilt about apartheid.

Conservative Party leader Dr Andries Treurnicht has stepped into the row by agreeing to address a conference of dissident NGK ministers, some of whom have already started to resign, protesting against the confession at last week's ecumenical conference in Rustenburg.

The meeting has been organised for December 1 by the Reverend Kobus Potgieter, a former moderator of the NGK, amid signs of a gathering revolt among platteland congregations against the confession,

Implications

On December 4, NGK academics and ministers will gather to discuss the implications of the current row, under the auspices of the Afrikaanse Gereformeerde Bond.

Moderator Pieter Potgieter yesterday appealed to church members not to resign.

He said that information would soon be distributed among NGK members to explain the general synod's stance on apartheid.

Both Professor Pieter Potgieter and his predecessor, Professor Johan Heyns, predicted that the outflux of dissenting church members would be confined to the Transvaal platteland.

However, they conceded that dissatisfaction in the rest of the country was considerable.

Professor Heyns expressed "shock and disappointment" about the invitation to Dr Treurnicht to speak at the December 1 conference.

He said it was a move which he believed would unnecessarily politicise the NGK.

Government sources said yesterday that they could not disagree in principle with the apartheid confession, but they felt the way it had been handled had given Dr Treurnicht and his Conservative Party "a gap to get at us".

They said the fact that the confession had been made by Stellenbosch theologian Professor Willie Jonker to Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu — who was not the most popular figure with the general public — was part of the problem.

Respected right-wing academic Carel Boshoff, who is organising the Afrikaanse Gereformeerde Bond meeting, said there was countrywide dissatisfaction about developments in the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk.

He predicted that the December 4 meeting would adopt a decision that the synod no longer represented the sympathies of ordinary members, and that several regional synods might distance themselves from the synod's stance on apartheid.

"Dissent has spread all over the country, even to the Cape. The way in which the synod currently functions leaves much to be desired," Professor Boshoff said.

The Johannesburg daily newspaper, Beeld, said yesterday that Professor Jonker's confession had been a mistake.

Professor Jonker was not a member of the NGK's delegation, the newspaper said.

It citicised Dr Treurnicht for agreeing to address a meeting on a religious subject.

Dr Treurnicht was not available for comment yesterday.

His deputy, Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, confirmed, however, that Dr Treurnicht had been invited to speak as a churchman.

He said he believed Dr Treurnicht had accepted the invitation.

SACC claim on exiles refuted

Sowetan 16/11/90

304

THE South African Council of Churches said it applied for emergency travel documents for the two ANC dissidents who arrived in South Africa this week.

On their arrival, Mr Luvo Mbengo and Mr Ronnie Masango said the Government had granted them passports that were valid for three months and that the SACC had shown no interest in helping them.

The SACC said in a Press statement it had been in touch with the dissident group in Kenya "for some time" and that the Rev Frank Chikane had paid special visits to them in Nairobi to discuss repatriation.

"The SACC has secured copies of the emergency travel documents for the group in Nairobi including Mbengo and Masango.

"We assume that they (Masango and Mbengo) became impatient and that is why they decided to use other channels to return to South Africa," the SACC said.

It added that it was actively tracing the families of the group and been paying special visits to the families of the dissidents to inform them of what was being arranged.

"The SACC thinks that the repatriation process for all South Africans who wish to return home, irrespective of ideology, must be put in motion," it said. - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Star 26/11/90 (304)

English churches back Tutu's confession call

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

The mainstream English churches have responded positively to Archbishop Desmond Tutu's call on them also to confess their part in maintaining apartheid.

Archbishop Tutu said such confession could not come from the Ned Geref Kerk only.

Speaking on television on Sunday night he criticised his own church for being racist and sexist. In addition, he said blacks should also confess their "hatreds and animosity" and their own part in collaborating with apartheid.

In the Rustenburg Declaration, those churches which have criticised apartheid all along confessed that they had been too slow in denouncing apartheid, a step which had encouraged the Government to retain the system, he said.

The Rustenburg Declaration noted: "Some of us were bold in condemning apartheid but slow in resisting it. Some churches failed to give effective support to courageous individuals at the forefront of protest against evil.

"We spoke out for justice but our own church structures continued to oppress. We blamed other churches and were blind to our own inconsistencies."

The mainstream English churches yesterday conceded that it would be difficult to convince their congregations of the necessity to repent.

"Our confession to the sin of apartheid will not necessarily be understood by the rank-and-file. It is not going to be easy for our people, although it probably won't be such a battle as in the Ned Geref Kerk," said the general secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa, the Rev Alastair Rodger.

At a general assembly meeting in Cape Town in September, the Presbyterian Church — in anticipation of the Rustenburg Declaration — expressed repentance for "the many ways in which we have collaborated with the apartheid system and have failed to stand against it with enough prayer, courage, determination and self-sacrifice".

It agreed to prepare a confession to be read out in Presbyterian churches across the country on June 16 next year.

The Methodist Bishop of the south-western Transvaal district, Bishop Peter Storey, said one of the misunderstandings of the Rustenburg Declaration was that only the NGK should actively confess.

"It is no secret that the so-called multiracial churches had to wrestle with the blatant racism of many of our members. The difference is that we have wrestled with it."

He said he hoped that Methodist congregates would take the Rustenburg confession very seriously as a study document.

"I hope that, when a congregation is ready to say 'yes, that is true of us, we were part of the problem', it will have a service to acknowledge that. Only that can lead to a national expression of guilt."

Johannesburg dean of the Anglican Church, Father Godfrey Henwood, said it was not for English churches to point a finger at Afrikaans churches.

"All people have a need to confess. We must continually help our people to understand that apartheid was wrong."

New SACC office opened

Star 24/11/90 (304)

The new head office of the South African Council of Churches, Khotso House, at 62 Marshall Street, Johannesburg, was officially opened with a sermon yesterday.

The old building, which housed the church body and a number of anti-apartheid organisations, was destroyed in a bomb attack in 1988.

The bomb attack remains one of the unresolved crimes against anti-apartheid organisations.

Other buildings destroyed in bomb attacks include offices of the South African Catholic Bishops Conference (Khanya House) in Pretoria and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu House). — Sapa.

Star 26/11/90 (E) (30F)

Tutu calls for 'change of heart' in Africa

LAGOS — Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu yesterday blamed human rights violations by African governments for mounting instability and violent protests

Speaking in the Nigerian city of Ibadan, where he is attending a meeting of the All-African Conference of Churches, Archbishop Tutu called for a change of heart by Africa's leaders.

He urged them to "do all they can to ensure that there is true freedom in their countries".

He said their violations of human rights had caused growing unrest and civil wars.

The continent is wracked by civil wars and rebellions, from Ethiopia and Somalia in the east, Liberia in the west, Rwanda and Chad in Central Africa and Angola and Mozambique in the south. — Associated Press.

Stars 27/11/90 (304)

Bishop warns of human rights crisis

South Africa faces a crisis of human rights in spite of all the positive developments that have occurred since February this year, according to the Rev Stanley Mogoba, presiding bishop of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa.

Accepting an award from the Foundation for Freedom and Human Rights in Berne, Switzerland yesterday, Dr Mogoba said South Africa, "with its peculiar problems and unique history, may well have to thrash out additional rights, if only for a transitional period, in order to set at rest the minds of those who are fearful of the future".

Entrench

In a statement released in Johannesburg, he warned that failure to entrench human rights in a new constitution, with the courts as final arbiter, would delay peace, freedom and stability in South Africa.

"Indeed, such failure could result in further bloodshed, and no one in his or her right mind desires that. We need human rights in South Africa that would have an impact on every aspect of our lives, ranging from the corporate and social worlds to our ecological environment," he said.

South Africans faced new challenges, "as we have to contend with the rising expectations created as a result of the release of political prisoners last year and earlier this year, as well as the return of exiles".

"I do not think I exaggerate when I say many people expected an overnight transition following President F W de Klerk's watershed speech on February 2. I think all people have now realised what many of us had known for some time: his speech was simply part of a process that had been in progress in South Africa for many years and that the achievement of fundamental human rights will come about only as people enter into open dialogue about the need for such rights."

Dr Mogoba said the many political organisations in South Africa had their own agendas in terms of each wanting to emphasise one aspect of a charter of human rights.

"This is what makes the process of negotiation by all parties in our country of paramount importance.

Subscribe

"Exclude one of the important players and we will find ourselves excluding strong arguments for fundamental rights that must be recognised in a plural society," he said.

"There are also still some denominations in our country that subscribe to the principle of apartheid. This is a great tragedy, for the majority of the churches in South Africa have recognised apartheid to be a heresy because it simply denies the worth of the individual."

Star 29/11/90 (304)

Black leaders attend Tutu's peace meeting

By Kaizer Nyatsumba
Political Staff

The search for peace and political tolerance in South African townships receives a major boost today as South Africa's black liberation movements and homeland leaders meet at Bishopscourt in Cape Town.

The peace summit, convened and hosted by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, is being attended by all the major liberation movements, except for Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) which turned Archbishop Tutu's invitation down on the grounds that he was pro-ANC.

The ANC, the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), the Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo) and the Workers' Organisation for Socialist Action (Wosa) have all confirmed their attendance, but Azapo yesterday placed conditions on its participation.

Azapo president Professor Itumeleng Mosala said although his organisation had accepted Archbishop Tutu's invitation, its participation depended on acceptance of Azapo's demand that "the matter of the homeland system" be the first item on the agenda.

This was because homeland leaders had also been invited to the meeting and Azapo had a policy of non-collaboration with Government-created institutions and those serving in these institutions.

He said the meeting's agenda, the question of violence in the country, South Africa's fut-ure and how the black liberation movements could "strategise together in this regard", coincided with the agenda of an inter-organisational consultative conference Azapo had initiated some time ago.

That, he said, was enough reason for Azapo to accept Archbishop Tutu's invitation to the meeting.

KwaZulu and QwaQwa are the only self-governing homelands which declined the invitation to attend the meeting.

The independent homelands of Bophuthatswana and Ciskei are the only ones which will not be represented, according to Archbishop Tutu's press secretary, John Allen.

Leaders plead for peace, discipline

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — The biggest gathering of South Africa's black leadership emerged from day-long talks at Bishopscourt yesterday with a plea for peace, political tolerance and discipline.

They spoke out against forcing people to join boycotts, stayaways and political movements and called on political leaders to cut abuse and acrimony from public statements.

The 37 men and women representing 11 major movements and homeland governments blamed apartheid as the principal source of violence, but acknowledged that some violence stemmed from political rivalries and that the right of township residents to make free political choices was denied by intimidation and violent coercion.

ANC, PAC and Azapo Workers' Organisation for Socialist Action delegations were joined by top-level representatives from the homeland administrations of Transkei, Venda, Lebowa, KaNgwane, KwaNdebele and Gazankulu.

Inkatha, Ciskei, Bophuthutswana and QwaQwa were also invited. Ciskei could not attend ... the others declined.

In what host Archbishop Desmond Tutu described as a "remarkable" meeting in which "nobody scratched each other's eyes out (even though) they were sitting within striking distance of each other", the leaders concentrated on the homelands and on the question of violence.

A joint statement issued by the meeting described the discussions as a "breakthrough".

It called on homeland leaders to review their participation in perpetuating the "balkanisation" of South Africa and to match their commitment to a unitary and democratic South Africa "more urgently, more stridently and within specific time frames".

Violence

The bulk of the statement is devoted to the question of violence. Warning that the "enemies of our people and our struggle for liberation rejoice when they see violence within black communities," the meeting issued an "urgent call on all our people to strive for peace".

The leaders acknowledged that some violence resulted from political rivalries. They asked supporters to exercise discipline to "create a culture of tolerance". Without that there was danger of Renamo-type forces developing.

The statement called on people to "respect the right of people to make free choices without intimidation or coercion, in political activity".

More specifically they urged followers to:

- Respect the right of people to join collective political action such as boycotts and stayaways, and their right not to join it.
- Allow people to belong to organisations of their choice.
- Recruit members only on a voluntary basis.
- Work for the expression of political difference in vigorous, but peaceful debate.

The delegates appealed to leaders "to consult one another on calls for mass action to avoid intimidation" and to "avoid abuse and acrimonious attacks on one another".

Also, in a strong attack on "apartheid violence", the leaders said they believed there was a third force at work including at least some elements of the security forces.

They rejected the phrase "black-on-black violence" as a "racist ploy". Violence in predominantly white countries, for instance, was never referred to as "white-on-white" violence.

They added: "We also emphasise that there is no clearer example ... of the violent expression of political intolerance than the death squads of the SAP and SADF".

Archbishop Tutu said: "We were amazed at the spirit which prevailed at the meeting. The fact that we met was surprising, that we continued without walking out was remarkable, and even more remarkable that we have a statement".

In search of peace ... ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela is welcomed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu at yesterday's summit. Picture: Associated Press.

He regretted the absence of Inkatha, but said the issues were so important the talks had to go ahead. Special efforts would be made to persuade Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi to attend future meetings.

Archbishop Tutu said the political leaders had come to the summit knowing they would be sitting down and talking to homeland leaders.

"They have principles and they knew coming here could cause ructions in their own constituency, but they came because they are leaders and they had to lead and they are prepared to take risks."

Azapo president Professor Itumeleng Mosala said one of the conditions for his participation was that the homeland issue be placed on the agenda "to show that the issue is not unproblematic".

On the question of violence, Archbishop Tutu said the statement was an acknowledgement in part of a lack of discipline at some levels in black organisations.

Bid to wipe out the slave trade

304

THE South African Council of Churches is investigating alleged slave-trading near the Mozambique border and has urged the government to implement "some humanitarian process" to stop exploitation of Mozambican refugees by South Africans.

The final responsibility for illegal slave trading rested with government because it was happening within South Africa's borders, the SACC said yesterday.

Fieldworkers in the area have been instructed by the SACC to assess the extent of the slave problem.

Legal advice would be sought and the "scandal" discussed with the government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Mozambican refugees in South Africa were particularly vulnerable because they were regarded as illegal aliens and had no recourse to the law.

The UNHCR has no presence in South Africa, as the South African government is not a signatory to the UN charter on refugee protecton.

Mozambican refugees were easy prey for profiteers promising financial protection because they feared arrest and deportation by South African authorities.

The SACC said they expected the government to bring any existing culprits to justice for "this most heinous crime". – Sapa

SACC to probe slave trading

304

Sowetan 10/12/90

THE South African Council of Churches is investigating alleged slave-trading near the Mozambique border and has urged Government to implement "some humanitarian process" to stop exploitation of Mozambican refugees by South Africans.

The final responsibility for illegal slave trading rested with Government because it was happening within SA's borders, an SACC statement said on Saturday.

Fieldworkers in the area had been instructed by the SACC's Department of Refugee Ministries to assess the nature and extent of the slave problem.

Legal advice would be sought and the "urgent scandal" discussed with the SA government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Mozambican refugees in South Africa were particularly vulnerable because they were regarded as illegal aliens and had no recourse to the law, SACC said.

The UNHCR has no presence in SA, thus denying refugees access to international protection.

The SA Government had not signed the United Nations charter on refugee protection which would allow the international body into the country to carry out its refugee protection mandate.

The SACC said they expected Government to bring any existing culprits to justice. - *Sapa.*

SACC's Thokoza tour turned back

Shouting mob ends Mandela visit to hostel

B/pay 13/12/90

304

MATTHEW CURTIN and WILSON ZWANE

HOSTEL dwellers waving banners and shouting abuse forced a party of public figures, including ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela, to abandon a visit to the hostel in strife-torn Thokoza township yesterday.

SA Council of Churches general secretary Frank Chikane was guiding Mandela, diplomats, politicians, and lawyers on a tour of Thokoza when a handful of Inkatha supporters blocked the road in front of the cavalcade as it approached the hostel.

The crowd screamed anti-ANC slogans. A placard read: "When will the SACC be brave enough to condemn the ANC when they are wrong."

The hostel dwellers forced ANC marshals to divert the two bus loads of dignitaries and a vehicle carrying Mandela away from the hostel.

One woman threatened marshals and reporters with a baton, hurled abuse at Mandela and his wife Winnie, and toyi-toyed, hitching up her skirt and petticoat to demonstrate her anger.

In an address at the hostel earlier in the day, Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi called on his supporters to halt hostilities and lay down arms. But he added people were not precluded from defending themselves when attacked.

Sapa reports the death toll from the week's faction-fighting in Thokoza rose to 124 yesterday, with police reporting that 52 people were killed on Tuesday.

A large SADF contingent stamped its presence on the township yesterday. Armed soldiers on foot and in dozens of Casspirs patrolled the streets and ringed the hostel and Phola Park squatter camp, the scene of the worst violence.

Mandela and other members of the SACC delegation, including SACP general secretary Joe Slovo, Helen Suzman, PAC general secretary Benny Alexander and several foreign diplomats, toured the squatter camp on foot.

The visitors were mobbed by hundreds of singing and toyi-toying residents, many waving ANC flags and taunting police monitoring the tour from Casspirs.

Residents showed the visitors the burnt out shells of several shacks, a gutted taxi and two others riddled with bullet holes. They gave graphic accounts of the alleged Inkatha attack on the Phola Park squatter camp on Tuesday, claiming police stood by before raiding the camp themselves.

Chikane said it had been a "healing" experience for victims to be visited, and that the visitors' experiences would make them more motivated to assist in ending the violence. He regretted it had not been possible to visit the hostel and hear the residents' views.

Commenting on what he had seen in Phola Park, US Ambassador William Swing said he was "shocked and saddened", and expressed his concern about the effect the violence would have on peaceful transition in SA.

Slovo said he hoped the tour would provide moral support for the community in Thokoza although it could not solve any problems itself.

SA Institute of Race Relations director

☐ To Page 2

Mandela

B/pay 13/12/90

304

☐ From Page 1

John Kane Berman said he was "not sure whether the exercise was a fact-finding mission or a photo-opportunity" as foreign television crews, reporters and chanting and toyi-toying residents hampered the progress of the delegation.

He said small groups of people spending time with members of the community would be a more instructive exercise.

Yesterday morning Inkatha Freedom Party president Mangosuthu Buthelezi said he had declined the SACC invitation as it had "totally bewildered" him.

He said he could have rescheduled his appointments if he had been consulted in time.

"I don't know when the plans were first drawn up but I do know that they were drawn up without any reference to me ... about my availabilty for such a tour," Buthelezi said. A fax from the SACC had been transmitted to him on Monday.

Buthelezi and Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok arrived early in Thokoza and after brief discussions at the Thokoza municipality offices they toured the township and outskirts of Phola park in two Casspirs, before the Inkatha leader addressed a crowd of 2 000 cheering supporters in the township's open-air auditorium.

Asked by reporters if it was not possible for him to join the SACC-organised tour as he was already in the area, Buthelezi said it would be "madness" as he had to be back in Ulundi for a caucus meeting of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly over which he had to preside.

He accused the ANC of fueling tension saying its document entitled Programme for Action was not a basis for peace.

Murmurs and hisses rippled through the crowd when Vlok said police had received strict instructions to be impartial.

● Pictures: Page 3

SACC to arrange the return of 26 exiles from Kenya

Political Staff S/W 20/12/90

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) this week sent a representative to Kenya to finalise arrangements for the repatriation of 26 South African exiles.

Their temporary indemnity was secured by the SACC general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane.

The spokesman said that although the SACC had urged the Government to grant indemnity to all exiles, it nevertheless believed the 26 "needed special attention" because they were mostly dissident members of the ANC and the PAC.

The SACC said Thomas Manthata of the council's Dependants Conference flew to Nairobi on Tuesday with travel documents for the 26, who are part of a group of 34 exiles

They are expected back in South Africa at the weekend.

Five of the exiles, according to the SACC, have a total of 11 dependants to whom travel documents have yet to be issued.

The SACC is presently negotiating with the authorities "in the hope of securing the appropriate documents quickly".

Church unity starts to gel in a year of great indabas

w/mail 20/12/-10/1/91

W/M 20/12/90-10/1/91

THE CHURCH
BY PAT SIDLEY

304

WHAT should have been a quiet year — in which the churches would take a back seat, be reconciliatory and let the newly freed politicians do the talking — turned out to be one of the most significant years in the history of the church in South Africa.

It was the year of important Dutch Reformed synods — for the white Dutch Reformed Church (DRC), its coloured sister church, the Dutch Reformed Mission Church, and the Dutch Reformed Church in Africa (for blacks). The Mission Church and the Church in Africa met in Cape Town and decided — not without high drama — to unite.

Outside the synods, but not without influence, was former Mission Church moderator Dr Allan Boesak. He gave up his posts in the church and in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches over his extra-marital affair with Elna Botha, of SABC-TV. Boesak had been a prime mover in the unity talks and his inability to participate in the founding Convent between the churches was like Moses' inability to visit the promised land.

On Christmas Eve last year, State President FW de Klerk invited all the churches to meet under his auspices.

The early invitation backfired as the South African Council of Churches believed that the unhealed rifts in the church — caused 30 years ago by apartheid at the time of the Cottesloe Consultation — should be breeched by the churches. The SACC churches also noted there was deep theological debate going back to the era of Constantine about the separation between church and state and said it felt the issue should not be confused.

A conference, in which De Klerk played no part, eventually took place in Rustenburg in October.

The DRC moved into the spotlight. First there was an emotional confession by liberal DRC theologian, Professor Willie Jonkers, of his and his church's role in apartheid and the harm it had caused — provoking an equally emotional acceptance by Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu. This was met by an equally surprising identification with the confession by the DRC's delegates — a move later backed up in its church structures. But the confessions, and Tutu's acceptance of them, incensed the Mission Church and Church in Africa delegates.

Prof Johan Heyns

In the end, a declaration was prepared. It included a confession of the sin of apartheid and moves to be made in reparation of this sin, such as returning the land to the people and making restitution in areas like education.

The declaration was not binding and the DRC dissociated itself from aspects of it — although it stuck to the notion that apartheid was a sin.

At the DRC synod in Bloemfontein the church had gone further than ever in condemning apartheid, calling it a sin and suggesting that where harm had been caused it may be something to confess. It also said, for the first time, that it believed in one united church but left the mechanics of achieving this to future synods. However, it was made clear that issues like own language and own culture were not to be trifled with.

The DRC also voted to ask for observer status within the SACC.

Rightwingers in the DRC demanded clarifying statements, causing the resolutions to appear watered down. The left wing in the family of Dutch Reformed Churches were appalled at the lack of vision in the DRC and at its refusal to grapple with the issue of unity.

Meanwhile, the SACC churches were playing a mediating role between warring factions in the township violence. On December 11 the SACC organised a peace tour to strife-torn Thokoza township. Among the political, business and religious dignitaries, two figures stood out. One was Professor Johan Heyns, the assessor of the DRC, and Rabbi Adi Assaby, who had recently invited African National Congress deputy president Nelson Mandela to participate in a Sabbath service at his synagogue.

The last significant item in the eventful year in religion was the Interfaith Conference of Churches held in November at which notable figures from most religions — including Rastas, Sikhs, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, and Christians — decided that South Africa should have a constitution ensuring religious freedom. However, barring the Catholic Church, not one major mainstream church considered it worthwhile to talk about interfaith issues and a "new South Africa".

S. A. C. C. — 1991 — 1992

SACC warns of Gulf war horror

Sowetan 21/1/91

304

By IKE MOTSAPI

THE Gulf war would lead to an aftermath too ghastly to contemplate if the United States and it allied forces continued their assault on Iraq, the South African Council of Churches warned at the weekend.

In a statement, the SACC described the decision to opt for force was "unnecessary and uncalled for".

"We are horrified and distressed by the decision of the United States and its allied forces to opt for war. Surely there were still avenues to seek ways and means of finding peaceful ways to solving the problem.

"We called on the United States, the United Nations and the European Community, earlier last week not to be rigid about the January 15 deadline as the deadline for Iraq to pull out of Kuwait.

"The massive air bomb attacks that are taking place clearly show that America was not prepared for peace but war.

"We are appalled at the heavy use of artillery and machinery that could affect human lives," the statement said.

WCC workers mount picket of SACC

(304) Sowetan 28/1/91.

PLACARD-waving Witwatersrand Council of Churches workers, alleging unfair labour practices, on Friday picketed the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches in downtown Johannesburg.

Placards read, "SACC we want justice in the church", "SACC our families are starved, we want our salaries".

A delegation of the workers on Thursday told a Johannesburg news conference they had not been paid salaries for January, and that the WCC's services had virtually come to a standstill.

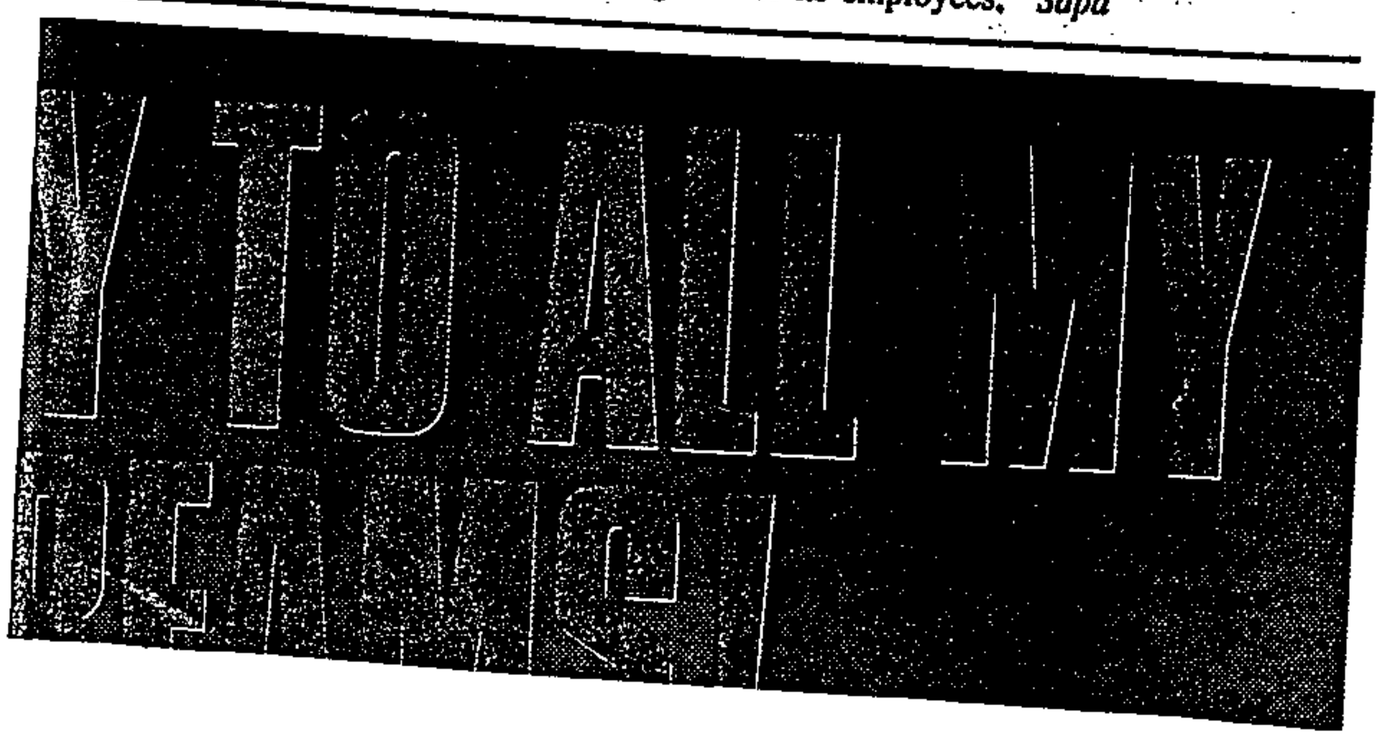
Delegation membes claimed the SACC had withheld funding from the WCC, after accusing it of mismanagement of funds.

SACC general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, was quoted in news reports on Thursday as saying the WCC was unable to satisfactorily account for funds received from the SACC.

The delegation said Thursday's attempt by the workers to contact Chikane drew a blank. Chikane, they said, declined to meet the workers, saying they should first make an appointment to consult him.

The delegation accused the SACC of hypocrisy.

"The SACC goes on (in) public and talks of justice, yet it does not take care of its employees." *Sapa*



C

SACC angered by WCC workers' picket

(304)

30/11/91 Sowetan

THE SACC has reacted with anger and dismay to the embarrassing WCC workers' picket of Khotso House last week over salary payments.

The SACC said while it symphathised with the WCC workers, it strongly disapproved the action against it and the confrontational approach of the employees.

The statement reads: "The WCC came to demand to see Reverend Frank Chikane on Thursday, but Chikane already had engagements for the day.

"An appointment was scheduled for Monday but they decided this was not acceptable and they picketed Khotso House.

"The SACC has had to suspend funding the WCC because there have been serious irregularities in the accounting of their funds."

304

Churches 'partly to blame for violence'

Star 5/2/91

Black people in the townships are reaping a whirlwind of violence that the churches have helped to sow, South African Institute of Race Relations executive director John Kane-Berman said in Johannesburg last night.

Addressing the Sandton Rotary Club, Mr Kane-Berman said institute research showed that 3 700 people had died in political violence last year and that preliminary figures indicated at least 160 died in political violence last month.

"Violence has reached the point where some of the churches are worried enough to begin blaming it, at least in part, on liberatory organisations," he said.

"I mention the churches in particular because Christian leadership in this country has helped to legitimate violence as an instrument of liberation."

Mr Kane-Berman said South African church representatives had, for example, met in Lusaka in May 1987 and endorsed the right of oppressed people to take up armed struggle as one of the tactics to end repression.

A document drawn up at the conclusion of the Lusaka meeting had said: "While remaining committed to peaceful change, we recognise that the nature of the South African regime, which wages war against its own inhabitants and neighbours, compels the liberation movements to the use of force along with other means to end oppression."

Mr Kane-Berman pointed out that a leading churchman had said last month that liberation movements were co-responsible for cultivating the culture of violence in South Africa.

They had, this person had said, "canonised their particular ideology or strategy to such an extent that anyone who opposes or simply fails to espouse it must be removed".

Mr Kane-Berman commented: "This is a courageous statement to make even at this late stage, but, if liberation movements have done that, the Christian churches have helped them do it by their endorsement of armed struggle." — Sapa.

Churches fume over 'unrest link'

By Shareen Singh

The accusation by SA Institute of Race Relations executive director John Kane-Berman, that churches were partly responsible for the violence in the country, has drawn a host of angry responses from the ANC and churches.

Mr Kane-Berman told a Rotary club meeting in Sandton on Monday that black people were reaping a whirlwind of violence that "the churches helped to sow".

Responding to the report of his speech, SA Council of Churches general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane, said the SACC was "disgusted by the vicious and unwarranted attack".

He said Mr Kane-Berman had taken an ideological stand against the victims of apartheid and because of this, had failed to comprehend church leaders when they said they understood why people had resorted to force.

"The problems of violence have to be addressed, but at the root cause, which is the apartheid system — a system which is violent by its very nature."

ANC media liaison officer Saki Macozoma said the priority should be to end violence. Anyone who indulged in "holier-than-thou pointing of fingers" was doing a disservice to the people.

The Methodist Church's bishop of the south-western Transvaal, the Reverend Peter Storey, said Mr Kane-Berman had made a sweeping generalisation.

"The consistent stand of the major churches has been that neither the violence of the State nor that of the oppressed could be endorsed and that both forms of violence needed to be challenged."

and that inadequate body performed.
ters were allowed to con- same grandstand, although n was in place to stop the rom mixing.
pment and stretchers were while emergency vehicles andby inside the grounds.
ssion recommended that responsible for punishing misbehaved at games, al- aid there was no fool-proof this could be enforced.
incident was not part of a nd towards increasing soc- n.
ister Kobie Coetsee an- than two weeks ago that a t would be held to investi- ey deaths, but did not say begin.
the recommendations would d into the NSL constitution.

Teachers want R600m more

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — SA's 180 000 teachers are seeking increases which could add an extra R600m to next month's Budget.

The Teachers Federal Council (TFC) — the body representing teachers of all race groups — yesterday declined to comment on its salary demands. However, a senior educationist said it was expected increases would at least match inflation.

The total teachers' pay bill for the current financial year is estimated at R4bn.

The TFC, according to a spokesman, has submitted "detailed input" on the pay issue to National Education Minister, Louis Pienaar.

Teachers, along with all other exchequer personnel, received a 10% non-pensionable allowance in April last year. Along with the rest of the public sector, teachers have demanded this be incorporated into basic earnings.

Teachers received a further 12% increase from March 1 following months of negotiations with government. This was meant to bring teachers' salaries in line with those of other public sector workers with comparable qualifications.

Teacher resignations, informed sources said, were still causing serious concern.

Transvaal Teachers' Association president Ron Yule said the shortage of highly qualified high school teachers, particularly in maths and science, was causing concern.

But other education authorities said resignations could decline this year because of the recession and lack of well-paid work in the private sector.

Strike action sparks nurses' protest

TANIA LEVY

NURSES demonstrated at several Transvaal provincial hospitals yesterday in protest at disciplinary action against staff who took part in strike action last year.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and National Health and Allied Workers' Union said demonstrations took place at Baragwanath, Tembisa, Hillbrow, Johannesburg and other hospitals.

Sapa reports a placard demonstration was staged at Umlazi's Prince Mshiyeni Hospital, near Durban.

Another will be held at Durban's King Edward Hospital tomorrow.

Nehawu Johannesburg branch organiser Bongani Tsimo said nurses at Johannesburg, Prince Mshiyeni and Settlers' (Grahamstown) hospitals had been told last week they would have to appear in front of an SA Nursing Council (SANC) disciplinary committee. All had taken part in strikes last year. The SANC said the nurses would be charged with unprofessional conduct.

A TPA spokesman said the province had agreed not to act against the strikers.

SANC deputy registrar David Harmse confirmed that 35 nurses from Natal's Edendale and Prince Mshiyeni hospitals had been called before a disciplinary committee, which would sit next week.

Criticism of church role draws fire

Business Day Reporter

SA INSTITUTE of Race Relations executive director John Kane-Berman was criticised yesterday for saying that some church leaders had helped to legistimise violence as an instrument of liberation.

SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said in a statement the council was "disgusted" by his "vicious and unwarranted attack on the churches".

The ANC Youth League accused the institute of misrepresentation, one-sided research and sweeping generalisations.

The league said Kane-Berman's reference to the 1987 endorsement by church leaders of armed struggle could not be equated with the current township violence.

They were responding to recent remarks by Kane-Berman that township residents were "reaping a whirlwind of violence that the churches helped sow".

PEANUTS By Charles Schulz

Wits Council of Churches to dissolve in bankruptcy

304

W|Mail 15/2 - 21/2/91

THE Witwatersrand Council of Churches is to dissolve in bankruptcy having overspent and failed to account for its R1-million 1990 budget.

And the South African Council of Churches (SACC) itself is under financial pressure caused by cut-backs and changes in foreign funding. It is likely to retrench up to 24 people.

However, the WCC was forced into dissolution after repeated attempts through the latter half of last year by the SACC to get the WCC to account for its spending. This, according to SACC vice-president Sheena Duncan, and administrative secretary Francois Bill, was never done, despite requests, admonishings and finally threats to cut all its funding.

While staff at the WCC have openly rebelled against the moves by protesting outside the SACC headquarters, and SACC staff are disquieted by the moves, the stern hand of the financial people of the SACC has been praised by one of the largest foreign funders in the country.

Kagiso Trust spokesman Achmad Dangor believes it was a necessary and admirable move which unless undertaken would encourage foreign funders and opponents of the recipients of foreign funding to believe there was mismanagement of these funds in the organisations.

Although misappropriation of funds is not an accusation being aimed at the WCC, it is, however, being aimed at one of the other two regional councils which recently closed down.

"We do not know what they did with the money as they failed to enter anything for 1990 in their books," said the SACC's Bill about the Wits Council of Churches.

The Wits Council of Churches is in the red and funds to the SA Council of Churches are being cut, with retrenchments on the cards, writes PAT SIDLEY

Problems at the WCC came to light a fortnight ago when staff were not paid their January salaries. Although their budget comes from the SACC, the regional councils are autonomous and responsible for their own controls. However, the staff saw it differently and protested at the SACC's office to try and coerce it into paying January salaries.

The SACC's financial problems stem from other sources, however.

According to Bill, funders are changing the nature of their funding, leaving the SACC with a shortfall of R6,34-million this year — some 24 percent less than they would like to receive to continue as they were before.

This has meant, said Bill, that the SACC has been forced to reorganise its departments and other areas where it spends money and may mean the retrenchment of up to 24 members of staff — a matter under discussion at present with the staff of the SACC.

The organisation is understandably somewhat jumpy about washing its dirty financial laundry in public. In an era of heavy state repression in the 1970s, disclosures of the SACC's then inadequate accounting procedures provided the state with an opportunity to attack it, with a commission of inquiry (The Eloff Commission) and then by prosecuting its then general secretary, John Rees.

At the time it emerged that much unaccounted for money was intended for political purposes which would have displeased the state and its security apparatus.

It was partly as a result of this, Bill told *The Weekly Mail*, that the SACC set up its network of entirely legally and practically autonomous regional offices, all of which had to account for their actions and spending separately.

However, during the State of Emergency, once again, political circumstances made it difficult for some of the regional councils to fully disclose the application of their funds.

However, since the days of the Eloff Commission the SACC has had rigid controls on its money and accountability.

SACC appeals to De Klerk to halt hanging of double killer

304

Staff Reporter Star 4/3/91

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has called on President de Klerk to intervene to stop the execution of Paul Bezuidenhout tomorrow, and to reinstate the moratorium on death sentences while South Africa moves to a "new constitutional and judicial order".

Pickets have been organised in Johannesburg, Pretoria and other centres today to protest against the resumption of hangings. Among the organisations involved in the pickets are Lawyers for Human Rights; Society for the Abolition of the Death Penalty; Black Sash; UDF; ANC and SACC.

The SACC said it was "distressed that the moratorium on death sentences, which came into force last year, had recently been lifted and that Bezuidenhout was to be hanged".

It said it was alarmed that so little notice had been given for the execution.

Human rights lawyers reported late last week they were still being refused permission to see Bezuidenhout, and were experiencing difficulty in obtaining court records to apply for a stay of execution, the SACC said.

Bezuidenhout was sentenced to death for killing a 54-year-old woman and two-year-old girl in Kimberley in 1988.

"The SACC opposes the death penalty because we believe in the sanctity of life. As Christians, we believe there is always the possibilty of repentance, and it is wrong to deprive any sinner of the chance of God's forgiveness.

"We also believe the death penalty does not serve as a deterrent to others."

The SACC said the death penalty was particularly inappropriate in South Africa, where the legacy of apartheid was a multitude of sociological, political and economic problems.

The authorities should concentrate on solving these problems rather than resorting to inhumane punishments.

Reef advice centres closed

By SONTI MASEKO

THOUSANDS of township residents will suffer the closure of about 48 advice centres in Johannesburg and on the East Rand.

The centres were closed at the end of February after funding was cut off by the South African Council of Churches to the Wits Council of Churches - which ran the centres.

The WCC has also been closed down.

SACC's general administration secretary, Mr Francois Bill, said the church organisation had decided to withold funds because it had problems with WCC's financial accountability.

"It was not a question of being short of funding, the WCC did not give proper accounting of the funds which were made available.

"For two years running there were no proper audited statements," he said.

This will sorely affect residents who used the para-legal service to solve a range of problems including unfair labour practices and dismissals, pension and disability grants.

Church council cuts staff

Cape Times 6/3/91

304

Political Staff

THE Western Province Council of Churches is to be restructured and its staff reduced by half, the council's executive announced yesterday.

The move, which has caused controversy among WPCC and Dependent's Council staff, follows retrenchments in the SA Council of Churches and the Witwatersrand Council of Churches.

The executive said the need to restructure the WPCC was forced on it by the events following the unbanning of political organisations on February 2 last year and "an acute decline in foreign funding as a result of the changing political scenario in South Africa and Eastern Europe".

The proposed new staff structure had been endorsed at an extraordinary meeting of the council council, church leaders and church representatives.

In January, an approximate 50% budget cut by the SACC "brought with it the haunting reality that it was impossible for the council to continue its former structure", the executive said.

Cutbacks cause retrenchments

South 7/3 - 13/3/91

835 304

THE Western Province Council of Churches (WPCC) has decided to retrench a third of its staff after its foreign funding had been cut in half.

Its parent body, the South African Council of Churches (SACC), is likely to retrench more than 20 staff members soon after funders failed to cover a budget shortfall of R6,34m this year.

The SACC has long been the breadbasket of aid to "victims of apartheid" during the worst years of repression. However, funders recently changed the nature of their funding, slashing grants used for "political purposes".

The SACC has been heavily affected by this change, receiving 24 percent less from funders than expected.

The organisation was forced to reorganise its departments and other areas where they spend money — cutting back heavily on their wage bill.

At the WPCC, up to six staff members from a total staff complement of 18 were going to be retrenched soon as the council could no longer afford to pay their salaries.

Pickets outside the WPPC headquarters

PICTURE: YUNUS MOHAMED

Pickets

The announcement of retrenchments was met with protest from staff.

Angry WPCC staff members held a picket outside their offices on Wednesday afternoon, calling for a withdrawal of the decision to retrench.

There were also pickets outside the SACC offices last month

The staff association of the SACC office sent a message of support to the WPCC staff, saying they were "appalled at the apparent disregard by the WPCC executive of a simple human right" — to be consulted on matters regarding job security.

Like other regions of the SACC, the WPCC did not receive their full budget for 1991 requested from the parent body. Regions were instructed to work with "cash in hand" and no longer rely on pledges from donors.

The WPCC needed R800 000 to meet its commitments for 1991 but only received R400 000.

The restructuring of WPCC follows months of assessment and consultation after an SACC review commission reported on the restructuring of the parent body.

Staff members interviewed by SOUTH said the assessment also examined the role of the council in the wake of the unbanning of political organisations and in a post-apartheid society. The staff members did not want to be named.

"A meeting was called with all political organisations in the Western Cape where it was openly acknowledged that the WPCC had been more closely aligned to the ANC," a staff members said.

"The assessment went into full swing from November at the instruction of the executive committee. Staff experienced a breakdown in communication with the executive committee and were told their presence was no longer required at meetings.

"Since then, relations between the staff and the executive committee were strained, with decisions being imposed top-down."

In January, staff presented a memorandum to the executive committee raising their concerns about the operation of the WPCC.

A commission of inquiry was established to investigate their grievances and compiled a report to the staff and executive committee.

Constraints

Staff believed the executive committee was not only motivated by financial constraints, but political considerations as well.

The executive committee had decided that the council would "move to base" — be owned by the church, located within the church, coordinate the work of churches and foster ecumenism and unity.

"The assumption which follows from this is that the WPCC has never been based, that the council has never been controlled by the church but by community and political organisations, particularly the ANC," the staff members said.

However, the staff's prime concern was that they were never consulted by the executive committee on how many people would be retrenched.

Because of the nature of the structure, their jobs had never provided real stability or fringe benefits.

"We expected mutuality between the staff and the executive. Even if financial constraints lead to retrenchments, we want to be part of the decision of which posts are to dissolved," the staff members said.

Criticism

Responding to the staff's criticisms, the WPCC executive committee chairperson, the Rev Courtney Sampson, said the budget cuts brought with it the "haunting reality" that it was impossible for the council to continue in its former structure.

Sampson said while he sympathised with staff who were no longer secure in their jobs, the reality was that foreign funding was drying up.

"Last year already, the SACC warned that it cannot guarentee to continue paying the salaries of all staff members," Sampson said.

"We have been working with handouts from other people for far too long.

"Matters of compassion and morality will be taken into account when we work out retrenchment packages in conjunction with the staff."

The WPCC could not be expected to maintain the same political profile it had in the past few years, although it was still committed to the struggle for liberation, Sampson said.

The WPCC would not make any excuses for being closely aligned with the ANC as its members were in the forefront of political activity in the Western Cape for years.

The WPCC's new structure makes allowance for six staff members which will balance theological research with programmes in oppressed communities. Welfare work and service operations of the council would continue, Sampson said.

He said, politically, the council had to reassess its role.

"The church has had to carry the load of work of political organisations when they were unable to do so. It is arrogant of them to assume now, when they are unbanned, that we will continue."

Sampson said for too long church workers had been "abused and misused by political organisations to the detriment of the church."

THE CRUNCH

SouthL 7/3 - 13/3/91

Funding sources dry up

SouthL 7/3 - 13/3/91

A SOUTH investigation has revealed that many "struggle" organisations face extinction as overseas funding sources begin to dry up.

Among the first to be hit is the South African Council of Churches (SACC) which has been forced to trim its annual budget by R6 million this year.

The SACC's support for families of detainees, trialists, prisoners and other "victims of apartheid" is drastically affected.

For some time now "struggle organisations" have been relying heavily on foreign funding, estimated to amount to R600 million, to conduct their activities.

In the first of a three-part series on foreign funding and development, SOUTH this week probes the implications for a "business" that has become known as "Struggle Incorporated".

● **See Pages 6 & 7**

Cash squeeze hits major church bodies

304

South 713-13/3/91

STAFF members (right) of the Western Province Council of Churches (WPCC) held a picket outside its offices in Salt River, Cape Town, this week to protest against retrenchments arising from reduced foreign funding.

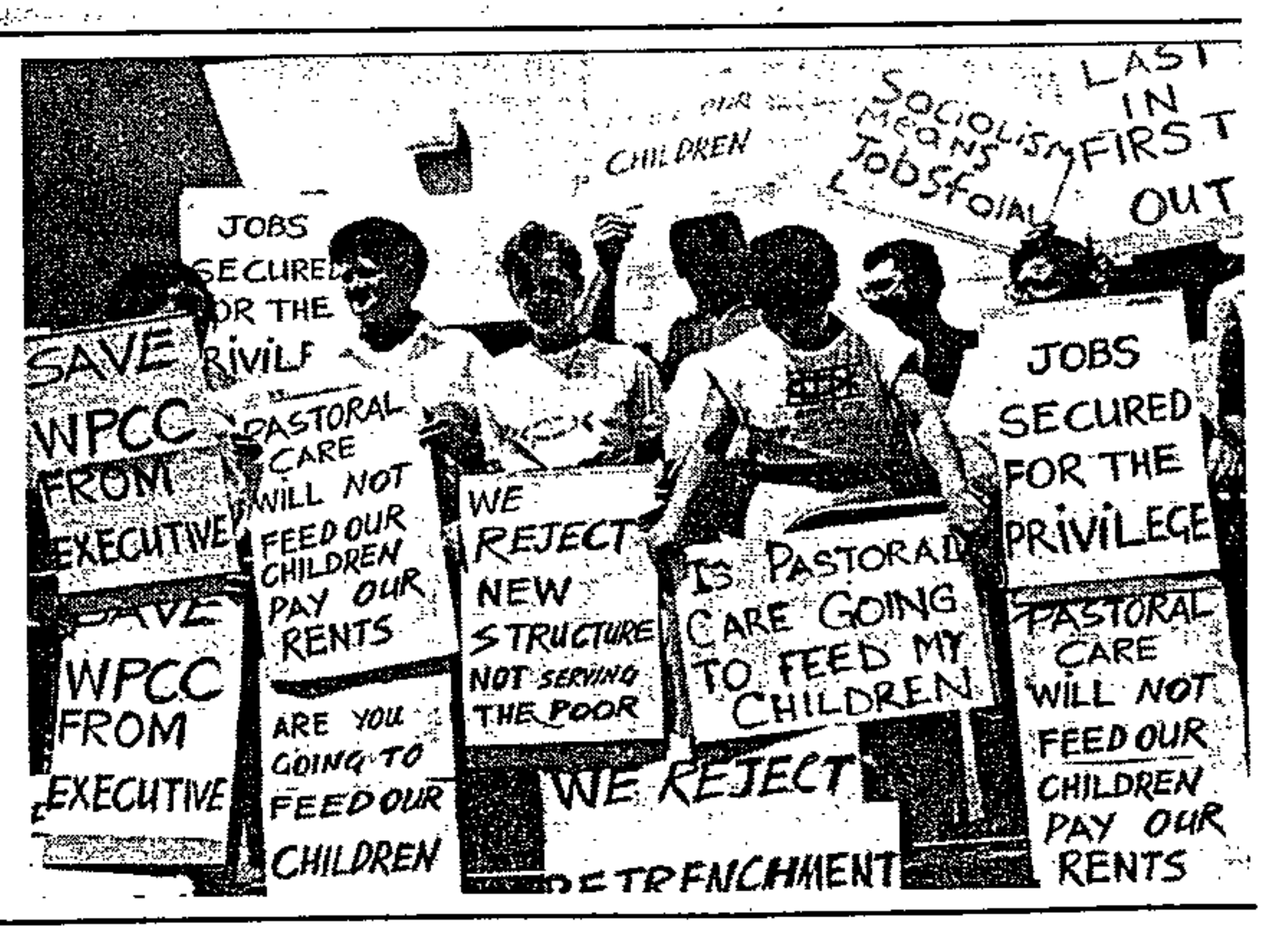
The WPCC, prominent in its support for the "victims of apartheid" during the eighties, has decided to retrench a third of its staff after its operating budget was slashed in half.

This follows a decision by its mother body, the South African Council of Churches (SACC) to retrench about 20 staff members.

The SACC has been heavily affected by a change in perceptions of South Africa by foreign funders, receiving 24 percent less than the grant requested.

All regions of the SACC has been instructed to work with "cash in hand" and no longer to rely on pledges from donors.

● Full Story — Page 7



PROFILE: *SACC's Brigalia Bam is back — and fighting*

Bam's battle for SA's neglected species

Ulmail 1513 - 21/3/91 (304)

FRONT RUNNERS

People who'll mould the new SA

BRIGALIA BAM is part of a small but growing elite. She is black, single, well-educated and travelled, a professional who holds down a major post. She is likely to become involved in the new constitution, ensuring women's rights are protected.

The deputy general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, she is an ardent feminist — an attitude learned in South Africa and perfected in exile.

Born in 1933 in a "tiny little place" called Tsolo in Transkei, Bam was educated at St Cuthbert's Anglican mission school. Like most Africans at that time, says Bam, she grew up in a strongly Christian home — hers was Anglican and Methodist.

When she finished her schooling she joined her parents who were living in Sophiatown and enrolled in the School of Social Work in Johannesburg with a more famous colleague — Winnie Mandela, who, she says, was a "brilliant student".

She counts herself lucky that her education preceded Bantu education, and that her parents stressed the value of education — advantages beyond the reach of the present generation of scholars who know their schooling will be inferior. "I feel very sad for the kids," she says.

Her first job, working with women's groups in Zululand for the YWCA, provoked her abiding interest in women's issues. "I discovered during that time that women's potential was not fully utilised," she said. "Most of the women I worked with were on their own, with their husbands working away. They did everything: they took care of the home, took care of the children, took part in the community and were active in the church.

"By the time I got on to the battle of women's rights I had had my own grounding."

That battle was continued in Switzerland, where she was shocked to discover that wealthy women could be "so marginalised". There, although the women were white, they still didn't have the vote — because they were women. She had been deprived of the vote in South Africa because she was black. The absurdity struck her.

She was working in Geneva for the World Council of Churches — she was a founding member of the WCC's Programme to Combat Racism, which funded liberation movements. She left the country with a valid passport, but it was not renewed: when the WCC was expelled from South Africa, its personnel were no longer welcome. She had to rely on the Swiss for travel documents to facilitate her job, which entailed a great deal of travel.

She returned after decades abroad to take up her SACC post.

She does not see any quick path into the new South Africa, and feels perhaps she is getting too old — she is 57 — to be of much use in it. But prompted into talking about her ideal society, she is full of dreams — difficult ones.

South Africa, with all its differing cultures, is a wonderful and exciting place to live in, she says, "a challenge to humanity ... which could bring a unique experience to the world".

The major problem of apartheid and its preceding systems was the "very rigid stratification" which has robbed several generations of the experiences of a multi-cultural society.

"These things that are given to us by the events of history should really make us an exciting nation," she says, referring to the French, Dutch, and English immigrants over the years and "of course our own African tradition.

"We could bring to the world something unique. Even though it's going to be so difficult for us to recapture that society which generations missed out on, it can still be done for future South Africans."

Brigalia Bam ... an ardent feminist
Photograph: KEVIN CARTER

Although Bam is full of the rhetoric of "shared wealth" and the need to sort out "social unevenness", she doesn't offer solutions to this "unjust economic system". But she is adamant that "until there is a way of sharing there can never be one community".

She sees her role in the SACC as helping bring about the necessary changes. But she has landed at a difficult time for the organisation. It faces severe financial cutbacks, with less donor money arriving from abroad. The money which is arriving is earmarked for different goals — less "struggle oriented" and more developmental.

Bam has yet to prove that she can change direction, but she seems able to take tough decisions. Among her portfolios is staff matters — which must be ticklish at the moment, as the SACC is retrenching. She is also responsible for regional offices. Last month saw the closure of the Witwatersrand Council of Churches in financial disarray.

Women's issues are not in the foreground. And if she were to be in a government she would not want to be diverted by women's issues *per se*. She would want to participate in broader departments, like finance or foreign affairs, from which she could ensure women's rights in the broader political spectrum were accommodated.

She is currently holding workshops for African women to educate them on the nature of constitutions, and what it means to be a citizen. These things, she says, are "alien to the average South African woman".

The African National Congress has invited the churches to contribute to the constitution by, among other things, helping to define and protect the role of women, and this is a project in which Bam is involved.

But through all of this she has a dream and she knows exactly what she wants.

She envisages a network of women's training institutes — centres where women could discuss relevant issues, study, improve skills. "I have a responsibility to create forums for the women of South Africa," she says.

This institute would cut across class and geographical barriers so that women with a particular interest, say small business, could find other women with the know-how to help them.

"Women would discuss the issues of concern so that it would be a centre where the women would feel they have a place."

Pat Sidley

Lack of planning 'will hit public health services'

B/Day 27/3/91

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Public health services would be unable to meet future health care needs because of a lack of long-term planning and rationalisation, Medical Association of SA secretary-general Hendrik Hanekom said yesterday.

Commenting on the large increases in Transvaal provincial hospital and ambulance tariffs announced this week, Hanekom said the fragmentation of health services continued to be the core of the problem.

In some cases, tariffs were more than doubled.

Private patients at academic hospitals will pay a 30% levy on the new daily rate of R205. H2 category patients will pay R41 instead of R10 a day at community hospitals and R52 instead of R15 a day at regional and academic hospitals.

Masa urged government to urgently move towards ending this fragmentation.

Hanekom said the increased fees were entirely unexpected.

It appeared the new TPA tariff structure had been based on the principle of extending accessibility to health services to more poor people.

"Masa, however, is concerned that a situation has developed in various public health services where it has become necessary to introduce contingency measures to maintain services and to balance budgets," Hanekom said.

Masa, he added, supported the principle that individuals should take care of their own health as far as possible.

Lost ancestral lands 'stay white'

B/Day 27/3/91.

PRETORIA — Planning and Housing Minister Hernus Kriel yesterday dashed the hopes of thousands of black South Africans by saying land seized under apartheid laws would never be returned.

In an interview in the magazine RSA Policy Review, Kriel dashed the hopes of blacks removed from ancestral lands over the past 48 years by saying people had been compensated for land taken away from them.

"It will be unrealistic to expect land to be taken away from those who, over the years, developed and sustained it," he said.

"The government believes that the future rather than the past should be looked to ...

"The whole matter must be dealt with in a constructive manner by helping people to become landowners rather than in a destructive manner by once more taking land from people."

The interview, which will be published in April, was conducted a day after the White Paper on land reforms was tabled in Parliament on March 12, triggering a sharp response from the African National Congress and other anti-apartheid groups.

Kriel said he hoped white people, scared by moves to dismantle apartheid, would accept colour was not a decisive factor in life.

"In the course of time South Africans will realise that colour is not the decisive factor in the level of people's civilisation.

"There is no question of the fact that the government is conceding to pressure.

"The reality in SA that the majority of its citizens are excluded from the highest political decision-making processes, and that all South Africans do not have equal opportunities, caused the government to reconsider its viewpoints."

He warned against high expectations, saying "people's expectations should not exceed the limits of existing realistic standards".

Kriel said the aim of the White Paper was to bring about justice to all South Africans.

Rightwing groups bent on sabotaging the scrapping of apartheid laws would not be allowed to do so.

"The government wants to appeal to people to show the same attitude in their private affairs as that which underlies the decision to repeal the Group Areas Act.

"It will be unlawful for any local authority to accept regulations in terms of which areas are reserved for specific population groups," the minister said.

"The SA government will have to monitor the situation to ascertain whether blatant discrimination still takes place.

"As a result of this, further rectifying steps could be taken in the course of time," he added. — Sapa.

Leaders 'impotent to stop violence'

B/Day 27/3/91

(304)

WILSON ZWANE

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) this week said leaders of factions involved in the continuing township violence were impotent to halt the carnage.

In a statement, the SACC said it, in consultation with church leaders, felt there was an urgent need for the church to intervene in an attempt to stop the violence, which was escalating despite peace talks between rival political parties.

"This reality has convinced us that either the parties involved in resolving the crisis have failed or the violence has now simply gone beyond the control of the organisations themselves," the SACC said.

The organisation said it had hoped positive results would flow from recent peace talks between the ANC, Inkatha, government, the PAC and Azapo.

As its contribution to efforts aimed at ending factional violence in the country, the SACC would convene an urgent national meeting of all leaders of strife-torn communities within a week.

SIMON BARBER reports from Washington that the Bush administration has reacted to Sunday's police shootings in Daveyton with unusual vehemence, calling the incident "an unacceptable vestige of the old SA".

Officials indicated that they were angered as much by the circumstances that led to the the incident as by the police decision to open fire.

SA ambassador Harry Schwarz has sought a full report on the episode from Pretoria.

"The indefensible cannot be defended," he said. "If the police have acted wrongly there is no way I can defend it."

Meanwhile, PATRICK BULGER reports the ANC Youth League, reacting to the weekend clash, yesterday repeated its calls for an interim government and the integration of ANC forces with those of the SA security forces.

"In the interests of peace and for the sake of our country, the ANC Youth League demands of the regime that it immediately recognise the need for a neutral force to take over the control of the country during this delicate stage in our history," the statement said.

Rev Frank Chikane

Meeting to end violence

THE South African Council of Churches (SACC) has called for an urgent national meeting of all leaders of unrest-stricken communities to devise ways of ending ongoing violence.

SACC general-secretary the Reverend Frank Chikane said in a statement this week the meeting would be convened within one week, that consultations in this regard were under way and further announcements would be made soon.

In the light of the Holy Week, the SACC also called on all Christians and members of other faiths:

- To pray for peace, justice, tolerance and love in South Africa during a week of prayer and fasting: and
- To organise services focusing on violence and solidarity and to pray for unrest victims and their families.

The SACC, in consulation with church leaders, felt there was an urgent need for churches to intervene in a bid to stop the violence, which was escalating despite peace talks between the political parties involved.

Expressing shock at the extent of the recent violence, the SACC said: "This reality has convinced us that either the parties involved in resolving the crisis have failed or the violence has now simply gone beyond the control of the organisations themselves."

The SACC had welcomed and hoped for positive results from recent talks between leaders of the ANC, the Inkatha Freedom Party, the government, the PAC and Azapo.

"We had hoped that through all these efforts a culture of tolerance would eventually evolve and become a natural phenomenon of our everyday life," said Chikane. – Sapa

PRESS, April 21, 1991

SACC rocked by claims of staff fraud and theft

C/Press 21/4/91.

304

Man who led probe fears for life after AK-47 attack

ALLEGATIONS of unfair dismissals, financial mismanagement, discrimination and racism have been made against the South African Council of Churches, currently beleaguered with financial problems because of cuts in foreign funding.

At the centre of the SACC crisis is former SACC financial official Jabu Sithole, 29, who claims there are "people who want me out of the way as a result of my investigation into allegations of financial irregularities at the SACC".

Sithole claims "six armed men, carrying AK-47's and wearing balaclavas", broke into his flat in Alexandra last week, terrorised him and his wife and stole "most of our belongings".

Three days later his wife's cousin, to whose home Sithole had taken their remaining possessions, was shot dead. According to Sithole his wife's cousin "is my double".

The killing occurred only two weeks after he "rocked" the SACC with a personal memorandum to all staff at its Johannesburg head office.

In his memorandum Sithole alleged serious "financial mismanagement" by the chief financial official, Mandy Chinasamy.

Sithole resigned from the SACC on the same day he issued the memorandum and is now a part-time worker in the ANC's financial department.

Sithole's allegations come at a time when employees are "threatening rebellion" because of the "one-sided, undemocratic and dictatorial" dismissal of 24 colleagues in January. The workers were dismissed as a "cost-saving measure due to a decrease in foreign funding".

The SACC was however forced to withdraw the dismissals after complaints that the workers were dismissed without consultation.

Stormy negotiations have been held over the past two months to obtain better retrenchment packages for the affected workers.

Sithole said the unusual step of making the financial and management irregularities public was a "cry for help" because the SACC secretariat "failed to investigate his findings thoroughly".

Sithole's alleges:

- Over a period of months at least 30 cheques were stolen out of cheque books. He claims the cheque books are kept in a safe which only two people have keys for.
- The petty cash safe of the SACC was inexplicably robbed on several occasions, and the whole safe disappeared on one occasion.
- A file of evidence which he compiled in accordance with the instructions of SACC administrative head Francois Bill, disappeared mysteriously.

Sithole also claims that on the day last October that he went to Carletonville to investigate the paying of a stolen cheque into a bank account, his flat was broken into and searched "without anything being stolen".

Bill has rejected the allegations made against the SACC as "untrue and unfounded".

He said: "It has been found that Sithole is implicated in a financial irregularity of R500."

Bill also rejected accusations that "dismissals were insensitively handled", but admitted the "letters of dismissal were technically incorrectly worded." – *Vrye Weekblad*

SACC hits out at plan over land

Soweton 23/4/91. (304)

THE Government has acted irresponsibly and insensitively over the re-issue of land in its land reform programme, the South African Council of Churches said in Cape Town yesterday.

ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

In a response to Government's White Paper on Land Reform handed to the Minister of Planning Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr Hernus Kriel, the SACC also said the proposals contained in the paper lacked credibility.

The SACC said the lack of consultation with people who had been affected by forced removals and the dispossession of land was a "fundamental problem" in the new deal.

While the scrapping of the Group Areas Act and Land Acts were most welcome, the SACC said four of the five accompanying Bills were "contrary to democratic principles".

"The Bills create a top-down process which does not provide for participation. They place all significant decisions in the hands of officials who excercise wide discretionary powers.

"These powers are effectively unchallengeable. The Bills do not create criteria according to which decisions are to be made.

"They do not give the people who are in need as a result of past policies - the landless and the homeless - any power or role in the process," the SACC said.

Of the five Bills which accompany the scrapping of the GAA and Land Acts, the Residential Environment Bill, the Less Formal Townships Establishment Bill, the Rural Development Bill and the Upgrading of the Land Tenure Rights Bill, were flawed and all sought to circumvent equitable redistribution of land, the SACC said.

"The repeal of the Group Areas Act and the Land Acts has been tied to legislation which has a profound racially discriminatory effect.

"These Bills should be suspended. They should be replaced by a process which will allow maximum participation of all South Africans in determining future policies on land, in preparation for a new non-racial South Africa," the SACC said.

The fifth Bill provides for the abolition of racially based land measures.

The SACC proposed wide consultation and suggested that the Government publicly accept "the principle of restitution" and set up a legitimate process to deal with the issue through the creation of a Land Claims Commission.

FW can't make apartheid vanish

W/Mail 26/4 - 2/5/91

De Klerk's hopes of ridding South Africa by June of the key apartheid laws are being dashed. The new Bills are simply the old Acts in a new guise.

By ARTHUR MAIMANE

DEMOLISHING "the last three cornerstones of apartheid" is proving to be trickier than President FW de Klerk expected.

The Democratic Party and the South African Council of Churches want to suspend four of the five Bills intended to replace the two Land Acts, the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act.

At the opening of parliament in February, De Klerk announced that the Acts would be repealed by June.

He is expected to make a policy statement on a change in government strategy after his return this weekend from his European tour during which he assured the world that apartheid will be dead by the end of this parliamentary session and all sanctions can be lifted.

The problem arose in the joint parliametary committee considering the five Bills. Four of them are seen to have what the SACC called "serious flaws" when its delegation met three ministers responsible in Cape Town last Monday.

The DP and the SACC want the four suspended and only the overall Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Bill, which is nearing its committee stage, passed into law while the others are re-considered. The thinking is this Bill, which repeals the Land Acts and the Group Areas Act will, with the uncontroversial Population Registration Act Repeal Bill, demolish the cornerstones without causing too much grievance.

Parliamentary sources say a compromise, which the government is considering, is to incorporate the better clauses from the other four in the Abolition Bill — such as the one that will grant freehold rights to township tenants at no cost. The DP is also proposing reparations for Africans forcibly removed from their homes — Sophiatown and District Six being two of scores of examples — to be considered by a Land Commission rather than the courts because the law that allowed forced removals was bad but still legal. The commission would consider fairer compensation for the victims than they received under unjust laws.

But the SACC demands much more: compensation as well as restitution. The government claims giving back land would be impractical and could cause conflict; but the churches argue that "much of the land concerned is still in state hands and could be readily restored".

The SACC told the three cabinet ministers led by Hernus Kriel — who is meant to pilot the five Bills through parliament — there had been no consultation and "this process is interpreted as a statement by government that it is not really interested in what people outside government think or want".

The four they disapprove of maintain apartheid in a new form by placing "all significant decisions in the hands of officials who exercise wide discretionary power" with no appeal against most of their decisions.

But parliamentary sources are sceptical about the consultations demanded by churchmen at the drafting stage, saying these would cause so much delay there would be no possibility of passing them into law by the June deadline.

The churches say there "is no fundamental problem" with the Abolition Bill and it should be passed "soon". Their objections to the other four are:

- The Residential Environment Bill "is an attempt to continue the artificial protection which white areas have enjoyed" under the Group Areas Act.
- The Less Formal Townships Establishment Bill is also "a new form of apartheid" with officials exercising "unchallengeable discretion as to where townships will be established".
- The Rural Development Bill gives officials "vast powers" to decide where Africans may farm and imposes conditions — whereas repeal of the Land Acts is meant to allow them freedom of choice.
- The Upgrading of Land Tenure Rights Bill has "serious flaws" like leaving tenants "at the mercy of the landowner" and, again, allows officials unlimited powers.

In a variation from the DP, the churches want a land claims commission that will give back land forcibly taken away from people.

Corruption allegations 'unfounded' — SACC

city press 28/4/91

304

WE are very surprised by the articles which appeared in last week's issue of *Vrye Weekblad*.

We consider the articles scurrilous and are very concerned about the undeserved negative impression they may create.

The SACC is going through a difficult period meeting its budget at present, as are many organisations which have depended on foreign funding.

Firstly, with the changing climate in South Africa and the economic recession in Europe, donors are re-evaluating how much they can continue to allocate to long-time recipients of their aid in South Africa.

Secondly, the SACC has also to be cognizant of developments in South Africa and re-assess our projects and personpower needs accordingly. Some of our projects are winding down and other new development projects have to be initated.

These factors have meant that personnel needs have had to be reviewed.

As a result there have had to be retrenchments, which have been particularly upsetting for the SACC as it is an organisation where close bonds have been forged in fighting the injustices of apartheid society.

We reject the allegations implicit in the article that the SACC could be carrying out a vendetta against individual staff members. We are particularly disturbed by the tacit suggestions that the SACC could be involved in attacks on people and property.

We believe these and other unfounded allegations border on defamation and we reserve any further comment.

We think the *Vrye Weekblad* articles are misleading in that they create the impression that the opinions expressed in the articles are endorsed by the majority of staff.

The other matters about thefts of money and equipment from the SACC were already under investigation long before the publication of the articles in the *Vrye Weekblad*. – **On behalf of the General Secretariat, SA Council of Churches.**

Mandela, De Klerk meeting is now on the cards

■ From Page 1

The initiative was taken by the SA Council of Churches, who made a late-night call on Mandela and also set up an appointment with De Klerk at short notice.

Representatives of the Dutch Reformed Church and the Jewish and Muslim communities were included in the talks with De Klerk.

These talks, said SACC secretary Rev Frank Chikane, had been set up because it was clear that after May 9 no meeting would be possible unless the ANC's open-letter demands were met.

"There was no indication that there cannot be a meeting before the ninth," Chikane said yesterday. Some basis had to be found for justifying such a meeting.

"The key issue is finding a way both parties can avoid a deadlock happening after May 9."

The SACC view was that if the government could have acted on the "manageable" violence, confidence could be built up to finding a solution to most of the difficult issues in the ultimatum.

He said De Klerk had taken their approach in good faith and all he could say was he gained the impression from Friday evening's talks "some announcement or action" would soon follow".

"We do not want to announce something and then get the politicians to have to respond to it," he said.

The Rev Johann Heyns, deputy moderator of the NG Kerk, said it was not only the ultimatum which had created the impasse.

"It is also the fact that certain demands were made and that the State President is judged as not having met any of these."

Heyns had joined the group after the discussions the SACC component had held with Mandela and "from which arose a need to see De Klerk".

"Consequently we were able to pass on certain information to him. The exchanges were important and from his remarks I have great hope."

Certain obstacles were still in place, though, said Heyns.

The carrying of weapons, its sensitivity for the Zulus, the hostel problems and other obstacles were specifically discussed with De Klerk.

It is expected the government could take the initiative to set up a meeting within 48 hours.

According to those who spoke to the two leaders, positive initiatives and positive responses are now a distinct possibility and the looming deadlock avoidable. – Sapa

Peace summit plan by church leaders

PATRICK BULGER

SA COUNCIL of Churches secretary general the Rev Frank Chikane confirmed yesterday that church leaders were planning a national peace conference if all parties did not attend President F W de Klerk's peace summit later this month.

Chikane said church leaders would travel to Ulundi on May 20 to persuade Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi to take part in what he called a "peace conference of affected communities".

The ANC has indicated that it will not attend De Klerk's May 23 and 24 summit because it wants a summit to be convened by an independent party. Buthelezi in turn said earlier this week he would reconsider taking part if government was seen to be accepting the ANC accusation that Inkatha was responsible for fomenting township violence.

Chikane said the churches did not want to compete with government in setting up a peace conference.

"Our position is that we will only get involved if the parties concerned agree we will be able to help."

He said a conference of "affected communities" would not include government. It would meet to establish a code of conduct and violence-monitoring mechanisms as well as discussing ways of creating a climate of tolerance in black communities.

"We hope that out of that we will engage government," he said.

Don't cancel talks, Tutu urges ANC

Staff Reporter

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu has urged the African National Congress not to break off talks with the government if there is "comprehensive government action on weapons" and if the government commits itself to "more generally acceptable and professional policing".

In a statement yesterday afternoon, Archbishop Tutu called on the government, the Inkatha Freedom Party and the ANC to take "courageous and decisive action" to avert the possibility of an "outright civil war" in South Africa.

The archbishop said the government faced a choice between negotiations and peace on the one hand and spears and violence on the other.

He appealed to the government for "appropriate action" against the carrying of weapons in "inflammatory situations".

Archbishop Tutu

Calling on the ANC not to break off talks with the government, the archbishop said: "Suspending negotiations will almost certainly lead to greater violence.

"The church believes that any action against the use of weapons for political purposes must apply equally to all parties.

"South Africans are going to be the laughing stock of the world if we get bogged down and fritter away chances of peace while people are dying because of hair-splitting on what most people in the world would say is a very clear-cut issue."

Fight to save advice centres

By LULAMA LUTI CI Press 19/5/91

FORMER employees of the Witwatersrand region of the South African Council of Churches are fighting to prevent advice centres from closing down.

No funds are available to staff the para-legal centres, situated in almost all the Reef townships.

Earlier this year, the SACC abandoned the Wits Council of Churches after it alleged that the region's executive council could not account for funds allocated to it.

As a result of the decision, the WCC was forced to close down and essential services ground to a halt.

Some workers have continued to work without pay.

Hardest hit by the cut in funds were advice centres under the WCC and workers at the Daveyton Advice Centre have appealed for help.

Said Advisor Gerty Ntaka: "Advice centres are here to stay. We cannot afford to abandon all those people, some of whom have nowhere else to go, because they don't have money.

"Although we do have working relationships with other legal bodies, such as the Legal Resources Centre and Lawyers for Human Rights, we can't be sending cases we could deal with to them. Where will those people find money to travel to and from Johannesburg every day?"

She told *City Press* that attempts to solicit alternative funding had drawn a blank.

She said on average 30 or more people a day were attended to, each with a difficult problem. Although it was not policy to turn people away, at times they were forced to because there was no telephone or photo-copying machine and at times the process of communication with other parties was too difficult.

"Because the services cannot be stopped, we have begun asking people to donate at least R1 towards stationery and transport for the workers, some of whom don't even stay in Daveyton.

"Most of them do not even have the R1 we are asking. Life here is difficult and the situation worsens every day."

Plan to address problems of 'lost generation'

TANIA LEVY

A CONFERENCE on the "lost generation" is being held jointly by the SA Council of Churches, SA Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Kagiso Trust.

The conference, on June 8 and 9, will attempt to work out strategies for addressing the plight of youth "marginalised" by unrest.

Business, trade unions, youth groups and political organisations have been invited to take part.

Kagiso Trust projects officer Hazzy Sibonyani said yesterday the role of unemployed youngsters in crime and violence was well documented.

But the causes of the "lost generation" went beyond the political events of 1976 or 1985.

The education system, social issues and, most importantly, the structure of the economy had to be examined.

Sibonyani said the economy would have to be restructured to accommodate more of the thousands of young people entering the job market each year.

He hoped the conference would lead to a programme of practical strategies to address the problems.

Huge job losses in manufacturing

Own Correspondent

LONDON — Job losses in British manufacturing, regarded as the engine of the economy, have topped 90 000 already this year, a survey published last week said.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union says it has been informed by its shop stewards of 90 068 redundancies announced between January and May 15 as the recession continues to bite.

Major international companies such as Rolls-Royce engines, British Aerospace, Ford, Hawker Siddley, Jaguar, British Steel, ICI and GEC are shedding labour, as well as small firms.

AEU president Bill Jordan called on the government to reduce interest rates immediately to ease the pressure on industry.

"These appalling figures clearly show that the government's policies are a disaster for industry, forcing company closures, putting Britain's companies on short time and causing massive redundancies," said Jordan.

"The government must put an end to this economic vandalism immediately."

The AEU report, Manufacturing Industry in Crisis, is based on job losses collated at the union's southeast London headquarters and redundancies are estimated to have cost the union 30 000 of its 740 000 members in the first two months of 1991 alone. — Daily Telegraph.

Another blow to FW's summit

By Peter Fabricius
Political Correspondent

President de Klerk's summit on violence, scheduled to start on Friday, faced another grave blow last night as the South African Council of Churches (SACC) apparently decided to withdraw its support.

An SACC delegation met Mr de Klerk at Tuynhuys in Cape Town for two hours last night — with the aim, according to sources, of persuading him to call off the summit.

It is understood the SACC — representing all the mainstream churches except the Dutch Reformed Church — decided yesterday to pull out if Mr de Klerk did not cancel it.

SACC secretary-general Frank Chikane and president Khozo Mgoja were expected to ask Mr de Klerk to attend a proposed church-sponsored summit on violence instead.

However, Mr de Klerk made it quite clear that he would go ahead with his own summit as scheduled, according to informed sources.

Mr Chikane said the SACC's position would be announced at a press conference in Johannesburg today.

If the SACC decides not to support the summit, this will be the second serious setback for the Government's initiative to end violence.

The DRC, Charismatics, Pentecostals and other conservative churches are likely to back Mr de Klerk.

The Government tried to put a brave face on the threatened SACC boycott last night and sources pointed out that only individual church leaders had been invited.

It is obvious, though, that many of the SACC's prominent members would have been invited.

But the Government and some church sources also warned that if the SACC took the ANC line and boycotted the Government summit, it would run the risk of being branded "the ANC at prayer" — just as the DRC used to be dubbed "the National Party at prayer".

The SACC delegation to Tuynhuys last night was accompanied by South African Chamber of Business director-general Raymond Parsons and president John Hall who have been trying for 10 days to mend the widening political rift between the Government and the ANC over the peace summit proposals.

The SACC delegation went to Tuynhuys apparently armed with a tough mandate to tell Mr de Klerk that a church-organised peace conference would bring together more parties than the Government summit.

It is not clear whether the Government would also attend a church summit on violence if it went ahead after Friday's conference.

Constitutional Development Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen appeared to leave the door open for this possibility on Saturday in his reaction to the ANC's decision.

He said the summit was not intended to be the last conference on the violence and other meetings could be held.

Summit set to fail – SACC

304

304

By Kaizer Nyatsumba
Political Staff

Star 23/5/91

The South African Council of Churches will not attend President de Klerk's peace summit in Pretoria tomorrow because it feels it is "unlikely to achieve its purpose", SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane announced yesterday.

At a press conference in Johannesburg, Mr Chikane said a group of prominent SA church leaders — who held an emergency meeting in Johannesburg on Tuesday and met Mr de Klerk and ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela separately — had decided against attending the summit.

Their decision, Mr Chikane explained, was not a rejection of Mr de Klerk's conference, nor was it an attempt to side with any organisation or party against the Government.

Instead, it was motivated by the understanding that this week's meeting was not likely to achieve its purpose.

"Religious leaders who met yesterday felt that any conference on violence which does not involve the Inkatha Freedom Party, the ANC and the Government as the major parties could not address the violence effectively," said a joint statement read by Mr Chikane.

He said through their wide consultation with different political leaders and organisations, church leaders were confident a solution could be worked out to involve all groups in a peace conference.

"We believe that our efforts should be concentrated on mechanisms to involve all the parties in developing binding agreements which will be enforceable bilaterally and multilaterally."

Mr Chikane refused to answer any political questions or divulge details of proposals made by the church leaders on ways to deal with violence, saying the church leaders did not want to antagonise any of the organisations involved.

The ANC, the PAC, Azapo and many other extra-parliamentary organisations have refused to attend the summit.

The PAC yesterday formally rejected Mr de Klerk's invitation to the summit, saying the Government was responsible for the violence in the country.

In an open letter to Mr de Klerk read by PAC deputy president Dikgang Moseneke at a press conference in Johannesburg, the PAC said the Government had "to recuse itself from the convening chair as it was a party to the conflict and had an interest of its own in the outcome of the deliberations".

Others who have refused to attend include the leaders of KaNgwane and Lebowa.

● DP suggests ways to contain violence — Page 13

Church initiative on peace begins

304

Sowetan 27/5/91

SA Press Association

A FULL-SCALE church summit on peace will be launched at a meeting of the Rustenburg Church Conference today.

The summit, which hopes to bring all parties together, is a sequel to the Government peace summit which ended in Pretoria on Saturday.

The South African Council of Churches and clerics representing the Catholic Bishops Conference and the Jewish and Muslim communities declined to attend the Government summit.

Summit

The clerics were determined to bridge the divide which kept the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance and the other black liberation movements out of the summit.

Their absence, and the consequent absence of representation from the communities most directly affected by the violence, was given as motivation for the SACC grouping to also stay out of the summit.

Main players in the "bridging initiative" are former NGK moderator Professor Johan Heyns and SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane.

The two men received the go-ahead from President FW de Klerk and ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela to launch a broad-based cleric initiative.

ANC participation is now considered much more attainable because the church movement, in its steadfast refusal to attend the Pretoria summit, has amply proved its commitment to prior consultation.

Wrecked

The initiative came close to being wrecked on Saturday, the second and last day of the De Klerk summit, when Inkatha accused the churches as being "very much part of the problem".

When this appeared to threaten a proposal at the Government summit that a co-chairman of the Rustenburg Conference be charged with setting up a broad representative committee, De Klerk personally intervened.

He offered to ensure that appropriate people be appointed to ensure the neutral nature of a committee.

Another cleric drawn into the operation was the Rhema Church pastor the Rev Ray McCauley, who has especially warm links with Inkatha Freedom Party president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Closer

Buthelezi has said he will have to lay the question of participating in the church-backed initiative before its central committee.

The new initiative has reversed the pattern of alliances.

Inkatha, in its reluctance to participate, has pushed the Government and the ANC - both willing participants - closer together.

Star 21/6/91

Huddleston for SACC indaba

304

By Carina le Grange

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston will be a "special guest" at the annual conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) next week, general secretary Dr Frank Chikane said in Johannesburg yesterday.

The founder and president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement will arrive in South Africa on Sunday for his first visit to the country since he left in 1956.

Other dignitaries to attend the conference include Cardinal Roger Etchegaray and All African Council of Churches general-secretary Dr Jose Belo Chipenda, the first person with links to the World Council of Churches' Programme to Combat Racism to be granted a visa to enter South Africa since the early 1970s.

Uses biblical terms . . . SACC general-secretary the Rev Frank Chikane.

Church's challenge in changing times

Star 24/6/91. (304)

The South African Council of Churches' theme for its annual conference this week is telling: From Egypt to the Wilderness — The Ecstacy and the Agony. Subtitled "Challenge to the churches in a time of transition", it encapsulates the topsy-turvy times that we live in. CARINA LE GRANGE reports.

THE general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), Dr Frank Chikane, uses biblical terms to describe how the theme of this year's national conference points to the work of the Church.

"We shall reflect on the mission and ministry of the church as we proceed to move out of apartheid (Exodus) and cross the boundaries from the old to the new order (the Red Sea) and enter into the period of transition, negotiation, adaptation and preparation (the Wilderness) with all the dangers that this represents before we finally arrive in the promised land, 'Canaan'," he says.

In the time since President de Klerk made his watershed speech in Parliament on February 2 last year, it cannot be said of any organisation that it has been left untouched by the sweeping changes — and the consequences of those changes.

How then has the role and agenda of the SACC as a representative body of the Church changed?

It hasn't, senior vice-president Sheena Duncan believes.

She points out that the role of the Church remains the same through all time: to preach the Gospel and work for justice, peace and reconciliation.

"Of course there may be changes in response to political initiatives," she adds, however.

Despite the unbanning of organisations and relaxation of security legislation which leaves the liberation movements to speak for themselves — hopefully in the voice of those they represent — Archbishop Desmond Tutu's hope that the Church could pull back from the political arena has not been fulfilled.

"This is due to factors such as the violence, the Government's inability to understand people's frustrations, political confusion, continuing 'own affairs' and the hangovers of apartheid which lead to events such as Goedgevonden.

"The Church must continue to speak for the poor and oppressed, for the marginalised, for those whose voices are not heard," Mrs Duncan says.

She says the work of the Church has in fact increased and become more difficult.

"Before February 1990 the prophetic witness of the Church was a very clear one . . .

"Now we have to deal with new issues as well as all the things that continue to be with us, such as refugees, the poor, the powerless."

Practical changes have however taken place within the SACC.

Due to financial constraints as a result of demands exceeding pledges from donor agencies — which has not dropped, as reported, but instead increased by R400 000 over the preceding financial year — cutbacks and savings had to be made with regard to operations, ministries and, eventually, staff numbers.

On reports concerning staff dissatisfaction within the council, Mrs Duncan says: "Understandably, staff members were insecure, angry and anxious.

"It inevitably resulted in a lot of rumour and talk, but press reports did not always reflect the correct position."

Dr Chikane had earlier responded to these reports by saying: "There is no painless way of retrenching."

At present there is great pressure and stress on the reduced number of staff members because their workload has increased tremendously, Mrs Duncan says.

Decades-old accusations that the SACC favours the United Democratic Front/ANC movement at the cost of Black Consciousness movements are still being heard.

Among the accusations is new criticism from what could be called "old-style hardliners" levelled at the SACC leadership for recent developments entailing speaking to the Government.

As far as the first accusation goes, the SACC has repeatedly claimed that it has never given financial assistance to political bodies to further themselves and that it only funds projects — some of which may have been linked to the UDF but which did not affect the decision to grant an application.

As regards the new criticism, it is the SACC's belief that it must promote conciliation.

To achieve transformation, talks and negotiation — also with the Government — must take place to establish both obstacles for removal and common ground from which to move towards justice and peace — and away from violence. □

Huddleston to speak at SACC conference

Sowetan 24/6/91 304

THE South African Council of Churches' 23rd national conference, which starts today, will focus on the hopes and suffering of South Africans as the country undergoes transformation.

The meeting, at the Lutheran Church Centre in Hillbrow, ends on Thursday.

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, head of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in the United Kingdom will address the conference.

He returned to South Africa yesterday after an absence of 35 years.

In a statement, the SACC said: "We shall reflect on the mission and ministry of the church as we proceed to move out of apartheid and cross the boundaries from the old to the new order and enter into the period of transition, negotiation and adaption, with all the dangers that this represents before we finally arrive in Canaan." - *Sowetan Reporter.*

From Egypt to the Wilderness

Sowetan 25/6/91

304

GENERAL secretary of the South African Council of Churches the Rev Frank Chikane uses biblical terms to describe how the theme of this year's national conference points to the work of the church.

"We shall reflect on the mission and ministry of the Church as we proceed to move out of apartheid (Exodus) and cross the boundaries from the old to the new order (the Red Sea) and enter into the period of transition, negotiation, adaptation and preparation (the Wilderness) with all the dangers that this represents before we finally arrive in (the promised land) 'Canaan'," he says.

In the time since President FW de Klerk made his watershed speech in Parliament on February 2 last year, it is possible that it cannot be said of any organisation that it has been left untouched by the sweeping changes - and the consequences of those changes.

Agenda

How then has the role and agenda of the SACC as a representative body of the Church changed?

It hasn't, senior vice-president Mrs Sheena Duncan believes.

She points out that the role of the Church remains the same through all time: to preach the Gospel and work for justice, peace and reconciliation.

"Of course, there may be changes in response to political initiatives," she adds, however.

Despite the unbanning of organisations and relaxation of security legislation which leaves the liberation movements to speak for themselves - hopefully in the voice of those they represent - Archbishop Desmond Tutu's hope that the Church could pull back from the political arena has not been fulfilled.

FOCUS

The South African Council of Churches' theme for its annual conference this week is a telling: From Egypt to the Wilderness - The Ecstacy and the Agony. Subtitled "Challenge to the Churches in a time of transition" it encapsulates the times we live in. A *Sowetan* Correspondent reports.

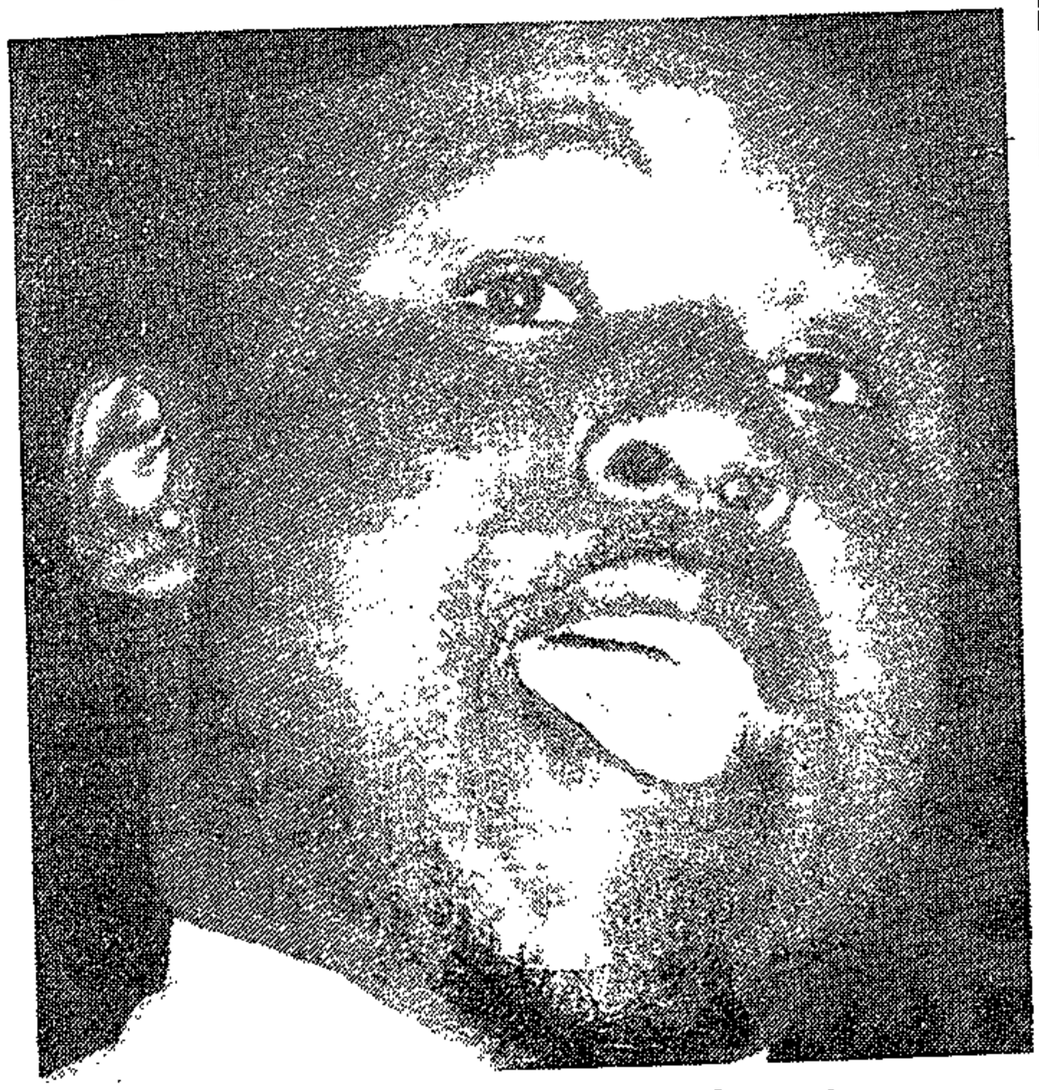
"This is due to factors such as the violence, the Government's inability to understand people's frustrations, political confusion, continuing 'own affairs' and the hangover of apartheid which leads to events such as Goedgevonden. "The Church must continue to speak for the poor and oppressed, for the marginalised, for those whose voices are not heard," Duncan says.

She said the work of the Church had in fact increased and become more difficult.

"Before February 1990 the prophetic witness of the Church was a very clear one. Now we have to deal with new issues as well as all the things that continue to be with us such as refugees, the poor, the powerless."

Practical changes have, however, taken place within the SACC.

Due to financial constraints as a result of demands exceeding pledges from donor agencies - which has not dropped as reported but instead increased by R400 000 over the preceding financial year - cutbacks and savings had to be made with regard to operations, ministries, and, eventually, staff numbers.



FRANK CHIKANE ... SACC general secretary

On reports around staff dissatisfaction within the council, Duncan said: "Understandably staff members were insecure, angry and anxious. It inevitably resulted in a lot of rumour and talk, but Press reports did not always reflect the correct position."

Pressure

Chikane had earlier responded to these reports by saying "there is no painless way of retrenching".

Presently, there is great pressure and stress on the reduced numbers of staff members due to the fact that the work-load had increased tremendously, Duncan says.

Decades-old accusations that the SACC favours the United Democratic Front/ANC movement at the cost of Black Consciousness Movement are still heard - as well as new criticism from what could be called "old-style hardliners" levelled at SACC leadership for recent developments entailing speaking to the Government.

On the first accusation, the SACC has claimed repeatedly that it has never given financial assistance to political bodies to further themselves and that it only ever funds projects - some of which may have been linked to the UDF but which did not affect the decision to grant an application.

On the second matter, it is the SACC's belief that it must promote conciliation. To achieve transformation, talks and negotiation - also with the Government - must take place to establish both obstacles for removal and common ground from which to move towards justice and peace - and away from violence.

Sub-editing and headlines by Ivan Fynn.

Repeal of Acts 'not irreversible'

By Montshiwa Moroke

Sjar 26/6/91

304

A more careful analysis of the recent repeal of some of the pillars of apartheid legislation did not bring much joy or relief to the victims of apartheid in this country, the general secretary of the SA Council of Churches (SACC), the Rev Frank Chikane, said yesterday.

Dr Chikane was giving his report to the 23rd national conference of the SACC in Johannesburg, which was also attended by the president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston.

Also present was the general secretary of the All-Africa Council of Churches (AACC), the Rev Jose Chipenda.

He said with the Government announcing the abolition of the Land Acts, the Group Areas Act and the the Population Registration Act, the world had reacted with excitement and enthusiasm. Some had begun to review their sanctions positions.

"Whilst we welcome the momentous acts by Mr de Klerk, we are concerned that a more careful analysis of the action of the Government brings not much joy or relief to the victims of apartheid.

"The closure of white schools and colleges because of diminishing numbers of white students whilst black children are subjected to gross overcrowding and squalor conditions is an indication of the Government's hypocrisy," Dr Chikane said.

He said whilst the debate about the obstacles to negotiations was and is still critical, it had been overshadowed by the escalation of violence which had reached alarming proportions in April and May.

Church leaders were seriously concerned about the culture of violence, which was a direct product of the intolerance of the apartheid system and its policies and programmes.

Apartheid, Dr Chikane said, legitimised violence both on the part of the State — to secure power — and on the part of the victims of the apartheid system.

At last year's national conference, the SACC had introduced the concept of "irreversibility of change". The understanding was that sanctions should be lifted only when the dismantling of apartheid had reached an irreversible stage.

"A strict interpretation of our past resolutions therefore leads to a conclusion that the changes thus far are not irreversible," Dr Chikane said.

The Rev Frank Chikane

Prisoners: Chikane calls for backing

304 WILSON ZWANE

SA COUNCIL of Churches (SACC) general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane yesterday urged church leaders to throw their weight behind the campaign for the release of political prisoners.

In his report to the 23rd SACC national conference, Chikane said that as there were still disputes about the definition of political prisoners, church leaders should clarify their definition of "political prisoners to facilitate our campaign for their release". BIDay 26/6/91

Apart from the prisoner issue, other aspects of obstacles to a negotiated settlement had either been partially addressed or not acted upon.

One of the obstacles was government's failure to reach an agreement with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on a general amnesty to let exiles return "in safety and dignity".

"While the government would argue that it has indemnified many who have not returned (only 1 500 of about 8 000 indemnified exiles have returned to date), the reality is that they cannot return until the repatriation programme, in which the UNHCR will participate, is in place, Chikane said.

He said the SACC could not review its position on sanctions because the changes which President F W de Klerk had made were not irreversible.

Other speakers included Papal envoy Cardinal Roger Ethegarary and Anti-Apartheid Movement president Archbishop Trevor Huddleston.

SACC plea on security forces

By DON SEOKANE 304

THE South African Council of Churches yesterday urged the Government to seek ways of democratising the security forces.

At its national conference in Johannesburg, the SACC said it was outraged by massacres in Soweto in which six people were killed, in Richmond, Natal, where 16 people died and at Taylor's Halt, also in Natal, where a family, except for an eight-year-old boy, was wiped out.

Extending its condolences to the families of the bereaved, the SACC condemned the massacres.

"This conference urges the Government to discharge, effectively, its responsiblity for providing security to all the people of the country," the SACC said. Soweto 28/6/91,

The massacres raised questions about the timing of these attacks.

"A peace meeting between the ANC and IFP in the Richmond region was due to take place on Monday and the killings occurred over that weekend."

Expressing its anger, the SACC said the killings indicated yet again the existence of forces intent on destabilising peace initiatives.

End these massacres — SACC

Times 30/6/91

By THEMBA KHUMALO

THE South African Council of Churches (SACC) this week hit at the media's superficial analysis of the violence in the country and the public's general apathy to the ongoing conflict.

A large SACC delegation interrupted the body's national conference in Johannesburg on Thursday to pray for peace at Kliptown squatter camp near Soweto where a spate of attacks has claimed scores of lives this year. (304)

The delegation of foreign clergy was headed by SACC president Khoza Mgojo and general secretary Frank Chikane. They were accompanied by local and international journalists.

Chikane said the SACC was outraged by further massacres in Kliptown, the most recent on Monday when unknown gunmen opened fire at unsuspecting train commuters, killing six and leaving 23 wounded.

Chikane also slated the Taylor's Halt attack last Saturday which left seven members of one family dead, the only survivor being a seriously injured eight-year-old boy. He also condemned the Richmond violence which left 16 dead in one weekend.

Chikane condemned the "inadequate, and in many cases superficial, analysis of the violence by the media – and the general apathetic response of the public to the ongoing violent conflict in the country, especially in Transvaal and Natal".

"As Christians we believe that all human beings are created in the image and likeness of God, and for that reason human lives should have value and dignity.

"To take someone's life is one of the most serious crimes against God. A massacre is far worse, because it is a coldly calculated mass murder."

He called on the government to provide security to all and to urgently "democratise the security forces".

Saying 'yes' isn't easy after 40 years of pain

w/mail 517-11/7/91

The Dutch Reformed Church, which upheld apartheid for so many years, will have to provide tangible evidence of its "about turn" before being re-admitted into the fold of the South African Council of Churches. **By PAT SIDLEY**

IT CAME as a shock to many to hear in this era of "reconciliation" that the South African Council of Churches had not welcomed the application of the Dutch Reformed Church to join as an observer member.

For those looking for an insight into popular reaction to President FW de Klerk's reforms and the National Party's attempts at negotiations, the debate at the conference provided some real insight.

At its annual conference last week, the SACC decided to postpone deciding on the application for a year, during which time the DRC was to "attend to certain matters". To put it more bluntly, the DRC's apparent move at reconciliation was rejected.

But to anybody sitting through the week of the conference and listening to the tenor of the debates, it came as less of a surprise.

For the delegates, many of them black, voteless, detained and tortured by police who belonged to the DRC, it was too much to take it back without some explanation to show the DRC was sincere in its moves.

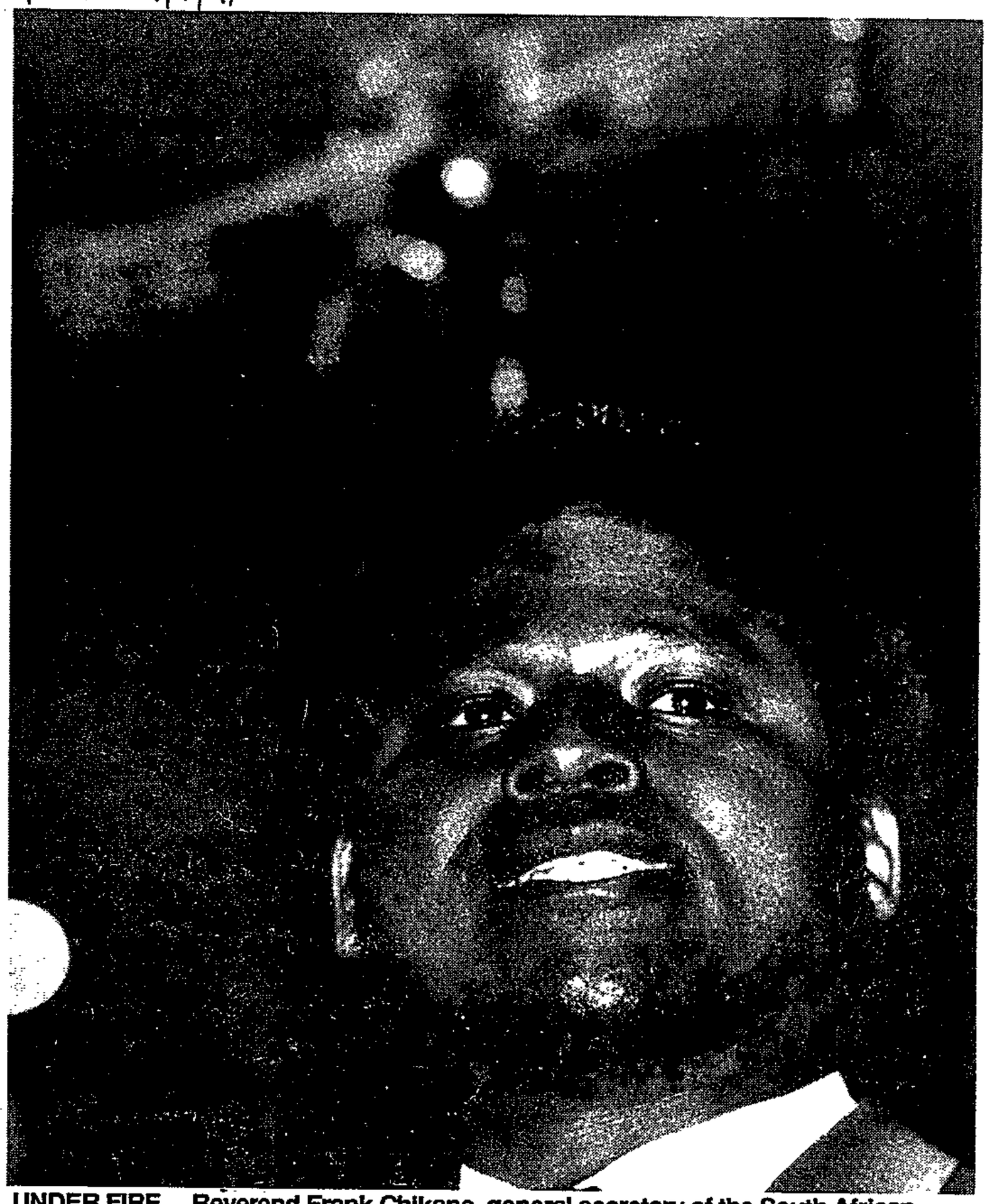
The DRC had decided at its synod last year to apply for observer membership. It had been a landmark synod in which the DRC had made large strides towards declaring apartheid a sin — but had circumscribed its definition of apartheid so that many, including the white DRC's black sister church, rejected the moves as insufficient.

It had also made some moves towards unification with its black sister churches — but these, too, were hopelessly inadequate from the perspective of those churches.

Earlier this year, the executive committee of the SACC had recommended to the conference that the DRC's application be accepted — it was a move, according to insiders, supported by SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane, who has too much to do with DRC assessor and former moderator, Professor Johan Heyns.

At last year's historic National Conference of Churches at Rustenberg, the DRC itself had confessed to the sin of apartheid. This had unleashed other similar confessions and helped produce the declaration of the Rustenberg conference which was, in itself, a long confession.

But the sister churches of the DRC had not accepted the sincerity of this — and they had good reason. The white church — aside from its track record on the issue of apartheid — had re-



UNDER FIRE ... Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, strove too soon for a peace deal Photo: KEVIN CARTER

es into one non-racial reformed church. It was a complaint the sister churches (the Dutch Reformed Mission Church and the Dutch Reformed Church in Africa) brought to the SACC and which fell on fertile ground.

Early on during the SACC's conference, Chikane found himself under fire for his role in the peace deal. The forum for some of the meetings has been the steering committee of the Rustenberg National Conference of Churches. On the committee is Heyns, along with the Rustenberg co-chairman, Dr Louw Alberts — a conservative lay theologian. Chikane is the other co-chairman.

arose out of State President FW de Klerk's Conference on Violence and Intimidation.

SACC delegates queried the apparently sidelined role their organisation was having to play. The SACC, delegates noted, was the institution which had consistently called for justice and peace and campaigned for an end to apartheid and its violence. Now these Johnny-come-latelys were suddenly espousing the same aims — and reaching the media more frequently than Chikane in that context, with no acceptable track record.

It was a point made by Dr Beyers Naude, honorary life president of the SACC, who told delegates that it was widely perceived that the SACC was being sidelined and that other forces with unexplained motives seemed to be taking over. He said he had doubts about the motives of the DRC was beginning to question De Klerk's integrity.

At the end of the week the "Rustenberg debate" had turned into a motion which restricted the SACC general secretary's moves in connection with the Rustenberg committee, but allowed him the freedom to work as a peace negotiator in the broader context of the facilitating committee, which on June 22 had had spectacular success in bringing together everybody — except the far right — to discuss peace initiatives.

All these emotions and more arose in the debate about the DRC.

The motion for acceptance of the application had few supporting it and an amendment proposed by the assessor of the (coloured) Dutch Reformed Mission Church, one of the DRC's sister churches, failed too.

The motion eventually passed was posed by Dr Nico Smith, a white former minister of the DRC, who became disaffected with it and is now on the moderature of the (African) Dutch Reformed Church in Africa. Only one vote opposed the motion in the end.

Before the application is reconsidered next year the DRC has been asked by the SACC to:

- Issue a clear statement that it is withdrawing its previous accusations against the SACC.
- Provide a clear and public motivation of its reasons for applying to become an observer member of the SACC.
- Enter into discussions with its sister churches to normalise relationships between them.
- Declare its willingness to criticise this and any future government in terms of the Gospel.

The view of the conference was summarised by Anglican Bishop Duncan Buchanan who said: "We are trying to find a way of saying 'yes' while we are wrestling with the pain of 40 years of attacks and brutalisation by the Dutch Reformed Church."

All the delegates stressed that they wanted to

Azapo supports church's role

AN Azapo delegation led by its president, Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe, met yesterday with a Rustenburg Steering Committee delegation led by the Rev Frank Chikane and Dr Louw Alberts, to discuss the Rustenburg Declaration.

The meeting took place in a relaxed atmosphere and the Azapo members expressed general consensus with the document, Azapo said.

"We welcome what has taken place today. We need these consultations. We need to rationalise together and work out a process of agreement," Nefolovhodwe said.

Encouraged

Azapo was encouraged by the role of the church as "watchdog".

"The church must be a servant of all people - to any government of the day."

The organisation put forward the recommendations that: Clear definition be given to the term "multi-party process", everyone in South Africa should understand the value of human life, the Government must be urged to build more schools within communities and economic power should be transferred to all the people. - *Sapa*

Lifting of sanctions 'premature'

304

Political Staff Star 11/7/91

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has joined the list of extra-parliamentary organisations which have condemned President Bush's lifting of sanctions.

SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane said yesterday the struggle for freedom of the oppressed was not yet over and Mr Bush's "premature lifting of sanctions" would remove one of the major incentives for Pretoria to change.

Mr Chikane said the majority of South Africans felt sanctions should not be scrapped until all South Africans could participate to the maximum in negotiations for a new constitution, and in formulating laws to replace apartheid legislation.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa yesterday told a press conference in Johannesburg the lifting of sanctions was premature for two reasons: violence which had resulted in the loss of many lives had not abated and many political prisoners remained in jail.

PAC secretary-general Benny Alexander said the African majority remained voteless, and the purpose of sanctions had not been served.

Azapo publicity secretary Strini Moodley said sanctions were not responsible for South Africa's economic problems, and that lifting these punitive measures would not ease the plight of blacks. He warned American companies which "fall in line with sanctions-busting" to expect to be "subjected to the wrath of the black working class".

SACC lays onus of integrity on De Klerk

Star 24/7/91

By Carina le Grange

Religious concern . . . Dr Frank Chikane, Bishop Khoza Mgojo and Archbishop Desmond Tutu at yesterday's meeting in Johannesburg. Picture: Alf Kumalo

304

Disclosures of Government funding for Inkatha bring into question the bona fides of President de Klerk, putting the onus on him to prove his integrity, the South African Council of Churches (SACC) said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Top leaders such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Bishop Khoza Mgojo, Dr Frank Chikane, Sheena Duncan and Dr Beyers Naudé attended the meeting, which drew up a six-point demand including the immediate resignation of Ministers Adriaan Vlok and Magnus Malan.

The president of the inter-faith body, World Conference on Religion and Peace, Dr Gerrie Lubbe, said the WCRP was in full agreement with the SACC statement.

The churches also demanded that a new mechanism — "whether called an interim government or not" — be negotiated between major political groupings to oversee the Government during the negotiation process.

The Government also had to disclose immediately all other past covert activities, commit itself to a commission of inquiry into the security forces, put a ban on all covert action and freeze the use of any secret funds.

Representatives of the WCRP, including Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris and members of the Central Islamic Trust, also attended the meeting.

Approached for comment, Rabbi Harris told The Star that "satisfactory answers to the serious allegations must come from the Government so that a viable level of trustworthiness can be established".

He said he was unsure that in the negotiation process towards a new dispensation, any other politician other than Mr de Klerk could play the "crucial role he had made his own".

The SACC emergency meeting came only a day after the Rev Ray McCauley of the Rhema Church, a member of the facilitating committee established at Mr de Klerk's peace summit, said the "crucial peace talks could be harmed by the disclosures".

Yesterday Ron Steele, a Rhema Church official, said in reply to further questions that in view of the perceived closeness between Mr McCauley and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi that the fault "lies with the Government . . . Inkatha was too happy to receive".

Pressed on Chief Buthelezi's reactions, Mr Steele said it was not Rhema's policy to criticise everybody, but considering the denial of knowledge over the funds, it "shows lax administration" and that Mr Buthelezi "obviously also has to come clean".

Another member of the facilitating committee, NG Kerk assessor Professor Johan Heyns, told The Star the Inkatha-police debacle was the "Government's problem" and would not affect the planning of a future peace summit.

Task groups of the facilitating committee will meet tonight for report-backs on, among other things, codes of conduct which have been drawn up for political parties and the security forces.

Dr Naudé and Dr Nico Smith, both former NGK members, yesterday issued a joint statement in which they publicly challenged the church to take a stand and consider its responsibility to the Government.

"Can the NGK continue to refuse to criticise the Government on such matters in private?" they asked after having stated that the credibility of the Christain faith was at stake.

NGK leaders were not available for comment yesterday, and it is understood they were at a top-level meeting.

The chairman of the all-white Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk, Dr Fanie Pretorius, said his church would be holding a scheduled meeting today at which he would discuss the request for comment and determine whether a statement should be issued on the disclosures.

● A delegation of the ANC's national working committee met senior church leaders of the SACC yesterday.

An SACC statement said the ANC delegation shared their concerns about the implications of the disclosures of Government funding of Inkatha and how this could derail the process of working towards a new order in South Africa.

The church leaders briefed the ANC on its emergency meeting held earlier.

Both organisations recognised the "seriousness of the situation facing South Africa" as a result of the secret funding and expressed their intentions to monitor developments.

SACC calls for urgent action

304

Sowetan 24/7/91

SA Press Association

THE South African Council of Churches outlined six steps the Government could take to avoid the derailment of the peace process.

In a statement issued after an emergency meeting in Johannesburg following the "Inkathagate" revelations that the South African Police funded Inkatha Freedom Party rallies, the SACC said they had in the past accepted President FW de Klerk's integrity, but now the onus was on him "to prove his integrity".

Vlok

The SACC said the steps included:

- The resignation of Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Defence Minister Gen Magnus Malan;
- The Government had to place an immediate ban on all covert action and a freeze on all secret funds;
- The Government must give full disclosure of all past covert activites and give independent auditors and lawyers full access to the records relating to these activities;
- A commission of inquiry into security force involvement in the violence should be established by agreement with the major political parties, business and religious groups. A panel of foreign jurists should be invited to participate in the inquiry; and,
- All major political groupings, including the Government, must negotiate a mechanism for overseeing Government during the negotiating process.

"We believe the Government has demonstrated that it cannot be trusted to have oversight of the transition process.

"A new mechanism, whether called an interim government or not, must enjoy the confidence of the broadest possible range of South Africans and it must provide for joint control and monitoring of the security forces," the church leaders' statement added.

No new dispensation could be built on the basis of deceit as any system of government or policy based on lies would have no moral legitimacy and would ultimately topple, the SACC said. - *Sapa*

ANC to get lion's share of US funds

Star 5/8/91

By Hugh Roberton
Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — Despite strong opposition from conservatives in Congress, the Bush administration is to go ahead with its plan to donate $10 million (R28,7 million) to South African political parties, nearly half of it for the ANC.

A senior State Department official confirmed yesterday that the Agency for International Development will make grants to the ANC, the Inkatha Freedom Party, community organisations and other groups representing "victims of apartheid" as part of a "transition to democracy" assistance project.

The ANC will receive $4,5 million (R12,9 million) and $2,5 million (R7,1 million) will go to the IFP. A further $2 million (R5,74 million) will be handed to the South African Council of Churches for distribution to community organisations and $1 million (R2,8 million) will be added to the budget of the US Information Service in South Africa to enable it to finance projects aimed at improving the negotiating expertise of black South Africans.

When the assistance was first suggested, Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, the most conservative member of the Senate, objected to the comparatively low grant for Inkatha, and a resolution was passed in the House of Representatives prohibiting US assistance to political groups "associated with the Communist Party".

The aim was to deny assistance to the ANC, but in testimony before the Africa subcommittee of the House last week, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen pointed out that the resolution was not passed by both houses of Congress and thus did not have any legal standing.

The original proposal, which would have given the ANC nearly $3 (R8,5) for every $1 (R2,87) to the IFP, was amended to address the concern of conservatives, and an amount was set aside for distribution by the SACC and for use by the USIS in South Africa.

The money is intended to be used to assist the various parties to set up the infrastructure necessary to function as effective political parties in a multiparty democracy.

Since further funds may become available in future, the disbursements and use of the grants will be carefully monitored.

Yesterday, the Washington Office on Africa urged the administration to deny the IFP any support in the light of the secret funding it had been receiving from the South African Government.

The WOA, an umbrella group representing churches and trade unions, alleged that the IFP was behind most of the violence in South Africa and it said the money intended for the IFP should be donated to other anti-apartheid organisations.

Star 13/8/91.

SACC wants to visit camps and bases

304

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) wants President de Klerk to allow a delegation to visit camps and bases alleged to be the training centres for covert action against anti-apartheid organisations.

SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane said it was necessary that allegations of the training camps, said to be sited near Mkuze in Natal, Secunda in the eastern Transvaal and in Phalaborwa, were checked by an independent group. — Sapa.

SACC hits out at rightwing attacks

THE South African Council of Churches yesterday condemned the actions of rightwingers in Ventersdorp on Friday night, but held the National Party responsible for encouraging racist attitudes over the past 43 years.

The SACC was especially disturbed by the rightwing attack on black people who were taking a deceased relative to the Transkei.

"This is a demonstration of blatant racism which must be uprooted from our society. These incidents are the epitome of a South Africa apartheid has produced," SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said in a statement.

"The AWB and Conservative Party supporters who were involved in these incidents of violence have all the consitutional rights and means through which to address their grievances but they chose rather to create a climate which led to the violence.

"We call on all South Africans to restrain themselves at this critical hour in the life of South Africa and to seek other avenues of resolving their problem."- *Sapa*

SA clergy to meet Chissano on refugees' plight

CAPE TOWN — An SA Council of Churches (SACC) delegation, led by general secretary, Rev Frank Chikane, arrived in Mozambique yesterday to discuss the plight of Mozambican refugees in SA.

The purpose of the two-day visit was mainly to discuss the status of the refugees and their future prospects, the SACC said.

The delegation will meet President Joachim Chissano and foreign minister Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi.

Chikane would also discuss the matter with the SA government and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

The SACC statement said: "It was found that the refugees were hunted by the SA government and forcefully returned to Mozambique."

Political Staff

New signs of life for negotiations AND peace

PETER FABRICIUS
Weekend Argus Political Staff

STALLED negotiations have begun to show signs of life again as political parties rush to publish their constitutional plans and prepare for next Saturday's crucial peace summit.

The summit will see President De Klerk with the Afrian National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi on the same platform to endorse a comprehensive peace accord aimed at ending political violence.

Many other parties and organisations are expected to attend the summit which is regarded as the next milestone along the road to a new constitution.

A new sense of urgency to open negotiations was evident this week when the National Party unwrapped its guidelines for a new constitution.

Mr De Klerk, presenting the plan to an NP federal congress in Bloemfontein, said he was convinced "we are near a breakthrough to real negotiations".

Of the peace accord drawn up by the National Peace Initiative, which will be the subject of Saturday's summit, he said a great deal of progress had been made in co-operation among parties on violence and intimidation.

"It is as if the time is visibly becoming ripe," he said.

The NP constitutional plan, ratified by the Bloemfontein congress on Wednesday and the Natal congress on Friday, goes before three NP provincial congresses over the next few months. It becomes policy only after all have ratified it.

The ANC published its draft constitutional plan in April and the Democratic Party went public with its proposals last week.

The three share much common ground in broad terms. All favour a bicameral legislature, proportional representation and some form of regional government.

However, there are crucial differences, too, which seem certain to make for hard bargaining when real constitutional negotiations begin, probably next year.

The NP plan, while making a break with the past in erasing all explicit reference to race, has been widely criticised nonetheless as an indirect attempt to protect white interests.

One of the most controversial aspects of the NP plan is that it would give property owners, ratepayers and lessees an extra vote in local government elections.

The plan proposes that the country be divided into nine regions, each with an elected legislature and executive. Major powers would be devolved from the central government to the regional governments and to local governments.

At the Natal congress, Mr De Klerk defended the plan against criticism that it was apartheid in disguise.

The proposals to devolve maximum powers to lower levels and to protect minorities from domination were in line with successful democracies around the world, he said.

Countries which had not recognised the diversity of their populations had run into problems and some, like Nigeria under its first constitution, had even suffered genocide because of this.

He also defended the NP plan for a three-person multiparty committee, with a rotating chairman, to replace the president as the supreme executive institution.

The best example of this system, which was essentially coalition government, was Switzerland.

Speaking to members of the Swiss executive college last year, he had found that all of them — from all language groups and political ideologies — believed the system worked.

They said the college had developed a culture of working in the interests of the country and not that one's own party.

Mr De Klerk said it was interesting that those parties most in favour of an interim government were most against the NP plan, even although it was similar to their idea of an interim government.

He rebuked Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu for his criticism of the NP plan.

Bishop Tutu had "once again entered the political fray" with a statement suggesting he suspected that the NP plan was aimed at protecting white privilege.

"It's time for the Bishop Tutus of South Africa to start thinking in terms of South Africanism and not black and white," said Mr De Klerk.

SACC appeals for calm

Sowetan 10/9/91 304

THE South African Council of Churches yesterday appealed to political leaders to exercise the utmost restraint following the fresh outbreak of violence.

SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane told a news conference in Johannesburg the organisation had started certain processes to ensure leaders avoided inflammatory language in their reaction to the renewed violence.

Chikane said he was convinced the real culprits would not be found among the victims - "the people".

"The intention here is clearly to make the climate difficult for political leaders to attend the national peace conference," scheduled for Saturday.

Chikane warned that these attacks could continue, but said he was convinced the perpetrators could be isolated once the peace accord was signed or alternatively its principles agreed to.

Asked if he was confident all parties would attend and if those who had indicated they would not attend would respect the accords, Chikane said he had hope the initial participants would attend. - *South African Press Association.*

SACC meets donors

304
Sowetan
2/10/91.

By THEMBA MOLEFE

THE South African Council of Churches is to hold a two-day conference with its 32 partners and donors from the World Council of Churches and other overseas countries near Vereeniging today.

This would be the first time that the SACC's donors entered South Africa after the majority of them had been officially banned by successive National Party governments.

SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said field trips to "expose the delegates to the realities of life in this country" had been arranged as part of the conference.

The 32 representatives include churchmen from Europe, the United States, Canada and the Scandinavian countries.

SACC promotes hatred, says IFP

Sowetan 4/10/91

304

By JOE MDHLELA

THE South African Council of Churches was not playing a reconciliatory role in a conflict situation, Inkatha Freedom Party regional secretary Mr Humphrey Ndhlovu said yesterday.

"All it (the SACC) does is promote hatred and conflict," he said.

He claimed the church body was biased in favour of the ANC and that some SACC "senior officials are card-carrying members of that organisation".

The IFP had suffered many casualties, he said, but the SACC had never condemned these killings as they would with ANC fatalities. This behaviour by the SACC was worrying.

"The only conclusion one has to reach is that the SACC is biased in favour of the ANC at the expense of IFP. The Christian ministry of reconciliation is lost to the SACC.

"Our members have died in their hundreds. Not once did the SACC rebuke the actions of the killers.

"But the opposite is true when the SACC is dealing with the ANC. Press statements by top SACC officials are issued to pay homage to the ANC dead."

SACC spokesman Dr John Lampla said the secretary-general of the organisation, the Rev Frank Chikane, was not available for comment on the allegations.

"We will issue a response at an appropriate time," he said.

We are not aligned – SACC

304

By JOE MDHLELA

THE South African Council of Churches was not aligned with the African National Congress, nor were its members card-carrying members of the organisation.

This was said by the Rev Frank Chikane, General Secretary of the SACC, in a statement at the weekend.

Chikane was referring to last week's attack on the SACC by Mr Humphrey Ndlhovu, Inkatha Freedom Party regional secretary. Sowetan 4/10/91

Ndhlovu claimed the SACC was aligned with the ANC. He also alleged that the church body had failed to express solidarity with members of IFP killed in politically-motivated violence.

Maintain curbs - world churches

Sowetan 9/10/91

By JOE MDHLELA

MEMBER churches of the World Council of Churches abroad will continue to call for maintenance of sanctions for as long as blacks are denied political rights in South Africa.

This emerged at the 1991 Round Table Consultation of the South African Council of Churches which ended at Maccauvlei near Vereeniging on Friday.

The meeting, regarded as historic because many WCC overseas representatives were able to enter the country unhindered, discussed the work and ministry of the SACC and its churches in South Africa.

The WCC representatives commended the leadership of the SACC for the role it played in facilitating the Peace Accord.

But the world church body believes that the Government has a double agenda, aimed at ensuring its continued control of political power by funding "covert elements and operations".

"The South African Government has yet to release all political prisoners and detainees, as it has to afford justice and political rights to the majority of the people of South Africa," a statement released afterwards read.

Taking these factors into account, representative of WCC affirmed the SACC's stand "that the conditions for lifting sanctions have yet to be met".

The overseas donors have pledged their support for the SACC by contributing 60 percent of the budget.

But they also called for increased commitment from South African churches and Christians to make up the shortfall.

SACC general secretary Frank Chikane shakes hands with President F W de Klerk while World Council of Churches general secretary Emilio Castro looks on outside the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Violence dominates church leader's talks with De Klerk

ANTHONY NDLOVU

WORLD Council of Churches (WCC) secretary general Emilio Castro yesterday met President F W de Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela to discuss the church's role in SA's political transition.

Speaking at a news briefing after his meetings, Castro said mechanisms for ending the violence featured high on the agenda of the meeting with De Klerk. He described the meeting as "positive and constructive".

Castro is the first WCC leader to visit SA since 1960. He said he had stressed to De Klerk the need for a speedy release of political prisoners. He said he was confident De Klerk was doing everything in his power to expand the police force in an attempt to bring violence under control.

"I cannot believe a sophisticated country like SA is unable to curb the violence," he said.

Meanwhile, SA Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary Frank Chikane said the church's role in bringing the political parties together would be a fundamental one.

Sapa reports that Mandela yesterday said the ANC was going ahead with preparations for an all-party conference, despite the latest wave of countrywide violence.

"Negotiations must go on," he told reporters after meeting Castro.

Mandela said the ANC had appealed to religious and business leaders to take the initiative in convening the all-party conference which, he said, should be held before the end of the year.

"We are now engaged in discussions with the various political organisations, because that initiative can only succeed if all political parties, all shades of political opinion, are involved in the process.

"That is a manifestation of our appreciation of the central role that the church is playing, and will still play in a normalised political situation in the country," he said.

Castro expressed his joy at meeting Mandela.

He said he wanted to reassure Mandela of WCC solidarity with the "people who are searching for a democratic and just SA".

CT 22/10/91

More active church role in SA urged

304

Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICAN churches wielded immense political power but they lacked the courage to become key initiators in the changing political arena, the general secretary of the World Council of Churches, Dr Emilio Castro, said yesterday.

He was opening an SA Council of Churches and WCC consultation "towards an ecumenical agenda for a changing South Africa" at Sea Point.

The church should take an active role in organising a multi-party conference besides playing a major role in reconciliation, Dr Castro said.

The church should also testify against the perpetrators of violence and make a stand on the side of the victims.

OCT 22/10/91

More active church role in SA urged

Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICAN churches wielded immense political power but they lacked the courage to become key initiators in the changing political arena, the general secretary of the World Council of Churches, Dr Emilio Castro, said yesterday.

He was opening an SA Council of Churches and WCC consultation "towards an ecumenical agenda for a changing South Africa" at Sea Point.

The church should take an active role in organising a multi-party conference besides playing a major role in reconciliation, Dr Castro said.

The church should also testify against the perpetrators of violence and make a stand on the side of the victims.

Financial curbs must stay, say churchmen

304

Sowetan 25/10/91

FINANCIAL sanctions against South Africa should stay until violence was controlled and there was agreement on an interim government.

This was said by representatives of local and international churches in a major policy statement in Cape Town yesterday.

The document - known as the Cape Town Statement - is the outcome of a four-day conference held under the auspices of the World Council of Churches and the SA Council of Churches.

The churches also called for the establishment of a peace-keeping agency comprising representatives of all major political groups, and demanded a general amnesty for political prisoners and exiles.

Churches welcomed those political changes that had taken place.

Financial and other sanctions had contributed to these changes and continued to play an important part in bringing about political change.

"Our concern is that any further lifting of sanctions would stall the negotiation process by eliminating the pressure needed to ensure political transition.

"It is our firm belief that the time for the lifting of all sanctions has not yet come.

"For that to happen violence must be controlled and there must be agreement on an interim government and a democratic constitution.

"Premature action on the lifting of sanctions would render less effectual the sacrifice made by so many over the years."

The churches rejected the "humiliating process" of individual indemnities for political prisoners and exiles and called for a general amnesty.- *Sapa*

Beyers: Clergy are powerless to resolve SA crisis

S/Times 27/10/91. 304

THE political changes in South Africa have revealed deep-rooted racial divisions in the church, says Dr Beyers Naude.

The changes had also exposed the powerlessness of churchmen to understand and successfully handle political conflicts, the economic crisis and the educational mess in the country, he added.

Dr Naude was speaking in a closing address at the Cape Town Consultation, a conference of churchmen organised by the South Africa Council of Churches and attended by leading international churchmen and delegates from the World Council of Churches.

Dr Naude, 75, is a former director of the Christian Institute and former general-secretary of the SACC who was restricted and banned for several years.

He said the crisis in South Africa had also revealed a crisis in the church.

It exposed new forms of racism and the "seeming powerlessness" of the church to play an effective role in social integration.

He said the church's utterances, attitudes and actions revealed a sense of helplessness or a serious inability.

This gave rise to a feeling of being out of depth when confronted by issues like the ongoing violence, growing poverty, massive unemployment and the lack of housing.

Faith

"We seem to be overwhelmed by the vastness and the apparent insolubility of these problems," he added.

Dr Naude said the conference had brought home the fact that the biggest problem facing Christians and the church was a crisis of faith.

"We are all seeking an end to the violence and bloodshed in our urgent and sincere longing for peace," he said.

He asked why Christians could not solve this problem even though there were millions of them proclaiming to be disciples of Christ and pledging obedience to Him.

"We are all admitting that churches do not have the answers," he said.

"It seems that God requires from the church, a theological vision of the nature of God's kingdom as applied to South Africa.

"He requires from us a new vision and understanding of what the nature of our community and society should be.

"He requires from us the legal criteria for the concept of justice, human rights and human dignity which are recognised throughout the world and which we seemingly support and proclaim and wish to strive after.

"He requires from us a critical re-assessment of ecumenical relations and responsibilities within member churches of the SACC and between us and the other churches which are not members."

Dr Naude said no other church in the world was faced with the tremendous challenge and opportunity as was the church in South Africa.

Answers

The answers, he said, did not lie with political organisations or secular groups.

"They lie with Christ and his willingness to lead us into His justice and His peace," he said.

Dr Naude said he hoped the plan of action drawn up at the conference would filter through to the leaders charged with building a new, just and peaceful South Africa.

Among other proposals, the plan called for individual church leaders to teach the Christian way of life to their congregations.

EVELYN HOLTZHAUSEN reports on this week's SA Council of Churches conference in Cape Town

Church rich urged: Share your wealth

304

S/Times 27/10/91

The Rev Frank Chikane of the SACC and Dr Emilio Castro of the WCC at a press conference in Cape Town this week

Picture: AMBROSE PETERS

SOUTH African churchmen must impress upon affluent members of their congregations the need to make sacrifices and share their wealth, says a group of church leaders affiliated to the South African Council of Churches.

Their decision forms part of a Proposals For Action document drawn up at the end of a four-day conference of church leaders in Cape Town this week under the auspices of the World Council of Churches and the SACC.

The WCC delegation was led by general secretary Dr Emilio Castro, whose two-week visit to South Africa ended nearly 30 years of hostility between the WCC and the South African Government.

At the conference delegates recommended that economic sanctions against South Africa should remain in place until violence is brought under control and there is an agreement on an interim government.

The appeal to churchmen to "impress" upon the affluent the "biblical imperative to sacrifice and share" was connected to the stand on sanctions.

Local congregations in South Africa, the action document states, should be helped to understand that the policy on sanctions "is intended to keep pressure on the government to expedite the process of change".

This should be "workshopped" in local congregations "together with the issues of unemployment and poverty with a view to devising ways and means of alleviating poverty locally".

Amnesty

Churchmen should also press the government to devise and implement large-scale, labour-intensive projects and address the need for a new and compassionate economic system.

Through the document, church leaders also called for the establishment of a peace-keeping agency which would comprise representatives of all major political groups, and demanded a general amnesty for political prisoners and exiles.

The statement said the churches welcomed the political changes that had taken place but, as financial and other sanctions had contributed to these changes and continued to play an important part in bringing about political change, they should remain in place.

Speaking before he left Cape Town this week, Dr Castro, who during his visit met a wide range of church and political leaders, said that the lifting of economic sanctions now would give the wrong signal both to those who had profited from apartheid and to the poor of SA who had believed that sanctions would improve their lot.

"While there has been a beginning of change towards democracy and human rights, it is clear that apartheid is still very much alive," he said.

Dr Castro said he would like to see more discussions relating to the admission of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk — recently granted observer status to the WCC — to full membership of the organisation.

SACC's Chikane to meet Mangope

(304)

By Kaizer Nyatsumba
Political Staff

Star
4/11/91

South African Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane will meet Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope tomorrow to discuss the plight of political prisoners in the homeland, the SACC announced at the weekend.

The meeting, to be held at Mr Chikane's "urgent request", will deal with a number of contentious issues, including political prisoners believed to be on hunger strike.

"Reverend Chikane hopes to discuss the general human rights situation in Bophuthatswana and the negative effect that events in Bophuthatswana could have on the peace process in South Africa," the SACC said.

"(We) believe that a climate of free political activity is necessary in Bophuthatswana to advance this peace process."

In another development, the SACC will this week host the first official delegation of the West European Parliamentarians for Action Against Apartheid (Awepaa), which will be in the country on a week-long fact-finding mission.

The Awepaa delegation, which arrived in the country yesterday, will meet leaders of the different political organisations and parties before leaving the country on Saturday.

Awepaa delegates will include representatives from the Netherlands, Finland, the United Kingdom, France, Norway, Germany, Czechoslovakia and a number of other countries.

B/Day 21/11/91

304

Mangope, Chikane talk

SA COUNCIL of Churches general secretary Frank Chikane on Tuesday held talks with Bophuthatswana's President Lucas Mangope, the SACC confirmed yesterday.

It said Chikane met Mangope in Mmabatho to discuss the creation of a climate for free political activity in Bophuthatswana "with specific reference to 103 political prisoners still held at the Bophuthatswana Central Prison".

Groups want new code on SA trade

304

Sowetan 18/11/91

THE South African Council of Churches, the South African Bishops Conference, Kagiso Trust and the Institute for Contextual Theology are planning a consultation to work out a code of investment for South Africa.

In a statement on Saturday, the SACC said the consultation - meeting under the theme "Towards a Code of Investment: Ethics for South Africa's International Economic Relations" - would be held in February in Broederstroom.

"This will bring together representatives of trade unions, business, political organisations, as well as experts on economics, into a reflective interaction with church leaders and theologians.

"The objective of this exercise is formulated against the background of the debates on sanctions and the reality that, despite calls for financial sanctions against South Africa to be maintained until some form of a transitional government is installed, more and more overseas companies are beginning to either invest in South Africa or are busy with preparations to do so." - *South African Press Association.*

Green export to Zim

Sowetan 18/11/91

A DURBAN company is to export what it says is an "environment-friendly" chemical to Zimbabwe.

According to a statement released yesterday the chemical, hydrogen peroxide, was "rapidly gaining popularity as the preferred oxidant in the textile, paper, chemical and water treatment industries".

The chemical is to be distributed by Zimbabwe Petroleum. - *Sapa.*

DP's new plan for airwaves

THE Democratic Party has accepted a policy document on broadcasting based on the principles that freedom of speech should be enshrined in the new constitution and that the airwaves are public resources.

DP spokesman for broadcasting Mr Peter Soal said at the party's congress in Cape Town on Saturday that many proposals in the document had been accepted by the task group on broadcasting.

The document provides for the establishment of an independent communications authority to regulate the broadcasting spectrum and promote an efficient communications system. Sowetan 18/11/91.

Provision is made for both public and private broadcasters, but restrictions are placed on the number of radio and television stations operated by any organisation.

The DP said local radio stations, rather than television, were the means of broadcast communication best suited for the country's needs. - *Sapa.*

Appeal refused

THE Appeal Court in Bloemfontein has refused an application by Thapelo Matthews Mokoena of Mofolo, Soweto, for leave to appeal against convictions for murder and attempted robbery.

The victim was Mr Daniel Marthinus Joubert who was shot in Soweto on July 14 1988.

Mr Acting Justice D O Vermooten, in the Rand Supreme Court on November 21 1990, imprisoned Mokoena for 19 years. - Sapa.

Investment code planned

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC), the SA Bishops' Conference, the Kagiso Trust and the Institute for Contextual Theology are jointly planning a consultation to work out a code of investment.

An SACC statement said the consultation would be held in February in Broederstroom.

Hamper hoax hits the poor

By THEMBA KHUMALO

HUNDREDS of unemployed and poor people flooded the Khotso House offices of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) this week to collect Christmas hampers. But there was nothing there for them.

They had read in copies of a pamphlet distributed in Johannesburg and Soweto townships that Christmas hampers were waiting for them at the SACC offices. The pamphlet purported to be from the SACC's department of hunger and relief but the SACC has denied issuing it.

The pamphlet reads: "As you know, the SACC believes in the gospel of the poor. We were blessed last year and received no less than R254 059 from our beloved overseas donors for hunger and relief. Our total income was just over R29-million.

"Only R180 106 was spent during the year and R73 953 was left to help all of you who are poor and unemployed."

The pamphlet said the council wished to apologise to the unemployed for causing their plight by supporting sanctions and stayaway calls made by political bodies and trade unions.

"Unfortunately this put many black workers out of jobs and as a result they and their families are suffering. We want to try and help you and give you special Christmas parcels of food and clothing to make you and your starving family happy. We offer this as a token of our repentance," read the pamphlet.

However, the SACC said in a statement it was disturbed that those responsible had issued the pamphlet in its name. This despicable act would hurt the suffering people.

It was clear that the content of the hoax pamphlet was well thought out and deliberately conceived to cause further chaos in society at the expense of the poor and needy, said the SACC.

Bids to sway PAC over talks

Sowetan 28/12/91

304

DELEGATIONS from the South African Council of Churches and the Commonwealth met separately with the Pan Africanist Congress in Johannesburg yesterday to discuss the movements position on the negotiation process.

The SACC delegations met for an hour before deciding to resume talks later in the day. The PAC officials left to keep an appointment with the Commonwealth delegation, in South Africa to observe the Convention for a Democratic South Africa which starts today.

MOSENEKE

CHIKANE

Yesterday's meeting was convened by the SACC, whose delegation was led by its general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane. The PAC delegation was led by deputy president Mr Dikgang Moseneke.

"Church leaders have expressed concern, prior to last weekend's decision by the PAC not to take part in Codesa, that the negotiation process should include as many parties and groups as possible."

The PAC delegation remained defiant after a three-hour meeting with the Commonwealth observers.

Mosencke said the observers largely agreed with his organisation on why the PAC had pulled out of the Codesa preparatory meeting of December 8. *Sapa.*

More about Codesa on

Bring the diehards in from the cold

SOUTH (304)

ST Times 5/1/92.

On the first Sunday of 1992, the Rev FRANK CHIKANE, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, expresses his hopes and fears for the peace negotiations

THERE is no doubt about it — the promising first steps taken at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa on December 20 and 21 are to be celebrated. They mark a milestone advance in the process of change that South Africa entered in February 1990.

Particularly welcome is the commitment to the declaration of intent that was signed by a majority of the 19 groups represented at Codesa's first meeting, committing Codesa to work for the production of a constitution that will create an undivided, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa. The fact that the signatories included the South African government and the National Party is especially significant.

The first sessions of the Codesa working groups on February 6 will, in effect, begin to "put flesh on the bones" of Codesa, marking the formal introduction of the period of transition from the era of racialistic monopoly of political power by white South Africans.

We have made an important beginning, but the process is still plagued by frailties, and there is much more to be done before justice and democracy are realised in South Africa.

Concern

I would like to highlight four of the most urgent priorities I see this country facing in the coming days.

● There is a critical need to work for the fullest possible participation in the negotiations process.

I regret that two of the 19 parties at Codesa did not sign the declaration of intent. The non-participation of and self-exclusion from Codesa of some political groups from both the black community and the white community is a further source of grave concern.

This has the potential of stealing from the legitimacy of Codesa's claim of beginning a widely representative national forum. In addition, this imperils the chances of an era of socio-political stability for South Africa actually issuing from Codesa's decisions.

In this situation the SACC and its member churches take seriously the urgent task of carrying out their proclamation of reconciliation and their expression of the quest of the oppressed for peace with justice in their lifetime.

To this end, the SACC has sought and shall continue to seek means of engaging in a ministry of listening to the entire spectrum of views which are maintained by the various formations in this country to intervene intelligently to ensure that there is maximum participation in the process of negotiating a new and just order.

For example, the SACC on December 19 convened church leaders for a meeting with representatives of the Pan Africanist Congress to listen to the PAC's reasons for declining to participate in the first meeting of Codesa.

We had a friendly, in-depth discussion, and as church leaders we were all the more convinced of the need for people of different political persuasions to come together to listen to one another in patience and with tolerance. We stand ready to make further contributions as listeners and reconcilers as called upon and as the need arises.

● Speed is of the essence in the process of negotiation and transition to a new, undivided, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa.

The experience of the devastation of the long grinding years of apartheid oppression and economic waste behoves all South Africans to see to it that the process started at Codesa on December 20-21 is moved forward as expeditiously as possible.

This necessitates that interim transitional government arrangements to oversee the negotiation process should be put in place as soon as possible. Further, such transitional arrangements should have their mandate and period of duration defined in line with the sentiment of an urgency to get rid of all the structures of apartheid as soon as possible.

I welcome the National Party government's acceptance of the desirability of a neutral governmental mechanism to oversee the negotiation process. However, I believe that no long-term interim or transitional government should be put in place on the basis of a constitution that is not a product of an elected constitution-making body. I pray and hope that an acceptable model will be found in the process of negotiation.

Lasting

● The constitution-making body must be an elected body.

At this juncture, we remember the various calls made by successive SACC national conferences as to the most just and practical means of bringing about a lasting solution to the violent crises that apartheid has visited on this land and its people.

For example, as early as 1978, the National Conference called on the National Party government to convene a national convention to deliberate on the legal fundamentals of a free South Africa.

In the light of the Codesa debate on the constitution-making body, it is my categorical belief that the only credible means of charting the future of this country will be through a body which is democratically elected by all South Africans on a common voters roll.

The criticism of the shortcomings in the representativeness of Codesa convinces me that only an elected constitution-making body can satisfy the demand for participation of all the people of South Africa. The exclusion of homeland opposition parties and other formations of the liberation movement from Codesa, and the demand for representation, can be resolved only by a popular election.

A new South Africa must be the product of the maximum participation of all people of this country, especially the poor and women, who, as we have seen, have been particularly marginalised. Towards this goal, I am committed to working for the convening of a constitution-making body constituted on the basis of a non-racial, universal franchise.

Marginalised

● In all this there is an urgent need to gird all South Africans for effective political participation.

The church has a particular leadership role in working for the empowerment of the marginalised of our society to enable them to participate effectively in the processes which govern their daily lives.

In line with this the SACC will encourage all appropriate projects to enhance the capacity of hitherto disenfranchised people, especially the black majority, to participate meaningfully in the unfolding political process. The SACC and its member churches have never shirked their difficult and often painful task of speaking out and acting against the evil of apartheid.

Our mission remains that of ensuring that the current process, whose declared goal is to negotiate apartheid away, produces justice, peace and conditions for the kind of prosperity that shall be enjoyed by all the people of South Africa.

SACC condemns spate of bombings

THE South African Council of Churches this week expressed horror at ongoing violence, particularly the bombing of schools and public facilities, violent deaths, including the ambushing of policemen, and attacks on offices and homes of political activists. C|Pres 5|11|92

The council expressed particular concern at the bombing of the Nelspruit Lowveld High School, the Christian Academy in Klerksdorp and the Lichtenburg Technical College.

"Clearly these are efforts to intimidate any movement toward non-racialism in the country, the SACC said." (304)

Reports by CP correspondents and Sapa

☐ FOREIGN VISIT

Don't visit SA, Dutch PM told

By ZB MOLEFE

HOLLAND's credibility as an anti-apartheid nation was on the brink of collapse this week as its Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister's proposed SA visit generated heat from Cosatu and the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

The 1,5 million-member Cosatu hopes this problem will be solved at the end of January when president John Gomomo and general-secretary Jay Naidoo visit Holland "and hopefully will have the opportunity to personally convey our views on these issues."

In an open letter to Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, Cosatu was blunt: "It (the visit) would undermine the reputation which the Dutch people have established in recent decades, justifiably in our view, for being in the front ranks of those fighting for human rights in our country."

Lubbers and Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek have planned to visit South Africa from February 18 to 20.

Earlier the Cosatu letter touched on a raw nerve: "It (the visit) would be seen as a historical regression of the role which the Dutch played as colonisers in South Africa, obviously a sensitive issue in both our countries."

The letter by assistant general-secretary Sam Shilowa argued that Lubbers' visit would give weight to the false impression that the government was "irreversibly committed to peace and democracy in South Africa."

Cosatu charged this week there were allegations that the South African government and its security forces continued to sponsor violence "and use death squads against anti-apartheid forces despite (President) De Klerk's public assurances that such 'covert operations' had been terminated."

Instead, the letter also argued that Lubbers' visit would encourage the South African government to entrench itself in power. This would delay a democratic transition.

"It is for these reasons that we would regrettably be unable to meet you in the event of you coming to this country in February," the Cosatu letter pointed out. "We would furthermore be compelled to publicly oppose your visit."

The SACC said that prominent church leader Beyers Naude as late as last Sunday called Lubbers and Van den Broek's visit "too early".

The SACC added that should the two Dutch parliamentarians visit South Africa "they would be hosted by a government which everybody expects to be folding up in preparation for interim arrangements which will manage negotiations on a new constitution."

Also, the Dutch parliamentarians' visit would be used by the ruling National Party for its own party political interests, the SACC said. These interests included a plan to boost the National Party's flagging international image.

"The SACC's conclusion thus far is that until an interim government or some form of transitional arrangements are in place, the irreversibility of all the changes that have been legislated thus far cannot be guaranteed," it said.

SACC criticises pension proposals

STAR 6/2/92

By Thabo Leshilo
Political Staff

304

The South African Council of Churches has added its voice to growing protest against the controversial Social Assistance Bill which, if approved by Parliament, may leave thousands of pensioners without social State grants.

SACC general secretary Frank Chikane yesterday called on National Health and Welfare Minister Dr Rina Venter to immediately withdraw the Bill.

Far-reaching

He said matters such as a person's right to a pension in a future dispensation should be negotiated by those involved in talks on an interim government.

"It is the continuous decision-making of this Government on matters that have far-reaching effect during this stage of negotiations that angers so many people."

The relationship with the TBVC states was the subject of debate at Codesa and the unilateral passing of any law concerning that relationship by Parliament was "inappropriate," he warned.

The SACC said the country's poor would suffer if new legislation was adopted because they depended on State grants.

If passed, the new law will replace, among others, the Social Pensions Act and the War Veterans Act, and drastically restrict and adjust social pensions.

Forfeit

Critics of the Bill have warned that the proposed legislation will result in hundreds of thousands of elderly and disabled people losing their right to social pensions.

TBVC pensioners will, in terms of the proposed legislation, be regarded as "aliens" and forfeit their right to social pensions.

Even those people classified as aliens, but still living and working within the borders of South Africa, would not receive grants.

The qualifying age for pension for women would be raised from 60 to 65 — leaving many women without income.

Mixed views from the churches

W1mail 28/2 - 5/3/92

304

By PAT SIDLEY

THE Dutch Reformed Church, often dubbed "the National Party at prayer", will not be advising its congregants to vote for President FW de Klerk. It will not tell them which way to vote at all.

It will, however, urge them to participate in the election, according to DRC assessor Professor Johan Heyns, whose church has a substantial number of Conservative Party members among its ranks, including CP leader Andries Treurnicht.

"I don't think it is the task of the church to state explicitly how people should vote, but it is our task to try to urge them to participate in the voting," Heyns said.

The president of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC), Bishop Wilfred Napier of Kokstad, and his bishops have urged parishioners to participate and vote yes.

A yes vote was a clear apology for apartheid and would indicate a desire for peaceful, if difficult negotiations, a statement from the SACBC said. Napier said a church needed to give moral and ethical direction in an issue like this.

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has, however, decided to stay quiet on the issue — for the time being at least.

In a statement it expressed concern that the calling of the referendum would add to insecurity and instability of society and that it could lead to a delay in the negotiating process "at best — and a full racial conflict, even civil war, at worst".

SACC general secrectary Reverend Frank Chikane stressed that while De Klerk had a right to consult his constituency, this should not be construed as meaning that he approved of a racial referendum.

Chikane and the Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, Duncan Buchanan, pointed out that until a new constitution was in place, all those statutes removed from the book could simply be put back.

However, he and many of his priests in white parishes will be urging voters to vote yes. "It's a horror to have a white referendum which looks and feels like it is a white veto ... but we have to vote yes.

"If somebody steers a boat on to the rocks and it starts sinking, you do not ask too many question at that point. You refloat the boat and then sink the captain," he said.

South Africa's Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris said that the South African Jewish Board of Deputies would call on all South Africans with a vote — not only the Jewish community — to vote yes in the referendum, and he would be urging all the Orthodox rabbis to deliver this message in synagogues during the runup to the poll.

"More important than South Africa winning the World Cricket Cup is that we win the approval of the world for a democratic South Africa," he said.

SACC plea on township carnage

STAR 3/4/92

By Thabo Leshilo
Political Staff

The South African Council of Churches is to ask the international community to pressure the Government into stopping the killings in townships and make such action a precondition to ending sanctions.

The decision, announced by SACC secretary-general the Rev Frank Chikane in Johannesburg yesterday, was adopted at a meeting of the SACC leadership on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Recently, the Government made the ending of violence — which it blamed on black politicians jockeying for power — one of its conditions for the establishment of an interim government.

Dr Chikane said the SACC was convinced the country's powerful security apparatus had the capacity to stop the ongoing violence.

The security forces, however, had failed to do so and were instead "perpetuating or permitting" violence.

He added it was unfair to expect black leaders to stop the ongoing violence as they had neither the armed ability nor intelligence service necessary to deal with the armed units which covertly sowed mayhem in the townships.

The church leaders believed the only way peace could be achieved was by putting the SAP, SADF, homeland armies, liberation armies and other armies into a united force under joint command "in the spirit of movement to a new society.

"This is an essential element of the interim government arrangements," Dr Chikane said, adding that all relevant parties inside and outside Codesa would be contacted about the SACC decision.

Other decisions were that:

- Urgent meetings be sought with the Government and the National Peace Committee about the ongoing violence.
- The SACC host a summit on violence to which all black leaders would be invited.
- The Goldstone Commission of inquiry into political violence be urged to investigate the causes of violence in Meadowlands.

Democrats hesitate at the crossroads

Wmail 16/4 – 23/4/92 (3044)

The liberals are at a loose end and it's decision time for the Democratic Party. By **PAUL STOBER**

ON THE LEFT	IN THE CENTRE	ON THE RIGHT
Jan van Eck	Zach de Beer	Tony Leon
Rob Haswell	Ken Andrew	Mike Tarr
Jannie Momberg	Colin Eglin	Roger Hulley
Pierre Cronje	Peter Soal	Roger Burrows

AS bigger parties begin to poach the liberal-democratic policies of the Democratic Party, its members and supporters are migrating to other political pastures.

For many DP members and MPs, the choice is between remaining part of an independent party which may become little more than a pressure group, or trying to preserve the party's liberal values by joining and trying to influence the dominant parties.

Yesterday's suspension of four MPs from the caucus was the first overt admission by the leadership that there were strains within the caucus. Party leader Zach de Beer announced that Jan van Eck, Rob Haswell, Jannie Momberg and Pierre Cronje had been suspended "on the basis of information I have received today".

A senior DP member showed the way and left the party fold last October: former western Cape regional chairman Bill Sewell quit the party to join the African National Congress, and is now on the steering committee directing the ANC's election campaign for constituent assembly elections in the region. Explaining his move, Sewell said he believed the ANC was the only vehicle for a genuine non-racial democracy in South Africa. "The realpolitik of today is that you have to be in a strong party to change things," he said.

Not everybody in the DP shares this view. In an angry letter to the press this week, DP member Colin Douglas (vice-chairman of the DP youth) accused those DP MPs considering moving to other parties of trying to destroy the DP out of personal interest.

"When the going gets tough, the cynical parliamentary elite go looking for the niche where they are most likely to find prestige, power, perks and pals," he wrote.

This virulent reaction may explain the hesitancy of DP MPs to speak openly about their plans. But over the past two weeks two options have clearly emerged for those MPs and members who do not see their future with the DP.

Claremont MP Jan van Eck hinted at the first option in parliament two weeks ago, when he said any realignment of forces in South African politics "will basically be between non-racial democrats on one side, among whom I place most of the DP, the ANC and 20 percent of the Nationalists, and on the other side democracy-shy, ethnically orientated political groups. Among these are the bulk of the NP and Inkatha."

Van Eck's figures may be optimistic, but this week eight DP MPs met the ANC for talks about strategy and the future role of the party. Momberg (Simon's Town), Haswell (Pietermaritzburg South) and Cronje (Greytown), along with Van Eck, were the only MPs in the group to be named, and the only ones to be suspended.

Yesterday Momberg, before the suspensions were announced, confirmed the four names and said Dave Dalling, chief whip of the DP who has been ill and was unable to attend the meeting, had full knowledge of the meeting and "would go along with what we decided".

The ANC has not commented on the talks and was non-committal about the possibility of DP members coming across. "The ANC would warmly welcome anybody who wants to join us," said western Cape representative Willy Hofmeyer. The ANC had previously seen the DP as having an important role in winning whites away from the Nationalists.

For those DP MPs for whom the ANC leans too far to the left, a well-aired option is the formation of a new centrist (left of the NP and right of the ANC) party with the NP. A plan to disband the DP and form such a party was discussed by an extended DP caucus meeting a fortnight ago.

The proposal, presented by Houghton MP Tony Leon, said support for the party in the white community had shrunk alarmingly while there was no growth of support in the non-white community. In the wake of the referendum, the party is cash-strapped and its fundraising ability is limited.

Although there were some objections to Leon's assessment of the party's position, none of the party's leadership has refuted it. Senior DP MPs like Roger Hulley (Constantia), Mike Tarr (Pietermaritzberg North) and Roger Burrows (Pinetown) have been reported to support the plan.

This week Tarr said he had discussed the idea of a new party with other MPs but he would "not be interested" in any party that would be the NP in new clothes. *The Weekly Mail* has not been able to contact the other MPs to confirm their support for such a plan.

Although NP leaders have publicly rejected the idea, it is common knowledge that the Nationalists are seriously considering the formation of a new party to allow them to campaign for substantial support in the black community, free of the stigma of their past.

The party hierarchy — including leader Zach de Beer, national chairman Ken Andrew, Colin Eglin and Peter Soal — want the DP to remain independent.

Andrew has described the chances of the DP forming a new party with the NP as "absolutely minimal".

"I don't think that's what the majority of people in our caucus would want, or what the majority in the party would want to do," he said.

All indications are that this view is correct and the majority of MPs wants the party to remain independent.

According to Sewell, if the DP remains independent, its chief role would be that of a human rights watchdog of whatever government comes to power.

SACC calls leaders to violence talks

Political Staff

The South African Council of Churches has invited the leaders of the country's major black political formations — including those in the "homelands" — to an "Emergency Summit on Violence" in a bid to find a decisive end to the bloody violence in black townships.

The summit is due to be held in Johannesburg on Wednesday.

A weekend statement by the church body said the meeting was being called in response to "the alarming proportion, as well as the persistence, at which political violence is growing in our country, and the potential for it to spread to hitherto unaffected areas".

Invitations have already been sent to the ANC, IFP, Azapo, PAC, SACP and Cosatu, Nactu and homeland leaders.

The meeting will be co-chaired by SACC president Dr Khoza Mgojo, Methodist Church president and National Peace Committee deputy chairman Dr Stanley Mogoba and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Sapa reports that Dr Mogoba has appealed for a national week of prayer from June 1 to June 7. In a statement, he said: "Without peace we can forget about Codesa or any other initiative for bringing about a new South Africa or even a new southern Africa."

Church leaders around the country have been requested to set aside June 5 — the day before Pentecost Sunday — as a national day of prayer and healing when all activity will halt between 11 am and 2 pm.

Alex civic affairs halted by violence

B1 Day 22/4/92

CIVIC affairs in Alexandra township have been brought to a virtual standstill by the ongoing feud between Inkatha and ANC supporters.

Alexandra town clerk Willie Khumalo said yesterday most of the town council's offices had been taken over by families displaced by the violence in the township.

Hundreds of families fled their homes last month after fighting between Alexandra residents and Inkatha-supporting hostel dwellers. They sought refuge at the council's offices and the local civic centre.

Khumalo said the situation was inconveniencing council staff and was being "taken advantage of by some employees".

He said it was difficult to keep thorough checks on staff attendance in such a situation, and a number of workers had not been reporting for work since.

But the council would not chase the families away as the violence which forced them out of their homes had not been addressed, Khumalo said.

Meanwhile, the Goldstone standing commission of inquiry into public violence and intimidation will question Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) leaders about allegations that the organisation planned to attack four of Inkatha's Transvaal strongholds.

Judge Richard Goldstone said in a statement yesterday a policeman told a Wit-Vaal regional dispute resolution committee on March 26 that police had received information that MK had held a meeting the previous day. The policeman said it was decided at the meeting to attack the Inkatha hostels.

"After inquiry by an ANC member, the ANC informed the regional dispute resolution committee that no such decision had

WILSON ZWANE

been taken. The matter was then referred to the commission, which was informed by police that the information had come from two informants who had been at the MK meeting.

"The informants felt their lives were in jeopardy and on no account would they be prepared to meet, even in camera, with the commission. At the request of the commission, police have furnished it with written statements from both informants without disclosing their identities," Goldstone said.

He said having regarded the seriousness of the allegations, the commission had decided to put the allegations to MK leaders "who are alleged to have been at the meeting in question on Thursday".

Meanwhile Sapa reports three people were reported killed in Natal yesterday, bringing the day's national death toll as a result of political violence to nine.

Earlier, two people were killed and 11 injured when a bus was ambushed in the Table Mountain area, east of Maritzburg.

In the same area three people were shot dead at a bus stop and three were wounded — including a three-month-old baby.

Near Empangeni on the north coast, a member of the KwaZulu Police was shot dead by unidentified men.

In another development, police yesterday held an identification parade in Thokoza, on the East Rand, in connection with alleged misconduct of 32 Battalion soldiers in Phola Park squatter camp on April 8.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Col Frans Malherbe refused to say whether any of the soldiers had been identified as culprits.

Key leaders will attend church talks

B1 Day 22/4/92

WILSON ZWANE

LEADERS of key black political organisations will meet church leaders today in an attempt to boost the peace process.

It is expected that the summit — convened under the auspices of the SA Council of Churches (SACC) — will set the stage for a meeting between church leaders and government.

Sapa reports that ANC president Nelson Mandela, PAC leader Clarence Makwetu and SACP chairman Joe Slovo will attend.

In a statement, the SACC said representatives from 19 black political organisations would attend. These included Inkatha , Azapo the TBVC states, Cast, Cosatu, Nactu, Nafcoc, the United People's Front, Ximoko Progressive Party, Dikwankwetla Party, Intando Yesizwe Party and Inyandza National Movement. (304)

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's private secretary, Amos Ngema, said yesterday the Inkatha leader would not attend the summit as he had "other commitments in (KwaZulu capital) Ulundi".

SACC general secretary Frank Chikane had said today's "emergency summit on violence" was in response to alarming levels of political violence.

Black SA: The day the healing began

Cipren 26/4/92

By ZB MOLEFE

SOUTHERN Africa's Methodist bishop, Stanley Mogoba, was full of hope when he described Wednesday's emergency summit on violence attended by black SA's religious and political leaders.

Said Bishop Mogoba: "Today I was given an idea of what a future parliament in SA will be like."

It was an observation from the heart. Nelson Mandela, Clarence Makwetu, Bennie Alexander, Pandelani Nefolovhodwe, Musa Myeni, Khoza Mgojo, Sam Buti, Bantu Holomisa ... all were there.

The ANC, PAC and the IFP had locked themselves into a conference room in a Johannesburg hotel.

Leaders from the church, labour, black business and homeland parties worked hard to seek a way of ending the political violence wracking SA.

Of course the government and security forces were not invited to the summit. SA Council of Churches general secretary Frank Chikane, the moving spirit behind the summit, later told journalists that this exclusion was not to mean that the pair were by implication responsible for the violence.

But, pointed out Chikane, the summit had wanted to involve only blacks initially "because we wanted to bring to this particular meeting those who belonged to those communities affected by the violence."

The thorny question of why there were no women at the summit – "an issue that is causing us a fair deal of pain" – was raised.

But, said Chikane, the organisers felt they could not prescribe delegation composition to the attending organisations.

Questioned on why whites were not invited to the summit, Chikane told journalists that the violence affected everybody and that similar events would be held to include white representative bodies.

He added, however, that some whites had attended as part of the delegations..

Chikane told the media that the summit "is one part of an initiative among many".

In his opening statement, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu explained why the summit was organised.

"We wanted to know why blacks kill blacks. What has happened to the humanity of our people?" he said.

Tutu made it clear that the summit, which was closed to the media, had not been a slap-dash, happy-go-lucky affair: "We were frank. We are not trying to paper over things."

The 1984 Nobel Peace Prize laureate said: "I made a presentation (at the summit) and what I said was that political leaders should put a moratorium on violence. Our feeling is that political leaders, in a way, are also a contributing factor. But we are not involved in a finger-pointing exercise."

Archbishop Tutu was obviously distressed, his word of conciliation a far cry from the fiery activist at the forefront of black resistance in the 80s.

A BBC journalist tried hard to pin him to specifics, particularly after Archbishop Tutu said there had been "areas of disagreement" among the delegates. Could the Archbishop spell them out?

He responded: "We (the church) assume the best about people. You assume that everyone is a saint until the contrary is proven. There were quite some issues which cropped up."

Some delegates had expressed a feeling that the violence in black SA was reason enough to suspend negotiations with the nationalist government.

Others expressed discontent at an international monitoring group stepping in to sort out our troubles.

Ultimately, the delegates agreed to accept a shared responsibility for the violence and undertook to organise joint political peace rallies, according to a two-page, three-point statement.

Did this mean that say, Mandela and Buthelezi, will share platforms to preach a new-found peace message?

Bishop Mogoba responded: "We realised the urgency of this matter. We want to get our political leaders to certain places. We have urged our leaders to be seen together at joint (peace) rallies. It was our unanimous view that this should happen."

The ANC's Jacob Zuma, asked to sum up his feelings afterwards, simply said: "Tonight I'm going to sleep a hopeful person."

SHARING THE BLAME ... At the summit on violence were SA Council of Churches general secretary Frank Chikane (left), Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and SACC president Dr Mgojo Khoza. ■ Pics SIPHIWE MHLAMBI

Violence focused in PWV — Winnie

STAR 15/5/92

By Montshiwa Moroke

The violence which was plaguing the country had assumed a specific focus on the PWV and had made the area one of the most dangerous regions, ANC Women's League PWV region chairman Winnie Mandela said this week.

Addressing a media conference in Johannesburg, Mrs Mandela said the past year had been the most difficult period in the region in a long time.

This was due to various factors, but mainly because it was the country's economic nerve centre, which meant the region had the highest population density.

"Also related to this is the fact that the region carries a high number of migrant workers housed in hostels. Homelessness and joblessness are stark realities that stare this region in the face.

"A combination of all these factors has made this one of the most dangerous regions to live in in this country.

"The third force which is fanning the violence has also identified this region as a pilot project for the decimation of thousands of our people and the denial of political stability so crucial for the current process for the peaceful resolution of the apartheid problem," she said.

Church wrangle over NGK

(304)

By Carina le Grange

STAR 15/5/92

Top representatives of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and the Ned Geref Kerk met in Pretoria this week to discuss the NGK's application for observer status in the council.

Last year the SACC national conference voted to postpone a decision on the NGK's application for observer status until this year's July conference.

According to SACC general-secretary Dr Frank Chikane, the SACC considered the need for the NGK to normalise its relationship with its three sister (black) churches as the key obstacle to the NGK being granted observer status.

Dr Chikane said the three sister churches said that "even today" the NGK had not rejected apartheid completely.

"They say the NGK has rejected only the hurtful aspects of apartheid," he said.

The NGK contends that it has unequivocally rejected apartheid.

This has been backed up by observers who saw great significance in the confession of a leading church member, repenting apartheid, at the Rustenburg Conference of Churches in 1990.

oob Rykliff

spree

een Novem-
July 1991.
said he was
00 a month
company.
ed what he
the money,
aid he spent
on the pur-
luxury car,
ly instal-
unting to

1 in 6 in Gaborone has HIV

Star Africa Service

STAR 15/5/92

GABORONE — One in every six people in the Botswanan capital of Gaborone is infected with the Aids virus, according to the country's Health Ministry.

In Francistown, the second largest town, the infection rate is said to be one in five.

Kegalale Gasennelwe, under-secretary in the Ministry of Health, told a workshop in Gaborone there were 227 known cases of Aids in Botswana and 2 400 other people were known to be infected with the virus.

Mr Gasennelwe said there were an estimated 6 million sufferers in Africa.

99

Price of eggs set

NEWS

SACC plans rallies for peace

A nationwide series of peace rallies organised by churches in an attempt to put a stop to violence was agreed to yesterday by a multi-party committee of the SA Council of Churches.

The SACC said the meeting was a follow-up to an "emergency summit on violence" on April 22.

Political leaders will be invited to attend the rallies.

The Rev Frank Chikane, who chaired yesterday's meeting, said: "The peace rallies aren't for political leaders to campaign for their party but to ask that violence stops, and to say they hate the violence. They aren't political rallies. Their main purpose is a joint effort towards peace."

Address

He said those at the meeting had determined that the rallies would address their conviction that the Government was primarily responsible for the violence.

"They (the rallies) will put at the regime's door primary responsibility for the violence it has created," according to a participant, who noted the recent revelations of continuing involvement of the security forces in perpetuating violence.

"We can't go and pretend all these things aren't happening," Dr Chikane said.

The rallies will probably be held in July and August in areas most affected by violence.

The SACC also resolved to:

- Call for a commission to visit hostels, informal settlements and other "bad spots" to assess the situation.
- Set up workshops to promote tolerance and democracy.
- Discuss with editors the media's role in creating a climate of peace. — Sapa.

Plan by ANC to 'move in' on govt buildings

Political Correspondent

THE ANC plans to occupy Parliament and other government buildings as part of its mass action plan which starts today.

This is expected to bring it into direct conflict with the government, which warned yesterday that it would not tolerate the occupation of state buildings.

The ANC's demand for the "transfer of power" will be backed in coming weeks by progressively more militant actions aimed at forcing the government's hand. Protest options include:

- Rallies and street demonstrations.
- A campaign of defiance against 64 apartheid laws still on the statute books — "many of them restricting free political activity".
- "Decisive action" to force the government to democratise the SABC.
- Factory occupations and a national strike.

Kriel warning

- The occupation of government buildings — including Parliament, the courts and administrative buildings — on dates still to be specified "if the regime continues to block the transtition process".

Yesterday the Minister of Law an Order, Mr Hernus Kriel, warned that the government would not allow any of the following actions:

- Disruption of public transport.
- Intimidation.
- Occupation of state or semi-state buildings.
- Disruption of emergency and essential services.
- "Anything" affecting public security.
- Damage to property or buildings.

SACC issues ultimatum on violence and Codesa

THE SA Council of Churches yesterday joined the ANC-led campaign against government, issuing a July 15 ultimatum for steps to be taken against violence and a resumption of the negotiation process.

SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane was flanked at the Johannesburg news conference by the council's two honorary presidents, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Khoza Mgojo.

The SACC's four demands are the same as some of those of the ANC.

Unless there was an "assuring response" from government to the demands by July 15, the SACC would embark on a three-pronged international and local campaign.

The campaign would consist of:

☐ Calling on the SA Olympic team to pull out of the Olympic Games in Barcelona, "failing which we will call on the world community to ensure that the team is expelled". The same applied to the planned All Black rugby tour in August;

☐ "We shall lead our people into acts of peaceful protest ... We shall also defy all repressive measures, even a state of emergency, which the state may be tempted to introduce"; and

☐ Calling on "all our partners abroad" to demand their governments use all possible pressure to get the SA government to respond to the demands.

The SACC called on government to arrest and charge those responsible for the Boipatong and other killings, issue a statement of intent to co-operate with efforts to set up an international monitoring force, bring the security forces under multiparty control, and ensure a speedy convening of an elected constituent assembly. — Sapa.

Threat to grab homes

RESIDENTS of demolished hostels would simply occupy township homes, the Transvaal Hostel Residents' Association said yesterday.

Saying the ANC had called for the demolition of hostels, association chairman Joseph Kubheka said his organisation found the demand disturbing.

"The hostels not only house bachelors but families as well. Two hostels, in some blocks, for example Meadowlands and KwaMasiza ... have been converted to family units."

Hostel closures would result in more chaos and conflict, he said. "The hostel inmates, should the hostels be destroyed, will simply walk into the location and occupy all those houses. The ANC will be responsible for that." — Sapa.

the nation in brief

SACC conference (304)

SOWETAN 6/7/92

THE South African Council of Churches begins its national conference in Durban this week during which the role of the church in the current crisis in the country tops their agenda. SOWETAN 6/7/92

The conference was preceded by a peace rally at Durban's Central Methodist Church yesterday afternoon at which many of the delegates were welcomed and peace prayers were read.

Those who attended were invited to pray silently for peace in the country at the opening of the service.

The theme of the SACC's conference is The Crucified God and the Easter God - seeing the light in the darkness. - *Sapa.*

one white and the other was black. - *Sapa.*

SACC is not ANC aligned

304

Sowetan

THE South African Council of Churches could not afford to be perceived as taking sides with any political group at this point in the country's history. 7/9/92

SACC president Dr Khoza Mgojo made the remarks during an opening address to the SACC's national conference at the University of Natal in Durban.

He said the organisation had to examine why some people saw it as the "ANC at prayer". - *Sowetan Reporters and Sapa.*

Fund-raising drive for victims of violence

B/Day 7/7/92

WILSON ZWANE

DEVELOPMENT agencies, including the Independent Development Trust, the Development Bank of SA and the Kagiso Trust, have been asked to assist victims of violence in SA.

A source close to the national peace committee said yesterday the committee approached agencies two months ago for money to be used in the reconstruction of strife torn areas.

Independent Development Trust (IDT) spokesman Jolyon Nuttall confirmed yesterday that the trust, together with other agencies, had discussed "funding reconstruction in areas where genuine peace initiatives have been installed" with the peace committee.

He said IDT trustees had approved a "substantial" amount of money to be used for such activities. These reconstruction activities would be co-ordinated by the peace committee.

Development Bank of SA and Kagiso Trust sources also confirmed that there had been discussions with the peace committee about assisting victims of violence.

The committee said some money had been received from the agencies.

It could not be established yesterday how the money was going to be used, but the source said a national peace accord subcommittee on socio-economic matters would meet today to work out the details.

SACC concern over its pro-ANC image

B/Days 7/7/92

(304)

DURBAN — The SA Council of Churches (SACC) could not afford to be perceived as taking sides with any political group and had to examine why some people saw it as the "ANC at prayer", SACC president Khoza Mgojo said yesterday.

Mgojo made the remarks during an opening address at the SACC's national conference at Natal University in Durban.

The SACC's integrity had to be beyond question and it could not afford to be seen taking sides politically.

"We shall need to examine why we are perceived as 'the ANC at prayer'. I myself feel that there is no truth in this. But whether this is true is not the point. What is important is that we are perceived that way."

Mgojo explained that the SACC had condemned and would continue condemning "whatever forces take human life to be cheap".

The SACC's message to different political parties needed to be clear: "They need not kill their fellow brothers and sisters in order to convince them."

Mgojo said many people had wished the SACC's death as they felt it had achieved its purpose after political parties were unbanned and political prisoners freed.

However, he pointed out that the SACC had gone to great pains to convene a gathering of most of the country's political leaders to sign a peace accord last year.

Mgojo said President F W de Klerk had stopped short of confessing to the sins of apartheid because he knew that if he did, he would have to compensate those who had suffered under the ideology.

He said De Klerk wanted to forget the past and "not keep raking it up".

"But you cannot have reconciliation in this way ... to attain reconciliation one must first confess the wrongs done to others in order to receive forgiveness. Only then can there be redemption and reconciliation."

Mgojo said De Klerk viewed apartheid as a mistake, not a crime which had done millions of black people grievous injury. He said the real foundation for a brighter future lay in forgiveness and acceptance. — Sapa.

HANG ON
ALCATEL
BUSINESS SYSTEMS

Chikane raps govt 'iron fist'

B|Day 8/7/92

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Government's determination to deal with the threat of mass action with an iron fist showed it was prepared to let SA slide into civil war rather than let people participate fully in their country's government, SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said yesterday. (304) (23)

He told the SACC conference that "the ease with which they mobilised the army to deal with the threat of mass action reminded me of what government said at one stage last year — that they had the capacity to stop any negotiated settlement which fell outside their bottom lines".

Chikane said the deadlock at Codesa II proved that government feared democracy in SA. The constraints the NP tried to put on the democratic process showed it was not yet ready to allow a democratically-formulated constitution produced by an elected constitution-making body.

Chikane said the deadlock was possibly the result of a government "double agenda" of de-stabilising its opponents while entrenching white power. (23A)

Government was using violence to destabilise its opponents, Chikane said.

If this failed, he said, government's "Plan B" involved portraying a changed SA to the world.

Sapa reports that Chikane told a news briefing the SACC had been perceived to be ANC-aligned because it had been fighting for the same goal.

He said the church should not take party political sides but could not be neutral when it came to justice.

Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches

"I am sure by now that all will agree that the Codesa 2 deadlock has become the litmus test of whether the Government has come to terms with the consequences of a democratic process ..."

The Rev Frank Chikane

SACC man warns over the ongoing violence

Sowetan 8/7/92

304

Sowetan Correspondent

■ Demands must be met or attempts to force it out and withdraw the Olympics' team starts:

A MAJOR clash between the church and the State is looming on a number of issues including the ongoing violence, the deadlock in negotiations and "illegal murders that the apartheid State has been involved in".

This became clear yesterday on the second day of the annual conference of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) in Durban.

In his report, SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane proposed that "in the case of both Government corruption and murders, a broad-based campaign" be launched to force the Government to address these matters effectively or resign.

He said a deadline given by churchmen to the Government to do certain things towards curbing violence by July 15 was threatened.

If the Government failed to meet the organisation's demands, church leaders would be sent to a number of key countries to campaign for pressure to be brought on it.

The SACC would also call on the South African team to withdraw from the Olympics, failing which a call would be made on the world community to ensure the team is expelled. This applied to the planned international rugby as well.

Chikane said the country faced one of its worst crises. But it was offered the opportunity by local and international societies to ensure that a just democracy was achieved.

Democratic process

"I am sure by now that all will agree that the Codesa 2 deadlock has become the litmus test of whether or not the De Klerk Government has come to terms with the consequences of allowing a democratic process to take its course," he said.

He said the Government's pronounced determination to deal with the threat of mass action with an iron fist showed it was prepared to let the country slide into a civil war rather than let democracy take its course.

Chikane said the country had been rocked by exposures of large-scale Government involvement in corruption and murders in the past year.

"The reports of the Pickard Commission on Corruption in the Department of Development Aid and the latest report of the Melamet Commission on the running of the Motor Vehicle Accident Fund are just the tip of the iceberg of theft and corruption in virtually every arm of Government and the 'independent' homelands," he said.

"....We as churches have a moral obligation to condemn such acts of corruption and question whether or not a racist and an illegitimate Government should be entrusted with taxpayers' money, especially when it redistributes it in a discriminatory way."

The revelations of Inkatha-Uwusa secret funding and of the Goniwe murders showed how the Government resorted to criminal activity when expedient.

On the issue of violence, he said he would ask the SACC national conference delegates to consider, for appropriate action, a statement sent to the Government setting the July 15 deadline.

The conference ends on Friday.

Rhema acquires status

THE SA Council of Churches, meeting in Durban for its national conference, yesterday awarded Ray MacCauley's Rhema Bible Church observer status after querying its past links with government. (304)

One of the delegates said the Rhema Church was known to be closely associated with government "at a critical time in the witness of the SACC".

16/7/92

SACC searches its soul on its political role

By CARMEL RICKARD

SOUL-SEARCHING about the role of the "mainstream" churches during the current political impasse dominated the South African Council of Churches' annual conference in Durban this week.

A crop of resolutions to be debated today asks delegates to take far-reaching decisions about how the SACC will push for change.

One draft resolution proposes that the SACC leadership should halt all further meetings with members of the government, as "communication" does not appear to help bring about change and merely gives Pretoria legitimacy.

Another draft resolution urges that members of the churches belonging to the SACC should support all actions aimed at ending the present political dispensation as soon as possible. If passed, this could throw the weight of church members behind the mass action campaign of the African National Congress, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the South African Communist Party, which the church leadership has already promised to back.

Underlying a number of the proposed resolutions and some of the discussion was the continuing debate over whether the church should play a mediating role or the role of "speaking with a prophetic voice" — or both.

Other resolutions still to be debated included a call to members of the security forces, who might have information about destabilisation, to come forward and speak the truth. Another resolution relates to withholding taxes, or portions of tax, to indicate disapproval of the way in which the government spends state income.

A clear sign of the SACC's deep mistrust of the government was the response of one of the discussion groups to a proposed new Bill. The Internal Peace Institutions Bill deals with the National Peace Secretariat and dispute-resolving committees at local and regional level. It also provides for remuneration to those involved in the work of the commission.

Several speakers yesterday raised severe misgivings about the government's motives in proposing the Bill. One warned the state was trying to set up a network of paid informers. Yet Methodist Bishop Stanley Mogoba, vice-chairman of the National Peace Committee, said the committee had asked that financial help be provided for grassroots peacemakers, many of whom had to take time off work to attend meetings. He said problems should be raised with the secretariat so that action could be taken to modify the proposed legislation.

In his presidential address at the start of the conference, Methodist Bishop Khoza Mgojo urged that the conference consider how the SACC had come to be perceived as "the ANC at prayer". He said that if the SACC was to be effective, it could not afford to be perceived as taking sides with any political group. However, the SACC had to condemn "what needs to be condemned", regardless of which group was responsible.

He said the different political groups had to be told clearly by the church that "they need not kill in order to convince ... They say they kill in order to expand democracy — but how can they bring democracy to those they have killed?"

Mgojo also addressed strong words to the government, saying many had died at the hands of the security forces and "mysterious murderers".

Leading country's churches to new society

304 083 STAR 2017192

Dr Frank Chikane has been general-secretary of the SACC for five years. He was interviewed by CHARLES VILLA-VINCENCIO.

FIVE years ago, this month, the Rev Frank Chikane was appointed general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches — an appointment that did not enjoy unanimous support.

Suspended from the ministry of the black Apostolic Faith Mission for his political activities, Dr Chikane had been detained and tortured often. Elected to the Transvaal executive of the UDF, he was also involved in civic organisations.

In 1985 he was arrested and charged with terrorism. Acquitted, he went into hiding during the 1986 state of emergency and left the country illegally at the end of 1987. Before his return to South Africa six months later, he wrote: "My decision to return looks senseless, futile, suicidal, inconsiderate, stupid ... I cannot defend this ..."

Many within the church regarded him as being too political for the reconciling role expected of the SACC. After the bombing of Khotso House, a year after Dr Chikane's appointment, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said he had opposed the appointment but "now I am convinced we were right".

Dr Chikane said he realised that he was moving into a bureaucratic position and "I had to prove that I was not the kind of activist who simply wanted to demolish and destroy". His experience of democratic grassroots politics stood him in good stead.

In his job interview, he was asked whether he thought he could maintain the devotional life of the SACC. "I told them that there is a pendulum in the church that swings between the love of God and the love of neighbour, and that my concern is that the church at times becomes so engrossed in the spiritual side of things, that it forgets to give practical effect to the creation of a decent society."

When he was in prison, and tortured there, he discovered the spiritual power and political importance of seemingly conservative, traditional religious concepts. "Then to remember that although your tormentors can kill the body but not the soul, you acquire a new sense of resolve. And when you remember that God's will ultimately prevails on Earth, you discover an inner resource that enables you to hold firm to those basic principles that landed you in prison.

"This kind of spirituality is vastly different to the religiosity some people talk of ... for me, to be a Christian is to be engaged in the struggle against apartheid and for a new society."

Moved by the recent violence, Dr Chikane insists: "The time has come to name the devil." He is concerned about secret formations within the security forces.

He is in favour of multiparty control of the security forces and an international monitoring force, without which the country could "go the way of Lebanon".

Initially he felt strongly that the churches should have observer status at Codesa, but he is grateful it did not happen. "It frees us from the compromises that are part of negotiations, allowing us to be more prophetic and critical ..."

There was a time when the prophetic church looked to the liberation movements as the voice of the oppressed. Today, with the ANC negotiating for power, he is beginning to feel that "the cause of labour, the unemployed, women and other groups, whose concerns can so easily be forgotten in any encounter between the main players, is where we need to look to discern the will of God. We must be in critical solidarity with those who the Bible calls 'the least' — recognising that this group often changes from one situation to another ..."

He says he will be ready to go back to prison when injustice is meted out by blacks against whites.

Having had his status as a minister restored in 1990, Dr Chikane serves a congregation in Naledi, Soweto. "People call it the Wild West. It is a place of poverty, violence and oppression. It's a good place to ground one's theology," says Dr Chikane. □

● *Professor Charles Villa-Vincencio is a professor of religious studies at the University of Cape Town.*

Frank Chikane ... "For me, to be a Christian is to be engaged in the struggle against apartheid and for a new society." Many within the church initially regarded him as being too political, making him unsuitable for the reconciling role expected of the SA Council of Churches.

NEWS SACC issues code for conduct in mass action ● Two shot by police as protest turns ugly

Mandela heads a march on Pretoria

Sowetan 31/7/92

■ Response sought to the ANC's demands: (304)

By Ike Motsapi and Themba Molefe

ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela will lead a march to the Union Buildings next Wednesday during the week of mass action.

ANC general secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa said the march was intended to get responses to the organisation's 14-point demands made to the Government.

The South African Council of Churches issued a code of conduct for mass action after consultations this week with the Government, trade union federations and political organisations.

Workers' Organisation for Socialist Action said it supported "any mass action that is directed towards the goals of addressing immediately the economic and social misery of the black working people".

The National Education Co-ordinating Committee called on all involved in the education sector to observe the two days of the general strike but said everybody should return to work on Wednesday.

(Naposa) warned pupils, parents and teachers that "time lost through mass action will never be regained".

All ready for tonight's premier Reef pageant, The Miss Soweto '92, at the Standard Bank Arena in Johannesburg, are: Thandi Rabebe, Hope Shezi, Grace Tsimile, Nomsebenzi Noboza, Michelle Molatlou, Fikile Simelane, Bridgette Skosana, Lendy Mswana, Zanele Mahlangu and Daphne Seshabela. Singer Brenda Fassie will take care of entertainment. Pic: VELI NHLAPO

Priests for peace ... Archbishop-elect Wilfred Napier (right) fields questions after the church delegation held discussions with the ANC this week

Photo: KEVIN CARTER

Churches' code for mass action

By PAT SIDLEY

CHURCH leaders from a wide spectrum of churches have drawn up a code of conduct for the period of mass action which they have negotiated with various political groups either taking part or not participating in the action.

The code has been seen by all political groups in the country, though not by the security forces. Although it has not necessarily been agreed to by all who have seen it, all the elements in the code fall within the terms and agreement of the National Peace Accord, according to South African Council of Churches spokesman Bernard Spong.

This means that the churchmen involved in drawing it up believe that all those bound by the Peace Accord will be bound by the code.

The document assumes that "everyone wants progress towards democracy and the end of violence" and states that "actions such as stayaways and marches are being undertaken by some organisations as ways of realising this objective".

A main thrust of the code is that all people should be free to choose what they want to do for peace and democracy, "without fear of intimidation" and respecting the right of people to hold differing views.

Among the points in the code are:

●Those who want to stay away from work or protest in public must be allowed to do so.

●Those who choose to work and not demonstrate must be allowed to do so.

●No weapons of any kind should carried during public demonstrations.

●Protest organisers should see to it that people are informed and disciplined, and must make their plans clear before each protest.

●Employers should deal with the stayaway with "sensitivity and make all efforts to reduce any potential for conflict or violence".

●People employed in emergency services should not be stopped from performing duties aimed at saving lives.

●Journalists should not be interfered with while they are covering the events.

●Security forces must uphold the right of peace protesters and must not interfere with peaceful gatherings, marches, etc. They should also act impartially in protecting people either participating or not participating in protest action.

●The government "must act in such a manner that peace, reconciliation and stability shall speedily follow any period or event of protest."

THE WEEKLY MAIL

Published by M&G Media, Pty Ltd, cnr Frederick and Smal streets, Johannesburg.
Printed by Caxtons, cnr Bloomberg and Commando Roads, Industria.
Editorial comment in this issue by Anton Harber. Newsbills by Irwin Manoim.
Headlines and sub-editing by Laura Yeatman.
All of 104 Frederick Street, Johannesburg.
Phone: Editorial: 334-2400

VACANCY

THE MACRO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH GROUP (MERG)

MERG was set up by the Democratic Movement (ANC, COSATU, and some civic structures) in conjunction with a consortium of Universities (Western Cape, Fort Hare, Durban Westville, Witwatersrand and the University of the North) to;

- undertake macro-economoc policy research
- through training and capacity building programmes, redress racial and gender imbalances in economic policy furmulation and implementation
- establish a National Institute for Economic Policy (NIEP) which will service the Democratic Movement and
- monitor economic developments in the South African Economy

The MERG Office is recruiting an

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

whose tasks will include;

- assisting the MERG Coordinator with all administrative and management functions
- preparing reports and documents
- organising workshops, seminars and meeting and
- responsibility for financial accounts

The Candidate will have;

- 3-5 years experience in a similar position
- post-matric professional qualifications
- familiarity with and sympathy for the aims and objectioves of the Democratic Movement
- computer skills in word-processing and management systems
- the ability to organise and work with other people.

All applications should be sent to:

The coordinator, MERG
PO Box 32848, Braamfontein, 2017
Before the 25 August 1992

... AND LAST-DITCH ATTEMPTS TO AVERT IT

Churchmen urge govt to break the deadlock

W|Mail 31|7-6|8|92

Church leaders were involved in delicate shuttle diplomacy to get negotiations back on track this week.

By **PAT SIDLEY**

THE government holds the key to the breaking of the deadlock in negotiations, says Dutch Reformed Church assessor Professor Johan Heyns.

This week Heyns was among a broad range of church leaders who undertook a complicated round of "shuttle diplomacy" aimed at helping break the deadlock and defuse what they see as threatening chaos during next week's general strike.

The last of the round of meetings took place early yesterday morning when Heyns, South African Council of Churches (SACC) general secretary Frank Chikane, Methodist Bishop Peter Storey and Catholic Archbishop-elect Wilfred Napier met cabinet ministers Gerrit Viljoen and Roelf Meyer.

According to Heyns, the group was taking back to the government the views they had heard earlier in the week from African National Congress president Nelson Mandela and trying to impress upon the government how important it was that it act in such a way that the ANC perceived enough movement to come back to the negotiating table.

Heyns stressed to *The Weekly Mail* that he, along with the other church leaders who have been involved in talks for several weeks, believed that the government and the state president, because of the authority vested in them, had to make the moves to break the logjam.

"They are in power, they should act now," he said. Heyns believes that among the most important things the government has to deal with are the recommnedations of the Goldstone Commission and demands to deal with the "hostel problem".

SACC spokesman Bernard Spong added that the issues also included the carrying of dangerous weapons and that appropriate action should be taken against security forces involved in illegal covert actions.

The church delegation had stressed to President FW de Klerk and then again to the two cabinet ministers yesterday that an elected body should draw up the constitution within a limited time frame.

Heyns told *The Weekly Mail:* "We are hoping that President de Klerk will react in such a manner that it will satisfy the ANC."

He believed it was possible that if enough movement was made, Mandela would appear on television on Sunday night to address the nation in a similar way to De Klerk.

Heyns said that in the meeting with De Klerk earlier this week the church delegation had tried convince him that he had to move and that he should address the nation — a point De Klerk said at the time he would work on.

Heyns said it was his perception that De Klerk and his colleagues were very deeply aware of the seriousness of the situation.

The group of church leaders — which includes charismatics, "mainstream" churches, the SACC, Catholics and the DRC — has been involved in the complicated talks for several weeks now and has been used extensively by business, labour, and politicians to have their varying views communicated to one another.

The group used sub-committees so that politicians could be reached by the clergy they were most likely to listen to. Heyns and DRC colleagues spoke to the government; Rhema representative Ron Steele spoke to Inkatha; and the SACC churches spoke to the liberation movements.

Several of the churchmen were involved in the Saccola/Cosatu talks from their inception and the church leaders have stated they believe there was enough in common between the parties to form the basis for a return to negotiations.

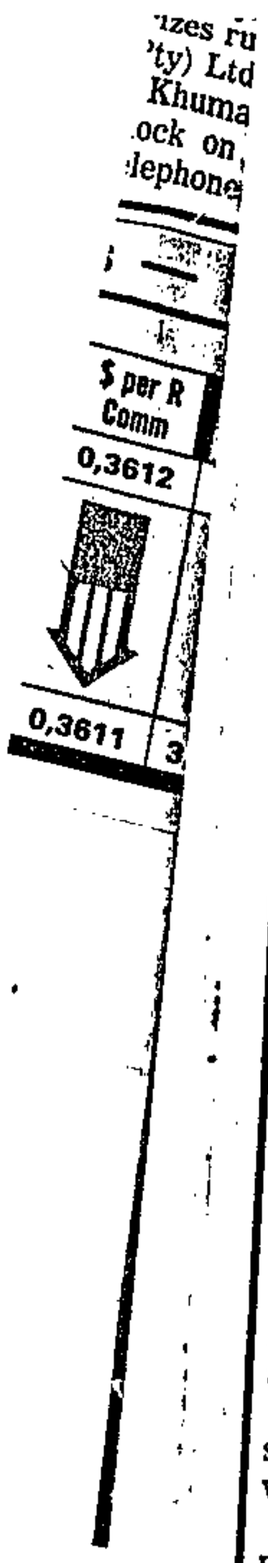
This has also helped in the drawing up of a code of conduct for all those involved in the programme of mass action as well as those not wishing to participate in it (see below).

Last night's *Agenda* viewers will have seen a remarkable display of unity from church ministers who have sat across the political divide for several decades, but have participated in this week's "shuttle diplomacy". Heyns and the anti-apartheid campaigner he drummed out of the DRC, Reverend Beyers Naude, gave remarkably similar answers to ticklish questions of the church's role and perceptions of the current crisis.

Both stressed the need for the government to move urgently. Both men stated that nobody saw mass action as an end in itself but as a means to compel the government to remove the obstacles to negotiations.

Heyns said he believed that differences between political groups in the country may not be as far apart as it seemed — the differences were largely in perception.

"The church has a role to play in breaking these perceptions," he told *The Weekly Mail.* "We hope we've managed to do this."



World church move on SA

BI DAY 14/8/92

PATRICK BULGER

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday announced a new world church initiative aimed at monitoring violence, negotiations and a future election in SA. (304)

SACC justice and social ministries department director John Lamola said the monitoring programme would be the first international monitoring initiative in SA. He said the initiative had the backing of all the major parties, including government. (28)

The first team of 10-13 people would arrive in SA next month. The teams would comprise members of the international ecumenical community. The programme was agreed to this week at a meeting of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, attended by an SACC delegation.

The Ecumenical Monitoring Programme will be based in four regions, the PWV, Natal, eastern Cape and the western Cape.

Monitoring teams will spend between four and six weeks in SA. (350)

Their goals would be to provide a mechanism to monitor violence, to monitor and report on the negotiations, and to assist with the electoral process.

The SACC said the programme would constitute a permanent presence in SA.

GDP B/D

Door sh

Premiums set to rise sharply

B|DAY 17/8/92

LIFE insurance policy premiums particularly for young people will increase because of AIDS, a spokesman for Southern Life said at a seminar on AIDS yesterday in Johannesburg.

The insurance industry had recognised that the HIV virus, which can lead to full-blown AIDS, "is going to become a killer of young people in a big way", Paul Truyens said.

The industry's ability to provide life assurance to the average man in the street might become endangered, he warned, unless it introduced changes.

Testing applicants for the HIV virus itself would become common.

"The second thing that will happen is that there'll be a steady increase in the premiums that young people will have to pay.

"Even though a young person might be tested negative and is given life assurance, the younger he is the more likely it is he might still become positive because he has not changed his (social) behaviour." — Sapa.

SACC probe into ANC under way

B|DAY 17/8/92

304

PATRICK BULGER

AN SA Council of Churches (SACC) team which plans to visit ANC camps to test claims of maltreatment and disappearances also wants to inspect government installations used in the covert war against the ANC.

SACC Justice and Social Ministeries director John Lamola said the SACC had been given the go-ahead two months ago to begin interviewing people who claim family members had gone missing in ANC camps in Africa. The ANC had camps in Angola and still has a presence in Uganda and Tanzania.

Lamola said the SACC was planning to visit the ANC's camps once a full list of missing people had been drawn up. He said the SACC team had been in contact with a number of ANC dissidents who had returned from exile complaining of maltreatment.

"Our intention is to go with a list of names. The visit will involve international church figures," Lamola said.

He said the visit to the camps, permission for which was granted by ANC president Nelson Mandela last week, would probe alleged human rights violations committed by the ANC in exile.

"We have stood against human rights violations of the apartheid regime. We should not overlook what has happened outside the regime," he said.

Lamola said the SACC wanted to visit government installations used during the undercover war against the ANC, in particular Vlakplaas police camp, which renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee said was used as a base for attacks on anti-apartheid figures.

Meanwhile, the commission of inquiry appointed by the ANC to investigate conditions in its camps had not completed its report and would sit for another day, a source close to the commission said.

The source denied that the commission had named ANC administrative official Mzwai Piliso as being primarily responsible for abuses in the camps.

The source said the commission's terms of reference were limited to an investigation into conditions of detention, allegations of maltreatment and complaints about loss of property.

The ANC said a report would be submitted to Mandela and that there would be no comment on the issue until he had studied and made public its findings. The ANC said it had committed itself to publicising the findings when it set up the commission.

Buthelezi issues fresh appeal on peace to ANC

B|DAY 17/8/92

MSINGA — Inkatha president Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday issued a fresh invitation to ANC president Nelson Mandela to join him in a bid to end the carnage in the country.

Addressing the people of Msinga and neighbouring districts in Natal, Buthelezi also rejected the concept of a troika consisting of him, Mandela and President F W de Klerk ruling the country.

"I want no alliance with the ANC ... All I have said is that unless Dr Mandela, Mr de Klerk and myself come together to combat violence, violence will flourish.

"I say today to Mandela yet again, act against the violence with me. I say to him, have the courage to go back to your very own suggestion that you and I should share platforms to combat the violence.

He also slammed the ANC's withdrawal from Codesa. "The going is going to get tough because of political tensions created by the ANC's refusal to go back to the negotiation process."

Meanwhile, eight people were wounded in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg, when attackers armed with AK-47 and R-1 rifles fired on the police but missed their target, wounding bystanders instead.

The wounded were treated at a clinic in the township.

On Saturday, two bodies were found, police said in their daily unrest report. One had been shot and another hacked and stabbed to death.

On Saturday night a commuter was shot dead and another seriously wounded when they were attacked by unidentified gunmen on a train in Soweto between Phomolong and Dube stations.

No arrests were made.

Two bodies with hack wounds have also been found at Ivory Park, Midrand, where a taxi war claimed four lives last week.

RECONCILIATION OR REVOLUTION? The Struggle for the Church in South Africa, by Rachel Tingle (Christian Studies Centre, R30)

Simplistic argument fails to convince

B/DAY 17/8/92.

THIS book from British journalist Rachel Tingle offers a polemical approach to the role of the church in SA. The main thrust of her argument is that the SA Council of Churches (SACC) and the Institute of Contextual Theology "have contributed to the climate of violence . . . ever since autumn 1984".

Sections of the church in SA, she argues, "have sympathised with the liberation movements to such an extent that they have either turned a blind eye to the methods such organisations have been prepared to employ to gain political power, or have developed a theology which actually justifies violence".

She traces with lucidity the role of the World Council of Churches and its Programme to Combat Racism in encouraging a form of theology which supports radical political action in SA. In the 1980s this led to the SACC publishing the Kairos Document and the Road to Damascus which, she says, rejected a reformist solution in SA and argued that Christians should not be working for peace and reconciliation but should participate in "the struggle for liberation and justice".

Tingle cannot avoid entering into theological debate, but here she is simplistic and pedestrian. Her chapter on "Radical Theology" is littered with repetitive quotes which do not do justice to the complexity and importance of the debate.

She paints a Manichean picture of a church divided into two camps — one, principally represented by the SACC, advocating "contextual theology" rooted in the here and now, and the other advocating individual salvation and greater remove from the political quagmire.

In so doing Tingle subscribes to the myth that the church has never been anything other than "contextual". In fact, ever since Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity in the fourth century, the church has been an arm of the state, blessing kings and relentlessly pushing Paul's doctrine of "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities".

And in Afrikaner nationalism, faith and politics have been intertwined for at least as long as they have been in the liberation movement, with the Dutch Reformed Church providing much of the moral bedrock upon which apartheid managed to flourish.

Where Tingle's book is more instructive is in the way she has gathered together information from disparate sources regarding the income and expenditure of the SACC.

Between 1987 and 1990, more than 98% of its funds were derived from overseas, with the largest contributors being the Scandinavian countries. There were also significant contributions from British charities such as Oxfam, Christian Aid and the Catholic Fund of Overseas Development.

Recipients included the ANC, which got $1,3m from the SACC, and the PAC which was given $700 000.

Tingle argues that "the radical churches have contributed to the climate of violence" by advocating the use of civil disobedience which "frequently relies on intimidation of third-parties".

The church may, on occasion, have ignored or even condoned violence, and she may be right in saying that a little less revolution and a little more reconciliation is imperative if SA is to become a stable democracy. But ultimately Tingle's argument is inadequately substantiated and fails to convince.

CHARLIE PRETZLIK

SACC slams Govt

The South African Council of Churches has accused the Government of sticking to old apartheid because of its plan to put the transfer of more than one million hectares of State land to homelands.

The SACC said if the Government went ahead with its plan, it would go back on its word not to incorporate more land into bantustans.

"It is not up to the current Government to go ahead with such schemes and plans that promise to affect the lives of many South Africans," the organisation said.

Churches rethink role in peace accord

304

w/mail 25/9-1/10/92

By PAT SIDLEY

SOUTH AFRICAN churches which helped broker the National Peace Accord are to meet today to review the church's role in the peace accord.

On the agenda for discussion is the widespread disillusionment with the accord and the possibility of churches withdrawing from it.

The meeting, hosted by the South African Council of Churches, will consist of all church-based members serving in the peace accord structures, which include local and regional dispute resolution committees, the Peace Secretariat and the National Peace Committee.

The meeting comes in the wake of a high degree of scepticism at grassroots level on the working and effectiveness of the peace pact.

According to church sources, some of whom articulated these views at the recent SACC annual conference, many feel that they cannot trust the motives of the government funding and assistance of peace accord structures.

At the SACC meeting, several delegates queried the newly passed legislation designed to beef up the peace accord structures by using government resources.

Delegates involved in the peace accord, such as Methodist Bishop Stanley Mogoba, who will be present at today's meeting, had urged the need for the legislation and for the resources — but others were more sceptical.

Additionally, the church sources say, there is a marked lack of trust on the ground in committee meetings where, as one put it, "people complain about the police, while the police are on the committee sitting there and taking notes".

Other participants in the meeting, however, will argue for the need for the accord and all its structures.

They say, from their own involvement in the structures, that where committees have worked well, violence has declined markedly.

Methodist Bishop Peter Storey, who will chair the meeting, said: "The National Peace Accord is a document quite unique in all the world, and has within it a powerful potential to bring an end to violence. But this depends on the integrity and commitment of all parties involved."

Court freezes sale in Group Areas case

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — A poor coloured family which lost its land under the Group Areas Act yesterday had a freeze placed on its resale in a court action which could act as a precedent preventing the hasty sale of state-owned land acquired under apartheid legislation.

The Legal Resources Centre, which assisted with the case, said it had important implications for the right of the state to sell land obtained as a result of the Group Areas Act. In Cape Town alone 3 241 properties are registered in the name of the Community Development Board and much has already been sold despite land reform measures introduced by government.

An agreement between John Hendricks and his grandmother Kassie, 81, and the chairmen of the development boards of the House of Representatives and Assembly, the purchaser P Basson and the Registrar of Deeds was made an order of the Cape Supreme Court.

In terms of the agreement the sale of the disputed land was frozen pending the Hendricks's application to the advisory commission on land allocation set up in terms of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act and to the Cape Administrator. BIDAY 16/10/92

Basson, a businessman and speculator, who has been provisionally sequestrated five times and finally sequestrated once, paid R23 000 in 1991 for the land which the Community Development Board bought for R39 900 from the Hendricks family in October 1984.

Certain clauses in the sales contract with the board were illegally deleted and the case has been referred to the Advocate General for investigation.

Basson sold the property in April 1992 to the New Apostolic Church (Cape) for R160 000. The Hendricks family accused the Development Board of selling the land to Basson at well below its value.

In 1982 the Hendricks's land was declared white and the board purchased it. While legally required to move most of the family continued to live there.

In July 1989 the land was reproclaimed coloured but the Hendricks family was not informed.

In December 1991 Basson informed them that he had bought the property and demanded R10 a month in rental. Some family members refused to pay and the water supply was cut off. Basson then informed them the land had been sold and that the family was to be evicted.

Clerics planning protest march in Bophuthatswana

GAVIN DU VENAGE

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) would soon hold a protest march in Bophuthatswana's capital Mmabatho to protest against the "heinous abuses and violations of human rights", Bishop Kevin Dowling said yesterday.

More than 35 organisations including human rights groups, community organisations and political groups such as the ANC, PAC, Azapo and Bophuthatswana's ruling People's Progressive Party attended a three-day conference in Bloemfontein this week on conditions in the homeland. BIDAY 16/10/92.

Conference chairman Dowling said reports and personal testimonies detailing torture, harassment, unfair dismissals, detention without trial and dispossesion through corrupt means had been heard at the conference.

A march of clerics and Christians would be held soon, on an as yet undecided date, to "bear witness" and publicly condemn the Bophuthatswana government.

The conference adopted resolutions calling on the Bophuthatswana government to repeal all "repressive" laws such as the Internal Security Act and the Prevention and Control of Mass Action Act.

Meanwhile, Bophuthatswana government spokesman Alwyn Viljoen said in a statement that the SACC allegations were "rejected in the strongest possible terms". He said Bophuthatswana was the first southern African country to have an ombudsman and a constitutionally enshrined Bill of Human Rights.

□ Sapa reports that a conference on violence in the Vaal triangle, in which community organisations are expected to take part, is being planned by the SACC for October 27.

the nation in brief

SACC to march on Bop

THE South African Council of Churches (SACC) is to stage a march - which the organisation insists will be a religious procession - in Bophuthatswana on a date still to be announced.

The SACC has also called for a national fast on that day, "especially in Bophuthatswana to reflect on the victims of the human rights abuse in the area".

The decision was taken at the SACC's three-day special conference on human rights abuse in Bophuthatswana which ended on Friday. It was held in Bloemfontein.

o

ber,

com-

new

3711B

es.

good

from

using

Lydia

0860/E/BUSINESS DAY/REV.

Govt land transfers 'must stop'

LLOYD COUTTS

THE impending transfer of administrative control of land by government to homelands could contribute to the climate of violence and instability in the country, the SA Council of Churches said yesterday.

The SACC described the decision to transfer superintendence of more than 400 000ha of former Development Trust land to six self-governing territories as "reprehensible".

It called on President F W de Klerk to halt the sale of land and proclaim a moratorium on land transfer until a representative government was in place.

"The issue of land restitution and redistribution as a component of a national land reform programme is a matter for negotiation in a representative forum.

"We warn that this step can contribute to the current climate of violence and instability. The incorporation of Claremont into KwaZulu is a case in point," an SACC statement said yesterday.

In another statement, various anti-apartheid organisations in Natal, including the Human Rights Commission and the Association for Rural Advancement, said government's decision was aimed at winning allies in a future election.

"The land question is one of the most sensitive issues to be resolved in SA. Transfer of precious and finite land assets from one apartheid bureaucracy to another will neither assist resolution of the land question nor negotiations for a new, acceptable South African constitution."

The ANC has also called for a moratorium on state land sales.

HUNT LASCARIS

Churches plan nationwide rallies to end bloodshed

BIDAY 12/11/92 (304)

KATHRYN STRACHAN

CHURCH leaders announced yesterday they would hold peace rallies around the country in an effort to end violence.

SACC general secretary Rev Frank Chikane told a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday that church leaders from various denominations around the country had decided this week that the first of the rallies would be held in Natal on a date still to be set.

Various groups had called for peace rallies in the past, he said, but none had come to fruition.

The rallies would give people the opportunity to say "enough is enough" and to call on politicians to place the interests of the nation above party political interests.

Archbishop Wilfrid Napier said: "The politicians are playing with people's lives. We are called upon to bury the dead and comfort the bereaved too often. Something must be done to halt this dreadful carnage and move on to peace."

The meeting also called for a multiparty conference by year-end, and for an election date to be fixed by end-1993.

Bishop Peter Storey said the policy of not holding elections until violence had been dealt with only gave certain groups the opportunity to stall elections by fuelling violence.

The leaders also called for the establishment of a joint peace-keeping unit which would be independent of all political "power play".

Storey said church leaders were angered by SA Institute of Race Relations director John Kane-Berman's "painful suggestions" that the church bore responsibility for the violence. A meeting with Kane-Berman would be held to discuss the allegations.

Sapa reports church leaders expressed abhorrence at the way in which the Further Indemnity Act was pushed through Parliament.

"If true reconciliation is to come to our land there must be an awareness of the specific attitudes and acts which give rise to repentance, reparation and forgiveness," said Napier. "You cannot commit a crime and forgive yourself."

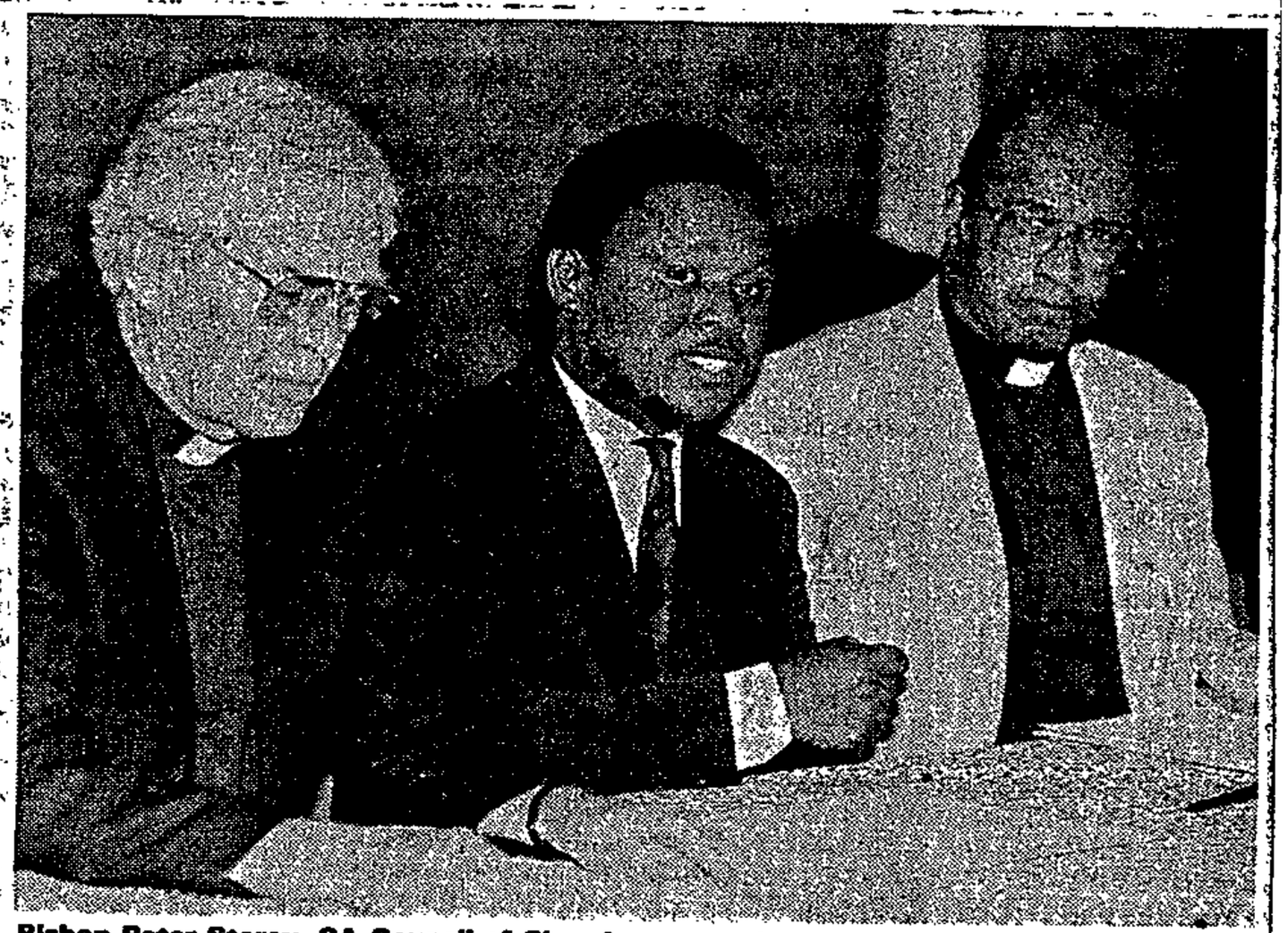
LLOYD COUTTS reports the national peace committee meeting scheduled for November 24 will not be attended by the leaders of the NP, ANC and Inkatha. Instead, permanent delegates like the ANC's Thabo Mbeki, Inkatha'a Frank Mdlalose and the NP's Sam de Beer will probably participate in laying the groundwork for resolving violence at the committee's full meeting.

The decision to hold the November 24 meeting came after the committee's executive committee members were informed of talks between committee chairman John Hall and ANC leader Nelson Mandela, Inkatha president Mangosuthu Buthelezi and President F W de Klerk on an individual basis.

It is hoped the meeting will lead to a meeting of the signatories to the national peace accord. This in turn could lead to bilateral talks between Mandela and Buthelezi, a three-way meeting including De Klerk, or full multiparty negotiations on violence.

☐ A man was shot dead at KwaMakhutha near Amanzimtoti on Natal's South Coast yesterday. The township is in the Umbumbulu district which was declared an unrest area last week. But killings continue on an almost daily basis, Sapa reports.

In KwaZulu, police said eight people had been arrested, but subsequently released, last weekend in connection with the Folweni massacre of 22 people in Mpushini south of Durban last month. The men were released because "they were not physically involved in the killings".



Bishop Peter Storey, SA Council of Churches general secretary Rev Frank Chikane and Archbishop Wilfrid Napier announce church leaders' plans to hold peace rallies around the country to end the violence.

Picture: BRIAN HENDLER

Mlangeni inquest told of illegal cash export

SUSAN RUSSELL

FORMER army intelligence operative Leon Flores illegally took money out of SA while on a mission to spy on renegade policeman Dirk Coetzee in London, a colleague yesterday told the inquest into ANC

the ANC's military wing and the IRA.

Flores, a member of a police counter-insurgency unit based at Vlakplaas

Bid to halt executions

SACC to go ahead with Bophuthatswana march

BIDay 25/11/92

RAY HARTLEY

AN SA Council of Churches (SACC) protest march through Mmabatho would go ahead tomorrow in spite of a warning from the Bophuthatswana government it was illegal, SACC human rights programme officer Charles Ndabeni said yesterday.

The march was planned to highlight human rights abuses by the homeland's government, and a threat to freedom of expression would not stand in its way, he said.

A Bophuthatswana spokesman said the SACC had not applied to the Mmabatho City Council or the homeland's Law and Order Ministry for permission for the march.

"If anyone knocks the law by attempting to stage an illegal demonstration, the appropriate action will be taken," the spokesman said.

"The fact that they are hiding behind clerical robes while obviously championing a particular political line makes this proposed action a mockery of the Christian ethic they purport to preach."

Ndabeni said the protest action was "a religious procession restricted to men and women of cloth" and not a political march.

He said no talks would be held with the Bophuthatswana government to avert confrontation at the protest because such discussions had proved to be unproductive in the past.

The public would be asked to observe a moment's silence at noon for victims of human rights abuses.

The ANC was not involved, he said.

The Bophuthatswana statement said it was ironic that such a march was planned shortly after a senior SACC official expressed concern about the perception the SACC was "the ANC at prayer".

Meanwhile DIRK HARTFORD reports the Miss World contest at Lost City in Bophuthatswana next month could become a target for protests by a range of organisations seeking to use the event to mobilise support for their causes.

The Bafokeng Action Committee is conducting a campaign to get hunger striker Christopher Makgale and other political prisoners released.

And ANC western Transvaal regional secretary George Mathuse told a meeting of the Bafokeng people over the weekend that the contest would be a target for action if the Bophuthatswana government did not meet its demands.

Bophuthatswana's State Affairs Minister Rowan Cronje said he was "saddened and disappointed by the threat", especially as Mathuse had been at a meeting between the Bophuthatswana government and the ANC where highly satisfactory progress had been made.

The SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) — backed by Cosatu — has also said it will demonstrate against the opening of Lost City and the Miss World contest unless Sun International halts the retrenchment of workers at its hotel.

Saccawu and Cosatu could also use the event to highlight their opposition to Bophuthatswana's labour law, which forbids SA unions from organising in the region.

news in brief

Sowetan 26/11/92

AWB threatens Mandela

IF an ANC government confiscated land from white farmers, meddled with white pensions, nationalised banks and other institutions and did not deliver promised fruits to its followers, Mr Nelson Mandela would be the first to be necklaced.

This was said by AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche in an address to several hundred supporters at a public meeting in the Durban City Hall on Tuesday night.

He also said his organisation would never accept an ANC government and reiterated his willingness to declare war should "boere" land be touched.

Pitiful drought relief aid

Sowetan 26/11/92

THE Government has allocated R2,3 million for drought relief in South Africa - but Operation Hunger says the grant will not last four months.

The organisation also noted drought aid was not reaching remote communities most in need of it. This had resulted in hospitals crowded with children in various stages of malnutrition, especially in Lebowa, Gazankulu and Transkei.

Distress at Bop march ban

THE SA Council of Churches has voiced its "distress" at the Bophuthatswana government's banning of a planned march by clerics through the homeland capital Mmabatho today.

"A group of unarmed ministers of religion, in their robes, carrying their Bibles, does not constitute a threat to anybody, including the security of the Bophuthatswana homeland," the SACC said in a statement. Sowetan 26/11/92

On Tuesday Bophuthatswana authorities took a hardline stand on the planned march, insisting "no such march will take place".

Bop refuses request for monitors at SACC march

RAY HARTLEY

BOPHUTHATSWANA yesterday turned down a request by the national peace secretariat to allow international observers to monitor today's SACC march through Mmabatho, secretariat chairman Antonie Gildenhuys said yesterday.

He said he was negotiating with Bophuthatswana government officials in an effort to reverse their decision.

Both the SACC and Bophuthatswana seemed determined to avoid confrontation at the march.

SACC spokesman Bernard Spong said local ministers involved in convening the march were going out of their way to "make it the gentlest of possible protests".

It is believed Bophuthatswana security forces have been given orders to deal with the protesters with kidgloves in order to avoid an international incident which would lead to sympathy for the SACC.

A government spokesman said the march had not been banned officially, but was considered illegal by the authorities.

Spong said the march would go ahead, even if the possibility of violence existed. "We believe the Bophuthatswana government does not have the right to stop us from marching," he said.

New look at hostel fences

WILSON ZWANE

THE record of understanding's provisions for security at hostels were being revised, the ANC has said.

ANC officials met Local Government Minister Leon Wessels on Tuesday to reassess the provisions, ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said. The meeting focused on how guidelines for fencing hostels identified as sources of violence could be implemented.

Niehaus said adjustments were being made to the agreement between government and the ANC, because some hostels no longer needed to be fenced as they were now peaceful.

Local Government Department spokesman Francois Jacobs said Tuesday's meeting was part of a process to prepare for a follow-up meeting with the ANC to discuss implementation of the record of understanding.

Woman disrupts inquest

SUSAN RUSSELL

THE evidence of former CCB MD Joe Verster, who is testifying in camera at the Webster inquest, was interrupted briefly twice yesterday by former women's rights campaigner Adele van der Spuy.

Van der Spuy arrived at the Rand Supreme Court stating that she wanted to testify at the inquest.

She was twice escorted out of the courtroom where Verster was testifying behind closed doors in order to protect his identity.

Van der Spuy, who said she was the ex-wife of a former judge, told lawyers and reporters there had been two attempts on her life. She accused the CCB of being responsible and claimed she could name the leaders of the "third force".

Van der Spuy left after speaking to lawyers representing various parties at the inquest.

Verster will be followed by former CCB co-ordinator Lafras Luitingh, who is to be recalled for cross-examination by P Coetzee SC, representing the SADF.

Bop police destroy clergymen's crosses

RAY HARTLEY

BOPHUTHATSWANA police yesterday broke religious crosses and tried to force priests to get into their cars when a group of 30 clergymen attempted to defy a court ban on a SA Council of Churches march through Mmabatho.

A Mmabatho court earlier granted a temporary interdict preventing the group — protesting against alleged human rights violations by the homeland government — from gathering without permission.

Counsel for the clergymen Mangel Panchia said he saw a policeman break a cross and had to intervene to prevent a priest being dragged away. Police had formed a human chain around the Lutheran church in an effort to prevent the clergy from entering it to conduct a service. After a senior police official intervened, the priests were allowed to proceed.

Four vehicles, including one carrying representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, were prevented from entering the homeland, he said.

Sapa reports the clergy were forced into their cars when they knelt to pray in a car park where they had gathered for the procession. The demonstrators shouted slogans such as: "Clear your souls, there is no democracy in Bophuthatswana," and "If you break my cross, you break my soul."

be to a strict disciplin[illegible]gration of their organisation. I find that difficult to understand."

Church heads plan more protests in Mmabatho

BDAY 30/11/92 304

RAY HARTLEY

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) was planning further protest action in Mmabatho in the coming weeks after security force action against a procession there on Thursday, an SACC spokesman said at the weekend.

It is believed a senior SACC official met Bophuthatswana government officials on Friday to protest formally against the breaking of religious crosses during the march.

Pastors in the homeland were scheduled to meet over the weekend to decide on the timing and nature of future protests, the spokesman said.

"The whole affair was just the beginning. The priests are going back to Mmabatho. Those policemen do not even respect the status of ministers.

"Religious artefacts were broken and ministers were barred from entering a church; that is unacceptable," the spokesman said.

The Bophuthatswana Ministers' Fraternity, which has rejected the SACC's protests in the homeland, was a front used by the homeland's government for propaganda purposes, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope said at the weekend efforts to undermine local government in the homeland would be "ruthlessly stamped out".

Speaking at the opening of new urban council offices in Lehurutshe, Mangope said Bophuthatswana security forces stood behind the councils "in the noble course they are charting towards the completion of the democratic infrastructure".

He said Bophuthatswana officials found guilty of corruption would be dealt with ruthlessly.

LIMITED OFFER!
HALVE YOUR COPY

Assurance for whites

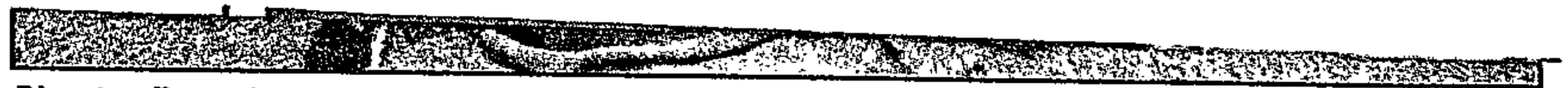
SA COUNCIL of Churches general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane assured white South Africans yesterday they would not be victimised by the majority in a new democratic constitution. (304)

Speaking at a breakfast conference in Durban he said: "We will go to prison again, we will die again if any person gets victimised because of colour or for any reason that contradicts our commitment for justice."

Churches would take the same stand they took against apartheid if victimisation by a future government came to the fore.

8/1043 9/12/92

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
1993



Director Regardt van den Bergh with Jacques de Klerk (Bartholomew), Ivan Lucas (Philip), Charlton George (James) and Kevin Smith (John the Beloved) in the Cape this week

Helen Joseph's gift to SACC

S/Times 7/3/93

By CATHY STAGG

HELEN JOSEPH, the indomitable anti-apartheid campaigner, has left the bulk of her estate to the South African Council of Churches.

Mrs Joseph, 87, who was house-arrested and banned for many years under the Suppression of Communism Act, died on Christmas Day.

In terms of her will signed on October 18 1991, she was buried alongside her friend, Lillian Ngoyi, in Avalon cemetery, Soweto.

She appointed her friend, Mrs Ilse Wilson, daughter of advocate Braam Fischer, as her executor.

Mrs Joseph's Norwood house, which she jokingly referred to as her "Soweto four-by-four", was left to the SACC, but the contents of the home will be distributed among her friends.

She asked that the capital realised be used for the "education and advancement in life of disadvantaged children". Mrs Joseph gave about R23 000 to six of her close friends and companions.

Born Helen Beatrice May Fennell in England in 1905, Mrs Joseph was the daughter of a well-to-do civil servant.

She arrived in South Africa in 1931 and married, but divorced soon after the war.

She lived in South Africa for 20 years before becoming a political activist after taking a job as the medical-aid secretary of the SA Garment Worker's Union in Durban.

It was here that she also became the lover and political associate of militant union leader Solly Sachs.

A Defiance Campaign volunteer, she was a good organiser and orator if not a good committee member; she was reluctant to accept views which differed from her own.

Her crowning achievement was the 1956 march of 20 000 women on Parliament. (304)

She played a prominent role in the ANC-aligned Federation of South African Women as well as the white Congress of Democrats.

She always described herself as a "Freedom Charter socialist".

Throughout her life, particularly over the past two decades, she was a deeply committed Christian.

SPECIAL AIRFARES

in brief

Bowden 19/4/93 (304)

destructive public arguments be replaced with an intense focus of energy and attention on moving forward in the negotiations process. We believe that the swift establishment of an early election date would be most beneficial to the people in particular. We fervently hope that this avenue will be pursued with all diligence and care."

SACC: work together

Sowetan 19/4/93

THE South African Council of Churches has called on all political leaders and organisations to work "assiduously and co-operatively" on a just and speedy political settlement in South Africa. (304)

It said in a statement: "We urge that

WESTERN PROVINCE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
(Branch of S.A.C.C.)

Pray for the peace of the city

304

South 24/4-28/4/93

May those who love you prosper
Peace be within your walls
And prosperity in your homes.
For the sake of these my friends,
we shall pray.
Peace be within you
From Ps 122

In this time of mourning when the shadow of death hangs over us and when so many people in our city experience pain, we need to hear the words of the Psalmists to rekindle within us the spirit of hope, peace and tolerance and the determination to work towards the realisation of our dream for a just and democratic nation.

Pray for the healing and peace of city and nation.

STATEMENT BY CHURCH LEADERS IN THE WESTERN CAPE ON THE ASSASSINATION OF MR CHRIS HANI

PREAMBLE:

We express shock and outrage at the cold blooded assassination of Chris Hani on Saturday 10 April 1993. This callous and premeditated murder was timed to shatter the Easter message of peace so urgently needed in our country at this time.

No amount of political rhetoric can explain away this dastardly act of cowardice. The role of Chris Hani in the current processof political negotiations was of vital importance making his untimely death therefore even the more tragic.

TO HIS FAMILY

We wish to convey to you our condolences. We recognise that for you, this is more than a political tragedy: a human life precious in the eyes of God, and which became precious to you as a family has suddenly been ended by the cruel hand of a murderer.

Your loss is incalculable, and we mourn with you. May the Lord who understands human pain and suffering help you to bear this loss and assist you to discover ways to remember Chris with love and pride, without the pain.

TO THE POLITICAL FORMATIONS

We view the assassination of Chris Hani as a deliberate attempt to derail the peace process. Until a thorough investigation has been conducted and an impartial finding made on the cause of his death, we hold the view that there are sinister forces at work behind this act. This is a development in the cycle of endemic violence which we view in the gravest light.

The death of Chris Hani is a national tragedy and not an occasion to elicit political mileage. We therefore call on all political and civic organisations actively to promote peace by setting up structures for reconciliation. Given the nature of our struggle and the dangers facing us all, we recognise that there will be conflicts, but ways should be found to resolve these conflicts by peaceful means.

We address a special word to the politicians and those engaged in the process of negotiating a settlement for South Africa. The death of Chris Hani is a shocking reminder of the urgency of your difficult task. The search for a political solution to the internal conflict is the only option open to the nation. We urge you in the Name of God to spare no effort, especially in the light of this tragedy and the threat of more assassinations, to achieve a settlement speedily.

TO OUR PEOPLE

We recognise that the untimely death of Chris Hani is a source of great pain, anger and frustration, and that people will want to give expression to their feeling.We are pained at the loss of a national leader.

We are angry at the system which causes such deaths and destroys our hopes for the future. We are frustrated because the expectations which people had in Chris Hani's dynamic leadership have been crushed. But our hopes for peace are not deterred.

If Chris Hani were here with us, he too would call for peace and an end to violence. In that spirit we call upon all not to do anything to negate what we have achieved and what we are struggling for.

channelling of our combined energies as a people and the resolute determination not to be sidetracked in our objectives by tragic events such as these. In our responses there should be no more loss of life. Let our pain and anger be like birth pains giving life to asociety where democracy, justice and peace will replace totalitarianism, injustice and violence.

CHURCH LEADERS

Archbishop Desmond Tutu (C.P.S.A.); Archbishop Henry (Roman Catholic Church); Bishop James Gribble (Methodist Church); Bishop McKinley Young (A.M.E. Church); Rev Lottring (Moravian Church); Ds Russel Bosman (D.R.M.C.); Rev Rod Botsis (Presbyterian Church); Bishop Quinlan (C.P.S.A.); Bishop Charles Albertyn (C.P.S.A.); Dean Bell (Lutheran Church); Rev Abe Maart (U.C.C.S.A.); Rev Chris Nissen (Reformed Presbyterian Church); Ms Maureen Arney (Religious Society of Friends); Bishop Cawcutt (Roman Catholic Church); Fr Peter John Pearson (Roman Catholic Church); Ds Herbert Brandt (D.R.C. St Stephens); Ds Jan Thyse (N.G. Sendingkerk); Ds Derrick Marco (N.G.Sendingkerk); Rev Courtney Sampson (Chairperson, W.P.C.C.); Rev Bennie Witbooi (E.O., W.P.C.C.); Dr Shun Govender (T.O., W.P.C.C.).

Church leaders plan code of conduct for elections

BY RAY HARTLEY

CHURCH leaders are planning to draft a code of conduct for political parties during elections.

A Johannesburg seminar on electoral justice, whose convenors include the SA Council of Churches and SA Catholic Bishops' Conference, will draft the code this week and "outline a procedure for getting it adopted by political parties and other relevant organisations", organisers said.

Canadian political science professor Douglas Anglin, who served as an election observer in Namibia and Lesotho, said yesterday the code could be signed by political candidates and parties.

"A commitment to the code of conduct should be a prerequisite for party registration," he said, adding that penalties including the disqualification of candidates and parties who breached the code should be considered.

An illegitimate election would be "disastrous" for investment and international confidence in SA, he said.

Churches had a "unique and special contribution" to make to the election by defining standards of morality and justice and "selling the election to the voters".

SA should avoid the "administrative chaos" which characterised recent elections in Lesotho, where some polls had opened up to a day late, he said.

Church leaders recommend 16 as voting age

RAY HARTLEY

CHURCH leaders have strongly recommended that all South Africans aged 16 and older be allowed to vote in elections for a constituent assembly.

The recommendation was made during a three-day conference of church leaders convened by the SA Council of Churches, SA Catholic Bishops' Conference and the World Conference on Religion and Peace.

Institute for Contextual Theology gene-ral secretary Fr S'mangaliso Mkhatshwa said the inclusion of the youth would demonstrate they were being taken seriously. "Sixteen-year-olds have been actively involved in the struggle for liberation. We just feel that at the age of 16 people are given fairly serious responsibilities."

World Conference on Religion and Peace spokesman Gerrie Lubbe said the conference had formulated a draft code of conduct for elections.

Its clauses included the right to vote in freedom, secrecy and without fear; the right to hold political meetings without threats by opponents and to express political views without being interrupted or insulted; the right to attend such meetings; that no one should use language encouraging hatred or violence; that everyone should be given clear information on voting; that election rules should be published in all languages; and that there should be an independent electoral commission.

Lubbe said the conference also agreed to convene a "panel of religious leaders for electoral justice", which would monitor "every aspect of the electoral process, from the announcement of a date for the country's first nonracial elections, to the post-elections period".

Sowetan 28/5/93

The terror of death row

304

By Ruth Bhengu

DAISY Modise (34) does not talk about her feelings easily. In fact, it is near impossible to get her to express emotion about anything.

Even when she speaks about the years she spent on death row awaiting a date with the hangman, she does not betray any trace of emotion.

"I had resigned myself to death," is all she can say.

One would have expected a woman who has children to have kicked and screamed and clung to life with all her might.

But Modise, who has cheated the executioner and lived to tell the story, simply "accepted reality".

Set alight

It is difficult to believe her. As a matter of fact it is hard to believe that this retiring woman, who was born in rural Hammanskraal, deliberately doused another woman with petrol and set her alight.

The victim died and Modise and two accomplices, Johannes Chauke and Thomas Makhubela, were sentenced to death in Bophuthatswana. Modise spent two years on death row at the infamous Rooigrond prison.

According to Modise, who was sent to the gallows in 1986, her problems started when her clothes were stolen by certain women in her neighbourhood in the township of Soshanguve in Pretoria.

"I found out that my clothes had been stolen by some women, so I reported the matter to the comrades," said Modise.

"The comrades searched for the women and found one of them.

Lost control

"They brought her to me. When I demanded my clothes she was cheeky, so I got angry and lost control. I doused her with petrol and set her alight.

"Later, when I heard she had died, I regretted my actions."

Daisy Modise ... I doused her with petrol and set her alight.

The South African Council of Churches in Pretoria arranged local assistance for Modise and she appealed against the sentence. In 1987 her sentence was commuted to 12 years imprisonment but she was released on parole on May 3 this year. Only after she was released from jail did Modise find out that her mother had died.

"My family would not tell me because they thought I had enough problems already. They thought I would lose hope."

Modise said she was so disorientated when she came out of prison that she could not recognise the younger of her two daughters aged 11 and 14.

"I did not know my own daughter and I have been nervous since I came out of prison. When they told me I was free I did not believe it.

■ INHUMAN TORTURE *Capital punishment fight draws unlikely bedmates:*

"I refused to leave my cell. But I think the counselling that the SACC is arranging for me will help," she said.

Modise says she wants to find a job and bring up her children.

She has joined the campaign being waged by various human rights organisations against capital punishment. The campaign recently caused controversy, especially in the light of the imminent execution of two ritual killers in Venda.

Frans Netshirombeni and Wilson Nelukalo were sentenced to death in June 1990 for the murder of a child in June 1988.

Penalty should be abolished

"I think the death penalty should be abolished because sometimes people commit a crime for the first time in their lives and that should be taken into account."

Also, it is not everybody who plans a crime. Sometimes one's emotions take over," she said.

The SAAC's projects coordinator in the Justice and Human Rights Department, Mr Sandy Lebese, said member churches would intensify the campaign against the death sentence and put pressure on State president FW de Klerk not to lift the moratorium on capital punishment.

"Ritual killing is not acceptable but capital punishment is not a civilised human form of punishment"

He said the decision was taken at a recent conference of the SACC.

According to Lebese there are 283 people on death row countrywide and 10 in Mafikeng, Bophuthatswana.

He said there were no political prisoners on death row but those known as common-law prisoners.

"We picketed in front of the Bophuthatswana Embassy early this year and we are going to have more demonstrations," said Lebese.

"The parents of those on death row have become militant and they have joined the campaign."

Asked if people like the Venda ritual killers and Wit Wolf Barend Strydom, who opened fire during the lunch-time in Pretoria's city centre on unsuspecting blacks killing eight and maiming several, should not be executed, Lebese said the churches did not condone these crimes but were still against the death sentence.

The Human Rights Commission has issued a statement reiterating its long-standing call for the total abolition of the death penalty.

"The most fundamental human right of all is the right to life.

"The HRC fails to see how the deliberate taking of a life, or in this case two lives (Venda ritual killers), can compensate for the loss of another, or in any way set the matter right or prevent the recurrence of the original act.

"The HRC is of the view that in executing a person, the possibility, however remote, of any subsequent repentance, conversion or rehabilitation is irrevocably ruled out," it said.

Spokesman for Lawyers For Human Rights Mr Jodie Kollapen said his organisation wanted to clarify the fact that although it was calling for the abolition of the death penalty, it was not suggesting that the Venda ritual killers be freed.

"We are calling for the abolition of capital punishment and not the release of the two killers.

"Those are two separate issues.

"We share the outrage of the people of Venda but we are saying those who are responsible should not be punished in this manner.

"Ritual killing is not acceptable but we are saying that capital punishment is not a civilised human form of punishment," he said.

Kollapen said he wanted to dispel the impression caused by the media that his organisation was calling for the release of those on death row.

SACC will address the poor

5/7/93 Star

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Now that the church no longer had to speak for the liberation movements and their leaders, it had to speak for the poor and underprivileged, SA Council of Churches (SACC) General Secretary, Rev Frank Chikane, said yesterday.

Chikane said no political order could deliver the non-sexist and non-racist "Kingdom of God". The SACC would therefore support a new government when it was just, and condemn it should it fail to pursue the justice of God.

(304)

Chikane said the church would also address the anger of blacks and the fears of whites. "It is going to be the mission of the church to reach out to all those who have been damaged by the evil apartheid system.

Star 6/7/93

Broadcasters to fight Bill

An organisation to fight for a revamped broadcasting authority Bill was formed yesterday. Association of Broadcast Entrepreneurs organiser Alan Munro last night said that the Bill, released last week, was "designed to protect the SABC rather than provide opportunities for private radio and television". — Staff Reporter.

Star 6/7/93

Medical aid body to stay

The Representative Association of Medical Schemes is to continue operating as a voluntary body after it is dissolved by law as a statutory body in January next year. This was said yesterday by Reg Magennis, director of health policy and economics at the Medical Association of SA, who takes over next month as Rams executive director. — Sapa.

Star 6/7/93

Zionist church snubs SACC

The Zionist Christian Church has snubbed the South African Council of Churches in dismissing SACC efforts for closer links between the two bodies. This emerged yesterday at the SACC's 25th annual national conference held in Midrand, north of Johannesburg. SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said that requests for a meeting with ZCC Bishop Barnabas Lekgenyane had been refused. — Sapa.

the nation in brief

Sowetan 6/7/93

DET to cut salaries

THE Department of Education and Training has informed Soweto teachers who went on strike in May that their their salaries would be cut by R600.

In a letter sent to the teachers, DET said in part: "The Department of Education and Training applies the no work, no pay rule in instances of strikes."

Spokeman for the Soweto branch of the South African Democratic Teachers Union Mr Solly Mautjana said the DET was "declaring war" against the teachers. Mautjana asked teachers who had received the letters to submit them to the Sadtu office at Funda Centre in Diepkloof, Soweto. (335)

BBC crew shot at

BRITISH Broadcasting Corporation TV and radio crews said they were shot at with automatic weapons while covering violence in Katlehong on the East Rand yesterday Sowetan

"It was quite frightening," said news producer Milton Nkosi. 6/7/93

He said six BBC staff were interviewing peace monitors when shots were fired at them near two houses that had been set on fire and were being looted. (248)

Man dies in fire

A MAN died and 18 people were injured in a fire at the explosives and chemical company AECI's Modderfontein plant yesterday. Four of the injured suffered serious burns. The cause of the blaze in the fuse department was still being investigated, management said. One worker was airlifted to the burns unit of Baragwanath Hospital.

Three of other seriously injured workers were transferred to Rand Mutual Hospital. The other 14 suffered light burns, smoke inhalation and shock and were treated at Modderfontein Hospital.

ZCC snubs SACC

THE Zionist Christian Church has snubbed the South African Council of Churches by dismissing SACC efforts for closer links between the two bodies.

SACC general secretary the Reverend Frank Chikane told delegates at the council's 25th annual conference in Johannesburg yesterday that SACC requests for a meeting with ZCC Bishop Barnabas Lekgenyane had been refused (304)

He said the SACC was told that the ZCC's ministers council had decided that a meeting with the SACC was "not in the interest of the Zion Christian Church".

Sowetan 6/7/93

Sanctions must stay until 'NP is ousted'

Bilday 7/7/93

(304)

JONATHAN DAVIS

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday decided against calling for the lifting of economic sanctions until a transitional executive council was in place, and until joint control of all security forces had been established.

This decision, outlined in a report by secretary-general Frank Chikane, was adopted at the 25th national conference of the SACC, which started in Midrand, near Johannesburg, on Sunday.

Chikane told delegates the council's national executive committee had been prepared to call for sanctions to be lifted once an election date had been announced and a transitional executive committee established with a subcouncil to ensure "joint control of all security forces".

He said this could not happen while the NP remained in power.

The SACC was given a mandate to produce a code of investment and business conduct when the council met members of the World Council of Churches' Programme to Prevent Racism in Utrecht, Netherlands, in June, Sapa reports.

Proposals for the code of conduct were tabled for discussion at the conference yesterday.

The code is intended to address concerns that reinvestment in SA will not benefit the poor.

They are also intended to ensure equal opportunities, workers' rights and the provision of access to training and educational programmes for employees, as well as encouraging environmentally friendly business practices and the development of black-owned businesses.

The details of the code of conduct would be worked out by the conference's commission on justice and social mission today, an SACC spokesman said.

"We do not consider it a light matter to propose that the economy should continue to be denied foreign capital for what may be a number of weeks or months.

"We are, however, convinced that the economic crisis of this country cannot be divorced from, and be solved independently of, the political crisis which undergirds it.

"Morally it will be wrong to advocate an action which will only empower the present racialistic and minority government and entrench the existing unjust economic order and structures."

In his report, Chikane emphasised the need for economic justice for the oppressed in SA.

Blacks had been intentionally impoverished under apartheid, he said.

Chikane expressed concern that programmes of reconstruction and redevelopment in SA would benefit only the privileged, and that large-scale, high-impact programmes would not allow the poor to "take charge of their own lives".

He said he feared the victims of apartheid would be overlooked because the transitional executive council would have too much on its agenda.

Conference delegates also endorsed a resolution calling for the arms embargo to remain in place until a nonracial, democratically elected government was in place.

Members of the conference emphasised the need for joint control of all security forces before political transition could take place.

Chikane condemned what he called an "upsurge of right-wing racism", as well as the use of slogans such as "one settler, one bullet" and "kill the boer, kill the farmer".

NEWS Blueprint of future regions ● Desperation pushes former exiles to commit suicide

Sowetan 7/7/93

SA set to get a new look

Sowetan Correspondent

THE Government and the ANC yesterday presented their views on how South Africa should look like in the future.

The Government's blueprint calls for either seven or nine regions and that of the ANC for eight.

The familiar provinces — Cape, Natal, Free State and Transvaal — as well as the TBVC states and the independent national states will disappear.

Both the Government and ANC agree to a large extent on regions for parts of the Eastern Cape, Natal, Eastern Transvaal, the PWV region and Northern Transvaal while areas of the Western Cape, Free State, Border and Northern Cape are points of contention.

"We believe it is desirable and in their own interests for the TBVC states to be incorporated now, to be partners in the transitional executive council, and have a say in the new constitution," Regional and Land Affairs Minister Mr Andre Fourie said in Pretoria yesterday.

The ANC says in a paper to be submitted to the delimitation commission: "All bantustans must be re-incorporated into South Africa and a united country created."

Fourie told a media conference that the Government's view was that there was room for consensus with the ANC on the recommendations.

He said most people had their own ideas as to how the country should be divided.

"It is, however, surprising how similarities develop between the various parties," he added.

In its submission, the South African Chamber of Business emphasised the importance of economic considerations.

Calling for a clear statement of basic economic rights of individuals, including corporates, Sacob said it would be a grave oversight to allow such fundamentals as individual property rights to go by default.

It also called for minimising the burden on taxpayers by having the minimum number of regions.

It said regions should be viable economic units.

The South African Association of Consulting Engineers, in its submission, said regional borders should follow watershed dividing lines to facilitate water resource management.

It also submitted that borders should be selected to locate all communities with common interests in "interdependent housing areas, work opportunities, recreational facilities and places of worship" within one region.

Sowetan 7/7/93

Sad plight of ex-exiles

HUNDREDS of jobless returnees are flooding into offices of the South African Council of Churches countrywide looking for food and assistance, the SACC's national conference heard yesterday.

Delegates were told of unacceptable conditions at exile reception centres, of foreign women who returned with their South African husbands only to be abandoned, and of suicides among those who returned and could not make ends meet.

Other delegates told of exiles who could not trace relatives or find jobs and who were streaming to SACC offices for food. A warning was sounded of the possible political ramifications of the problem and the need for urgent and dramatic intervention.

"This is tragic. People who fought for liberation should be enjoying what they fought for. Their situation is an indictment on us," commented SACC president Dr Khoza Mgojo.

Facing high unemployment at home, the returnees' plight was aggravated when many did not receive all or part of promised grants due to fraud and irregularities in the now defunct National Coordinating Committee for Refugees.

About R55 million intended for the reintegration of exiles was channelled through the NCCR by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees between 1991 and late 1992.

Fraud involving about R400 000 committed through a sophisticated network of computer and bank specialists was detected, while a network of purported returnees who claimed grants on the basis of false UN identification documents was discovered.

About R206 000 of the stolen money was recovered, and charges were brought against those involved, the conference was told. — *Sapa.*

SACC unveils business code

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Council of Churches yesterday unveiled a code of conduct for businesses in South Africa.

The proposal was tabled for discussion by the SACC's 25th national conference.

The code outlines ways in which business could play a constructive role with workers and communities to lay foundations for a prosperous country.

SACC secretary-general the Rev Frank Chikane also asked the conference to endorse the maintenance of economic and financial sanctions.

The conference was also asked to ratify a proposal for a code of investment to ensure that future reinvestment empowered the disadvantaged.

In his report to the conference, Mr Chikane said sanctions could not be lifted because a transitional executive council with joint control over armed forces had not yet been established.

"We are ... convinced that the economic crisis of this country cannot be divorced from, and be solved independently of the political crisis which undergirds it," Mr Chikane said.

The proposed investment and business codes had been strongly recommended by an ecumenical task force on economic justice. Local and foreign business leaders would be asked to commit themselves to the codes. — Sapa

ing from "delusions of grandeur".

Cheques were then transferred out of SA to ... Shah would, however, investigate the matter when he arrived ...

Boycott agreement puts a stop to blockade threat

STEPHEN COPLAN

A THREATENED blockade of Warmbaths to prevent black residents from entering the town was averted this week when an agreement was reached to end a three-month consumer boycott. BDay 8/7/93

The threat was issued by a group calling itself the "taxpayers of Warmbaths", and was preceded by weeks of conflict between the town's residents and the community of the neighbouring township of Belabela. (39)

National peace secretariat mediator Saths Moodley said yesterday the agreement between the Belabela boycott co-ordinating committee, representing 11 community organisations, the Warmbaths town council and the administrator of Belabela also stipulated that a record of understanding be drawn up by police and the boycott committee.

All parties had agreed to meet to discuss marches and pickets prior to permission being granted. (278)

Moodley, who brokered the agreement, said the consumer boycott and a boycott of service charges was sparked by the arrest of 10 youths during commemoration services for slain SACP leader Chris Hani and the subsequent refusal by police to grant them bail.

In leaflets published by the "taxpayers of Warmbaths", threats were made of permanent staff reductions, compulsory leave for half of the town's workers and a blockade of the town, Moodley said.

NOKIA
MOBILE PHONES

Peace accord criticised

BDay 8/7/93

THE national peace accord was sharply criticised yesterday in discussions at the 25th national conference of the SA Council of Churches (SACC) at Midrand, near Johannesburg. (278)

The accord was labelled "toothless" and "unjust" during debate by the justice and social ministries commission. (304)

Government funding of, and influence in, the workings of the accord was criticised, and proposals were made for the establishment of an independent peace initiative, or the transfer of the accord to the auspices of the country's envisaged transitional executive authority.

There was scepticism about the appointment by government of Antonie Gildenhuys as national peace secretariat chairman on the basis that Gildenhuys's background was unknown to delegates.

The feeling was that the accord had been "hijacked" by government and had no way to deal with the "faceless" perpetrators of violence.

In a report by the ecumenical monitoring programme in SA — established in 1992 to bring international religious representatives to the country to monitor violence — mention was made also of "serious flaws" in the mechanisms of the peace accord.

"Many signatories have subsequently ignored its principles. We believe that application of the accord focuses on violations of the black community but does not hold government and its homeland structures to the same accountability," said the monitoring programme report.

SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane suggested to the conference that a call be made to the UN Security Council to adopt urgently a resolution to co-ordinate election monitoring in SA.

The submission, discussed by a conference commission, is for all international monitors to be accredited by the UN and not by a local structure. Internal monitors are expected to be accredited by an envisaged independent electoral commission agreed on at multiparty negotiations.

A UN resolution would enable local monitors to be trained by international experts, and the organising, training and deployment of local and international monitors to be co-ordinated, the commission was told.

Chikane stressed the importance of local monitors being independent from other local structures, such as the national peace accord.

The establishment of a panel of religious leaders to collectively announce election results, and intervene between political parties if the need should arise, was agreed upon at a meeting of church leaders in March, the conference commission heard.

Non-partisan voter education was already taking place under the independent forum on electoral education, which included religious groups. — Sapa.

and Thokoza.

SACC to adopt code of conduct for businesses

Bl Day 9/7/93

304

JONATHAN DAVIS

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) national congress in Midrand is expected to adopt a resolution this week aimed at introducing a code of conduct for businesses operating in SA.

The code, developed by the SACC's task force for economic matters, is aimed at ensuring reinvestment benefits the "poor and marginalised" members of society.

A draft code is expected to be debated today.

The conference last night debated a draft code of conduct for investments, and the SACC's justice and social ministeries department's promotion of the code as widely as possible.

The code includes clauses on workers' rights, equal opportunities, training and education, and working and living conditions for workers.

The code also calls for initiatives to promote job creation, consumer protection and the empowerment of black business, as well as the protection of the environment.

SACC justice and social ministeries commission spokesman Paddy Kearney said the details of the report had not been finalised, as other organisations were to be invited to comment.

Kearney said the code would be circulated among a wide range of relevant bodies, including unions, religious organisations, political parties and business organisations such as Sacob and the consultative business forum.

Earlier this week general secretary Frank Chikane told the conference that dramatic action would be needed to help blacks who had been "marginalised by design" under apartheid.

□ Fierce debate raged in the conference yesterday afternoon as delegates discussed a draft resolution condemning the national peace accord as unjust.

While some delegates felt government and big business had too much influence in the accord, to the exclusion of local communities, many were unwilling to condemn the accord without offering alternative structures.

□ The conference re-elected Khoza Mgojo as the council's president.

It elected Sheila Sisulu as senior vice-president and the Rev Frederica Goliath as vice-president.

O ye of little faith

W/Mail 9/7-15/7/93. (304)

The Apostolic Faith Mission remains divided. Whether it is over issues of race or of conservatism remains unclear.

By **PAT SIDLEY**

LIKE the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk family, black and white members of the fundamentalist Apostolic Faith Mission (AFM) are locked in a struggle over church unity.

The church has some 500 000 members, slightly more than half of them black. Of the white members, 80 percent are Afrikaans. Newly forged into a single entity, black members are now led by the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Reverend Frank Chikane.

Chikane wants unity and believes it will eventually happen — despite the fact that white AFM members were among his captors and torturers when he was detained. The same church defrocked him, partly because of his political views.

The road to unity will not be an easy one. The president of the "white" AFM, Dr Isak Burger, stresses that Chikane was elected to his position only after three rounds of voting and on a very slender majority. The issue, Burger says, is ideological and theological, not racial. And he stresses that not only the whites in the church are conservative, but many blacks.

Chikane may feel optimistic about the prospects for unity, but he understands the dynamics in his church.

"It's important to realise that the dynamic of what is happening in the white community — particularly the rightwing — affects this church as much as it affects all the other Afrikaans-speaking churches. The whole church has been under the leadership of Afrikaans-speaking people," he says.

Chikane explains that Afrikaners not only headed the white section of the church, but appointed the leader of the black section. The latter was seen as a mission responsibility and not as a church in its own right.

After the coloured division of the church had taken the initiative in the push for unity, giving an ultimatum to its white counterpart, it joined forces with the other black fragments in a move which lead this year to the formation of a separate section of the church, united, black and autonomous.

"For almost a decade," says Chikane, "the white church has spoken about its willingness to unite, but done little."

Burger unwittingly corroborates this: he said the white church had decided at least 10 years ago that it wanted to unite, but needed to come up with "a model of unity" — a term reminiscent of NGK terminology when talking about unachieved unity in its ranks.

Chikane describes the past constitution of the church as being "like apartheid, with commissioners for this or the other tribal group" to run it.

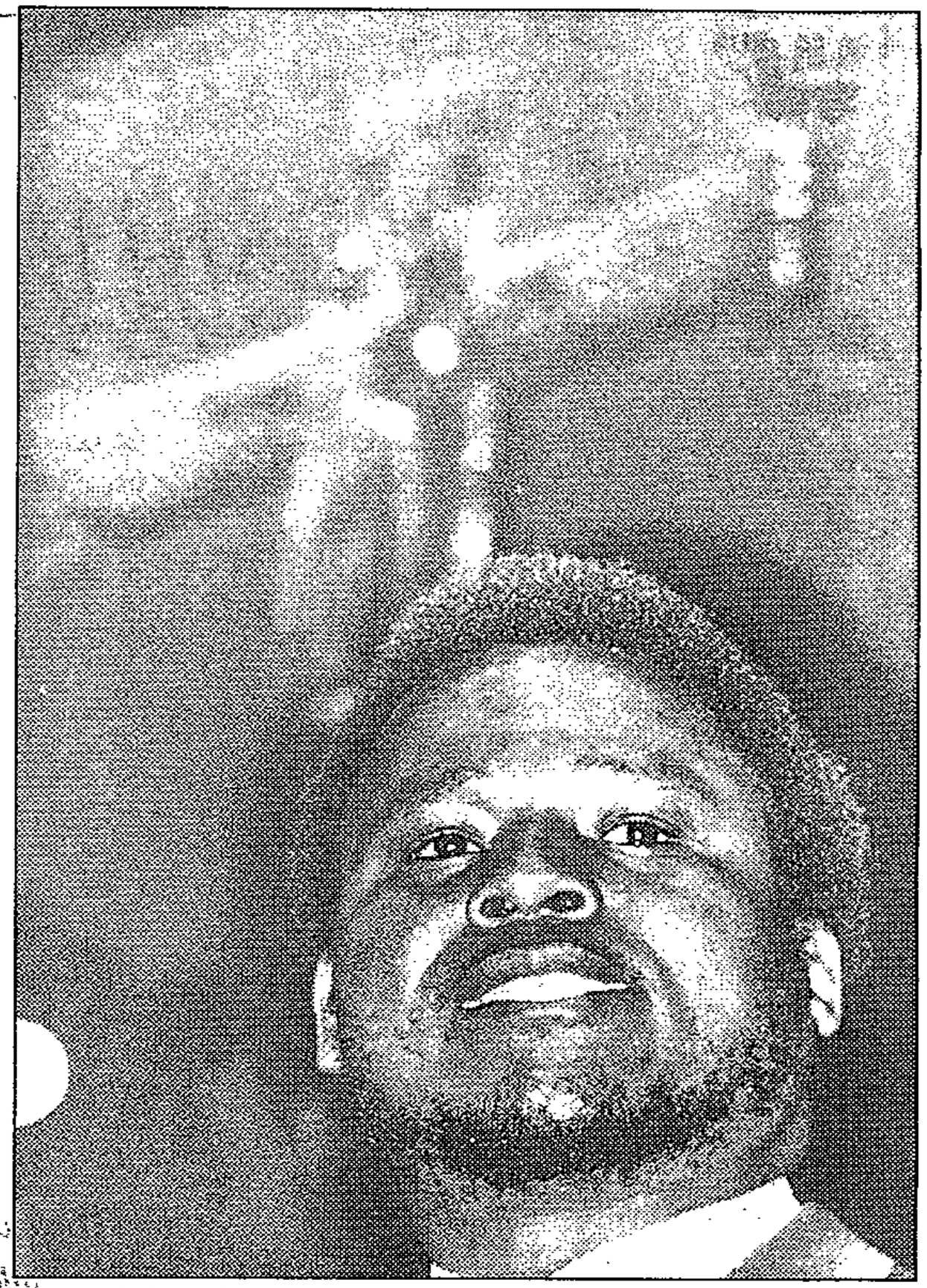
But for Burger and his whites, effectively summonsed to explain the obstacles to unity, the hardening of attitudes in the black church has been a nasty jolt. "Two things have upset us more than anything," he said. The white "Workers Council" (synod) of the church, extended its usual invitation to the black church to attend its most recent meeting and nobody pitched.

And to add insult to injury, when the black church had its historic first Workers Council meeting as an autonomous body, it did not invite the white church to attend.

If that was not enough, the procedure for discussing unity and presenting various "models" has been unilaterally ditched by the black AFM, which has invited the white church to a meeting to discuss what the problems are and how to overcome them.

What are the problems? Ninety-nine percent, perhaps all the white members are theologically conservative, as are many black adherents, Burger says. He adds that the white church has been approached by several black congregations seeking to join forces because they are uncomfortable with Chikane's apparent theological radicalism.

The crunch will come with the next meeting. "We now have to make the last attempt for unity," Chikane says.



Desperately seeking unity ... Reverend Frank Chikane
Photo: KEVIN CARTER

elessly outnumbered

Prayers to end violence

THE national conference of the South African Council of Churches yesterday fasted and prayed for the more than 95 victims of the East Rand violence. Sowetan 9/7/93

The prayer service, conducted in English and Xhosa, was led by Anglican Archbishop of Johannesburg Duncan Buchanan, as well as African Independent Archbishop TW Ntongane, Methodist Lindi Myeza and the Reverend Bongani Finca. (304)

Prayers were also said for the rightwing to commit itself to peace and to realise that a black government would not subject them to the hardships blacks had suffered under apartheid.

Earlier, it was announced that Eskom had donated R6 250 for relief to the East Rand victims — money paid by the SACC for the clergymen's lunch at the Eskom conference centre in Midrand near Johannesburg.

The conference, in a resolution on Wednesday, condemned the conflict, saying it believed the bloodshed was caused by forces outside of the townships. It called on the multiparty negotiators to urgently act to unmask the perpetrators so they may be brought under control. — *Sapa*.

Probe into local govt ethics almost done

Bilsay 12/7/93

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — The Krugel commission into local government ethics is to hold a further session before submitting its report to Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough. Commission chairman Willem Krugel said the final session, scheduled for Monday July 19 in Johannesburg, was to allow mainly for the comments and written testimonies of non-governmental organisations and members of the public.

The commission's central brief is to investigate whether it is proper or not for a serving town councillor to be involved in property developments within his own council's area of jurisdiction. It had been alleged that a conflict of interests could make councillors vulnerable to corruption.

The Krugel report is expected to have important ramifications concerning local governmen[illegible]

BLYTH

PTY) LTD

TERESTS — CAPS —
TE SWAPS —
ONS

nternationally experi
spects of the deriva
ablished client base,
s in the above pro
asury's risk manage

her information,
e, Pike or John
311118

SAFEX MEMBER
LEX: 4-20353SA
(011) 331-2119

Churches' task force to help returned exiles

Bilsay 12/7/93

JONATHAN DAVIS

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) is to create a special task force to address the plight of returning exiles, abandoned after the collapse of the National Co-ordination Committee for the Repatriation of SA Exiles (NCCR) in April.

The SACC national conference in Midrand decided on Friday to mandate a national task force, to be convened under the council's justice and social ministeries department, to draw together "all stakeholders" to solve the crisis faced by returned exiles.

The NCCR was dissolved on April 1 after several cases of fraud were uncovered within the organisation's administration.

SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said the task force would consist of clergy who, with other interested groups, would develop a programme of assistance for returned exiles.

These groups would include the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), which had been co-operating with the NCCR to assist in the repatriation of refugees. The UNHCR and the SACC had undertaken emergency operations to assist returnees since April.

Chikane said the task force would continue with many of the emergency operations, including the running of reception centres for returned exiles, and the provision of a legal protection programme.

He said the task force would also continue to make the SACC's national network of fieldworkers available to the UNHCR to help trace returnees who had not received their grants.

UNHCR representatives were not available for comment at the weekend.

The conference heard that many returned exiles around the country were unemployed and living in poverty. Some were in reception centres without any form of assistance. Delegates were concerned they might be lured into crime, or into committing acts of violence on behalf of political parties.

eight service
o Windhoek.
u a unique daily

SOWETAN Monday July 12 1993

NEWS *Marble Hall murder case verdict*

Judgment day for 4 alleged killers

Sowetan 12/7/93

By Josias Charle

THROAT SLIT Black men taken to dam where they met their deaths:

FOUR white men charged with killing two black men in Marble Hall two years ago will know their fate tomorrow when judgment is given in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

The four men — Mr Johannes du Plessis, his brother Mr Fanie du Plessis, Mr Douglas Schwartz and Mr Hermanus Duvenhage — face three charges of abduction and two of murder following the deaths of Mr Lloyd Ntsoane and Mr Fred Mogashoa, who were killed in November 1991 near the Arabie Dam in Marble Hall.

Mr Rickson Shirinda managed to escape minutes before the two other men were killed. The four accused — who worked for a security company in Marble Hall — have pleaded not guilty. Only Schwartz is in custody.

According to evidence, the four men picked up three black men who were listening to music and drinking at the side of the road on the night of the incident. The men were loaded into a van and one of the accused, Schwartz, sat at the back with them.

Along the way Schwartz allegedly fired a shot, hitting Mogashoa in the forehead. At that stage Shirinda managed to flee. The two black men were then taken to the dam where Schwartz allegedly repeatedly stabbed one with a knife while the other one's throat was slit with the same knife.

Sowetan 12/7/93.

Chant provokes stir

SOUTH African Council of Churches clergy battled with the controversial "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer" chant again on Friday, with militants opposed to the body condemning the chant.

However, the moderates prevailed and the SACC's 25th national conference voted in favour of condemning "all slogans, statements and behaviour by leaders and others" that could incite violence.

The condemnation came as part of the SACC's "message to the nation" passed at the end of the five-day national meeting at Midrand last Friday.

The black Dutch Reformed Church's Belydende Kring's Reverend Zacharia Mogoebo attempted to have the issue debated several times last week after voicing his opposition to the rejection of the slogan proposed by SACC general secretary Frank Chikane on Tuesday.

During debate on Friday, sentiments were again expressed that the chant was part of black liberation culture and its rejection would mean undermining that ideology!

Chikane, in earlier discussions, conceded the slogan had been sung in the vernacular for years and was not necessarily understood as incendiary. But, if chanted in English, it could incite bloodshed in an already violent society, he warned. — *Sapa.*

Star 18/7/93

Task force to aid exiles

By Sifelani Mlambo

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) is to establish a special task force to look into ways of helping returned exiles.

They were left stranded after the collapse of the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South African Exiles (NCCR) in April this year.

The NCCR was responsible for assisting returned exiles and was dissolved after cases of fraud were uncovered within the organisation's administration. (304)

The task force would consist of clergy and other interested groups.

SACC spokesman Bernard Spong sais yesterday the task force would explore ways in which churches could help the stranded returnees.

Demons and lambs in the fold

W/Mail 16/7 - 22/7/93.

304

The SACC's 25th anniversary conference produced moments of reconciliation, humour and vision —as well as acrimonious debate and racial division.

PAT SIDLEY *reports*

THE Salvation Army rising with liberation theologists at the South African Council of Churches to sing *Nkosi Sikelel'iAfrika:* this was a vision of the future presented at the SACC's 25th anniversary conference.

It followed a touching hummed chorus from the floor of the conference, with its regular liberation theolologists, black conciousness adherents, white liberals and Rhema Church delegation all singing *Onward Christian Soldiers* as one of Christ's soldiers, territorial commander Roy Olckers, was inducted on behalf of the Salvation Army into the SACC fold, which it had left during the bad years of apartheid.

But simmering through the week-long conference was a jarring debate about the use of slogans such as "kill the boer, kill the farmer" and "one settler, one bullet". And, rumbling along with it, was a debate on the National Peace Accord and its perceived uselessness in the face of the violence at Katlehong.

Both debates exposed a thread of racism never evident when the "enemy" and the issues were clearer, although many debates over the years at the SACC have reflected the differing experiences of black and white clergy. This thread ran alongside physical evidence of reconciliation and larger doses of humour than SACC conferences were noted for in the past.

With Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg Duncan Buchanan ever mindful of feminist issues raised in the conference, it came as comic relief when he bellowed across the room to a fraternal colleague: "Darling, I didn't know you cared." Here was some light relief from the more difficult debates about the slogans and the peace accord.

It started with SACC general secretary Frank Chikane's forthright condemnation in his annual report of slogans such as "kill the boer, kill the farmer" and "one settler, one bullet".

He had earlier attacked the rightwing and then said: "In the same vein, we need to condemn all forms of slogans which are perceived as racist ... Whatever explanation one could give to try to show that these are not racist slogans or meant to mean what they mean, the fact is that they feed on the violent, racist intensions of rightwing elements and also increase the fear among average whites ..."

This sparked an angry response from Zac Mogoeba, a member of the Dutch Reformed Church in Afrika and representative of the Belydende Kring, a group of the Dutch Reformed clergy always opposed to apartheid.

Mogoeba wanted to know why Chikane thought he could speak for the whole of the SACC on that issue — the sentiments, he said, were not shared by everybody. The slogans in fact were the "property of the people", who still needed and used them.

He was supported at a later stage in the debate by another clergyman, who said with strong emotion: "First they askd for our guns, and some gave. Then they came in the night and started killing us. Now they want our slogans. It's all we have."

The debate would not go away, at one stage eliciting the response from Methodist minsiter Dimitri (Jimmy) Palos, usually known for his more radical views among the white clergy, that at Boipatong he had felt very threatened by the crowd chanting "one settle one bullet" and telling him to leave. He said he had no doubt about what the slogan meant to him as a white clergyman and that it could not be justified.

During the week — as if on cue, for there is always some dreadful cataclysmic event in July for the conference to respond to — the Katlehong violence broke out and a group from the Ministers Fraternal in the area came to tell the conference of the unutterable pain, mysery and suffering they were encountering.

It brought the church face to face with its own impotence where such violence breaks out — to the extent that the comment calling the faithful to action was a firm call to prayer from outgoing senior vice-president Sheena Duncan.

But it proved to be the focus for the debate on the role of the peace accord. An issue which has come up since last year's conference, this debate bubbled up for the church to reassess its role in the peace process and boiled over when respected theologian Dr Elia Tema, of the Dutch Reformed Church in Africa, called in exasperation for the re-arming of Umkhonto weSizwe and the Azanian People's Liberation Army.

The people needed defence and what was the people's army worth if it could not defend them, Tema said. Though many at the conference gasped in disbelief at his call, Tema was far from alone.

Another delegate, causing more gasps, asked passionately what type of God allowed this kind of violence, suggesting the possibility of evil Gods or no God at all.

He said: "Is God able to intervene in this country in a way we can see that God has worked? Is it possible that God is also a racist ... where black people die, God doesn't work? Or is it possible that God is powerless?"

The peace accord, which was largely brokered by the church, was heavily criticised. Many delegates wanted to leave it alone — possibly a majority, if it had ever come to the vote. Others, notably those like Bishop Peter Storey of the Methodist Church who work in its structures, wanted to stay — albeit bringing a bit of critical Christian witness along.

It was not put to the vote in this form but, like the slogan debate, surfaced on the last day of the conference for attention in the form of a compromise. The main call in this motion was to place the peace process in the hands of the country's transitional executive councils when they come into being.

There was a widespread perception that the peace process was being abused by the government, and exploited by whites who earned money out of the process and then looked like "saviours of black people".

But even the compromise motion, with its oblique references to white people benefiting from the peace process, laid bare the race problem, with one prominent white clergyman stating off the record: "This is all very well, but who is doing the work?"

In the end the motion seemed more like a cheap shot at the few whites who do daily risk their necks alongside black friends and colleagues — and it will undoubtedly be seen like that by those with their uninsured necks on the line.

The slogan issue, after hours of acrimonious debate, resulted in a compromise motion so watered down from Chikane's original statement as to be virtually meaningless. It "condemned all slogans, statements and behaviour by leaders and others that could influence people violently. Likewise, we deplore the labelling of individuals in a manner which misrepresents them and keeps them open to verbal or physical attack."

It was the result of "the bewitching ways of white people", as one delegate put it.

SACC membership row

w\mail 16/7-22/7/93.

By PAT SIDLEY (304)

THE exclusively white Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk has threatened to cut off the finances of its small black sister church — because the latter has joined the South African Council of Churches.

The white church, with a clause in its articles of faith which excludes all but whites from membership, has some 200 000 members. Its black sister, the Hervormde Kerk in Suidelike Afrika, has 25 000 members and is financially subsidised to the tune of about R800 000 annually for the payment of the salaries of its ministers.

Despite the threat of financial starvation, the black church is holding out the hand of friendship to the white church in a bid to create racial unity.

At last week's SACC meeting the black church was officially welcomed into the SACC as a full member. Its moderator, Reverend Zuze Banda, told delegates that it had been a "long and painful road" to joining the SACC, and that his church had been threatened with financial cut-off as well as being "traumatised and harassed".

At a meeting this week between senior members of the two churches, Dr Braam van Wijk told Banda and his moderature that while he did not personally object to the black church joining the SACC, "there could be difficult times ahead".

"Since our relationship is based on the help we get from them, I understood this to mean a financial threat," Banda said after the meeting.

The white church last year reaffirmed its notorious article three, requiring racial exclusivity. The explanation offered, Banda said, was that race mixing could not be allowed because of "the complexity of the South African situation".

They had broached the topic of unity and been told by Dr Van Wijk that this should not "even be dreamt of", and they should rather think in terms of "closer co-operation".

The example of Namibia was raised, where the white church was obliged by changes in the law to become non-racial.

According to Banda, Van Wijk said they would fall in line with any changes in the law of the country. Van Wijk could not be reached for comment.

Tribal violence a myth – Chikane

Star 22/7/93

The South African Council of Churches recently unleashed a verbal fusillade against the National Peace Accord. PATRICK LAURENCE spoke to SACC general secretary Frank Chikane about it.

"BLACK-on-black violence is a myth," the Reverend Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said emphatically.

Hardly pausing to draw breath, he followed up with another categorical statement: "Xhosa-Zulu violence is a myth."

His statements came at the end of an interview in which he elaborated on a resolution on the National Peace Accord (NPA) passed at the SACC's recent 25th national conference.

The resolution pinned the labels "unjust" and "flawed" to the NPA, which, when it was first established in September 1991, was seen as a positive development and a lifeboat of hope in a sea of violence.

Chikane's dismissal of intra-black violence and Xhosa-Zulus enmity as myths were made before the Wadeville massacre of July 19, in which seven Zulu members of the Inkatha Freedom Party were calculatedly selected for execution by gunmen described by one of the survivors as Xhosa-speaking.

Premise

But Chikane would probably have made the same or similar assertions even if he had been forced to take account of the Wadeville massacre.

The premise on which his argument rested would not have been affected.

His premise was that black-on-black violence or conflict between Xhosa and Zulu is the product of outside forces, of "people making use of historical divisions" for their own ends, and that it is not intrinsic to black society.

The Wadeville massacre, which generated anxieties about "ethnic cleansing" in South Africa, was seen in similar terms by some observers and political actors.

The SACC resolution, criticising the NPA noted in one clause: "The NPA is not capable of dealing with covert operations."

The NPA, Chikane explained, had neither the staff, including critically, neutral intelligence personnel, nor the resources to deal with the clandestine and often nocturnal activities of people intent on stirring up trouble between blacks.

Covert violence was a root cause of the violence and until it was dealt with, violence would not abate significantly.

"As long as you can't deal with covert violence, you can't deal with (overt) violence," he added. (304)

Chikane conceded that the violence had a multiplicity of causes but insisted that the crucial factor was covert or third force violence as the primary cause. Conversely, he reckoned, once covert violence was brought under control, "we will solve the rest of the problems".

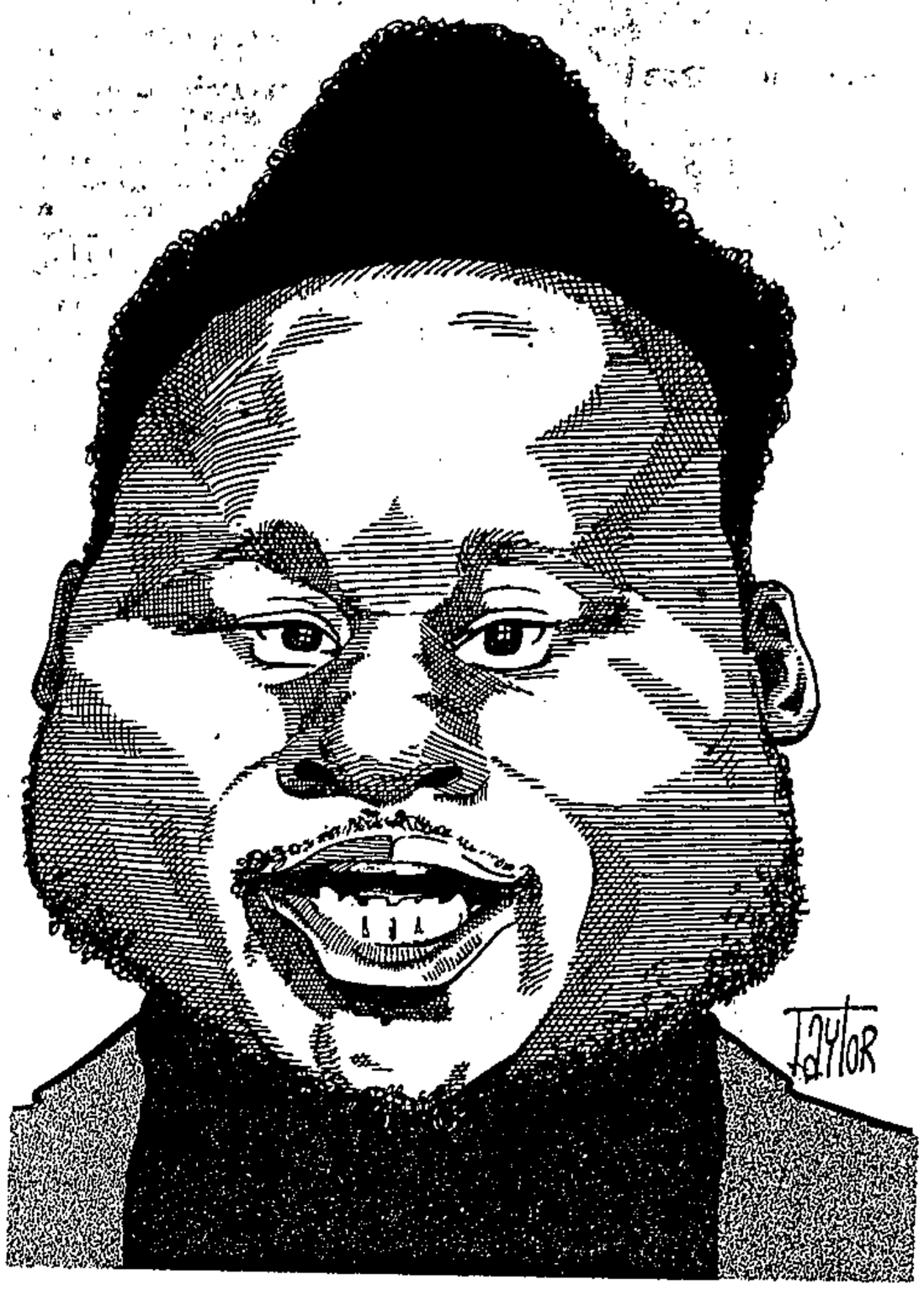
It had become urgently necessary to sever all links between the NPA and the Ministry of Home Affairs, which provides funds for the NPA, and to place it under the envisaged Transitional Executive Council. The credibility of the NPA was adversely affected by its position as "a statutory body of an illegitimate regime".

Another weakness, Chikane continued, was that the NPA was seen in the townships as being too white: its chairman, John Hall, and his counterpart in the national peace secretariat, Antonie Gildenhuys, are white; so, too, are many of the peace monitors, who, the SACC recognised in its resolution, have made huge "sacrificial commitments".

The township perception of the NPA as an organisation controlled by whites dovetailed with the belief of township folk that the people behind the covert violence were also white.

"The (township) people say, whites are behind the covert operations which led to blacks fighting one another. Then more whites come in as peace monitors to keep the blacks apart."

Commenting on the NPA's top ranking personnel, Chikane said: "There is a need to create a picture of the new society that we are working towards ... There is a need to walk that extra mile."



Frank Chikane . . . it's not in the black ethic, all this killing.

It was necessary to help blacks acquire the skills which were needed but which apartheid had prevented them from acquiring, he said.

If that was not done, white technocrats would "benefit from the plight of the oppressed" and the NPA would be further discredited in the eyes of black people.

Another criticism was that the business community played too prominent a role in the NPA, at the expense of participation by, and empowerment of, the "oppressed community".

A related criticism, contained in the resolution and reaffirmed by Chikane, was the "exclusion of the Church from fundamental decision-making and its marginalisation to a token role in the NPA".

But, Chikane stressed, whatever the weaknesses of the NPA, "we would be worse off without it". The objective was not to scrap the NPA but to reform and improve it, he said.

Chikane recognised that public criticism of the NPA and charges that it had been "hijacked" by the De Klerk administration might put peace monitors at risk.

For that reason, he stressed, the SACC had specifically recorded its appreciation of the "sacrificial commitment" of thousands of people across the country in combating violence and advancing the cause of peace. □

50% of blacks 'expect poll violence'

(304(2B) CT 6/8/93

Staff Reporter

ONE in two black South Africans expects election violence, 14% will be deterred from voting for fear of their lives and two percent will actively propagate election violence, the Goldstone Commission heard yesterday.

Dr Laurie Schlemmer of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) was presenting the results of a random survey of more than 8 000 people in squatter camps and other underdeveloped black communities.

He said more than 50% said they would be voting "for freedom", while only 40% would accept election results unequivocally.

Dr Schlemmer said "danger signs" included "unrealisticaly high expectations". He predicted some "severe reactions" to poll results as 97% of ANC supporters believed the ANC would win while 80% of IFP and 40% of PAC supporters believed their parties would triumph.

About 49% backed the disruption of opposition party meetings in areas where they did not have large support, he said.

Dr Schlemmer said township youth factions were the greatest threat to peaceful polling as they could not be "neatly sewn up" in a code of political conduct.

He recommended a media feast of panel debates on policy issues in the election run-up to defuse emotions before the country's first democratic elections.

NEWS Chikane apologises for misconceptions • Maku

Ray of hope for peace in Tokoza

Sowetan 30/8/93

■ **NEW HOPE** Hostel dwellers agree talk to SA Council of Churches:

(304)

TOKOZA HOSTEL RESIDENTS, in an apparent breakthrough, agreed to discussions with the South African Council of Churches at the weekend.

Describing Saturday's meeting at the hostel as an extraordinary event, SACC general secretary the Rev Frank Chikane said East Rand hostel dwellers had previously refused to talk to the SACC.

Speaking at the departure of World Council of Churches general secretary Konrad Raiser at Jan Smuts Airport in the afternoon, Chikane said he had apologised to hostel dwellers if they had been hurt by the perception that his organisation had ignored them.

Troubled township

The two general secretaries were among the WCC and SACC officials who went to the hostel in the troubled East Rand township earlier on Saturday.

Chikane explained there was a perception that the SACC was against hostel dwellers because of the organisation's political history.

The SACC did not side with political groupings.

The SACC hoped to begin ministering to hostel residents. Talks would begin as early as today, Chikane said.

Switzerland

Before leaving for Switzerland after a week-long visit, Raiser said he was hopeful that peace could be achieved in the country.

"There is strong evidence communities are capable of rejecting the culture of violence.

"The will of the people for peace and justice is paramount and that is precisely where the churches can play a major role."

Arbitrary violence

Raiser said violence in South Africa did not appear to be arbitrary.

"We have heard witnesses who strengthen the view that there is a pattern to the violence and have been struck by the parallells with Central America, where violence has been part of a deliberate plan of internal destabilisation."

Raiser said any delay in democracy talks would inevitably increase tension.

He said the WCC was convinced that South Africa's problems could only be solved by political means. - *Sapa.*

police
ga
A
aid the
200 m
n
posite

go

ral
ms and
ters
ders

901 (−13)
)(+$3,70)
..... 3,34
.....4,185
,6 (+16,8)
1 (+87,80)
1 (+12,58)

33-2410/1
838-2383
633-2484
633-2280

SACC bid to end chronic Reef strife

Star 19/10/93

The shooting of a clergyman in front of his seven-year-old son last week has prompted the South African Council of Churches to host a summit on Thursday to tackle chronic violence on the East Rand.

The Rev Johannes Nhlabathi, a minister of Katlehong's Church of Christ, was seized while taking his car through a no-go area on Wednesday and taken to a hostel where he was shot dead.

Four more people died in violent attacks in the East Rand townships of Katlehong and Tokoza yesterday.

Police said two men and a woman were killed at Hostel 3 in Tokoza. A man was shot dead at Kwesine Station in Katlehong.

The weekend death toll in Katlehong and Tokoza was at least 20, and included two policemen. — Sapa and East Rand Bureau

304

BENSON & HE

Churches 'would welcome more tolerance'

ANC policy on contentious issues such as homosexuality, abortion and gambling may offend certain sectors of the population, but the SA Council of Churches (SACC) says not all churches would oppose more tolerant policies. 8 May

The ANC received the Gay and Lesbian Organisation of the Witwatersrand's official backing by playing a major role to ensure a clause to protect homosexuals' rights was included in the interim constitution.

The party's reconstruction and development programme has called for every woman's right to choose whether to terminate her pregnancy.

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

Although the ANC has given no clear indication on what will happen to homeland casinos, ANC economics head Trevor Manuel said recently an ANC-led government would "not strangle gambling to death" as it could generate new services and jobs. But, he said, the ANC did not want every corner cafe turned into a gambling den. 3/5/94

The party's health policy includes a proposal to raise funds for health care through increased taxes on alcohol and tobacco. 304

But it has not said anything in the past few months about issues such as prostitution or censorship.

One SACC spokesman said last week the council had no strict policies on gambling, abortion or homosexuality, but he foresaw no great conflict with the ANC. The only possible exception was abortion, to which the pro-life movement and Catholic Church were strongly opposed. Some churches would not condemn homosexuality. There appeared to be a greater openness towards gambling.

NEWS Tough test for first Cabinet sitting ● Lawyer:

Baptism by fire for new Cabinet

Sowetan 23/5/94

■ LAND SQUABBLE ANC not aware of land transfer to the King:

(304)

IN ITS FIRST SITTING, President Nelson Mandela's multiparty Cabinet today faces what is likely to be its biggest challenge — the former Government's transfer of land to a trust controlled by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini.

The furtive land transfer — over whose legality some top constitutional lawyers have placed a question mark — is likely to dominate the 27-member Cabinet's first meeting.

IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, whose KwaZulu Legislative Assembly passed legislation transferring 1,2 million hectares of land to a trust held by the king, sits in Mandela's Cabinet as Home Affairs Minister.

Moratorium

According to weekend Press reports, former President FW de Klerk authorised the transfer of nearly all of KwaZulu's land to Zwelithini on April 25, only two days before the country's new constitution came into effect.

'Transfer was above board' — De Klerk

The ANC, which had repeatedly asked for a moratorium on Government restructuring and all land transfers and sales, has come out strongly against the deal, saying it had not been aware of it.

New Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom has even hinted at a possible overturning of the deal.

However, this could seriously alienate the king and Buthelezi, cause serious rifts in the Government of National Unity and once again threaten the settlement.

Weekend reports said the KwaZulu-Natal monarch now controls 10 times more land than the 9th Duke of Buccleuch, listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the biggest landowner in the world.

Some sources have claimed that De Klerk's magnanimity to the king on the eve of his ousting from office was intended to bribe the IFP to participate in the election and the Zulu king not to call on his subjects to boycott the election.

However, De Klerk, who is now Second Deputy President, has strongly defended the transfer, saying everything was done above board. —*Sowetan Correspondent.*

Churches divided on ANC abortion stance

Bday 8/6/94

JACQUIE GOLDING

THE SA Council of Churches (SACC) appeared set to split over the ANC's abortion policy, sources said yesterday.

The SACC, which has no clear stance on abortion, yesterday admitted there were differences in responses to the ANC's pro-abortion policy among its 23 members.

It said a committee would be set up to "look into the issue" and "find ways of reconciling the various churches' positions".

(804)

Although its reconciliation strategy is unclear, the SACC was adamant a split was not about to occur.

Meanwhile Christians for Truth (CFT) — a Christian interdenominational organisation with a 61 000 membership — said the recent announcement by the ANC's health division that an abortion Bill would be tabled in Parliament, and that churches could submit memorandums on the issue, could only lead to massive polarisation among South Africans.

CFT president Rev Fano Sibisi said the fight against abortion was broad, and included an amalgam of factors such as health, education and pornography.

Abortion on demand would be seen as a convenience by many and would increase rather than decrease the number of abortions in SA.

ANC national health executive member Dr Kamy Chetty said current legislation on abortion was stringent even in the case of rape, with the majority of abortions (70%-77%) performed on psychiatric grounds.

Chetty said an estimated 200 000-300 000 abortions were performed in SA each year.

"About 300 women are admitted monthly to Baragwanath Hospital after incomplete or botched abortions," Chetty said, adding that the high number of risk cases and deaths were the main thrust behind the ANC's pro-abortion policy.

Rhema Church said its policy was clearly anti-abortion, but it believed alternatives were needed for women who could not afford to support unwanted children.

"Rather than shouting on the sidelines, solutions should be offered, education provided and the entire issue should be seen as a social responsibility," Rhema said.

'SACC must speak out against sins by new government'

By CYRIL MADLALA

THE SA Council of Churches will have to stand up against any sin by the new government, says its president, the Rev Khoza Mgojo.

Speaking at the council's national conference in Midrand this week, Dr Mgojo said: "The same principles which required the church to stand up against the sins of the apartheid government, will require it to stand up against sin in this government.

"It was very fashionable and made one a hero to speak strongly against the apartheid government. It will not be so fashionable to stand up and challenge the government of national unity," Dr Mgojo said.

The conference declared the church's readiness to play its part in the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme and to promote a culture of responsibility, work, tolerance, learning and listening.

It also resolved to convene a consultation of churches to consider the theological and ethical implications of a Truth Commission and to make representations to the government.

A commission which will include experts on military affairs is to be established to study the implications of the manufacture of and trade in arms, in order to promote discussion in the churches and to make urgent representations to the government.

"In our view, the manufacture and sale of weapons which are designed to take human life are incompatible with the vision of the South African society to which we are committed," the SACC said in its message to the nation after the conference. (304)

It gave full support to the campaign for a gun-free South Africa, which it said challenged everybody, especially Christians who possess licensed or unlicensed firearms, to hand them over to be destroyed.

"In all these matters, the church has a responsibility to take the lead, and we pledge ourselves to do so," the conference declared.

Delegates expressed anger and shame that arms manufactured in South Africa had been used in the conflict in Rwanda, and thanked those who responded to the appeal to help people in that country.

Churches slam arms sales

NOMAVENDA MATHIANE

THE SA Council of Churches supported the formation of the truth commission and would provide pastoral help for those who chose to disclose their apartheid sins.

The SACC met in Johannesburg to examine its own transition and deal with structural changes.

It also deliberated on issues such as high salaries for MPs and government consultants, arms sales to African countries such as Rwanda and the truth and reconciliation commission.

"We are committed to justice, and we want to ensure that the new government delivers justice," SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said.

"The is a moral requirement, that society is cleansed from the sins of the past, to be freed by telling the truth".

He said as envoys of the church, the SACC was not taking sides on who needed to be investigated and who not.

"We do not believe in selective morality. All forms of human violations should be investigated and put in the open."

Delegates recommended that a commission investigating apartheid sins go back as far as January 1, 1960 up to December 6, 1993. They also recommended that it sit for two years and that findings be published.

The commission must have the powers to make recommendations on whether or not perpetrators should be disqualified from specific jobs. B/Day

Regarding arms sales, the SACC said it was aware that the government had inherited an arms industry problem, but was concerned that government's acceptance of a military culture would negate the very ideals of a just peace, which the struggle had been all about. 25/8/94

"This country's supply of arms to Rwanda shamefully makes us party to the horrifying slaughter and suffering there".

It called on Defence Minister Joe Modise to adopt a restrictive export policy which excluded deliveries of arms to countries violating human rights. (30/4)

The council also wanted SA to support the arms embargo of the European Union and to encourage the refocusing of the armaments industry so that it developed technology to serve the reconstruction and development programme.

On salaries, Chikane said the issue was a reflection of the crisis within the nation.

SACC fights for black dignity

ST Times 16/10/94

By TENDAI DUMBUTSHENA

THE challenge facing the church is to restore dignity and confidence to black people who for generations have been told that they are "inferior and incompetent".

The new general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Brigalia Ntombemhlope Bam, believes a "moral reconstruction" should be seen as an integral part of the RDP.

It is in the areas of restoring discipline among the youth, instilling confidence and self-respect in black people, fostering reconciliation and promoting the status of women that she sees the SACC playing a big role.

In her view it is not enough to build houses, schools, clinics and tackle the bread and butter issues without addressing the moral issues.

"Our young people have known nothing but violence, disrupted education and the destruction of community values.

"I recall as a social worker in Durban when I could stop and ask children in the streets whether they were not supposed to be at school or home.

FACING THE CHALLENGE ... SACC's Brigalia Bam

"We had a responsibility to be role models in the community. (304)

"But we have been constantly told we are incompetent and inferior. That we have no skills and experience.

"The church has a role to play to restore our confidence and dignity so that as a people we can determine our own destiny," Miss Bam said.

She speaks passionately about the need to elevate the status of women, especially in the church.

"Women have managed to love, support and bring up children under the most difficult conditions. The majority of women belong to the church and must be given due recognition."

She does not believe that politicians alone can effect reconciliation. It is a task in which the church has to play a crucial role.

"The church pastorally must heal (the psychological) wounds. We should provide the forum for counselling.

"We will be the voice of the voiceless. There are large illiterate communities in the country. We must reach these people and articulate their needs to politicians."

How Khotso House was bombed

W/mail
15-22/12/94
304

Mduduzi ka Harvey

Members of the South African Police Intelligence Unit had to try twice before managing to bomb Khotso House in central Johannesburg, headquarters of the South African Council of Churches, in 1988.

Affidavits by former Intelligence Unit members in the possession of the *Weekly Mail & Guardian* tell a story of careful planning, specially-designed explosives and repeated attempts to bomb the building.

The first attempt failed because at the time the bombs were to be planted and detonated, there were too many people milling around the vicinity.

The idea to blow up Khotso House was the brainchild of a police intelligence major, named in an affidavit, who felt he had to stifle the kind of work done at the building.

The mission, according to the affidavits, was discussed at a briefing session at a house in Honeydew called by Intelligence Unit members and attended by six high-ranking South African Police officials. Those present were told their mission was to blow up Khotso House.

Explosives which consisted of TM57 landmines and Russian TNT pellets were prepared for the mission. The specialists stressed to the crew the importance of placing the explosives against the pillars in the basement of the building, so as to secure maximum damage.

The crew was divided into two groups: the "penetration group" would enter the building and set up the explosives, while the "stop-gap" group would prevent patrolling police from entering. Their duty also entailed making sure no one was suspicious of what was going on inside while the penetration group was at work.

At midnight, posts were taken, but the arrangements misfired as the city centre was very busy. The captain in charge was forced to call the mission off.

Back at the base in Honeydew, the captain told the crew he would call upon a colonel from Vlakplaas, who is named in the documents, to help them in their next attempt.

When the same crew congregated in Honeydew a few days later, the colonel took control of the operation.

A combi transported the "penetration group" members into the city centre, while the others travelled in a Laurel and Ford Sierra. Drivers kept in contact via radio.

The documents say the "stop-gap" vehicles parked between Khotso House and Johannesburg station, keeping a vigilant watch, while the "penetration group" worked in the Khotso House basement. In minutes they were out and both groups drove off, regrouping at a parking area near the Braamfontein Hotel. They had hardly settled down when they heard and felt the explosion.

With their mission accomplished the group left for Honeydew, and a braai.

A few days later, at a function at Vlakplaas — attended, according to the affidavits, by generals and other senior officials — the minister of police delivered a speech congratulating the crew for their success. He said the building had been reduced to rubble — a heap of bricks. One of the officers "shushed" him in an effort to prevent him from saying too much in the presence of others.

A few days after the bombing, a Sandton warrant officer, named in the affidavits, gave Pretoria headquarters a fictitious declaration obtained from a black taxi driver who said he had seen a white man and woman with a suitcase in the vicinity of Khotso House. A ficticious identikit was composed.

According to the affidavits, while the rubble was being cleared at Khotso House, books belonging to the son of a prominent priest were found in one of the vehicles which had been parked in the basement. He was being sought for alleged involvement in acts of terrorism, and the books were confiscated as exhibits.