

STOP PRESS

Statement by Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu and President of Inkatha, March 3, 1989.

On the 9th of January this year I met Mr C J Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning in Durban where we made the decision to establish a committee to identify and address obstacles which impede progress towards solving the country's political problems through negotiation.

This committee has now been constituted and is faced — as I see it — with the historically important task of identifying reasons why the politics of negotiation have not got off the ground in South Africa and to do so in such a way that names can be given to problems in order to deal with them.

On Thursday the 2nd of March I met Mr Heunis and members of the joint committee.

From my point of view it was clearly necessary for me to address this group to ensure that it did not proceed with its work under any misapprehensions about my motivation in agreeing to it and to go about its work fully aware of what I as a black leader expected of it.

I stressed that my involve-

Buthelezi, Heunis in Tuynhuys talks today

By Brian Stuart
CAPE TOWN. — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, is due in Cape Town today for talks with Mr Heunis, acting State

moved.
The two leaders met in Durban on January 9 in an attempt to find common ground on future constitutional talks.

During the

tory within South Africa.

Earlier this week Mr Heunis met Dr Oscar Dhlomo, one of the senior Ministers in Chief Buthelezi's Cabinet and chairman of the Na-

inter-dependence of KwaZulu and Natal by creating a joint legislative authority.

While members of government originally raised to these

ment in the committee was an involvement as a black South African and that I was not approaching the work of the committee simply as the Chief Minister of KwaZulu.

I also stressed that I have never deviated, and will never deviate, from my insistence on the total unity of South Africa as it was brought into being by the Act of Union in 1910.

I emphasised that I was not at all interested in negotiating in order to make the present tricameral parliamentary system work. I pointed out that it was the South African Government's insistence of talking within the framework of apartheid that precluded me from the politics of negotiation up to now.

I demanded that the committee work within the acceptance of the need to break out of the limitations which produced past failures by being prepared to have an agenda from which it becomes possible to write on a slate which has been cleaned.

I pointed out that the committee would work under national and international spotlights and the National Party in this international spotlight had to convince the outside world that it is going to depart from its previous approaches and that it must convince South Africans in this country that it really does want to negotiate an entirely new constitutional dispensation.

I also pointed out that if the Government was serious about its commitment to negotiation it would have to cease with the politics of prescription through which it foisted the present constitution on us as well as Regional Services Councils.

I made the point that insistence on going ahead with Regional Service Councils was confrontational and was incompatible with the politics of negotiation.

In my whole approach to the committee I stressed the importance of the task that the committee had been set and demanded recognition that we dare not fail to deliver the goods when we tackle something in such a way that all the world sees what we are doing.

“ . . . my involvement in the committee was an involvement as a black South African and that I was not approaching the work of the committee simply as the Chief Minister of KwaZulu . . . I emphasised that I was not at all interested in negotiating in order to make the present tricameral parliamentary system work. I pointed out that that it was the South African Government's insistence of talking within the framework of apartheid that precluded me from the politics of negotiation up to now . . . I stressed that I have never deviated, and will never deviate, from my insistence on the total unity of South Africa as it was brought into being by the Act of Union in 1910.”

INHLABAMKHOSI

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