

The Accord, says Chief Buthelezi, is '....a veritable juncture in Black political history. For the first time in Black political history not only Mocambique but Africa has served notice that the poor and the stricken in Africa are unable to bear the burden of complying with the demands of the ANC's Mission in Exile.'

# THE HARD FACTS OF NKOMATI.....

'Some of our brothers and sisters in exile have been expecting the people of Mocambique, Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana to provide them with open hospitality and to expect them to do so at terrible cost to themselves.

'Had they had winning strategies and had they been able to plead with our fellow Africans in neighbouring States to hold on just a little longer because assured victory will be won in the foreseeable future, their expectations would have been regarded as reasonable.

The blunt truth of the matter is that our brothers and sisters in exile have been expecting the peoples of Southern Africa to pay a continuing terrible price for continuing tragic failure. Mocambique and Africa have said: 'Enough is enough.'

'The cry for an armed struggle was not only for Black South Africans to die needlessly and pointlessly for the sake of continuing failure, but it was also a cry for Blacks in neighbouring states to die as the South African army romped where it will in the whole of Southern Africa leaving trails of devastation and death in its path.

What I have been saying for so long is at last now being heeded. The armed struggle will not prevail against the mightiest power in the whole of Africa as far we can see ahead.'

Chief Buthelezi told the conference that Black Africa had told the ANC that they were pursuing futile courses of action. Inkatha had expressed this same view to the ANC.

His and Inkatha's heart went out to the ANC and its exiled members who must now be feeling lost and forlorn.....

The best they could do, however, was a 'pop-gun' war. Inkatha was not crowing about this.....

He pleaded: 'For God's sake let us now recognise that the armed struggle is not an easy option available to us which can justify abandoning the true responsibility we bear as those charged with ensuring that we, our children, their children and generations beyond, achieve the things which the founding fathers of the

African National Congress envisaged in 1912.

'We in Inkatha will not abandon our hallowed political tradition; we will not negate the lofty ideals of the struggle for liberation by precipitous and foolhardy actions which do no more than bring our cause into disrepute.'

The Nkomati Accord had shown that the struggle for Political Liberation for Blacks in South Africa was an internal struggle and it must necessarily be a democratic and non-violent struggle for the very foreseeable future.

It was imperative that Black South Africans retained their humanity as they faced the demands of the new political dispensation.

Their humanity was an alternative to bombs and AK rifles. It was a tool of liberation so essential that should it be lost, Blacks would be trampled by the forces of apartheid and subjugated into perpetual bondage.

Apartheid had not broken the spirit of Blacks and Chief Buthelezi said he could not conceive of dehumanised participants in the politics of recconciliation and negotiation.

'....Inkatha is a great throng of Black South Africans marching towards a future which none of our past heroes could despise,' he added.

'We march into a future to achieve that which our martyrs died for. We march forward to produce the victory which will heal every mother's aching heart and will wipe away the tears of our children. We move towards a future in which the endeavours of man will enjoy their just rewards.'

The Nkomati Accord had sown disarray in Black political ranks and chief Buthelezi pleaded for unity.

He said: 'Black conflicts in South Africa have their roots in organisational politicking; they have their roots in the striving amongst those who seek acclaim and eminence and who scramble over their Black brothers and sisters and trample upon decency in their haste to climb into the political limelight.'



President Samora Machel.