

# German talks



Chief M.G. Buthelezi with the Chancellor of West Germany, Dr Helmut Kohl

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi has appealed to Western leaders to step up constructive pressure on President P.W. Botha as a matter of urgency.

He told West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl at a meeting in Bonn that Mr Botha's hesitancy over real, basic reform was playing into the hands of the enemies of peaceful change.

Even if all other apartheid ended, violence would escalate in South Africa as long as the Population Registration and Group Areas Acts existed.

Negotiations with real Black leaders would never get off the ground until Mr Botha saw these Acts, along with the tricameral parliament, as stumbling blocks in the way of non-violent change.

Chief Buthelezi said in a memorandum prepared for his meeting with Dr Kohl that he was pessimistic about the immediate future after listening frequently to what Mr Botha had to say.

He had said he accepted that South Africa was one country. But then he had made that acceptance meaningless by insisting that it was a country of minorities, each with the right of self-determination.

This was a bizarre concept of nationhood: "We are either one country or not, and if South Africa is one country, then it must have one parliament."

No Black leaders of real following would negotiate within the framework of the present constitution or some kind of race federation. And they would not negotiate at all without an agenda in which the desirable end product of negotiations was clearly stated.

Chief Buthelezi said that the State President's recent "unprecedented personal attack" on Foreign Minister Pik Botha was evidence from his own lips that he lacked the will to abandon the fundamentals of apartheid.

"What kind of negotiations can take place between Black and White when (Mr Pik Botha's) mere suggestion that there might be a Black President some time in the future provokes such fierce hostility from the State President?" he asked.

It appeared that the politics of negotiation would have to proceed despite President Botha — and perhaps only after he had left office. South Africa could simply not afford his delays.

"Western Governments should, as a

matter of great urgency, apply every possible pressure on the South African State President to make him move sufficiently forward for negotiations to begin," he said.

Chief Buthelezi told Chancellor Kohl that, in recent discussions with the US's President Reagan, Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, he had been heartened greatly by evidence that the West was re-appraising the South African situation and had begun to perceive the power evolving in the centre field of its politics.

His present visit further encouraged him in that West Germany would do the same. Apart from constructive diplomatic pressure on Pretoria, and more importantly than it, every possible help should be given to the forces of the centre.

"Black bargaining power can be significantly increased by Western endeavours to stimulate the growth of the South Africa economy and to provide humanitarian aid to the victims of apartheid," he said.