

SACC CHALLENGED ON FORCED REMOVALS



Hon. Dr Madide - Minister of Interior.

This month, Dr the Hon. D.R.B. Madide, who is the Minister of Interior, moved in the Legislative Assembly that "the advisability be considered that, having thoroughly studied the pamphlet recently published by the South African Council of Churches entitled "Relocations: The Churches report on forced removals" we resolve that, this House is and has always been totally opposed to forced removals of people from their areas of domicile in pursuit of the ideology of apartheid.

The KwaZulu Government and Inkatha have always expressed themselves forcefully and unequivocally against such removals and have done all they could to assist people where possible to resist such removals. We reject the allegations contained in this pamphlet that we, the KwaZulu Government, are aiding and abetting or in anyway tolerating this policy of forced resettlements, which is foisted on us and our people virtually at the point of the gun.

Persuant to the above assertions we challenge the South African

Council of Churches and members of South African Catholic Bishop's Conference who endorsed it to a public debate where their selected representatives will face our selected representatives and substantiate their claims on the role of KwaZulu and forced removals especially in Natal under the following conditions:-

- (i) That the public debate will take place at a mutually acceptable venue;
- (ii) That it will be organised and monitored with the assistance of a mutually acceptable organisation such as the South African Institute of Race Relations;
- (iii) That each party will bear its own expenses;
- (iv) That all news media will have free access to such a debate;
- (v) That the S.A.C.C. undertakes to circulate the facts of and the results of this debate to all parties where they have officially circulated their pamphlet, and;
- (iv) That this debate takes place as soon as possible not later than three months hence;