

First phase of civil war has started

The ANC Mission-in-Exile is not interested in compromises and is seeking a bloody and violent showdown in South Africa.

This was the stark message brought to Prime Minister Thatcher and her Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, by Chief Buthelezi.

He said "one of the harsh realities" which Western Governments had to accept was that the politics of negotiation were not only threatened by the National Party.

Ever-increasingly, the politics of negotiation were being threatened by Black political groups, led by the ANC Mission-in-Exile.

"There is in South Africa a significant body of Black opinion which has already finally concluded that there are no prospects of bringing about change through negotiation," he said.

"This has already resulted in South Africa having entered the first phase of civil war. The unprecedented current levels of violence used for political purposes is expressing itself more and more in Black/Black confrontations than in Black/White confrontations or Black confrontations with the government.

"The ANC Mission-in-Exile is seeking to make South Africa ungovernable by encouraging Black South Africans, and particularly the youth, to kill any Black who opposes them and who is prepared to work towards compromise solutions.

"The ANC Mission-in-Exile sees the armed struggle as the primary means to bringing about change, and it intends using the resources for violence at its disposal to further revolutionary aims which will in the end ensconce it as a post-liberation government."

Chief Buthelezi warned that those committed to the armed struggle would become increasingly intolerant of any



The remains of a Ciskei soldier, Corporal Mnyamezeli Bless, who was killed and burned near King William's Town in August. He made the fatal mistake of driving in a Government car past the funeral of a civil-rights activist. When the crowd spotted his car's Ciskei Government number plate, he was ambushed. Thousands looked on as he was stoned and burned to death. A United Democratic Front (UDF) spokesman said the soldier had "no business" to be near the scene of the funeral.



"Blacks have turned to killing Blacks for political purposes and the ANC's Mission-in-Exile has encouraged internicine Black strife in the hope of destroying the negotiating bases of Black leaders who are capable of mobilising the kind of power which will bring Whites to the negotiating table. In a very real sense the first phases of civil war have begun..."

Chief M G Buthelezi, 10 Downing Street, London.

success in the politics of compromise and of negotiation. The ANC Mission-in-Exile was not seeking a compromise solution.

"It is driven by winner-take-all revolutionary fires and we face the tragic reality in South Africa that the destruction of the politics of compromise and negotiation is becoming of prime concern to the ANC Mission-in-Exile," he added.

Chief Buthelezi said he believed there could be no reform in states of anarchy and there could be no reform while the South African Government relied on the horrendous Draconian measures available to the State President once he had declared a state of

emergency.

"The upward spiralling of violence in our Black townships and the upward spiralling of Government violence in opposition to the violence, work to negate compromises which would be acceptable to both Black and White," he added.

Western Governments now had to do whatever they could to strengthen the arm of those who were committed to the politics of negotiation.

"I believe that Britain in particular has an international responsibility to do this," he stressed.

Politics in South Africa would "gyrate" around the central issue of power-sharing in a unified state.