

Buthelezi hits back at Govt

KwaZulu RDM: 23/10/82 Inkand

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Political Correspondent

THE KwaZulu leader, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, has made a scathing attack on the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, and repeated his warning that the Government's constitutional plan is a "recipe for violence".

"Anyone who has anything between his two ears would know that this plan is nothing more than a recipe for violence.

"I have a duty to warn the people of South Africa as to where the present Government is leading them with its half-baked plans," Chief Buthelezi said in a statement to the Rand Daily Mail.

"I speak for millions of black people who are voiceless, and I will continue doing so as long as there is life in me," he said.

Chief Buthelezi slapped down the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange, for interpreting his remarks to the Black Alliance conference last weekend as a threat — and accused him of a "lack of manners" for telling him (Chief Buthelezi) to "watch his mouth." ("n wag voor sy mond moet plaas).

Chief Buthelezi also crossed swords with the Minister of Constitutional Development, Mr Chris Heunis, who this week questioned the right of black leaders, who owed their positions to a dispensation created under

National Party rule, to "advise and threaten" others against participation in the new constitutional set-up.

Mr Heunis' remarks were seen as a clear reference to Chief Buthelezi, who told a conference of the Black Alliance the last chance of peace would be removed if the Government proceeded to implement its present constitutional plan.

Chief Buthelezi was responding to remarks by Mr Le Grange at an election meeting in Vrededorst and comments by Mr Heunis at a lunch-hour election meeting in Stellenbosch.

Mr Le Grange warned Chief Buthelezi that the Government would not be threatened with violence over the country's constitutional development. The Government would not allow itself to be blackmailed.

Replying to Mr Heunis, Chief Buthelezi said the reason why various Government agents had been unable to topple him was that his leadership position in KwaZulu had not been created by the National Party or its policies.

"If Mr Heunis was referring to me he must need a psychiatrist to bring him round to reality. Mr Heunis knows that as long as I am the leader in KwaZulu the Zulus will never cut their own throats by accepting 'independence' which alone is the culmination of their so-called political dispensation," he said.

(Report by John Battersby, 77 Burg St, Cape Town)

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