

PRIME MINISTER

CD.

MEETING WITH CHIEF BUTHELEZI

You are seeing both Helen Suzman and Chief Buthelezi tomorrow afternoon.

Chief Buthelezi is here on a private visit. He will have seen the Archbishop of Canterbury and will be going to the Test Match. You will be having dinner with him at Laurens van der Post's home at the weekend.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow you to hear Buthelezi's views on the present situation in South Africa and what Britain can do to help encourage peaceful change. He has addressed a memorandum to you (attached) explaining his thinking. He wants South Africa to be seen as one country with one people and wants President Botha to make a Statement of Intent (also attached) to get talks going with the Black community. He takes the view that indiscriminate economic sanctions would damage South Africa. He will be looking to you to endorse his general approach. You could certainly give public support to the concept of dialogue, although if he tries to establish too many pre-conditions it won't get started.

I sent you earlier in the week the report of the Buthelezi Commission on Natal. I enclose a summary of its recommendations.

CD.P

Charles Powell

1 August 1985