

Greed can set Africa ablaze, says Mangope

Own Correspondent

BERNE. — Chief Lucas Mangope, Chief Minister of BophuthaTswana, warned yesterday that materialism and unwillingness to share could be the lightning that set Africa ablaze.

He was addressing the Moral Re-Armament world assembly in Cañx, Switzerland.

"Materialism could be the lightning that will put on fire the only country that we have," he said.

"The greed of my countrymen, who will not share the wealth of the country, could unintentionally cause violence".

Chief Mangope said: "I come from a very difficult country, a country with unique difficulties and problems to grapple with, and yet a great country.

"I am a South African and, despite all the deprivations, hardships and indignities that I and my people have suffered, I love South Africa. I am proud to be involved in the struggle for her.

"The country that pioneered heart transplants should show the way to change in the attitudes of men."

He was followed on to the platform by a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, the Rev George Daneel, who was one of the organisers of an international MRA conference in Pretoria at Easter.

"I can't help realising what we as White people have done, for what we are responsible.

"I can only pray that Chief Mangope and his people will help us to face our sins, and that we as a nation may repent before God."

In spite of all the sins and wrongs of the White people, there was still time. "God still has a plan and a purpose for Southern Africa," Mr Daneel said.

"We can have a part, not just in finding the way for ourselves but also in pointing the way for the rest of the continent."

A multiracial Rhodesian delegation is attending the conference.