

South Africa should take lead

in Africa says M.R.A. leader

While in Windhoek last week during the showing of the film "The Voice of the Hurricane", Mr. Bremer Hofmeyr, a leading member of the Moral Re-Armament Movement, said that South Africa, which called herself Christian, should take the lead in Africa and show the other countries on the continent "how to live together as the sons and daughters of God." The attitude that regardless of what the World Court decided, nothing could be done, and nothing would be done, was suicidal, he said.

In a personal interview, Mr. Hofmeyr said: "Suppose the verdict goes against South Africa, the African countries will feel in honour bound to bring force to bear to implement the decision of the court. The Asian countries will also pressure them to this end. But, the African countries do not at the moment have the power to force their will on South Africa by military means.

RED OFFER

"Always dangling in front of the African States is the Communist Chinese offer to supply 50,000 trained guerilla fighters as a start to join the African countries in an assault on South Africa."

If the Africans accepted this offer, Mr. Hofmeyr said, there would be 50,000 Communist guerillas on the continent. And, even if they were unable, to defeat South Africa, the guerillas would still be on the continent.

The South West issue would perhaps not be used in the first place for an actual assault on South Africa, but to get the first major military foothold for Communist China on the continent. This would be a step toward eventually facing South Africa with a Communist continent.

While such a Communist force should pose a threat to the African countries themselves it was most enlightening to see the way the African leaders looked at the problem. Mr. Hofmeyr said. He recalled one highly educated African leader saying to him: "With my head I know it would be dangerous to accept the Chinese offer of troops to fight against South Africa, and we should not risk it. But, with

my heart I feel so strongly about South Africa that I am not sure that my head would win."

POSSIBILITIES

He went on to add that he was not a prophet of doom, but these were very real possibilities.

Apart from the issue of South West Africa, he said, everyone realised that Red China had her sights firmly set on Africa because she had too many people and too little cobalt from which bombs were made.

Mr. Hofmeyr said that he felt that South Africa should make it her national aim to bring peace to the African continent.

"I realise fully that we have been thrown out of the organisations where we of all the African countries could have made the greatest contribution. If we now sit back and say, 'Well, if they don't want us that is their loss, and they can sit and stew in their own juice', then we shall be doing exactly what Peking wants us to do.

STILL ACTIVE

"The other day the Chinese were thrown out of Burundi. But, they are certainly not sitting back licking their wounds. They are in the Congo (Brazzaville) and Dar-es-Salaam planning how to get back into Burundi. And, meanwhile they are Communising Tanzania and the Congo."

The early South Africans had faced great difficulties and had overcome them. Mr. Hofmeyr said that he was sure that if South Africa today decided to bring peace to the African continent and to break down the barriers to the hearts of the



Mr. Bremer Hofmeyr

best men in Africa, she could succeed.

Mr. Hofmeyr has worked in 22 African countries, including a year in the Congo when he was arrested by the Lumumbists and threatened with death. While in Kenya he worked closely with Kenyatta, and in the Congo with men such as Kasavubu, Tshombe and Mobutu.