

We are Basotho. That is a proud boast. That is a great privilege to be a citizen of an Independent Lesotho, and we must meet our responsibilities. We stand for freedom. That is our conviction for ourselves- that is our only commitment for others. No friend, no neutral and no adversary should think otherwise. We are not against any man - or any nation - or any system - except as it is hostile to freedom or to our national security. We in Lesotho must first learn to live in peace among ourselves - for charity begins at home. No Mosotho shall lift up sword against another Mosotho. Then we will make clear Lesotho's enduring concern for both peace and freedom - that we are anxious to live in harmony with our neighbours - that we seek only the day when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation: neither shall they learn war anymore."

Having thus conquered all the forces of disunity it remains avowed policy of my government to rally all the forces behind it to improve the economy of the country. Early in January I shall be meeting Dr. Anton Rupert my Industrial Adviser and other technical experts to work on a development plan for the purpose of establishing industries to fight poverty and unemployment in our country.

Our foreign policy lays stress on peaceful co-existence and non-interference in the domestic affairs of other states. Despite this, we reject unequivocally the philosophy of apartheid, and reiterate our adherence to the principles of dignity, and political equality, regardless of race or colour. In Rhodesia, while we remain committed to the principles of social and political equality, we would not presume to advocate the employment of force which we know to be the destroyer of life. Under no circumstances can we associate ourselves with the philosophy of boycotts and their consequent application of sanctions. Only a fool will despise trade. Let me make it quite clear, however, that the government of Lesotho has no intention whatsoever of giving recognition to the Smith regime, which we regard as having seized power by illegal means. We trust that reason and good sense will prevail, and hope devoutly for a peaceful solution of this problem which is inherently one of Britain and her Colony.

On other world problems much further removed from our land we would very much like to see the Year 1967 usher in the respective re-unifications of Germany, and Korea and the return to each of these countries of a democratic system of government/..