GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

P.O. Box 353, MASERU, Lesotho.

Telephone: 2475

Telegrams: "Basinfor"

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PRESS RELEASE

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PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY TO A LETTER IN THE LONDON TIMES

The London Times of 2nd January publishes a statement by Professor L.C.B. Gower headed "Dangers facing Lawyers in Lesotho".

In this article and very much without the facts on which to arrive at a fair judgment, the writer attempts to champion the course of a deported lawyer - Mr. T. Mohaleroe and to blame my Government for this deportation. The whole thing is a most shocking piece of written material which has served only one purpose - to arouse the strongest objections, contempt and condemnation.

It is inconceivable how a person of professional status will so easily allow himself to fly on the wings of fancy and to build castles in the air. The affairs of Lesotho are a closed book to Professor Gower, but because he is a lawyer, a person of high education and standing in the British Bar, he believes that even in the inner story of events in Lesotho he still has the last word. Here Professor Gower has blundered beyond all measure. He has allowed himself to rush to conclusions derived from no other data but the friendship between him and Mr. Mohaleroe. Professor Gower and Mr. Mohaleroe share a common bond, which is legal training. By it the Professor believes they are raised above the level of making mistakes. It is extremely stupid of the learned Professor to believe there is no limit to his sphere of authority and mistakes are the monopoly of the uneducated.

Professor Gower is of the opinion that Mr. Mohaleroe was made to leave this country because he supports the King in the fight against apartheid and that my Government has sent him out of the country because it stands for apartheid. The Professor could not have erred more. Long before Professor Gower knew Mr. Mohaleroe and made friends with him, Mr. Mohaleroe and I were already great friends and formidable allies against apartheid. Mr. Mohaleroe will bear me out on this.

He was / ...