

I will have done you a great disservice if I do not mention the complaints that I have received in regard to the allocation of soil and fields. The volume of complaints and their intensity compelled me to advise His Majesty the King to appoint a Commission to inquire into the validity of these complaints. This Commission will begin work shortly and the Government will act promptly on their recommendations. Let me warn the nation and the Chiefs against those activities that run counter to our customs and traditions and to our Constitution. In particular, I want to warn those who, in conjunction with Mr. Ntsu Mokhehle, use the name of the King freely in their political utterances. Their unfounded allegation about the "imprisonment" of the King can do nothing except sow and nurture strife and conflict between the King and his Government. In our 1965 Manifesto we pledged ourselves to respect the Crown and the Head of State in Lesotho on the explicit understanding the incumbent of this high position should not engage in politics or act contrary to our Constitution. We still stand by this pledge of loyalty to the Throne and to the Head of State, who is a constitutional monarch. It is therefore up to all - the Chiefs and the people - to ensure that our Constitution is respected in this regard. If there is any conflict between the Constitution and the institution of Chieftainship, some unfortunate consequences may follow.

PEACE! RAIN! PROSPERITY!