



14 JAN 1970

Thray

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER,
CHIEF LEABUA JONATHAN, AT A NATIONAL PIESO
AT LERIBE, ON SUNDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 1969.

My drive to Leribe today was a very depressing one. I say this because I was once again struck by the senseless damage that our country can suffer when irresponsible elements are on the rampage. I am referring to the fence that has been cut down right along the road.

What depresses me even more is that this damage to public property is done by members of the Congress Party, which is the party that got most - if not all - of its votes from this district.

I am sure this is not what you elected them for. When you returned them in 1965 you did not know that you were electing irresponsible elements who would damage property bought with your own tax. I do not blame you. How could you know what a party without an election manifesto would do? Today you know, because they have shown what they were hiding from you by not producing an election manifesto. Even now, on the eve of our second general elections, Mr. Mokhehle still refuses to produce an election manifesto. After your 1965 blunder I am sure you will now view this with more wisdom. You will not grope in the dark as you did in 1965. An election manifesto is very important because it is in this document that a political party declares its standpoint on serious matters which affect your lives and the lives of your children.

You will remember that in 1965 the Basotho National Party produced an election manifesto, on the basis of which you elected us into power. Among the issues the National Party raised in 1965 was the question of our relations with the Republic of South Africa. You know my views on this matter and the nation - especially you the people of Leribe - have tasted the benefits of my policy of peaceful co-existence. You know how the Congress Party insulted me because of this policy.

But today Mr. Mokhehle is changing. Those of you who have radio sets must have heard the report
over.../2.