

"STAR" 24/5/76

'I'm ready to back boycott,' says Dean

He was ready to support an economic boycott of South Africa, the Very Rev Desmond Tutu, Dean of Johannesburg and Bishop-elect of Lesotho, said at a Human Rights meeting on Saturday.

In an impassioned speech before a multiracial crowd of more than 100 in Vrededorp, Johannesburg, he said nobody could convince him the changes in South Africa's sports policy would have occurred had there not been an international sports boycott.

He was ready to support an economic boycott because it was a means of peaceful change.

PURPOSE

"You hear people say the Blacks will be the first to be hit. Rubbish! What do you think is happening right now — they are suffering and for no purpose. At least an economic boycott would provide a purpose."

There would, of course, be no boycott because Western countries benefited from cheap Black labour.

He hit at a recent statement by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kruger, in which he reportedly said "the White man is stron-

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Tutu letter warns PM of violence

"RDM"

24/5/76

By LYNN STEVENSON
THE Very Reverend Desmond Tutu, Anglican Dean of Johannesburg and Bishop-elect of Lesotho, has written to Mr Vorster of his "growing nightmarish fear" of possible bloodshed and violence in South Africa.

"I am frightened, dreadfully frightened, that we may soon reach a point of no return, when events will generate a momentum of their own, when nothing will stop their reaching a bloody denouement which is 'too ghastly to contemplate' to quote your words, 'Sir,'" Dean Tutu wrote.

"But we Blacks are exceedingly patient and peace loving. Blacks have tried to assure Whites

that they don't want to drive them into the sea. How long can they go on giving these assurances and have them thrown back in their faces with contempt?

"We cannot expect you to move so far in advance of your electorate that you alienate their support. We are ready to accept some meaningful signs which would demonstrate that you and your Government and all Whites really mean business when you say you want peaceful change.

● "Firstly accept the urban Black as a permanent inhabitant of what is wrongly called White South Africa with consequent freehold property rights.

● "Secondly repeal the

pass laws which demonstrate to Blacks more clearly than anything else that they are third rate citizens.

● "Thirdly it is imperative that you call a national convention of the genuine leaders of all sections of the community, that is, leaders recognised as such by their sections of the community, to try to work out an orderly evolution of South Africa into a non-racial, open and just society.

"I believe firmly that your leadership is quite unassailable and that you have been given virtually a blank cheque by the White electorate and you have little to fear from a so-called Rightwing blacklash."

The removal of a few signs from park benches had not been a substantial move away from discrimination, as promised by Mr Pik Botha at the United Nations.

Should Mr Vorster want it, he would be glad to meet the Prime Minister to discuss the issues in the letter, he said.

Dean Tutu, will retain his South African citizenship when he becomes Bishop of Lesotho.

Kruger 'provocative'

Staff Reporter

"AFRICA DAY" was commemorated on Saturday at a meeting organised by the Human Rights Committee in Vrededorp, Johannesburg.

About 160 people heard the Very Reverend Desmond Tutu, the Anglican

Dean of Johannesburg, describe as "irresponsible and provocative" last week's warning on Black power by the Minister of Justice, Mr Jimmy Kruger.

Mr David Gaza, chairman of the Umlazi Ratepayers Association, called for the release of all political prisoners.