

# The Daily News

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## Promising summit

A MOST encouraging political development appears to be taking shape as Foreign Minister Pik Botha's European tour of duty proceeds. It is becoming clear that South Africa is using the good offices of the Portuguese government in an attempt to set up high level meetings between the Republic and Mozambique.

There is speculation that the immediate objective is a meeting between Mr Botha and his Mozambican counterpart Joachim Chissano and that this might be a prelude to a P.W. Botha-Samora Machel summit. At either level, a weighty and highly important agenda awaits them which has the potential to improve the political climate of southern Africa.

The timing seems impeccable. President Machel is apparently a sadly disillusioned Marxist. Recently knighted (which must have encouraged his pro-Western conversion), he is reportedly deeply worried about his country's internal stability. South Africa is accused of helping to destabilise Mozambique; Mozambique, in the aftermath of SADF raids on ANC bases there, is disenchanted with the continued presence of ANC cadres. Thus the prospects for a trade off seem good. And if the talks can succeed in finally securing a reliable power supply from the giant Cabora Bassa hydro-electric scheme the region may be set to taste the first practical fruits of political co-operation.