



PARTY JOKES: Rivalries aside for a while, Akel's Demetris Christofias, United Democrat leader George Vassiliou and acting Disy chief Nicos Anastasiades enjoy a joke at the House of Representatives Christmas party last night.

MPs relax with jokes and fun at House party

By Demetra Molyva

AFTER a noisy 3-hour debate yesterday afternoon, MPs from all sides of the House of Representatives put aside their differences and joined government ministers for their annual Christmas party.

Comedian Demetris Kalerghis, known for his authentic impersonations of the island's party leaders, entertained deputies with some hilarious political satire.

Not surprisingly, much of it referred to the recent visit to Cyprus by the British Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, whom he described as "Moses bringing the ten command-

ments" and to the municipal elections. "Everyone won and there were no losers," he said, imitating Diko leader Spyros Kyprianou saying "Every time I don't win does not mean I am a loser."

Maintaining a longstanding House tradition, Akel MP Yiannakis Agapiou, dressed as Father Christmas, had all his colleagues rolling with laughter as he told in-jokes about local politics and poked fun at all the parties in a skit about the year's two sets of elections.

The House Christmas party also included a short programme of carols sung by the Ayios Andreas elementary school choir.