

Miners defy ultimatum

haviour became increasingly aggressive. It was necessary for mine security to use tear smoke to restore order."

About 10% of Bracken's 3 500 coal-workers have joined the NUM's 11-day-old wage strike — a 5% rise on Tuesday's count.

Ramaphosa said mine security at Anglo's Goedehoop colliery tear-gassed workers and made six arrests. It was not clear what caused the clash and Anglo was still trying to verify the incident at the time of going to press.

Details of eight workers arrested at Gencor's Transvaal Navigation colliery near Witbank are similarly vague.

Yesterday marked the first time in the strike that mine property was reported damaged — a pipeline supplying water



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to Anglo's Ergo gold plant near Springs was sabotaged causing the loss of about 20 000 tons of water.

The Chamber of Mines migrant labour recruiting arm — the Employment Bureau of Africa (Teba) — yesterday reached agreement with the NUM on wage increases for employees at its Johannesburg and Welkom depots.

Teba increases were in line with the chamber's wage offer in talks with the union on increases for the gold and coal mineworkers.

The two-day strike at Johannesburg Consolidated Investments' Matthey Rustenburg platinum refinery at Wadeville near Germiston also ended.

"Following certain statements by the leader of the Labour Party, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, made at Keimoes and reported by the media, the State President informed him by letter this morning that if he was correctly reported he was acting in conflict with a Cabinet decision of August 12

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Cabinet was unacceptable and he was asked what his reaction was.

"The Rev Hendrickse answered the State President by letter this afternoon, in which he enclosed certain quotes from his speech in the House of Representatives on August 19, and further claimed that it was not in conflict with the Cabinet decision. But was rather a difference in perception.

"The Rev Hendrickse acknowledged that he supported the Cabinet decision and does not deny his statements as reported.

"As a consequence, the Rev Hendrickse offered his resignation from the Cabinet.

"The State President accepted Rev Hendrickse's resignation from the Cabinet with immediate effect.

"The Rev Hendrickse served in the Cabinet at the invitation of the State President. His request to resign from the Cabinet and the acceptance of his resignation do not affect his position as chairman of the Ministers' Council of the House of Representatives, and thus also not the operation of that Ministers' Council of the House of Representatives."

decide whether to participate in the system or withdraw from it, said Dr Treurnicht.

Mr Colin Eglin, Progressive Federal Party leader, said that the resignation of Mr Hendrickse had been bound to happen sooner or later.

Botha as leader of the National Party has his own agenda, and when others don't accept it he rides roughshod over them.

"This might work in his own caucus, but will not work in a multiracial South Africa," said Mr Eglin.

While he understood and to some extent identified himself with the anger expressed by the Jewish Defence Organisation, he appealed for "cool heads".

"The police are investigating the matter. Let the law take its course," Mr Bloomberg added. Yesterday the chairman of the International

"At a time when reasonable people within South Africa are trying to find solutions for some of the difficult issues facing the Republic, Terre-Blanche and the other national socialist supporters are doing all they can to undermine these efforts."

He likened the AWB to the ANC and said they

to taking disciplinary steps against three members of the movement who attended the service.

The meeting was attended by the leader of the Voortrekkers, Prof Carel Boshoff, Mrs M Swanepoel and Mr Jan Oelofse, the secretary of the movement, as well as Mr Izak Lessing.

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Anglo urges NUM to resume talks

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but that no pre-conditions be set to negotiations.

"The revised position by industry spokesmen has created a climate to set negotiations in motion," the union said.

Three more people died and a further 25 were injured in incidents reported yesterday at three gold mines belonging to separate mining houses.

A spokesman for Johannesburg Consolidated Investments (JCI) said a miner was killed and 14 people were injured when workers clashed with members of a NUM strike committee at the south shaft of its Western Areas gold mine.

Two of those injured in the incident, which occurred late on Saturday,

were in a serious condition.

In a similar clash at the mine's north shaft on Sunday night, one man was killed by "disgruntled workers" who had become frustrated at attempts to prevent them from working.

During this incident a member of the mine's security force was stabbed, according to JCI.

The Anglo American Corporation said a miner was killed in a clash between strikers and those wishing to return to work at its President Steyn Mine in the Free State.

Three other miners were injured in the clash which occurred early yesterday at the mine's number four shaft.

When workers at the same mine came under attack, mine security officials were forced to use rubber bullets and six people were hospitalised with injuries.

The NUM alleges that the worker killed at the mine yesterday, died after workers were forced out of their rooms early in the morning and were attacked by mine security. NUM said 14 workers were injured in the clash.

The Chamber's industrial relations adviser, Mr Johann Liebenberg, said that since the strike peaked on August 12, about 20 000 striking miners had returned to work.

The Chamber's current estimate of the numbers out on strike was about 210 000 against its original estimate of up to 230 000.

The past few days had been characterised by "sharp clashes" between those wanting to work and strikers, and the strike was moving into a "difficult phase".

Anglo said in a separate statement yesterday that deadlines for a return to work, given last Friday have been extended, at all Anglo administered gold mines.

The extension is to allow employees more time to consider their options, Anglo said.

An independent survey by the labour monitoring group has estimated that so far the mines have lost more than R190 million since the start of the strike.

It also estimated that striking miners have not yet lost an amount equal to the overall gain if the Chamber of Mines.

NUM demand for a 30 percent across-the-board increase is met. They have 10 days to go before they reach a break even point.

According to the Chamber of Mines the LMG estimate is not accurate and not as much as estimated has been lost, but no figures to correct this were given.

In another development, Anglo said yesterday the Industrial Court made an order on Friday finding that the NUM and its officials committed 13 unfair labour practices during an illegal work stoppage and sit-in last year at East Rand Gold Company (Ergo).

Many of the actions judged by the court to be unfair labour practices have been repeated at Ergo and elsewhere during the current strike, Ergo's manager of manpower reserves, Mr John Gatherer, told a Press conference.

He said the major implication of the Industrial Court's ruling in favour of Ergo was that it defined the way in which industrial relations between union and employers should be conducted.

CYRIL RAMAPHOSA

Lawyer at the centre of SA's biggest-ever miners' strike

Richard Dowden

AT ONE point during last month's meeting of the Congress of South African Trade Unions it seemed as if a split in the leadership of one union was going to destroy the whole congress. The chairman was clearly unable to keep the dispute off the floor of the packed hall.

From the front row of a phalanx of miners in yellow tracksuits a chunky, bearded figure took the microphone. He calmly told the quarrelling comrades that although he had great sympathy with their problem they had to settle their dispute over lunch and come back united.

Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa had spoken. No one dared raise the issue again.

In the past, South African trade-union leaders have tended to be either soap-box men who could lead a short, sharp assault on apartheid and capitalism or anonymous committee men, skilful at negotiating and organising, but not one of the lads.

Ramaphosa, the 34-year-old leader of the National Union of Mineworkers, emerged as a committee man but is also a charismatic speaker.

He is one of the coolest and most articulate negotiators that the mine owners have ever had to face, but he is also a leader capable of turning a meeting into a crusade, or a potential riot into a coherent meeting.

He was born in Johannesburg, the second son of a mine policeman, and attended the Sekano-Ntoane High School in Soweto, a seed-bed of political discontent.

He registered for a law degree at Turfloop University but became involved in student politics and was chairman of the university branch of the South African Students' Organisation in 1974.

As a result he served in what many black South African leaders call the real university — 11 months in Pretoria Central Prison under Section Six of the Terrorism Act.

He then became involved with the Black People's Convention and came to know and admire Steve Biko, the main exponent of black consciousness, who died in prison in 1977.

Ramaphosa was arrested again during the Soweto troubles of June 1976 and held for six months at John Vorster Square in Johannesburg. When he was released he returned to law studies and qualified in 1981.

But instead of joining a law firm he worked for the Council of Unions of South Africa (Cusa) as a legal adviser.

The Cusa unions were led by professionally trained officials and were concerned mainly with wages and conditions, avoiding a wider political role. They were also exclusively black.

Like many of his generation Ramaphosa ar-



rived at a more sophisticated understanding of the struggle against apartheid than the "ourselves alone" exclusivity of black consciousness.

In the meantime the Wiehahn Commission, in one of the more far-reaching reforms, recommended that black trade unions be allowed to operate openly.

Cusa welcomed the move and at the end of 1982 began to form the NUM out of the underground network which already existed.

Ramaphosa became its secretary and its membership leapt from 6 000 to a present figure of approximately 300 000, no mean achievement considering how many miners are recruited from the impoverished neighbouring countries and face destitution without work.

The only previous mass black mining union was crushed in 1946, when 100 000 miners went on strike. That strike was crushed by force and the miners sent down at bayonet point by the then United Party Government of General Smuts.

Although it did not register with the Government, the NUM was recognised by the Chamber of Mines, which saw it as professional and responsible. Like many employers the mining houses prefer to deal with a strong union which can at least control its members rather than suffer the anarchy of wildcat strikes.

In 1985 the NUM parted company with the Cusa unions and helped form the Congress of South African Trade Unions, which was open to all races and more socialist in its orientation.

It was the NUM which sponsored the radical political motions at the recent Cosatu conference, calling for sanctions and disinvestment and endorsement of the Freedom Charter, the manifesto of the African National Congress.

Ramaphosa's task has been to harness that militancy but avoid the politicisation of his dispute which would invite Government intervention. He has kept the strike based firmly on the issue of wages and conditions. Even white mine executives praise his knowledge of the industry and his negotiating skill.

But there are elements in the union which would force it into direct confrontation with the Government.

There is a welter of bitterness among miners, who have long been at the sharp end of the apartheid economy. They are the creators of South Africa's wealth but receive about R570 a month before tax. White miners receive three times that sum.

Underneath the present haggling over pay and conditions is a struggle for power at the core of South Africa's wealth. The miners know they do not just represent themselves but all blacks living under apartheid. — The Independent.

THE wage strike by more than 300 000 mineworkers at 45 gold and coal mines throughout South Africa is over and workers are expected to be back at work on affected mines by tonight.

Chamber of Mines president, Mr Naas Steenkamp told about 50 local and foreign journalists at the Chamber's Hollard Street, Johannesburg, head office that the National Union of Mineworkers had accepted management's offer of improved death benefits and other concessions — but not increased wages.

The settlement came in the wake of the death of two miners at the Kinross Gold Mine on Friday, bringing to nine the total number of workers to die since the strike began on August 9.

Mr Steenkamp said mine bosses had learnt a lot during the strike and praised Num for "its skill and determination".

Mr Steenkamp said the settlement was reached on improved fringe benefits only. The Chamber did not make a new offer on wage demands.

The Num had originally demanded a 30 percent increase which it modified to 27 percent when it met the Chamber a week ago when both parties met for the first time since the workers downed tools.

Offer

The union accepted the employers' offer of improved death benefits. The mine bosses will now give workers R1,40 for every R100 earned and the benefits will be spread over a three year period instead of four.

Workers are now to contribute 45 cents per R100 instead of the current R1 per R100.

This means mining houses have conceded 10 percent in fringe benefits, according to Mr Steenkamp.

The chamber said it sympathised with the families of the dead mineworkers.

"The cost of the strike has been high. Most tragically there has been loss of life and we share in the sorrow of the bereaved families. Others have been injured and wounded and we extend our sympathies to them," Mr Steenkamp said.

...aid the cost must,

But no new offer on wages

'Strike a lesson for Chamber'

● From Page 1

of course, be measured in terms of strains imposed on the management-worker relationship, the strife between strikers and non-strikers, the disturbing incidence of violence, intimidation and murder, loss of jobs and wages sacrificed.

On the question of whether the about 30 000 workers who had been dismissed since the strike began for failing to heed return-to-work deadlines, Mr Steenkamp said individual mining houses would decide on their fate.

Anglo American Corporation, the biggest employer in the Chamber, has been the hardest hit and has dismissed thousands of striking Num members.

Spokesman Mr Bobby Godsell declined to comment yesterday and referred reporters to the chamber.

Meanwhile the National Union of Mineworkers has said it does not regard the settlement as a defeat for the union or a victory for the Chamber of Mines.

Addressing journalists at a Johannesburg hotel,

Num general secretary, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, said the strike was a lesson for the Chamber, which had miscalculated by thinking the action would last for only 48 hours.

The Chamber had also not anticipated that as

many as 340 000 workers would go out on strike.

"The Num, together with Cosatu, would strengthen its living wage campaign in 1988," he said and added that workers started going back to work at 9pm last night at most mines.

WEDNESDAY night's flat "no" by NUM strikers to bottomline offers by the Chamber of Mines after Tuesday's three-hour meeting between the two muscle-flexing forces, has dashed hopes of an early settlement of the miners' strike and set the dispute almost back to square one.



REV NTOULA

"Our representatives did not even find it necessary to consider the Cham-

ber of Mines offer," said NUM's general secretary, Cyril Ramaphosa.

The Chamber's offer, after its refusal to budge on wage increases — the core of the 18-day labour strike — was to increase the compensation of its death benefit scheme and raise holiday leave allowances.

The Chamber's refusal to discuss wages this week was in line with its announcement that it would stand firm on its offer of a 17-23 percent increase, which NUM has rejected.

Announcing the unanimous decision not to return to work, Ramaphosa said his union had noted with regret that, while it had done all in its power to resolve the deadlock, there had been no apparent willingness on the part of the mines to reach a settlement.

Referring to steps taken by NUM to break the deadlock, Ramaphosa said the union had reduced its 30 percent pay increase demand to 27 percent.

Ramaphosa said violence on the mines had increased rapidly since the strike began about three weeks ago.

And while he was addressing the Press conference, Ramaphosa announced that NUM had just received a message that mine security police had attacked striking miners at Western Deep Levels and that one miner had been killed.

So far, he said, six striking miners had died while several others had been injured in the escalating wave of violence.

Ramaphosa said, despite this week's failure by NUM and the Chamber of Mines to reach a compromise, his union's door would remain open for talks should the mines wish for further negotiations or agree to refer the matter for mediation.

● Meanwhile, Anglo American yesterday confirmed a sit-in by about 3 000 strikers at the No 3 shaft at Western Deep Levels. The sit-in has confused the pay-off of strikers as there were a substantial number of workers underground, said the statement.

Num slams new mine regulations

THE repeal by Parliament of the scheduled persons definition in the Mines and Works Act has come in for criticism by the National Union of Mineworkers, although it was promulgated to do away with discriminatory legislation.

The Num's assistant General-Secretary, Mr Marcel Golding, said yesterday some of the new criteria, like language, security and age, had been included to regulate the number of black miners getting blasting certificates.

"The Num feels that a worker's competency should be decided by the worker's ability to perform," he said.

He added that the committee to monitor the entrance qualifications was "completely unacceptable" and had been included to "allay the fears of white miners to limit the number of blacks getting blasting certificates."

Mr Golding added: "Conditions of employment and job advancement should be regulated by employer and employee organisations and not by a statutory third party." — Sapa.

Clothes factory workers sit in

ABOUT 50 workers employed by Rupwin Clothing Manufacturers in Seshego, Pietersburg, staged a three-hour sit-in yesterday demanding a pay increase. The workers say they earned between R16 and R20 per week.

The manager, a Mrs Swanepoel, yesterday said: "There were problems" at the plant but said everything had gone back to normal. She denied that workers were paid between R16 and R20 per week but refused to say what the correct figures were. "It is none of your business and I'm not going to tell you", she said.

Workers told the *Sowetan* that 10 workers were dismissed yesterday after the three-hour stoppage. "We sent a delegation earlier to negotiate about pay increases and also because increases are given unequally. Some people get increases some don't. We were told we could all go home and come back on Friday as we were fired," one worker said.

The factory is in Lebowa where trade unions are not recognised.

Many support Num strike

STRIKING National Union of Mineworkers members have received messages of support from local and foreign organisations.

The telegrammes came from the World Federation of Trade Unions and the head of the budget committee in the United States Congress, Mr William Gray.

The United States Labour Movement, AFL-CIO, has sent a telex. Both Mr Gray and the AFL-CIO said the mine strike is receiving a lot of media coverage in the United States and wished the Num well in its efforts "to end apartheid".

The president of the British National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Arthur Scargill, has launched an international appeal for funds to support striking Num members.

Mr Richard Trumka, president of the United Mineworkers of America has also sent Num a telegram of solidarity and urged his union members to donate money to the strikers.

The outlawed Pan Africanist Congress has pledged its support for the Num in the fight for a living wage.

Strike talks today

TALKS between the National Union of Mineworkers and the Anglo American Corporation adjourned early yesterday evening after three and half hours of "constructive discussions" and will resume today, Mr Bobby Godsell, Anglo Industrial Relations manager, said.

He said Anglo had put forward four proposals in an attempt to minimise violence on mines during the current coal and gold mines strike.

The NUM submitted eight proposals yesterday which Anglo wanted time to consider and it was "mutually agreed" talks would resume today, reporters were told.

Meanwhile, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, after the meeting, asked Anglo to open affected mines to the media "to allow everybody to see where the violence comes from."

He also said Anglo should not charge striking miners for food and accommodation.

INCIDENT as the arrest of 78 Klerksdorp National Union of Mineworkers strikers on Wednesday have the real potential of igniting a nationwide labour strike which could plunge the country into economic crisis.

Unless mine security police, the South African Police and mine management desist from their alleged provocative attitude and act with restraint in the dispute, Cosatu's 25 affiliates - representing over 600 000 workers - could soon join their NUM colleagues in the strike.

According to Cosatu's information officer, Frank Meintjies, the affiliates, who have been monitoring the strike closely since it started last Saturday, would meet on Monday to decide what action to take in sympathy with the NUM strikers.

At a Press conference on Wednesday, NUM general secretary, Cyril Ramaphosa, said at least 177 NUM members had been arrested since the strike started.

And NUM's assistant secretary, Marnet Golding, disclosed a large contingent of mine security police - some believed to be members of the South African Police in mine security uniforms - moved into the hostel at Vaal Reef mine with firearms and told workers to go back to work immediately.

Golding also said that the NUM offices at the Vaal Reef hostel had been closed by mine security men and that workers had been ordered to return to work.

And at a Press conference yesterday afternoon Ramaphosa disclosed that another 10 mines and plants had joined the strike in the last two days.

Ramaphosa said these new additions had brought another 1 000 people into the strike, contradicting earlier statements by the

chamber which claimed the strike was on the wane.

He also said police had surrounded the NUM regional offices in Welkom yesterday, and had demanded to search the premises.

He added that police had removed two suspicious looking parcels from NUM's Klerksdorp office after the office had received a bomb threat.

Meanwhile mine officials have refuted the NUM's intimidation allegations and has accused union members of provocation.

In a statement released on Wednesday, a spokesman for Anglo American, EP Gush, emphatically de-

nied that members of the SAP, disguised as mine police, had been deployed on the mines.

He said mine policemen had entered the hostel to rescue a clerk who had been badly assaulted by striking miners.

By yesterday the mines had reported that 15 people were injured, eight of them hospitalised, at President Steyn mine when stones were hurled at mine security police on Wednesday.

Police fired rubber bullets in retaliation, a spokesman for the mines said.

The mines also reported that a fight had broken out at Saaiplaas between striking workers and those wishing to work the night shift

on Wednesday night. Four strikers were injured in the fight.

The NUM strike is taking place at the same time as that of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association, where 10 000 workers are on a country-wide strike following the dismissal of colleagues.

Also of importance to the NUM strike, is the fact that workers at one of South Africa's strategic industrial plants, Sasol, have voted overwhelmingly in favour of a strike.

This follows management's failure to meet the union's demand for the recognition of June 16 and May Day as paid holidays. Their union, the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union, is presently deciding on strike action.

And yesterday, following the arrest of the 78 Vaal Reef miners, NUM lawyers and the SAP were engaged in a legal tangle over the question of bail.

Meanwhile, Vaal Reef's east division manager, KC Dicks, has sent a circular to all strikers on Tuesday, urging them to abandon the strike.

In the circular, Dicks claimed that workers would lose between R13 and R21 a day if they did not return to work.

However, an NUM organiser said the workers were determined to achieve their goal and were not perturbed by Dicks' "motivation".

Meanwhile, more than 1 200 workers at eight construction companies at Western Transvaal's Klerksdorp region mines have joined the NUM strike.

Construction and Allied Workers' Union regional organiser Thabo Silo said there was a 100 percent downing of tools at Gel Mining, Construction, Mine Rock Construction, Turncorn Mining Construction, Cornerstone Mine Construction, Rucsacs Construction, Fraser Alexander Construction Company, Shaft Sinkers and Constantia Mine Construction company.

By REVELATION NTOULA and DAN DHLAMINI

Talks to end strike

REPRESENTATIVES of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association were reported to have met the Minister of Post and Telecommunications, Stoffel Botha, yesterday in an attempt to resolve a six-week postal strike.

A Potwa spokesman said in Johannesburg that the president, Vusi Khumalo, was holding talks with the Minister in Cape Town.

A Post Office spokesman, Ben Rootman, said he understood the union had telephoned Botha for an interview but was unsure whether it had taken place.

Over 10 000 workers are on strike countrywide following the dismissal of 100 Post Office workers in the Eastern Cape last Friday.

Khumalo could not be contacted for comment. - Sapa.

MORE POWER FOR HOMELANDS

LEGISLATION to give the six self-governing national states greater autonomy as regional governments within South Africa would be introduced to Parliament this session, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said yesterday.

In a statement in Cape

SOWETAN CORRESPONDENT

Town, he said the final round of discussions on the self-governing territories Bill took place yesterday with representatives of the states.

Mr Heunis emphasised the Bill was not intended to address broader constitutional issues, merely aimed "to provide the framework within which the self-governing territories form part of the republic as regional authorities."

He reiterated the Government's position it accepted an undivided South Africa and "any

self-governing territory that prefers not to accept independence, remains part of South Africa.

"Its inhabitants should therefore remain South African citizens and they should be accommodated in political institutions within the Republic."

Mr Heunis said today's talks had been the culmination of a two-year period of in-depth negotiations which were also aimed at:

- Furthering the process of decentralisation of decision-making;

- Replacing the current National States Constitution Act of 1971, "which was drafted in different circumstances and for different purposes, and in this process also to remove unnecessary limitations and irritations contained in the Act," and
- To generally rationalise and reform the law under which the self-governing territories form part of the Republic "as regional authorities of a particular kind."

The most important changes provided for included a new approach in the definition of legislative powers,

according to which a self-governing territory would have legislative authority over all matters, excluding those normally not exercised by regional authorities.

The legislative powers of the territories were being extended for the first time to include:

- The establishment of own state departments;
- The establishment of a supreme court;
- The negotiation of agreements with other governments with the consent of the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- The raising, within an annually determined maximum, of loans at the

development bank of Southern Africa and the Land Bank;

- Control over provincial roads within the territories; and

- The entering into agreements with provincial authorities or any other self-governing territory to promote co-operation on a regional basis.

Mr Heunis said the territories would retain legislative power over matters such as education, health and welfare, public services, housing, agriculture, public works, labour, direct taxes, civil defence, tourism, forestry, nature conservation, registration of companies and deeds, legal aid, sport and recreation and public holidays.

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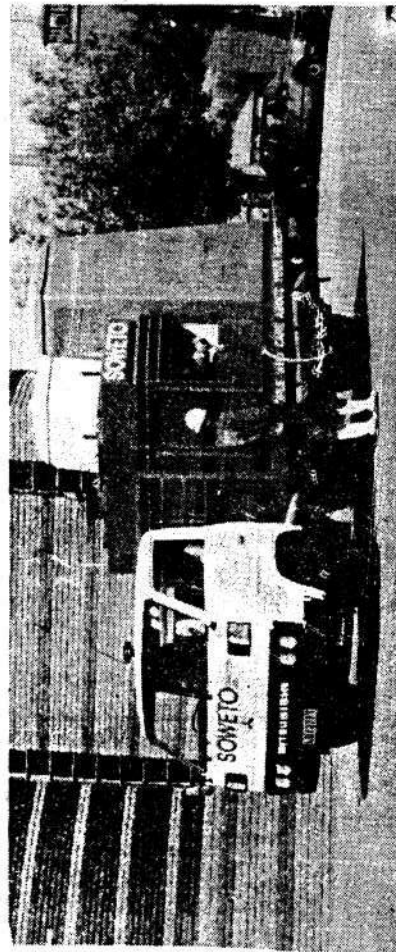
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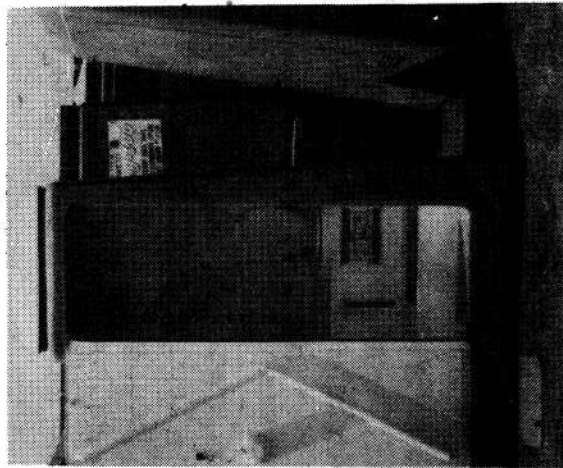
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Municipal polls are no longer 'local issues'

By Joe Openshaw

Isolation of South Africa by the world, sanctions and countries meddling in this country's affairs were as much issues in the forthcoming municipal by-election in Hillbrow as they were in the general election, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said in Johannesburg last night.

Mrs S gives Pik a miss

A leaflet addressed to Mr Pik Botha from independent candidate Mrs Desiree Simpson was handed to people attending his meeting.

Mrs Simpson wrote: "Sorry I am unable to attend... I am too busy listening to the people of Ward 25 who say they have been neglected for so long."

She promised to clean up Ward 25 — after cleaning up ANC bomb debris at her hotel.

Mr Botha was speaking to about 400 people at Braamfontein Recreational Centre in support of the National Party's municipal candidate, Mr Hein Kruger.

Mr Botha said voters had to decide who they wanted to entrust with the future, not only of Johannesburg and the Transvaal, but South Africa as a whole.

"Certainly not a sitting councillor who runs off to Australia and has to be telephoned there to come home and help his party win a majority in the council," he said.

Mr Botha asked what the Hillbrow voter had to ask himself on August 19.

"Will your representative, who is at loggerheads with the central government, improve the image of this country internally and externally?"

"Do you want to vote for the PFP, who go to Dakar to speak to people who plant bombs in your city?"

"Will you vote for a party who speaks to people who will not unconditionally abandon violence, who will govern with violence and the barbaric methods of neclaciing?"

Mr Botha said the municipal by-election was being held because the sitting councillor went to Australia.

"Do you want another by-election next year when the councillor leaves the country?"

"Those of us who want to remain in South Africa are committed to the country and a just society."

Pik defends free trade: 'SA will export to any country'

Mr Pik Botha ... "Voters in Hospital must decide to whom to entrust the future of South Africa."

Kruger (NP).

The question concerned "Mr Harry Oppenheimer's visit to Moscow for trade purposes when South Africans were being shot on the border by communists".

Mr Botha said politics

and ideologies should not interfere with the free flow of trade.

This was particularly important in a climate where countries were boycotting South Africa. South Africa had never been in favour of trade

boycotts.

Asked where he stood on his party's "racism",

Mr Botha said the National Party was not a racist party. It had removed the pass laws, repealed the Mixed Marriages Act and laws re-

garding sex across the colour line, and had ensured integrated sport.

Mr Kruger said he was on record as rejecting any form of discrimination and he supported the National Party's reform policy.



CP opposes new mining legislation

Bill takes 'a stand against discrimination'

Political Staff

The scrapping of the last statutory job reservation clause in the South African mining industry had "nothing to do with rights of groups and everything to do with the rights of ordinary people", the Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology, Mr George Bartlett, said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

In the second reading debate on the Mines and Works Amendment Bill he said the scrapping of legislation which provided that only whites and some coloureds could qualify for 13 of the industry's different Certificates of Competence, including the blasting certificate, was a "stand in principle against discrimination".

The Progressive Federal Party supported the Bill but Mr Roger Hulley, spokesman for this department, said he did not believe it was appropriate to congratulate the National Party, just as one would not congratulate a man who had stopped beating his wife.

"Blacks have been excluded from skilled positions in the mining industry since its early days," he said.

The Opposition opposed the Bill and their spokesman, Mr Arrie

Paulus, former general secretary of the National Mineworkers' Union, said the NP had guarded jobs for whites on the mines for years but was now "leaving them in the lurch by saying that blacks can get a blasting certificate".

The Chamber of Mines claimed there were not enough white workers to fulfil the requirements of the industry, said Mr Paulus. This was untrue.

"There is no need for this legislation. There are enough whites to do the job but this Bill will mean that white workers will have to make way for black labourers from other states, most of which are not well-disposed to South Africa. So here we are in white South Africa giving blasting certificates to foreign blacks."

The Government was brought to power in 1948 by the miners' vote and it was a Government which rightly believed that giving blasting certificates to blacks was the beginning of Communism.

"The white miner is not prepared to work under blacks and he will defend his blasting certificate," said Mr Paulus.

Both Mr Bartlett and Mr Hulley expressed concern that Mr Paulus



might have intended this as a threat.

Mr Hulley expressed his party's reservation about seven new requirements to be met by the individual seeking a certificate. After such a long history of discrimination, these requirements would be greeted with suspicion as they could be applied as a subtle form of discrimination.

He asked why the requirements — which include command of language, educational qualifications and security — had been built into the legislation and not left to the discernment of those applying the certification tests.

Mr Bartlett said the requirements were designed to promote the safety and health of the mineworkers and not as potential discriminatory measures.

Govt's partners face Group Areas dilemma

John MacLennan

THE Government's partners in the tricameral system are being challenged to put their money where their mouth is in terms of a Bill which calls for the abolition of the Group Areas Act.

The controversial draft Bill was submitted in the House of Delegates by Mr Mamoo Rajab, law and order spokesman of the opposition Progressive Reform Party, and has already been passed for discussion by the Speaker of Parliament.

It now goes to a standing committee where the Government and its partners — the National People's Party of Mr Amichand Rajbansi and the Labour Party of Mr Allen Hendrickse — are in the majority.

The measure, known as the Group Areas Act Repeal Bill, provides an embarrassing problem for these parties because they have both hampered residential discrimination in the past — yet they will be required to vote with the National Party in rejecting the measure.

If the vote goes against the bill it will fall away. If there is a revolt at this committee stage and it is approved then it will be submitted in all three houses of Parliament.

The Bill calls for the repeal of provisions of the Group Areas Act "which provides for the consolidation of the law relating to the establishment of the Group Areas, the control of the acquisition of immovable property and the occupation of land and premises..."

Mr Rajab said: "Since the enact-

ment of the Act, untold harm and misery has been inflicted on the South African community which in turn has caused race relations between the various communities of the South African population to be adversely affected.

"With the exception of some members of the white population group the overwhelming population of South Africa desires the repeal of this Act."

He regards the fact that the Bill has been passed for discussion by the

Speaker as highly significant. He points out that the Speaker might have been expected to reject the measure as the Group Areas Act is already being investigated by the President's Council.

His go-ahead could therefore indicate a willingness on the part of the Government to soften or change the Act without scrapping it altogether.

The Group Areas Act caused fiery exchanges in both the House of Delegates and House of Representatives last week.

MOST foreign diplomats are on tenterhooks awaiting official clarification of statements by President P W Botha.

Many of them spend large amounts of their embassy budgets on various programmes in SA — developmental, educational and extra-parliamentary. Some are expanding on so-called humanitarian programmes.

But Botha's threats to clamp down on foreign diplomatic personnel who encourage extra-parliamentary activities is not being interpreted by diplomats as being aimed at aid programmes.

Instead, in the words of one diplomatic source: "We are interpreting what the President said to be as a result of the highly demonstrative public support from diplomats for the role of extra-parliamentary organisations."

Diplomatic sources believed Botha aimed his statements specifically at foreign governments which provided aid to black opposition groups, or funded the Dakar trip.

Many foreign diplomats openly attend treason trials and public functions of Cosatu, the National Women's Federation and the UDF.

They believe their role includes maintaining contact with all *bona fide* groups in SA, from Afrikaner cultural and political groups to organisations like the UDF and Azapo.

Their governments' policies against apartheid are well known. A diplomatic source said many of the "humanitarian projects" included the funding of multi-racial schools, assistance for detainees and scholarships outside the country for SA and Namibian refugees.

Diplomats await clarification

DOMINIQUE GILBERT

The Swiss government, one of several governments to fund the Dakar trip, is to decide within the next two weeks on the extent and nature of future financial aid programmes in SA.

Swiss media attaché George Martin said his government — which spends about Sfr1m annually, mostly on bursaries for blacks — would be spending more money on "general developing organisations".

He said the Dakar sponsorship represented the "political limit" of Swiss aid in line with Switzerland's clear and traditional policy on SA.

Many diplomats, when asked about Botha's statements yesterday, turned the focus of discussion on US embassy aid programmes.

But, declining to give a breakdown of the R50m provided by the US for embassy programmes in SA, attaché Elizabeth Pryor said there was no indication as yet that the SA government objected to US foreign policies.

She said the lion's share of the US aid funds in SA went to community, self-help and legal services.

The UK's embassy aid programme in SA will be £280 000 this year and is aimed largely at loosely defined opposition groups. The Canadians spend about R1,5m annually.

SOCIALIST ideals have taken a strong hold among SA's black youth, but workers and popular organisations support a more pragmatic blend of free enterprise and State control of economy.

These conclusions are contained in an article by Stellenbosch University's director of the Institute of Soviet Studies Dr P Nel.

Writing in the inaugural edition of the Southern African Freedom Review — a new quarterly published by the right-of-centre Southern Africa branch of the International Freedom Foundation — Nel attempts to gauge the extent to which SA's black population has become wedded to socialist ideals.

Since the Fifties, he notes, black political leaders have equated ending apartheid with some degree of

wealth redistribution, but "most of these persons took great care to distinguish their desired models for doing so from a full-scale socialism on Marxist-Leninist lines".

These include spokesmen for the major opposition groups — the ANC and the PAC. More recently, however, calls for a radical transformation along socialist lines have become more explicit. These calls have emanated predominantly from the Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu), and organisations leaning towards Black Consciousness philosophy.

The latter groups, under the umbrella of the National Forum Com-

Call for education foundation

PATRICK BULGER

mittee, have adopted the Azanian Manifesto, which identifies apartheid as "racial capitalism".

Organisations adhering to the Freedom Charter — the most prominent being the UDF and the ANC — tend to subscribe to "a more social democratic interpretation of the economic clauses of the Freedom Charter". Socialist calls have also arisen from Trotskyite-type movements — especially the Cape Action League. Such groups, however, tend to have a

high intellectualist content and little grassroots support.

But it is among the youth that socialism finds its staunchest adherents. Whereas the Soweto youth of 1976 targeted equal education as their goal, the socialist content in the demand for "people's education" is explicit. Of the scientific surveys, Nel concludes that "socialist tenets are not well received amongst the black working class". Workers, he argues, still identify their priorities as better wages and working conditions.

Nel concludes that calls for socialism are bound to intensify against a background of adverse

economic conditions. Business has a role in softening the impact of recession. "Instead of starkly contrasting and exclusive choices, black employees and management should rather be subjected to programmes which stress the compatibility of welfare practices with entrepreneurial skills and market forces, coupled with programmes of black advancement."

The business sector will also have to involve itself much more actively in the political arena. Nel asks whether the time has not arrived for the formation of an education foundation along the lines of the Urban Foundation. Business needs to become involved in funding and the execution of alternative curricula which will accommodate debate of differing economic models.

CP congress urges strict segregation

THE Conservative Party's Transvaal congress yesterday called for the reintroduction of influx control, job reservation, and segregated sport and hotels.

The congress, held in Pretoria, also wanted black trade unions to be banned, and strict enforcement of the Group Areas Act.

In other resolutions adopted, calls were made for the transfer of "socialistic welfare state" benefits from SA's blacks to underprivileged or working-class whites.

One resolution dealt with the need for whites to have more children to prevent the possibility of whites becoming "an extinct species".

Turning its main focus from CP policy to strategies the party should use to take over govern-

DOMINIQUE GILBERT

ment, the congress undertook to establish CP control of school committees and to investigate the establishment of a commercially run daily newspaper.

And, despite a congress resolution calling for the scrapping of regional services councils, CP members were urged to dominate RSCs countrywide in a bid to "destroy" them and, by acting in the interests of whites, prevent integration at local-government level.

The congress reaffirmed the party's policy of partition and agreed on the need for the establishment of black, coloured and Indian security forces to serve their own areas so that white security forces could be withdrawn.

BOTHA SPELLS OUT NP'S 'GROUP' POLICY



PRESIDENT Botha used his Budget Vote debate to spell out in detail his total commitment to the National Party philosophy of "group" and ended his speech, with apologies to Mr Winston Churchill, saying "never in the history of this country have so few people done so much for so many without acknowledgement by the international community."

He believed the majority of South Africa's people — white, black and brown" — were peace-loving and rejected communism. They were in favour of free enterprise and "orderly development."

He had evidence of this from his visits to Port Elizabeth, Lekoa and Moria and said he found a "spirit of goodwill" wherever he went.

Myth

In a lengthy address he dismissed as "myth" the "melting pot" concept of a non-racial society.

"Minority groups exist wherever a group of people is distinguishable from other groups in the state on the basis of one or more factors, such as their physical attributes, their language and culture, origin and nationality and their religion."

'Non-racial society a myth'

specific embassies" were "acting off limits."

This had been perceived as a threat to embassies and if Botha's words were justified, what were the diplomatic indiscretions, which embassies were involved in and what was Mr Botha doing about it?

Sound foreign relations begged an explanation, said Mr Swart.

Mr Botha replied that the issue of diplomatic personnel who were encouraging extra-parliamentary activities had been taken up with the governments concerned.

'Cops with total power

SECURITY laws gave the police unlimited powers, and abuse of these powers led to the death of detainees and was bound to lead to more deaths, a spokesman for the Detainee Parents' Support Committee said in Johannesburg yesterday.

She was commenting on the verdict of an inquest court that police were responsible for the death of UDF leader Peter Nchabeleng.

"It is no good for the South African Government to claim that it is not responsible for Nchabeleng's death because it happened in Lebowa."

"It is that type of attitude which gives police in the bantustans total licence and leads, in the final instance, to the death of fine South Africans such as Peter Nchabeleng and (journalist) Lucky Kutumela," the spokesman said. - Sapa.

SOWETAN Correspondent

multi-cultural and multi-ethnic when we really mean race."

"If the argument was not one of race but for cultural, religious and ethnic diversity then you could not, for example, "throw Hindus and Muslims in one group," said Prof Olivier.

Mr Ray Swart of the PFP asked Mr Botha to clarify the "strong words" he used last week when he said "certain members of staff of

The Guards. London's most famous regiments.



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Natal, Wes

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 1987

NEWS DIGEST

GENERAL

LAW AND ORDER Minister Adriaan Vlok will meet UCT vice-chancellor Stuart Saunders next Wednesday. This follows the confession of security police spy Daniel Pretorius that police are involved in internal student politics.

Meanwhile, UCT's five-week dispute, which threatened to see the first workers' strike on a campus — with academic support — ended with the announcement of a settlement yesterday afternoon.

□ □ □

RUDOLF HESS'S death on Monday followed a suicide attempt with an electric cord. Allied prison authorities said yesterday. Whether this suicide attempt had been the actual cause of death was the subject of continuing investigation, they said.

● See Page 5

□ □ □

THE PAC yesterday claimed three men killed in a shoot-out in Johannesburg on August 4 were members of its military wing.

Apparently referring to the shoot-out with police in Bramley on that night, the PAC said in a telex last night the dead men were members of the Azanian People's Liberation Army whose car had forced its way through an army road block.

□ □ □

THE UN Secretary General's special representative for Namibia, Martti Ahtisaari, had talks with Foreign Minister Pik Botha in Cape Town yesterday.

Botha said Ahtisaari was worried about the possibility that general elections could be held and lead to a UDI-type independence for Namibia. He said he had informed Ahtisaari of government's determination to keep its in-

BUSINESS/FINANCE

THE JSE'S gold board rebounded sharply on the higher gold price yesterday, rousing the entire board from its Monday doldrums.

The metal's upturn, mainly on a weaker dollar, stemmed the nervous selling from London that developed when the miners' strike started.

The all-gold index gained 53 points to 2 315 and the overall market index rose 33 points to 2 669.

● See Page 21

□ □ □

WALL STREET stocks registered their biggest fall in three months on dollar worries yesterday, with the Dow Jones industrial average down 45.91 points at 2 654.66.

The dollar plunged on world markets, closing at DM1,8430/40 and 146,25/33 yen in New York. Gold closed at \$458,50/\$459,00, up from \$453,75/\$454,25.

● See Page 21

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STANDARD Chartered Bank has classified its lending to SA as risky and made a 5% provision against its £691m exposure. It says this is not a reflection of the SA economy.

● See Page 16

SPOT

UNISPIN fell on its bobbin in its first day of trade in the clothing and textiles sector yesterday, coming on at 305c (in one deal) and diving to 265c before recovering to 280c.

Analysts' opinion all along has been that the issue was too highly priced at 300c, and public response was tepid.

Nearly 692 000 shares worth R1,9m were traded in 111 deals. — Liz Rouse.

TWO COMPANIES will be listed on the JSE today. Zena

Walsh buys control of

PROMINENT Cape Town businessman Jack Walsh has acquired total control of travel industry giant Miller Weedon Travel (MWT) from majority shareholder Bankorp.

Late last night MWT group MD Michael Menof confirmed the sale and said he would not be staying on. He was leaving for the US to take up a position with a travel group in Texas.

Walsh, who came to prominence recently as the dissenting shareholder in Premier chairman Tony Bloom's bid to gain control of Ovgroup's fishing interests, has acquired the travel group in his

MICK COLLINS

personal capacity for an amount.

Bankorp's strategy has seen disposal of certain non-financial during the past year. These include Rent-a-Car, the Protea Inns group and now MWT. Bankorp subsidiary, Mercabank, is also to be negotiating to dispose of shareholding in TV rental group.

The move ends four months of speculation over the travel group's future subsequent to MWT chairman

Mine clashes expected to increase

NUM walk out on talks with Anglo

THE National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) leadership yesterday walked out of the second round of talks with Anglo American aimed at stopping violence on strike-bound mines.

The NUM had accused police of injuring 15 miners at Anglo's President Steyn gold mine near Welkom.

And, as attitudes hardened in the 10-day-old strike, NUM general secretary Cyril Ramaphosa said last night strike ballots would be taken before the weekend at De Beers diamond mines in Kimberly, Namaqualand and Premier.

Ramaphosa also predicted the level of clashes with security men would rise



● RAMAPHOSA

HAMISH McINDOE

Steyn strikers, waiting for bus to mine entrance, had been injured by police firing rubber bullets at sjamboks.

Several of the injured were after being hit by rubber bullets. A police spokesman said gathering of 40 mineworkers dispersed by tear-gas and rubber bullets but no injuries were reported.

Earlier, Anglo's chief spokesman by Godsell said the NUM would accept joint review boards — at national or local level — to deal with union proposals tabled at meeting.

Describing the walkout as termination of negotiation, said Anglo was not responsible for violence which had rocked sector since the strike started.

He said: "The ball is in court. We are prepared to ret-

Parliament

Reports by Sapa

Health funding to be negotiated on priorities

ALL government health authorities would have to negotiate for funds for specific objectives on the basis of the National Health Policy and priorities set by the NHP Council, the Deputy Minister of Health Services, Dr M H Veldman, said in the

House of Assembly yesterday.

Speaking in the debate on his department's vote, he said this procedure had been laid down to finance all government health services in the country in

terms of the government's White Paper on the Browne Commission Report.

The main shortcoming, according to the Browne report, was "an under-emphasis on preventive and primary health care and an over-emphasis on expensive secondary and tertiary health services, which are inappropriate to the needs of the South African community."

This the government agreed with, Dr Veldman said, and it had committed itself to the following principles of the national plan for Health Services facilities:

- A shift of emphasis from the sick person to the healthy;
- Regard for the total needs of the human being;
- Services should be increasingly community-orientated; and
- A shift of emphasis from curative to preventive and preventive care.

'AWB cannot be compared with UDF affiliates'

PEOPLE were not detained merely as a result of their association with the United Democratic Front, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday.

Mr Vlok was replying to a written question by Mr Peter Hendrickse (LP, Addo) on whether any members or supporters of the Afrikaanse Weerstandbeweging had been detained under emergency regulations, Mr Vlok said that the extent of

Suzman calls for inquiry into Act

A JUDICIAL commission of inquiry should be appointed to investigate all aspects of the Abortion and Sterilisation Act of 1975, Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP, Houghton), said.

Speaking in the Health Vote of the Own Affairs Budget, she said the present law on abortion was badly in need of amendment and liberalisation.

"I am not today asking for an independent objective judicial commission of inquiry into an Act which has now been on the statute book for 13 years."

The commission should include women of all races and representing the various professions, such as law, medicine and social work.

She said a deputation of women headed by the director of the Women's Bureau had been deeply offended by the reception they received by the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

"The Minister appears to be singularly lacking in insight for he informed me in answer to a question I put to him about this meeting that these women had gone away very satisfied with the reception they had received."

"Quite the opposite was in fact the case — they were furious with him and deeply offended at the brush-off he gave them," she said. — Sapa.

Health policy 'confused'

IT was clear that the importance government attached to White Own Affairs health services was declining as General Affairs health became more important, Dr Willie Snyman (CP, Pietersburg) said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

Speaking in committee stage debate on the administration's Health Services budget, he said hospital and other services were being increasingly integrated, in spite of government claims that health was still an own affair.

It appeared the government's policy on this issue was confused, while the CP's standpoint of separation

nied health services for any race or financial reason."

If the public sector's training facilities were opened, sufficient nurses would be trained to meet the demand.

No forced removals in Marico corridor

THE Black communities at Braklaage and Leeuwfontein would not be forcibly removed and would have a chance to make proper representations, the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Vijjoen, said

last night. Commenting on CP remarks that the farmers had been trod on roughly because the State President had made an agreement with the President of Botswana

last night

Parliament

Reports by Sapa

Info Bureau no organ of NP — Stoffel

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Bureau for Information's activities were open and all its projects could be debated in Parliament, the Deputy Minister of Information, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, said yesterday.

Replying to debate on his vote of the Budget, he said the Bureau did not deal in secret funds, and provided for a variety of viewpoints in its projects.

He dismissed submissions by opposition speakers that the Bureau was an organ of the National Party.

He had been part of the NP's information service and had often found himself defending government actions which had nothing to do with the party.

The actions of the gov-

ernment influenced the country's population and it therefore had to be informed.

The government was not made up of only the NP.

For example, the Regional Services Councils were not part of the broad NP policy, but were being implemented for the benefit of all the people in South Africa.

He said 90 percent of the work of the Bureau was the provision of "cool and objective" information which had nothing to do with NP policies.

Dr Van der Merwe said the provision of information was often more than merely distributing facts, but sometimes involved placing the facts in perspective.

Facts could sometimes be interpreted in a negative way.

change in attitude could not be entirely attributed to the Bureau's project, it had contributed towards achieving its aim.

The total cost of the communication programme, including the song 'Together We'll Build a Brighter Future', had cost R8 718 797.

In reply to a question from Mr Peter Soal (PFP, Johannesburg North), he said of this, R4 373 652 had been allocated to the song and R3 780 spent on advertising it.

The balance had been for rents, services and the various other publications and functions of the programme.

He said the department apologised to Parliament and the State President for the situation, and almost a year later surveys had shown that 62 percent of the people were now positive towards the payments of rents and services.

He said that while the

'Stronger law wanted on alternative media'

IT was clear the current state of emergency media regulations were not adequate to counter the provocative and violent

TRAFFIC departments had declared war on Black taxis and officers

for giving incorrect information last year when, in reply to a similar question, Mr P W Botha had replied that the total cost was R7 412 000.

'Bureau depends on the media'

AS a communication facility of the government, the Bureau for Information was largely dependent on the responsible media as the major channel to convey its message to the people, Mr Renier Schoeman (NP, Umhlanga), said.

People had a right to be informed of national affairs and the government's plans.

Speaking in Budget Debate on the Bureau, he said the need for effective communication with the media was essential.

'No action against Sats strikers'

PARLIAMENT — No action against Sats strikers' the Minister to a question



Dr STOFFEL VAN DER MERWE.

Pressmen given serious warning

THE South African Police arrested 18 Press and Television people at Jan Smuts Airport on July 21, 1987, but the Attorney-General had declined to prosecute, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said in Parliament yesterday.

In reply to a question from Mr Tian van der Merwe (PFP, Green Point), he said 15 had been arrested under Section 15 of the Media Regulations and three under Regulation 4 of the State of Emergency.

The A-G had declined to prosecute after receiving assurances from the Pressmen through their attorneys that they had not intended infringing any regulations.

He had given them a serious warning that it should not occur again.

In reply to another question, he said the SAP had had sufficient people there to keep the people of differing political views under control.

The police had issued a warning that the crowd should disperse, and they had done so.

The police had instructed, or issued a request, to Mr Eugene Terre-Blanche and Dr Alex Boraine to disperse the

Hendrickse has quit the Cabinet

THE leader of the Labour Party, Reverend Allan Hendrickse, resigned from the Cabinet yesterday.

Mr Hendrickse made the announcement in a speech during the debate on the constitutional development and planning vote.

The announcement followed an adjournment of the debate in order for a special caucus meeting to be held.

When the House reconvened, Mr Hendrickse rose and made a speech in which he set out his and his party's conceptions and perceptions and the party's position following the attack on members of the party by the State President, Mr P W Botha, last Wednesday.

At the end of a 50-minute address to the House, he read a letter he had received from President Botha in regard to statements made by him in connection with the

proposed change to the constitution which would enable the House of Assembly elections to be postponed.



REV Allan Hendrickse.

Mr Hendrickse said he had told the House of Representatives last Wednesday and a meeting of his party at Keimoes on Saturday that if the National Party did not "talk to us" on where it was going, it could forget LP support for its proposed change to the constitution allowing it to postpone the next general election.

"The State President sent me a letter asking if I was correctly reported in the newspapers (on these statements) and saying this (view) was in

conflict with the Cabinet decision and it brought into question my membership to the Cabinet," Mr Hendrickse said.

"This morning I replied:

"Sir, for your information I include extracts from my speech to the House of Representatives on Wednesday, August 19 in which I clearly indicated I had no problem with the postponement of the election for the House of Assembly.

"This is not in conflict with the decision of the Cabinet to which I agreed.

"But surely I have a democratic right to decide on the implications thereof.

"You are not willing to acknowledge the perceptions and feelings of others that do not agree with yours.

"I hereby tender my resignation from the Cabinet."

SOME PEOPLE make good friends, others good enemies. President Botha is among the latter: a fighter, a political breaker. He has a gift for making enemies as other men have the gift for friendship.

When he was young, he rode a horse through a farm tenant's house; today, he crashes through public life in much the same fashion.

His determination to have his way is a bureaucratic legend. When he appointed Ray Killen ambassador in London, in-group jokers said the Foreign Affairs professionals were hugely relieved — they had feared he might, like Calligula, send his horse.

The list of his enemies is a who's who of South African politics: John Vorster died an embittered foe; Lourens Muller still nurses a fierce, angry resentment. Connie Mulder is dedicated to his defeat; Jimmy Kruger, born a Welsh James Thomas Jones and adopted into an Afrikaner family, died an enemy.

Helen Suzman has not spoken to him, so far as anybody can recall, since the assassination of Hendrik Verwoerd.

There is no mystery about the State President's enmities. His treatment of Allan Hendrickse on television early in the year showed us how he deals with those who cross him. He stomps on them — figuratively, of course — and pounds them to dust. He dealt with Hendrickse with 26 implacable minutes of sneers and smirks that made television-watching an ordeal.

His personality is formidable. He is big and, except for an occasional tremor in his left hand, he looks fit and strong.

He has the power, as John Vorster at one time had, to intimidate younger members of the Opposition parties simply by staring at them across the floor of the Assembly. I have seen quite experienced parliamentarians begin to shake in direct confrontation with him, their voices cracking with nervous tension.

Power magnifies a strong man's gift for enmity



□ BOTHA ... has the power

KEN OWEN

stepped up. He has seemed in recent months to be driving harder than before. Ever since the speech last year in which he flung at the world Paul Kruger's famous words — "You want my country" — he has behaved as though he were surrounded by wolves. To meddling foreigners he offers a total defiance.

At home, the meanest, weakest opponent calls forth an implacably hostile response: the faltering alternative Press that describes a different reality, the university that teaches what he does not know, the dominee who goes to Dakar, the "ungrateful" House of Representatives, the mildly dissident Labour Party leader.

A senior public servant mused last week, at the height of the uproar over Hendrickse and the SABC's coverage of his resignation: "Something strange seems to happen to men when they approach the end of their time — it is as though they feel time is running out. The same thing happened in a different way to Vorster."

Vorster lost control; President Botha gives the impression of struggling, against the clock, to keep it. Perhaps it is fanciful to imagine him as fighting the feeling that his own grip is weakening while enemies gather around him.

He cannot even, as the Governor of the Reserve Bank told us a week ago, plug the holes through which capital is leaking out of the country in billions.

President Botha can, if he wishes, gag newspapers, forbid publication, frighten broadcasters and withhold information; but he cannot make himself or his policies credible to the majority of the people.

He breaks more easily than he builds. He smashed the Westminster system, and put in its place an imperial presidency, a pedestal for a ruler whose very dignity and reputation are now protected by law, even though he is the main figure in the political process. He bestrides the country like a Colossus; he warns, and threatens, and tries to subdue a nation as he tried to subdue the House of Representatives; and his enemies multiply.

His position commands sympathy. To possess so much power is a terrible thing; it tests the character of the man, and Afrikaner history offers no real guide to the dangers. The villains of that history are outsiders like Somerset or Shepstone and Milner, not insiders overwhelmed by the illicit temptations of power. English literature is filled with figures like the aged Lear, smashing his teeth and flatt

Afrikaans has no such models; power has always seemed to Afrikaners a servant, not a cruel master.

Even Smuts, though a much-hated man, was a mere political opponent, bound by a constitution, that has since been smashed. President Botha must struggle alone, with no help from a tribal system that, far from restraining his power, magnifies it, monstrosity.

He is trapped in a net of temptations devised by courtiers to test the vanity of mortals, which puts under his sway both the executive and the legislature; it gives him a vast bureaucracy to do his will, and the police and the army to destroy opposition; it equips him with powers of secrecy and pomp, to give him mystique and separate him from lesser mortals. It is designed to make him lonely in his old age.

Indeed, the constitution has made President Botha the most powerful, isolated old man in our history, while an unkind fate has unleashed against him waves of violence and disorder and rebel

PARLIAMENT

State to alleviate burden of export costs on farmers

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — The Cabinet had decided to finance a portion of the export costs of summer cereals and oil seed products as part of the plan to restructure agriculture and improve farmers' cash flow and debt problems.

This was said by Agriculture and Water Supply Minister, Greyling Wentzel yesterday.

Speaking in the agriculture and water supply vote of the budget, he said the financing of exports would commence in the 1989/90 budget year and would continue for four years.

The amount paid would depend on the availability of funds and would decrease evenly each year until the 1993/4 financial year.

The money would be used to support orderly marketing and internal market development and not to offer optimistic

price scenarios to producers. He said the Cabinet had taken the decision because losses on exportable surpluses would be caused by the relatively low international prices, which were not likely to improve in the near future.

The Cabinet had also decided in principle to make an amount available annually until 1995/96 to subsidise the establishment of perennial grazing plants on land at present producing cash crops.

The total amount of this subsidy would increase from R13m in 1987/88 to R62.5m in 1991/92.

It would then decrease gradually to R2.5m in 1995/96.

These amounts would depend on the availability of funds and would be subject to conditions which would be discussed with organised agriculture. — Sapa.

Finance for 5 730 black homes

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — Building societies had financed the building of 5 730 houses for blacks under 99-year leases in the Cape and the Free State, but none had been financed in Natal, Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis said yesterday.

However, in the Transvaal no record was kept of the financial sources of purchasers of houses under the 99-year scheme.

Heunis, who was replying to a question tabled by Ken Andrew (PFP Gardens), said another 2 118 houses in the Cape and the Free State had been financed by means of private capital.

He also said 4 193 houses had been sold in the Cape, Free State and Natal through financing by building societies and 3 881 had been sold in the three provinces through financing by means of private capital.

PFP COMMITTEE WILL 'REVIEW AND UPDATE' PARTY POLICY

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — PFP leader Colin Eglin yesterday announced the appointment of a committee to "review and update" the party's constitutional policy.

Eglin said the extended federal executive of the PFP had also decided at the weekend to endorse a "mis-

Ray Swart (Natal), Roger Hulley (Cape) and Douglas Gibson (Transvaal); OFS/North Cape regional chairman Judy Stockhill; National Youth chairperson Toni Petra; former PFP MPs Zach de Beer and Errol Moorcroft, and UCT's Professor David Welsh.

Court bars 42 workers from going into mine

SUSAN RUSSELL

LIBANON Gold Mining Company Ltd was yesterday granted an interim interdict against 42 employees they claimed had taken part in a clash with mine security last Thursday which left one dead and 27 injured.

The 42 workers were temporarily interdicted from entering and remaining on Libanon's premises and evicted from the mine hostel.

In terms of the rule nisi issued by Mr Justice Schabert the 42 miners must show cause on September 15 why their dismissal should not be declared lawful.

They must also show cause why they should not be evicted from the premises and barred from entering the mine.

Mine manager John Gibbon said in an affidavit all 42 were in hospital or in the Westonaria police station.

Gibbon said a group of about 250 employees gathered a short distance from the hostel just after 6pm on the day of the clash.

The chief security officer at the mine, Jacobus Botha, and four of his staff set off in a Rhino security vehicle for the gates of the hostel to prevent the group from entering.

Helicopter

Gibbon said two other security vans and a mine security reserve were stationed at the gate and that he put out for further Rhinos to prevent further violence.

Steyn signposts road

Black and bu have k

ALLIANCES between business and black leadership had a role in establishing harmony, economic growth and confidence in the future, Urban Foundation executive chairman Jan Steyn said yesterday on the foundation's 10th anniversary.

The alternative was a future "low-level achievements, stress, conflict and under-production". "There is a continuing onus on commerce and industry to contribute skills and resources. Business can be conducted with a narrow view and an exclusive commitment to generating short-term profit, or with a commitment to a vision of a more just and stable society."

While government should be commended for positive reforms, SA had to move away from a belief "that salvation lies in the separation of our peoples in every sphere of our lives". "The ideology of separatism has been erected on a base of white fear and on a notion of a finite scarce resources".

Mr O spel role of bu

Hendrickse gives PW 'the bottom line'

PORT ELIZABETH — A defiant Labour Party leader, Mr Allan Hendrickse, last night bluntly told the State President, Mr P W Botha: "If you want to negotiate with us, the Group Areas Act must go."

"The bottom line is the repeal of the Group Areas Act. We are not going further than that," he told a packed Gelvandale Community Centre.

"I say to Mr Botha, first bring the chocolates."

In a hard-hitting speech, Mr Hendrickse said:

- Members of the Cabinet and National Party MPs supported the stand he had taken against the State President.

- Jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela should be released immediately, and

- The Labour Party was still committed to negotiation.

Attacking the National Party on the Group Areas Act, Mr Hendrickse said Mr Botha could not understand the deep feelings of hurt.

Removals under the Act, he said, had been based on the ideological basis of partition and more than 100 000 families had been moved in pursuit of this ideology.

The Labour Party leader said it was clear the Act should have been scrapped along with the Mixed Marriages Act.

Mr Hendrickse said there were members of the Cabinet who supported what he had done and that he had received a letter — unsigned — from a member of the NP caucus.

The letter had expressed support and also the regret of the writer because he could not sign the letter.

MANDELA

He said that now was the time to release Mandela, and not just on humanitarian grounds. His release was, in the interests of all South Africans.

Mr Hendrickse said the Labour Party remained committed to negotiation but this was not one-sided.

Mr Hendrickse said he wanted to say to the State President that in spite of the "arrogance and inability to see our perception, we are still prepared to contribute, reason with you, sit round a table and negotiate".

But, he added, he wanted to say to white South Africa: "We will forgive you but we will not forget." — Sapa.

Cabinet decision on tax reform plans by year end

BY BRIAN STUART

THE present discussion of the Margo Commission report on taxation should lead to a final decision at Cabinet level before the end of the year, Mr Barend du Plessis, Minister of Finance, said in Johannesburg last night.

Once the Cabinet had made a decision, a White Paper would be drawn up, setting out the government's view, for approval during February next year. The White Paper would be tabled in Parliament.

Since legislation resulting from the report could not be considered until the 1988 Parliamentary sitting, well into the 1988-89 financial year. It might be necessary to make tax reform measures retrospective to the beginning of the fiscal year.

Speaking at the opening of the new Multiflora market in Johannesburg, Mr Du Plessis said he could give an assurance there would be no unnecessary delay in handling the Margo report.

However, it was apparent from some media reports and letters published in newspapers that people were still unclear

Director-General, Dr C L Stals, to make an in-depth study of the report in order to prepare proposals to the Cabinet.

Thirdly, two further investigations were being made into aspects of taxation on the recommendation of the Margo commission.

Fourthly, all interested bodies were being given until September 30 to submit proposals for the attention of the Departmental task group.

The group would then process these contributions and, together with Mr Du Plessis and the two Deputy-Ministers of Fi-

nance, prepare recommendations for presentation to the Cabinet.

"It is essential that we round off these recommendations during October and November so that in the course of November, but definitely before the end of the year, we can obtain a final Cabinet decision on what is acceptable or unacceptable to the government," said Mr Du Plessis.

Major international Aids conference for Jo'burg

Citizen Reporter

A MAJOR international Aids conference will be held at the Johannesburg Hospital next Thursday.

The conference, dealing with Aids — Perspective on the Problem and its Management, has been arranged by Professor Barry Schoub, director of the National Institute of Virology.

"There has been a great deal of interest in

this conference, especially from the medical profession," said Prof Schoub.

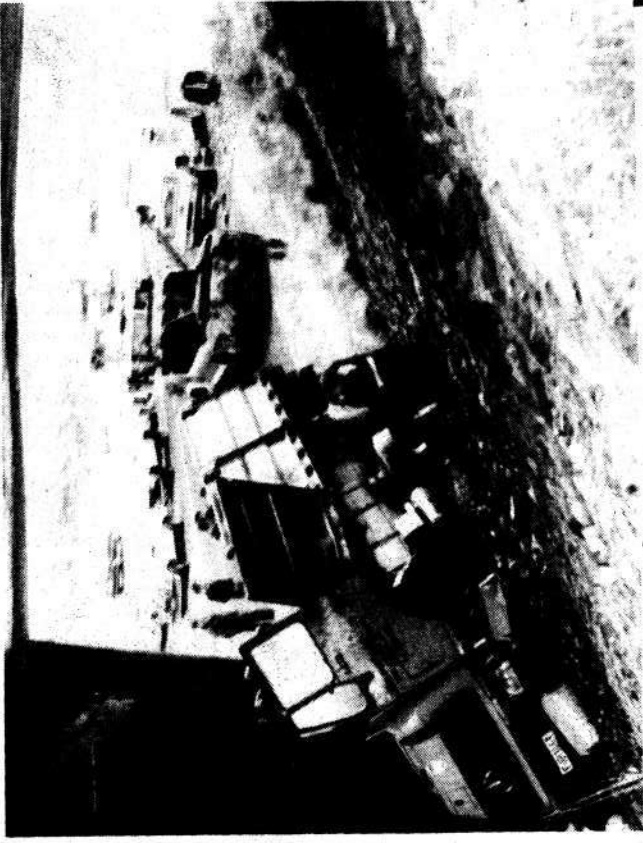
Among the 13 speakers will be five leading world experts, Dr J D Jeffries (St Mary's Hospital Medical School, London), Dr M J Levin (University of Colorado Health Services Centre, USA), Prof A Morag (Advisor on Aids, Ministry of Health, Israel), Dr D T Purtillo

(University of Nebraska Medical Centre, USA) and Dr Y Schornick (Tel Aviv Medical Centre, Israel).

"There is no doubt that the calibre of the speakers and the subject content will be highly beneficial in terms of updating knowledge and developments with regard to this virus," said Prof Schoub.

The conference will cover such topics as per-

Danish warning on 'cov with Africans'



A section of the R22 motorway was closed to traffic travelling in an easterly direction for more than four hours yesterday, when a truck collided with a bridge support, spilling its load of glue onto the road surface. The accident occurred shortly before 2 pm at the Gillelooly's interchange. Members of the Germiston and Boksburg traffic and emergency departments were at the scene of the accident. The unidentified driver was airlifted by helicopter in a serious condition shortly after the accident. Boksburg traffic department officials were spraying a solvent onto the glue late yesterday afternoon.

Motorway spillage

ments were at the scene of the accident. The unidentified driver was airlifted by helicopter in a serious condition shortly after the accident. Boksburg traffic department officials were spraying a solvent onto the glue late yesterday afternoon.

THREE members of the kwaNdebele parliament - one of them a key figure in the push for "independence" - have been linked by an eye-witness to violent attacks on a community in the homeland's Waterval B village.

The three men - one of whom is the



A victim of last week's attack displays his wounds - and shotgun shells left by the vigilante gang.

kwaNdebele high-ups 'were implicated in vigilante attacks

minister of citizen liaison and information and "independence" proponent, F K Mahlangu -- are alleged to have been implicated in attacks on the village during a door-to-door raid last week.

The other two MPs allegedly involved in the raid are Simon Ngenda Mahlangu and Philip Ngoma.

Tension and violence has gripped the homeland in the last two weeks as opposition to independence escalates.

A youth injured in the attack this week told the NEW NATION how a vigilante gang shot their way into a house, assaulted an old woman and a 16-year old girl and smashed furniture as they searched for "comrades".

The youth, who asked not to be named, said the attack started an hour before midnight.

"They banged on the door, and when we refused to open, windows were smashed.

"They then began firing shots through the windows. I was hit above my hip and hand as I tried to find cover.

"The vigilantes then shot the back door open and entered the house. I fought my way past two of them blocking the doorway and escaped into the night. Bullets whizzed past me as I ran.

"When I returned the next morning, I discovered wreckage lying all over the house," said the youth, who added that many youths in the homeland were living in fear of their lives as Mhokodo vigilantes roamed the villages at night brandishing shotguns.

A woman from the village was allegedly shot and hospitalised last week in what has been described as an unprovoked attack.

In another development related to kwaNdebele's "independence" announcement, opposition leaders are to seek a meeting with PW Botha to resolve the crisis in the territory.

The meeting would seek to "educate the State President about the situation in Kwa Ndebele and advise him to shelve the independence proposal," said Prince Cornelius Mahlangu at a press conference in Pretoria.

Prince Cornelius, who with his brothers James and Andries has spearheaded resistance to the "independence" plans, said he had been mandated by 'ingwenyama' (king) of Ndzundza tribe, D M Mahlangu, to meet the State President.

He added that people were being forced to accept independence by intimidation, and that those who asked questions were assaulted.

'Kwa-Natal' indaba rears its ugly head - See Page 6/7

Murders spark more vigilante violence

A UNITED Democratic Front executive member, Emson Banda, who was released from detention last month, is fighting for his life in the intensive care unit of Port Elizabeth's Livingstone Hospital after being assaulted in kwa-Nobuhle township.

A second UDF activist, AS Sibidla, has also been severely injured in suspected vigilante violence in the township. A spokesman for the Uitenhage Provincial Hospital said he was in a critical condition after being assaulted with an assortment of weapons.

The assaults follow a claim by Johnson Maliwa, a spokesman for the amaAfrica vigilante group, that two of his members murdered on Saturday night were stabbed to death by members of the UDF. This has been denied by the UDF.

Vigilantes have been on the rampage in kwaNobuhle since January this year. Three people have died in the township

in the last month alone.

A UDF spokesman in Uitenhage, Ray Mde, said Banda, president of Uitenhage Residents' Congress, had been beaten and hacked with pangas after being abducted on Sunday night.

Mde added that four houses belonging to UDF members were also damaged in petrol-bomb attacks on Sunday night.

The houses belong to Cheeky Makhasi, Thoba Nogpaali and Kwezi Mgwali, all prominent members of the UDF.

A police spokesman, Lieutenant Kobus van Rensburg, said Nogpaali had reported the attack on his house. He said the attack on Banda had not been reported.

Mde denied the UDF was responsible for the death of two members of amaAfrica.

He said the UDF had been informed that the two men had been killed as a result of internal conflict in the vigilante group.

Operation Real of SA (Orsa), an offshoot of the Progressive Federal Party, is to attempt to defuse

the violence in kwa-Nobuhle.

Orsa director Rory Riordan said meetings were planned.

Court reins in blackjacks

A DUNCAN Village woman has been granted an urgent interdict restraining municipal police from assaulting her son, an employee of the Black Sash in East London.

The order was granted in the Grahamstown Supreme Court after Mrs Olga Mackiben had brought the application on behalf of her 18-year-old son, Anthony.

Mr Justice Kannemeyer ordered the Gomo town committee - formerly the Duncan Village community council - to do everything in its power "to prevent any member of the municipal force in its service from assaulting, threatening, harassing or intimidating" Anthony Mackiben. The final hearing is set down for May 21.

'COP TOOK RADIO'

Mackiben, a Black Sash office interpreter, said in an affidavit that on April 10, a municipal policeman had taken his radio after searching him in the street.

On inquiring about the matter at the municipal police offices, he alleged, he had been taken into an office and assaulted.

His radio had later been returned amid threats from one of the policemen that "if he saw me in the street, he would do something to me; he might even shoot me," Mackiben said.

Since the incident, Mackiben added, he had not stayed at home, but had slept in Mdantsane. He had also taken care to go to work early in the morning, and to return late at night so that he did not encounter the municipal police.

baMogopa: Vigilantes set to hit us

THERE is mounting fear among the resettled Barolong baMogopa now living in Bethanie, Bophuthatswana, that vigilantes are planning to attack them.

Residents said strangers had been spotted at the village secretly inquiring about residents who signed a South African Council of Churches (SACC) document.

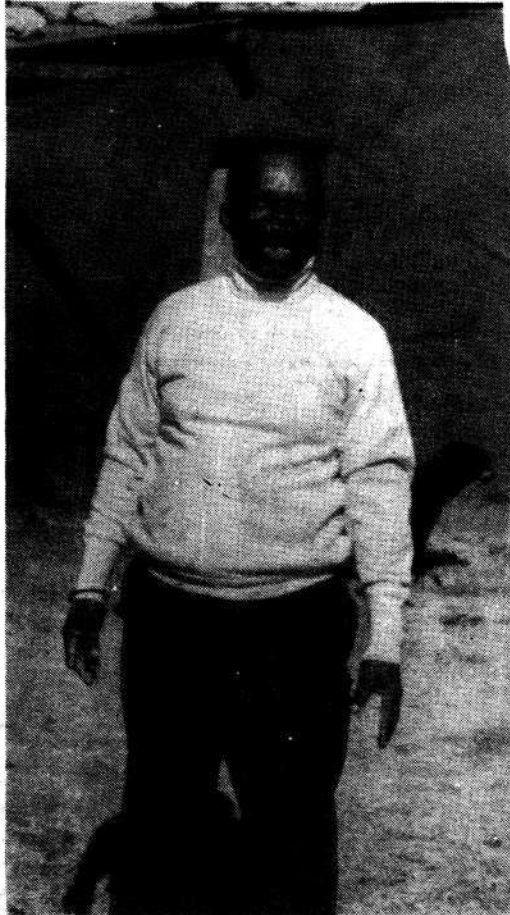
The SACC collected signatures from 250 families who wanted to move to a farm purchased by the church body at Holgat in the Western Transvaal, while continuing their fight to return to Mogopa.

Residents who signed the document are now allegedly being denied basic commodities such as water.

"We fear that a witch-hunt has started against residents who are still fighting for their fatherland.

"The whole thing is an orchestrated plan to sow division among the community by bribing residents with basic facilities," a source in the area said.

The people of Rooigrond, who were removed from their ancestral land in Machaviestad, near Potchefstroom, 16 years ago, face similar threats.



Chief Simon Makodi ... Bop police "constant guests".

The tribe's chief, Simon Makodi, admitted that Bop security police were constant "guests" at his place. He declined to comment further.

The Rooigrond and Bethanie people were to have moved to Holgat a month ago. But the government thwarted the move after local farmers protested

at the prospect of black neighbours.

The Minister of Education and Development Aid, Gerrit Viljoen, delivered a final blow to the project when he announced that his department had plans for the land. It could therefore not be occupied by "destitute tribes".

More harassment claims against 'kitskonstabels'

THE conduct of "kitskonstabels" and municipal police has come under the spotlight again in the Cape and Eastern Transvaal.

Allegations of harassment, intimidation, assault, theft and sexual abuse committed by kitskonstabels were made in the Cape Town Supreme Court this week by Cape Youth Congress (Cayco) members, who applied for an urgent interdict restraining the police, especially the kitskonstabels, from interfering with the organisation's meetings.

An interim order was granted to Cayco and its executive member, Mzwandile Peter Xeshe. The Minister of Law and Order and the Western Cape divisional police commissioner must show by August 6 why the order should not be made permanent.

AFFIDAVITS

Among the 11 affidavits submitted to court are two from 17-year-old girls who say they were assaulted by kitskonstabels after they refused to have sexual intercourse with them.

Xeshe said in his affidavit: "Ever since the special constables arrived at KTC last year, they have been harassing, intimidating and assaulting people. They have been particularly harsh in their actions against the youth."

"On April 5 1987, at a Cayco meeting in KTC where I was present, the kitskonstabels arrived and started beating up people until everybody scattered."

"The police, especially the kitskonstabels, have told the KTC youth that they will not allow any meetings in the township. On May 21, another Cayco meeting

Girls (17) claim they were beaten after refusing to have sex with the constables.



was held. The door was kicked open and several kitskonstabels came into the room and accused us of having a 'comrades' meeting."

"They started beating us with sjamboks and rifle butts. Everybody ran out," Xeshe said in the affidavit.

Zakhele Wellington Jakeni also told the court kitskonstabels disrupted a Cayco general meeting held at KTC on May 28.

"Special constables kicked open the door and started beating people with rifle butts and batons."

"We were taken to Nyanga police station, where I was repeatedly kicked and punched by special constables who kept asking what we had discussed at the meeting," he said.

"In the meantime, the police punched me in my face and ears. They also kicked my private parts."

"My hands were handcuffed behind my back while I was being interrogated," said Jakeni.

"I was released around midnight and

told that all comrades were being watched."

Affidavits by Timothy Fotulo, Lwandile Matakane, Lawrence Lulama Sibile, Ntsikelelo Kambi, Janette Hlahatsi, Patrick Solani, Joseph Mthitimkhu and the two 17-year-old girls supported Jakeni's claims, and said they had also been assaulted.

One of the girls said she was among the youths who were taken to Nyanga police station.

ASSAULTS

"During the assaults, a special constable said I would be released if I had sexual intercourse with him. When I refused, he forcefully touched my breasts and private parts and assaulted me."

The other girl also said a kitskonstabel had asked to have sex with her.

Sibile said one of the special constables had taken his money, R100, and a watch during the interrogation.

In Duncan Village, a resident has been gra-

nted an interdict restraining the Gompo township municipal police from assaulting him.

Olga Makibeni applied to the Grahamstown Supreme Court on behalf of her son Anthony after he was assaulted by the municipal police.

The respondents conceded in papers before the court that they had committed some of the claimed assaults.

Judge AP Beckley ordered the council to pay costs.

In an affidavit before the court, Anthony said he had met a municipal policeman who started searching him.

"The policeman took my radio, and I reported the matter to the municipal police station, where I was told to return the following day."

"When I got there, one of the policemen took me to the charge office and hit me in the face," Anthony said.

"The policeman asked me if I was attending school, and when I said yes, he said that was a

pity, because if I had not been schooling, he would have assaulted me further."

The municipal police went on a campaign of violence in the area after a police constable was shot and killed.

In Leandra, Eastern Transvaal, lawyers acting on behalf of Leandra activist Abel Nkabinde have asked the head of the kitskonstabel force, JJ Toerien, to restrain his men from further assaulting, threatening and harassing their clients or his family.

Former Leandra vigilante boss Joseph Maboy Zondo is now one of the key figures in the force.

In a letter sent to the Lebohang Council, Nkabinde claims he was harassed without provocation by two members of the special constables - Zondo and Simon Mlontjwa.

He further claims that Mlontjwa unlawfully arrested him, insulting and threatening to kill him on May 19 this year.

On the same day, Nkabinde claims, the life of his sister was threatened by Zondo.

When he went to the police station to report the matter, he says he was confronted by Zondo at the charge office, who further threatened him.

"On my way home, I was confronted by Zondo again, and he told me I would die the same way as Chief Mayisa if I continued to scandalise his name in the newspapers," Nkabinde said.

Toerien said he was not aware that his men had been interfering with Nkabinde.

He undertook to instruct his men to refrain from harassing Nkabinde.

CLAIMS of assaults and random violence by municipal police were made by residents of two Eastern Cape townships this week.

In East London's Duncan Village, municipal police - known as "greenflies" - are alleged to have assaulted residents inside the camp.

The allegations follow a string of similar complaints made in statements to the Black Sash in East London.

In one instance, the Grahamstown Supreme Court has granted an urgent interdict restraining the guards from assaulting an 18-year-old youth, Anthony Mackiben. Other legal action is being investigated.

The "greenflies" are said to have been on the warpath since the murder of one of their members, whom the SA Police have identified as Constable Thembile Williams.

A number of residents alleged they had been taken to the guards' camp at "New Rest", a mushrooming new residential area which houses, among others, the mayor of Gomp and his councillors.

A Duncan Village resident, Themba Hermans, said that three uniformed council policemen armed with sticks, sjamboks and guns had come to his house at 12 am on Tuesday this week.

"They demanded to know where the gun of the murdered policeman was. I said I knew nothing of the incident because it had happened while I was watching a film. They said I was lying, and beat me."

Hermans said he had been put in a van in which there were six other people who had also been assaulted, and driven to the guards' camp.

"There they started beating us again, while taking us to a tap to pour water over our wounds. After doing this for a long time, they took us to the van, where they left us handcuffed overnight."

"The next day they told us we would not be released if we didn't tell the truth. We stayed in the van without food until 4 pm."

Allegations of misconduct against the Ibhayi town council police were made this week by a kwaZakhele, Port Elizabeth, resident who claimed council policeman had fired at his vehicle for no reason.

Bonisile Mdyogolo (35), said the right rear tyre of his car was hit and damaged. He has reported the matter to the SA Police.

A spokesman for the Ibhayi Police confirmed the shooting, claiming that Mdyogolo had failed to stop at a council police roadblock. Mdyogolo denied that there was a roadblock. "I know what a roadblock looks like," he said.

Mdyogolo said that on the night of the alleged incident, he had been driving through New Brighton when he noticed a minibus parked at the side of the road.

"As I was about to drive past it, a figure suddenly appeared from behind it. I braked to avoid hitting him and drove on."

Mdyogolo said he had then heard a loud bang as if someone had stoned his car. He had made a U-turn to investigate.

"As I stopped, a group of armed council policemen in green uniforms rushed up to me. I immediately realised that they must have been shooting at me."

"I asked them why they had shot at me. They did not reply, but instead asked me why I had not stopped."

Although he was later taken to the council police office in the township, no written statement was taken from him, he said.

Meanwhile, a Std 9 student at Cowan High School in New Brighton, Siphile Kawa, has alleged that he was assaulted by a group of council policemen after he saluted them on Tuesday this week.

Kawa said he was on his way to school when the police, who were patrolling the street, said to him "Viva comrade".

When he responded with a salute, he said, the police had become furious, saying that he agreed he was a comrade.

"They surrounded me, and the next thing I was being struck hard in the face with an open hand," he said.

Vigilantes using council cop vehicles

ARMED vigilante groups using council police vehicles are said to be terrorising residents in the township of Tumahole, near Parys, in the Free State.

Residents have made statements to lawyers suggesting that the vigilantes - who call themselves the "A-Team", the "Eagles" and the "South African Action for Unity" - are patrolling the township in vans belonging to the municipal guards.

According to the statements, the vigilantes have vowed to "clean up" Tumahole by acting against activists. Scores of activists are said to have gone into hiding.

A well-known Tumahole resident is reported to have established both the "Eagles" and the "A-Team" and is said to be the vigilante leader.

Among the people alleged to have been assaulted is an activist, Ndosi Mbele, who died after being attacked.

Ndosi's brother, Jim, witnessed the assault and was shot and wounded while coming to his rescue.

He said Ndosi had been taken to the local hospital in a municipal police van. He eventually died in Pelonomi Hospital from his injuries.

The mother of the dead man, Jane Mbele, said: "I went to see my son before his death. His face was so swollen that he could not speak."

The 'night riders'

THE Grahamstown municipal police are allegedly helping furniture stores to repossess furniture from residents - in the middle of the night.

The station commander of the municipal police confirmed that a furniture shop had approached him for permission to repossess furniture in the townships, but denied that any of his policemen had been involved in the repossessions.

However, many residents insist that the municipal police accompany a private debt collector who swoops on township residents at night and forces them to hand over their furniture - even if they are up to date with their payments.

POLICE

The residents say the municipal police, some in plain clothes and others partly in uniform, are working as debt collectors after hours.

A 32-year-old woman who asked not to be named said that she was woken up at about 2am by a group of men who said they had come to take away a bed.

"They said I would have to go to a van to sign some papers. There were two vans - one a blue municipal police van and the other a white pick-up with a white man in it.

"The men started removing the bed on which I had been sleeping while I was signing the papers. I later noticed that a new watch and some clothing were missing from the room."

She said she had gone to the furniture shop during the day and complained about the loss, and her bed was subsequently returned.

The two vans moved to another house in the street after removing the woman's bed.

"Someone shone a torch through my window and I opened the door," said the owner of the second house.

"The men asked me if I had bought furniture from a certain furniture shop, and I said no.

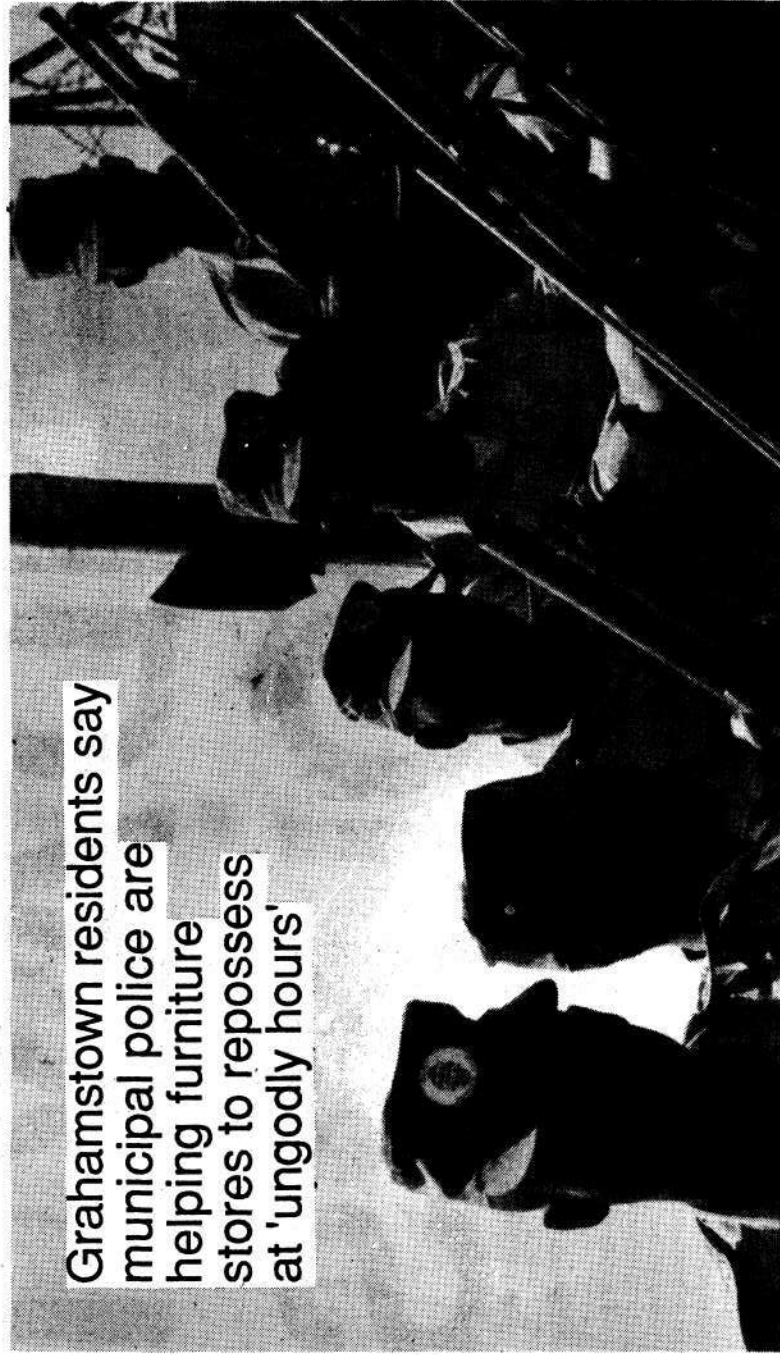
"They then said I would have to go with them. I refused because it was about 3am, but the white man said he would kick me if I then got into the van."

She said there were two vans - one which had a bed at the back and a municipal police van.

"In the van the armed men asked me if I knew a person who used to be my neighbour, whom they were trying to find. When I said I could not tell them anything, they dropped me off and I had to walk back to my house," she said.

A man staying in Makanaskop township said the same group of

Grahamstown residents say municipal police are helping furniture stores to repossess at 'ungodly hours'



men had come to his house at 1am. "They took away our TV set. The next morning I went to the shop to fetch it because I did not owe anyone for it."

PRACTICE

A former credit controller of the furniture shop in question said it was common practice to "adjust accounts".

"If a person falls behind with his or her payment for a long time, money from another person's account is transferred to the defaulter's account."

"This makes the shop look good to the head office. Three people owing instalments for two months each look better than one person owing for six months," he said.

"But this system causes confusion sometimes, and the furniture shop may order the repossession of furniture from people who don't owe it money."

The sales manager of the PE branch of the furniture shop, P Terblanche, said his store did not repossess its own furniture, but employed a Mr Parker to do it.

He said he believed that Parker had been "involved in something like this before", but was reprimanded and stopped.

Grahamstown's messenger of the court reacted angrily to the repossessions: "I am the only one who is authorised to repossess furniture, and no-one else."

"These people who go around taking people's furniture between 12 and 4 in the morning are making my life difficult because the people will think I am responsible."

Bogus cops go on wave of terror

RESIDENTS of Port Elizabeth's black townships are complaining about pre-dawn and late night terror raids by men clad in blue overalls similar to those worn by kitskons-tabels.

The men are armed with guns and claim to be police.

The SAP liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Captain Peet Grobler, has assured residents that the people who impersonate them

in police uniform are not members of the police force.

He said that the police were aware of the intimidation taking place in the townships during these raids.

Now residents are worried about the true identity of the raiders.

The selective method of their raids has left the small business community and members of progressive political groups fearful for their safety.

Their fear stems from the fact that most of the raiders' targets are residents thought to be associated with the United Democratic Front (UDF).

Residents claim that the men have broken into houses and she-beens and demanded money and liquor after ransacking houses.

Three of the victims interviewed said they had already made statements to the police on the matter.

Lunga Cita of kwa-Zakhele said five heavily armed men wearing blue overalls and balaclavas tried to force their way into his house at about 1 am on Monday last week.

He said they shouted that he should open the door, as they were police. "I refused to open. I told them to identify themselves if they were policemen. When they failed to do so, I told them that they would have to kick the door open to gain entry," Cita said.

He said while they were trying to force the door open, he quickly phoned the police. "But when the police arrived, the men had disappeared," he said.

Another resident, Zola Matshoba, said on the same morning he had gone outside after hearing a loud bang in the garage and had seen men in blue overalls forcing the doors of his car open.

"Before I could say anything to them, a patrolling police vehicle appeared and I saw them scaling the fence and running away," he said.

Mystery surrounds Mofolo night raiders

MYSTERY surrounds the identity of a band of heavily armed men who raided houses in Mofolo, Soweto, on the eve of last week's national stayaway.

In a sworn affidavit, a Mofolo South resident, Margaret Msengana, described how a band of hooded men in blue overalls carrying weapons raided her house in the early hours of May 4.

According to Mrs Msengana, the men identified themselves as police before searching the house.

After removing the telephone, the men had then taken away her son, Issie, and her nephew, Cyril Mkangwana, she said.

Some 30 minutes later the boys were returned to their home after being beaten up.

Mrs Msengana immediately reported the incident at the Moroka police station. She says the police were at first unwilling to attend to her complaint, and only gave her attention after she had produced a letter from her lawyers.

In another alleged incident, the Ngwenya family of Mofolo Village was awakened at 2am by a loud knock at the door and windows.

"A voice shouted from outside 'Police!'" stated Vusi Ngwenya in a sworn affidavit.

Three hooded men, each carrying two guns - one a pump-action shotgun - entered the house. Ngwenya says they wore rubber boots, while some were clothed in the blue overalls similar to those worn by special recruits.

He said the men had demanded to see his elder brother, Sipho, who was not at home.

The family was then interrogated and forced into a Toyota Hi-Ace kombi with an OB registration.

Before the men left, the men are alleged to have confiscated a TV set, a portable tape-recorder, a pair of shoes and an amount of R20.

Inside the kombi, those kidnapped were forced to lie face downwards and not to look outside. They were dropped about 150 metres from their home.

The police have denied being involved in both incidents, and have advised Soweto residents to make affidavits to the police in order that the incidents can be investigated.

An unused locally manufactured 9 mm copper-jacketed bullet was picked up at Mrs Msengana's house and handed in to the Moroka police station.

According to arms and ammunition experts consulted by the family's lawyers, this type of bullet is manufactured by a Pretoria firm, PMP, which supplies the SA security forces. The experts said the bullet was used only by the security forces and was not available to the general public.

In a telex, the SAP stated that the security forces did not use special ammunition, but ammunition available to members of the public.

They also said police used "pump-action shotguns of a type freely available in the trade and which are sold by most firearm dealers".