

AGRICULTURE — GENERAL

1993

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# New Nat gives apartheid land back to family

5 Times 215/93

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By CHIARA CARTER

A CALVINIA minister whose family's property was expropriated under the Group Areas Act more than 20 years ago has been offered the land back by a remorseful property developer.

Mr Pierre Jean Gerber, who bought his first piece of land at the age of 11 with money raised by collecting cold drink bottle deposits, said he felt morally obliged to return 12 plots of "Group Areas land" to the original owners for the same low prices he paid.

Mr Gerber, Cape leader of the National Party Youth, said he was "sorry about owning this land", and he wanted to restore it to the rightful owners.

One of them, the Rev Patrick Lionel Krieling, was overcome with emotion this week after being told Mr Gerber wanted to give back the land on which he had grown up.

The vacant plot in the centre of Calvinia in the Western Cape belonged to Mr Krieling's father, who has since died.

Mr Krieling could not remember how much his father received in compensation for the land, but recalled that it was "a mere pittance".

Mr Krieling has served the NG Kerk ministry in a number of towns, but returned to his home town when he retired.

Visiting the land in the heart of the Boland town this weekend, Mr Krieling recognised a

tree that was there when he was a child.

But while his childhood home has been demolished, he has never forgotten it.

"Soon I could be drinking tea on a shady stoep here," he said with a smile. "We never dreamt this would happen. I can't wait to meet the present owner. He must be a good man."

Last year, Mr Gerber returned another Calvinia plot to the Anglican Church. The site has special meaning for the town's coloured community, as it once housed a chapel built to commemorate folk hero Abraham Esau.

It was a thanksgiving service for the return of this property that persuaded Mr Gerber he had to give all the land back.

"When I got up to say a few words during the service, the entire community stood up in my honour. There were tears in many people's eyes," he said.

"That's when I realised how terrible it was for communities and families to have lost their land through the Group Areas Act.

"I wish this tragedy had never happened. Now I'm trying to atone for a tiny bit of the injustice. I would hate to have my land taken away at the stroke of a pen."

Mr Gerber, the son of an NGK minister, is now trying to trace the original owners of his other land.

# A week of farm terror

SITIMES 215193

By JOCELYN MAKER

THIS is the diary of attacks on farmers in the past week.

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON:** Betty Blom, 69, walks into her kitchen after church. As she puts the kettle on, she sees two men walking towards the door. She calls out to her husband, Gemie, 70, who goes outside. She hears him scream. The men flee, leaving his body behind.

**SUNDAY NIGHT:** Aardt Schenkel, 24, his wife Marlaan, 27, and their three children — Johan, 5, Corne, 3 and Ariana, six months — drive home after church. As they enter his property at Donkerhoek, 30km east of Pretoria, four men — one armed with an AK-47 — open fire on the car. Mr Schenkel slumps forward, mortally wounded. His wife puts the car into reverse and, because her dying husband's foot is jammed on the accel-

erator, she and her children escape.

**MONDAY:** Philip van Rooyen, 39, is attacked by two men — one armed with an AK-47, the other with a 9mm pistol — in the dairy of his farm Blesbokspruit at Piet Retief around 4pm. Farm worker Swazi Shabangu tackles the man with the AK-47, and is wounded. Mr van Rooyen is killed.

**TUESDAY:** Alex Kalafatis, 45, drives to his Camperdown farm shortly after midnight. As he arrives home, he is overpowered. His house is ransacked and he is driven away in his Mercedes Benz, registration number NC7889. He is still missing.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING:** Johannes Swanepoel, 42, is confronted by two men on his farm at Letsitele in the Northern Transvaal. He shouts to warn his wife, Sandra, 37, and runs towards his bedroom, where his wife manages to fire a shot at the intruders

before she is shot. She dies instantly.

**WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON:** Gerhardus Visagie, 45, is stabbed in the neck after being pulled from his bakkie outside Carletonville. He is robbed of money and his firearm. Farm labourer Lucas Matshaka comes across his wounded employer lying in the road. Mr Visagie is recovering.

**FRIDAY MORNING:** Stephanus Bezuidenhout, 64, is shot in the throat by gunmen at his farm at Stutterheim in the Eastern Cape. Mr Bezuidenhout is taken to hospital, where he is recovering from his wounds.

**YESTERDAY:** Eastern Cape farmer Joseph Brook, 79, is stabbed to death after two men tie up his sister, Esme Morgan, 80, in the kitchen.

The men take Mr Brook's car, which is found burnt out about 40km from the murder scene.

New!

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REPORT: JOCELYN MAKER  
PICTURES: JON HRUSA

**SOUTH AFRICA'S farmers are preparing for war.**

Defence units are already operating in some districts in the Transvaal where curfews are being enforced and strangers are being told they will be shot on sight if they return.

Farmers in the Transvaal, Free State and Natal said this week they had had enough of being the targets of attacks which have left six dead and two injured since last weekend.

Mr Dries Bruwer, head of the 14 000-strong Transvaal Agricultural Union and Conservative Party MP, said farmers were forming their own army to protect themselves.

At a mass meeting in Potchefstroom on Thursday, they will throw down the gauntlet to the government and the ANC.

"Neither the SAP nor the ANC has any control any longer. The farmers are the angriest they have ever been and war seems to be the only way for them to save their land. In certain Transvaal farming areas we already have platoons of men who protect farms," said Mr Bruwer.

### Killed

"If strangers walk or drive on any of the secondary or private roads after curfew they are warned to get out of the area. In some cases, platoon members have immobilised vehicles by shooting tyres. The occupants are then forced to walk.

"Our men are under instructions to give intruders a chance to leave and to warn them that if they return they will be shot on sight. The bush telegraph is working well in these areas and the crime rate has dropped." Mr Bruwer would not identify the areas concerned.

Dr Piet Gous, president of the Free State Agricultural Union, which has 7 500 members, said he was extremely concerned about the crisis.

"ANC Youth leader Peter Mokaba called on his followers to

# The boers prepare for battle

S/Times 2/5/93

QUOTE: They are killing us like dogs and we are now going to fight back

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'Kill a boer, kill a farmer' and that is what has been happening.

"After last December, there was a drop in the number of farm murders in the Free State. But since Mr Mokaba issued his instructions a couple of weeks back, 12 farmers have been killed.

"Farmers are being attacked and murdered for one reason only — because they have white skins.

"Their backs are against the wall. They are sitting ducks on their farms, and if something drastic is not done immediately, you'll start seeing revenge killings, and then it'll be civil war," said Dr Gous.

### Patrols

"I have been on my knees to the government to beg for protection for the farmers. I have begged the farmers to restrain themselves, but I am afraid the situation is out of hand. I can't hold back my members any longer," he said.

In the Free State district of Senekal, where Mr Gemie Blom, 70, was stabbed to death with a pair of shears on his farm Fraaiuitzicht last weekend, the farmers are waiting to see who's next.

Mr Tonie Potgieter, a member of the AWB whose family has been farming in the area for generations, said farmers were prepared to turn their lands into killing fields to protect themselves.

"We have organised patrols on our farms, the SAP and SADF are involved in the 'plaaswag'. Many of us have two-way radios, but it's not enough. We cannot afford electrified fencing and the law does not allow us to own automatic weapons, so what must we do?"

Mr Johan Meyer, 73, who was born on his Senekal farm, and his wife Dina, 71, have reached the end of their tether.

"We spend our lives looking over our shoulders. I cannot farm this way. We never know when a group of men armed with AK-47s is going to jump out behind a bush and shoot us."

Mr William Mullins, president of the Natal Agricultural Union, which has 5 500 members, said a step towards solving the attacks on farmers had to come from political leaders.

"They must stop making statements like 'Kill the boer, kill the farmer'. The unsophisticated



Tonie Potgieter, who says farmers have no real option

youth, who do not belong to any political organisations, hear these statements and act on them. The situation in Natal is tense, especially after the abduction of Alex Kalafatis this week," said Mr Mullins.

At least 90 percent of farmers in Natal were linked to a two-way radio network, while the police, farmers and the SADF had formed a "farm watch".

### Chanting

"But they cannot protect every farm. The elderly farmers are the soft targets and are always the first to be attacked," he said.

At Donkerhoek, east of Pretoria, where a father of three was gunned down as he returned from church last Sunday night, farmers also wait with bated breath.

Mr George van den Bosch — a neighbour of the dead man, Mr Aardt Schenkel, 24 — said that on the Friday night before the ambush a group of men ran through his piggery chanting "Kill the boer, kill the farmer".

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## Drought after-effects still remain

DEEPENING drought would continue to affect SA's economy and people despite the recent good rains which saved this year's maize crop. (Ben)

A National Consultative Forum on Drought March update report said the Border-Transkei and the Natal-KwaZulu regions in particularly were badly affected. Drought after-effects would continue to be severe in the northern and eastern Transvaal, and government declared a further 10 areas drought stricken last month. (E)

Rural communities in the western Transvaal who relied on subsistence farming were suffering because of restricted access to water and a failure of subsistence crops. The problem was compounded by retrenchments in the mining areas, the report said. (BOM 3/5/93)

A continued lack of sufficient rain and dam water reserves meant planting for the next season would be difficult and crops would suffer in the long term.

Citrus fruit farmers in the northern and eastern Transvaal, who produced a good

MARIANNE MERTEN

crop this season because of irrigation water from the Fanie Botha dam, now faced water restrictions and worsening prospects for next year's crop.

Employment opportunities on coffee, tea and fruit plantations in the areas were also affected. (S)

The report said unemployment might worsen as funding for emergency job creation schemes such as soil conservation projects ended in March.

Natal's grazing was only about 20% to 30% of normal and some northern and costal areas were experiencing high livestock deaths. Although Natal's crops were better than last year, results were still poor compared with an average season. Cane growers were especially affected.

About a third of livestock in the Free State was in poor condition. Wheat farmers harvested only 35% of their crops. Although cotton and potato harvests were good, lucerne was deteriorating because of the cold weather, the report said.

# Critics reject land-swap proposal

CLAIMS that land redistribution problems would be solved by reducing SA's food production have been rejected by government, the ANC and the Development Bank of Southern African.

An article in this month's Southern African Exclusive — based on statements by an economist in the development agency community — said SA's agricultural sector, which accounted for only 6% of GDP, produced nearly three times the local food requirements, including wine and fruit juices.

The report recommended reducing food production levels to 110% of domestic needs, which would make land available for redistribution.

Agriculture Department chief director for economics Deon Joubert said yesterday he disagreed with the article.

Referring to the department's

MARIANNE MERTEN

most recent self-sufficiency index, which compared production and consumption levels from 1985 to 1989, he said it was only in the fruit-producing sectors that SA had achieved surplus production — 152.3% for deciduous and subtropical fruit and 254% for citrus fruit.

Joubert said the index was currently being updated and he did not expect any substantial changes.

SA had a shortfall in mutton, beef, poultry and oil from oilseeds, and other agricultural production levels were below or just above the 110% recommended in the article.

Land would not be made available for redistribution by decreasing agricultural productivity, but some land could become available if it was used optimally, Joubert said.

ANC co-ordinator: land and agri-

cultural policy Derek Hanekom said he doubted the figures, as SA was a net importer of red meat and, until last year, maize.

DBSA centre for policy analysis associate director Nick Vink said the organisation dissociated itself from the article's claim that DBSA "actively supported" the proposal to cut food production.

An overall index of production levels showed that SA produced about 30% to 35% above its consumption levels. If this were to be applied to the three broad agricultural sectors, production levels compared with local consumption requirements were about 95% for livestock, 125% for fieldcrops and 150% for horticultural products.

The agricultural sector's GDP contribution stood at about 5% and was lower this year because of the drought, Vink said.

# Govt land dispute plan rejected

**GOVERNMENT's** plan to set up an independent land rights advisory forum to assist with land claim settlements has been greeted with caution and criticism.

Land Affairs Deputy Minister Johan Scheepers said in Parliament on Friday government did not support the idea of a land claims court proposed by the ANC because government lacked the financial means to implement such structures.

A land claims court would also "create and contribute to conflict" as determining a historic cut-off date was discriminatory.

Scheepers said the court would produce negative socioeconomic impacts because it gave a low priority to "the proper utilisation of land" and the basis of compensation threatened legal titles by not considering land titles.

The Advisory Commission on Land

Allocation (ACLA) did "offer solutions for numerous claims". In cases where the original land was state-owned, the relevant community should be given back its land.

If disputed land was privately owned, alternative state land should be made available, he said.

Negotiations between concerned parties would resolve disputes in other cases, Scheepers said.

An Association for Rural Advancement spokesman said the organisation was "extremely cautious" about the establishment of the land rights advisory forum, as dispossessed communities had not been canvassed.

It was remarkable that government had rejected the land claims court and a moratorium on the sale of

state-owned land — the only two effective short-term measures to resolve land claims, he said.

A National Land Commission spokesman said on Friday the announcement was "another example of unilateral decision-making on behalf of government".

This amounted to signing "a blank cheque for the restructuring of land and rural development policy".

Commission director Joanne Yawitch had rejected consideration for appointment to the forum because its terms of reference had been set by government alone and its decisions could be ignored, she said.

The commission also questioned the effectiveness of ACLA which, contrary to Scheepers' claims, had only settled two land disputes on behalf of the Roosboom and Charles-town communities in Natal.

See Page 4

## Advocates call for interim Bill of Rights

THE general council of the Bar of SA has called for the introduction of an interim Bill of Rights enforceable by the courts, including the Appellate Division.

Chairman Brian Southwood said the council reaffirmed its support for introduction of a Bill of Rights and urged negotiating parties to agree on a new constitution at the earliest opportunity.

"Experience in countries such as Namibia has shown that the early introduction of an interim Bill of Rights greatly facilitates and enhances the process of creating such a rights culture," he said.

"An interim Bill of Rights must be accompanied by adequate state provided resources to give all citizens

inexpensive and expeditious access to the courts to enforce their rights."

The council was opposed to the entrenchment of the death penalty in the Bill of Rights, Southwood said.

"The question of whether the death penalty should be abolished because it is unconstitutional and/or in conflict with the Bill of Rights should be decided by the courts."

The widely divergent views of the members of the council's constituent Bars rendered it impossible for it to adopt an unequivocal view. The council was unconditionally opposed to detention without trial even in a state of emergency.

"The general council of the Bar believes the experience of the past decades has demonstrated beyond doubt that the executive cannot be entrusted or trusted with power to detain without trial."

He said it also believed Supreme Court judges should be chosen by a fully independent body in a way which ensured that judicial appointments fell outside the political arena.

It had reaffirmed its view that membership by a judge of any secret organisation was incompatible with judicial office. "This is of particular importance when the secret organisation has political objectives."

The council also supported the appointment of a permanent Human Rights Commission.

## ... commends ... police

HARTLEY

... and the national peace secretary the relatively peaceful nature of the death of SACP leader Chris Oldstone said at the weekend. ... commission unequivocally which accompanied many of the ... held. Such conduct resulted in property and looting," he said.

## Rival oil firms launch product war

TWO of SA's largest oil companies are engaged in an advertising war over the cleansing ability of their brands of petrol.

Caltex yesterday opened a nationwide advertising campaign defending the track record of its 20-year-old additive, CX3.

The new Caltex cam-

... campaign came just days after BP said it had come up with a "new generation" petrol capable of reducing dirty engine deposits.

Since its launch in 1973, CX3 has been sold on its ability to keep car engine parts clean.

The new BP newspaper

ad features a photo of a filthy, muddy rally car with the blurb: "BP's new generation petrol. Proved to keep it clean on the inside."

Caltex GM Mike Rade-meyer yesterday declined to comment on BP's claims.

BP spokesmen were unavailable for comment yesterday.

# Farmers' protest Star 4/5/93 a show of muscle

By Paul Bell  
and Chris Whitfield

③ **Gen** Retired military and police generals who, according to reports, have established a so-called "Committee of Generals" to help co-ordinate the Right's new political initiative.

Thursday's Potchefstroom meeting planned by Transvaal and Free State farmers — to protest against the extension of farmworkers' rights — is developing into a show of strength by the right wing in pursuit of its demand for a volkstaat.

Three of four Government Ministers invited by the South African Agricultural Union to attend the meeting — Manpower Minister Leon Wessels, Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel and Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk — told The Star they would not be attending. The fourth, Defence and Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, could not be contacted.

The meeting will take place against a backdrop of rising anger among farmers, who are fiercely opposed to new laws affecting their workers and concerned by the recent spate of attacks on farmers. Up to 7 000 farmers are expected to attend.

Prominent among the guests are expected to be the group of

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said yesterday Kriel had been invited but was unable to attend. Wessels's spokesman, Johan Smit, said the Minister would not be attending and would issue a statement today elaborating on his reasons. Van Niekerk was in Israel on official business.

## No snub

Government sources last night played down any suggestion of a deliberate snub, saying it appeared the Ministers were simply unable to attend.

The meeting represents a major coalescing of the white Right around the concept of a volkstaat.

Free State Agricultural Union president Dr Piet Gous, who is also CP MP for Parys, said farmers wanted a sovereign nation and there were people willing to die for it.



# Capital gains and land tax should boost activity

Blom 51593. 3 ven

BOTH a capital gains and a land tax are likely to be introduced in the near future, which should boost sagging activity levels in the property valuation industry.

But the basis for valuing the properties could be problematic, as a number of different systems have been introduced worldwide, says Coopers Theron du Toit director Koos van Wyk.

While the market evaluation of land value will most likely result in a surge of activity for local valuers, it is unlikely that government will enforce private evaluations of every piece of

land, as this will be very expensive.

While the taxes were not introduced in the latest Budget, it is most likely that a future government will do so, he says.

"While the administrative expense of such taxes often do not justify the revenue generated, the majority of the people will perceive it as fair because it constitutes a redistribution of wealth," he says.

SA Institute of Valuers Natal chairman Martin White says both forms of taxation must be based on value—past and present in the case of capital gains tax, to be able to identify the "gain".

Similarly, if a land tax is levied, it must be based on value. This may be capital value, municipal value, rental value or a formula devised by the legislature.

However, the services of a valuer will be required at some stage, he says.

Dunlop Heywood joint MD Ian Mitchell says that generally, property owners in developed areas already pay rates — a form of property tax.

Van Wyk says the level to which the capital gains tax will be depreciated by inflation needs to be carefully addressed.

## Penalised

"Such a tax will be inequitable if inflation is not taken into account, as many apparent capital profits do not keep pace with inflation and people could thus be penalised," he says.

White says that if additional forms of taxation on the ownership of land are introduced, care must be taken to ensure that such taxes do not inhibit the development and the best use of that land.

"If the tax is to be seen as a wealth tax, then its base must be market value. Current proposals to adopt market value as the basis for all municipal valuations would suggest that these could well form part of the basis of any future taxes," he says.

This tax base could possibly be expanded by imposing a rates burden on all properties in the country.

"This process would involve the professional valuer, in acting for the authorities and for individuals wanting to contest the valuations upon which the tax would be based," he says.

# Farmers plan to deliver ultimatum on violence

Blomby 575793 (3) 6

PRETORIA — Government and the ANC would be warned at tomorrow's mass meeting of Free State and Transvaal farmers to act urgently to end escalating violence, particularly on the platteland, or expect counteraction, the Transvaal Agricultural Union said yesterday.

More than 10 000 farmers were expected at the Potchefstroom meeting which would be chaired by Free State Agricultural Union president and CP MP for Parys Piet Gous, as well as Transvaal Agricultural Union president and CP MP for Lydenburg Dries Bruwer.

Last night Bruwer denied the mass gathering formed part of a political party's mobilisation action.

It was purely a gathering of farmers, planned in February, to discuss agriculture's negotiations with government on labour legislation.

However, he said several ultimatums on farmers' safety would be submitted to the ANC and government at the meeting.

Gous said yesterday violence had deteriorated into what appeared to be uncontrollable chaos.

He said the refusal of Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel and Manpower Minister Leon Wessels to attend the meeting "is a display of intolerable arrogance and indifference".

Deputy Agriculture Minister Tobie Meyer would be present.

Wessels said earlier he had nothing definite to say about the laws as negotiations on extending the Labour Relations and

GERALD REILLY

Wage Acts to farms were still continuing, Sapa reports. He said he would be happy to address the unions on government's position once negotiations were finalised.

Gous said farmers were mobilising against the escalation of criminal and political violence which government was "patently unable to control".

Murders on the platteland had become almost daily happenings, and the vast majority were unsolved.

Intimidatory statements calculated to inflame race relations were being made in public before hundreds of witnesses and shown on television yet no arrests had been made, he said.

A new and effective anti-terrorist strategy was urgently needed, including better use of SADF personnel and a more effective deployment of police.

"We hear the argument that you can't have a policeman on every farm. But a better communication network on the platteland to alert security forces and speedier responses to emergency calls are needed."

A spokesman said the response to the announcement of the meeting had been overwhelming and it would probably have to be moved to the Potchefstroom rugby stadium.

Meanwhile, Northern Cape Agricultural Union president Stoffel Lombard appealed to members to remain calm, saying they should take part in mass actions.

# Rainbow R77-m into the red

**ALIDE DASNOIS**  
**Business Staff**

A GLUT of chicken on the market and a rise in feed costs swung Rainbow Chicken from bottom line earnings of nearly R50 million to a loss of R77 million in the year to end-March.

Operating losses of R39 million were swelled by a R40 million interest bill in "an extraordinarily difficult year".

Interest-paying debt includes R36 million in loans from the vendors of Bonny Bird.

Directors said chicken producers had to compete with increased supplies of red meat to the market as farmers slaughtered cattle because of the drought.

The oversupply of chicken was aggravated by increased production by some producers and by imports of dumped chicken on to an already overstocked market, they said.

Group chicken sales rose by 5 percent over the year, but selling prices were well below production costs, so there was virtually no increase in chicken revenue for 1993.

Feed costs, which account for more than half of Rainbow's total costs, rose sharply largely because of a 24 percent increase in the maize price.

Epol traded at a loss, in spite of an increase in turnover, be-

cause of lower margins and bad debt write-offs as a result of the drought and the difficult economy. (3) ALTECH 5/193

Capital expenditure over the year was reduced to R67,7 million from R103,3 million, including R15,6 million for the completion of Rainbow's Rustenburg feed mill. POULTRY

The directors expect a return to profits in the coming year. Sales volumes are not likely to increase this year, but selling prices should rise as stocks are used up and production in the poultry industry is cut back.

■ In spite of the first decline in sales volumes for many years, soft-drink bottler Amalgamated Beverage Industries (ABI) has reported a 19 percent increase in earnings a share to 77c for the year to March.

The dividend has been increased proportionately to 37,5c a share.

Sales were particularly high in the last quarter of the previous year, but fell in the last quarter of the year just ended because of cooler weather, a drop in consumer spending, mass action and higher excise.

Managing director Alex Reid said efforts to improve productivity and cut costs at all levels were successful.

■ A stronger balance sheet helped furniture maker Afcol re-

port a 13 percent increase in earnings a share to 119,5c in the year to March.

The dividend has been similarly increased to 59,5c.

■ The drought pulled CG Smith Sugar's attributable earnings down 21 percent to R38,5 million in the six months ended March 1993.

Earnings a share fell 24 percent to 24,4c, resulting in a 22 percent cut in dividends to 7c a share for the period under review.

Directors said the worst effects of the drought were felt by the company's three suagr mills on the Natal South Coast where suagr production dropped 157 600 tons below the previous year.

■ Altech, a member of the Altron Group, has entered into a joint venture with Alcatel, a \$32 billion European industrial group.

The new company was launched in Pretoria yesterday by the executive chairman of Altron, Dr Bill Venter, and vice-president of Alcatel and chairman and chief executive of Alcatel CIT Pierre Guichet.

Alcatel Altech Telecoms is the culmination of 18 months of negotiation with Alcatel. In the 50/50 joint venture Altech retains management and board control with Dr Venter as chairman.

Star 6/5/93 (3) Gen

# Farmers to test generals' plan

By Paul Bell

Today's meeting of white farmers at Potchefstroom will be the first major test for the initiative by the Committee of Generals, led by former SADF chief General Constand Viljoen, to unify and mobilise right-wing opinion around the drive for a volkstaat.

Farmers are also expected to tell the Government they will defy the extension of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act to farmworkers, and to deliver ultimatums to the Government and the ANC over attacks on white farms.

Up to 10 000 farmers are expected to converge on the AH Potgieter banqueting hall in Potchefstroom from where — if numbers require — they will march to the Olien Park rugby stadium and convene under the banner of the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions.

Viljoen, a cattle farmer in the Ohrigstad valley, has been asked to summarise, and draw conclusions on, the discussions on farm security which are expected to dominate this morning's proceedings.

Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer, who is



Constand Viljoen . . . to focus on farm security.

also CP MP for Lydenburg, said he expected farmers to declare "open season" on ANC Youth League president Peter Moka-ba, whose "kill the Boer" chants at rallies after Chris Hani's assassination had inflamed farmer opinion.

Other issues on the agenda are the worsening financial predicament of farmers and the question of land use, over which farmers expect to face increasing pressure for redistribution from a new government.

The participation of Viljoen is regarded as especially significant because of his role in the Committee of Generals, which has established a subcommittee to consider strategies for the mobilisation of Afrikaners in pursuit of a volkstaat.

The generals will hold a se-



Kobie Coetsee . . . unable to attend the meeting.

cret meeting tomorrow.

Meanwhile, in Cape Town, Justice and Defence Minister Kobie Coetsee has also said he is unable to attend the meeting. His decision, writes Chris Whitfield, means that the four Cabinet Ministers who received invitations have turned them down and it is now unlikely there will be any senior Government representation.

Government sources have, however, rejected suggestions that it had deliberately snubbed the meeting and said the Ministers all had valid reasons for not attending. Other Ministers invited were Henus Kriel (Law and Order), Leon Wessels (Manpower) and Dr Kraai van Niekerk (Agriculture).

● Interview with former intelligence chief — Page 13

# Bureau predicts upswing

BIDAY 6/5/93

(3) Cent

ANDREW KRUMM

INCREASED agricultural output in 1993 will break the drought's grip on economic growth, leading to a moderate second-half upswing, says Unisa's Bureau for Market Research.

Forecasting 0,5% growth in GDP this year, BMR's Prof Marius Loubser said agricultural production was expected to return to 95% of its 1991 (or pre-drought) level in 1993 — equivalent to a 25% rise in farming output in 1992. The drought was blamed for two-thirds of the 2,4% decline in GDP last year.

With lower inflation and interest rates, and a rosier international outlook, BMR expected a real 0,5% increase in GDP.

Loubser said private consumption expenditure, down 2,6% in 1992, would probably remain at that level, but lower interest rates would free about R1,5bn in mortgage costs. Increased indirect taxes would cut into

personal disposable income, which would drop by about 2%.

The BMR predicted retail sales would average 3% lower in the first six months of 1993 compared with 1992, but pick up by about 3% in the second half.

Food sales by the formal sector — a key indicator of the retail climate — would decline marginally by 1,3% in 1993.

"The expansion of the list of zero-rated food items in April is expected to prevent another drop in (formal) food sales in 1993. Informal food retailing will, however, expand its share in total food sales, resulting in a 1,3% drop in the formal sector."

Loubser said of total expected sales volumes of R87,6bn in 1993, blacks would command 43,1%, whites 43%, coloureds 9,2% and Asians 4,6%.

## NEWS 'We will not be governed by ANC' ● SA taxpayers 'footed the bill' for IFP marches

# Top ex-SADF man warns

*Sowetan 7/5/93*

### ■ Rightwing general welcomed in militant atmosphere:

THE negotiation process should be stopped and parties return to the drawing board, former SA Defence Force chief General Constand Viljoen said in Potchefstroom yesterday.

He told about 7 000 farmers the reason for the increase in violence was that an important stage had been reached in the negotiation process. He said the perpetrators also wanted to scare the negotiators.

The farmers, who packed the main pavillion of the Olen Park sports stadium, were in a militant mood.

The meeting, arranged by the agricultural unions of the Transvaal and Free State, endorsed four ultimatums — including one saying farmers would not be governed by the ANC.

He said the reason for the instability

in South Africa was that the Government was naïve in its implementation of the reform process and because it had stopped resisting the ANC militarily.

Viljoen and other rightwing speakers received a hearty welcome while deputy Minister of Agriculture Tobie Meyer and SA Agricultural Union president Mr Boet Fourie had to cut short their speeches when they were booed and jeered.

Viljoen said the "terrorists" being allowed to enter the country and making homesteads unsafe could no longer be tolerated.

Farmers should prepare themselves because "many farmers will be shot dead" before the problem was solved.

The other three ultimatums adopted were:

- White schools would not be occupied by blacks because "blood will flow";

- Citizen Force members must withdraw from the commandos if the security forces were placed under the joint control of the Government and the ANC/PAC;

- If one more farmer was murdered, farmers should defend themselves as though they were at war.

The meeting was called to discuss grievances about the application of labour laws in agriculture, financial problems, the issue of land ownership and security. - *Sapa*.

# Thunder on the right

Wmail 715-13/943  
The rightwing took advantage  
of a meeting of farmers to  
mobilise support.

By **JAN TALJAARD**  
and Sapa

IN the first real manifestation of the rightwing's *volksmobilisasie* (people's mobilisation), more than 8 000 farmers and sympathisers from the white Mineworkers Union gathered for a tumultuous protest rally yesterday in Potchefstroom.

The meeting, at Olen Park Stadium, focused on farmers' grievances, notably legislation extending basic rights to farm labourers and the financial plight of the agricultural sector.

The mood was martial: there were threats of a producer strike by farmers, of countryside disruption of cities as happened in Pretoria last year, and a resolution that the new labour legislation would be defied.

Deputy Agriculture Minister Tobie Fourie was shouted down when he tried to speak. Farmers jeered when they heard that the ministers of justice, law and order and defence had declined invitations to attend.

Although organised by the Transvaal and Free State Agricultural Unions for farmers, the meeting had a much broader political importance. Initially addressing farmers' issues, it became increasingly politicised.

Earlier this week acting Conservative Party leader Ferdi Hartzenberg said the activation of the right, which had started with the CP, had grown to become a people's movement, and that 18 different interest groups were being mobilised, including agriculture.

Significantly, the guest of honour was former South African Defence Force chief General Constand Viljoen, whose address on security matters was given a standing ovation. Viljoen is a central figure in the recently formed Committee of Generals (CoG), whose aim is to unify the right and harness it to the aim of creating an Afrikaner volkstaat, if necessary through extra-parliamentary resistance.

The CoG has sent documents to all major parties of the right, asking for their support. So far, the Herstigte Nasionale Party and the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging have declined to commit themselves.

Also present at the rally were sever-



**No to change ... A gathering in Potchefstroom attracted at least 8 000 rightwingers** Photo: KEVIN CARTER

al members of the Volkseenheidskomitee which gave birth to the CoG. They included Jan Groenewald, brother of former military intelligence boss General Tienie Groenewald and another key member of the CoG; former CID chief General Cobus Visser, also of the CoG; boerestaat planner Koos Reynecke; and Afrikaner Volkstaat Stigting head Professor Carel Boshoff. Viljoen was loudly cheered when he called for the suspension of negotiations as a remedy for the country's violence. The daily murder of farmers could not be tolerated, and commanders of private armies such as Umkhonto weSizwe and Apla had to ensure control over their militias.

Joint control of the security forces before a new constitution was agreed to was "crass stupidity", he added, as this would mean the forces would fall under the control of communists.

Viljoen also said that while Afrikaners had been content to leave politics to "a group of people sitting on the green benches of parliament", the time had now come for them to unite and become politically active once more.

Afrikaner unity could bring a solution without the need for the "great and

unpleasant" step of armed struggle.

Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said there would be no negotiated settlement in South Africa without farmers' co-operation.

Referring to the "unnecessary" new labour dispensation, he said: "Farmers have no choice but to disobey the law when a disloyal government wants to force it on them."

Decisions were taken that the labour law would not be accepted, farmworkers' strikes would not be tolerated and the agricultural minister would have to bear the consequences of farmers' reactions if strikes occurred.

Leonard Venter of the *Boerbond* Aksie said farmers would refuse to serve under a black majority government. He referred to the financial woes of farmers, and specifically their R21-billion debt burden, and warned that if the government refused to give them financial assistance "we will remove food from the shelves". If this failed, South African cities would be besieged by farmers.

Demands included a moratorium on the liquidation of farms, a five-year freeze on interest rates, tariff protection and the dropping of VAT on red meat.

# Farmers 'not power base for govt now'

Own Correspondent

3  
7/5/93

PORT ELIZABETH. — Commercial farmers are not considered an effective power base by the government, and it is channelling its finances in other directions to gain votes, says East Cape Agricultural Union vice-president Mr Pieter Erasmus.

He said the industry would increasingly have to make use of its strategic economic powers to ensure a fair share of the national economy.

Expressing dismay over pronouncements that stock farmers' applications for financial assistance had been rejected, Mr Erasmus said that about half the region's farmers were in dire financial straits.

He said stock farmers in particular would now have to realise they had to fight their survival battle alone. "They will have to do everything possible to rationalise and consolidate their enterprises to survive economically."

He said that although the present drought aid scheme was a great help to farmers, it did not bring relief over a wide spectrum. "Veld reserves are critically low."



# Secure farms planned

AGC  
3  
CT8/593  
Political Correspondent

FARMSTEADS in parts of South Africa could soon resemble the security fortresses erected by farmers during the Rhodesian civil war.

The government is urgently considering a financial aid plan for threaten farmers which will include high security fencing, spotlights and sophisticated alarm and communications systems.

An announcement giving details of the security package would, "considering the pressing need", be made as soon as possible, Ministry of Law and Order spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said yesterday.

It is understood that the plan to beef up security in the rural areas began well before farmers and right-wingers issued a series of ultimatums to the government this week.

# Farmers' fears and outrage bubble over

STAR 8/5/93

(2) (3) Gen

LOUISE MARSLAND

THE smell of boerewors was wafting through the air, and tannies were dispensing cooldrinks and curry and rice like at any other farmers' gathering: but the mood was anything but festive as South Africa's white farmers gathered in Potchefstroom this week in a demonstration of boere power.

The mood was defiant and the message clear: "Enough is enough". White farmers are angry and fearful. They claim they are staring bankruptcy in the face through price control and new labour laws, and fear the loss of their properties and livelihoods under a black majority government.

They came from far and wide, driving in four-wheel-drive bakkies and trucks and luxury sedans. Ooms in short pants and biesbok skin around their hats sat alongside the grey-suited with ties. The majority wore khaki — and almost all were armed to the teeth.

Helene Kingsley of Dewetsdorp sleeps with a pistol by her side at night. The reason? She is a farmer's wife.

The soft-spoken, grey-haired woman, dressed in a neat wool suit, said that digging bunkers on their farms and taking up arms would be the next step to fighting for what they want. "Today could be the start of the farmers taking up arms."

Kingsley's chilling sentiments were echoed by many of the khaki-clad farmers who attended the rally on Thursday.

Speaker after speaker at the meeting, organised by



**DIGGING IN THEIR HEELS:** The farmers' gathering in Potchefstroom had one message: Enough is enough. And they're prepared to back their demands with whatever it takes. ● Photograph: KAREN SANDISON

the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions, called on farmers to mobilise themselves, their families and even their farmworkers against threats to their security, new labour legislation — and negotiations.

South African flags were waved alongside flags from the old Boer Republics. Banners proclaimed: "Ek is 'n Boer en 'n farmer: kom 'try

my" (I am a Boer and a farmer: come try me).

Kingsley's family have been in South Africa for generations and her grandmother was imprisoned in a British concentration camp almost 100 years ago. "We want to farm and be successful, but we will not live under a black government. They number so many, we will be engulfed. We feel we will not have a say."

Leeudoringstad farmers Hennie Maas and Sas Botha said they would never be able to live under a black majority government. "We feel threatened by the ANC. A black government will take over the country and we will lose our farms. We are here today fighting for our own properties and very livelihood. If we do not stand together, it's over — the end."

They said there was nowhere left to trek and they would take up arms, if necessary, to fight for their country.

Kosie Pieterse, a cattle farmer from Bray in the Vryburg district, said the main problem for the farmer was economics. "The price of petrol is up, diesel is up, mealie seed is up — yet we are getting 50 percent less for agricultural pro-

ducts and meat, and consumers are paying more. Where does the money go?"

Khaki-clad Jan du Preez, who farms with game and cattle in the Vryburg district, said he was angry at the proposed new labour laws which provide minimum pay scales and regulate working conditions for farmworkers, and the Government's surrender to pressure from the ANC and Con-

gress of South African Trade Unions, to the detriment of the farmers.

Criticising the new labour legislation, one farmer quipped: "A cow does not calf between 8 am and 5 pm. If God gives us rain, it's there, and if we have to plant, we plant."

Another Leeudoringstad farmer, Basie van Aswegen, says he did not sleep on Wednesday night after his telephone wires were cut. Police found tracks near the farmhouse. "That 'Kill the farmer, kill the Boer' chant has claimed the lives of about 20 farmers so far, and 20 000 more will be eliminated as a result of interest rates, corporations, bank debt and price control."

Van Aswegen said he paid out about R22 000 a month in wages for his 120 farmworkers whose monthly salaries averaged between R100 to R250. He said he would go bankrupt if forced to pay a proposed minimum farmworkers' wage of R600 a month.

"I am here for my country," said Potchefstroom pig farmer Thys Greeff, Vierkleur flag held high. "The Government has lost control over law and order. They can't even protect the people who provide the country with food."

The bottom line, Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said to loud cheering, was that there would be no negotiated settlement in South Africa without the farmers' cooperation. "After this meeting, you will be able to tell your grandchildren you were there when the farmers decided: So far and no further!"

# Commission's jurisdiction on land challenged

By CARMEL RICKARD

**THE House of Assembly's Development and Housing Board refuses to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the government's Advisory Commission on Land Allocation in an important land claim now being considered by the commission.** *3 Gen*

The board says the commission may not even consider the claim by the Hendricks family of Rondevlei, Retreat.

Evicted from Simonstown in 1949 to make way for the army, they then bought a 4 000-square-metre plot for R110. *3*

Eleven years ago Kassie Hendricks, now 81, and her sick and elderly husband felt they had to move again — this time because their land was in a newly proclaimed white group area.

They accepted R39 000 from the Community Development Board, but it was too little to buy another plot. Some members of the family, unable to find affordable alternative accommodation, stayed where they were. *SI Times*

In 1969 the land was again zoned for "coloured" use, but the board did not inform the Hendrickses about it. *915193*

Instead, a year later, without notifying the Hendrickses, the

board sold this land by public auction to Mr P Basson for R23 000.

A month later Mr Basson resold to the New Apostolic Church for R160 000.

A few months ago members of the family still living on the land were told by an attorney acting for Mr Basson that they had to get out immediately.

However, the family discovered that Mr Basson was not yet the registered owner. They asked the Legal Resources Centre in Cape Town for help and in a dramatic Sunday-night Supreme Court application, hours before the transfer was due to go through, the family won a temporary reprieve.

The court said the board could not alienate the land to Mr Basson until the family had had a chance to approach the land commission and the administrator.

Last week the commission heard the whole story. However, lawyers appearing for the development board challenged the authority of the commission even to consider the case. They said the law only allowed the commission to investigate "unallocated" land. Since the board had "allocated" the property for sale by public auction, the commission had no jurisdiction.

The commission is expected to make its recommendations to the State President soon.

WHILE THE FARMERS MARCHED, A BLACK MESSENGER SUMMED IT ALL UP:

# 'THE BASIES ARE ANGRY'

STimes 9/5/98

AS thousands of khaki-clad farmers marched down the main street of Potchefstroom on Thursday morning, a black messenger sitting on his scooter looked heavenwards and made the sign of the cross.

"God must help us. I am very scared of these basies," he said.

"I know they are angry and they do not play with people. The big war is coming."

He sat in the autumn sunshine, but only for a short while. Then the man donned his crash helmet and bravely weaved his way through the flag-waving, placard-bearing throng.

As he disappeared around a corner, a group of farmers shouted after him amid a roar of laughter and a host of racist jokes.

## Anger

From all over the country they came — in luxury cars, four-wheel drive vehicles, bakkies and buses, to vent their anger in the 150-year-old Transvaal town.

As they made their way towards the Olen Stadium between the Old Powder Magazine and the Fort built by the British in 1880, they sang *Sarie Marais* with gusto.

REPORT: JOCELYN MAKER

It was their day, and they were going to let the world know that they would not live under an ANC government.

The roots of their anger lay in the murder of farmers, the Basic Conditions of Employment Act for farm labourers, the possibility of the security forces being placed under joint multi-party control, the threatened occupation of white schools.

They had come to make history in the town where the first shot was fired in the first Anglo-Boer War.

As they walked between the long lines of traffic that had been brought to a standstill by their presence, a tall blonde farmer with a toy pistol in his hand stopped at a stationary truck.

The black driver sat stony-faced as the young man held the gun to his head. "Kafir, ons gaan vir jou doodskiet," he said.

The crowd cheered, and farmers with wives in tow screeched with laughter.

Here and there, the Klipdrift brandy and Coke had already begun to flow.

As marchers slowly filed into the stadium they shared "Hani" jokes, waved their flags for television crews and bought baseball caps in yellow, green, red and black.

PICTURE: JOHN HOGG

The Western Transvaal sun was beating down and the temperature rose to 32 degrees. Inside the stadium — home of the Western Transvaal rugby team — momentum was gathering.

In the heartland of South African agriculture, some 6 000 farmers sat and waited for the start of the rally where they would voice their demands in unison.

And they did.

The farmers bayed for blood. They booed the government, forcing the sole government representative, Deputy Agriculture Minister Tobie Meyer — younger brother of chief government negotiator Roelf — to abandon his address.

## Traitor

"Skiet hom," they shouted. "Send him home," they screamed. "Get rid of the traitor," they yelled.

In fairness, though, they did applaud when he pointed out that he had had the "guts to come and face the farmers".

SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie had even less chance of making himself heard over the catcalls and whistles. With a sad smile, he resumed his seat on the platform, a visibly defeated man. As the speeches became more fiery,

many of the farmers left the pavilion to sit on the grass, closer to the speakers. Most carried their holstered guns openly on their hips, while a few had long hunting knives dangling from their belts or strapped to their calves.

Members of the Blanke Weerstands-beweging made loud and repeated calls for war. A handful of AWB supporters in full regalia bore their triple-seven flag.

One BWB member stated categorically that he wanted no more talk, and that the only way for farmers to solve their problems was to shoot it out.

The unquestioned hero of the day was former SADF chief Constand Viljoen, dressed — as befitting his current status as an Ohrigstad farmer — in open-neck shirt and casual pants. For the general, the crowd had not one but several standing ovations.

The smell of braaivleis and boerewors wafting over the stadium tempted few.

Amid accusations that the government had declared war on the farmers and calls for Afrikaner unity, mobilisation and, if necessary, armed conflict, there was little interest in the social niceties that traditionally form part of farmers meetings.

Then again, with the exception of references to the unacceptably low maize price, there was little else to mark the day as one either.



**TAKEOVER . . .** Women of the Thornhill resettlement camp pose in front of a typical settler homestead on the farm Merino Walk which the community forcefully occupied. The land was promised to them 17 years ago.

# 'This land is our promised land'

*Press 9/5/93*

*3) Gen*

By LENNOX DIVER

THERE'S something striking about the group of black peasant women posing against the background of their "new" home - a homestead typical of white settler farmers.

Significant too, is the fact that the people pictured have, in fact, defied white authority in "occupying" the house and its surrounding farmland.

They are no ordinary black farmer folk - the former residents of Thornhill in the Eastern Cape - they are the living legacy of the government's disastrous land segregation policies.

In the early 70s - the heyday of the segregation policy - Thornhill squatter camp was created when the state forcefully removed thousands of farmers from their ancestral land in Herschel - where the community coped adequately - to Thornhill - a desolate wasteland in the arid semi-Karoo scrublands, hidden from view behind the dolerite crags of the northern tip of the Amatola mountains 40 km outside of Queenstown.

There the people suffered in a waterless hell with almost no social infrastructure. Officials said the "relocation site" was an interim measure until "equal land of equal quality" could be found. That was 17 years ago.

Today that has changed drastically. Thornhill heads up the campaign by almost 60 communities - all victims of forced removals - who are forcefully claiming back their land, or compensatory land.

In July 1990 a small pilot group of Thornhill residents were "sent to occupy" precisely the land which officials had shown to them 17 years ago, but which has yet to be granted to them.

The land, known as RA60 ("Released Area 60" in officialese) consists of 14 farms bounded by the Swart Kei River. Since then - and despite a battery of official hostility - heavy-handed SAP and Ciskei cops, dogs, guns, "trespass" charges and beatings - the occupiers' numbers



**BUDDIES . . .** American Cathy Cook of the US South Coast Foundation, right, poses with the Border Rural Committee's Godfrey Ngwendesha and a Thornhill farmer on the new farm. Pressure from the US farming town of Wichita had an impact in the issue.

have grown to over 5 000.

A third of Thornhill's 15 000 residents now live on the farm Merino Walk and are moving on to five more farms.

Now residents have turned the old white farmhouse into a primary school for 600 kids. Sturdy brick homes have gone up, fields have been tilled, crops sown and cattle put out to graze.

How could this have happened in this remote backwater in the highly conservative Eastern Cape?

Probably two reasons: Thornhill is an ANC stronghold with "99 percent" of its adults said to be members or supporters, and, secondly, the residents have had the staunch backing of an US city, Wichita.

As part of the Sister Community Project set up by progressive Americans and the anti-apartheid movement in the mid-80s, Thornhill was "twinned" with Wichita, a city which squats bang in the middle of America on the vast semi-arid plains of Kansas.

When Thornhill people moved or were acted upon, a flood of representations - by fax or telephone - were sure to follow. Faxes were sent to President FW De Klerk, and on one occasion to a local black DET official in Queenstown who arrived in a flurry of haste - "quaking in his boots" according to popular myth. He proceeded to implement the community's demands, so the myth goes.

Not that Wichita is a hot-bed of radicalism. Sister Community field representative Chris Benner said the city (population 500 000) represents "typical Mr and Mrs America" - a midwest farming town, deeply religious, conservative, and highly "US-centric".

He says the city, which regularly holds talks on "Thornhill" and uses the issue as an educational link with SA and beyond, was inspired by the notion of "poor people taking matters into their own hands".

A Wichita citizen has yet to visit the settlement, but, on request, consignments of thousands of textbooks

- "only in the pure sciences", maps and school aids, 17 manual typewriters and suggestions on small agriculture which have been useful to Kansas farmers - have been sent to Thornhill.

He said: "When the first group of Thornhill people were kicked off at gunpoint and there was violence and beatings, Wichita was not ready to respond.

"But in January 1991 when a second group again decided to occupy Merino Walk, the people of Wichita were ready to raise a stink - which they did. For a few months it was touch and go but eventually the government relented."

In line with this the DET agreed to operate a school in the white farmhouse on Merino Walk.

Then came the shock recommendation earlier this year from the State President's Advisory Commission on Land Allocation (Acla) which turned down the community's representation for their continued occupation of the RA60 land.

In a twist straight out of the apartheid textbook, the commission granted the land to the Hewu community - in Ciskei. The commission recommended that Thornhill residents be given an entirely different portion of land some 60km further away.

At the Acla hearing Ciskei's legal team claimed "the Hewu tribe" should granted the entire 14 farms making up RA60.

Thornhill residents slammed the recommendation as a "land grab" and "old-style apartheid incorporation".

The Thornhill community is ignoring the commission's finding and are, in fact, looking to occupy more farms in RA60.

They have demanded that the Hewu in Ciskei be given the new offering of South African land - or alternatively the Hewu's should go ahead and occupy it.

This week the Hewu did exactly that.

# Time provisionally wound up

BIDAY 10/5/93

SUSAN RUSSELL

TIME Holdings was provisionally wound up in the Rand Supreme Court on Friday, soon after obtaining liquidation orders against three subsidiaries.

The Time group applied for provisional liquidation early last week, but withdrew the matter after the judge expressed concern that the application, brought by its directors, was not supported by a shareholder or creditor.

Time was granted provisional winding up orders against subsidiaries Time Property Developments R McCarthy and Time Housing late on Thursday.

An application for the provisional winding up of Time Holdings was brought by Time Consolidated Investments on Friday.

Time Holdings CE Colin Hibbert blamed the group's situation on financial institutions' withdrawal from the mass housing market and on R5m unexpected damages

arising from an unresolved dispute with Basil Read.

Hibbert said in spite of the demand for housing built by Time, prospective purchasers were unable to obtain mortgage finance.

As a result, Time found itself having to service about R10m interest a year on borrowings without having the requisite sales to finance this.

Hibbert said the dispute with Basil Read over timeous completion of a project in Rosebank had left the group having to finance unforeseen damages of more than R5m until the dispute could be resolved in arbitration.

Time's bankers had refused to advance the group bridging finance until the damages could be recovered from Basil Read, Hibbert said.

## ANC concerned about farm exodus

RAY HARTLEY <sup>3</sup> Gen

THE ANC was concerned about a potential flight of agriculture skills as white farmers became increasingly worried about their security, ANC agriculture official Derek Hanekom said at the weekend.

He said farmers seemed to be staying put for the moment, but a marked increase in inquiries by farmers considering selling up and leaving SA had been reported.

He admitted that ANC youth league official Peter Mokaba's "kill the farmer" slogan had made it more difficult for the ANC to address misconceptions about the organisation's future agricultural policy with farmers.

A spokesman for a western Cape estate agency dealing in agricultural property said farmers from elsewhere in SA were showing growing interest in wine and fruit farms in the area because they were not the target of violence.

Transvaal and Natal farmers were, however, struggling to sell their properties at reasonable prices, indicating a declining interest in agriculture in those areas.

ADRIAN HADLAND reports that Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said farmers would not be intimidated into leaving their land.

The meeting of farmers in Potchefstroom last week demonstrated a new spirit among the farming community underlying their determination to defend their properties and livelihood, Bruwer said. While some farmers had left SA and headed for Zambia, this had been for economic and not political or security reasons.

## Umkhonto free to train in SA govt

RAY HARTLEY <sup>3</sup> Gen

GOVERNMENT would not oppose the training of Umkhonto we Sizwe members within SA borders provided no laws were broken, Law and Order spokesman Capt Craig Kotze said at the weekend.

Umkhonto would be free to do the same kind of training presently undertaken by organisations such as the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging.

Government would, however, oppose any efforts to "usurp the functions of the police and SADF", he said.

Commenting on a report that the ANC had struck a deal with government allowing it to train its military wing inside SA, Kotze said he was unaware of an agreement on the matter, but Umkhonto training in drilling and marching was "within the letter of the law".

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said the issue had been discussed in meetings with government, but cautioned that negotiations were not at a point where a firm deal had been concluded on the matter.

He said security matters would probably be the last area where agreement was reached because of their centrality to the balance of political power.

Government and ANC negotiators reportedly reached the compromise in discussions about a special national peacekeeping force to police violence-ridden areas once a transitional executive council came into being.

**NEWS** South Africans 'won't be blackmailed' • Progress needed to avoid recession

# ANC slams spoilers

*Sowetan 10/5/93*

## ■ RIGHTWING THREATS Government

urged to take legal action against

preachers of hatred:



**T**HE AFRICAN National Congress (ANC) has called on the Government to take legal action against rightwingers who incite racial hatred and threaten to use violence to undermine constitutional negotiations.

"They must be charged and brought to book to the fullest extent of the law," the ANC said in a statement on Saturday.

The organisation was objecting to racist slogans by farmers at a western Transvaal rally last week.

Thousands of Transvaal and Free State farmers gathered in Potchefstroom on Thursday to protest violence against white farmers and to highlight rightwing demands for self-determination within a future political dispensation.

The ANC said that faced with such provocation "the people of South Africa

will not fold their arms and allow themselves to be blackmailed into accepting schemes that seek to turn South Africa into another Bosnia.

"We will take the necessary steps to ensure that negotiations proceed with speed and that firm decisions are taken about the introduction of a transitional executive council and an early election date."

The ANC believed that everyone, including those who gathered at

Potchefstroom, had the democratic right to place their proposals on the negotiating table.

"However, like all participants in the negotiations, they must be prepared to accept the basic rules of a democracy. If after due and democratic consideration their proposals are not adopted they must be prepared to accept it. The African National Congress is similarly prepared to accept the final outcome of a fully democratic process." -- Sapa

*3 Gen*

# Agriculture central to economic pact

Star 11/5/93

FW

By Anita Allen  
Science Writer

③ Gen

A southern African economic community will become a reality and agriculture had a major role to play in the process, President F W de Klerk predicted yesterday.

Opening the first congress in Africa of the International Association of Cereal Science and Technology in Pretoria, De Klerk said the economic foundations in the form of inter-linked infrastructure already existed.

South Africa had the capacity and the desire to make its technological services available to its neighbours on a partnership basis.

Highlighting the theme of the congress — the Impact of Cereal Science and Technology on a Changing Africa — he said agriculture was the logical starting point of any strategy of getting Africa out of the doldrums in which it found itself.

“Taking into account Africa’s

growing population, sustained agricultural development in our continent is undoubtedly as essential prerequisite for an acceptable economic, political and social order, as well as for the general stability of society.”

A thriving agricultural sector could be maintained only if technology kept track on a continuous basis. He was proud of the numerous outstanding achievements of the full spectrum of the South African agricultural sector.

“I believe that our vision of a just, stable and prosperous South Africa will soon become a reality. We are on the brink of a breakthrough.

“With that will come even closer co-operation between all the countries in southern Africa. A dream of the southern African economic community will become a reality,” De Klerk said.

The congress is being attended by more than 300 delegates, including 70 scientists representing 28 countries.



Star 1116193

# Millions for farmers' security

EAST LONDON — The Government is to grant millions of rands in assistance to farmers for security, Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said in East London yesterday.

After a meeting with the Border Mayors' Forum and local business leaders at the city hall, Kriel said the money would be granted as subsidies.

He said the Cabinet was considering details of the matter and an announcement was expected next week.

"Obviously this will involve millions of rands and we are not in a position to secure the home of each and every farmer in the country."

Kriel and Cape National

Party leader Dr Dawie de Villiers visited East London to discuss security strategy for the region. He declined to say what the criteria would be for farmers to receive assistance, but added it would be made clearer next week.

He said the money would be used to establish radio communications, for burglar alarms, fencing and other security measures.

Kriel also announced that a light patrol aircraft would arrive in East London within a fortnight.

He added that if the police had known where the attackers involved in the Highgate, King William's Town and Fort Beau-

fort attacks were, they would have gone in and got them, irrespective of whether it was in the homelands.

"It is not clear how many groups are involved because these people do not stay more than one night in a place and have no ties with the community." He said co-operation between Transkei and South African police forces was good.

Eastern Cape regional police commissioner Major-General Daan Huggett said that attacks, in spite of a security cordon around Transkei, indicated the attackers were probably not operating out of Transkei as previously thought. — Sapa.

6

# Kriel pledges millions for farm security

CT 115 FB.

Own Correspondent (3)

EAST LONDON. — The government would grant millions of rands in assistance to farmers for security, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Hernus Kriel, said here yesterday.

He said the money would be granted on a subsidy basis. The cabinet was considering details and an announcement is expected next week.

Mr Kriel and the Cape National Party leader, Dr Dawie de Villiers, came to the Eastern Cape to discuss a security strategy for the region.

Mr Kriel said the money would be used to establish radio communication, burglar alarms, fencing and other security measures.

A light patrol aircraft would arrive here within a fortnight.

"It is a slow-flying aircraft for proper control and will have radio contact with cars to improve visibility and effectiveness."

He said that if the police had known where the attackers involved in the Highgate, King William's Town and Fort Beaufort attacks were, they would have gone in and got them, irrespective of whether it was in the homelands. The attackers were not necessarily in Transkei.

"It is not clear how many groups are involved because these people do not stay more than one night in a place and have no ties with the community."

He said co-operation between the Transkei and South African police forces was good.

# Transvaal farmers lash out at opponents

B/DAM 11/5/93  
PRETORIA — The Transvaal Agricultural Union yesterday lashed out at farmers' organisations which had been critical of resolutions adopted at its mass meeting in Potchefstroom last week.

TAU president Dries Bruwer said in a strongly worded statement that any individual or organisation not satisfied with the resolutions "put themselves on the side of the ANC/SACP/Cosatu alliance".

Among the resolutions unanimously adopted at the meeting of Transvaal and Free State farmers last Thursday was an undertaking to pursue "mass action" if pending labour legislation was forced on farmers.

The farmers also agreed to join commando or police reserve units while the union undertook to send letters to farmers and diplomats overseas explaining their situation and motives, Bruwer said.

Sapa reports that Bruwer disputed reports that as few as 5 000 farmers had attended the Potchefstroom rally, claiming that the "official figure" of farmers attending the meeting was 13 000.

If the number of the rest of the farmers in Transvaal and the Free State was taken into account, it was "far fetched" for other agricultural unions to say that the utterances at the Potchefstroom meeting did not represent those of the farming community, he said.

Bruwer accused the agricultural unions of Natal and the northern and eastern Cape —

(3) Gen  
ADRIAN HADLAND

which had expressed dissatisfaction with the resolutions — of being unaware of the feelings of farmers at a grassroots level.

Farmers "must take a decision between communism and Christianity, either for the Boere Afrikaner or against them", the statement said.

SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie said at the weekend that Bruwer was causing disunity within the ranks of the farming community. He appealed to Bruwer to help consolidate a strong front of unity with which to confront the security crisis and deal with political developments.

In his statement yesterday, Bruwer rejected the SAAU's appeal, saying the union "must not underestimate the farmers' temperament".

He also warned government not to forget the economic power of the farming community.

Bruwer said the letter stating the farmers' position on the proposed legislation would be sent soon to embassies in SA and farmers' organisations abroad.

The letter would express solidarity with other farmers worldwide who had similar problems, Bruwer said.

Sapa reports that an SAAU spokesman confirmed yesterday that the SAAU would hold its AGM in Pretoria today and tomorrow at its head office.

The agenda for the meeting is not known.

## Food resource management needs care

610M 11/5/93  
PRETORIA — SA did not face a food supply disaster but it had to be careful, Agriculture Department senior economist Chris Blignaut said yesterday at the International Cereal Conference held at the CSIR.

Speaking on food security, Blignaut said single channel and single price systems led to distortion in the marketplace and placed limitations on the comparative advantage of some areas. (3) Gen (15)

GERALD REILLY

The answer lay in economic growth and equitable access to resources and means of production, with investment in human capital.

The southern African region faced the consequences of an exponential population growth which demanded a major effort in environmental management if the severe state of degradation was to be curbed.

# Govt considers subsidies for security

EAST LONDON — Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said yesterday government was considering subsidising security systems for farmers. *8/10/81 11/5/93*

Kriel and NP Cape leader Dawie de Villiers were in East London to discuss security measures in the Border region in the wake of the attack on the Highgate Hotel on May 1 in which five people died.

"We are considering financial help to the farming community to help protect life and property," Kriel told a news conference after meeting Border mayors, organised business, clergymen and ratepayers' associations.

He said farmers would get subsidies for radio networks, burglar alarms and security fencing. The issue would be put to Cabinet in the next week.

Kriel said police presence in the region would be stepped up and a light aircraft for

patrolling highways would arrive in East London within two weeks. He called on the public to join the police reservists and neighbourhood, business and farm watches. *3000*

Contrary to previous government statements, Kriel said there was good co-operation at police level between SA and Transkei. But he said there were no plans to lift the security cordon around Transkei. *(S)* *(S)*

He said police did not know where the garig that carried out recent attacks on whites was at present. "If we knew precisely where they were, we would go and get them whether they were in Transkei, Ciskei or SA."

Government would call at negotiations for a moratorium on mass action, he said.

East London Mayor Carl Burger said Kriel had told the closed meeting on security there would be a new attitude on government's part towards the control of marches. — Reuter.

# Farmers get millions in aid for security <sup>(3)</sup>

ARG 11/5/93

□ Details expected to be given next week

EAST LONDON. — The government is to grant farmers millions of rands to pay for security, Minister of Law and Order Hennis Kriel said in East London.

He said after a meeting with the Border Mayors Forum and business leaders at the city hall yesterday that the Cabinet was considering details and an announcement was expected next week.

But he warned: "Obviously this will involve millions of rands and we are not in a position to secure the home of each and every farmer in the country."

Mr Kriel, who visited East London with Cape National Party leader Dr Dawie de Villiers to discuss security strategy for the region, did not say what the criteria would be for assistance. It would be made clearer next week.

He said the money would be used to establish radio communications, for burglar alarms, fencing and other security measures.

Mr Kriel also announced a light patrol aircraft would be

sent to East London, and "it is a slow-flying aircraft and will have radio contact with the ground forces to improve effectiveness."

He added that if the police had known where the attackers involved in the Highgate, King William's Town and Fort Beaufort attacks were, they would have gone in and got them, irrespective of whether it was in the homelands.

He said the attackers were not necessarily in Transkei.

"It is not clear how many groups are involved because these people do not stay more than one night in one place and have no ties with the community."

He said co-operation between Transkei and South African police forces was good.

Eastern Cape regional police commissioner Major-General Daan Huggett said that attacks, in spite of a security cordon around Transkei, indicated the attackers might not be operating out of Transkei as thought previously.

He said an extra 250 policemen had moved in to the area

in the wake of the Highgate Hotel killings, bases had been established and highways were being patrolled.

Mr Kriel said the country could not have general elections during mass action, which amounted to intimidation.

He called on parties to review mass action because 90 percent of it led to violence and crime.

He said mass action would not force negotiating parties to agree.

He said the government would put proposals before the multiparty conference on what parties could do to bring down the level of violence.

East London Mayor Carl Burger said the talks would contribute to the morale of people in the region.

He said answers were satisfying, and attention had been given to the number of police in the area and the problem of convicting criminals from across borders.

"We have heard that a new attitude is to be taken on marches and mass action," he said. — Sapa.

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

## INTERPELLATION

The sign \* indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

## General Affairs:

1. Mr A RAJBANSI—Regional and Land Affairs. [Withdrawn.]

## QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

## For oral reply:

## General Affairs:

Question standing over from Wednesday, 5 May 1993:

## Loan to banking group

\*3. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Whether a loan of approximately R1 billion was made available through (a) any State structures or (b) the Reserve Bank to a certain banking group, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (i) when, (ii) why, (iii) for what purpose was the loan required and (iv) what is the name of the banking group concerned;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D207E

## The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) (a) No.
- (b) In terms of section 33 of the South African Reserve Bank Act 1989, (Act No 90 of 1989), details of business conducted between the Reserve Bank and banks is confidential and cannot be disclosed to third parties. As lender of last resort the Reserve Bank provides assistance to banks on a regular basis. The normal banking business code, how-

ever, also applies to such transactions, namely that no details may be disclosed.

(2) No.

## New questions:

## Resettling of persons on State-financed land

\*1. Mr A RAJBANSI asked the Minister of Regional and Land Affairs: ~~(3) Gen~~

- (1) Whether he or his Department has taken steps, or is contemplating taking steps, with a view to enabling State Departments to make use of State-financed land owned by municipalities for the purpose of resettling persons who were displaced or dispossessed in terms of the Group Areas Act; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) which Departments are involved;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D212E

## The MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS:

- (1) The question is not clear.
- (a) I would nevertheless like to inform you that it is intended to amend the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act, 1991, to enable the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation also to identify certain land owned by certain local authorities and which land has, for example, been acquired in terms of the Group Areas Act, 1966 by the application of the provisions thereof or in terms of the Communities Development Act, 1966 (Act 3/1966), and which at the date of the commencement of the proposed amendment bill had not yet been disposed of or alienated in terms of a law or in any other manner for a specific purpose. After the identification of the land it will be dealt with in terms of the procedures and directions of the Act. If circumstances permit, the proposed amendment should still be tabled during the current session of Parliament.
- (b) The Department of Regional and

Land Affairs in consultation with all relevant departments.

- (2) The Deputy Minister of Land Affairs has already issued a statement on 7 April 1993 in this regard and also discussed the issue during his budget vote held on 30 April 1993. ~~(3) Gen~~

Mr A RAJBANSI: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware of the fact that the statement of the hon the Deputy Minister does not satisfy the cries of the people? Secondly, he mentioned the Group Areas Act and the Community Development Act. Is he aware that many of the resettlement schemes were established in terms of the Housing Act? ~~(3) Gen~~

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not aware that the public is not satisfied with the statement made by the hon the Deputy Minister. The people in the communities the hon member represents should draw that to our attention and raise the issue with my colleague, the hon the Deputy Minister. With regard to the second question, obviously I am aware that that is the case. This is a very sensitive situation. I should like to invite the hon member, if he has any particular problem, to discuss it with the hon the Deputy Minister to whom this responsibility has been delegated.

Mr A RAJBANSI: We have done that.

The MINISTER: If the hon member is not satisfied, he can come to me. I shall listen to his problems in that regard.

Purchase of textbooks ~~(3) Gen~~

\*2. Mr A RAJBANSI asked the Minister of State Expenditure: ~~(3) Gen~~

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 2 on 21 April 1993, he will furnish reasons as to why schools under the control of the Administration: House of Assembly, including those administered by the provincial administrations, are not obliged to purchase textbooks on the same basis, i.e. in accordance with the provisions of the State Tender Board Act, 1968 (Act No 86 of 1968), as applies to schools under the control of the Administrations of the House of Delegates and the House of Representatives and the Department of Education and

Training; if not, why not; if so, what are the reasons;

- (2) whether he intends ~~investigating~~ investigating the matter; if not, why not; if so, when;
- (3) whether any instances of publishing firms being allowed to compete with retailers in supplying textbooks to Indian schools have been brought to his or his Department's notice; if so, what are the relevant details; ~~(3) Gen~~
- (4) whether schools under the control of the Administration: House of Assembly are required to also consider Indian bookshops when allocating orders for the purchase of textbooks; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? D213E

## The MINISTER OF STATE EXPENDITURE:

- (1) As already mentioned on 21 April 1993, at least 94% of all the schools under control of the Administration: House of Assembly are State-sponsored schools (Model C schools) including those administered by the provincial administrations. These schools received a subsidy only from the State for the salaries of the personnel on their approved fixed establishment. The purchasing of school textbooks by the schools is financed from school funds paid by the parents directly. Therefore the State Tender Board Act, 1968 (Act No 86 of 1968) does not apply to the purchases of these schoolbooks.

The remaining approximately 6%, known as public schools, purchase their books individually on a tender basis by virtue of the State Tender Board Act, 1968 and standing powers delegated to state departments by the State Tender Board. These schools invite tenders individually for the purchasing of textbooks. In so far as the tender procedure and administrative actions are concerned these schools are bound to comply with the directives as contained in the State Tender Board's General Conditions and Procedures (ST 36) as well as the User Manual: Directives to Departments in Respect of Procurement (ST 37) which rules that tender invitations are to be mailed to all potential tenderers.

# Attacks: Farmer anger 'near breaking point'

Political Correspondent

THE two rightwing parties in parliament have warned, after the latest farm murders, that anger in platteland communities is fast reaching breaking point.

The Conservative Party and the Afrikaner Volksunie made sharply critical statements yesterday about the murder of Mr and Mrs Duimpie Steyn of the Breyten district.

The CP said "terrorists and murderers must now realise that active self-defence measures are being put in place."

AVU spokesman Mr Moolman Mentz said it was unsatis-

factory and insufficient that only the murderers should pay the cost of their deeds "since the authorities have known for a long time who the propagators are".

He said the link between calls for the murder of farmers by political leaders and the increase in murders was "indisputable".

The AVU demanded that police act against leaders who incited their followers to commit murder. Inaction would be criminal.

Mr Mentz warned: "No one can be sure when the mounting resistance will reach breaking point."



# Agriculture makes lowest contribution

MARIANNE MERTEN

THE contribution of the agricultural sector to GDP fell by more than 10% last year to its lowest level at 4,2%.

A recently <sup>30 Jan</sup> published Agriculture Department economic review said the decline from R13,6bn to R12,2bn in 1992 was largely due to the drought which brought rainfall to half the long term average for the country. <sup>190 AM</sup>

Agricultural production measured by volume also declined by about 16,8% compared to 1991, the report said. <sup>13/5/92</sup>

Most affected was the volume of field crops which decreased by 42,8%, compared with a decline of only 1,4% in 1991.

Horticultural production — vegetables and fruit — fell by about 2,7% and animal production dropped by less than 1%.

Overall farmers' income declined by 34,3%, although prices for field crops were on average 27,8% higher than last year.

Maize producers' income was particularly affected, falling by 57,7% from R2,934bn in 1991 to R1,240bn last year. The maize price increased by 24,4% in 1992.

Agriculture Department chief director economics Deon Joubert said this week that last year's low yields and income figures were a short-term phenomenon, which would be rectified this year as better harvests were expected.

The low agricultural production did not only affect the GDP, but also had a ripple effect in job creation, said Joubert.

It also affected value-added industries to which the agricultural sector contributed between 20% and 30%, he said.

# Police take steps to protect farmers

*BIDM 13/5/93*

THE SAP would take immediate steps to improve the security of people living on farms and smallholdings and, where possible, policemen would be placed on farms of vulnerable elderly people, police commissioner Gen Johan van der Merwe said yesterday.

The move followed several recent murders which apparently had political motive, he said.

But SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) president Boet Fourie warned that if the police security measures were not effective it would be difficult to stop retaliatory action on the part of farming communities.

The SAAU has called on President F W de Klerk urgently to reintroduce the death penalty and to use the full power of the state to combat murder and lawlessness, particularly on the platteland.

The appeal came after discussions yesterday between the SAAU's general council and Van der Merwe and other police generals.

Van der Merwe said the police had, for some time, been busy with comprehensive steps to improve the security of those living on farms who were regarded as being particularly vulnerable.

Manpower in the affected areas would be increased as soon as possible and, where the manpower position allowed it, policemen would be placed on the farms of the elderly people concerned, he said.

Patrols would be intensified and Van der Merwe appealed to all residents in affected areas to protect themselves.

Police spokesman Capt Nina Barkhuizen said "every member of the force that can be spared" would be used to protect people living in "sensitive areas".

## Security firms invaluable, says ANC

*BIDM 13/5/93*

PRETORIA — Private security companies would be an invaluable resource for SA, but the industry needed to be better regulated, ANC security head Joseph Nhlanhla said yesterday.

Speaking at a conference on security in SA at Pretoria University, Nhlanhla said the industry should consider introducing its own code of conduct to prevent intervention by the state.

In order for the private security companies, which currently employed 300 000 personnel, to "assume a positive role in the unfolding situation," adequate conditions of employment, training and compensation would have to be standardised.

*2 Ban*

STEPHANE BOTHMA  
and GERALD REILLY

She said police reservists would also be used in affected areas, which included the Free State/Transkei border where several attacks had taken place recently.

All trained police reservists in the eastern Transvaal had been called up for service following recent attacks on elderly people in the area, regional commissioner Maj-Gen Chris Smith announced.

Since the death of SACP leader Chris Hani on April 10 there have been nine attacks on old people in the region, and during 1992 there were 67 attacks.

Roadblocks, patrols and police visits to farms have been stepped up.

After the SAAU discussions with police top brass yesterday, Fourie said where necessary unrest areas would have to be proclaimed and curfews introduced.

On the controversial issue of labour legislation for the agricultural industry, Fourie said the SAAU had decided it would in future negotiate with government only on a basis of a single amended Act.

The SAAU, he said, rejected the possibility of extending the principles of the Wage Act to agriculture.

This view would be passed on urgently to Manpower Minister Leon Wessels.

Fourie said the general council reaffirmed that unity and co-operation within organised agriculture was imperative. It pledged itself to establishing an "unstoppable" united front in the interests of the farming community.

□ Sapa reports that Lettie Opperman, 62, was shot dead in her bed on her White River smallholding by two burglars early yesterday. Her husband was wounded.

*#13*

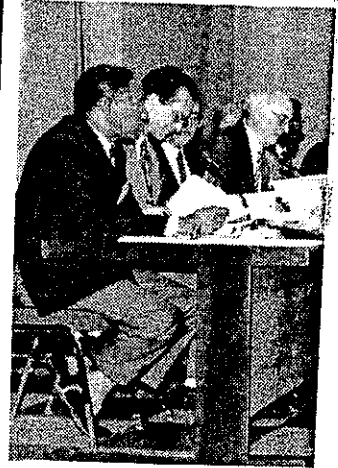
ADRIAN HADLAND

It was also vital that the industry ensured its members were politically neutral, Nhlanhla said.

Brig Gert Jonker of the Correctional Services Department told the conference, organised by the Institute for Strategic Studies, that communities had to assume more responsibility for the rehabilitation of criminals.

Structures such as correctional boards and local parole boards should be used by the community to combat crime at a grassroots level, Jonker said.

Representatives from the SAP and the Namibian police also presented papers.



Transvaal Rural Action Committee new SABC board at a public hearing.

## No insurance for mediators

*BIDM 13/5/93*

Political Staff

NO INSURANCE company had been willing to provide cover for members and staff of the 11 regional peace committees, the national peace accord reported yesterday.

The 78 staff members also did not receive fringe benefits, the internal peace institutions directorate said in its 1993 report, tabled in Parliament.

However, internal peace institutions executive director T D Rudman praised regional and local committees for their role in combating violence and intimidation at grassroots level.

"The object envisaged, which has in fact been achieved, was that the regional and local committees would, by negotiating with the parties involved, resolve disputes that cause or could cause public violence and intimidation, that they would consult with the authorities concerned, especially on planned public action of a contentious nature in order to prevent conflict and to monitor the implementation of agreements that may result."

The directorate was consulting donors and the insurance industry on launching a special fund for those who might become victims of violence.

## Dams fuller this year than last

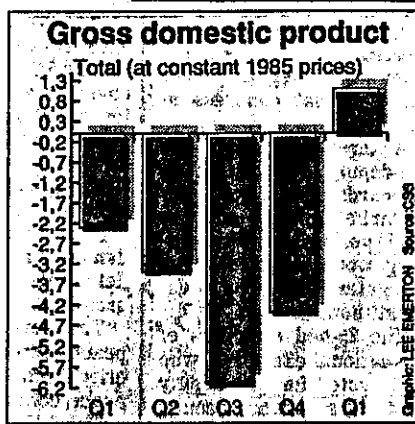
Staff Reporter ARG 13/5/93  
AFTER above average rainfall in April and a wet start to May, most Western Cape dams are fuller than they were this time last year.

Wemmershoek is 64,7 per cent full compared with 52,3 percent last year, Lower Steenbras is at 94,3 percent compared with 58,6 percent and Upper Steenbras is at 80,9 percent compared with 75,4 percent.

Only Voëlvlei is emptier than last May — 69,2 compared with 73,1 percent.

So far this month Newlands has had 69,7mm of rain, Molteno Reservoir in Oranjezicht 45mm and Woodhead on Table Mountain 60mm.

Rainfall in April was way above average.



## First-quarter GDP hints at recovery

By TIM MARSLAND

AGRICULTURE and mining helped the economy to show growth for the first time since the third quarter of 1991, latest government figures show.

The Central Statistical Service said yesterday the economy grew a seasonally adjusted real 0,8% in the three months to March, compared with a contraction of 4,3% in the last three months of 1992.

This is also only the second quarter which has shown expansion since 1989.

The agriculture sector grew 53,9% as a result of the drought ending. In the previous quarter, that sector shrank 64,1%.

Mining also put in a stronger performance, growing at 1,1% from 0,5%.

The manufacturing sector showed a surprising turnaround, expanding at 0,3% from a previous decline of 1,2%.

Economists said it was too early to say the recession had been broken. A rule of thumb for that definition was two successive quarters of growth.

Nedcor Bank chief economist Edward Osborn described the figure as very good and said it pointed to expectations that there could be a degree of recovery in the current year. 8/10/93

UAL chief economist Dennis Dykes said the expansion was due to technical reasons since it was being compared with the December quarter's low base. Taken on a year-on-year basis the economy showed a contraction of about 3%.

Rand Merchant Bank chief economist Rudolf Gouws did not expect the performance to be repeated next quarter because higher VAT and taxes would erode real personal spending power. Stayaways would also have an effect.

illegal immigrants from these two regions, but said visas would in future be granted

which particularly induce the younger generation of Chinese to try and find a new life somewhere else," the Minister said.

no longer an issue, he said. The new formation held out great promise.

# Agricultural union calls on FW to halt talks

BIDP 14/5/93  
**GERALD REILLY**

PRETORIA — Government security action dealt with symptoms and not basic causes such as the existence of Apla, MK and other terrorist organisations, the Transvaal Agricultural Union said yesterday.

The union called on President F W de Klerk to cease all negotiations with the principals of these organisations until a satisfactory solution to the security problem had been reached, a spokesman said.

The agricultural union yesterday issued instructions to platteland security committees of district unions to patrol roads and, where neces-

sary, put up road blocks. This should be done in co-operation with the SAP and SADF commandos, it said.

Curfews could also be applied in areas identified by the Transvaal Agricultural Union committee — again in co-operation with the security forces.

The spokesman said the Transvaal Agricultural Union warned farmers that the Transvaal platteland was embroiled in an "advanced second phase of a revolutionary attack".

This was moving swiftly towards a third phase — conventional warfare.

Sapa reports <sup>(3) Gen</sup> senior police officers in the eastern Transvaal were meeting in Middelburg yesterday to discuss the strategy for the deployment of policemen on farms.

This followed an announcement on Wednesday that all available police reservists were to be called up and farm patrols intensified.

Three people have been killed and one seriously injured in attacks in the eastern Transvaal in the past two days.

denied by as many as 500 children by the year

Star 14/5/93  
3 Gen

# Call for curfew in high-risk areas

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

Farmers yesterday called for a curfew to be imposed in the eastern Transvaal and other high-risk areas such as the eastern Cape, Border and eastern Free State in the wake of attacks on isolated farmhouses in those regions.

Three people — two at Breyten and one at White River — were killed this week.

In a statement yesterday, the Transvaal Agricultural Union

(TAU) urged farmers to help police man roadblocks and patrol roads. It also ordered security committees of district unions to take immediate steps to assist the police where possible in a bid to combat what it called ongoing attacks on farmers.

The call came a day after the South African Agricultural Union's general council had met high-ranking police officers and asked for increased security measures to be implemented throughout the country.

The police said that, where manpower allowed it, a policeman would be stationed on the farms of elderly people.

The TAU, through its security committee, called on President de Klerk to stop negotiations with what it called "terrorist organisations" until the security position had been resolved.

Police announced on Wednesday they would step up security in the eastern Transvaal and that police reservists had been called up.

By AUDREY D'ANGELO  
Business Editor

A 54% rise in agricultural production helped the economy achieve positive growth in the first quarter of this year — for the first time in 18 months.

Figures released by the Central Statistical Services yesterday show seasonally adjusted gross domestic product (GDP) rose by an annualised 0,8% at market prices.

Welcoming the news Boland Bank chief economist Louis Fourie said the growth had been in primary sectors of the economy, and was not due to artificial stimulation by monetary or fiscal policy.

# Positive growth at last as GDP rises 0,8%

The higher gold price improved the situation. An export-led recovery was now on the cards.

Fourie said political difficulties were now the only factor that could hold SA back. Once political stability had been achieved, SA could expect a long period of growth, reaching 5% a year or even higher.

Old Mutual economist Johan Els said this could be the beginning of the uptrend.

The rise in GDP was due mainly to the rise in agricultural production. But manufacturing production had risen by 0,3% — the first time it had gone up since the last quarter of 1990.

"This is significant, because it is the biggest of all sectors," commented Els. The electricity, financial and services sectors had all shown positive growth.

Construction had fallen by 8% on an an-

nualised basis. But this was a smaller decline than the 11% reported for the last quarter of 1992.

The transport sector had also fallen, by 2,1%. Retail trade and catering had fallen by 2,7%.

"But we shall have to wait and see what will happen in the second quarter," Els warned.

"The effect of higher indirect taxation including VAT at 14% could push us back into nega-

tive growth again.

"However, we are past the effects of the drought and agriculture will continue to pick up. The effect of the maize crop will come into the figures only in the third quarter."

Edward Osborn, chief economist at Nedcor Bank, commented: "We appear to be experiencing the start of a turnaround."

This was due to the improvement in agriculture and the weaker rand, which had increased the rand value of exports.

"We are on track for a recovery but we are being held back by poor retail sales, which reflect the poor state of household finances."

CT 145193

## Police crackdown in rural areas starts

JOHANNESBURG. — Six AK-47 rifles and ammunition have been confiscated and nine illegal immigrants from Mozambique detained since police began intensifying security action in the Eastern Transvaal on Wednesday.

Police have started erecting road blocks in the region and 100 members of the Internal Stability Unit in Pretoria have been assigned to investigation teams in the Ermelo and Nelspruit districts.

The security measures, announced on Wednesday by Commissioner of Police General Johan van der Merwe, are part of a programme to protect people in country districts in the wake of recent attacks, especially on the elderly.

Meanwhile, the Transvaal Agricultural Union has told the security committees of its district unions to take immediate action in co-operation with the police, commandos and home guard to combat attacks on farmers.

② ③ CT 14/5/93



FM 14/5/93

③ben

LAND

### **Still dreaming**

**A Pan** Africanist Congress government would expropriate all privately owned land in SA and pay compensation only for improvements.

The State would then lease the land back to farmers, but no-one would be allowed to lease more than 300 ha. All private land transactions would be abolished but leases might be passed on to heirs. Existing title deeds would be changed to "certificates of occupation."

The PAC's hair-raising land policy is contained in a discussion document currently circulating within the organisation. Details were published in the latest issue of *Land*

*Update*, a publication of the ANC-aligned National Land Committee.

The PAC also plans to change the existing system of communal land tenure in rural areas, which, it says, gives rise to malpractice. All communal holdings would be converted to leasehold units linked to State-sponsored agricultural development programmes to enhance profitability and productivity.

The PAC proposes a three-pronged approach to the housing crisis: State-subsidised bonds to buy houses; long-term leases convertible to full ownership; and subsidised rentals.

There is no indication of how the organisation plans to finance its grand scheme or any consideration of what effect it would have on the economy. ■

## New tax guide is aimed at farmer, businessman

*Stilmes (C. metro) 16/5/93*  
SANLAM's Tax Guide for the Agricultural and Small Business industries was launched this week and should prove a useful aid to the farmer and small businessman.

The tax guide, which previously focused on the farmer specifically, includes for the first time this year, authoritative information for people running small businesses.

The guide was written by Fran du Plessis, a senior lecturer in the Department of Mercantile Law and Accountancy at Stellenbosch University.

Mr Mauritz Bekker, agricultural economist at Sanlam, said: "The booklet will guide both the farmer and the small business entrepreneur through the various facets of tax legislation. The logical and elementary approach used to explain this complicated matter should enable everyone to understand it."

# Historic Elsenburg estate gets face lift for future

By DIANA STREAK

THE historic homestead at Elsenburg agricultural college near Stellenbosch is to be restored as part of a project which will boost its role in training agriculturalists in a democratic South Africa.

The Prussian eagle crest of the Melck family was saved by students and workers who broke it out of the wall in 1915 when a fire destroyed the house which was built by Martin Melck in 1761.

The house was rebuilt, but now a plan to restore it to its original form has been undertaken as part of a R7,3 million project to upgrade the institution, which should be completed by

1988 when Elsenburg celebrates its 300th anniversary.

The stinkwood emblem, inlaid with ebony, ivory, and brass, was one of the few things to survive the fire and will take pride of place when the building is restored.

Elsenburg, which belongs to the Department of Agriculture, has trained thousands of young white aspirant farmers, but has now amalgamated with the nearby former "coloured" Kromme Rhee farm.

The value of the estate is enormous. The original slave bell and South Africa's oldest water furrow bridges are still intact and once the house is restored the estate will be an outdoor museum.

The slave quarters built by Martin Melck were converted into student accommodation when Elsenburg became Africa's first agricultural college in 1899.

To carry out plans to extend training to all groups Elsenburg will have to expand its present facilities and the restoration project will fulfill this need.

Deputy director of research, Mr Mike Walters, said the merging of the tricameral agriculture departments had enabled Elsenburg to unite with Kromme Rhee "which will give us a far wider spectrum of training capabilities".

He said Elsenburg was the most diverse agricultural college in the country with the widest range of subjects.

An extensive fundraising campaign was launched this week by State President FW de Klerk who appealed to the private sector to contribute.

Dr Burger stressed that although no black students had ever applied to the college they would be encouraged to do so.



FARMING HISTORY . . . Dr Johan Burger, director of Elsenburg, in front of the historic homestead  
Picture: TERRY SHEAN

# Economy set to shrink, says AHI expert

TIM MARSLAND

THE economy was likely to shrink about 0.5% in the current year despite improved farming production, Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut chief economist Nick Barnardt said at the weekend. 6 10 AM 17/5/93

Addressing an SPL Treasury Services conference in Vereeniging, he said this position could be reversed in 1994 if a number of factors slotted into place.

These were:

- An expected improvement in the world economy;
- A speedy political settlement in SA;
- Continued good rains; and
- Further declines in interest rates.

If these happened, a business cycle upswing could start early in 1994 and would see the economy grow at about 2%, he said, accelerating to 3% or more in 1995.

He said that, hopefully, the monetary authorities would lose their "excessive fear of the money creation impact of further moderate cuts in Bank rate", and come around to the realisation that such rate cuts would probably slow the pace of decline in monetary growth and in overall business activity.

As soon as the reserves position improved, "Bank rate should be lowered as close as possible to the rate of CPI inflation, followed by a gradual widening of the Bank rate/CPI differential if the economy recovers during the course of 1994".

He said there was virtually no chance of an upswing in interest rates at least until 1995.

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Pictures: KAREN SANDISON, The Argus Group Picture Service.

**DOGGED SECURITY:** Mrs Alta Olivier with Chaka, one of the six dogs they keep on their property. (3) (17/1/93)

## Crops, drought worries farmers more than killings

**The Argus Correspondent**

**JOHANNESBURG.** — Just a few kilometres from where Gert Davel was strangled in the house on his De Wildt smallholding recently, a woman, who asks not to be named, points to her six large dogs and says she feels secure.

The attacks on farmers are just a sign of the times, she says. Violence is rampant everywhere and farmers are just the targets of the moment.

"It has nothing to do with politics. It's the luck of the draw. No farm patrols or high security are going to stop an attack.

"Besides, most farmers have more to worry about with the drought and everything than just fretting about security. It's better to leave that up to the politicians."

The views of this farmer's wife are broadly echoed by several of the other farmers and smallholders.

While not complacent about their security, most are matter-of-fact

about their lives and accept that great changes are in store, not just for farmers, but for the whole of South Africa.

Brits tobacco farmer Mr Willem Kruger says he will accept a black government, provided it is "a good government".

"I believe that if someone wants to get me, a piece of wire is not going to stop them," says Mr Kruger.

He has a more immediate problem on his hands. Fingering wilted tobacco leaves, he says: "This — the drought and my crop — is what keeps me awake at night."

Dirk and Alta Olivier have erected a sparkling new razor-wire fence around the house on their cattle farm near Ventersdorp. They had planned to put up the fence a few months ago, but only got around to it recently — it is not a reaction to the latest killings.

Six large, vicious dogs wander ominously around the house. Eyeing them, Mrs Olivier says she feels safe.



**CROP WORRIES:** Mr Willem Kruger, with daughter Lizl, 5, is more worried about his failing tobacco crop than security. If a black government is a good one, that's OK with him.

# EC beef exports ruin African farmers

LONDON. — The European Community (EC) is devastating beef farming in West Africa by dumping huge quantities of low-quality frozen beef there, says a recent study by Christian Aid.

With more than four million people relying wholly on cattle rearing in the drylands south of the Sahara, Brussels is destroying livelihoods with some of its nearly one million tons of surplus meat, the report says.

In Ghana, EC beef sells at about half

the price of local meat because of "export refunds" used to persuade EC retailers to sell overseas.

Without the refunds — the difference between the high EC price and the low world market price — EC beef would cost twice as much.

In Senegal, exports of EC frozen beef boomed in the mid-1980s, from 800 tons in 1984 to 5 500 tons in 1987. The climb was only arrested by punitive import taxes.

British and other EC taxpayers have spent about R1 400 million to dump beef in countries like Chad, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso; with exports peaking in 1991 at about 54 000 tons.

Most of it is from France and the Netherlands, with about 2 000 tons a year from Britain.

"At first sight cheap meat for residents in the coastal cities of West Africa is a good thing," says the report. "But most poor people in the

region rely on beans and pulses for their protein. Cheap meat subsidises mainly better-off Africans."

In 1991, the EC spent R350 million in export refunds to get rid of fatty beef in Africa worth only R94.5 million.

The "disaster" is most clearly seen in the regional cattle markets of Burkina Faso, where farmers travel hundreds of miles to sell their oxen only to find the market swamped with meat from Europe. — © The Telegraph plc

③ CT 17/5/93

# Improved trade balance on the cards

FOLLOWING the turnaround in the reserves, which rose in April after five consecutive monthly falls, it may no longer be too fanciful to expect a parallel improvement in the trade figures.

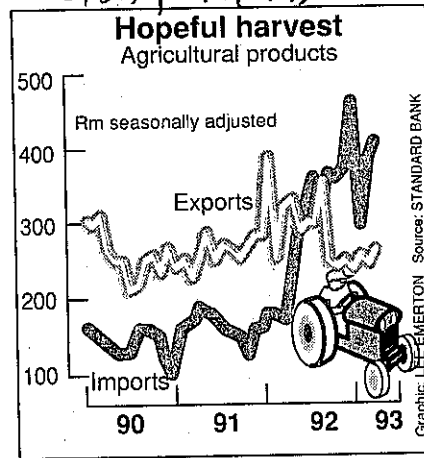
The April trade balance is due for release later this week and should show an improvement on March's R777m — the lowest surplus since the R458m recorded in July last year. Five of the past nine monthly trade figures have shown surpluses of less than R1bn.

The chart shows the main reason for the weakening of the merchandise trade account since the beginning of last year. The usual surplus on the agricultural account has, after seasonal adjustment, been in deficit for 11 of the 12 months to March this year.

The agricultural account deficit is due to the effects of the 1991-92 drought, believed to have been the worst this century over vital inland farming areas. The drought attacked both sides of the agricultural account, on the one hand triggering R1.6bn in maize imports in 1992-93 to compensate for lost domestic production and, on the other, eradicating the domestic surplus usually diverted into agricultural exports.

This two-pronged assault on the agricultural balance has resulted in a sustained deficit on the farm account that has eaten into the overall trade surplus and frequently dragged it below the R1bn mark in the past year. Smaller trade surpluses have, in turn, eroded the foreign reserves, causing successive monthly falls in gross reserves in the five months to March.

The earliest sign that the drought effect might be falling away from the agricultural account and out of the overall trade balance has been anecdotal: it rained over



the interior last summer. As the chart shows, the farm deficit narrowed sharply in February as imports plunged and exports edged up. This improvement contributed to a 46% jump in February's overall trade surplus. The Maize Board announced early in March that only a further R24m had to be paid out for maize imports, and it seemed the drought had done its worst.

But, although agricultural exports were up again in March, that month's drought-related farm imports soared again. Since the release of the dismal March figures, however, evidence of the end of the drought effect has been statistical rather than anecdotal. The authorities officially attributed the rise in April's foreign reserves in part to the end of payments for imported maize, thus knocking away the main component of the soaring agricultural imports in the chart.

In addition, the turnaround in quarterly GDP from a fall of 4.3% in the three

months to December last year to a rise of 0.8% in the March quarter was mostly due to a thumping 53.9% rise in agricultural output. Now that both the reserves and the GDP components are flagging better times in the farm sector, it is about time the trade figures followed suit.

Internationally, the UK April inflation rate is published on Friday and will amount to a rehearsal of SA's inflation figure for April, due out at the end of the month. The UK's 1993-94 budget, presented two months ago the day before SA's, will also have had inflationary consequences which are likely to show up in this week's April consumer price data. UK monthly inflation was 0.4% in March, for an annual rate of 1.9%.

Since sterling exerted heavy downward pressure on UK inflation by entering the European exchange rate mechanism in October 1990, monthly inflation in Britain has only twice topped 1%. That was in April 1991 and April 1992, as the higher duties and tax increases of the previous months' budgets poked the consumer price index. Since the latest UK budget hiked petrol duty by 10%, tobacco duty by 6.5% and drink duties by 5%, the monthly change in the British CPI is due to make this year's annual sortie to 1% or more before falling back again for the rest of the year.

Final UK money supply data for April are also due out on Friday. Preliminary

annual growth in the M0 narrow money measure in April was 4.8% — the first growth slowdown in the aggregate in three months. But other UK figures released since preliminary M0 have signalled a speeding up in the recovery, and final April M0 could therefore be revised up.

The German Bundesbank's policymaking council meets this week, which lends added significance to upcoming German data. The German April money supply figures could be released early this week, and are set to break out of their recent low range. After starting the year with two annualised monthly falls, broad-money M3 edged ahead by 3.2% in March. Last week the Bundesbank announced, unusually, that rapid credit expansion had boosted the April M3 figure, which was likely to be near the top of its 4.5%-6.5% target range for 1993. If annualised M3 growth exceeds the 6.5% ceiling, the chances of another interest rate cut this week must diminish.

The Japanese trade balance for April should be published early this week, and will follow March's record surplus of \$13.8bn. The strong yen is unlikely yet to have trimmed exports and thus moderated the surplus; indeed, it has probably widened it initially by reducing import values. Meanwhile the US March trade balance is released on Wednesday and, in view of the adverse bilateral balance with Japan and slow growth in Europe, is unlikely to be greatly changed from February's deficit of \$7.2bn.

Star 18/5/93  
Steps taken to curb farm attacks  
3 Gen

By Bronwyn Wilkinson

Security forces in the western Transvaal yesterday agreed to set up roadblocks and investigate the possibility of declaring unrest areas to protect farmers.

The agreements were reached at a meeting between the SAP, SADF and about 240 farmers after a spate of attacks in the area last month.

And on Sunday, a farmhouse near Potchefstroom was set alight

and plundered. Damage was estimated at R100 000.

After yesterday's meeting, SAP spokesman Major Hannes Wehrmann said the farmers had asked the security forces for:

- Searches of townships for illegal weapons and the enforcement of a

curfew to limit mobility of criminals.

- Permanent roadblocks as well as supplies to farmers of radios, weapons and ammunition.

Wehrmann confirmed that farmers were awaiting a response from President de Klerk on their demands for arms and radios.

## FOR THE RECORD

We have received no reports of factual errors in The Star for today's column.



# Rightwing farmers seal off Natal town

**A** GROUP OF MEN said to be radical, rightwing farmers yesterday took over the Natal town of Harding, police and the ANC in the area said. ANC member Dr Deva Moodley was chosen as spokesman for the Indian business community yesterday after 40 armed white farmers began visiting Indian-owned shops demanding that they close.

Moodley said the farmers had brought in extra help and at 10am began setting up barricades to prevent anyone from getting into the town or leaving until their demands were met.

He said the farmers decided to blockade the town because of a selective boycott called by the ANC against white-owned businesses.

The other reasons are alleged ANC intimidation of customers, that businesses were being used as political pawns and the "undemocratic" behaviour of the ANC.

The farmers, calling themselves the Harding Action Committee, are demanding that the ANC put a representative on the Consultative Peace Forum.

The other two demands are that the ANC and its alliance compensate white businesses for losses incurred during the boycott and that the chairman of the ANC Harding branch, Mr Yunus Khan, be fired immediately.

## SELECTIVE BOYCOTT

### Demand for ANC compensation for white businesses:

Moodley said the ANC was prepared to talk about having a representative on the Consultative Peace Forum but that the other two demands were rejected.

"Last night there was a meeting in the town which involved United Nations peacekeepers, the ANC, the Harding Action Committee, members of the white community and representatives of businesses. They decided that no action be taken today.

"However, the farmers decided on their wave of intimidation when they visited Indian-owned shops and demanded that they shut down.

"While they made their demands, they video-taped the responses of the Indian businessmen," said Moodley.

He said some of the shops closed but others refused, which eventually led to the blockades being set up.

## News in brief

### Mourning dead miners

SECUNDA Collieries declared today a day of mourning for the 53 victims of last week's mining disaster at Sasol's Middelbult colliery.

Management said yesterday all underground operations at the colliery would be halted for the day to allow employees to attend memorial services in Secunda and eMbalenhle in the Eastern Transvaal. Five additional services would be held at various Sasol plants for employees unable to attend other services. The 53 mine workers died in an underground methane gas explosion, one of the worst mining disasters in recent years.

### R200 000 reward

POLICE have offered a reward of R200 000 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the attack in which three policemen and a policewoman were killed in Dobsonville, Soweto, early this month.

Soweto police spokesman Major Joseph Ngobeni yesterday called on anyone with information to contact Major Fielies Dempsey at (011) 980-7997 or the toll free number 0800 11 12 13. "Any information

received will be treated confidentially," he said.

### Correct words

IN a report on the *Sowetan*-Radio Metro Talkback Show last Friday, president of the Azanian Students Convention Mr Mark Mfikoe was quoted in *Sowetan* as having said "the political playing fields in Bophuthatswana have been levelled by Mangope's refusal to meet students' demands". Mfikoe has told *Sowetan* that his correct words were "to strive for free political activity in Bophuthatswana should be equated with the political tolerance of the repressive system that Bophuthatswana regime is because in essence, as the parameters of political activism widens so diminishes the room for political repression because political repression and liberation cannot exist in one room".

### Robber kills pal

AN armed robber was accidentally shot dead by an accomplice in the Natal Midlands on Monday.

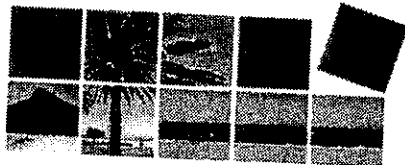
Police said yesterday two men entered the home of Mrs Norah Ngidi in Mid-Illovo and fired a shot which hit a third man keeping watch outside the house. The man was hit in the head and died instantly.

# Free State farmers demand security measures

**BLOEMFONTEIN** — Free State farmers gathered at police stations yesterday to demand the introduction of security measures in the province. They demanded a curfew and police searches of townships and squatter camps for illegal weapons. Free State Agricultural Union security committee chairman Faan Malherbe said at Herzogville the measures should be carried out in cooperation with organised agriculture's security committees. The farmers also demanded road blocks on secondary roads and control points at township entrances. Similar demands were made in Potchefstroom on Monday. Meanwhile, ANC western Trans-

vaal spokesman Rankoa Molefe said agreements reached on Monday between security forces and western Transvaal farmers was a "declaration of war" and if implemented there would be mass action of "unimaginable proportion". In a meeting on Monday about 250 farmers, police and the SADF agreed to "sharpen up" road blocks, patrols and searches for illegal weapons. The possibility of imposing curfews and unrest areas would be investigated. The DP said yesterday it sympathised with eastern Transvaal farmers, but it urged them not to allow a racial war to develop. DP eastern Transvaal official Mike Waters said although farmers'

"determination to take the law into their own hands in the face of a dithering government" was understandable, they should act only in defence of their families and property.  Two more elderly couples were attacked and robbed on Transvaal farms yesterday. **(3) Gen** A 64-year-old farmer was seriously injured outside Pietersburg when he and his wife were attacked by two knife-wielding youths. The youths escaped with firearms and cash. And near Boons in the western Transvaal, a 68-year-old woman was raped and her 82-year-old husband shot in the shoulder. Two attackers fled with a shotgun and cash. — Sapa.



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## Commission ready to probe Inkatha deaths

**RAY HARTLEY**  
 OFFICIALS of the Goldstone commission were available to meet Inkatha "as soon as possible" to discuss ways of pursuing an inquiry into the killings of Inkatha officials, Judge Richard Goldstone said yesterday.

Goldstone said steps had already been taken to investigate the deaths. **BLOEM 19/5/93**

"Inkatha furnished the commission with a list of over 200 Inkatha officials and members who are alleged to have been murdered since the signing of the peace accord. That list was handed to the SAP with the request that the incidents, known to the SAP, should be identified and relevant information given in relation to the commission," he said.

The judge said the commission informed a senior Inkatha member on May 8 that it wanted "any relevant information concerning any murders which Inkatha alleged were not satisfactorily being investigated by the SAP". There had been no response as yet.

"On May 11, the commission was informed by the SAP that the Inkatha allegations have formed the subject-matter of an investigation since November 1992. There has been contact in that regard between the SAP, the Inkatha Institute, the KwaZulu government and the SAP," he said.

Meanwhile, our Maritzburg correspondent reports that police yesterday offered a R20 000 reward in their investigation into the killing of two people in an ambush on a bus carrying Inkatha supporters at Georgetown near Edendale on Saturday night.

The supporters were returning from a peace march in Maritzburg when gunmen opened fire with AK-47s, killing two women and injuring 14 people.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Farmers demonstrate**

A TRUCK was torched during a demonstration by farmers and businessmen against "selective business boycotts by the ANC" in Harding in Natal yesterday.

Five men were arrested during the protest which blockaded the town centre. The ANC, local action committee and other parties were meeting last night to try to solve the crisis.

**ANC welcomes plan**

THE ANCyesterday welcomed the funding of Eskom's electrification programme. The programme was announced jointly by Eskom and the Life Offices Association on Monday. "We welcome any such funding, provided it is properly discussed and negotiated with local communities," spokesman Carl Niehaus said.

**Hospital strike**

THE National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) yesterday threatened to spread its industrial action campaign at the Johannesburg's Garden City Clinic to all Clinic Holdings' hospitals. The union said if management maintained its intransigent approach, the union would launch a national strike.

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## Farmers' plans 'war declaration'

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PRETORIA. — Recommendations and agreements reached between security forces and Western Transvaal farmers to protect them from attacks amounted to a "declaration of war", the ANC Western Transvaal region said.

If the agreements were implemented there would be mass action of "unimaginable proportions", Mr Rankoa Molefe said in a statement yesterday.

His warning followed Monday's meeting in Potchef-

stroom in which about 250 farmers and representatives of the police and SA Defence Force agreed to immediately "sharpen up" road blocks, patrols and searches of properties for illegal weapons.

It was also agreed that the possibility of declaring certain districts as unrest areas and imposing curfews would be investigated.

Mr Molefe said permanent roadblocks would amount to daily harassment of blacks. — Sapa

(278) (3) AKCT 1975/93

# Natal farmers fight back against boycott

Star 19/5/93

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — A "ceasefire" is tentatively holding together the southern Natal town of Harding after a day of drama characterised by tractor and trailer blockades, a consumer boycott, the torching of a truck and anger in the streets yesterday.

Five men were arrested during a "takeover" of the town by white farmers and businessmen. They were protesting against a "selective" boycott by the ANC.

Tension reached breaking point but was defused when the "ceasefire" agreement was

thrashed out at a meeting of the Harding action committee (farmers), ANC, and the National Peace Secretariat last night.

Harding is the third town in the region, after Matatiele and Kokstad, to face consumer boycotts and counter-action by white businessmen and farmers.

The boycotts are part of an ANC-alliance programme aimed at having the South African security cordon around the Transkei lifted.

A consumer boycott against the town started on Monday and farmers retaliated with the blockade yesterday.

for living in their own houses. [Interjections.] However, there is no disclosure unless we ask these questions. In addition, there are allegations of corruption and maladministration in these territories. We had the De Meyer Report and the Parsons Report. We are still waiting for the last De Meyer Report. I hope that is not going to be made public after we leave this place.

The MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS: Why were you not here when I discussed it? You were absent that day.

Mr P G SOAL: I told the hon the Minister that I was going to be absent. [Interjections.] I went to the multiparty talks. [Interjections.]

We need transitional executive councils for the self-governing territories. This Government must not act unilaterally. The hon the Minister talks about the multiparty conference, but we must move towards transitional executive councils for the self-governing territories in order to bring the extravagant, wasteful system of self-governing territories to an end.

The MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS: Mr Chairman, I thought there would be another speaker before me.

I would like to reply briefly to the hon member for Johannesburg North. I think we must just establish one point.

It is the point of view of this side of the House—and I hope the DP will support that—that we stand for strong, autonomous regional government. If things are wrong in terms of the present system, we must rectify them. There is a full opportunity to discuss these things now, at the multiparty conference, for instance, the functions and the responsibilities of regional government, how this will be financed, etc.

However, in the interim these territories exist in terms of an Act of this Parliament. We cannot just dismiss them as if they do not exist.

I think the hon member abused the situation today by bringing up many arguments that are not related to this specific issue. [Interjections.] I would like to say to the hon member we have also introduced the Sapro system, the Structural Adjustment Programme, where my department, the Department of Finance and the Department of State Expenditure sit together, to discuss with the self-governing territories their budgets and

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

their financial controls. [Interjections.] We are discussing these aspects with them.

Mr R M BURROWS: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: Yes, but they are autonomous in terms of an Act of this Parliament. We cannot argue about that. [Interjections.]

What surprises me is that the hon member for Johannesburg North has such a bad relationship with the Black leaders of South Africa that he has to ask me for answers. Why does he not go to the self-governing territories and ask them for the information that he requires? It is because he is *persona non grata* and they do not want to see him. They have no trust in him. [Interjections.] But I shall help him in that regard.

Debate concluded.

### QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

General Affairs:

Questions standing over from Wednesday, 12 May 1993:

#### Hartebeespoort Dam: pollution

\*3. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Water Affairs:†

Whether there is any pollution in the water flowing into the Hartebeespoort Dam; if so, (a) what is the (i) nature and (ii) extent of this pollution and (b) what steps are being taken to (i) combat and (ii) prevent the pollution? B762E

†The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

(Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

Yes. Whenever there is human activity and land use, there is an influence on the quality of the rivers and other water sources. The quality of the water in the Hartebeespoort Dam, however, is at present in compliance with the quality requirements for the purpose for which it is utilised.

(a) (i) Storm water drainage from the rural and urban areas, which comprise

large parts of the catchment of the Hartebeespoort Dam, causes drainage of pollutants such as phosphates, nitrates and micro-organisms, as well as salts, to rivers. Chemical, physical and biological pollutants resulting from industrial effluent also occur in the catchment on a small scale.

The main water source for the Hartebeespoort Dam, especially during drought periods, is treated effluent from nine sewage treatment works in the catchment. Two large residential areas, namely Alexandra and Tembisa, with sub-standard infrastructure and informal housing on the banks of the rivers in these areas, are of major concern. Littering and dumping of waste also causes aesthetic pollution.

(ii) Sporadic sewage spills cause unacceptable situations from time to time. Such spills can be attributed to a number of factors such as blockages, breakages in the system, poor maintenance and operation as well as sabotage. This type of pollution causes mainly aesthetic problems and health risks in the immediate vicinity and to a limited extent in the Hartebeespoort Dam. Excessive algal growth in the Hartebeespoort Dam, resulting from eutrophication, has various negative impacts on recreation, aesthetic values, and water use for agriculture.

(b) (i) and (ii) The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry is continuously in contact with local authorities and special committees have been established to facilitate liaison with interest groups. Examples are the Jukskei and Hennops River Water Quality Community Committees. The objective is to promote, in co-operation with the community, the aim of fitness for use of the various water sources.

Urban pollution is controlled by local authorities and they endeavour to combat and solve sewage related problems, as well as other pollution related problems within their areas of jurisdiction. Regular cleaning-up operations are instituted to remove litter. Storm-

water is monitored at various locations to identify sources of pollution.

Effluent from sewage treatment works is monitored to ensure compliance with the Department's General as well as the Special Phosphate Standards. The aim of the phosphate standard is to prevent eutrophication of the Hartebeespoort Dam. Bodies in control of sewage treatment works were initially granted a period of grace in which to improve their works to comply with the specified 1 mg per litre phosphate standard, but this period has since expired. The implementation of the phosphate standard has already resulted in a drop in the presence of phosphates in the runoff to the Hartebeespoort Dam from sewage treatment works and the expectation is that this will improve further once the betterment works to all of the sewage treatment works have been completed and the specified phosphate standard complied with.

#### Vlekpoort Conservation Area: status

\*8. Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) Whether the status of the Vlekpoort Conservation Area near Hofmeyr in the Eastern Cape is to be changed in any way; if so, in what way;
- (2) whether the said area or any portion thereof has been leased to any persons; if so, (a) to whom and (b) under what terms;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B768E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (1) No. In view of the high erosion tendency of the land, the status of the Vlekpoort Conservation Area known as Spitskop, in extent 4 742 ha, is not to be changed at all. It is at present managed by a multi-disciplinary committee within the Department of Agriculture on which is represented the Directorate: Soil Conservation and Drilling Services and the Grootfontein Agricultural Development Institute.

Soil conservation works are being maintained and research into soil conserva-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

tion is proceeding. Grazing is being utilized in an orderly manner by cattle and sheep. The nearby situated Caskie Ben, in extent 921 ha, is managed jointly with the Spitskop area as winter grazing.

The remainder of the Vlekpoort Conservation Area, known as the Doornhoek farms, in extent 9 460 ha, recovered to such an extent that it is in a better condition than the adjoining private farms.

Farmers have already made urgent enquiries into the commercial utilization of the farms and the Department is also considering the disposal thereof.

- (2) Yes. *(3) Ben*
- (a) Upper Vlekpoort Farmers' Association.
- (b) Portion D of the Doornhoek farms, in extent 2 060 ha, was made available earlier this year as emergency grazing to members of the Farmers' Association who have already reduced their stock numbers on their farms to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the carrying capacity. The lease is for 5 months ending on 31 August 1993. Stock numbers on a portion of the Doornhoek farms may not exceed 165 head of cattle at any time. Rent is payable in advance at R660 per month.

(3) No.

#### New questions:

##### Police: new aircraft for airwing

\*1. Mr P J GROENEWALD asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

- (1) Whether the airwing of the South African Police has purchased or is to purchase new aircraft; if so, (a) how many, (b) what types of aircraft, (c) from what organizations and (d) at what cost;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? *B776E*

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes.
- (a) Seven (7).
- (b) and (c) I do not deem it to be in the

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

public interest to supply the required information.

(d) R20 892 636,30

(2) No.

†Mr P J GROENEWALD: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I want to ask whether the SA Air Force have been contacted to establish whether there are aircraft which can be used to perform a similar task.

†The MINISTER: Yes, Mr Chairman, we are constantly in contact with the SA Air Force about aircraft which they cannot use. However, there is also another important consideration for us, and that is that the required aircraft must meet certain standards.

What is also important to us is the running costs of existing aircraft in the country. It can be extremely expensive to use old aircraft for this kind of work.

†Mr P J GROENEWALD: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I want to know whether, as he says it is not in the national interest to provide the names of the suppliers, he is prepared to furnish the names to me personally in his office.

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I will even talk to the hon member about it in the passage.

##### Archival records of State Departments/SAP/SADF

\*2. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

What is the policy in regard to access by members of the public and researchers, respectively, to the archival records of (a) State Departments in general and (b) the (i) Department of Foreign Affairs, (ii) South African Defence Force and (iii) South African Police in particular? *B800E*

†The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

The access of members of the public and researchers to archives is governed by Section 9 of the Archives Act, 1962 (Act No. 6 of 1962). In terms of the Act secret records are, as a result of their sensitive nature, not archives and consequently do not fall under the provisions of the Act. The policy is that all interested parties be granted access to ar-

chives in depots as far as possible after the termination of the closed period. As a general principle, a closed period of approximately 30 years is maintained. On request the Minister of National Education can at his discretion and on conditions determined by him, grant access to archives in depots falling within the closed period.

(a) Access to archives of State Departments in general

Access to archives which are still in the custody of offices of origin is granted by the heads of the offices concerned and the Director of Archives does not prescribe to offices in this regard. The Director has, however, issued instructions about the manner in which archives to which the head of the office wishes to grant access should be dealt with in the interests of control and conservation.

(b) (i) and (iii) Access to archives of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the South African Police

The position of these Departments does not differ in any way from the above-mentioned, i.e. all archives are made available in terms of the Archives Act, 1962, and all documents which are classified as secret are controlled by the office concerned.

(ii) Access to archives of the South African Defence Force

The above-mentioned is also applicable to the South African Defence Force, but the Act further determines that access to archives relating to the South African Defence Force in the custody of the archives depot of the Defence Force shall not be authorized without the approval of the Minister acting in consultation with the Minister of Defence.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, does the Minister, under the Archives Act, ensure that the records which are secret are in fact preserved as records for South African society in the future?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, of course I do not personally work in the archives, but I am given the assurance by the Department that the position is that those documents are well pro-

tected for the public in the interests of the future.

†Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I should like to ask, seeing that the Government is now in the process of handing over the reins to the ANC, whether the hon the Minister can give us the assurance that public records in our archives will not be destroyed?

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, in the first place, I must make a correction by making it quite clear that it is in no way the intention of the Government to hand over government and power to one party exclusively. Secondly, provision is being made for archives to be properly preserved.

##### National Education: payment to sports administrator

\*3. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister for Sport:

Whether any payments in respect of 1992 have been made to any sports administrator by the Department of National Education; if so, (a) what is the name of the administrator concerned, (b) what amount was paid to this person in respect of (i) salary and (ii) allowances and (c) by what component of the said Department were these payments made?

The MINISTER FOR SPORT:

(1) Yes.

- (a) During 1992 the Department did make direct payments in the form of honoraria to the following sports administrators and/or experts who officiated as functionaries at sports conferences:

92/03/12 Prof J L Botha	Honorarium R 50,00
92/08/06 Prof R van Rooyen	Honorarium R300,00
92/08/06 Prof R van Rooyen	Honorarium R300,00
92/08/06 Dr B Steyn	Honorarium R300,00
92/08/06 Dr B Steyn	Honorarium R300,00
92/08/26 Mrs D Liston	Honorarium R100,00
92/08/06 Mr G Potgieter	Honorarium R100,00

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

92/11/10 Dr P J van der Merwe  
Honorarium R150,00  
92/11/26 Mr C Rushmere  
Honorarium R 60,00  
92/11/26 Prof F J Buys  
Honorarium R 60,00  
92/12/04 Dr P J van der Merwe  
Honorarium R150,00

- (b) (i) No direct payments as salaries were made to sports administrators by the Department of National Education.
- (ii) The honoraria which were paid to the persons concerned have already been mentioned.
- (c) The Directorate of Sport and Recreation Advancement of the Department of National Education made the payments.

Mr L FUCHS: Mr Chairman, arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, can he tell us whether his Department or any other Government department has paid any amounts of money to a member of the judiciary who was also a sports Administrator in 1992?

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, my Department deals with many sport administrators. We do not pay salaries to any administrator directly in relation to sport. If the hon member has any further information available in this connection, I would on a subsequent occasion like to give the reply in writing.

Mr L FUCHS: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, I would like to know whether he can tell us whether any other Government department has paid a member of the judiciary any amounts of money. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not the Minister of the Budget or the Minister of Finance or the Minister of State Expenditure, and therefore I am not responsible for any other departments' expenditure. [Interjections.]

Mr L FUCHS: Mr Chairman, not really arising out of any reply, may I ask the hon the Minister whether he actually knows what the score was in the game between the parliamentary rugby team and the Russian Republic side last night?

†The MINISTER: Yes, Mr Chairman. I am very pleased to be able to announce that the re-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

sult of last night's match was 46 points in favour of the parliamentary team and nil for the European team. [Interjections.] I am very proud of our team. I think they fared very well. [Interjections.] They scored eight tries. There were no injuries and they are all back. [Interjections.] With the parliamentary example set by these hon members, I can say our sport is on the right path. [Interjections.]

†An HON MEMBER: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask whether the hon member who is asking him so many questions at least makes a worthy contribution to the game?

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, all the members of our team are worthy players. [Interjections.]

#### Pollsmoor Prison: extensions

\*4. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

- (1) Whether it is the intention to extend Pollsmoor Prison and/or its environs; if not, why not; if so, what is the (a) specific nature and (b) extent of the proposed extensions;
- (2) whether the relevant local authorities have been involved in the process of approving plans within the framework of existing town planning provisions; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? B804E

†The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

- (1) (a), (b) and (2) No decision has yet been taken regarding the extension of Pollsmoor Prison and/or its environs.

However, the Department of Correctional Services, in co-operation with the Department of Public Works, is investigating possible options to effectively and cost-efficiently address the considerable shortage of prison accommodation in the Western Cape.

In this regard one of the options being looked at is the possible utilization of all available State-owned land in the Western Cape. The utilization of a section of State-owned land at Westlake, adjacent to Pollsmoor, is also one of the options being looked at. In this regard liaison was established with, *inter alia*, the

local regional services council as well as the Regional Development Advisory Committee. However the investigation is still in its initial stage and it is therefore too early to indicate whether or not Pollsmoor and/or its environs will in fact be extended.

I would like to give the hon member the assurance that any future development in this area will be done with circumspection after consultation with all relevant authorities.

#### Meeting between NEC and State

\*5. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

- (1) Whether he, any other Minister and/or any Departmental officials were involved in a meeting with representatives of the National Education Conference and the chairman of the National Peace Accord during the week of 3 to 7 May 1993; if so, (a) who was represented at, and (b) what was the outcome of, this meeting;
- (2) whether he made any representations to the Cabinet pursuant to the outcome of this meeting; if not, why not; if so, what was the purport of these representations;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B806E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

- (1) No. There was no meeting with representatives of the National Education Conference (NEC). At the request of the Chairman of the National Peace Committee, a discussion was held with representatives of the Peace Committee and of various organisations on 4 May 1993.
- (a) The Ministers and Heads of Departments of National Education and of Education and Training, the Chairman of the National Peace Committee, representatives of the African National Congress (ANC), the National Education Co-ordinating Committee (NECC) and the Congress of South African Students (Cosas).
- (b) The meeting did not have a specific outcome. A report was made to the

Cabinet as a result of a discussion on matters relating to examination fees.

- (2) Yes. A full report on the meeting was submitted to the Cabinet. It was decided that all parties concerned should be consulted concerning the payment of examination fees.
- (3) No. A statement will be issued after this process of consultation has been completed.

#### Farm labourers' housing: subsidy scheme

\*6. Mr A S BEYERS asked the Minister of Agriculture:†

- (1) Whether a subsidy scheme in respect of farm labourers' housing was discontinued at the end of 1992; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, why;
- (2) whether the Government has decided to reinstate this scheme; if not, why not; if so, when was the scheme reinstated or is it to be reinstated;
- (3) whether he or his Department received any representations in this regard from organized agriculture; if so, what was the purport of these representations;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B808E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (1) Yes. Great interest in the scheme caused the allocated funds for 1992-93 to be completely committed by the end of November 1992 and no new applications could subsequently be considered. This commitment shall, however, be met in full during the current financial year.
- (2) The Department of Agriculture was compelled to rearrange the priorities in respect of the assistance measures which must be accommodated during the 1993-94 financial year. Continuation of the scheme is being kept in abeyance pending a final decision on assistance measures at present under consideration. The Department of Local Government and National Housing has also been approached to provide funds from the National Housing Fund for this purpose.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



- (3) Yes, from the South African Agricultural Union for the continuation of the scheme. (1) (3) Gen
- (4) Yes. A media statement will be issued depending on the finalization of assistance measures and the outcome of the negotiations with the Department of Local Government and National Housing.

#### Senior Certificate: examination fee

\*7. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of National Education:†

- (1) Whether it is the intention to reduce the compulsory examination fee for the Senior Certificate examination in respect of the various education departments; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant particulars;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B809E

#### The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

- (1) The Ministers responsible for the provision of education released a statement on 31 March 1993 according to which the Government authorized individual departments of education to reduce the 1993 Senior Certificate examination fees by a maximum of R24,00 from R72,00 to R48,00 with the provision that the loss of income be borne from their own funds or effected savings.

The hon the Minister of Education and Training has since announced that the 1993 Senior Certificate examination fees for the Department of Education and Training have been reduced by R24,00, while the Department of Education and Culture: House of Delegates have also reduced their fees by R24,00.

- (2) Yes. The Government is at present consulting role-players with regard to the levying of examination fees and will make an announcement as soon as a decision has been taken.

*Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.*

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

#### INTERPELLATION

The sign \* indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

#### Own Affairs:

#### Afrikaner universities: ANC/SACP alliance

\*1. Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

- (1) Whether he intends taking any steps to ensure that universities considered to be Afrikaner universities do not fall into the hands of the ANC/SACP alliance; if not, why not; if so, what steps;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B858E.INT

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: Mr Chairman, firstly I should like to know what is meant by a university that is considered to be an Afrikaner university. In other words, is there a difference between an Afrikaner university and an institution that is considered to be such a university?

Concerning the further question as to what an Afrikaner university is, I presume that by that the hon interpellant means a university with Afrikaans as the medium of instruction and an ethos that reflects mainly the Afrikaner culture. There are such universities, of course, and I presume that it is in fact that medium of instruction and ethos that the hon member is concerned about. I share his sentiments in this regard. The best protection of the character and nature of a university, any university, lies in its autonomy. That autonomy is already one of the strong points of the university system in South Africa.

The protection of the autonomy of an institution is of vital importance to the university system of our country. The Government considers itself to be committed to the preservation of the autonomy of institutions, in a future dispensation as well, and will ensure this. The principle of autonomy has already been incorporated in the draft charter of fundamental rights. I am striving for the consolidation, stabilisation and expansion of the autonomy of our universities. This is the obvious and best way of protecting their nature and character.

\*Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Mr Chairman, I should like to quote what Oswald Spengler wrote in his work *Jahre in der Entscheidung* at the beginning of the century. I am going to read the English translation, because my German is not very good. It states:

The White races have descended from their erstwhile position. Yesterday they gave orders, today they negotiate and tomorrow they will have to flatter to be able to negotiate.

I think Spengler, if he could have looked at the present situation of the Whites in South Africa, would have said their negotiations were followed by dishonourable surrender, and that that dishonourable surrender was followed by an aggressive destruction of the property and cultures of the White civilisation. [Interjections.]

The hon the Minister and his party are now also working on their constitutional structures which they want to establish in Southern Africa. They are destroying the education facet of the Afrikaner's culture with their entire approach to Southern Africa. This question was most probably formulated in this way by the officials. I do not know whether the hon the Minister still understands who and what the Afrikaner is and which properties in this Southernland belong to the Afrikaner.

In March I asked the hon the Minister a question about the universities, and the Afrikaner universities in particular. I asked him whether he was aware of the fact that lecturers and students at some Afrikaans universities were doing their best to ensure the Africanisation of Afrikaans universities. By that I mean that they should become Black. The hon the Minister then said he was aware of that. I went on to ask him, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, whether he agreed with that. He then replied that it did not fall within his sphere of competence and that in any event he would not be presumptuous enough to interfere in discussions that were taking place in the academic sphere at tertiary institutions.

I want to tell the hon the Minister that he must not hide behind the autonomy of universities today. In Southern Africa there is a history of two standpoints in regard to the essential nature of a university. Wits and Ikeys and similar universities had a completely different standpoint on the matter. We on the Afrikaner side

said the universities in Stellenbosch, Potchefstroom, Bloemfontein and Pretoria were universities whose foundations were established and embedded in the milieu of the Afrikaner. [Time expired.]

\*Mr J A JORDAAN: Mr Chairman, we understand that in his dreams the hon member plays the role of the CP's university establishment committee. The DP decided to compose a manual for him. On the title page of the manual the following words appear: "Opgedra aan Rissiepit, Oud-Tuiks akademikus, tans woord-lengtespesialis". The title of this manual is: "Die Bitterrissiefonteinvolkstaatuiversiteitsinstellingskomiteehandleiding". I think the hon member can practise his arithmetic and count the number of letters. He will find more than 41, which was the length of his longest word the other day.

I quote a few excerpts from the text for hon members:

As die voorsitter hande in die hare is, kry jou hande in sy hare met realistiese standpunte.

The guidebook also says that the chairman may not mislead the proverbial blind in the CP by using the voice of Jacob but the hands of Esau. Furthermore the chairman must accept that a bill of rights will, in the first place, guarantee the academic freedom of universities, and that every university will determine its own ethos and character, and not the State. It also states that the State must pay all universities a subsidy on an equal basis, and that the State may not discriminate on the basis of the ethos and culture of the university. Moreover the manual also states that naturally universities must be able to approach donors in order to raise funds. They can ask for money in the same way.

I am satisfied that Afrikaners at the universities that are at present Afrikaner universities and Afrikaans universities are capable of dealing with matters themselves, without taking entirely to heart the first two points in the hon member's manual, and that he should not interfere with those universities.

\*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: Mr Chairman, the hon member Mr H D K van der Merwe said he wondered whether I still understood who and what an Afrikaner was. I want to remind the hon member that as recently as last week the esteemed

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

# Farmers in new call for curfews

Star 21/5/93

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

Farmers concerned about safety in rural areas have again called for curfews to be imposed on the platteland in a bid to combat a spate of murders on farms and smallholdings.

There have so far been at least eight murders over the past two weeks with a number of farmers and their wives assaulted.

Eastern Transvaal farmers last week were the first to call for a curfew and were yesterday followed by the western Transvaal and Free State.

Earlier this week angry western Transvaal farmers marched on police stations in towns and

villages demanding stricter security measures. These include curfews, road patrols and an improved farm watch system.

In their second official reaction to the security situation in less than a week, the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions have urged immediate action by the Government. The two unions had originally urged a reassessment of security on the platteland following the recent mass meeting held by the unions at Potchefstroom.

The unions say there are now daily attacks on farms.

Dr Piet Gouws, president of the Free State union, said yesterday that many requests for security had been received at his union's headquarters in Bloemfontein.

Farmers wanted a policeman

to be stationed on every farm in unrest areas, similar to the security blanket which was thrown over eastern Free State farmers earlier this year when it was alleged that attackers were crossing the Caledon River from Lesotho and attacking homesteads in the Ficksburg, Bethlehem and Clarens districts.

Meanwhile, police in Pretoria yesterday said that a new ruse appeared to have been put in use by common criminals. They confirmed that a woman traveling on the old Witbank/Middelburg road had come under gunfire after slowing down on Wednesday morning to avoid what she thought was a plastic bag in the road. The next moment a person in the plastic bag stood up and opened fire on her.

# End of drought aid will spell social disaster, warns forum

THOUSANDS of people will be left without access to water and employment opportunities if drought relief schemes are ended because of this year's successful commercial maize crop.

In its recently published report, the National Consultative Forum on Drought said most rural communities were still without sustainable water and food sources, although millions of rands had been spent on water and feeding schemes.

The forum questioned the allocation of emergency funds and government's criteria for determining drought areas, which seemed to favour commercial agriculture.

It said the criteria did not take into account the social effects of drought on job opportunities and subsistence farming.

Only long-term strategies, including a broader definition of drought, would minimise the effect of drought in rural areas.

Meanwhile Sapa reports that limited food aid would be continued for about 300 000 households in Lesotho this year.

Emergency efforts were necessary because of a substantially reduced area of planted crops and expected crop failures.

Our Port Elizabeth correspondent reports that Agriculture spokesman Sue Mis-kin said many eastern Cape districts did not have enough fodder reserves to last the

winter and the outlook was critical.

A Karoo caterpillar infestation was also causing severe damage in the drought-stricken Tarkastad district.

In many districts conditions ranged from poor to critical, Mis-kin said.

"In the Addo and Sundays River areas the outlook is very poor, with critical water shortages for stock. The irrigation quota has been cut by 50%."

Rain was urgently needed in the Alexandria/Paterson/Nanaga districts. There was almost no water left and farmers were receiving water under an emergency scheme, many carting it for long distances.

In the Adelaide/Fort Beaufort/Bedford districts farmers were facing one of the toughest winters in many years.

Only isolated portions of the Lower Albany region remained in fair condition.

The King William's Town, Komga and East London districts were also suffering from acute water and fodder shortages.

In the districts of Queenstown, Tylden, Tarkastad and Sterkstroom there was very little runoff into stock water dams.

The winter outlook in Wodehouse, Molteno and Indwe ranged from poor to very poor, Mis-kin said.

8/0m3 21/5/93  
MARIANNE MERTEN

# NP rejects ~~22~~ racism claims

## Political Staff

THE NP yesterday rejected ANC claims that agreements between Western Transvaal farmers and the police showed racism in the police force. ~~22~~

The ANC said security arrangements with the farmers amounted to a declaration of war on the people there. ~~3~~

The organisation also said no security measures were taken in the past when blacks were killed, some of them by farmers. CF 21/5/93

# 'Start labour camps for loafers'

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Labour camps should be established to combat the menace posed by unemployed "loafers", Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) president Mr Dries Bruwer this week said.

The TAU wants all areas where violence incidents against farmers occurred to be declared unrest areas, he said.

Curfews, in co-operation with the TAU's security committee, had to be in-

troduced in rural areas and undesirable elements removed from unrest areas.

Mr Bruwer said farmers expected the government to act urgently on the security demands made at a recent mass meeting in Potchefstroom.

He said the idea of the camps was that "loafers" be taught basic skills, learn something of the work ethic and be able to contribute to the economy. They would then be diverted from a life of crime and

idleness to a more normal and stable existence.

Mr Bruwer said young blacks, sentenced for criminal offences, could be sent to the camps. The camps could also be opened to youths who wanted to attend voluntarily and break loose from the grip of poverty and crime.

Sapa yesterday reported that the ANC deplored Mr Bruwer's suggestion about labour camps.

③ 172 CF215/93

## Farm aid <sup>3</sup>ber from Taiwan

PETER DELMAR ~~SA~~

TAIWAN's government is expected to announce within weeks the provision of R50m in bilateral aid to aid the settlement of small-scale farmers in SA. *SA 151007 215793*  
It will be the first instalment in the hundreds of millions of rand in aid which the international community is expected to provide for agricultural development.

Development Bank of Southern Africa GM Nick Christodoulou said the Taiwanese government was expected to announce the \$15m in aid as early as next month.

Detailed projects had not yet been signed and the money was likely to be made available over a three-year period.

Christodoulou confirmed that the details of a \$100m credit line for similar development projects had been negotiated with the Japanese Export-Import Bank.

The implementation of these credit facilities depended on the installation of a transitional executive authority, Christodoulou said.

# Labour camps 'will do away with loafers'

BIDM 2115793  
PRETORIA — Labour camps should be established to combat the menace posed by unemployed "loafers", says Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) president Dries Bruwer.

The TAU expects all areas where incidents of violence have occurred to be declared unrest areas, Bruwer says.

Curfews, in co-operation with the TAU's security committee, have to be introduced in rural regions, and undesirable elements removed from unrest areas.

Farmers throughout the Transvaal are demanding tougher security measures from the police and the SADF to counter violence. Current measures have clearly failed, he says.

Farmers expect government to act urgently on the security demands made at a farmers'

mass meeting in Potchefstroom earlier this month.

He warns that if appropriate action is not taken, the TAU will have to consider seriously further demands by farmers.

Earlier this week Free State farmers demonstrated outside some police stations, demanding curfews, searches in black townships for criminal elements and arms, road blocks on secondary roads and the establishment of control points at entrances to black townships.

Bruwer said the idea was that "loafers" be taught basic skills, learn something of the work ethic and be placed in a position to make a major contribution to the economy.

In this way youngsters would be diverted from a lifestyle of crime and idleness to a more normal and stable existence.

Bruwer said young blacks convicted of criminal offences could be sent to the camps. The camps could also be opened on a voluntary basis for youngsters who wanted to break loose from the grip of poverty and crime.

He said most black South Africans were sick and tired of violence, most of which was perpetrated by young people.

The country was flooded with illiterate and semiliterate youngsters, who were good for nothing but unskilled ditch-digging.

Young criminals grew up to become old criminals.

3 Gen (274) (445) (35)  
GERALD REILLY

# Drought savaging E Cape farms

③ CT 21/5/93

PORT ELIZABETH. — Many Eastern Cape districts did not have enough fodder to last the winter and the outlook was critical, Department of Agriculture spokesman Mrs Sue Miskin said yesterday.

She said a Karoo caterpillar outbreak was causing havoc on drought-stricken Tarkastad farms.

Conditions were poor to critical in most districts.

"There is virtually no fodder left, especially for large stock," Mrs Miskin said.

"In Addo and Sundays River the outlook is very poor, with critical water shortages for stock drinking, while the irrigation quota has been cut by 50%."

In Alexandria, Paterson and Nanaga districts farmers were having to cart water long distances, Mrs Miskin said.

"Grazing is virtually non-existent and

the condition of stock is deteriorating fast," she said.

Adelaide, Fort Beaufort and Bedford were also hard-hit and King William's Town, Komga and East London were in the grip of acute water and fodder shortages.

Queenstown, Tylden, Tarkastad and Sterkstroom had "very little" stock water, while Wodehouse, Molteno and Indwe had no food reserves.



POLICE are investigating a series of telephonic death threats and attacks on livestock in what appears to be a well-orchestrated terror campaign against farmers throughout South Africa.

In the first four months of this year, 108 attacks on farms — which claimed 28 lives — were reported.

Now there is growing concern over the emergence of senseless attacks on farm animals, reminiscent of the campaign waged by the Mau Mau in Kenya against white farmers in the 60s.

National statistics for this type of attack are still being collated by the SAP, but the Eastern Transvaal — where 27 farmers were attacked between January and April — has been the hardest hit. On

April 14, a cow on a farm near Boshoek had her Achilles tendons slashed and was left helpless in the veld.

## Attacks

A fortnight later, on April 29, an Afrikaner cow was attacked with a panga on the Rooikop farm near Malelane. A chunk of flesh was hacked from her while she was still alive.

An SAP spokesman said, this week scores of cattle had been slaughtered in similar attacks, mostly in the Malelane and Mac Mac areas.

The Eastern Cape — where nine farm attacks were reported between January and April — is also being targeted.

# Mau-Mau style terror campaign

## FARMERS THREATENED AND LIVESTOCK MUTILATED

By DE WET POTGIETER

There have been reports of livestock being hacked to death in the Cradock and Grahamstown areas, and two farmers were attacked in separate incidents this weekend.

Mr George Marais of the Retief farm near Uitenhage, was shot in the chest

by three men who demanded money from him while he was selling sheep in the veld at 8am yesterday.

On Friday night, three armed men opened fire on a Port Alfred farmer, Mr Andries van der Merwe, 59, of Grant's Valley, when he went to investigate a noise outside his house.

"There seems to be a

campaign of intimidation in most farming areas," said the SAP's Major Ruben Bloomberg.

"The attacks on the livestock have nothing to do with stock theft because in almost every instance, the animals are mutilated and then left to die without any meat being removed."

Telephone threats have been reported from as far

afield as the Eastern Transvaal, Free State, Eastern Cape and Northern Transvaal.

Several smallholding owners at Estoire, outside Bloemfontein, have received calls since the beginning of May telling them they, or their families, will be killed.

Late last month, a Bethlehem farmer was told a

bomb had been placed in house.

Six people from De Wildt, outside Pretoria, have reported telephonic death threats to the police and 10 farmers in that area have had livestock killed or mutilated in recent weeks.

On May 17, a De Kroon farmer was told over the phone that Apla knew about him and would "get him". On the same day, a Putfontein farmer received both a telephonic and a written death threat.

Dozens of farmers in the East London and Stutterheim districts have also reported being threatened.

Police confirmed on Friday that the situation in rural areas throughout

ATTACKS: a pie chart showing the regional breakdown of the sometimes fatal slash attacks on farm animals

South Africa was tense.

"The situation is potentially explosive, and we have called on farmers not to take the law into their own hands," said Lieutenant-Colonel Ray Harald.

All reports of intimidation were being investigated, he said.

S Times 23/9/93

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BIDAY 24/5/93  
**Cloud over  
govt drought  
relief funds**

MARIANNE MERTEN

GOVERNMENT spending on drought relief schemes has been grossly distorted in favour of the commercial sector and did nothing to promote the efficient use of scarce agricultural resources, a Land and Agricultural Policy Centre report says. (3)ben

Funded by the Oxford University based Food Studies Group, the report said commercial farmers had received about R870m of the R1bn set aside for drought relief, as well as the R2,4bn debt subsidy assistance. This brought the total value of government's assistance to R3,270bn.

SA's drought relief programmes represented support for an influential vested interest and were "a lost opportunity for land reform and the creation of a successful fait accompli in advance of a change of government".

The farming crisis was not caused by the drought, which accounted for only 22% of the debt, but the worsening debt:asset ratio and the growing proportion of short-term debt.

## Lobbying

In nominal terms farm debt had increased by 329% from R3,8bn in the early 1980s to R16,3bn in 1991. But in 1992 this figure increased to R16,6bn, in spite of the drought. In real terms farm debt declined between 1985 and 1991 at an average annual rate of 1,7%.

However, short-term debt had increased from 28% in 1970 to 57% in 1991. Liabilities as a percentage of assets has increased from 15% in 1970 to 28% in 1985, but fell to 23% in 1991.

Commercial farmers had been extremely successful in lobbying for state assistance with the most indebted farmers receiving the largest subsidies.

The current drought relief scheme had not been effective because the underlying problems were not related to the drought. Instead, heavily indebted farmers were kept on the land and a fall in land prices was avoided.

A future drought relief programme should encourage efficiency in the allocation and use of agricultural land, the report said. It should support restructuring of land ownership and provide stability in the agricultural sector in the face of rainfall variations. A debt relief policy should be independent of drought relief and be accompanied by credit schemes to enable black farmers to buy or lease the land.

Star 24/5/73

# Farmers 'are legitimate targets'

Crime Reporter



A senior PAC official said in Venda on Saturday that farmers were legitimate targets for the organisation's military wing, prompting angry responses from Transvaal farmers and the Government.

According to Sapa, PAC national organiser Maxwell Nemasivhanani made the statement during an address to mourners in Vuwani at the funeral for slain Azanian People's Liberation Army member Mbengeni Fanual Mudau.

Mudau was shot dead by security forces near Tzaneen on April 28, after allegations that an Apla unit was linked to the recent death of a farmer's wife.

"We will always be after the farmers who have so illegally occupied our land and it will serve them right until they pressurise De Klerk for the total liberation of Azania," Nemasivhanani said.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze yesterday denounced the statements as "utterly provocative".

"It is comments like these which emphasise the findings of the Goldstone Commission on Apla activities and justify steps the Government has taken against terrorism such as that emanating from Apla elements based in Transkei," said Kotze.

Such statements also justified the security forces taking the "strictest possible steps against organisations like Apla".

Transvaal Agricultural Union deputy manager Jan Human said farmers did not want to take the law into their own hands but would have no choice if the Government did not protect farmers.

Farmers had not taken anyone's land. "We bought it and there is no question of us taking it from anyone," he said.

# PAC warns of more attacks on farmers

Sawetani 24/5/93

## ■ 'We will always be after the farmers' - Nemadzivhanani:

FARMERS were a legitimate target for Apla forces, the national organiser of the Pan Africanist Congress, Mr Maxwell Nemadzivhanani, said at a funeral for a slain Apla member in Venda on Saturday. (SAP)

"We will always be after the farmers who have so illegally occupied our land and it will serve them right until they pressurise (State President FW) de Klerk for the total liberation of Azania," Nemadzivhanani said. (SAP)

He was speaking at the funeral of former Apla member Mr Mbengeni Fanual Mudau at Masakona village in the Venda district of Vuwani, 65km east of Louis Trichardt.

Mudau was shot dead by security forces on April 28 near Tzaneen, following allegations that an Apla unit was linked to the recent death of a farmer's wife at Litsitele. (SAP)

PAC first deputy-president Mr Johnson Mlambo said the role of the armed struggle was to fight for the land and for the liberty of the African people. — Sapa. (SAP)

# Livestock maimed in terror blitz

Star 24/5/73

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

Cattle and other livestock on farms across the country have been maimed in recent weeks as terror gangs slash animals in a campaign of terror and intimidation against farmers. ~~Gen~~

Thirty-five farmers have already been killed by gangs — believed by security forces to be part of the Azanian People's Liberation Army — so far this year. ~~Gen~~

Round-the-clock protection for farmers and their animals has now been introduced in many areas and farmers have mobilised in some parts of the platteland to protect property.

The attacks on animals have been confirmed by the police and Transvaal and Free State agricultural authorities.

Between January and May 21, farmers or members of their families were killed in 122 attacks on homesteads. Five died in January, eight in February, four in March, 11 in April and four so far this month.

Most attacks in country areas have been in the eastern Transvaal (33), and on the Witwatersrand (20), northern Transvaal (14), far northern Transvaal (13), Free State (12), western Transvaal (11), eastern Cape (10), Natal (4) and western Cape (5).

Angry farmers have asked for curfews to be imposed and for additional security manpower to be allocated for protection.

Police Commissioner General

Johan van der Merwe said police had for some time "been busy with comprehensive steps to improve the security of those living on farms and smallholdings and who are regarded as being particularly vulnerable.

"Policemen will be placed on the farms of the elderly," he said. ~~Gen~~

It was revealed yesterday that a tactic of the terror gangs involved in attacks on animals — similar to Operation Mau Mau, which was embarked on in Kenya before independence — has been either to kill animals or maim them so badly that they have to be destroyed.

In addition, farmers in the eastern Cape, Free State and western Transvaal have told police of "death-threat telephone calls and letters", the perpetrators warning that harm could come to families and friends if farmers did not leave the lands. ~~Gen~~

The terror campaign on both farmers and their livestock got under way in earnest earlier this year, coinciding with an Apla decision to shift its campaign from "soft" targets to hit-and-run attacks on security forces and "hard" targets, according to intelligence sources.

Apla — which is mainly operational in the eastern Cape, PWV and parts of the Free State — has apparently also embarked on a major recruitment drive. It is believed that youth members of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, have deserted to join Apla without the knowledge of the ANC executive.

6/10/93 25/5/93

**Mogopa peoples' claim**

THE Mogopa community will submit its claim for the Hartebeslaagte farm near Ventersdorp — the second of two farms from which it was forcibly removed in 1984 — to an Advisory Commission on Land Allocation hearing in Pretoria on Thursday.

The land was still state-owned and leased to farmers. The other farm, Swartrand, was returned to the community after a Supreme Court ruling in 1991. (2) (3) 6/93

# Troops to protect farmers

JOHANNESBURG. — Police and army troops were deployed in the Leeudoringstad district of the Western Transvaal yesterday after an attack on a farmhouse late on Sunday night in which gunmen fired into a bedroom.

The attack was one of two that occurred on Sunday. In the other, three masked men attacked a Free State farmer and his family in their home, stealing money and firearms and abducting the

farmer before dumping him near a Sasolburg squatter camp.

Meanwhile Wellington police have been asked by farmers to do extra patrols of their properties in the wake of the recent petrol bomb attack on the home of Mr Danie Malan and his family.

A police spokesman said that farmers were obviously "feeling a little bit nervous" after the Wellington farmer's home was attacked and his family narrowly

escaped injury.

Western Transvaal police said no-one was injured in the Leeudoringstad attack, which began around 11.30pm on Sunday.

Commenting on the Free State attack a police spokesman said the attackers, armed with an AK-47 rifle and two handguns, burst into Mr Hendrik Cronje's Parys farmhouse and demanded money and firearms. — Sapa. Staff Reporter

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CT25/5/93

Sowetan (27)  
23/5/93  
**Cops, army deployed**

POLICE and soldiers were deployed in the Leeudoringstad district of the Western Transvaal yesterday after an attack on a farm house late on Sunday night in which gunmen fired into a bedroom in an apparent attempt to hit beds inside the room.

Western Transvaal police said no one was injured in the attack, which began about 11.30pm. Mr Jan Swanepoel (62), of the farm Rustfontein, heard noises on Sunday night. He made his way to a bathroom window to investigate and was shot at from two different directions.



B10M 257573

### Land reform proposal

A CONFERENCE on land, property rights and the new constitution, held under the auspices of the ANC constitutional committee and university-based centres, decided at the weekend that while SA legislation dealing with expropriation of property should deal with existing legitimate interests in property, laws should also deal with legitimate claims of those who had been dispossessed. <sup>36a</sup>

"Legislation should be couched in such a way as to enable meaningful land reform processes to be implemented," the ANC said.

Don't worry,  
be happy

Political Staff 25/5/93

CAPE TOWN — DP MP for Constantia Roger Hulley last night appealed to South Africans "bogged down in a mood of doom and forboding" not to emigrate.

Addressing the DP's AGM in his constituency, he said he personally felt "a great sense of optimism" about SA's future.

Acknowledging that there was a great deal of bad news which was "unsettling and unacceptable", he said good news actually outweighed the bad.

There were five reasons for optimism:

- There had been a great deal of progress in constitutional talks, which could lead within weeks to a federal system in SA — something the DP and its predecessors had always advocated;
- There had been "a great thaw" in ordinary human relations in the fields of politics, business, sport and entertainment;
- Most South Africans were moderates;
- The economy, despite the long recession, remained resilient and was poised for growth; and
- SA had a high calibre of "top leadership".

# Wessels announces training task group

Blom 25/5/93

CAPE TOWN — Manpower Minister Leon Wessels yesterday announced that the National Manpower Commission had been charged with a host of tasks, including revision of labour legislation.

Wessels also announced the establishment of a task group to develop a national training strategy, because SA spent huge sums on training without visible return.

Speaking in Parliament, Wessels said the newly reconstituted commission would be examining, among other things:

- "Modernising" labour laws;
- A code for good labour practices;
- The establishment of labour standards;
- The question of increased productivity;
- The principles which would give rise to legal actions in court;
- The question of a minimum wage;
- Dealing with AIDS in the workplace;
- Harmonising labour legislation;
- Labour-related questions raised by government's normative economic model;
- The ratification of international labour relations conventions;
- The effect of not abiding with agreements on collective action; and
- The political involvement of unions.

Another topic to be dealt with was programmes for the unemployed.

He said trade union, management and state representatives had been appointed to a 15-member task force to advise the Manpower Minister on a national training

TIM COHEN

strategy. Headed by National Training Council chairman Ray Eberlain, the group would focus on in-house training, encouraging entrepreneurship and community participation.

The task group would make contact with as many leaders in the field as possible in an attempt to identify and harness the energy being pumped into developing SA's human resources.

Government and the private sector spent huge sums on training, but jobs still seemed to "disappear like mist before the morning sun", he said.

Members of the department had travelled abroad to study vocation education and training systems, and although many solutions had been posed, the consensus seemed to be that a national strategy was necessary, he said.

Sapa reports that during the debate, Tony Leon (Houghton, DP) said industrial councils should be scrapped as elephantine, anachronistic and fascist structures that throttled small businesses.

The cosy relationship between big business and the trade union confederations was hurting the prospects of job creation, he said.

Industrial councils — administering 187 agreements covering 24 500 employers and 735 000 workers — throttled small businesses and were undemocratic.

## Plea for a rethink on maize price

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — A strong plea was made to government again yesterday for a rethink on the producer price of maize which has been fixed at an "unrealistic" R410 a ton, according to Nampo.

Yesterday Maize Board chairman Jan Schabert and Nampo president Cerneels Claassen told Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk that large numbers of farmers would go "belly up" unless the price was adjusted.

Last week Cabinet rejected a plea from Nampo and the board for a producer price of R430 a ton.

Nampo said yesterday's plea was supported by a well documented warning that the industry faced a disaster unless

farmers were placed in a position to profit from the 8-million ton crop.

Van Niekerk will report the outcome of yesterday's meeting with the Maize Board and Nampo to tomorrow's Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet decision on whether or not the producer price is to be increased will be announced at a press conference addressed by Van Niekerk on Thursday.

However if Cabinet approved an increase it is likely to set off an angry reaction from the big yellow maize users as well as consumer organisations.

## Push to speed up negotiations

BILLY PADDOCK

THE multiparty negotiations planning committee yesterday increased pressure on the constitutional principles technical committee to produce concrete proposals for debate today.

There is concern among parties that sufficient progress will not be made this week to enable an election date to be announced next week.

The committees handling constitutional principles and the transitional process were instructed to provide today's negotiating council with clear proposals which could result in agreements by Friday.

Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said issues confronting parties have been around a long time and "lengthening the time by another three months will make no difference... We must be able to deal with the substantive issues this week and agreement is attain-

able if we can bridge the differences." He said regionalism was the key to bridging the gaps and he hoped this would form part of today's debate.

SACP negotiator Joe Slovo said there were several areas where consensus existed on constitutional principles and he hoped today's meeting would be able to cement these and produce an agreement.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa was optimistic that sufficient progress would be made by the end of this week for the council to recommend the announcement of an election date to the forum meeting next Thursday.

Negotiators hope debate on draft legislation for an independent electoral commission and a media commission will move the talks forward.

PAC support  
for Apla's  
<sup>3 Gen</sup> farm murders

DIRK VAN EEDEN

THE killing of white farmers by Apla members was a "legitimate" political campaign and the PAC had no reason to distance itself from it, said PAC national organiser Maxwell Nemadzivhanani yesterday.

"Apla is a disciplined organ of the PAC. All Apla members are also members of the PAC. We have no reason to distance ourselves from their actions."

Nemadzivhanani emphasised that this was the official PAC policy. <sup>BLOM</sup>

He said farmers were committing political crimes against black people with the collaboration of the security forces.

"Millions of people were forced off their land. Farmers maltreat their labourers and deny them the right to affiliate to political organisations. Some cases are known of white farmers impounding black farmers' cattle. Therefore, Apla's struggle is a just struggle."

Meanwhile, tension in right-wing circles rose yesterday. Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said government had to realise the country was on the brink of civil war as Apla had declared war on farmers. <sup>25/5/73</sup>

He said farmers felt their safety was thrown overboard in a bid to secure the success of negotiations.

"If government does not act now, we may be forced to take action ourselves and wipe out Apla bases. If necessary we must hunt one another."

Free State Agricultural Union president Piet Gouws said attacks led to farmers becoming "bitter and unreasonable".

Nemadzivhanani said farmers were not killed on a random basis, but "only after investigation of the political crimes they committed". <sup>BLOM 25/5/73</sup>

Law and Order spokesman Capt Craig Kotze said yesterday: "Because of the tense political climate and because inflammatory statements can be so dangerous we will have to establish whether a case can be made of Nemadzivhanani's statements."

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Star 25/5/93

# More attacks on farmers

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

Two more farms and a smallholding came under armed attack in the previous 48 hours, police confirmed yesterday.

One man was killed and a farmer abducted.

In the latest incident a man was shot dead by AK-47 gunmen who broke into his home on a smallholding at Leeuwfontein near Pretoria.

Police spokesman Lieutenant Evan Johnson said Gert Alberts (43) was fatally wounded by a shot fired through a lounge window early yesterday. The intruders then assaulted his mother, Sannie Alberts (82).

In another attack, just before midnight on Sunday, a Leeudoringstad farmer successfully fought off gunmen who had fired into a bedroom while a farm labourer

went to get help.

Policemen, troops and armed farm-watch volunteers have been searching for the attackers. ③ Gen

The farmer, Jan Swanepoel (62), said he heard noises at about midnight on Sunday and was shot at as he peeped through a bathroom window.

Swanepoel — who found his telephone was not working — activated the farm alarm and then fired on the attackers.

Light bulbs from the outside lights had been removed and the telephone wire cut about 200 m from the house.

In the first attack of the weekend, a farmer was abducted on Sunday afternoon in the Parys district after he and his family, who were entertaining friends, were surprised in their farmhouse.

Hendrik Cronje was tied up and taken away in a car, then dumped in the veld near Sasolburg. After managing to untie himself, he made his way to Sasolburg.

The Cronje family and their friends, who were not named, were found unharmed and locked in a room in the farmhouse.

Their attackers, who were armed with an AK-47 assault rifle and handguns, took three rifles, a pistol and about R1 000 in cash.

The latest attacks bring the number of farms which have come under attack throughout the country this year to 125.

A total of 35 farmers have already been killed by gangs, believed by security forces to be part of the Azanian People's Liberation Army.

# Hype aside, OK's state of health still written in red

**AFTER** the razzmatazz of OK Stores' official relaunch on Monday, management at the retail chain faces the daunting prospect of living up to its promises.

In an impassioned speech to about 1 000 suppliers and OK staff, MD Mervyn Serebro said it was "wake-up time" for the SA retail industry.

The group was "a sleeping giant" and the OK was out to establish itself as "a customer and price-driven mass market discounter".

Take out the hype — the speech was relayed on six huge video screens at a function in Johannesburg — and a brighter, brasher OK, more at ease with itself, nevertheless remains a retail group in the red.

Sales in the year ended March showed no real growth, with paper-thin trading margins leading to sharply lower trading profit, swallowed up by interest charges from servicing multimillion-rand borrowings. At end March debt stood at R703m, marking the cost of holding R700m in stock and consolidating associate finance company Okfin.

Group financial director Geoff Kearney says radical financial restructuring of the group is not an option. "We have no plans to recapitalise the group beyond the R200m loan already provided by SAB," he says. The SAB loan enabled OK to convert a large tranche of its borrowings from short- to long-term.

The Okfin debtors book will not be sold. Kearney says OK will focus on improving operating performance to

B/D/M 26/5/93  
MATTHEW CURTIN

provide the cash-flow with which to address financing problems.

"Stock reductions and better stock-turn can take a huge slice out of our borrowings," he says, noting that debt over and above the debtors book can be reduced most rapidly. The key will be achieving sustainable sales growth after years in which mounting stock and rising costs have outpaced any increases in turnover.

Kearney admits OK's decision to reposition itself as a discount retailer will intensify the squeeze on gross-profit margins. The payoff, he hopes, will come when improved sales volumes enable OK to win better terms from suppliers and when improved revenue reduces the pressure on financing working capital with debt.

The problem with that is that OK is already a mass merchandiser. If its present volumes were too small to squeeze discounts out of suppliers, how great would they have to be? OK will not be chasing greater sales or market share in a vacuum — competitors will not be sitting idly by.

Kearney says that the group, guided by unnamed UK management consultants, has taken a hard look at the success of US and UK discount stores Wal-Mart and Tesco.

He attributes their success to two main factors: Tesco's discounting philosophy of "pile it high, sell it cheap and quick" and Wal-Mart's refined cross-docking system of ensuring goods arrive from suppliers and are

processed through warehouses with minimum time on storage shelves.

Wal-Mart and Tesco have focused on "on-sale" performance, ensuring that the 200 or 300 hundred basic products which shoppers require are on the shelves at all times.

Kearney says the OK has some way to go on these fronts, if only because he believes the SA retail business is less sophisticated than in the US or Europe. This might be more credible if the only comparison was with Checkers. It ignores the fact that Pick 'n Pay regularly reports sound profits.

Yet, the main aim of Monday's launch was to convince suppliers that in return for a promise of greater efficiency from OK management, they were expected "to come to the party" by offering discounted prices for longer periods on their produce if they want OK's business.

One industry source notes that after the no-nonsense wage settlement with the SA Commercial Catering & Allied Workers Union last month the industrial relations atmosphere within the group may be a sign the OK is moving forward.

The crunch will come in a year if OK has not made as much progress as management hopes for. Quite apart from the financial problems, the group will face a workforce, marshalled by Saccawu, whose wage expectations may be out of line with the company's performance.

Further industrial relations acrimony would be a sure sign the OK has not shaken off its malaise.

## Brenmill sustains growth

**BRENNER** Mills (Brenmill) doubled its earnings to 32,8c a share in the year to end-February, its second year of strong growth after a three-year period of declining profits.

In the past year, the maize meal, malt and animal feeds manufacturer's share price has risen by 225c or 409% to its current level of 280c, representing one of the largest share price gains on the JSE.

Turnover figures were not given in its report, but sales grew 29,2% over the previous year. In financial 1992, turnover showed no growth over the previous year. Operating profit rose 85,3% to R13,9m, with an improvement in margins.

Chairman and joint MD Arnold Brenner said the company was based in the northern Transvaal, with its mills spread across the region. This, together with the fact that it was a smaller player, meant it could supply fresh, quality produce and provided good service. Its ability to react immediately to problems led to increased sales.

Effective cash management and

(3) Gen. B/D/M 26/5/93  
MARCIA KLEIN

control over working capital resulted in "a significant generation of cash balances". The company received interest of R790 000 after paying R281 000 the previous year. This resulted in an increase in pre-tax profit to R14,7m from R7,2m.

Profit after tax doubled to R7,6m from R3,8m. A final dividend of 10c a share was declared to bring the full-year dividend up 125% to 18c a share.

Commenting on its cash-flush position, Brenner said: "In this economic climate, we are happy to be in this liquid position. But we'll be looking for possible good acquisitions in the not too distant future."

He said the coming year would be difficult. Although white maize was back in circulation and imported maize was a thing of the past, the imported maize had left its mark on the market, particularly in terms of consumer resistance.

There were additional pressures in terms of increases in fuel prices and wages and salaries.

## Two more SMA executives quit

LINDA ENSOR

**CAPE TOWN** — The attrition among leading executives at Syfrets Managed Assets (SMA) continued yesterday with two more people resigning to join the rival Coronation Asset Management (CAM).

Acting head of research Vanessa Carlow and administration manager John Snelam resigned. A source said they were not happy with the situation at SMA.

This brought to eight the number of resignations in the past week, the others being those of SMA MD Leon Campher, Syfrets Growth Fund portfolio manager Tony Gibson, Trustee Fund portfolio manager Matt Brenzel, portfolio manager Thys du Toit, investment research head Hugh Broadhurst and computer expert Nick Walters. All planned to join CAM.

Acting SMA co-ordinator Rob Nichol confirmed the resignations. He said SMA was confident of finding quality replacements, as response from applicants had been enormous.

for which information is available and (d) for what purposes are these lounges used by Ministers? D245E

**The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:**

No, the relevant VIP lounges are made available free of charge to dignitaries.

(a), (b), (c) and (d) Fall away.

**Child welfare agencies: food aid**

\*2. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister for National Health and Welfare:

- (1) Whether it has been brought to her or her Department's notice that child welfare agencies and other recognized bodies involved in dispensing food aid to the indigent were called upon to expend unusually large amounts of money shortly before the end of their financial year; if so, why were these agencies and bodies called upon to expend such amounts;
- (2) whether any problems have been experienced by the said agencies and bodies in respect of planning and performing their activities properly; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what problems;
- (3) whether she will make a statement on the matter? D271E

**The DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE:**

- (1) No;
- (2) yes, firstly some of the organisations thought that it would take less time to get programmes established. This did not evolve and therefore they over-estimated and could not utilise all the funds before the end of the financial year on 31 March 1993. These funds had to be paid back to the State offer. Savings realized in this manner will be included as a supplementary annexure to the first report on the State of the Expenditure Budget of the Department for the 1993/94 finan-

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

cial year and made available to the National Nutrition and Social Development Programme, and secondly smaller organisations are not yet properly geared to expend funds according to Treasury Instructions;

(3) no.

**Air hostesses/flight attendants: hours worked**

\*3. Mr N SINGH asked the Minister for Public Enterprises:

- (1) Whether any (a) air hostesses and/or (b) flight attendants on flights of the South African Airways were recently required to work longer hours than is normally the case; if so, why;
- (2) whether reports have been received that, as a result of these longer hours, some of these persons were too tired to perform their duties efficiently; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
- (3) whether any steps have been taken or are being contemplated in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what steps? D272E

**The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS (for the Minister for Public Enterprises):**

The Managing Director of TRANSNET LIMITED has furnished the following reply to the hon member's question:

- (1) (a) and (b) Yes. To obtain greater productivity and improved passenger satisfaction on the Johannesburg—Taipei flights.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Yes. The extended hours were originally agreed to by the trade union after a ballot was conducted amongst their members. However, after a further ballot it has been decided to implement a new cabin crew schedule for the Taipei flights with effect from 31 May 1993. This will entail that the cabin crew to and from Taipei will be rotated in Singapore.

**Expropriated land: price/return** (3) *ben*

\*4. Mr M NARANJEE asked the Minister of Regional and Land Affairs:

- (1) Whether it has been decided that land acquired or expropriated in terms of racially based legislation was to be returned to the former owners of such land at the price paid at the time of the acquisition or expropriation thereof in terms of the said legislation; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether any such land (a) has been and/or (b) is to be so returned; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, to whom? D274E

**The DEPUTY MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS:**

- (1) No. The Advisory Commission on Land Allocation investigates all claims regarding the restoration of ownership rights in terms of the provisions of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act, 1991 (Act 108/1991), on the merits of each case and submits thereafter its recommendations to the State President for consideration. The final decision regarding the conditions and the prices at which the identified properties could be alienated, rests with the State President-in-Cabinet after considering the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation. The ultimate decision of the State President-in-Cabinet is binding.
- (2) (a) and (b)

On the recommendation of the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation, the State President-in-Cabinet has decided that the following identified state owned properties may be alienated to the former owners, namely:

Roosboom	(Ladysmith)
Charlestown	(Newcastle)
Groote Springfontyn	(Melkbosstrand)
Asiatic Bazaar	(Pretoria)

The Advisory Commission on Land Allocation is at present investigating a number of claims regarding the restoration of ownership over identified land, the details of which are not yet available.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! I wish to inform hon members that the time allotted for questions on general affairs has expired. However, I am going to proceed with the rest of the questions, so that we can get the replies while the hon Ministers are here.

**Housing subsidy scheme: capital subsidy coupon**

\*5. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of National Housing:

- (1) Whether, with reference to information furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, he or his Department intends introducing a housing subsidy scheme in terms of which a capital subsidy coupon is provided to an eligible first-time home buyer; if not, why not; if so, when is it anticipated that such a scheme or a similar one will be introduced in the Republic;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D262E

**The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (for the Minister of National Housing):**

- (1) The hon member will be aware of the fact that the Task Group which investigated a new housing policy and strategy has recommended that a capital subsidy should form part of the solution to South Africa's housing problem. The possible utilisation of a capital subsidy coupon along the lines of the Chilean model is addressed in the report.

As the recommendations by the Task Group are at present serving as an important input in the negotiation process between the Department of Local Government and National Housing and the National Housing Forum, it would be premature to commit oneself at this stage to the feasibility of detailed issues

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Star 26/5/93  
R50-m for farm security

An amount of R50,97 million had been approved by the Cabinet to subsidise owners of identified farms and smallholdings in securing their properties, Minister of Law and Order Her-nus Kriel said yesterday.

Kriel said the owners of the specifically identified properties had to be older than 60.

The subsidy of 20 percent on a maximum expenditure of R20 000 and a minimum of R1 000 per property would be paid out on proven expenditure

on security measures.

Police station commanders would be able to advise farmers soon in the following areas — identified as “red areas” — who would qualify for subsidies:

Eastern Transvaal — Nelspruit, Middelburg, Ermelo, Secunda and Lothair.

Orange Free State — Heilbron, Ficksburg, Clocolan, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Hobhouse, Parys, Reitz, Zastron, Wepener, Vanstadensrus, Clarens, Foursiesburg and Ladybrand.

Eastern Cape — Aliwal North, Lady Grey, Queenstown, Maclear and Ugie.

Natal — Mooi River and Greytown.

Witwatersrand — De Deur, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging.

Northern Transvaal — Cullinan, Rosslyn, Welbekend, Ham-manskraal and Brits.

Far northern Transvaal — Tzaneen and Hoedspruit.

Western Transvaal — Fochville, Potchefstroom and Rustenburg. — Sapa.

# 1-nation

## Star 27/5/93 Farm security cash hailed

The SA Agricultural Union has welcomed the R51 million allocated by the Government to help farmers in certain areas to improve security on their properties. SAAU president Boet Fourie said yesterday farmers should apply for the assistance immediately. They should contact their district security committees to ensure their security systems were of good quality. — Sapa.

## 4 hurt in vehicle ambushes

Another two vehicles have been ambushed near Estcourt's troubled Wembezi township, leaving at least four people injured. On Tuesday, gunmen opened fire on a vehicle, injuring two people. These follow the killing of two people in an attack on a taxi on Monday. — Sapa.

## Air force veteran honoured

One of the longest-serving members of the South African Air Force is to receive the Good Service Medal tomorrow. He is Pioneer-Jackson-Kenosi Boemo, who retires after nearly 46 years' service. The Chief of the Air Force, Lieutenant-General James Kriel, will present the medal at SAAF headquarters. — Defence Correspondent.

## Star 27/5/93 Seven miners die in clash

Seven migrant miners were hacked to death and six were critically wounded in fighting at the Hartebeestfontein Gold Mine at Stilfontein on Tuesday night. Police spokesman Captain Fred Williams said faction fighting between Shangaan and Xhosa miners began at Hostel Six at about 9 pm and lasted for three hours. He said 59 miners were injured.

## Missing woman (78) found

A 78-year-old East London woman, missing since reaching Johannesburg by bus 10 days ago, was found yesterday. Gerty Turner wandered off from Hillbrow bus station before her daughter could find her. She was found, barefoot and bruised, at Coronation Hospital. — Sapa.

## Interruption to water supply

The town council of the East Rand township of KwaThema has informed residents that the water supply will be interrupted on June 2 for the installation of pipes. The interruption is scheduled to last from 8 am to 4 pm. — Sapa.

## Slain woman's car found

Police have found the car of Rika Putter — murdered at her smallholding in Boschkop near Pretoria on Tuesday — abandoned at a smallholding in Mamelodi.

# 2 metr

# Blind maker burgled

By Stan Hlophe

Damage estimated at R20 000 was caused when burglars broke into the premises of the Soweto Blind — Brick — Making Project, a subsidiary of the National Organisation of the Blind in South Africa (Nobsa), on Tuesday night.

The intruders broke down a 2 m wall, smashed a window and forced their way into the project's offices in Orlando.

They stole cash, telephones, clothing, equipment and machinery valued at R15 000. As if that was not enough, they also cut off the electricity supply and ransacked the offices, causing a further R5 000 damage.

Ruth Machobane, Nobsa's director and 1990 Sowetan Woman of the Year, said the theft would force the project to lay off the 20-odd staff, who are all blind, until a good Samaritan came to their rescue.

"This is horrible. We are part and parcel of the community and trying to help ourselves. But it is the very

## CBD planning regulations

In the drive to promote Johannesburg's CBD, the city council yesterday announced a relaxation in town-planning regulations.

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## Farms R51m not enough

BLOEMFONTEIN.—  
The R51 million allo-  
cated by the government  
to subsidise security on  
farms and smallholdings  
was inadequate. Free

State Agricultural  
Union security chair-  
man Mr Faan Malherbe  
said here yesterday.

Mr Malherbe said his  
committee appreciated  
the authorities' efforts,  
but it could not agree  
that there were "red",  
"green" and "yellow"  
areas.

He met police yester-  
day for discussions  
about the protection of  
farm houses.

(3) cr 215/93

Star 28/5/93  
**Farm-AG lifts earnings 69 percent**

*2000*  
DURBAN — Farm-AG lifted earnings 69 percent in the six months to February, thanks to improved performance by Sanchem, a reduction in borrowings and lower interest rates.

Net income before extraordinary items was R10,8 million (R6,4 million a year ago).

Interest payable fell from R19,5 million at August last year to R9,2 million.

Income attributable to share-

holders was R5,6 million (R4 million).

Earnings per ordinary share were 74,4c (44,7c). No interim dividend on ordinary shares has been declared, but it is hoped a final will be declared in October.

During the period, the group closed subsidiary Harvest Chemicals as it continued to incur losses and no buyer could be found. — Sapa.

# Farm-Ag to break its long dividend drought

ANDY DUFFY

AGRICULTURE and industrial chemicals group Farm-Ag is to break its four-year impasse and restore its payout to ordinary shareholders, after a sparkling performance in the first half.

The company posted a 69% increase in attributable earnings to R10,8m for the six months to February, on turnover down at R12,6m from R15,4m. Earnings a share rose from 44,7c to 74,4c.

Finance director Richard McElligott said a fall in debt for the full year to R5m would allow it to pay the bulk of its earnings in dividends in October. The payout would be about 40c a share — just below the level when Farm-Ag last rewarded its shareholders in 1989. "Business has gone exceptionally well," McElligott said.

Although Farm-Ag sustained a R1,2m loss (R630 000 profit) at the operating level, associates pushed it back into the black.

Mainstay Sanachem, in which it holds 50%, bolstered profits for the period by 45% to R27,7m, while 40%-owned sock-maker Glenmore Textiles maintained its profit levels of last year.

Much of Sanachem's improvement was due to exports, with sales for the year to February up from R88m to R176m. The company, in which Sentrachem holds 50%, was expected to boost export sales.

Farm-Ag's policy of selling off its assets and focusing on Sanachem reduced interest-bearing debt from R19,5m to R9,2m.

Farm-Ag closed its loss-making Harvest Chemicals subsidiary, sustaining a R1,15m extraordinary charge.

McElligott said the sale of Harvest's plant and the sale of its holding in Glenmore would underpin debt-cutting for the full year. The Glenmore sale would leave Farm-Ag wholly dependent on Sanachem for earnings. Its stake in Sanachem is to be sold to Sentrachem in March 1995, at which point Farm-Ag would become a cash shell.

□ **Rale Holdings**, 67%-stakeholder in Farm-Ag, reflected the performance of its investment. Attributable income rose 93% to R7,1m, while earnings a share stood at 67,6c (3,8c) on a share base reduced by a factor of 10.

3 Gen  
10/2  
SIP  
28/12/93

# Community likens Govt to a thief

Star 28/5/93

3 Geo

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Members of the Mogopa community yesterday compared the Government to a thief who had returned only half of the loot, as they lodged their claim for restoration of the second of two western Transvaal farms from which they were forcibly removed in 1984.

"It is amazing that when the land was taken away from us we were never consulted, there were no negotiations," community leader Lucas Kgatitsoe said in his presentation to the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation hearing in Pretoria.

"Now that the land is supposed to be given back to us, there are a lot of talks and commissions. The Government is having the power to steal people's property and thereafter set up commissions. Is that how a government should be?"

The farm Swartrand was restored to the people of Mogopa about a year ago, years after they reoccupied the land.

The Appeal Court, which had earlier declared the removal unlawful, avoided hearing a trespass case by advising the Government to negotiate.

But the community of some 300 families still desires the farm Hartebeeslaagte, comprising 4 000 ha of arable land. The 3 800 ha at Swartrand, they say, is suitable only for settlement

and grazing.

Aninka Claassens of the Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies said that unless Hartebeeslaagte was returned there was no hope of restoring Mogopa as a self-sufficient community.

While about one-third of white farmers in the Ventersdorp area were so indebted that they would lose their land if their debts were called in, before their removal "Mogopa never received any Government subsidy and did not generate any debt", she said.

It was precisely the viability of Mogopa which had caused its owners to limit the population to maintain its self-sufficiency. If they did not secure the return of Hartebeeslaagte, she predicted, terrible overcrowding would develop on Swartrand as people would take in tenants and sell their land rights to survive.

Although the surrounding community was very conservative, there had never been any right-wing attacks, Claassens said, because Mogopa was self-sufficient.

She urged the commission to take seriously Kgatitsoe's words: "We are still going to struggle to get our land back — up to the end of time."

Abram Mabidikama, a Mogopa farmer ruined by removal, said that watching white farmers graze their cattle on Hartebeeslaagte was as painful as watching an abducted child labour for someone else's profit "while I have nothing".

# Delmas cries fowl at Rainbow buyout

*Wilm and 28/5 - 3/6/93. (3) Poultry*  
**A small-town chicken producer took on the industry Goliath — and lost. Now Delmas wants to know why Rainbow Chickens bought the company, only to fire its workforce and dump its assets in the veld. By REG RUMNEY**



**That's not chicken feed ... Workers dump Delmas Kuiken's equipment in the veld. In the background chicken houses stand empty**  
Photo: LUANNE CADD

**G**IANT South African chicken producer Rainbow Chickens paid R8-million for struggling competitor Delmas Kuiken in April — only to shut the company down and dump its assets in the veld.

An estimated 750 people from the small eastern Transvaal town of Delmas will be out of work once Rainbow has completed the closure — which has already started. The retrenchments, which will be fully effective by the end of July, will hit Delmas hard.

Is the industry leader pursuing a "scorched earth" policy to prevent any competition arising from Delmas Kuiken? An American firm had put in a R6,5-million offer to take over the company and run it as a going concern.

An ex-employee of Delmas Kuiken, who did not want to be named, explained the US bidder had been put off initially by unrest — but eventually had taken fright at being involved in bidding against another company which had an "inside track".

The US company had made an offer for Delmas at a creditors' meeting. According to this employee, an attorney present, acting for the liquidators, asked the creditors to delay their decision because another bidder wanted to make an offer.

The creditors did this and the US company pulled out of the bidding, leaving the other company's offer the only one available to creditors. That other company turned out to be Rainbow.

Rainbow says it never had any intention of keeping Delmas Kuiken going and only bought the assets (for R5-million) and stock (for R3-million). The market is oversupplied with chickens, it says, so there would be no point in keeping the operation going.

But employees and ex-employees point out Rainbow is busy dumping the equipment it supposedly bought the company for. A *Weekly Mail* photographer this week witnessed scores of chicken feeders being dumped in the veld. They have been stripped from the chicken houses, which are now empty. The question remains: what is left that would justify the R5-million paid for the assets?

Rainbow, owned by the Methven family and Rembrandt subsidiary Hunt Leuchars & Hepburn (HLH), lost R77-million in the year to end-March 1993 and attributed this in part to industry overproduction.

HLH director Rob Cox said Rainbow had put in an offer for the assets of Delmas Kuiken solely to get movable and immovable assets. He said some of the equipment was imported, such as sophisticated hatching equipment.

Asked why Rainbow had not revealed itself to creditors, Cox said: "We wanted to make sure we would get the assets and didn't run foul of any competition thing. We wanted the opportu-

nity to check it out before there was a hue and cry."

Rainbow's action has incensed workers and the local community. An emotional Delmas

employee, Gert Bezuidenhout, said this week: "It's not only equipment they are dumping. They don't even have respect for people." He said equipment worth millions was being dumped.

He added: "We were told we were under provisional liquidation in December last year. We were more secure under provisional liquidation than when Rainbow took over on April 5."

He complained that Rainbow had not communicated with employees about the closure of the company. "They don't discuss anything with us."

Cox, disputing the allegations, said Rainbow understood that a letter to employees from the liquidator, on April 8, telling them of the closure had been intercepted by a manager at Delmas Kuiken.

When Rainbow became aware that employees had not been told it extended the contracts to workers another month, Cox said.

Rainbow is estimated to have under 50 per cent of the local broiler market. Delmas Kuiken used to have an estimated two per cent.

On the face of it, Rainbow has moved on the company to prevent potential competition in the future. But the Competition Board, which would have preferred to see Delmas taken over and run as a going concern, is powerless to act.

Competition Board chairman Pierre Brood says because the company was already in provisional liquidation and there was only one offer on the table, from Rainbow, there was little he could do.

He adds that Delmas residents have been told the Competition Board has insisted on the closure, and that this is patently untrue.

The Competition Board was also powerless to act, despite criticism, in 1991 when Rainbow Chickens bought out its main competitor, Bonn Bird, for R224-million.

Cox said the US company had made an offer of R6,5-million, at an informal meeting of creditors on February. Major creditors rejected the offer, he said.

On March 11 Rainbow made its offer to creditors and the liquidator recommended it be accepted.

# Government's farm security subsidies branded 'useless'

SI Times 3015193

3Gru

By JOCELYN MAKER

THE government's R51-million subsidy scheme to help farmers in "red areas" — those police believe are most vulnerable to attack — secure their homes has been dismissed as "useless" by South Africa's two biggest agricultural unions.

And the fact that only those over the age of 60 qualify for the subsidy has angered farmers.

Since the beginning of the year, 28 people have been murdered in 108 attacks on farms and smallholdings.

Farmers say the maximum subsidy — R4 000 — is "hopelessly inadequate" to protect their homes and families.

## Unrealistic

Bloemfontein security expert Mr Sakkie Janson said it would cost around R16 000 to erect a 300m electrified fence.

"Burglar bars and an alarm system in an average three-bedroom house would cost another R3 200, and three floodlights — the minimum number a farmer can have — will push the bill up by another R600.

"That's R19 800 for the material alone, and then you have to add the cost of the labour and the

VAT. You're looking at R30 000 minimum for the most basic farm security system — and there aren't many farmers who have that kind of money."

Mr Schalk Pienaar, the Conservative Party's law and order spokesman, said the subsidy was "unrealistically low and the kind of security it can buy won't stop attacks or murders".

The chairman of Plaaswag in the small Free State farming community of Heilbron, Mr Nico Viljoen, said the subsidy was "useless". "Farmers haven't got the money to put up security, and the subsidy isn't going to help," he said.

"Most of these red areas in the Free State run along the Lesotho border, and a lot of those farmers are young. They are just as vulnerable as the older ones."

Free State Agricultural Union security chief Faan Malherbe, who farms at Hertzogville, said his members were particularly angry about the age limit imposed on the subsidies.

"The majority of farmers are younger than 60. What are they supposed to do?"

Transvaal Agricultural Union security chief Herman Vercueil also said the amount budgeted for subsidies was "too small".

Star 3115193  
3 Gen

## End consumer boycott, urge farmers

More than 50 armed farmers marched to the Boitumelong township near Bloemhof on Friday to deliver a memorandum to the ANC in which they called for an end to the consumer boycott of the western Transvaal town, the ANC said yesterday.

The town recently fired its entire black workforce in retaliation for the boycott.

Farmers also called on the ANC to halt future marches through Bloemhof, and to agree to repair vehicles damaged during a recent ANC march.

# Dam levels plunge as drought bites

Star 31/5/93

By Shirley Woodgate **3** *Cape* several rivers on the North Coast were subject to restrictions, he said. There was a total ban on irrigation from the White Mfolosi River and farmers dependent on Goedertrouw Dam were applying restrictions of 50 percent.

Many dams countrywide are at critically low levels and large regions are in the throes of drought, according to Environment and Water Affairs Minister Japie van Wyk.

In the Transvaal, no water was being supplied from the empty Doringdraai Dam; Loskop Dam had been granted a 40 percent irrigation quota; the 4 percent-full Fanie Botha Dam on the Letaba River had irrigation water only until the end of June; and the Njelele Dam behind the Soutpansberg and the Hartbeesfontein Dam on the Crocodile River had been granted 60 percent quotas.

The Marico-Bosveld, Albasini and Lindleyspoort are either empty or have not enough water and strict restrictions are being applied to the Crocodile River, eastern Transvaal and the Komati River, Van Wyk said.

In Natal, irrigators relying on the Hazelmere Dam, which was at its lowest since it was built in the '70s, were maintaining a voluntary 30 percent restriction, but this may have to be raised to 70 percent.

several rivers on the North Coast were subject to restrictions, he said. There was a total ban on irrigation from the White Mfolosi River and farmers dependent on Goedertrouw Dam were applying restrictions of 50 percent.

In the Cape, a 50 percent restriction had been imposed for the first time since the construction of the Orange River Project. This was a direct result of the abnormal drought which had led to the lowest recorded inflows in 1992-93, he said.

The water supply in rural areas of Natal-KwaZulu, Ciskei, Transkei and parts of the eastern Cape was causing concern. A combined effort by the Water Affairs and Forestry Department, the Water Supply Task Force, the Joint Services Board and the respective governments was providing emergency relief. Towns subject to strict restrictions were Richards Bay, Ulundi, Adelaide, Graaff-Reinet and Steytlerville.

Most towns in the northern Transvaal had restricted water supply, including a 30 percent supply cut in Potgietersrus, the Pietersburg-Seshego area, Tzaneen and Nelspruit, Van Wyk said.



# Anger at exclusion from aid

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Own Correspondent

QUEENSTOWN. — Farmers in the corridor area between Queenstown and East London are up in arms at having been excluded from the government's allocation of R51m for farm security aid.

Only five rural areas in the Eastern Cape qualified for aid. They are Queenstown, Aliwal North, Lady Grey, Maclear and Ugie.

The aid scheme is based on a 20% subsidy on a maximum expense of R20 000 for communication and alarm systems, lighting, fencing or burglar proofing.

The manager of the East Cape Agricultural Union, Mr Rory O'Moore, said he had been inundated with telephone calls during the past two days from angry farmers in the corridor districts of Cathcart, Stutterheim, King William's Town, Komga and Kei Road.

The union will meet with unhappy farmers tomorrow.

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## Fifth farmer murdered

Crime Reporter *Star*

*3115143*  
An elderly farmer was found murdered on his farm near Ladybrand in the Free State on Saturday. He was the fifth farmer to have been murdered in the province this year and the 21st since December 1991.

Free State police spokesman Major Andre van Deventer said C A Poolman had been stabbed in the head with a garden fork.

He was found by family members on Saturday, but

had apparently been murdered on Wednesday.

His family tried to get hold of him by telephone on Thursday, but received no reply. *3 Gen*

He said there were signs of a struggle outside the house on the farm Manchester. It appeared Poolman had been assaulted outside the house before managing to drag himself inside.

There was nothing missing from the house, but police do not suspect a political motive behind the murder.

# Farmers march to township

CT 31/5/93

JOHANNESBURG. — At least 56 armed and angry farmers marched to the Boitumelong township at Bloemhof, Western Transvaal, at the weekend to present a memorandum to the African National Congress calling for an end to a consumer boycott there, the ANC said yesterday.

ANC spokesman Mr Rankoa Molefe said the farmers called for a halt to future marches, and

an end to the consumer boycott.

Violence flared in the township recently after the town's entire black workforce was sacked as a result of the boycott.

Nineteen Boitumelong residents were arrested after allegedly stoning police.

At a meeting last Wednesday between the Bloemhof Business Centre and residents, brokered by the regional peace secretariat, agreement was reached on

ending the boycott and the "unconditional release" of those detained, Mr Molefe said.

Police reneged on this, which led to a continuation of the boycott, the ANC alleged.

Workers had also not been reinstated, Mr Molefe said.

In another incident a pig was thrown into an Indian-owned shop, apparently in retaliation to the boycott, Mr Molefe said. — Sapa

# Parastatals boost capex

From TIM MARSLAND

JOHANNESBURG. — Capital spending by parastatals is starting to pick up again after sharp real declines during the recession.

Eskom had budgeted for a 25% increase in capex at R4,5bn against R3,61bn for 1993/92, a spokesman for the electricity supplier said.

This was against an expected inflation rate of about 12% for the year.

More than R500m of Eskom's capex formed part of the organisation's R3bn plan to electrify poor areas of the country.

Telkom is to spend R2,2bn for 1994/93 — up 7% from a previous R2,05bn. This would be spent on projects such as upgrading client services.

Transnet, under which SAA falls, has budgeted for capex of R1,1bn in the current year against a previous R1,5bn.

A spokesman said Transnet's capex

11/6/93

## Recession's real declines reversed

varied extensively from year to year because of the high cost of capital goods it required. However, the aircraft purchased by SAA were bought under operating leases so were not part of capex.

One economist pointed out the parastatals had cut capex sharply in the previous year and the latest figures could indicate the trend was flattening out. This could also be an early sign of economic recovery.

However, most of the capital market funding the organisations needed for this year had already been raised, spokesmen for the organisations said at the weekend.

"Our needs have been dwarfed this year by the government's requirements," one treasurer said.

An Eskom spokesman said funding had been completed for the current year, adding that the entire requirement of R590m for its electrification bond had been raised.

However, he said the electricity supplier could pre-fund for the next financial year if interest rates justified it closer to the time.

A Transnet spokesman said about R600m had still to be raised from the domestic markets.

Telkom treasury manager Willie Landman said Telkom needed very

little from the domestic market because of an unexpected improvement in cash flows.

He said about R100m could still be raised, depending on whether cash flows continued to improve. However, Telkom would look at the commercial paper market to fulfil this need.

The Land Bank, which provides financing for farmers, did not require any funds from the capital market this year, a spokesman said. However, it could look at raising R1,2bn from the money market, depending on how the wheat crop panned out.

A wheat board spokesman said it was too early to make a forecast at this stage as to the state of the crop. However, wheat plantings were normal up to now and the crop's outcome would depend on weather patterns.

Development Bank GM Nick Christodoulou said the bank reviewed its finances every few months, but at this stage, saw no need for funds from the market.

# Policy qualms stall farm sales

CT 2/6/93

3

By MAGGIE ROWLEY  
Property Editor

UNCERTAINTY over a possible new land policy under a new government coupled with the political and economic climate has impacted negatively on farm sales, leading brokers said this week.

There are currently more than 500 farms in the Western and southern Cape on the market with very few buyers on the horizon.

Jan Hofmeyr of Seeff farm division said that sales had dropped steadily since 1991 when the group sold 30 farms and small-holdings.

Last year 11 sales were confirmed by the organisation, with most of these taking place in the first half of the year.

"Since mid-1992 however the market has been very quiet and in the first five months of this year we have had only four sales," he said.

The drop-off in foreign investment, he said, had been significant.

In 1991, seven of the sales had

been to foreigners with only one sale to a foreign investor being made last year.

"And so far this year we have not had a single sale to an overseas investor."

"While inquiries are still coming from foreigners very few sales are going through. They are definitely adopting a wait and see policy."

Hofmeyr accredited the drop-off in investor confidence to uncertainty over future land policy and talk of redistribution of non-productive farm lands on the one hand and the political uncertainty and general economic climate on the other.

Other brokers canvassed said the extension of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act to farm-workers from May 1 had caused concern to some farmers.

John Wilmot of Pam Golding Properties said while sales this year had been slightly better than last year, the market remained far from buoyant.

"We have made six sales but the market is far from buoyant as the investor confidence, particu-

larly foreign remains nervous.

"It is impossible to read the market at the moment as it is very unpredictable."

Domestic interest from the Transvaal was still reasonably strong.

"Those businessmen who are not joining the chicken run are needing to put their money somewhere and many feel productive farm land offers them a much better prospect under a new government than investments on the stock market," he said.

Realty 1 Durr's Dick Durr said while sales had dipped, this year had gone extremely well for the group with sales of R20m, including one to an overseas investor, being notched up in the first five months of the year.

However since the assassination of Chris Hani there had been a drop-off in interest, particularly foreign.

"Where previously we were seeing quite a lot of interest from Swiss and German investors they are now more nervous and waiting for some clearer direction," he said.

# Asea back in SA under new name

S1 Times (Buss) 6/16/93

THE world's largest power generation group, ABB, has gradually bought its way back into SA and plans to use it as a base for expansion in sub-Saharan Africa.

ABB represents the merged operations of Asea of Sweden and Brown Boveri of Switzerland. It operates in 140 countries, has 210 000 employees and sales of \$30-billion.

Sanctions forced the Asea division of the combined group to quit SA in 1987. But Brown Boveri Company (BBC) stayed.

Changes in SA's political direction in 1990 encouraged Asea to return. It invested more than R100-million in re-

By **DON ROBERTSON**

establishing its presence last June.

This involved the establishment of Brown Boveri Technology, ABB Industry, ABB Ferralin, ABB Powertech and ABB Services, which had operated under the Powertech or BBC banners.

The combined group makes turbines, boilers, transformers, high-voltage switch gear and electrical systems. It is also involved in process automation and servicing.

Three months ago, ABB Sub-Saharan Africa was established in Sandton to oversee the group's operations. The office is headed by regional

president Lave Lindberg.

ABB Sub-Sahara co-ordinates the operations of 11 companies in 45 countries south of the Sahara.

Mr Lindberg says about a third of the international group's taxed profit of \$1,1-billion is generated in Africa. He believes that the manufacture of electrical components will double in SA in the next three to four years provided production costs are kept down and the economy improves.

"Europe does not have much time for Africa and is reluctant to become involved. SA, on the other hand, understands this market. Rather than be a multinational in Africa, we will become multi-domestic. SA

will become a major supplier to the rest of Africa.

"Sales and engineering will be carried south of the Sahara, but manufacture will be in SA."

Mr Lindberg says most projects in Africa are financed by aid agencies. ABB Sub-Sahara "must improve its association with the World Bank and other aid centres".

Mr Lindberg returned to SA three months ago after eight years abroad.

He says: "Productivity is still below average, although this is probably because there has been little investment. It seems that companies merely try to stay ahead of their opposition. Customer care is also a problem."

# Call to halt land transfers

Political Staff

(3) 28/6/93

MUFFLED disputes on land issues boiled over yesterday with a government-appointed forum calling for a freeze on homeland land transfers and interest groups calling for the scrapping of the Land Affairs department.

The discord follows the resignation of Land Affairs Deputy Minister Mr Johan Scheepers.

Land Rights Advisory Forum chairman Professor Louise Tager called for an immediate freeze on all land transactions involving the former Development Trust and other state land.

Regional and Land Affairs Minister Mr Andre Fourie said the proposal to freeze the transfer of trust land had "merit" and undertook to discuss this with the relevant organisations.

Prof Tager said the transfer of state land now would be a serious mistake, removing an important resource which would be needed to address the "problem of landlessness".

The National Land Committee, which advises the ANC, repeated its call for a moratorium on the sale of state land and suggested the Land Affairs department be scrapped.

R50,97m set for  
farm protection

2/10/1973  
3 Political State

NEARLY R51 million  
had been made avail-  
able to protect some  
farms and smallhold-  
ings, Law and Order  
Minister Mr Hernus  
Kriel said yesterday.

He said R50,97m  
would be used to pay for  
security measures.



# R3m trust to help farmers

③ CT10/6/93

Political Staff

A R3-MILLION trust fund is to be launched tomorrow, with British government backing, to promote small-scale farming in the Western Cape.

The three-year project, financed by two local and two foreign donors, is aimed at supporting disadvantaged small-scale farmers in the area.

Dr David Catling of the Land Development Unit at the University of the Western Cape said yesterday that the initiative would have a profound influence on smallholder agriculture in South Africa.

The new organisation, the Cape Land Develop-

ment Trust, was a partnership between the University of the Western Cape, the Independent Development Trust, Kagiso Trust, FARM-Africa in London, the British Overseas Development Administration and Christian Aid.

Dr Catling said it was expected that the programme would attract further interest and support in South Africa. "FARM-Africa, with considerable experience of working with small farmers in Africa, has six other projects in East Africa and has been interested in establishing a major programme in South Africa for some years."

# Project to uplift smallholder farmers

③ ARG 10/6/93

□ Multi-million rand Cape initiative launched

**SHARON SOROUR**  
Labour Reporter

A UNIQUE multi-million rand initiative to support disadvantaged smallholder farmers in the Cape — from the Namibian border to Knysna — was launched today.

Administered by the Cape Land Development Trust, the project is expected to have a profound influence on smallholder agriculture, said Dr David Catling of the Land Development Unit at the University of the Western Cape.

The initiative is a partnership between the university, the Independent Development Trust, the Kagiso Trust and the London-based FARM-Africa, the Overseas Development Administration of the United Kingdom and Christian Aid.

The budget for the first three

years of the project is more than R3 million, financed by two local and two overseas donors.

The trust was inaugurated at UWC today and the trust deed signed by trustees representing the communities involved, the university, the donors and FARM-Africa.

Dr Catling said the programme was expected to attract interest and support in South Africa and overseas.

UWC's land development unit was established in 1992 to support small-scale farmers in the region from the Namibian border down to the Southern Cape.

According to a brochure on the unit, smallholder farmers and herders in this region have an unfavourable land tenure system and poor resources of capital, water, inputs and available technology.

"Most of the farming communities are found in 22 isolated church settlements known as coloured rural reserves, which were formally exposed to dispossession of land and in some instances forced removals."

The project includes small community vegetable gardens, widespread in the rural reserves and black townships of Cape Town.

The unit undertakes research and development programmes in conjunction with UWC staff, the Elsenburg Agriculture Development Institute and Stellenbosch University.

"The primary aim is to assist in raising the productivity of the land so that rural communities become more self-reliant, generate marketable surpluses and improve their living standards."

## Ex-Koevoet to protect farms

VRYHEID. — Former members of Koevoet and 32 Battalion are being incorporated into farm security units.

Free State Agricultural Union president Dr Pieter Gous told a meeting of the Afrikaner Volksfront here that violence should be a last resort.

He was reacting to a statement by farmers that the murder of more of their number would be a declaration of war.

He said the winners would take all within five years. — Sapa

26/9/11  
J 11/6/83

## ANC alarmed by farming report

APR 11/5/93  
JOHANNESBURG. — The African National Congress has expressed a serious concern at reports that a large number of farmers are considering giving up farming, mainly because of security problems.

The ANC said that brutal attacks had to be condemned in the strongest terms, but leaving farms or the proposed deployment of controversial units such as Koevoet and 32 Battalion were not the answer to the problem. (3)

● The Afrikaner Volksunie has called on the ANC to admonish its Youth League in the Western Cape for refusing to adhere to a call banning the chant "Kill the Boer, Kill the Farmer".

AVU leader Andries Beyers said in a statement the ANC leadership was "obliged to bring its obstreperous Youth League under control".

● The Azanian People's Youth Organisation has defended the use of the slogan, saying restrictions would be "an insult to our revolutionary objectives". — Sapa.

Bold project to advance black and Coloured farmers

# SA 'could feed the continent'

**FRANS ESTERHUYSE**

Weekend Argus  
Political Correspondent

**INTERNATIONAL** initiatives aimed at tackling Africa's food production problems soon will have an impact on the Western Cape.

The exciting, new development has been made possible by South Africa's changing political climate as the country moves towards a nonracial democratic system of government.

The South African side of the initiative was launched at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) this week by a major new Cape-based trust with British government backing.

The Western Cape project, based at UWC's Land Development Unit, is aimed at supporting disadvantaged black and coloured farmers who are emerging from decades of neglect and oppression under apartheid.

The farmers to be helped live in an area larger than Britain and stretching from the Namibian border to the southern Cape coast. They will benefit from international expertise and methods used in helping rural communities of Africa with farming problems.

Project director Dr David Catling, who received part of his early education in Cape

**Black and coloured farmers emerging from decades of neglect under apartheid will be helped in a major initiative launched in the Western Cape this week.**

Town and Stellenbosch, is an agriculturalist with wide international experience.

He worked for 20 years in Asia and the Far East with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

He told Weekend Argus the project was attracting much interest and support in South Africa and abroad. It could even lead to the development of more such projects in other parts of South Africa.

Dr Catling's considerable international experience included agricultural and pest management studies and research in India, Thailand, Bangladesh, Burma, Vietnam, South Korea, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The Western Cape project is being administered by the Cape Land Development Trust, set up this week at a ceremony at the UWC where the trust deed was signed by the trustees representing the communities and organisations involved.

The initiative is a partnership between the university, the Independent Development Trust, the Kagiso Trust, the London-based Farm-Africa, the Overseas Development Administration of the United King-

dom and Christian Aid.

The project budget for the first three years totals more than R3 million, to be financed by two local and two external donors.

Farm-Africa, with considerable experience of working with small farmers in Africa, has six other projects in East Africa and has been interested in establishing a major project in South Africa for some years.

The director of Farm-Africa, Mr David Campbell, who attended this week's launch at UWC, said his organisation believed the small farmers and herdsmen of Africa had the capacity to feed the continent if they could be supported properly.

His organisation had been active in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. This was the first time it had ventured into southern Africa.

In a message explaining why his organisation was working in South Africa, Mr Campbell said: "The political, social and economic development of South Africa is of critical importance to the future of the continent. Any organisation with a long-term commitment to Africa must be concerned with what happens in the south, and, if it has something of val-

ARG 12/6/93  
ue to contribute, it should try to do so, in spite of the risks and difficulties.

"Anyone who has worked in Africa will know how the poison of apartheid can seep into white-black relationships throughout the continent.

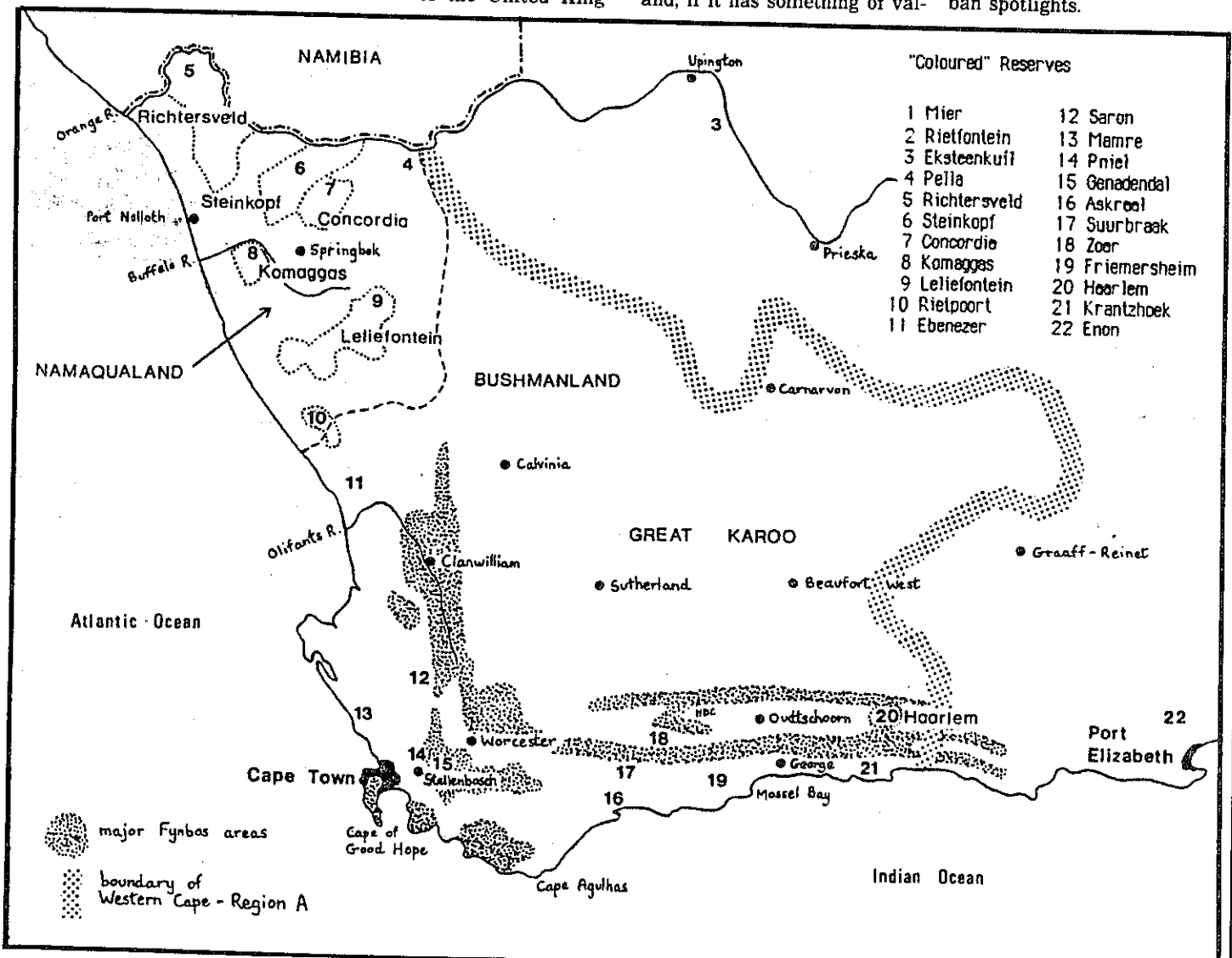
"The causes of apartheid go back over centuries and the responsibility for what has happened extends far beyond South Africa.

"For Farm, working in partnership with African communities, it is important that we should support the new South Africa."

Mr Campbell said his organisation aimed to develop new approaches and strategies to tackle Africa's food production problems and then to apply these more widely. This would be done largely by working through other organisations and governments.

"In this way, we can make the best use of relatively meagre resources. The South African project provides us with an excellent opportunity to do just this."

Professor Aubrey Redlinghuis, dean of the faculty of arts at UWC, said that for many years the university's Institute for Social Development had focused on rural issues as one of its prime areas of research. Initially, the concern was to expose injustices perpetrated in areas far away from the urban spotlights.



**HELP COMING:** The map shows the Western Cape region where disadvantaged farmers will be helped.

# Land tax<sup>(3)</sup> structure the future challenge

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The redistribution of wealth and rural land reform programmes are likely to have a dramatic impact on tax structures and policies.

So says Professor Riel Franzsen of the University of Pretoria's department of mercantile law.

He told delegates to the annual Property Owner's Association (Sapoa) convention that property tax was the most important tax levied at local government level.

It was likely to account for 40 percent of local government revenue and 3,7 percent of estimated total revenue for 1993/4, he said.

But property tax was currently levied only in "white" cities and towns.

There was no tax on rural land — land outside municipal boundaries — although its possible introduction was being researched and widely propagated by some political groupings.

Low-cost housing on city outskirts, including townships and squatter camps, was making more and more demands on local authorities in terms of land provision, lengthy service connections and huge bills for sprawling areas difficult to clean and maintain.

The question now was how local authorities could broaden their tax bases to include the inhabitants of informal townships or squatter settlements.

"And to what extent can the present property tax base be extended to finance mergers of white and black areas, and to upgrade public services in the latter?" asked Professor Franzsen.

Thorough research was needed on local government finance issues and should include the possible introduction of further user charges, betterment levies and a rural land tax.

# Land <sup>③</sup>~~②~~ restitution essential, says Keys

BRUCE CAMERON  
Business Staff

ANC 17/6/93

RESTITUTION, which could cost billions, would have to be made as part of the process of reconciliation to people who were deprived of land by apartheid, Finance Minister Mr Derek Keys said today.

At a Press conference in Cape Town Mr Keys said:

● Delays in reaching a new debt standstill arrangement with the current deal due to expire at the end of the year.

● South Africa was likely to be recognised as a "country in transition" by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, thus relieving pressure on the manufacturing industry.

● Very little money was available for further pay increases for teachers and civil servants.

He repeated his predictions that the economy would show a positive growth this year.

Mr Keys agreed with the ANC view that restitution would have to be made to people deprived of land during the apartheid years.

He suggested the money would come from government borrowings.

"I think restitution is part of reconciliation."

He said certain needs were so pressing and justified the country would have to bear the pain of the cost. He gave no estimate of the cost.

Mr Keys warned high expectations could not be successfully managed without more being done for the underprivileged.

Mr Keys said the fourth arrangement covering the remaining US \$5 billion still in the debt standstill was being delayed by the need to get "political endorsement over a fairly wide spectrum" on the draft arrangement negotiated with international banks last month.

Mr Keys said he did not want to talk too much about the negotiations with other political groupings.

He confirmed the government was hopeful that the full benefits of membership of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank could be achieved this year.

# 'Land the tool for future wealth redistribution'

□ Most whites not ready for changes, says Keegan

**CLIVE SAWYER**  
Municipal Reporter

DEPUTY-MAYOR Clive Keegan says land could be used in future as the main tool of redistribution of wealth — as is being done in Zimbabwe.

He was speaking at a conference on the metropolitan development process, hosted by the SA Institute of Town and Regional Planners.

He said most white people in Cape Town were not ready for the profound changes which were coming, as evidenced by the war of words about the Du Noon informal settlement proposals.

The land question was the most politically volatile issue of the moment.

The Group Areas Act had worked perfectly in Cape Town, complicating the challenge of "rolling back" inequities in the city.

Reuniting the city would need the co-operation of the private and public sectors, but at present nothing was being done.

It was extremely dangerous that while the city was going through its most intense period of urbanisation, little was being done to develop low-cost housing.

Continued urban sprawl could not be permitted because of the threat to rural and agricultural areas, and especially because of the tourist potential of the area. The city had to be "densified".

Ways to do this included building infill housing, subdividing plots and using vacant inner-city land.



**Mr Clive Keegan**

But this was made difficult by the high cost of inner-city land, which was more than the poor could afford. State low-interest loans and land transfers at no cost could help.

Mr Keegan called for "banking" of strategic publicly-owned land, rather than disposing of it now.

He warned against "gentrification" of areas built for low income dwellers, and said laws should be made to stop it.

Land would be one of the principal instruments of redistribution.

Noting fears by existing property owners that redevelopment of District Six and the Du Noon site could affect property values, Mr Keegan said this could happen unless urban solutions were well designed.

He called on planners to include serving the public interest in their code of ethics.

A return to Utopian visions in planning was necessary, Mr Keegan said.

ARLF 8/6/93  
3



# Off goes R900 m farm debt

③ ARG 19/6/93

**ALIDE DASNOIS**

Business staff

NEARLY R900 million was sliced off farmers' debt in 1992, mostly because of the R2,4 billion government aid package to farmers, says Boland Bank in its latest review of agriculture.

Total agricultural debt, which had risen from R1,4 billion in 1970 to a peak of nearly R16,5 billion in 1991, dropped back to R15,6 billion last year.

In real terms, farming debt has fallen since 1985, Boland Bank says.

With total assets valued at R69,4 billion, farmers are in a relatively favourable position, as assets are more than four times as high as debt.

In the 1970s farmers could pay off

their debt with about two years' farming income. Successive droughts in the 1980s weakened this ratio to about 3,4 years. But last year's aid package left farmers with debt valued at only 2,3 years of farming income, the bank says.

"Ironically the drought has led to an improvement in the overall debt position of farmers, particularly crop farmers".

Input costs, which rose faster than producer prices over the 10 years to 1992, seem to have slowed, the bank says. Last year the average price of farming inputs rose only 6,7 percent compared with an average rise in producer prices of 13,4 percent.

The bank expects this trend to continue. But on the downside for farmers, producer prices may be depressed as local and foreign markets are freed from controls, particularly if output increases.

# Land law bans racism

CT 19/6/93 (3)

## Political Staff

ALL racial restrictions on the ownership of land are to be banned.

The new bill, which was tabled in Parliament yesterday, will make it illegal to transfer or lease property on the basis of a person's racial or ethnic group.

The General Law Second Amendment Bill, as amended by the Joint Committee of Parliament on Foreign, Regional and Land Affairs and Tourism, also cancels any existing racial restrictions in title deeds or leases.

In the past, the government has refused to consider any measure which would outlaw racially motivated behaviour between individuals or companies and individuals.

These laws are found in Britain in the form of the Race Relations Act.

And the US has its own version in civil liberties legislation.

Both of these pieces of legislation enable parties found guilty of racism to be prosecuted.

The new South African legislation, at least in terms of property rights, in fact goes further than US law where racially restricted property enclaves and clubs, such as golf clubs, are still allowed to exist.

The amended bill, which is likely to be passed by Parliament next week, makes it illegal for property to be sold or leased to "any person of particular population or ethnic group or who is not of particular population or ethnic group".

The bill also provides that any existing lease or title deed which contains these restrictions should be cancelled.

# PAC

CT 22/6/93

# bid to talk to farmers

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Pan-Africanist Congress yesterday invited white farmers to a summit to discuss a political solution to existing hostilities between them and the organisation's armed wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, Apla.

PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu said yesterday that his organisation wanted to meet "as soon as possible" the representatives of white farmers to discuss "issues of common interest".

Dozens of farmers around the country have been murdered and the PAC has accepted responsibility for attacks on farmers by Apla members, saying farmers were a legitimate target.

## 'No end to armed struggle'

OFS Agricultural Union president Mr Piet Gous said that if such talks could prevent only one further killing of a farmer, it had to be regarded as a positive move. However, farmers were not prepared to negotiate across graves and the PAC would have to prove its commitment to peace before they could talk.

Mr Makwetu stressed that the PAC would not suspend the armed struggle as a precondition for the meeting.

Alluding to recent statements by the PAC that farmers were legitimate targets of Apla attacks, Mr Makwetu said his organisation was fighting anyone who was opposed to the liberation of blacks.

Mr Gous said it had always been agricultural union policy that farmers who abused labourers had to be criminally prosecuted and he called on the PAC to prove abuse in court, saying that the union would not protect such farmers.

# Union warns on prosecution

Own Correspondent  
23/5/93

PRETORIA. — The South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) will have to resort to other options if the attorney-general decides against prosecuting ANC Youth League president Mr Peter Mokaba for his continued use of the "Kill the farmer, kill the Boer" slogan.

This was said by SAAU president Mr Boet Fourie at a press conference here yesterday. He said if the attorney-general decided not to prosecute the SAAU would, among other things, apply for a private prosecution.

# Private hospitals scrutinised

Buss. Day 11/6/93

PRETORIA — A committee of inquiry had been appointed to investigate the workings of the private hospital industry, the National Health Department announced at the weekend. The committee will examine all matters relating to the control of private hospitals and will make recommendations to Health Minister Rina Venter.

It will also consider the enforcement of quality standards at private hospitals and the desirability of further deregulation and investment in the industry.

Health authorities and developers had experienced such problems implementing the industry's current regulations that an in-depth investigation could no longer be postponed, the department said.

It had been approved by Cabinet in April.

The committee would include Unisa professor Sas Strauss as chairman and

ADRIAN HADLAND

UCT professor Brian Kantor, Public Enterprises and Privatisation Office CE Evert van Eeden and Health Department representative Hans van Heerden, the department said.

One committee member said problems which had given rise to immense dissatisfaction in the industry included the need for government approval before private hospitals could be established and restrictive regulations on the technical structure of hospital buildings and wards.

Individuals or organisations interested in submitting evidence or inputs to the committee were required to do so before July 9, the Health Department said.

It was hoped a final report with recommendations would be passed on to the health minister by the end of August.

# Special offer for Welverdiend people

Buss. Day 11/6/93

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) is prepared to pay about R1m for the resettlement of the Welverdiend community near Lichtenburg in the western Transvaal, although the disputed land is on sale for about R78 000.

Transvaal Rural Action Committee western Transvaal fieldworker Andries Buffel said last week the land owner, Willem Mouton, was willing to sell the farm to the Welverdiend community.

A TPA spokesman said on Friday it had not been aware of this offer, but would "investigate the matter".

Action committee co-ordinator Theresa Plewman said the TPA had promised to give R8 500 to each of the 110 families in

MARIANNE MERTEN

Welverdiend. It would also pay for transportation to the nearby Boikhutso township and the new site. This would cost more than R1m.

In what could become a test case, 10 Welverdiend residents appeared last week in the Lichtenburg Special Regional Court on trespassing charges, but the hearing was adjourned until June 22.

The Welverdiend claim fell outside the Commission on Land Allocation's mandate because the land had been privately owned since 1989. The commission could hear only claims regarding former Development Trust land, Buffel said.

# Lawyers denied access to land data

Buss. Day 11/6/93

PRETORIA — Vital land ownership information collected by the now defunct departments of Development Aid and Co-operation and Development was not available for public scrutiny, the Legal Resource Centre was told recently.

The centre appealed to the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation yesterday to subpoena the department of Regional and Land Affairs for the files.

Representing a 90-family community from Doornkop, near Ventersdorp, which was forcefully removed in 1978, centre lawyers said the files contained land ownership deeds and papers vital to the full restoration of the community's properties.

The application by the Doornkop community for the return of its land is one of many being heard by the advisory commission as a result of the Racially-based Land Measures Act of 1991.

Seven communities, including the Gama-puru, the Masha Tribal Authority, the Batlounge tribe and the Schmidtsdrift Tswana community, have successfully

ADRIAN HADLAND

gained restitution through the commission. The advisory commission has agreed to look into the matter of the files.

Doornkop community council head Hendrik Motaung told the commission yesterday how 200 families were moved into Bophuthatswana without warning in 1978.

Stripped of arable land, livestock and farming equipment, the community was consigned to an existence of terrible poverty and hardship, Motaung said.

Motaung said the whole community was desperate to return to their homes.

Offers of financial assistance had been received from the private sector, dependent on the outcome of the application.

Also heard yesterday was a request for additional land to be returned to the Magopa community, which was forcefully removed in 1984. Having been the first community to have some of its land restored to them last year, the Magopa applied yesterday for ownership of the rest.

Star 2/6/93

# Unity call to foil terrorism

By Dirk Nel  
Northern Transvaal  
Bureau

③ Gen

PIETERSBURG — Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) president Dries Bruwer yesterday called for a united strategy by farmers — regardless of political differences — to resist terrorism.

"The purpose of attacks on isolated farms is to force us to leave the land," he told a meeting of district agricul-

tural union representatives in Pietersburg.

It was the first of several gatherings scheduled by the union for this week to discuss farm security.

Bruwer, accompanied by TAU executive members, will visit Schweizer-Reneke today and Middelburg tomorrow.

Union security spokesman Herman Vercuiel urged farmers to upgrade their alarm, lighting and communication

systems as a matter of urgency with the money recently made available by the Government.

He said the discovery of a map dropped at the scene of a recent farm murder at Letsitele near Tzaneen proved that the attack had been well planned by the assailants.

Conceding that there was a fine line between "terrorism" and crime, Vercuiel said terrorism and crime flourished "on the wave of revolution".

# Little demand for pricey game farms

GAME FARMS in the eastern Transvaal remain overpriced, though farms occasionally change hands at a high R4 000 a hectare in spite of a general lack of demand.

Nelspruit based Kella Prince Properties director Navarre de Villiers ascribed this to the ambitions of private sellers with game camps in the larger, tourist-oriented reserves.

"With the increasing commercialisation of game camps in larger reserves like Timbavati and Sabi Sands, private property owners in these reserves are holding out for higher prices."

As the tourist-oriented reserves made up a large proportion of available game properties in the eastern Transvaal, the influence on prices in the region was considerable.

He said although asking prices ranged up to a high R4 000 a hectare (sometimes for undeveloped land), the few prospective buyers generally resisted price levels above R3 000. Most interest came from buyer consortiums, as well as from tourist reserves considering expansion.

"The overseas market, though, has evaporated," he said.

Although the market would pick up only after a political settlement, the removal of game fences around farms bordering the Kruger National Park could stimulate buyer interest temporarily. The private reserves most likely to benefit were Klaserie, Sabi Sands and Timbavati.

De Villiers said the drought had not affected demand as much as supply.

"A large proportion of game farms

ANDREW KRUMM

in this region are owned by Free State farmers. As a result of the financial burden of the drought in the Free State, some farmers have placed their eastern Transvaal game farms on the market."

Western Transvaal-based Property Network chairman Piet Van Rensburg, however, held a different view on the effects on the drought.

"A lot of land in the western Transvaal, especially north of Koedoeskop to the Limpopo, has been almost irreparably damaged.

As a result, both farming and game farming interest in the region north of Koedoeskop to the Limpopo was minimal, with prices ranging from about R1 250 a hectare to a low R450 a hectare further north.

However, from the Magaliesburg to Koedoeskop, where water was more freely available, prices were reasonable, ranging from R2 000 to R1 250 a hectare.

Although the market for game farms was quiet in the western Transvaal, urban-based professionals had shown some cautious interest. "It seems executives are buying weekend getaways not just for themselves, but for the mileage they get out of it from foreign visitors and friends."

Tzaneen-based Leo Senekal Estates MD Leo Senekal said there was little movement in the game farm market in the northern Transvaal.

"We have plenty of stock, but few buyers," he said. Prices ranged from about R1 000 to R1 500 a hectare.

TRACTOR SALES ~~4/6/93~~ ③ Gen

## The time is ripe <sup>FM</sup> 4/6/93

The scowls on the faces of agricultural-implementation dealers are slowly turning into grins. Farmers in the summer rainfall areas are set to reap one of their best crops in years. And for the first time in decades, some tractor prices are coming down and farmers can at last think about replacing their old models.

Tractors powered by engines bigger than 5l can be imported duty-free because the State-owned diesel-engine manufacturer, ADE, no longer enjoys protection on that range.

Thanks to overproduction overseas, imported tractors are not priced out of the market anymore. In addition, local manufacturers are marketing "affordable tractors" — simple units consisting of engines, gearboxes, final drives and wheels, without the add-ons that thrust prices into the realm of imported luxury cars. They are selling for between 9,5% and 27,7% less than the models they replaced or complemented and several are fitted with imported engines.

ADE MD Fritz Korte says duty used to be charged on all tractors fitted with imported engines and assembled in SA.

ADE engines are between 2l and 7l. The maximum duty for a tractor fitted with an imported engine in that range was 40% of its excise value, which was set at 70% of its retail value. For tractors fitted with bigger engines than ADE made, the duty was 20% of their excise value, which was also set at 70% of their retail value.

"But the duty payable was calculated on the set value of the tractor," Korte says. "So as inflation raised tractor prices, the percentage of the duty payable declined. By mid-1992 the duty payable on a tractor with a six-cylinder 2l to 7l engine had effectively disappeared.

"Because the duty on tractors with engines bigger than 7l had disappeared, ADE asked the Board on Tariffs & Trade to withdraw the protection it enjoyed on six-cylinder engines of 5l to 7l. At about the same time, the rand value used as the basis for calculating the duty was also reduced, further cutting the duty payable for tractors with 2l to 5l engines. It's about 10% now."

Among the factors that have kept prices down are ADE's conservative increases on its tractor engines — 0,3% in 1991, 1,5% in 1992 and no increase this year. Still, the company made an after-tax profit of R20m in financial 1992 and forecasts a R17m-R18m after-tax profit in fiscal 1993, which

### BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

grain farmers were battling to stand their ground after several bad years and a disastrous drought. But this year there's a good crop. An 8 Mt harvest is expected, four times bigger than last year's and worth R4bn, and that's enough to get any true-blue farmer to reach for the cheque book.

But many still have to buy on credit. That will lock them into financial agreements for three to five years, which means they will be wagering that those will be good agricultural years.

Coming off such a low base, it's only 330 tractors. But the industry hit rock bottom last year and would be grateful for even a 10% increase of 220 tractors. At an average R100 000 each, that will boost turnover by R22m.

It won't end there, Prinsloo says. "Though farmers are still heavily burdened with debt, their purchases will probably extend to miscellaneous implements such as ploughs, planters and cultivators."

He obviously knows his customers, for whom gambling on the elements is part of the business. A year ago, summer rainfall

ends on June 30. Its exports are worth R50m a year and growing, Korte says.

SA Agricultural Machinery Association secretary Jim Rankin, who is also an independent consultant, cautiously forecasts a 10% increase in sales of tractors and allied equipment this year. But chairman Jan Prinsloo says there could be a 15% increase to around 2,540.

That's a far cry from the 24 862 sold in 1981, the year before it became mandatory to fit ADE engines to tractors or pay horrendous import duties.

A 15% increase doesn't sound like much.





# Farmers urged to step back from war

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

③ Gen

Farmers are being urged to take a step back from declaring "war" on blacks by not taking too literally inflammatory statements such as "Kill the boer".

They are being told at a series of meetings throughout the Transvaal that such a conflict had to be avoided at all costs, and to put their efforts into becoming more security conscious on their land.

The new approach comes from the right-wing Transvaal Agricultural Union days before talks about farm security are held with the Government.

It was the first time, since 10 000 farmers at Potchefstroom three weeks ago took up the call of "war" against Apla and Umkhonto we Sizwe that farmers have been urged to temper their approach to the spate of attacks on farms and smallholdings across the country.

This year there have been 126 such attacks, with a number of fatalities.

Herman Vercueil, chairman of the TAU's security committee, said at a meeting of the

union's central Transvaal regional committee's executive in Pretoria yesterday that a white-black clash had to be prevented "at all costs". Similar meetings have already been held at Pietersburg and Nylstroom with another scheduled for today at Middelburg.

He revealed that new security plans for farmers were being formulated and these would be finalised on Monday. Talks on security will be held between the South African Agricultural Union and Government on Wednesday.

Vercueil said the R50 million being provided by the Government to aid security on farms was not adequate and was, the TAU believed, an indication that the Government was not particularly interested in the plight of the farmer.

Farmers were urged to concentrate on providing communication links with neighbours, to teach wives and children about security and first aid, and become affiliated to the commandos.

In addition, they should not look sideways at the "good and trustworthy people" (workers) who help on the farms.



**SORROW AND RAGE:** Surrounded by things that remind him of his murdered wife Lettie, Rudolf Opperman speaks angrily of the collapse of law and order that he believes is responsible for her death.

# They're refusing to succumb to APLA

Star 5/6/93

③ Gen

**EAST LONDON.** — Farmers attacked by APLA along the Transkei border are not planning to retreat to safer pastures. But their colleagues elsewhere in the Border region, particularly around King William's Town, are being driven off their land.

One King William's Town farmer, Des Hofart, has suffered two arson attacks during the past week. Standing in his fields, where grazing valued at R20 000 was destroyed, he said he felt there was an orchestrated campaign against farmers. Some had received death threats.

"We believe they are trying to terrorise us to abandon our farms so they can take over."

Hofart said Hanover farmer Ralph Burger's farm had been burnt three times, and his cattle hacked to death.

Now — with his farmhouse in ruins — he tries to run his farm from King William's Town.

Not all the victims were white. Hofart said Cameron Gungqwa, who had lost stock worth almost R1 million, had also abandoned his farm.

Border farmers Richard and Jenny Trow, who survived an APLA attack, said they felt as safe on their farm as anywhere else in South Africa. "No one is neurotic here. We are aware of the danger but it will not change our life-

**BORDER agrarians will stay put. However, farmers in the King William's Town district have been forced off their land, writes CLAIRE KEETON.**

style," they said.

This week a house on an Aliwal North farm 10 km from the Transkei border was destroyed in what police believe was an arson attack.

An elderly farmer who lives alone said he did not worry about the situation, although APLA had become a danger.

Interviewed on his stoep within sight of the border, he said he was born on the farm in 1903 and would not move. He carries a gun "like every farmer". On a shelf inside was an array of trophies for target shooting.

## Stock theft

In some ways the pub in the small border village of Komga tells the region's story — no one drinks there without a shotgun close at hand.

Farmer Andria Myburg was sure APLA was behind the stock losses he suffered during the past month.

His fences were cut in five places and he lost 62 sheep and five cattle.

Another farmer's

600 m fence was at 10 m intervals; he lost 10 cattle and 18 sheep. "You can't farm properly if you have security problems. If you lose 200 sheep, that is R20 000. Any businessman with occasional losses like that will pull out."

Myburg said farmers in the Dordrecht region were "not in a panic". He knew of none who had left their farm.

However, his brother Hans, who farmed near Lady Grey, had been forced to abandon his land. His house and car were burnt out last year by an APLA member who was later convicted in the East London Supreme Court of arson.

"I was driven off the land and now I am sitting in Cradock," he said.

Another elderly farmer said that although there was plenty of water on his farm, it was worth nothing.

"Nobody would want it on the Transkei border, not even if I gave it away. I know we have some of the best farms in the district, but today I can't get a cent for my farm."

Asked whether he would welcome AWB patrols, Myburg said: "We don't want them there. I have a good relationship with my neighbours (in Transkei) and would not bring in people to harass them."

— Elnews.

Star 5/6/93

# Angry farmers dig in

**AS ATTACKS on white farmers increase, the eastern Transvaal mobilises itself against what some see as a brewing race war, writes Chief Reporter JOHN PERLMAN.**

③ Gen

THE beautiful things around him — delicate ceramic bowls, flowing curtains, a garden in glorious bloom — just sharpen the pain in Rudolf Opperman's heart.

It is three weeks since Opperman, a retired farmer living on a plot near White River, woke to the sudden flash of his bedroom light and the thunder of a handgun firing shots into the bed where he and his wife lay sleeping.

He survived the bullet that tore through his left shoulder and lodged in his spine. Lettie Opperman died where she fell. They had just celebrated their 40th anniversary.

## Ruined

"Everything you see in this house is something my wife made," he says. "This was a senseless, senseless thing. All they took was a .22 rifle and our watches — and my wife's life. And they ruined my whole life."

Since January, there have been more than 30 attacks on farms and plots in the eastern Transvaal. Opperman reacts angrily to suggestions that the men who killed his wife were robbers. "This was not robbery. The watches they took were just a bonus. This is political," he says.

"There is no law and order in this country any more, that's the problem. The police do their best, but I don't know why because they come up against a wall as soon as they come into court. People do these things because they know they can get away with it."

"I wouldn't kill a dog like that. Who gave these bastards the right to kill an innocent woman? And now they are sitting in the World Trade Centre negotiating with them. It's complete



**VOLTS FOR ALL:** Magda Stander and her son Christiaan (5) behind the electric fence that has made her feel safe for several years.

● Photographs: STEVE HILTON-BARBER



**NERVE CENTRE:** Colonel Daan Lötter checks on the communications system that links up farmers and plot owners with emergency services, the army and the police.



**WHO GOES THERE?:** Karel de Beer, a White River nurseryman by day, patrols the lanes and farms around the town with his commando unit.

madness. And then you get that bastard shouting "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer", and TV goes and gives it a country-wide platform, putting poison out among them. That's why they tried to kill us," he says.

Some 20 km away, in Nelspruit, Colonel Daan Lötter of the SADF is acutely aware that other whites may feel that it's their skin colour and a brewing race war which makes them targets.

known APLA attacks in the eastern Transvaal. The facts at the moment are that the attacks are crime."

That doesn't mean the SADF is taking it less seriously, says Lötter, whose task — in close co-operation with the police and others — is to co-ordinate area protection programmes across the far eastern Transvaal.

He constantly repeats words like "preparedness", "commonsense", "co-operation" — "a radio and a gun are things that can help you, but you can't hide behind them," Lötter says. The

priority is getting farmers and plot owners to secure their own homes and places of work, then form communication and support links with each other.

"Area protection is not a new idea, but we are saying it's time to get it up to what it should be and should have been 10 years ago," he says. Lötter acknowledges the existence of "Right radical groups" in the region. "But the overwhelming majority of people are taking part in the existing legal structures, like the police reservists and the commandos."

The White River commando has had "about 60" applications for membership in the past few weeks, says Commandant Corneels van der Merwe. "There has been greater interest in the last four or five months because people now see that you need to protect yourself," he says.

Van der Merwe already has 450 men under his command — all well trained, he says — and they have been organised into "a cell system" where 10 or more members "are grouped together to support each other".

Even so, people are "too relaxed for my liking", Van der Merwe says. "They must realise that the times are not as safe as they were."

In the early evening a patrol of men — teachers, nursery owners, borehole engineers and farmers during the day — head out into the lanes that weave through the plots outside White River, then patrol the lonely roads beyond that where farmers live — fields and pine forests apart — usually out of sight of each other.

The powerful spotlight prying into the dark reveals nothing, nor do the

searches of black people who step out of the gloom into the armoured vehicle's path. "That's okay," says Lieutenant Herman Steyn, who believes the attacks are "political" and that the PAC is winning ground with young blacks in the region. "The main thing is that they must know we are here. We are well trained, and we are very patient."

Some homes are surrounded by electric fences — MEPS, the market leader in this product, is based in White River. The fences pack a charge of between eight and nine thousand volts and cost close on R20 000 (MEPS has now developed a do-it-yourself kit for less than R10 000). But at half the places we pass, the front gate has been left open.

"After the Opperman murder a lot of people started wearing their guns, but they soon went back to thinking it won't happen to them," says Karel de Beer, a sergeant-major by night and a nurseryman during the day.

"Some guys say there is nothing left in the country for me, but I say 'no ways, people'. We must now look after what we've got," says De Beer.

## Too liberal

Down the hill, just east of Nelspruit, Vic Perreira isn't so sure. Last month, when he heard his dogs barking, he didn't think twice about going outside because people in need often came to his house. He was attacked by a gang of hooded men armed with pangas, knives and slashers.

"I assumed it was someone looking for help. When they carted me off to hospital, one of the black nurses said she couldn't remember how many times I had taken people in for treatment in the middle of the night," he says.

Perreira (57) has a sad and weary look, but he smiles a little ruefully when he says other farmers in the area chided him for being "too liberal". His beliefs, he says, haven't changed. "You can't blame every black for what some blacks do, just as you can't blame every white in that way."

"But a thing like this knocks you, it virtually finishes you off. It's a statement telling me 'we don't want you here, whoever you are, however you think'," he says.

## Tractor sales expected to rev up

Business Day 7/16/93

EDWARD WEST

TRACTOR sales were expected to improve between 10% and 15% this year on the back of improved summer crop prospects and price cutting measures by manufacturers, Agfacts director Dave Rankin said.

Rankin said tractor sales had declined over more than a decade to a low of 2 207 last year — mainly due to drought — from 24 862 in 1991. Agfacts compiles agricultural statistics.

Sales so far this year were encouraging. February tractor sales of 211 were 4% higher than in February 1992 and 60% higher than in January this year. Compared with the corresponding month in 1992, March's 217 sales were 27% higher, while April's 103 sales were 18% higher, SA Agricultural Machinery Association statistics showed.

Rankin said overseas tractor manufacturers were suffering from low demand which had enabled local assemblers to "put the squeeze" on parent companies for better prices.

Deere and Co has announced a plan to retrench 2 000 people in Europe because of declining demand and high operating costs, Sapa reports.

The move would not affect local employment levels, said John Deere MD Bert Pepler. *(B) Gau*

Rankin said year-on-year 10% price increases had encouraged tractor manufacturers to offer more affordable vehicles and eight new "economy" models were recently launched with few "add-ons" some with imported engines *(102)*

# Bid to halt State land transfer

The Land Rights Advisory Forum has called on the Government to place a moratorium on all transactions involving land owned by the State and the former SA Development Trust.

Chairman Professor Louise Tager said the forum had learnt that the Government intended placing trust land under joint State-homeland administration or under the control of homeland development corporations.

The transfer of the land, about one million hectares, was to be implemented through legislation and agreements.

"The proposed move would have the effect of removing a critically important land resource from the available land needed to address the serious problem of landlessness in

South Africa," said Tager.

She said the forum would call the issue to the attention of the Negotiating Council, the business community and National Peace Accord structures.

Regional and Land Affairs Deputy Minister Johan Scheepers, who leaves his post at the end of the month, is reported to have said her call had merit and would be given "the necessary attention".

● The National Land Committee (NLC), a co-ordinating body for nine regional service organisations, has questioned Scheepers's "verligte" image.

The NLC said it had long favoured Scheepers's departure "because of his determination to go ahead with the transfer of State land and with unilateral

restructuring of land policy".

Nevertheless, the NLC agreed with Scheepers's allegations that officials in his department were obstructing reform.

"The NLC is convinced that Land Affairs will remain a frustrating and difficult portfolio until it is headed by a person who recognises the need to deal with South Africa's land crisis in a transparent, open and honest way."

Aninka Claassens, senior researcher at the Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies, commented that Scheepers's major "achievement" had been to dispose of uncontested State-owned land that could have been used to begin redressing imbalances wrought by apartheid. — Staff Reporter, Sapa.

# Growing discord over land issues

Buss. Day 8/16/93

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SIMMERING disputes on land issues boiled over in public yesterday, with a government-appointed forum calling for a hold on homeland land transfers and land interest groups calling for the scrapping of the Land Affairs Department.

The discord is a sequel to the resignation of Deputy Land Affairs Minister Johan Scheepers, whose intention to leave his post reportedly stems from frustration with the bureaucracy.

Department officials said legislation proposed by Scheepers almost a year ago to rectify forced removals was likely to be published this week, although sources said it differed significantly from what was originally proposed. (S) Gen (S)

Land Rights Advisory Forum chairman Prof Louise Tager yesterday called on government immediately to freeze all land transactions involving former SA Development Trust and other state land to avoid potential conflict. (S) (S)

Scheepers, in response to Tager's comments, said the call had merit and would be given "the necessary attention", SABC-TV news reports. (S) (S)

The forum, appointed by Regional and Land Affairs Minister Andre Fourie, is responsible for implementing land transfers and placing trust land under the joint administration of homeland and state

BILLY PADDOCK  
and TIM COHEN

authorities.

In a statement Tager said transferring state land to homeland governments at this stage would be a serious mistake, removing a critical land resource which would be needed to address the "serious problem of landlessness" in SA.

She said she had called this issue to the urgent attention of the multiparty negotiating council, the SA business community and the national peace accord structures — in particular the peace committee responsible for implementing a programme of socioeconomic reconstruction and development.

"The transfer of land is a serious and sensitive matter with many potential implications, in particular for future equitable land distribution," she said.

"Whatever form the proposed transfer might take — whether it be alienation or administration — we call for an immediate moratorium, until the future of this land can be resolved by a properly constituted democratic authority or a representative negotiating body."

Tager said it had come to the forum's attention that government intended plac-

To Page 2

## Land disputes

Buss. Day 8/16/93

From Page 1

ing 1-million hectares of trust land under the joint administrations and also possibly under various homeland development corporations. (S) Gen

The transfer would be implemented through proposed legislation and various agreements. (S) (S)

The National Land Committee, which advises the ANC, repeated its call for a moratorium on the sale of state land, saying it was familiar with the "intransigence and incompetence of bureaucrats" in the department. (S) (S)

Committee head Joanne Yawitch said most of the officials in the department had been taken over from the Development Aid Department, which was responsible for forced removals. "They have caused so

much pain to so many people. The whole department should be scrapped," she said.

Scheepers said he still hoped that legislation restructuring the Advisory Committee on Land Allocation, which he initiated, would be passed during the current session. The legislation was intended to allow the Minister to refer disputed land to the commission so that all past forced removals could be considered.

The legislation would also allow the commission to provide alternative land to forcibly removed communities whose land had since been developed.

The aim was to meet parties that called for a land claims court halfway, correcting past wrongs without disturbing the right to private property, he said.

*Added  
headers*

# Disruptions expected to hurt black matric pass rate

*Buss. Day 8/6/93*

**RAY HARTLEY**

THE black matric pass rate in the Johannesburg area could drop to below the 1990 level of 29% because of the extensive disruption of classes this year.

DET regional chief director Richard Motau said yesterday that three out of every five schooling days had been lost so far this year and the upward trend in the matric pass rate — which reached 35% last year — was likely to be reversed.

Motau said between 15% and 20% of the matric syllabus had been covered with another 10% likely to be taught in the 13 weeks of schooling left before this year's examinations.

This consisted of three weeks before the July break and nine or 10 weeks after the holidays, he said.

Even on "normal" school days, when no teacher strikes or pupil protests were taking place, schools often broke up after one or two hours, exacerbating the crisis, Motau said.

"With the country in the state it is in, you can't be too sure of anything. Some of the children who realise they won't make it (in the year-end exami-

nations) might want to frustrate the rest," he said.

He appealed to teachers and the private sector to assist in the teaching of extra lessons in the evenings and on weekends to try to make up for lost time.

"The effects of this situation will be telling in the future. The country is going to feel the effects for decades, even if things return to normal now," he said.

Sapa reports the situation at schools in most parts of Soweto was normal on Monday, with 100% attendance by teachers and pupils.

This followed weeks of disruption at most Soweto schools and the call last week by the SA Democratic Teachers' Union for striking teachers to return to work.

Meanwhile, National Education Minister Piet Marais announced yesterday that no further rationalisation or retrenchments of teachers — apart from the process already under way in the House of Representatives education department — would take

place before all aspects of the process had been discussed by a national education forum.

Our Maritzburg correspondent reports Marais said this at a meeting of the Natal Education Council.

Planned retrenchments have been a factor which sparked teachers' strikes at black schools.

□ The SA Students' Congress (Sasco) rejected a meeting with Bophuthatswana government officials and university rectors yesterday and demanded the immediate reopening of seven campuses in the homeland.

Sasco also called for the immediate withdrawal of police from all Bophuthatswana campuses, and the nullifying of exam results at two colleges.

"We further call on (Bophuthatswana president) Lucas Mangope to publicly apologise for defaming the SRC of GaRankuwa Technikon by claiming that they are on the payroll of the ANC," Sasco said.

The organisation claimed that question papers had been leaked to students to entice them into breaking an examinations boycott at Lehurutshe and ThabaNchu colleges.

## Plan to deploy former Koevoet men slated

DIRK VAN EEDEN

*3 Gen*

THE ANC yesterday reacted strongly against the Transvaal Agricultural Union's plan to use former members of Koevoet and 32 Battalion in maintaining farm security. *Buss. Day 8/6/93*

TAU president Dries Bruwer announced last week that he had been contacted by former members of the now defunct units and that the TAU intended integrating them with the current security system on farms.

Bruwer said yesterday that the Transvaal farmers could employ up to 600 Koevoet members and an additional number of 32 Battalion members.

Citing the Koevoet and 32 Battalion history of alleged human rights abuses, the ANC said the proposed deployment of members of these units was not only insensitive to communities who suffered the "brutality of these elements", but would exacerbate the charged atmosphere. *(SST)*

Bruwer yesterday said the ANC and PAC were in no position to point fingers or complain, because their human rights records were equally bad and they had lost control of their supporters.

"The farmers are now at their wits' end. Thefts have made it almost impossible to farm in the regions close to informal settlements. We cannot do without their expertise in the security field."

He said farmers in the border regions had employed security officers for many years and that they would save money because of the excellent Koevoet record in retrieving stolen goods.

He said the Standerton agricultural union had requested a whole platoon of ex-Koevoet members.

The farmers would employ black and white Koevoet and 32 Battalion members, as the tracking abilities of black Koevoet members were superior.



# Land body restores property in 4 cases

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Government's Advisory Commission on Land Allocation (Acla) has considered a total of 58 land claims since April last year, but property has been restored to the claimants in only four cases, said Acla secretary Jan Barnard.

Barnard said that 35 of the 58 claims lodged had fallen "outside the ambit of Acla's mandate".

Legislation due to be tabled in Parliament this session will grant Acla broader functions than it has at present.

In relation to the 23 cases which fell within Acla's existing terms of reference, Barnard gave the following details:

● The President had made final decisions in relation to 12. He had upheld the return of land in Roosboom, Grootte Springfontein, Charlestown and Pre-

toria's Asiatic Bazaar. In the other eight instances the claims did not succeed.

● A final decision from the President was awaited in 11 cases.

Barnard declined to disclose whether any of the commission's recommendations had been reversed by President de Klerk.

"Acla regards it as the President's prerogative to release information pertaining to his decisions."

The proposed legislation will give Acla the power to decide cases without reference to the President.

It will also enable the commission to compensate victims of forced removal with alternative State-owned land in cases where the original property has been sold by the State.

● Waiting in vain for justice — Page 17



B 100-7 9/6/93

### Drought lingers

VAST stretches of farmland, particularly in the Karoo, are still in the grip of drought.

National Drought Committee chairman Stroebel Hofmeyr said yesterday there were 74 drought disaster areas, almost double the number at the same time last year, and the situation would become more serious during winter.

Worst affected were the Karoo, eastern Cape and far western Transvaal.

# High

## noon

Star 9/16/93

## in the

③ Gen ~~2/1~~

## west

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AMY WALDMAN reports on a devastated community in what was once a diamond-digging area.

**N**O ONE in Welverdiend ever thought that deproclaiming the area as a diamond-digging spot meant deproclaiming it as a home. But that is what happened to this community, which put down roots near Lichtenburg, in the western Transvaal, during the 1926 diamond rush.

Ten residents now face a precedent-setting trial under the Trespass Act. And the struggle by the community to secure rights of tenure, and by the farmer who now owns the land to evict them, is at an impasse.

The Welverdiend question is a national one: Do people without title deeds but with historical ties to land have the right to remain, or does the State or a landowner have the right to forcibly remove them?

The lure of diamonds originally brought white diggers, and black labour, to Welverdiend. The labourers earned a pittance, but built homes.

But the people outlasted the diamonds. In 1989, at the insistence of the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the land was deproclaimed as a digging area and sold to a farmer.

Willem Mouton says he bought the land with a promise from the TPA that the 119 families would be removed.

### Who came first?

When the TPA failed to fulfil its promise, a regional squatting committee, comprising farmers and TPA representatives, decreed the Welverdiend residents to be squatters under the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act. The TPA prescribed that they be moved to Boikhutso, Lichtenburg's township.

Wolverdiend's residents concede that the land now officially belongs to Mouton, but Lizzy Mashaba, an outspoken community leader, asks: "Who is the squatter — us or Mouton? Who came first? Whose parents are buried here?"

So they ignored the notices telling them to move. The next time they saw Mouton, he had the police with him.

A total of 33 community members were charged under

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So they ignored the notices telling them to move. The next time they saw Mouton, he had the police with him.

A total of 33 community members were charged under the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act — a case which still has no final dispensation. Later, others were criminally charged with trespassing.

The latter case went to trial last week. After irregularities emerged in the police gathering of evidence, it was postponed until June 22.

The case has ramifications throughout the western Transvaal, which has at least seven villages based around diamond diggings. Those communities also have only historical connections to the land. If Welverdiend is deemed a trespass, they could face the same fate.

For the farmer, the heart of the struggle lies in the law, but for the people, it is in the land.

There is a spirit of community, as well as tranquillity and history, in the little settlement. "This is our title deed," Mashaba says, pointing at the graves of parents and grandparents at the edge of the community.

Looseboy Mokgoero, the community's oldest resident, will most likely be buried here too. Born in 1901, he arrived during the diamond rush of 1926. "The only one who will move us is the one who will move us to heaven," he warns, between songs from a prayer book.

Lizzy Mashaba says: "The only place better than here is heaven ... we will only be moved as corpses."

Some negotiators say Mouton seems reasonable, until he comes under pressure from other farmers.

Mouton says that by law, staying somewhere — "even for 300 years" — doesn't give ownership; a piece of paper does. But Iqbal Motlala of Lawyers for Human Rights says the law may not be the answer. □

The land issue is back in the news with the decision of Deputy Land Affairs Minister Johan Scheepers to quit politics. JO-ANNE COLLINGE reports on the need for land reform and what has been happening.

# Waiting in for land jus

Star 9/16/92

**T**HE World Bank has been called many things, but seldom alarmist. So when it warns that South Africa had better implement massive land redistribution or face decades of peasant insurrection — or even civil war — there is reason to sit up and take action.

The National Party Government, in its dying days, has shown no inclination to do so. Although Deputy Minister of Land Affairs Johan Scheepers might have the public believe that recalcitrant officials are the problem, the evidence points to opposition to land reform at a much higher level.

The Government's sins have not just been of omission, they have been sins of commission, its opponents charge. They point to actions such as the rapid disposal of State-owned land, the unilateral framing of contentious legislation and a refusal to negotiate with relevant stakeholders.

The scenario sketched by World Bank experts Hans Binswanger and Klaus Deininger is based on international experience and it spells out the likely consequences of a failure to substantially redress the huge imbalance in land ownership.

They note that at present rural resistance is still unorganised and confined to interracial conflict and sporadic land invasions. But, they warn: "If the hope raised by repeal of most of the racially motivated land laws and restrictions on mobility are not confirmed by rapid restitution of land in the former black spots, land invasions are likely to increase.

"Over time, some political group will organise a well-disciplined peasant movement capable of co-ordinated insurrection and terrorism."

When the apartheid land laws were repealed two years ago, the Government's only concession to interests lobbying for land redistribution was the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation (Acla), which was empowered to advise on the use

of State-owned land for development and to address the position of those prejudiced under the old laws.

Since April 1992, Acla has considered 58 claims for particular pieces of land, lodged in many cases by victims of forced removal. But in only four of these cases has land been restored to the communities concerned. Final decisions

have been taken by the State President in a further eight cases — and this land has not been returned.

Uprooted communities and leading land rights group, the National Land Committee (NLC), regarded Acla with suspicion, especially after the State President rejected their suggestions on membership of the commission. But they decid-

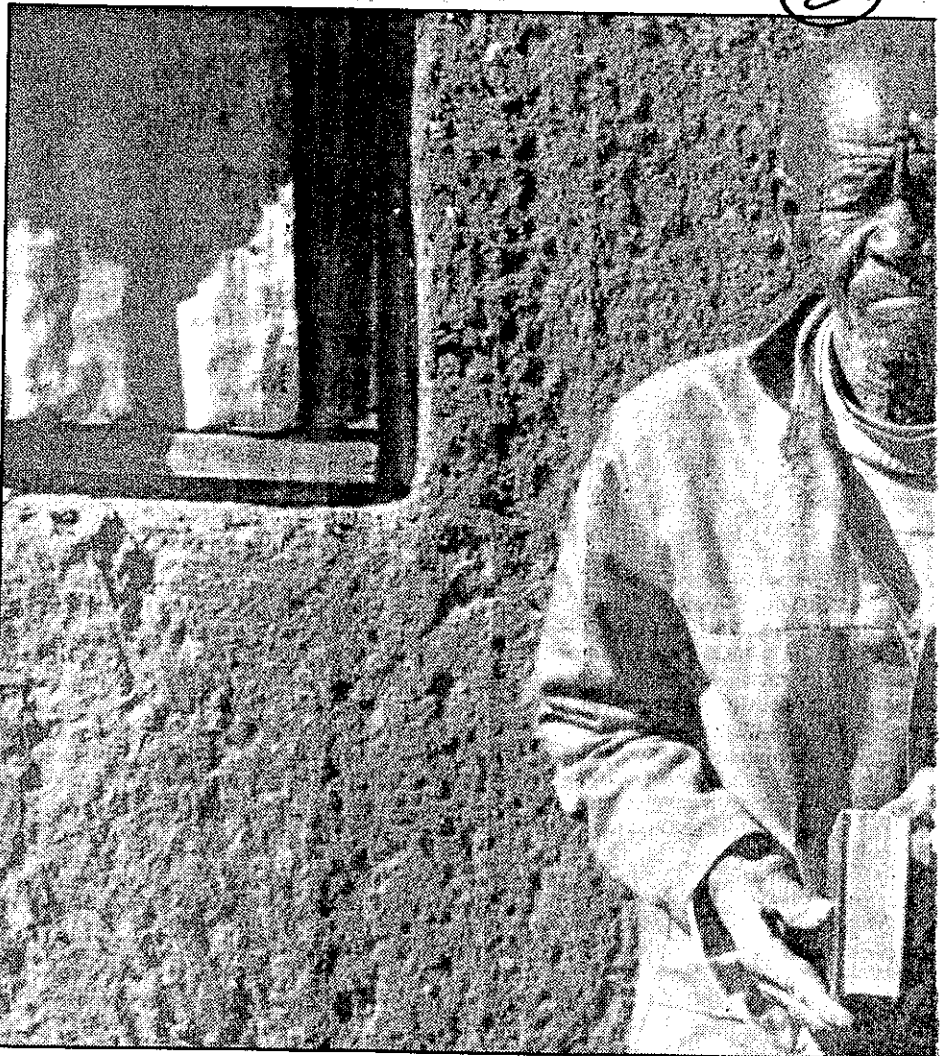
ed to give Acla a chance and brought claims before it.

It is a measure of the NLC's disillusionment that, when it was approached to take part in the Government's Land Rights Advisory Forum earlier this year, the NCL would have nothing to do with it.

NLC director Joanne Yawitch points out that, in contrast with institutions such as

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The power of prayer . . . Looseboy Mokgoero is determined to stay in Welverdiend. (See 'High noon in the west' report on this page.) Mokgoero, the community's oldest resident, came to Welverdiend during the diamond rush of 1926. "The only one who will move us is the one who will move us to heaven," he warns.



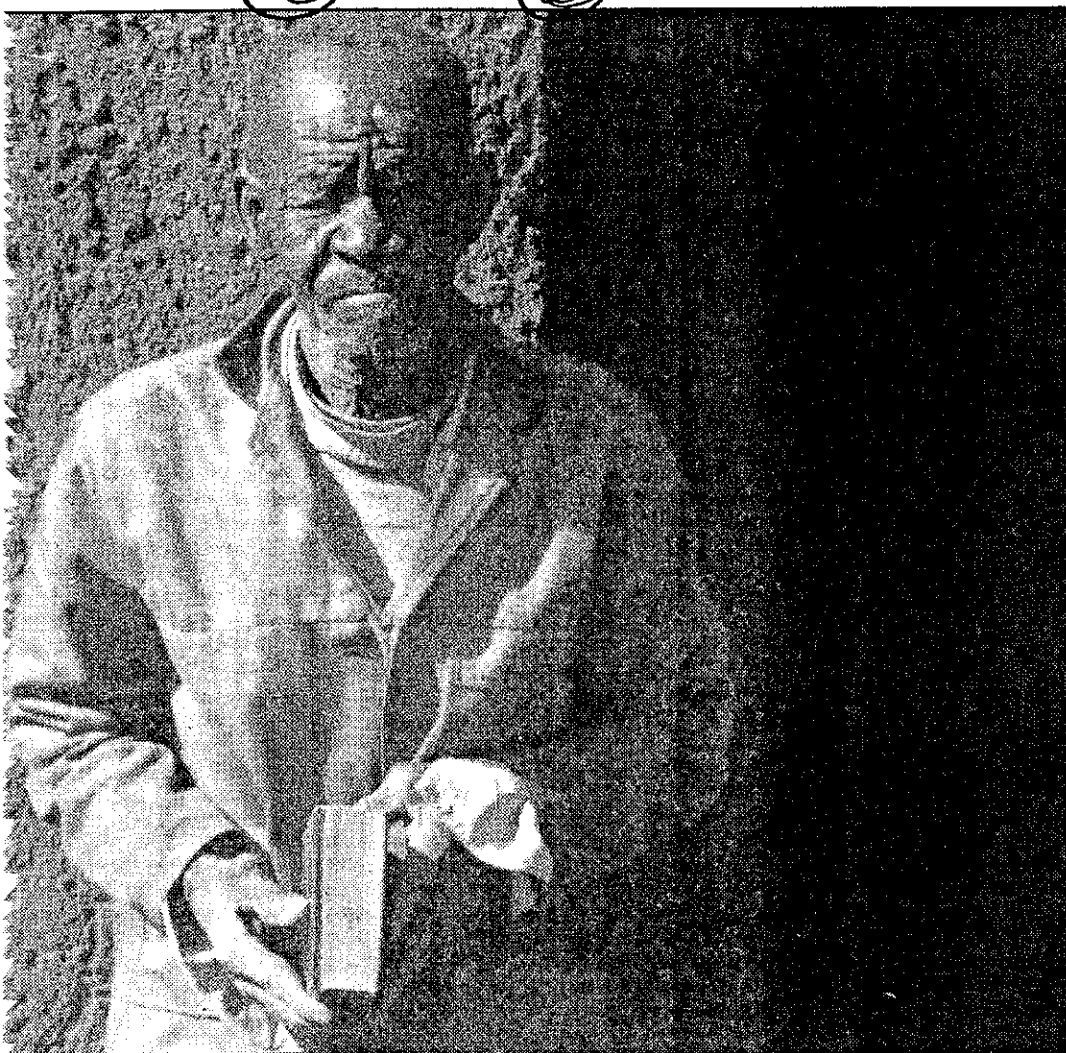
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NLC director Joanne Yawitch points out that, in contrast with institutions such as

the Local Government Negotiating Forum and the National Economic Forum, which were created by negotiation, the Land Forum was Scheepers's "hand-picked" creation.

"It is merely a body set up to advise the Deputy Minister and not intended to set in motion a broad consultation on land policy. So we refused to sit on it," says Yawitch.

"It is our view that there needs to be a consensus position on land before any programme is implemented, and the history of the Department of Regional and Land Affairs is not one which attempts to develop such consensus. They still want to do it all their own way — they are, after all, the people who manned the Department of Development Aid and carried out

the forced removals."

There is little doubt that agricultural interests would argue for negotiated rather than imposed solutions.

Aninka Claassens of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at Wits said experience had led the land-redistribution lobby to believe that it was futile to join Scheepers's forum as "major unilateral restructuring would go on under our feet".

It is no secret that such groups felt betrayed when the Government decided to transfer some 430 000 ha of State-owned land to the tribes and parastatal organisations in Lebowa and QwaQwa last year. They believed that they had successfully argued against any such move — until Scheepers announced his agreements with the homelands in question.

"All the Department of Land Affairs has achieved is a terribly accelerated process in getting rid of land which would otherwise have been available for redistribution," argues Claassens.

"This disposal of uncontested State-owned land is going to have a major long-term impact, because it focuses attention back on land presently owned by whites. Scheepers pre-empted an option clearly put by people across the spectrum as a starting point — albeit an insufficient one — for land reform."

Only recently the Government and the ANC held initial talks on the question of land. And once more, Scheepers's subsequent action of drafting legislation which would facilitate the homelands land-gift caused ANC participants to question the spirit of the talks.

Scheepers's public relations machinery, however, focused on that part of his legislative programme which lent him a reformist image. It stressed the Bill intended to extend the powers of Acla to compensate victims of forced removal.

It is this disparity between image and reality which has seen Scheepers unfavourably compared to Dr Piet "Promises" Koornhof, who headed the Department of Co-operation and Development in its days of deepest infamy and whose deed was seldom as good as his word. Said one source: "Scheepers makes Koornhof look like Miss Muffet."

The remark reflects a deep sense that, in this protracted political transition, there has been no progress toward justice on the land. □

hon the Minister aware that those requirements were abolished by at least the Isidingo Technical College near Daveyton last year? Is he prepared to have this investigated and to act if examination admission requirements were not met at that technical college?

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I was not aware of that. I am prepared to have an investigation conducted into the matter. I will establish what the facts are and in the light thereof decide on further action.

*Business interrupted in accordance with the Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.*

#### Matric examinations: fees

\*3. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Training:†

- (1) Whether the payment of examination fees by matric pupils under the control of his Department has been suspended in respect of 1993; if so, for what reasons;
- (2) whether he or his Department has approached bodies in the private sector or has been approached by bodies with regard to the loss that will be suffered by the State as a result of the suspension of the payment of examination fees being made good by such bodies; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether he or his Department has established whether tax concessions will be granted to bodies rendering such financial assistance; if not, why not; if so, what is the (a) nature and (b) extent of these concessions;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B902E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

- (1) Yes. The suspension of examination fees for 1993 has proved to be the only solution to defuse an explosive situation without sacrificing the principle of a user charge for educational services. If no solution had been found, no further teaching would have taken place in many schools this year. In addition to wide consultation which has already taken

place, the principle of examination fees has been referred to the National Education Forum, which is yet to be constituted, for advice before any further decisions on this matter are taken.

- (2) No. Exploratory talks have been conducted on the recovery from private sources of the loss the State stands to suffer as a result of the suspension of examination fees for the Std 10 examination. The hon the State President's announcement on 26 May 1993 that the various departments of education would have to recover the additional costs involved from savings effected in their budgets does not exclude the further pursuit of possibilities of finding the money from private sources.
- (3) Yes. If donations are made by taxpayers in terms of section 18A of the Income Tax Act (Act No 58 of 1962), these would be tax-deductible.
- (4) No.

#### Public service: permanent posts

\*4. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Training (Minister responsible for the Commission for Administration):

Whether any steps are being taken to permit persons occupying posts contemplated in section 7 (1) (c) (i) of the Public Service Act, 1984 (Act No 111 of 1984), and complying with certain requirements, to be appointed in a permanent capacity with effect from 1 July 1993; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) how many persons will be affected in this regard? B904E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING (Minister responsible for the Commission for Administration):

Yes,

- (a) the steps taken imply that State departments must consider the fixed appointment of each person in their service with due consideration of specified requirements laid down by the Commission for Administration; and
- (b) accurate figures regarding the number of persons involved are not available at present.

#### Government Service Pension Fund: temporary employees

\*5. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Training (Minister responsible for the Commission for Administration):

- (1) Whether any steps are being taken to make it possible for certain persons who are currently members of the Temporary Employees Pension Fund to be admitted as members of the Government Service Pension Fund (GSPF); if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) how many persons it is envisaged will be so admitted to the GSPF;
- (2) whether the admission of these persons as members of the GSPF will have any financial implications for the State; if so, what amount will be required for this purpose? B905E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING (Minister responsible for the Commission for Administration):

- (1) Yes,
  - (a) steps are being taken for the promulgation of regulations by the Minister of Finance in terms of the Temporary Employees Pension Fund Act, 1979 and the Government Service Pension Act, 1973, so that—
    - (i) serving personnel who are members of the Temporary Employees Pension Fund (TEPF) will be transferred to the Government Service Pension Fund (GSPF) from 1 July 1993 with a reduction of 5% of their pensionable service, except if such members indicate in writing that they do not wish to become members of the GSPF; and
    - (ii) Public Service Act personnel who are members of the TEPF and who retire or are discharged with pension on or after 2 March 1993, but on or before 1 July 1993, and who have at least 10 years of pensionable service, may be transferred to the GSPF from the date of retirement or discharge,

provided that before such a transfer is effected, such members must elect in writing that they want to be transferred and in such cases also indicate in writing that they accept that their pensionable service will be reduced by 5%.

- (b) Approximately 250 000 members will be affected, but the eventual number will depend on the choice made by them.
- (2) Yes, but the amount cannot be calculated at this stage, because the actual financial implications for the State as employer can only be determined after it is known how many members have eventually elected to be transferred to the GSPF.

#### Farmers: police protection

\*6. Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Law and Order: ③ Gen

- (1) Whether any funds are to be made available by the State for the purpose of providing police protection for farmers; if not, why not; if so, (a) what amount, (b) when and (c) who will qualify for such aid;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B906E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) No. Protection of farmers forms part of the policing function of the South African Police and expenses for this purpose are met from the Police Budget.

(2) No.

Note:

An amount of R50,97 million was approved by the Cabinet for protection of certain farms and smallholdings within South African territory against the budget of the South African Police.

The amount will be utilized to pay subsidies to the owners of identified farms and owners who are 60 years of age and older of identified smallholdings for the protection of the property of the residents.

It will be payable on the following basis for proven expenses that are incurred for security measures: ~~3000~~ **3000**

\* 20% on a maximum expenditure level of R20 000,00 with a minimum of R1 000,00 per occupied property.

#### Grasmere Toll Plaza: squatter camp

\*7. Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister for National Housing:†

- (1) Whether a squatter camp is being erected approximately 1 kilometre south of the Grasmere Toll Plaza; if so, (a) what is the exact situation of this camp and (b) how far is it situated from the N1 freeway;
- (2) whether he was informed in advance that a squatter camp was to be erected there; if so, what was his reaction to that;
- (3) whether there are any incidents of murder, assault and/or stone-throwing in this area; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether his Department intends taking steps to ensure the safety of motorists and residents in this area; if not, why not; if so, what steps? **B908E**

The MINISTER FOR NATIONAL HOUSING: ~~3000~~ **3000**

- (1) No. Squatting has occurred for a long period of time within an existing town, known as Finetown, that has been designated for low cost housing development.
  - (a) The portion of the town designated for the development of housing for squatters is situated approximately 1 km south of the Grasmere Toll Plaza, west of the N1 freeway.
  - (b) 10 meters from the road reserve of the N1 freeway.
- (2) Falls away.
- (3) and (4) Steps are being taken to assure the safety of motorists and residents of the area by means of increased patrolling and improved liaison between the SA Police and the Traffic Department of the TPA.

Further, an investigation is being undertaken into the possibility of erecting pedestrian bridges as well as road safety education for communities in the area.

#### INTERPELLATION

The sign \* indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

*Own Affairs:*

#### Durban College of Education: closure

1. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

- (1) Whether he or his Department intends closing the Durban College of Education; if so, why; if not,
- (2) whether any steps are being contemplated to raise the lecturer/student ratio from the present 1:4,4; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

**B928E.INT**

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: Mr Chairman, the department has no intention of closing the Durban College of Education or any other college under the jurisdiction of the department within the boundaries of Natal.

When the internal rationalisation of colleges in Natal was planned during the latter part of the eighties, the closure of some of these colleges was given serious consideration because the teacher needs of this department could have been met by a single college of education housed on any one of the three existing campuses.

This was not done for three principal reasons. Firstly, community support could not be mobilised. Secondly, closure of the Durban College of Education would mean that there would be no facilities in Natal for the training of Afrikaans-speaking teachers. Thirdly, the vast backlog reported to exist in the KwaZulu region was said to require the maintenance of our department's colleges as institutions of excellence. To my mind most of these reasons, or all of them, are still valid.

On the question of the lecturer-student ratio, the position of the department is clear. The unsatisfactory ratio must be addressed. As a matter of fact, steps have already been taken to address the problem.

It must, however, be kept in mind that all colleges of education must offer certain basic disciplines and therefore require a basic staff

irrespective of the size of the college. The Durban College of Education is no exception to this rule.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, the reason for this interpellation was to elicit information as to what is intended with the Durban College of Education. The DP—let me make it clear—wishes it to remain open as a college of education. Hon members must have no doubt about that. That has been our position consistently with regard to other colleges as well.

However, that college and its new extensions, which are worth about R6 million or R7 million, are so tremendously underutilised that this department has to apply its mind very rapidly, otherwise there will be great pressure to close it. It has, for example, 224 students and 51 lecturers. Potchefstroom, which also falls under this department, has 552 students and 47 lecturers. If I were at Potchefstroom, I would be screaming blue murder about what was happening in Durban.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: Or go to Natal.

Mr R M BURROWS: Or go to Natal, precisely!

We accept 100% the necessity of having an Afrikaans-medium college available in Natal. We also accept the linkage that has been established between Dokkies and the University of the Orange Free State. It is a very important linkage, but the same question must be asked.

There is a demand for teachers generally, and figures indicate that simply to achieve a teacher-pupil ratio of 1:35 for the whole of Natal-KwaZulu would require an additional 11 000 teachers immediately. That is not going to happen, but what we have not seen in Natal is any effort at Dokkies to create a dual-medium college—which is what we are going to have—with broadly a non-White English-medium population.

This is a sensitive area. We accept that, but bearing in mind the situation at the House of Representatives college Bechet, which is housed in what was an unacceptable building, or Springfield, which is under pressure, and at Edgewood, which is growing in numbers because of Zulu students coming in from the KwaZulu Department of Education and Culture, we would like to know from the department what they intend putting into place at Dokkies.

No, we do not want Dokkies closed, but we do want it fully utilised. It is because of that important relationship between student and lecturer that one can begin to bring in students in service this year to make full use of those lecturers. Certainly, from the beginning of next year, that college should be far better utilised than it is now.

\*Mr A GERBER: Mr Chairman, the intention of the hon member for Pinetown is quite clear. The Durban College of Education, the only tertiary educational institution for Afrikaners in Natal, must be forced to accommodate so many people from other cultures that it will eventually lose its Afrikaner character.

I want to make it clear this afternoon that the Afrikaner community in Natal, like other communities, has a right to such a college of education. It would be an injustice to take that college away from them. The fact is that most of the student teachers who obtain their qualifications in other provinces are lost to Natal. They usually enter service in the area where they were trained.

I am sorry to say that the hon member for Pinetown and his party create the impression that they begrudge the Afrikaner everything. [Interjections.] Why the constant bickering about Afrikaner colleges and schools that are struggling to survive? Why does the hon member not rather request an interpellation about the standpoints of the University of Natal if the issue is the admission policy and discrimination? He is a member of the board of that university. That university's admission policy at the medical school and hostels operates according to a quota system on a racial basis. [Interjections.]

In 1989 a pamphlet was distributed that stated that admission to hostels would not be granted primarily on the basis of academic achievement, but on the basis of need. *The Daily News* reported on 5 March 1990:

The secondary factor of academic achievement would be applied differentially with greater stress on Whites and Indians than Blacks.

I now politely ask the hon member and his party to sweep before their own door. They must leave the Afrikaner educational institutions alone. They are scratching where it is not itching. The Afrikaner community in Natal has a

Mr N SINGH: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Ministers' reply, is he aware that the Durban City Council is trying to make enormous profits out of the sale of land that was taken away from people at a pittance? I should also like to ask him if he is going to do anything about meeting with the Durban City Council in that regard?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I have had one series of meetings with the Durban City Council. There are to be further meetings with the council, taking into account the concentration of the community within the Durban metropolitan area. If we want to resolve this issue, there is only one direction to take, and that is the direction of constructive and ongoing negotiation.

**State Land Disposal Act: Minister's powers/duties**

\*3. Mr M MOHANLALL asked the Minister of Housing:

- (1) Whether he or his Department has implemented any of the powers and duties assigned to him as Minister in terms of the State Land Disposal Act, 1961 (Act No 48 of 1961), in respect of four plots of land, particulars of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? D309E

†The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

- (1) No. I am awaiting reports from my Department on each of these cases before any decisions are taken.
- (2) Yes. I immediately upon receipt of the State President's Minute 138 on 31 March 1993, addressed an instruction to the Head of the Department concerned to, and I quote:

"ensure that the action necessary to finalise such matters/transactions are taken immediately and the required

documentation/reports is sent to me as expeditiously as possible."

Apart from the four properties mentioned, namely, Lot 635, Shallcross; Lot 313, Umzinto; Lot 112, Umzinto; Lot 820, Umzinto, there are a fairly large number of other sites, originally earmarked for educational purposes but which are no longer required for this purpose, the disposal of which also needs to be dealt with urgently. I have also written to the Department in respect of this issue.

The Department is in the process of finalising procedural issues relative to these newly-assigned duties which is also subject to inter-departmental legal formalities, which are currently being pursued. I am hopeful that I will soon be in a position to deal conclusively with the four properties referred to by the hon member.

For written reply:

Own Affairs:

**Housing Development Board: plots of land**

27. Mr A RAJBANSI asked the Minister of Housing:

- (1) What is the (a) (i) address and (ii) extent of each commercial and industrial plot of land leased or sold by the Housing Development Board since 1 January 1989 up to the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) (i) when, (ii) to whom, and (iii) by what method, was each such plot let or sold;
- (2) how many of these plots were sold or leased for (a) resettlement and (b) other specified purposes? D164E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

- (1) Refer to attached schedule.
- (2) (a) 9  
(b) 118.

(a)(i) Address	(a)(ii) Extent in M <sup>2</sup>	(b)(i) Date	(b)(ii)	(b)(iii)
Lot 8714, Richards Bay	1504	31:10:89	Marine Panel Beaters	Public Tender
Lot 20 and Rem of Lot 19, Stanger	653 and 1370	30:01:90	National Co-operation Davies Ltd	Public Tender
Sub 2188 of Chat 1 No. 14542	1999	12:07:91	Croftas Share Block (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
Sub 71 of Lot Sykes No. 15658, Phoenix	4042	18:02:92	Choonilal Ramlall	Private Treaty
Lot 9673, Richards Bay	3925	06:07:92	Daygro Investments	Public Tender
Lot 9672, Richards Bay	3975	14:07:92	Daygro Investments	Public Tender
Sub 4 of Weenen	1472	14:12:89	Ahmed Ismail Jidwat	Public Tender
Lot 259, Cool-Air	2488	22:08:89	P Premchund	Public Tender
Erf 1354, Malabar	2680	25:08:89	Trek Petroleum	Public Tender
Erf 58, Louis Trichardt	7247	29:09:92	A M Osman T/a Easy Build	Private Treaty
Erf 47 Louis Trichardt	1246	24:01:91	O J H Kalla	Private Treaty
Erf 44 Louis Trichardt	8578	10:01:91	Louis Trichardt Wholesalers (Pty) Ltd	Private Treaty
Erf 56 Louis Trichardt	3740	04:06:92	Bijishi (Pty) Ltd	Private Treaty
Erf 53 Louis Trichardt	3393	05:07:92	Surat Investments	Private Treaty
Portion 82 a Portion of Portion 57	409	15:04:92	E I Suleman	Public Tender
Portions of Portion 51 of Erf 1068 Standerton				
Portion: 55	105	20:11:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
56	135	20:11:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
57	105	20:11:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
58	105	20:11:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
59	105	20:11:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
60	135	20:11:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
Portions of Portion 52 of Erf 1068 Standerton				
Portion: 62	408	22:07:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
63	283	22:07:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
64	283	22:07:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
65	220	22:07:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
66	220	22:07:92	Ashan Investments (Pty) Ltd	Public Tender
Erf 1110, Nylstroom	261	19:03:92	Abdul Rashid Hassen Ravat	Public Tender
Erf 1111, Nylstroom	261	19:03:92	Abdul Rashid Hassen Ravat	Public Tender
Erf 1112, Nylstroom	261	19:03:92	Abdul Rashid Hassen Ravat	Public Tender
Erf 1113, Nylstroom	261	19:03:92	Abdul Rashid Hassen Ravat	Public Tender
Erf 1114, Nylstroom	261	19:03:92	Abdul Rashid Hassen Ravat	Public Tender



# Bill on return of apartheid land tabled

By Chris Whitfield  
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — A Bill on land matters, thought to have been a source of frustration which contributed to Deputy Land Affairs Minister Johan Scheepers's decision to quit, was tabled in Parliament yesterday. *Star*

The Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Amendment Bill broadens the mandate of the Advisory Commission on Land Affairs, which makes rec-

*Star 11/6/93*  
ommendations to the State President on the return of land taken under apartheid laws.

Delays in getting the Bill through the bureaucratic process are known to have frustrated Scheepers, who hoped the legislation would be tabled before the end of last month to ensure it could be passed during this session of Parliament.

However, the tabling of the Bill yesterday does mean it should be able to go through the

legislative process before Parliament rises in two weeks.

The Bill broadens the definition of land on which the committee can make recommendations to include "land of local authorities and development bodies". In the past it has been restricted to State-owned land.

In terms of the Bill, the committee would also be able to investigate cases of people whose land was no longer owned by the State but who had been prejudiced by apartheid laws.

# ANC concern over farm raids

Star 11/16/93

3 Gen

By Philip Zoio

The ANC last night strongly condemned recent "brutal attacks" on members of a farming community, saying it was concerned that productive farmers were giving up their land because of the danger of violence.

It was the second ANC statement made this week in an effort to placate the anger of white farmers, who in recent months have been subjected to a wave of attacks.

On Tuesday, the ANC urged its supporters to stop chanting the slogan "kill the Boer, kill the farmer".

However, the ANC Youth League's western Cape region said it would not ask members to stop using the chant.

The ANC's call came as embattled farmers sought ways to prevent increasing attacks on farmsteads.

Free State Agricultural Union president Piet Gous yesterday briefed farmers at a meeting in Vryheid on security measures that could be implemented, including the de-

ployment of former Koevoet and 32 Battalion soldiers.

Responding to a statement by farmers that one more murder should be seen as a declaration of war, Gous said violence should be used only as a last resort.

The ANC, while sympathizing with the right of farmers to self-protection, made clear its opposition to the proposed deployment of former Koevoet and 32 Battalion soldiers.

"Desperate acts of leaving productive farms or deploying the murderers of 32 Battalion and Koevoet, who visited untold suffering on the people of Namibia and were involved in raping and murdering Phola Park residents last year, is not the answer," the ANC said.

The ANC urged farmers to work for a negotiated settlement "that will ensure a prosperous and democratic society".

The ANC said it was primarily the duty of the police to offer farmers security against violence, and called for investigations into farm killings to be intensified.

Biday 11/6/93

## ANC worried that farmers want to quit

THE ANC yesterday expressed concern at reports that thousands of farmers wanted to give up farming.

It was concerned that some who were economically sound and used progressive farming methods were giving up farming because of security problems.

While it condemned brutal attacks on farmers and supported their right to self-protection, it opposed

**Business Day Reporter**

the proposed use of former Koevoet and 32 Battalion members by some farmers.

Free State Agricultural Union president Pieter Gous told a meeting of the Afrikaner Volksfront in Vryheid that farmers and the public were being made aware of security measures such as the incorporation of former members of Koe-

voet and 32 Battalion into farm security units.

GERALD REILLY reports from Pretoria that the SA Agricultural Union said government's R50m allocation to boost farm security in identified "red spots" was inadequate.

The union would submit a proposal next week to Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel for a one-off subsidy payment.

# Putting man back

# into the wilds

DEREK Hanekom, the ANC man who stirred up a hornet's nest a few weeks ago when he was reported as suggesting Kruger National Park could be turned into cattle farms, has broached the subject again.

Land distribution would have to occur and State land, including conservation areas, was the easiest in this regard, Hanekom said in a speech to a meeting of the Development Society of South Africa held at the Rand Afrikaans University on Thursday evening.

But this time, four officials from the National Parks Board heaved a sigh of relief when Hanekom swore he had been misquoted when he was reported as saying Kruger Park could be put to better use for cattle farming.

## Forced out

In fact, Kruger and the other game parks and reserves in this country were a national heritage, and brought in billions in badly needed foreign exchange, Hanekom said.

The problem was that most of the people around parks very seldom benefited from them, even though many had been forced to give up their land for the parks without compensation.

**THE LOCAL population living near game parks and conservation areas should be allowed use of this land and be made to feel that they can benefit directly from it. This, the ANC says, is the foundation on which future policy should be based. JULIENNE DU TOIT reports.**

## ANC outlines *Star 12/6/93* its policy to *Gen* share out spoils

In fact, if the people living around the park, numbering millions, could vote about the park, they would vote it out of existence, said Hanekom. All this talk about the earning of foreign exchange meant nothing to them.

Something would have to be done, he said, and he invited ANC member and conservationist Louis Liebenberg to outline one of the options the ANC is considering.

In principle, said Liebenberg, there was nothing really wrong in letting cattle graze in the Kruger Park or other game parks during drought periods when people on barren lands adjoining the park looked longingly at the open expanse on the other side of the fence.

Of course this access

would have to be limited, away from the ecotourism. It would also have to be well managed, Liebenberg said.

Having cattle in the park might mean the number of lions would have to be cut down, he said. "I mean, how many lions are absolutely necessary in an ecosystem anyway? All this would have to be studied."

He said it was an artificial situation to have a piece of pristine land set aside without man in it. "It's unnatural to have a place where a kudu is walking around without any danger of a human hunting him. Man is part of nature," said Liebenberg, who has lived and hunted with Bushmen.

And instead of using expensive technology to combat poachers, why not pay a tracker a sala-

ry with the amount it would cost to keep a helicopter in the air for an hour? asked Liebenberg.

He said people should be able to participate in activities within the park and be made to feel, and know, that they could benefit directly. Money should not trickle back from an indirect source.

People should also have ready access to parks for medicinal plants, thatching grass and firewood. "As long as the resources are managed properly, there is no reason why this should damage the ecosystem," he said.

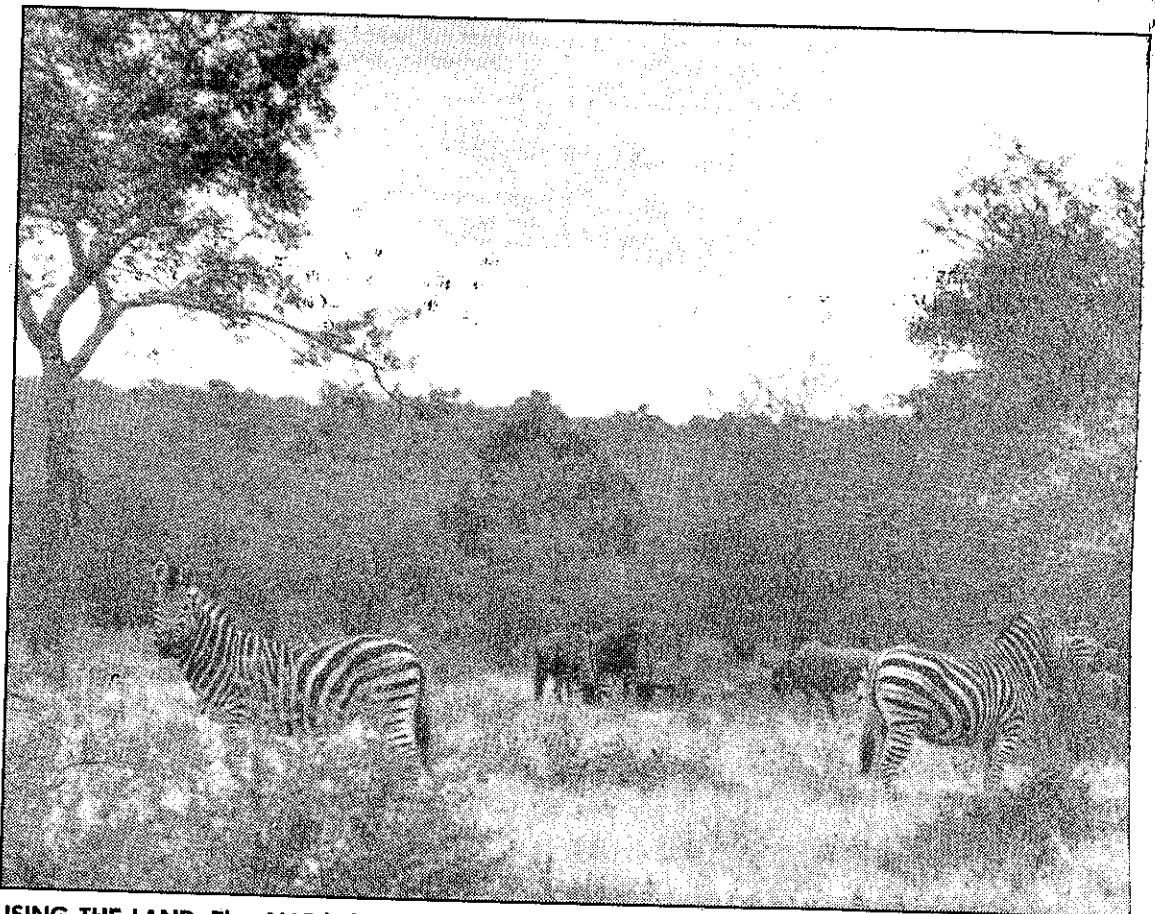
What should also happen was that local people must be encouraged to go into game farming as opposed to cattle farming only.

## Good meat

Cattle were selective eaters and tended to degrade the veld. This was not the case with wild animals, which also had the advantage of having good, lean meat, of being more resistant to local conditions, droughts and diseases, and of attracting ecotourism.

Hanekom and Liebenberg, neither of whom has been to Kruger Park, were promptly invited for a workshop by the Kruger Park officials, and were also invited to the Klaserie and Timbavati area by a landowner there.

"We should do this more often," joked Liebenberg.



**USING THE LAND:** The ANC believes people living near game parks should be encouraged to go into game farming and also be allowed to make use of the resources within them.

Star 12/6/93

# Parties worlds apart on ownership

3 Gen

## MEG WILSON

CAPE TOWN — The major political players are still a long way from reaching agreement on many issues concerning land ownership, judging by a debate at the annual Property Owners' Association convention on Thursday.

The Government, it became apparent, intended to entrench the right to private land ownership in a Bill of Rights.

### Converted

Johan Scheepers, who recently resigned from his post as Land Affairs Deputy Minister, made it clear that the National Party would resist moves to expropriate underutilised land already in private ownership, or to give long-time occupants of such land automatic ownership rights.

On the other hand, he said, about 300 000 township residents had already had their deeds of grant converted to title deeds free of charge, and it was hoped that as many more such applications for conversion

would be processed during the next year.

The ANC failed to send a representative to take part in the debate, but chairman Penny Smythe read a statement outlining its stand on the rights of those

who occupied land.

If more than one generation had occupied land, that land should be registered in the occupant's name, and the Government should be held responsible for compensating the regis-

tered owner.

Scheepers said such a system would lead to chaos.

Dr Frank Mdlalose, for the Inkatha Freedom Party, said his organisation recognised four kinds of land ownership:

private, corporate, communal, and State or municipal. He said the party was not looking to alter the present system, except to see more land converted to individual ownership for residential purposes.

There would be a strong case for reparations to those who had been forcibly removed from land without compensation under the apartheid system.

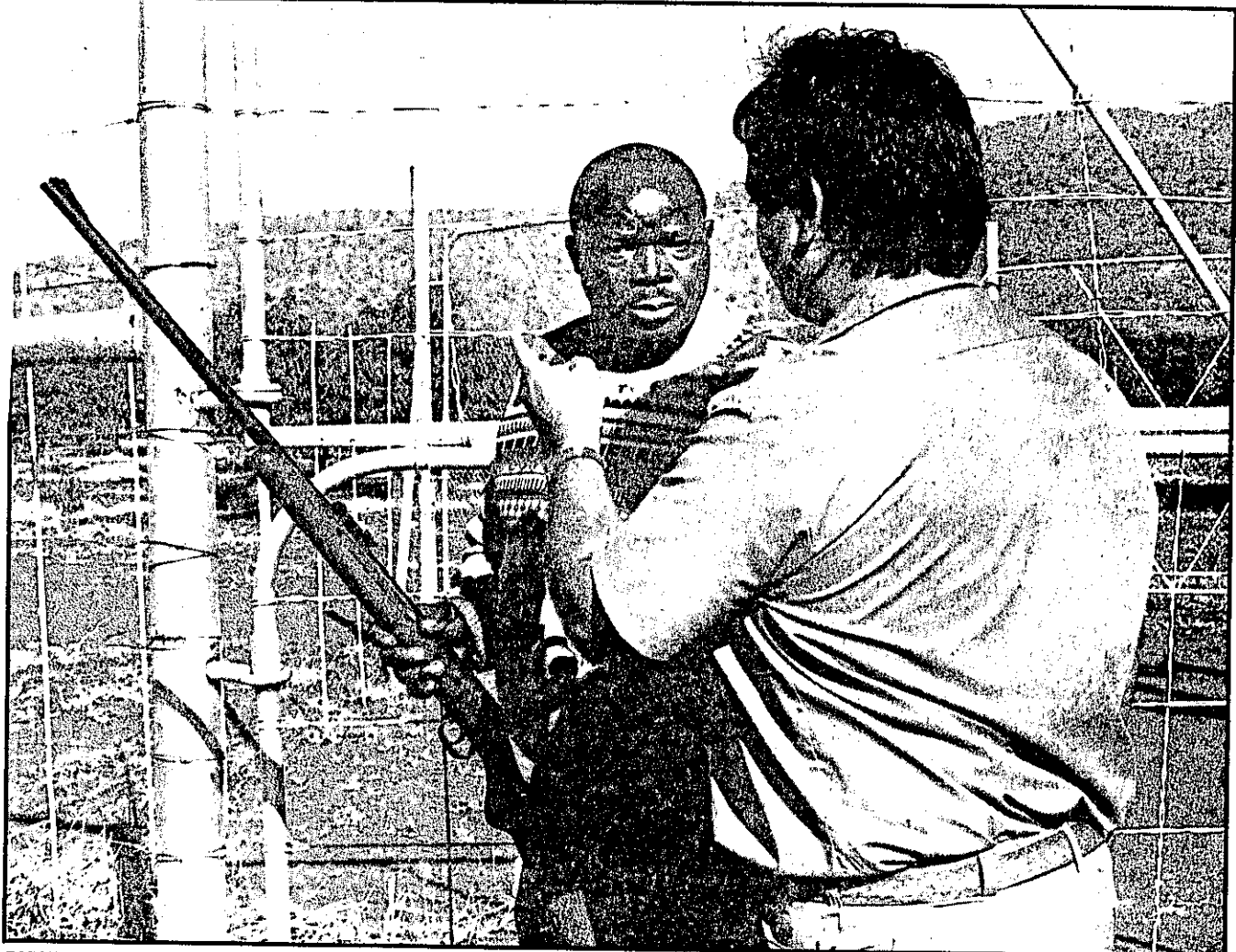
### Power

Such cases were being reviewed by the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation, which was likely to get more powers if legislation to be debated soon was passed.

Scheepers said the legislation was intended to broaden the commission's focus and give it the power to decide on allocation of State land not under dispute, as well as municipal land with relevant local authorities' consent.

The commission would also have jurisdiction on a consultative basis over tribal or communal land as well as the power to co-opt experts to its service.

3 Gen



**FARMING FEAR . . .** A Tzaneen farmer gives orders to his security guard before nightfall. Security has been stepped up in the area since the murder of a farmer's wife last month.

■ Pic: ANDRIES MCINEKA

# Farm curfews spark anger

City Press 13/6/93

By MOSES MAMAILA

FARMERS in the northern Transvaal have introduced dusk-to-dawn curfews around their farms and have warned that "trespassers" will be shot or arrested.

In several farms visited by City Press this week, affected labourers voiced their anger at the new measures. They said it was not a matter of choosing to defy the law but of choosing between life and death.

Fruit farmer Boela Bruwer, 31, who vowed to shoot all the troublemakers, said the move was part of the measures being implemented by the farmers in defence of their skin and property.

"There are threats from Apla and common criminals and as farmers we cannot wait to be killed before we take action," said the staunch

## Workers ignoring 'by-laws' get kangaroo-court justice

Conservative Party member, who is also a local commando unit member.

Bruwer, who owns Eureka farm outside Tzaneen, explained that the farmers in the region were forming a self-defence unit (SDU). The SDU was a defence measure implemented after Apla threats proved to be serious with the killing of a farmer's wife last month, he added.

Bruwer said his labourers understood that they were not supposed to hang around the farm between 6 pm and 6 am.

"Our main problem is not locals. People from other areas come to the

farm to kill and rob, and the curfew is also aimed at protecting our labourers," he said.

He said he had briefed his security guard to take "decisive" steps against people found defying the curfew hours.

He said the farmers, through the security committee in the Agricultural Union, were combat-ready and warned potential troublemakers to stay away from their farms.

Farm labourers said that the curfews reduced them to prisoners because they finished their daily work at about 5 pm, and after only an hour had to return to their compounds

until the next morning.

Most of the labourers interviewed begged that their names not be published because they would be evicted from the farms.

Johnson Gumede, a security guard at one of the farms, told City Press that it was not safe to be arrested by the enforcers of the curfews because that meant hell.

The region's National Council Trade Unions co-ordinator Moss Mphahlele said the farmers had also introduced kangaroo courts where labourers who had transgressed the law were tried.

"Those convicted by

the so-called 'courts' are brutally assaulted," said Mphahlele, adding that they had received several complaints from union members.

The story of the "courts" was confirmed by another farmer, Henrie van Zyl, who owns a vegetable farm north of Pietersburg.

"We have introduced a court system and the court convenes on Thursdays," he said, adding that the presiding officer was elected by the people.

He said the court handled small matters like trespassing and those "arrested" in connection

with serious cases were handed to the police.

Asked what happened to those convicted on the farm, Van Zyl could not give a direct answer but said in many cases they were given warnings.

Labourers said they were worried about their security on the farms following reports that the notorious Koevoet and Battalion 32 mercenaries were being integrated into the security structures of the farmers' SDU.

Northern Transvaal police spokesman Maj Arno Vogel was quoted in a Johannesburg daily as saying police could not prescribe to people with regard to matters of security on their own farms.

"But we urge them not to take the law into their own hands as far as confrontation with attackers are concerned," Vogel said.

# Qualified franchise rejected — survey

Biday 14/6/93

~~SOFA~~ ~~SOFA~~

GAVIN DU VENAGE

EVERYBODY over the age of 18 should have an equal vote irrespective of education, income or age, a Markinor survey released at the weekend has found.

Most South Africans of all races rejected voting restrictions or qualifications of any kind, said Markinor deputy MD Christine Woessner.

The survey was conducted in urban areas last year to find out what people thought of qualified franchise.

More Afrikaners rejected qualification than English speakers, Woessner said. More than 73% rejected restrictions, compared to the 65% of English whites. However, it had to be kept in mind that this only reflected urban opinion, she said.

More than 67% of blacks and 68% of whites rejected adding weight to the vote of people paying a higher income tax. Only 31% of blacks and 32% of whites fully or partly agreed with the suggestion.

Not surprisingly, said Woessner, respondents with a higher income agreed more with this statement than those with lower household incomes. Nearly half the whites with a monthly income of R8 000 per household

were in favour of this qualification.

Age-related voting qualifications were also strongly rejected by both race groups, but with greater disagreement by whites. Three-quarters of whites rejected making the vote of older people count more, and just more than half of blacks disagreed. However, half the black respondents older than 50 thought their vote should be given more sway.

There was also a "high resentment" among people older than 35 at the suggestion that younger people be given a stronger vote, particularly among whites, said Woessner.

"The greatest contention seemed to come with the suggestion that voting should be qualified by education," Woessner said. Blacks and whites are divided on this issue with nearly half of each group for and against the idea.

"The issue of educational qualification seems to evoke the strongest feeling, among whites and blacks, that it should perhaps be introduced. But even here feelings are split," Woessner said.

## Farmers 'accept war declaration'

Biday 14/6/93

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Attacks on farmers following calls for such action by ANC and PAC members had resulted in a situation where farmers accepted that the organisations had declared war on them and the Afrikaner, Free State Agricultural Union president Piet Gouws said at the weekend.

Gouws was speaking after an urgent meeting of the union's executive committee in Kroonstad.

Gouws said because of the increasing intensity of attacks, farmers were compelled to give the highest priority to security. He urged all farmers to join commando units in their districts.

Gouws repeated farmers were convinced a war against them had been declared by the ANC and PAC. "Consequently we must, with all the power at our disposal, defend ourselves as if we were in a war situation."

He said the tactics and timing of any action would be determined by the farming community. Discussions were planned between the union's security committee, the police and the SADF to consider future action.

**Farmers 'accept war declaration'**  
B/Say 14/6/93

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 I T Maseko  
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 J S Lehlonolo  
 M Marolloane  
 S Leone  
 R S Mogotlane  
 D B Snyders

the above-mentioned areas during this period? <sup>3 sen</sup> B896E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) (i)

1992	July	0
January	August	3
February	September	1
March	October	0
April	November	1
May	December	1
June		

1993

January	April	1
February	May	0
March		0

(ii) As KwaZulu has its own police force, statistics are not kept by the South African Police.

(b) (i)

1992	July	5
January	August	3
February	September	5
March	October	4
April	November	6
May	December	1
June		

1993

January	April	0
February	May	1
March		0

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#### Murders in Natal/KwaZulu

383. Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(a) How many persons were murdered in (i) Natal and (ii) KwaZulu in each month during the period 1 January 1992 up to the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) how many of these murders were attributable to political violence?

B897E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) (i)

1992	July	462
January	August	505
February	September	433
March	October	457
April	November	430
May	December	580
June		

1993

January	78
February	58

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(b) (i)

1992	July	74
January	August	98
February	September	76
March	October	85
April	November	65
May	December	108
June		

1993

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 R S Mogotlane  
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The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) (i)

1992  
 January ..... 1 July ..... 0  
 February ..... 0 August ..... 3  
 March ..... 2 September ..... 1  
 April ..... 0 October ..... 0  
 May ..... 1 November ..... 1  
 June ..... 1 December ..... 1

1993

January ..... 0 April ..... 1  
 February ..... 2 May ..... 0  
 March ..... 0

(ii) As KwaZulu has its own police force, statistics are not kept by the South African Police.

(b) (i)

1992  
 January ..... 2 July ..... 5  
 February ..... 3 August ..... 3  
 March ..... 2 September ..... 5  
 April ..... 6 October ..... 4  
 May ..... 6 November ..... 6  
 June ..... 3 December ..... 1

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The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) (i)

1992  
 January ..... 411 July ..... 462  
 February ..... 415 August ..... 505  
 March ..... 420 September ..... 433  
 April ..... 404 October ..... 457  
 May ..... 390 November ..... 430  
 June ..... 383 December ..... 580

1993

January ..... 472  
 February ..... 373

(ii) As KwaZulu has its own police force, statistics are not kept by the South African Police.

(b) (i)

1992  
 January ..... 33 July ..... 74  
 February ..... 25 August ..... 98  
 March ..... 41 September ..... 76  
 April ..... 37 October ..... 85  
 May ..... 51 November ..... 65  
 June ..... 46 December ..... 108

1993

January ..... 78  
 February ..... 58

(ii) As KwaZulu has its own police force, statistics are not kept by the South African Police.

# Inkatha to defy ban on East Rand march

RAY HARTLEY

INKATHA supporters would defy a police ban today and march from Thokoza to Vosloorus, where both the ANC and Inkatha were scheduled to hold June 16 commemorative meetings, Inkatha official Humphrey Ndlovu said yesterday.

Ndlovu said he had received a report at a peace secretariat meeting that the Inkatha march was to be stopped by police because no permission had been obtained.

Nevertheless, the march would go ahead because Inkatha had been told in the past that no permission was needed for marches proceeding to legal meetings.

Wits-Vaal peace secretariat officials made frantic efforts yesterday to avert potential clashes between Inkatha and ANC supporters on the East Rand.

Secretariat official David Storey said between 150 and 200 monitors would be deployed in more than 17 areas on the Reef including Sebokeng, Vosloorus, Katlehong, Thokoza, Soweto and Johannesburg. Inkatha and the ANC would jointly monitor events in Vosloorus and other areas.

The secretariat had convened discussions on preventing violence at which the two parties and the police were represented, he said. Agreements on policing and monitoring of events were being concluded at local level.

"We are hoping that people will commemorate the day peacefully and exercise restraint and tolerance. If a situation of conflict does occur, we appeal to people to co-operate with the monitors," he said.

ANC NEC member Harry Gwala would address rallies in Sebokeng, Vosloorus and Tembisa, an ANC spokesman said.

Inkatha Transvaal organiser Tembisa Khoza was scheduled to address a Vosloorus rally.

ANC president Nelson Mandela and ANC Youth League president Peter Mokaba would address a rally in Orlando Stadium, Soweto, while ANC PWV chairman Tokyo Sexwale would speak at the Johannesburg City Hall.

Police public relations chief Maj-Gen Leon Mellet said police were prepared for any eventuality.

The ANC and Inkatha agreed to monitor rallies jointly in Natal, while the police and peace accord officials would form joint operational centres, Sapa reported.

Reuter reported the ANC's main Natal rally, at Curries Fountain, would be addressed by Betty Shabazz, widow of US campaigner Malcolm X.

● Comment: Page 6

## Drought aid likely to exceed R100m

PRETORIA — Taxpayer support for farmers in drought disaster areas this year amounts to tens of millions of rands and could rise sharply before winter ends.

According to the Agriculture Department's financial assistance directorate, drought aid this year is likely to exceed last year's R100m, especially if summer rains are delayed.

A National Drought Disaster Committee spokesman said 78 districts had been declared disaster areas. This would increase before the end of winter and probably into summer.

The Red Meat Producers Organisation (RPO) said a third of the 9 000 stock farmers failed to qualify for aid in terms of the stock farmers relief scheme launched this month.

At the end of last week about R60m in this financial year had been paid to 1 715 Karoo stock farmers.

This did not include R15m paid to eastern Cape farmers and R12m to 359 Transvaal farmers. Free State stock farmers received another R10m.

RPO spokesman Jan de

GERALD REILLY

Jager said stock farmers were marketing millions of rands worth of breeding stock to survive.

Abattoirs were inundated with stock offerings and prices had sunk to the Meat Board floor price that did not cover production costs.

De Jager said the extent of slaughtering of breeding stock would set the industry back years.

Despite farmers' distress, meat processors and others in the trade were still importing meat.

The RPO had asked government to raise the import levy and to close loopholes in the system.

Meat Board GM Pieter Kempen said cold storage available to the board was more than 80% full mostly with carcasses lifted from the market at the floor price. He expected pressure to continue at least until end July.

He said the problem was not so much heavy marketing, but lack of consumer demand which had declined steeply in the past few months.

## To each his own — ANC

DIRK VAN EEDEN

THE ANC would fight for the right of people to be equal and yet remain different, ANC NEC member Albie Sachs said yesterday.

He told the German Chamber of Commerce in Johannesburg that even though all citizens of a future SA would have equal rights, there was no single SA culture or way of life and no one would be bound to be identical to anyone else.

"We come to the new SA as we are," he said.

The future SA would be pluralistic, with the different cultures enriching the social fabric of the broad SA society.

The ANC believed that different languages and cultures had to be protected in a Bill of Rights.

But political mobilisation around these issues would lead to civil strife as had happened in Bosnia.

Regions of a federal state could not be drawn around ethnicity, as ethnicity in SA was not geographically bound.

Sachs said that one of his biggest mistakes was believing that the state could solve all social problems.

Blom 17/6/63

**Germany looks at aid**

GERMAN Federal Health Ministry director-general Baldur Wagner, on a short tour of SA, said he would investigate ways whereby his country could contribute to rural development, after his visits to Lebowa and Gazankulu.

Boen

## Move on rural infrastructure

CAPE TOWN — A Bill making the State financially responsible for rural infrastructural development was tabled in Parliament yesterday. <sup>Star 18/6/93</sup> (3) Gen

The Rural Areas Amendment Bill exempts communities from having to make contributions to, and repayments for, new infrastructure.

This, according to an explanatory memorandum, is "to place such communities on an equal footing with other indigent communities".

It also transfers to the Minister of Budget and Housing the State President's power to make certain declarations on the administration of certain estates.

The Minister may appoint people, other than civil servants, to administer estates that have not been finalised. He may also defray the costs entailed in such administration. — Sapa.

## ANC cool on Eskom plans

*Business Day 18/6/93*

ESKOM's proposed rationalisation of operations on a regional basis has received a cool reaction from the ANC.

The ANC said the electricity parastatal's plans for regional supply authorities, reported in Business Day yesterday, were premature and created the impression that a high level of agreement existed in the National Electricity Forum. (2) (2)

Eskom senior GM Jan de Beer had said the restructuring plan most likely to be agreed upon in the electricity forum would involve parcelling out electricity supply to regional distributors.

"Such statements, in the ANC's view, ignore the role of the relevant trade unions within the electrification forum, where the relationship between electricity distribution and local government is also to be examined," the ANC said in a statement.

However, the organisation, a member of the forum, expressed support for the rapid extension of electricity supply and rationalisation of Eskom's central operations. — Sapa.

# State's drought relief programme criticised

*Business Day 18/6/93*

PRETORIA — The Land Bank would continue subsidising long-term interest at 13% for another year to alleviate the financial obligations of farmers, Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekirk said yesterday.

He said this would mitigate the far-reaching effects of drought.

Referring to calls on government to extend the subsidy on the interest rates of long-term loans at commercial banks, he said this was being considered. (3) Gen

However, government's drought and debt relief programme has been criticised by the Land and Agriculture Policy Centre, an ANC-aligned research organisation, Sapa reports.

The organisation aims to influence land, agriculture and rural policy by developing policy alternatives for a new democratic government.

The centre said yesterday the drought relief programme had hardly reduced the agricultural sector's vulnerability to future droughts. Debt relief had curbed the chance for an equitable land transfer programme.

It said R2 400m had been provided by government to write off short-

GERALD REILLY

term debt which farmers had accumulated since the early '80s.

"By repeatedly extending the scheme, government allowed the debt situation to grow to a critical level, thereby precipitating a crisis which required massive assistance."

Many co-operatives were still in financial difficulties, with the continued existence of 10 of the 60 major agricultural co-operatives in doubt.

The centre said the carry-over debt subsidy had done nothing to promote the efficient use of scarce agricultural resources.

It said the programme was harmful because it had contributed to artificially high land prices which inhibited the acquisition of land by poorer farmers; and the carry-over debt subsidy had been targeted exclusively at the white, commercial sector. Drought relief for the homeland areas had been insufficient.

The scheme was financed from borrowing and left a future government in a weaker financial position without addressing long-term problems in the sector.

# Move on land question

■ Finance Minister says restitution will cost billions of rands:

*Southern 18/6/93*

③ Gen

*(Handwritten scribbles)*

RESTITUTION, which could cost billions of rands, would have to be made as part of the process of reconciliation, Finance Minister Derek Keys said yesterday.

The move was immediately welcomed by the African National Congress, but the organisation felt Keys had not gone far enough.

It called for a "land claims court" to probe the issue dating back to the adoption of the 1913 Land Act, resulting in many blacks being dispossessed of their land.

At a Press conference yesterday, Keys was also upbeat about meeting the Budget target of a deficit of around 6,8 percent of gross domestic product — in

spite of predictions by market analysts that it would be closer to nine percent.

Responding to a question on the land issue, he said: "Restitution is part of reconciliation."

High expectation could not be successfully managed without more being done for the underprivileged, he said.

However, the country would probably have to borrow for this purpose. "This Government is already spending more than our tax revenue ... I imagine it would have to make use of national debt to an extent," said Keys.

"One doesn't like to build up the national debt if one can avoid it, but certain needs are so pressing and so justified that you have to take the painful

medicine."

ANC information director Dr Pallo Jordan said last night that it would go further and call for the issue to be "addressed through a mechanism that is seen to be fair".

He said the ANC had proposed a land claims court "through which these various claims can be processed".

This should "try to accommodate both the aggrieved and those who presently hold that land".

Jordan also said the probe should go back long before the National Party's reign - to 1913 when the Land Act was passed and "when the greatest damage was inflicted through dispossession of African people".

## Matter

# A community takes control of its future

By MORAY HATHORN

*Review/Law in W/mail 18/6-24/6/93*  
BY conventional standards a victory involving 6 500 remote villagers in the rural eastern Transvaal may not amount to much. But for the community it means everything. Residents have learnt they can make their voices heard, and that by acting together they can stop their village from becoming a slum.

The story of the people of kwaThandeka also illustrates the kind of development work in which some lawyers are becoming increasingly involved.

kwaThandeka is a village near Amsterdam in the eastern Transvaal, close to the Swazi border. About 6 500 people live there. They keep their own cattle; more than 90 percent grow crops and vegetables on their stands and many in the community depend on home-grown food.

Initially designated for removal to kaNgwane, the village was reprieved in 1987. There is limited economic growth potential in the area and equally limited employment possibilities in the formal sector.

During the 1980s the authorities and residents clashed over the level and quality of sanitation, water provision and refuse removal services in kwaThandeka. A professional survey carried out by the kwaThandeka Home

Committee (a representative residents' committee with very able and energetic leadership) showed these services were very poor.

Negotiations with the authorities over the issue of services followed lengthy litigation about arrear service charges which was eventually settled in favour of the community, represented by the Legal Resources Centre. After this issue was settled, a new residents' committee — the kwaThandeka Planning Committee — was elected democratically to negotiate with the authorities on the services dispute.

Then, without consulting the new planning committee, the kwaThandeka local authority, a body which was not popularly elected and which lacked legitimacy in the community, applied to the administrator of the Transvaal for permission to develop kwaThandeka. Their proposal included the multiple sub-division of existing stands.

Members of the community strongly rejected this idea because they believed it threatened the viability of the village for urban agriculture and would result in a slum. They asked the LRC to help them lodge objections to the plan.

An important basis for the objection was that the plan unlawfully infringed the rights of residents as site permit holders. Until the

*(3) Gov*  
reforms of the 1980s, site permits issued to black people were the strongest form of title available to them. Under the Conversion of Certain Rights to Leasehold Act of 1989 the holders of site permits have the right to continue occupying their sites, and after an inquiry by the provincial secretary, to be granted full 99-year leasehold rights. The proposed development would have seriously infringed these rights.

While the authorities considered the community objections, the planning committee commissioned several reports from independent agencies about the future development of the area. Eventually the kwaThandeka local authority decided not to go ahead with the planned sub-division. It accepted that urban agriculture ought to be encouraged in kwaThandeka and a few months ago suggested that more land should be acquired for this purpose.

Through its own determination and the willing help of experts, kwaThandeka residents have overcome many grave difficulties. From being a community under threat of removal, they are now setting the agenda for their own future development.

●Moray Hathorn is an attorney with the Legal Resources Centre, Johannesburg.



# Govt reconciliation bid

Star 18/6/93

By Chris Whitfield  
Political Correspondent

## Keys wants restitution for victims of apartheid land laws

CAPE TOWN — Restitution, which could cost billions, would have to be made as part of the process of reconciliation of people who were deprived of their land by apartheid, Finance Minister Derek Keys said yesterday.

The move was immediately welcomed by the ANC, but the organisation felt Keys

had not gone far enough and called for a "land claims court" to probe the issue dating back to the adoption of the 1913 Land Act.

At a press conference yesterday Keys was also upbeat about meeting the Budget target of a deficit of about 6,8 percent of gross domestic product — in spite of predictions by analysts that it would be closer to 9 percent.

"I don't have any reason

... to think that our figures are anything like as astray as projections which have been made," he said.

"This figure (from analysts) of R30 billion deficit, extrapolating from the April and May figures (for revenue), has no credibility."

Responding to a question on the land issue, Keys said: "Restitution is part of reconciliation."

High expectation could not

**Foreign banks seek political consensus**  
— Page 13

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He said the ANC had proposed a land claims court. This should "try to accommodate both the aggrieved and those who presently hold that land"

He said the probe should go back before the National Party's reign — to 1913 when the Land Act was passed and "when the greatest damage was inflicted through dispossession of African people".

During the press conference Keys also said delays in reaching a new debt standstill arrangement — covering about \$5 billion — were being experienced due to the need to get wide political endorsement; South Africa was likely to be recognised as a "country in transition" by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, thus relieving pressure on the manufacturing sector; and "very little money" was available for further pay increases for teachers and civil servants.

# Land battle has nation holding breath

By AMY WALDMAN

IN the 1920s, the western Transvaal was a very popular place. Diamonds had just

been discovered and diggers came flooding in.

That was the beginning of the history of Welverdiend, which means "well-deserved". This community of 119 families, just outside Lichtenburg, was established in 1926 as a labour supply for white diamond-diggers.

There is no more digging these days, just people living. But they may not be living there for long. Welverdiend is the site of a landmark dispute between the community and the farm owner over who has the right to the land.

As the national debate over land reform heats up, cases such as Welverdiend may get left in the cold. Because the land is privately, and not state owned, the matter cannot be heard by the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation (ACLA).

Although ACLA has received widespread criticism from land reform groups, it is the only existing body dealing with land claims.

Instead, Welverdiend's plight is being heard in the courts as a criminal case, with eight community members charged with trespassing and others charged with squatting under the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act.

Welverdiend residents point to the gravesites of their parents and ancestors, and say that Willem Mouton, who bought the land in 1989, is the squatter. But the courts may see it differently.

And because the community has said it will resist removal, the outcome could be explosive.

"If there is a conviction (under the Trespassing Act), the

*CIPRES 2016/193*

The tiny western Transvaal district of Welverdiend is the site of a raging dispute over land rights. Residents point to the gravesites of their parents and ancestors, and say that Willem Mouton, who bought the land in 1989, is the squatter. But the courts in this CP-controlled area may see it differently. AMY WALDMAN reports that similar communities in the western Transvaal, and throughout the nation, await an answer to the question of whether historical ties to land can constitute a title deed.

magistrate is obliged to order eviction. If that succeeds, they will charge other residents in batches", says Igbal Motala of Lawyers for Human Rights, who is representing the community.

Other similar communities in the western Transvaal, and throughout the nation, await an answer to the question of whether historical ties to land can constitute a title deed.

Mouton says: "I bought the land, it is registered in my name. As the State President said on television, 'A deed of sale is a deed of sale'. That land is mine."

But Andries Buffel of the Transvaal Rural Action Committee observes that many Africans don't believe that the land can be "owned" except by God. And after living in one place for decades, and sometimes centuries, they are baffled that a white claim to legal ownership could result in their removal.

Mouton says that the TPA promised to remove the community when he bought the land. Now the TPA wants to move the residents of Welverdiend to Boikhutso, the Lichtenburg township. They are prepared to pay for removal, and give each family a stand and R8 500 towards a house.

TRAC, which is helping the community oppose the move, estimates the cost of moving the community at R941 000. There is concern in Welverdiend about sowing jealousy in the township, and about jobs. Those who work,

do so on farms or still-operative diamond diggings near Welverdiend.

But most of all, the community simply does not want to move. "This is our home", Lizzy Mashaba says, pointing at the earth beneath her feet.

Welverdiend is barren and dusty, poor in facilities, and far from water and resources.

"They're fighting for this?" one visitor asked. There is no electricity or telephones, just mud houses with zinc roofs, a few cars, almost no noise.

But this is not just a settlement, it is a community, and a rural one. Being moved to the township would constitute forced urbanisation.

"The residents are coherent, peaceful and stable," says Buffel.

"They are not 'plakkers'. Together, the community built a school. No one goes to sleep without a meal", says Buffel. "There is still ubuntu here."

The Lichtenburg area is CP leader Ferdi Hartzenberg's constituency, but the 700 residents of Welverdiend are not his constituents. Hartzenberg once proposed that a census be taken to determine the Welverdiend residents' ethnicity in order to relegate them to the "correct" homeland.

Mouton denies charges that he is under pressure from the rightwing to evict the community. "I'm over 21 - I decide for myself," he says. He accuses

residents of littering, taking fences down and chopping down trees.

Several years ago, when the TPA didn't act against the community, Mouton did. In the presence of the police, he demolished 25 houses, which he claims were new or incomplete shacks.

"The TPA doesn't believe in forced removals," says spokesman Pete Wilken. But the Lichtenburg magistrate may, which is why Motala says: "I'm not sure this is something that can be solved in the courts."

Both LHR and TRAC believe that the TPA should purchase or expropriate the land and grant tenure to the residents. Anxious to be rid of the problem, Mouton has agreed to sell the farm - at an estimated cost of R275 000, which would be considerably less than transferring the entire community.

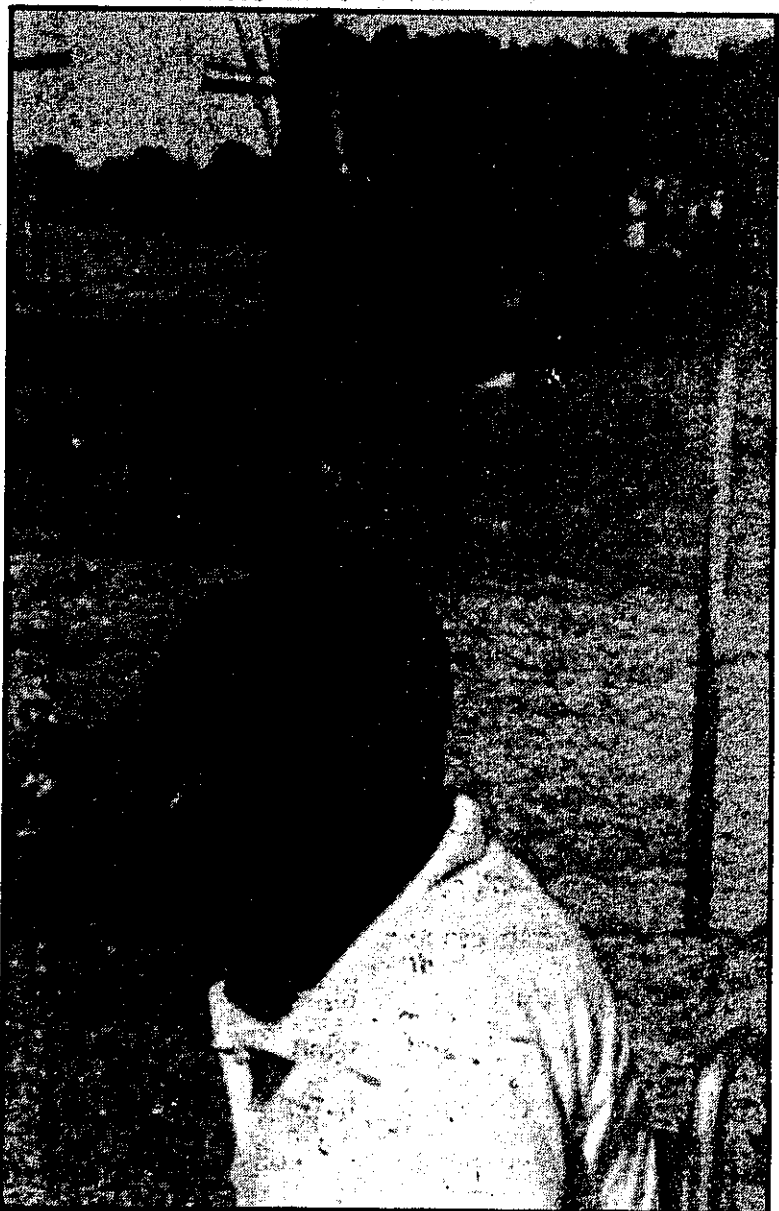
Buying the land would set a precedent. If the TPA "gives in" to the people of Welverdiend, they may have to acknowledge the land claims of the western Transvaal's other communities. And a capitulation under a NP government will not play well in a CP base.

"The TPA does not have money to buy farmland," says Wilken. "And there is an established township where we are prepared to move them."

Meanwhile, the community can't meet with Mouton because he is a state witness, and the A-G has instructed that prosecutions continue under the Trespass Act.

The first trespassing cases went to trial last week. After the police were accused of not informing witnesses of their rights, and of trying to gather evidence during the trial, the case has been postponed to Tuesday.

That may be the date that decides Welverdiend's fate.



**HOMELAND . . . Welverdiend residents are fighting for the right to live in the area where their ancestors are buried.** ■ Pic: AMY WALDMAN

# PAC willing to talk with the farmers

Star 22/6/93  
③ Gen

By Kaizer Nyatumba  
Political Correspondent

As pressure mounts on the leadership of the Pan Africanist Congress to suspend its armed struggle, PAC president Clarence Makwetu yesterday said his organisation was willing to meet white farmers to discuss mutual problems.

In what amounts to the first olive branch his organisation has presented to the country's white farmers, Makwetu — who said "a unilateral ceasefire" by the PAC would be "most irresponsible" — stated he was willing to meet the farmers.

Makwetu, whose organisation has twice offered to mediate between the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party, also expressed hope for a successful summit between ANC president Nelson Mandela and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi tomorrow. The meeting was brokered by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Bishop Stanley Mogoba.

Makwetu's decision to meet the farmers comes amid growing pressure on the PAC to sign a declaration committing itself to the suspension of all forms of violence in order to remain in the negotiations process.

Makwetu has repeatedly reiterated his organisation's willingness to discuss the question of violence with the Government, but has insisted that violence would have to be ended by both sides.

Following the two parties' failure to resolve the issue, the

Government asked negotiators at the World Trade Centre to sign a declaration distancing them from any form of violence.

In a move political observers believe might signal the organisation's willingness to get its armed wing to cease attacks on farmers, Makwetu said the PAC was prepared to meet them.

The meeting, he said, would address "issues of common interest between the farmers and the African communities either employed by the white farmers or living close to the white farms".

Makwetu said black farmworkers continued to suffer "many abuses at the hands of white farmers (who) are a law unto themselves". This, he said, worsened the "pain of land dispossession".

The PAC leader said while the Azanian People's Liberation Army addressed these problems "through armed struggle", the PAC leadership wanted to address them through dialogue with the farmers.

Makwetu said while the PAC disagreed with many parties in the country, it was not waging a war against them because they did not hold political power.

He said the PAC was flexible, and would "cease fire" under certain conditions.

These would be the establishment of a transitional executive council "with full, independent control over the security forces", the setting in motion of a process to elect a constituent assembly, and an agreement on a mutual cessation of hostilities.

WILSON ZWANE and  
DIRK VAN EEDEN

PAC president Clarence Makwetu yesterday invited white farmers to discuss a political solution to hostilities between them and the PAC's armed wing, Apla.

Speaking in Johannesburg, he said the two parties should meet as soon as possible to discuss "issues of common interest".

The PAC has accepted responsibility for attacks on farmers by Apla members, saying farmers were a legitimate target.

Makwetu stressed that the PAC would not suspend the armed struggle as a precondition for the meeting. The PAC was fighting anyone opposed to blacks' liberation, he said, accusing farmers of abusing blacks living on or near their farms.

Free State Agricultural Union president

## Makwetu invites farmers to meeting

Biday 22/6/93

Piet Gous said that if such talks could prevent only one farmer's death, they had to be regarded as a positive move. But farmers were not prepared to negotiate across graves and the PAC would have to prove its commitment to peace first. The farmers would talk only if they saw, over time, that no farmers were murdered, or if the PAC called on Apla to stop its war and handed murderers over to the police.

SA Agricultural Union spokesman August du Preez said the union could not comment until it had a formal invitation.

Picture: Page 4

# Land minister warns of reform problems

B1 Day 22/6/93

MARIANNE MERTEN

LAND reform did not simply mean land redistribution, and any reforms should consider both commercial and subsistence farming, Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk said yesterday. **3 Gem**

Addressing the National African Farmers' Union (Nafu) annual congress near Groblersdal, he said: "Simply redistributing land or land ownership will not necessarily solve the problem of the landless."

Agricultural organisations needed to take cognizance of the emotionally charged land debate. **(2)**

Land redistribution did not guarantee successful agriculture. Training at all levels was needed to instil the knowledge which would make agriculture successful in SA.

He invited Nafu to formal discussions with government.

Reacting to Van Niekerk's address, Nafu executive committee member Joe Kotsokoane said he wanted to see remedial action and "results on the ground".

He said it was unfortunate they were still talking about "black farmers and white farmers".

"It is impossible to wait for the undoing of injustices of apartheid, while we starve," he said.

Agricultural Credit Board chairman Hendrik van Zyl said the board would create a special financing

category to support subsistence farmers and would act as a facilitator for all farmers in co-operation with the Land Bank and the Development Bank of SA.

However, the 1966 Agricultural Credit Act — which changed from an Own Affairs Act to a General Affairs statute on April 1 1993 — still did not apply to the TBVC states or the homelands, he said.

SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) president Boet Fourie said agriculture was the backbone of SA's economy and would "be able to provide the engine for economic growth".

He said the SAAU and Nafu cooperated on a high level and this could lead to a single farmers' union in the future. At present, the two organisations were independent because they represented different needs.

Nafu president Matome Maponya said the union would seek representation on all statutory agricultural bodies. He said access to cheaper agricultural machinery would facilitate the involvement of poor farmers in commercial production.

However, the organisation had noted some co-operatives were introducing "hidden discriminatory rules" such as bank balance size.

Nafu called for a more open environment, he said.

## Farmers desperate for additional help

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Pressure for additional financial assistance for thousands of farmers impoverished by years of below average production and high input costs has never been greater, the Agriculture Department's directorate of financial assistance says.

This year, R500m in aid was budgeted for farmers in several different aid schemes, including drought aid and subsidised interest on loans. **B1 Day 22/6/93**

The directorate is now evaluating applications from the SA Agricultural Union for further substantial assistance and will make recommendations to Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk.

However, department sources said there was little likelihood the demands could be met "in any substantial way". **3 Gem**

The directorate initially expected the Agricultural Credit Board's revolving credit scheme would result in R200m in loan repayments and in payments of interest.

Because of the plight of a large number of farmers and their inability to meet loan obligations, this had been scaled down to less than R100m.

An SAAU spokesman confirmed that urgent representations had been made to government for additional aid.

Those most needing support were the red meat, sub-tropical deciduous fruit and timber industries, and farmers in certain sugar and summer crop growing areas, he said.

The spokesman said government aid had helped to stabilise farmers' debt at the end of last year to an estimated R17bn.

Nampo claims the financial position of many maize producers will be improved only marginally, in spite of a crop of more than 8-million tons. The producer price at R410 a ton barely covers production costs, it says.

## SA navy visits Indian Ocean islands

PRETORIA — The SA navy's recently commissioned logistical support vessel, SAS Outeniqua, embarked yesterday on its maiden voyage, a three-week goodwill visit to the Indian Ocean islands of Madagascar, the Seychelles and the Comores.

This was announced in a joint statement by the Foreign Affairs Department and the Defence Department.

The statement said the

voyage heralded a new era of regional co-operation.

The visit to Madagascar is to coincide with the island's national day on June 26, while the call at the Comoran capital of Moroni will afford SA's newly appointed non-resident ambassador the chance to introduce himself to the Comoran people.

It has also been announced that the Portuguese navy training barquentine, Sagres, is to pay a

five-day visit to Cape Town at the end of this week.

Meanwhile, several US navy vessels have docked in Durban harbour since the beginning of this year.

An SA navy spokesman said the ships were from the US navy sealift command and were crewed by civilians.

The US administration allowed SA ports to be placed on the US navy's official ports' list last year. **Sapa.**

# 'No quick change' in white judiciary

B/Day 22/6/93

SUSAN RUSSELL

EVEN if the recruiting ground for judges was widened it was still going to be a long time before suitable appointees other than white males were found, Chief Justice Michael Corbett said in Johannesburg yesterday.

He was speaking at the conclusion of a conference on the future of law in SA held as part of law firm Webber Wentzel's centenary celebrations.

His remarks followed a speech by ANC legal adviser Penuell Maduna who said the current white male-dominated judiciary lacked credibility in the eyes of the population and would have to become more representative in a future SA.

"While I agree there is an urgent need for the judiciary to be less dominated by white males, at the same time there is great difficulty in finding suitable appointees to the Bench," Corbett said.

"It may well be that the recruiting ground for the Bench should be widened, but even in those circumstances it will be a long time before one is going to find suitable appointees other than, I am afraid, white males.

The Chief Justice said he understood the concern of black people going to court who came into contact with white male judicial officers.

"But to a large extent that is a product of our history, social conditions and not something which I believe can be changed overnight."

Corbett said he believed there was nothing worse, for the public benefit and the morale of the individual concerned, than to appoint someone to the Bench who did not have the qualifications, because he soon

realised his deficiencies.

"I have seen in my own experience the moral disintegration that takes place when a man is put in that position and realises it," he said.

Both he and Goldstone commission head Judge Richard Goldstone, who gave the opening address, expressed "cautious optimism" that law and order would be restored in SA.

Goldstone said one of the elements needed to restore law and order was good, strong policing from a force seen by the majority of people as friendly and intent on protecting the public's rights.

"The police have already undergone dramatic changes," Goldstone said.

"I believe the SAP is much more conscious of the need for acceptance in the community and for the good co-operation of the community.

"There is not, however, very much chance of success before there is a democratic government that is in charge of the security forces."

Goldstone said his commission's own investigating team, which included local and international policemen, was a microcosm of what could happen, and what he believed would happen in SA in future.

The SAP members of the team, he said, found that policemen were policemen everywhere and that their problems were the same, Goldstone said.

Local police officers working on the investigation team had thoroughly enjoyed the experience, he said.

# Water report castigates councils

B/Day 22/6/93

JONATHAN DAVIS

COASTAL municipalities could be seriously damaging valuable dune water resources, according to the Water Research Commission.

Up to 50 local authorities are operating boreholes in dunes but have little expertise in the proper management of the vulnerable water resource, it says in a report compiled for the commission by the Institute for Coastal Research at the University of Port Elizabeth.

The report found use of the aquifers, or fresh water deposits, was much more extensive than had been suspected. More research was urgently needed to prevent excessive use of aquifers in dunes from damaging coastal environments.

A questionnaire filled in by local authorities showed that few knew how much water was being extracted, or the full extent of their existing sources.

The report says water supplies in coastal dunes are a highly vulnerable and much abused resource.

The quality of water in the aquifers is important to the survival of coastal wetlands. The extensive use of these sources may cause water levels in dunes to drop, with serious consequences for coastal vegetation. The depleted aquifers may also become contaminated with sea water.

Water sources in sand dunes are also vulnerable to pollution, because they are not protected by a layer of impermeable soil or rock. Because of this, the report stresses the careful management of sewage and other waste in any development in these areas.

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# Let's talk Soweto 22/1/93 says PAC

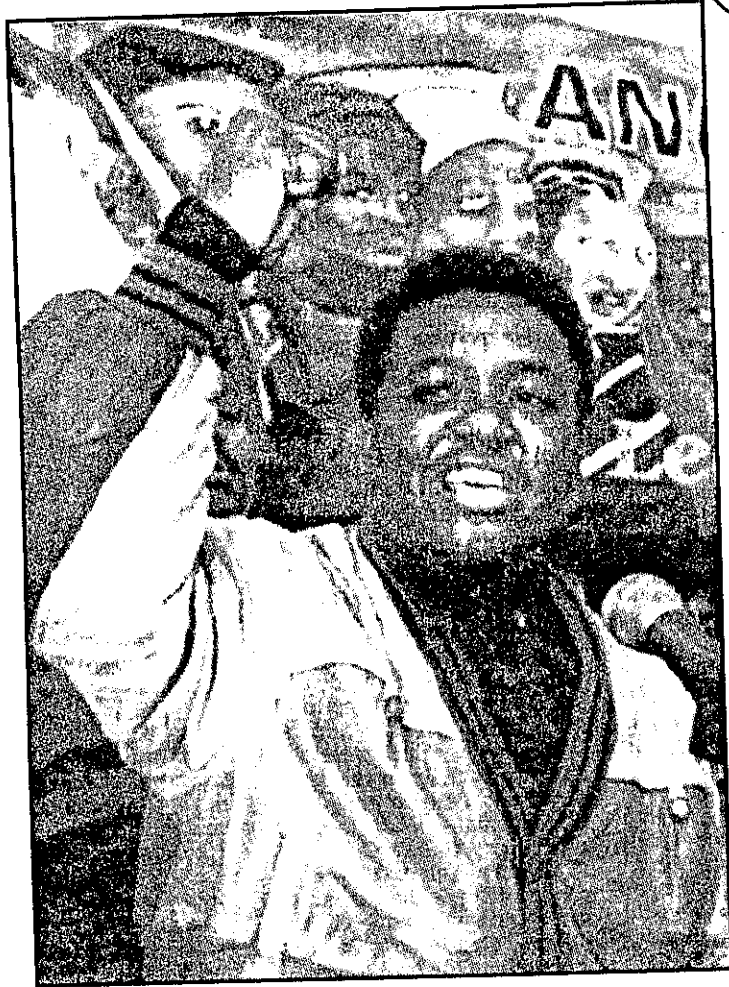
THE Pan Africanist Congress was prepared to meet white farmers to resolve conflicts affecting them and the African communities. (P)

At a Press conference yesterday, PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu said Africans employed on white farms or living in their neighbourhood continued to suffer many abuses at the hand of white farmers.

He said the Azanian People's Liberation Army was addressing these issues through armed struggle. The liberation movement wanted to address these deep concerns politically with the white farmers. (3) Gen

A unilateral ceasefire by the PAC, as demanded by the Government, would be most irresponsible. But the PAC was flexible, provided:

- A transitional authority controlling security forces was established;
- Constituent assembly election processes are set in motion; and
- A mutual end to hostilities was agreed on.



Peter Mokaba . . . ANC youth leader who refuses to abandon the "Kill the Boer" chant.

## Farmers lay charges over chant

Star 23/6/93

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

Angry farmers, accusing the Government of dragging its feet, yesterday laid three charges against ANC Youth League leader Peter Mokaba over the "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer" chant.

The charges are in terms of the Internal Security Act, the Intimidation Act, and the Riotous Assemblies Act.

SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie said in Pretoria that if the Attorney-General's office in Johannesburg declined to prosecute, farmers would bring a private prosecution against Mokaba in order "to muzzle him".

Stating that repeated calls by the ANC leadership to Mokaba to refrain from using the slogan had had no effect, Fourie rejected a weekend statement by Mokaba who told a rally in Cape Town that the chant was not directed against individual farmers but against the apartheid system.

Fourie — who was last month booed off the stage by farmers at a Potchefstroom rally — said the Mokaba chant was "vengeful" and had led to an escalation of attacks on farmers.

Asked if this meant that the SAAU believed the Government was dragging its feet on the issue of farm security, Fourie replied in the affirmative.

He also disclosed that the SAAU had written to ANC president Nelson Mandela about the chant and that Mandela had responded that he was investigating the matter.

Fourie said farmers were angry.

"The perception at ground level is that the inference of the chant is much greater than anything else concerning farmers," he added.

"When we are striving towards peace and some sort of stability, the country doesn't need slogans which provoke violence."

Asked whether the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions — both affiliates of the SAAU — would join the recently established right-wing Afrikaner Volksfront, which has called for strong action against farm attackers, Fourie declared that the SAAU and organised agriculture in general were apolitical.

He said it would be disastrous for 60 000 farmers to take a political viewpoint.

He told The Star that some farmers were leaving their land

as a result of more than 125 attacks on the farming community since January — but that this was not entirely due to the security situation. Much of it was because of economic reasons.

Fourie also said the SAAU could not see why it should meet PAC officials unless such a meeting had to do with the future of agriculture in the new South Africa.

Fourie had been asked whether the SAAU would be taking up an invitation by the PAC to talk after it was reported yesterday that the PAC had offered to meet farmers to find a political solution to their being targeted by the PAC's military wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army.

Fourie added that the SAAU's function and aim was to hold discussions to make people realise the importance of a strong agricultural industry.

"If discussions with the PAC are to follow that line, there would be talks," he added.

PAC president Clarence Makwetu was quoted as saying the meeting could "contribute to a relatively peaceful resolution of the many conflicts afflicting our country".

He also accused farmers of abusing farm labourers and rural black people.



**NEWS** Cradock files d

**Charge is laid  
against Mokaba**

*Sowetan 24/6/93*

THE president of the SA Agricultural Union, Mr Boel Fourie, has laid a criminal charge against ANC Youth League leader Mr Peter Mokaba for his "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer" chant.

Fourie said on the radio programme *Calling all Farmers* yesterday he had laid the charge personally as the union could not do so.

He said he had done so for the country's farmers.

The Attorney-General had been investigating Mokaba's actions, he said. — *Sowetan Correspondent*.

# Come to the Sowetan market

24/6/93

THOUSANDS of people are going to be pleasantly surprised by the lower priced vegetables and fruit at the fresh produce market being launched in 9th Road, Kew (continuation of Corlett Drive), from 6am tomorrow.

The R500 000 venture is financed by American companies through an Alex-based job creation organisation, Progress Through Employment.

Farmers from far and wide, including a group from KwaNdebele, will market their produce.

Project volunteer Barry Shippel says the market will be a free trade area with an "affirmative approach".

Stands at the market complex are also available to individual traders.

The idea behind the venture, according to Shippel, is to invoke the vibrant spirit of African markets.

African handicrafts will also be on sale.

# Row over farmer's trapped apes

W/ mail 25/6-11/193. (3) Gen

Allegations of cruelty have been made against a farmer who supplies apes to university medical faculties.

By JACQUIE GOLDING

**A**N animal cruelty row has blown up around a northern Transvaal farmer who traps and supplies apes to the medical faculties of Wits and Cape Town universities.

Erich Venter, the owner of Mpatamacha farm in Vaalwater, traps baboons and vervet monkeys under licence from the Directorate of Nature and Environmental Conservation and sells them to Wits, UCT, the Roodeplaat research station and HF Grove hospital. The baboons sell for between R400 and R600, but Venter complained that he made only R20 profit per animal.

A pirated video shot two weeks ago by activists of the South Africans against Vivisection (Saav) group, which *The Weekly Mail* has seen, has been handed to the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

The video showed overcrowding in the enclosure used by Venter for the captured animals. The squalid cages contained two dead baboons, a dead monkey and a monkey on the point of death. The dead monkey, which was disembowelled, was lying in a cage with six other vervets.

"The enclosure was crammed with about 60



Trapped ... Cages where farmer Erich Venter keeps the apes

Photo: LUANNE CADD

baboons and monkeys," said a Saav representative. "There was no food in the enclosure, the water was acrid and all the cages were in a disgusting state. One monkey lay next to a water bowl and the stench was overwhelming."

When *The Weekly Mail* visited the farm with SPCA inspectors earlier this week, the encl-

sure appeared to have been cleaned up. However, one baboon was dead. The apes were held in long rows of tiny cages, cramped up or rocking backwards and forwards.

The chief inspector of the SPCA in Pretoria said the video was not of a sufficiently high quality to be used in a prosecution.

But he was able to ascertain that some of the apes were suffering from stress and that their water bowls were dirty. The dead baboon he saw this week appeared to have died of stress, he added.

Venter traps the primates in a number of locations, including Beestkraal, Nylstroom and Ellisras. He keeps them at his farm until they are required by laboratories.

"Once captured, the apes are never let free. If they're not used for experimentation they're shot," said the Saav representative.

Karen Trendler, from Pretoria's Animal Rehabilitation Centre, said after watching the video: "These baboons were definitely neglected. It's clear they didn't have sufficient food or shelter, resulting in undue stress."

"One baboon had been dead for a couple of days, since its hair was falling out. It's unacceptable that this type of operation is sanctioned by Nature Conservation without close inspection of the state of the animals."

The chief director of the Nature Conservation Directorate, Dr Pieter Mulder, commented that the "task of inspecting all trappings is too great" but that "all complaints are investigated". He said his department tried its best to curb malpractices.

Wits deputy vice-chancellor (research) Professor Friedel Sellschop said he was unaware of any abuse. When a university team had visited Venter's farm last month, "everything was in a spick and span condition", he said.

# Sinister factors in farm aid alleged

S (Times [Russ]) 2-16-93

③ Gen

By KEVIN DAVIE

THE Government's R3,4-billion drought relief programme, has been slammed as being support for vested interests and a major contributor to South Africa's deficit financing problems.

Land and Agriculture Policy (LAPC) says the programme was used to prop up the Land Bank, co-operatives and the price of farm land, protect heavily indebted farmers and impede land reform.

The ANC-aligned research group says the underlying problems dealt with by the programme — the Government's guarantees on farm debt which piled up in the 1980s — were not those of drought.

"The underlying situation had been caused by government policy which had allowed the debt situation to get out of control. The debt subsidy has done nothing to promote efficiency, but rather has been support for an influential vested interest."

LAPC says government expenditure exceeded the budgeted 1992-93 estimate by R4,4-billion, an overshoot of 4,4%. A total of R3-billion (70%) of the overspending was on debt and drought relief.

## Warnings

The overshoot helped push the Budget deficit to 8,6% of gross domestic product. Economists and the International Monetary Fund have warned that above 6% of GDP, SA faces a public debt trap — the cost of servicing government debt continues to spiral, requiring higher and higher taxes.

There have been warnings — rejected by Finance Minister Derek Keys — that the deficit this year will again be nearly 9% of GDP.

LAPC says the programme has done nothing to reduce vulnerability to drought.

"Given the fact that the scheme was financed from borrowing, it has left a future government in a weaker financial position without ad-

ressing the long-term problems of the sector.

"In terms of equity, it has contributed to keeping up land prices which inhibits land redistribution; and very large sums were targeted on commercial farmers, a high-income group in SA.

"The programme made several thousand farmers less vulnerable to the loss of their land. This represents both a lost opportunity for land reform and the creation of a successful fait accompli in advance of a change of government."

LAPC says that "despite government denials, those with most debt received the largest subsidies".

In the short term, the Land Bank's exposure has been relieved. But a future drought could place it in a precarious position.

LAPC traces last year's bumper R3,4-billion relief programme to a debt carryover scheme introduced initially as a strictly temporary measure after the poor 1982-93 harvest, but which has become permanent.

"This came to a head after the 1991-92 drought when the guarantee required from the State rose from an initial R800-million to R2,4-billion.

Another R1-billion for drought relief was added to the R2,4-billion debt package. The initial idea was to pay the amount over four years. But to reduce interest charges, the entire amount was paid on March 1993.

The homelands were to receive about R543-million, but not all was disbursed and "its effectiveness is uncertain as no evaluation is to be carried out".

LAPC says farm debt increased by 329% between 1980 and 1991.

The debt-burden ratio rose the 1980s, particularly in the case of grain farmers in the summer and winter rainfall areas.

LAPC cites an Economic Advisory Council report that declining terms of trade and positive interest rates were

the two key reasons for an increase in agriculture's debt. The EAC found that only 22% of the increase in agricultural debt was explained by drought.

Eighteen loan and subsidy schemes were in operation in 1991-92, the year before the debt relief programme. Financial assistance to agriculture on top of drought relief amounted to R355-million in 1992-93.

LAPC says the Government saw in the scheme a chance to write off its obligations to the Land Bank, albeit at a cost of R2,4-billion. This would also relieve pressure on Volkskas Bank which was heavily exposed in the field-crop sector.

## Critical

The Government decided to pay an input subsidy of R375 a hectare, arriving at this figure by dividing R2,4-billion by the 6,4-million hectares under cultivation, the area covered by the guarantee scheme.

LAPC says it would "appear to be the case that the larger farmers have once again been successful in capturing the lion's share of state assistance".

"If the carryover scheme had not been extended throughout the 1980s then a steady stream of farmers would have left agriculture and been replaced by new farmers with lower bond obligations.

"Land prices would have fallen, enabling newcomers to obtain land at lower prices. At the same time co-operatives would have had to tighten up lending policy.

"By repeatedly extending the scheme, the Government allowed the debt situation to grow to a critical level, thereby precipitating a crisis which required massive State assistance.

"Indirectly, Volkskas Bank, which has lent extensively to maize and wheat farmers, has benefited enormously. It would have been in difficulty if there had been a sharp increase in foreclosures."

# Now Transkei wants more land

By RYAN CRESSWELL

THE Transkei government wants vast tracts of southern Natal and the Border area incorporated into the homeland.

Transkei government spokesman Michael Mthuli said many people in the homeland felt parts of Natal and the Cape were "historical and integral" parts of the region.

Mr Mthuli said the larger area would be more economically viable, and Umtata would be the natural centre of the

region. But the idea is meeting stiff resistance from local authorities and other organisations.

Port Shepstone town clerk Mr Jurgen Steyn said mayors and town clerks in the southern Natal region had sent a series of objections to the Demarcation Commission.

He said: "We objected on the grounds that the area has always been part of Natal and KwaZulu, geographically, economically, culturally and historically."

By ELIAS MALULEKE  
and DAN DHLAMINI

AWB members, white immigrants and a semi-blind frail old white man this week allegedly received free weapons and ammunition from the SADF.

Whites flocked to Zonderwater army base in Potchefstroom on Wednesday to receive a frightening array of R-1 semi-automatic rifles and ammunition.

Of 400 whites who pitched, at least 250 were issued with arms and ammunition, according to the SADF.

Meanwhile, black youths passing the base alleged the whites had shouted: "Arm the boer! Arm the farmer!"

The alarming rate at which whites were joining the SADF commandos - widely regarded by blacks as white self-defence units - this week raised a storm of protest among black organisations who said the move was racially biased in favour of white farmers and right-wingers.

The SADF, however, said it was not only arming farmers, but every one who was interested in the security of the farming community.

In some instances, more than one member of a white family was issued with arms on joining the commando units, including women.

Blacks this week questioned whether the "kits commandos", as one put it, would receive training, or whether their guns would be checked at all.

City Press was also told that many of the people issued with the weapons were not farmers, but were immigrants who had hired smallholdings outside cities.

City Press heard claims that no training would be provided for the commando units, some of whom allegedly had no gun licences.

A young concerned white man told City Press his semi-blind, ailing, father was issued with an R1, ammunition and a uniform - without being trained.

He said: "Hundreds like him queue for guns at Zonderwater every Saturday and are issued with guns without proper training or medical scrutiny."

The move follows calls by SA Agriculture Union (SAAU) leader Boet

# Blacks angered by SADF

## move

Fourie for police to charge ANC Youth League president Peter Mokaba for chanting "Kill the boer! Kill the farmer!"

Hundreds of farmers converged on Zonderwater, a former prison, on Wednesday.

Furious white farmers claimed that Mokaba's slogan was inciting and therefore responsible for the escalation of attacks on farmers and threatened private prosecution if the State did not act.

The head of the SADF's North Western Command, Maj S Marais, told City Press the perception that the SADF was arming white farmers was wrong.

Marais said the commando was arming everybody who was interested in the security of the farming community.

She confirmed that about 250 of the more than 400 whites who converged at the Potchefstroom barracks on Wednesday were issued with firearms.

She said this was an ordinary recruitment exercise for interested whites to register as volunteers or permanent members of the commando.

ANC Western Transvaal region spokesman, Ranko Molefe, said arming the already heavily armed farmers was unacceptable.

Molefe said the SADF was an organ of the State which was supposed to protect all citizens of South Africa - not only white farmers.

Molefe said the ANC would not allow a situation where a minority were treated like kings and sheiks at the expense of the majority.

# ARMING

C.P. Press 27/6/93

# THE BOER

## Union appeals to govt to extend aid

PRETORIA — Conditions in the agricultural industry continue to deteriorate and the SA Agricultural Union had appealed urgently to government to "prolong, adjust and extend" certain aid schemes, a union spokesman said at the weekend. *3 Gen*

The appeal was made following a comprehensive survey of the industry which showed production in some regions would be steeply down.

Market disasters were experienced in the wool and mohair industries, where prices had collapsed. Meat prices were also down sharply.

The maize crop, at 8-million tons, was 5-million tons greater than last

*By Day 28/6/93*  
year's ravaged crop, but in certain areas, damage to the wheat crop had been "catastrophic".

The 1992/1993 sugar crop had fallen by about 30% to 1,5-million tons compared with an average production of between 2,1-million tons and 2,2-million tons previously.

This year's crop amounted to only 1,3-million tons in spite of the area planted increasing by more than 25%.

Sub-tropical citrus, deciduous fruit, timber and vegetable producers had been adversely affected by a water shortage.

GERALD REILLY

B1 Day 28/6/93

# Australian land ruling may affect SA litigation

③ Gen

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**LOUIS BECKERLING  
in Perth**

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ALTHOUGH Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating has dismissed warnings that Australia's agricultural and mining industries could be threatened by the "Mabo case", shock waves from the high court ruling last year could reach SA.

The recognition by the court that Eddie Mabo and fellow plaintiffs enjoyed exclusive "native title" to their traditional land solely by virtue of maintaining their unbroken connection with the land, has rocked Australian property law.

There are SA lawyers — both among the considerable group of emigrés now living in Perth, and among recent visitors here — who believe it could do the same for the course of litigation on land redistribution in SA. Such litigation put before a reconstituted post-apartheid judiciary, they say, could show some sympathy with the reasoning employed by the Australian High Court.

The high court decision in Mabo v the State of Queensland, was handed down on June 3 1992. But the fallout from that decision is beginning to penetrate only now to grassroots levels in rural communities around Australia, where paralysing uncertainties have been created about the rash of court applications likely to follow in Mabo's wake.

In broad terms, the Mabo decision

recognises that aboriginal groups that have substantially maintained their connection with their traditional lands may have "native title" to that land, and that such title amounts to a right of exclusive possession.

There is a nightmare vision of a mass of applications likely to come from aboriginal communities who have been alerted to their newfound rights by the publicity.

Already there has been a claim mounted by one aboriginal group for the entire central business district of Brisbane, capital city of Queensland.

Queensland Liberal Party leader Paul Everingham has said A\$30bn worth of development projects are at risk because of the uncertainty of native land title.

He called for state and federal laws to nullify claims.

Earlier, the first shots in the new territorial contest unlocked by Mabo had been fired in mineral-rich Western Australia — and De Beers' Australian exploration arm, Stockdale Prospecting, was at the receiving end.

In January, Stockdale ran into difficulties trying to renew and expand an annual exploration permit which entitled it to prospect in the Forrest River area of the state's far north.

Stockdale wanted to vary the terms of the permit to allow a bulk

sampling programme to pave the way for a diamond mine, and under the law the variation had to go before the aboriginal Kimberley Lands Trust.

It was strongly opposed on the grounds that claims for native title over the area likely to be lodged in the wake of Mabo could be compromised by varying the permit. The company eventually had its permit renewed without any variation.

The reason for the anxiety shown by the Kimberley Lands Trust is that in coming to its decision the High Court found that native title could be extinguished by abandonment — either voluntary or forced expulsion; death of all title holders; surrender to the crown; or legislative and executive action which clearly intends to extinguish native title — for example a grant of land, or a lease, though lesser interest in land such as lower-order mining tenements may or may not extinguish native title.

In view of the uncertainty, the interests of prospective claimants of native title might now be protected by freezing exploration and development of unallocated Crown land

where native title is most likely to be sought, warn the state's miners.

Since 38% of Western Australia is unallocated Crown Land, that represents a big slice of territory and could paralyse the state's main engine of economic development.

From the perspective of the white settlers and their successors who have raised a First World infrastructure with all its complex inter-relationships on the foundations of property law pre-dating Mabo, the case is seen to threaten the legal foundation of the Australian rural and mineral economy.

From the perspective of the aboriginal people, the case has overturned a fiction at the heart of the Australian constitution which has denied the legitimate claims of the original black settlers and their successors on large tracts of land.

From these two differing perspectives, each now argues that state or federal government should legislate to remove uncertainty and overcome the need for each prospective claim to be tried individually on evidence before the court.

A Perth solicitor practising in resource law says what is required immediately is a "Band Aid" solution which preserves the rights of all parties and permits life to go on. "Presently, if people want to, they can cre-

ate considerable delays in any sort of project that involves an application for interest in land," he says. "Merely by saying 'We claim native title', they can prevent decision-makers from determining applications from miners."

Since the economy cannot afford this disruption and the time taken to reach a decision (the Mabo decision took 10 years), what is required is law to allow development to proceed without compromising prospective claims, say miners.

In the longer term, Mabo has highlighted for Australians the whole issue of aboriginal land rights. "We have yet to deal with this question, together with the associated issues of aboriginal heritage and sacred sites," says the solicitor.

The Aboriginal Legal Service has welcomed the Mabo decision, which it says amounts to recognising, not creating, a right which has for too long been ignored by white Australians. That decision will not undermine mineral prospecting or development, it says, and parallel developments in Canada would bear testimony to this. But going to court to prove entitlement is also not welcomed by the service, which would prefer to see those aboriginal legal rights to land recognised by Mabo enshrined in law.

**BOOKS**

Focus on need for



Star 11/11/93

# Umgeni Water goes successfully to market

By Derek Fomney

Natal public utility Umgeni Water has had considerable success making its loan stock more marketable — and reducing its effective interest charges.

When it took steps in July 1991 to promote its stock and improve marketability, Umgeni

Water had fewer than 25 investors, it says in its annual report.

But by the end of last February it had more than 225 — some in the UK, Europe, Canada and Australia. *Gen*

The greater marketability of the stock, together with its top rating of AAA, has reduced even further the effective inter-

est rate it has to pay, says chairman Ken McDonald.

One result of Umgeni Water's more favourable borrowing rates is that consumers could save more than R2 billion in financing costs if the proposed purchase of certain dams from the Department of Water Affairs is successful.

gest crops ever. But eastern Cape inland farms covering 450 km between Port Elizabeth and Colesberg and 725 km from Uniondale to Maclear are still parched, with some barely wet by more than a shower since 1987.

It's hard to determine how much farmers have lost due to the drought. East Cape Agricultural Union manager Rory O'Moore knows of no accurate assessment of the value of the region's agricultural production in good years.

The mix — except for areas under irrigation and dry land crop production — is cattle, sheep and goats, which have all suffered except along the coast.

The loss in production will be worked out only after the drought breaks, says senior SA Agricultural Union economist Johan Pienaar.

#### Few bankruptcies

The tally must include losses on sales farmers couldn't make, stock that died, losses on stock that had to be sold at low prices and the high cost of re-establishing after the drought. "Some farmers are going bankrupt just paying for fodder" for the small, breeding stock they're keeping, says Pienaar.

East Cape Agricultural Union president Thinus Hartman says most inland farmers haven't had rain for two years and some haven't had any usable rain for six. The rain that does fall dries up quickly because of heat and wind.

Many have left farms to work in towns and cities but there have been few bankruptcies, he says. Most have left their farms in the charge of skeleton staff and return over weekends to check their breeding herds and flocks.

The region covers 41 magisterial districts and has 8 000 farmers. Last week, a part of the Graaff-Reinet district and the Stutterheim, Komga, Indwe and Port Alfred districts were added to the 24 districts that have already been declared drought areas, O'Moore says.

The region normally enjoys a mix of climates: some are winter rainfall areas, others summer rainfall and parts both.

At the Johannesburg abattoir, C-class "full mouth" (fully grown) cattle fetched R4,72/kg early this week, which works out to R1 416 for one weighing 300 kg. But farmers who use government's drought assistance scheme must reduce livestock by two-thirds and are paid R35 a head for cattle or R7 a head for small stock, sheep and goats. In return, they get help paying for fodder and a 75% subsidy on its railage.

Irrigation farmers are not struggling as much as stock farmers. O'Moore says those in the Sunday River and Gamtoos River valleys get all the water they need but those whose water comes from Hendrik Verwoerd Dam have had their allocations halved.

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, which controls the giant 5,67bn m<sup>3</sup> dam, says it is only 32% full compared with 49% last year. ■

## THE DROUGHT Fm 2/7/93 Biting the eastern Cape

Most farmers in summer rainfall areas are celebrating the end of the worst drought they can remember by reaping some of their big-

**The South African  
Labour and Develop-  
ment Research Unit  
(SALDRU)** (3) Ben

In collaboration with the Karoo Planning and Reconstruction Organisation, SALDRU will be launching the Land Network on July 5 to 7 at Saron, (between Wellington and Porterville). The Network plans to give people in rural areas a platform to voice grievances on regional and national levels. All rural communities are welcome, irrespective of religion or political affiliation. South 47-77793  
Tel. Simone at 650 2739/50 for further information.

# PAC 'deal' on white farmers

DURBAN. — The Azanian Peoples' Liberation Army (Apla) would not have to resort to force to gain land for black people if unproductive elderly white farmers occupying vast tracts of land vacated them, according to the Transkei's central region Pan-Africanist Congress vice-chairman, Mr Gilbert Sineke, at

a weekend homeland rally. Mr Sineke said PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu would be requested to advise elderly farmers to "move to old-age homes so that this land is made available to the African people without the use of force by Apla".

He said Apla members had

found lonely, unproductive white farmers occupying vast tracts of land.

"The PAC is fighting for the return of the land and we are happy to learn that white farmers are leaving their farms because of Apla, a move which will facilitate land distribution in our country," he added. — Sapa

# Crookes Brothers predicts growth in spite of drought

Biday 6/7/93

FARMING and investment holding company Crookes Brothers predicted strong growth after diversifying its agricultural crop mix to withstand seasonal setbacks and price variations, chairman Ivan Gillatt said in the 1993 annual report.

The group's geographical spread had, to some extent, cushioned the group against the full effects of the continuing drought. It had also introduced irrigation wherever possible.

Gillatt said he believed the role of "agri-business" in the economy was assured of growth because of rapid urbanisation and greater consumer spending.

Strong competition and poor demand had depressed apple prices, causing citrus prices to remain at 1992 levels.

Operating profits were also adversely affected by difficult export marketing conditions in Europe.

But Gillatt said borrowing, except in the very short term, was avoided.

Cane production estimates for 1993/94 were marginally higher than those achieved in the previous year, after the industry was downsized as a result of the drought.

Expectations that sugar production would recover after last year's disastrous season were dashed as the drought continued through the summer.

There was a danger that the crop would

MZIWAKHE HLANGANI

not be sufficient to supply local market requirements.

Crookes Brothers would invest R8m over two years in developing 500ha of sugar cane.

Construction of the new Komatipoort mill was underway on the farm adjoining the estate.

Gillatt said Citrus production increased despite the drought, due to additional orchards falling into the production cycle and young orchards reaching productive maturity.

Citrus production was expected to be 10% higher than the previous year because of a replant and expansion programme.

Gillatt said fruit export prices remained at last year's level because of competition from South America.

The first stage of 80ha of banana expansion was completed on schedule and contribution in this sector would increase significantly. The second stage of 75ha was to be completed next February.

Normal climatic conditions prevailed for other crops and a record barley harvest had increased group earnings.

Another grain and sheep farm had been leased in the Napier district to expand this operation from January 1993, Gillatt said.

# Dispute

over land

Star 6/7/93

added to

## Randburg

By Anna Cox

Randburg's municipal borders were officially extended north by 5 000 ha by the Administrator of the Transvaal last Friday, infuriating residents living in the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment area.

Chairman of the Jukskei Crocodile Catchment Area Land Owners and Residents Association, Wessel Swart, said the incorporation was done without consultation with the community. *(Gen)*

Swart said his association was contemplating taking legal action to reverse the Demarcation Board's recommendations. The association would also refuse to nominate councillors to represent the areas on the Randburg Town Council, he said.

"Randburg has admitted that it has not planned for our areas. We do not want to be incorporated, so why are they forcing the issue? ... We have already formulated plans for low cost housing in consultation with civic organisations and political parties in the area.

"Randburg is a high-density area which contrasts with our rural way of living," said Swart. *(Sub)*

The Randburg Action Committee, formed by residents who felt the town council was not representative of residents, said the incorporation move would be strongly opposed. Chairman Harry Formanek said the decision, which was taken unilaterally, faced strong resistance.

A meeting will be held tonight at the Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk Hall at 7 pm. Randburg management committee members will answer questions regarding the incorporation.

# PAC eyes 'unproductive land'

DURBAN — Apla would not have to resort to force to gain land for black people if unproductive elderly white farmers occupying vast tracts of land vacated them, said PAC Transkei central region vice-chairman Gilbert Sineke at a weekend homeland rally, Sapa reports.

In a speech, Sineke said PAC president Clarence Makwetu would be requested to advise elderly farmers to "move so that this land is made available to the African people without the use of force by Apla".

He said Apla members had found unproductive white farmers occupying vast tracts of land.

This was disturbing and was an issue Makwetu should take up in his proposed meeting with white farmers, said Sineke.

He went on to criticise multiparty negotiations at the World Trade Centre, charging they would not bring true democracy.

"We do not believe the parties presently represented at the World Trade Centre are willing to put pressure on the regime to accept democratic rule in the country."

ERICA JANKOWITZ reports the PAC yesterday expressed its support for a National Union of Metalworkers of SA

(Numsa) resolution to dissolve Cosatu's alliance with the ANC and SACP after next year's election.

The PAC said in a statement it had always advocated autonomy of the labour movement "as a matter of policy".

The PAC said it was no secret that workers' aspirations would never be accommodated in the constitution being drawn up by multiparty negotiators.

The PAC strongly supported Numsa's stand on nationalisation.

"Under the racist regime, the SA economy has been the most socialist for the benefit of the minority whites," the statement said.

On the same issue, NP media director Marthinus van Schalkwyk said Numsa's call for nationalisation clearly showed a rift developing between the alliance partners. "This is a clear indication that the struggle for the soul of the ANC has begun.

"At a time when the ANC endeavours to project itself as an organisation moving to the centre of the political and economic spectrum, this decision is hardly good news," he said in a statement.

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# PAC terror plan joy slated

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE DP condemned "with disgust" yesterday the PAC's rejoicing that its terror campaign involving the murder of elderly white farmers was succeeding in driving them off the land.

DP agriculture spokesman, Mr Errol Moorcroft, said: "Such a campaign is not only racist and brutal, but it is entirely unwarranted," adding that "there are many options other than murder

for the acquisition of land".

He said the DP stood for the acquisition of land through the rule of law rather than through the barrel of a gun. ~~CT 7/7/73~~

Mr Moorcroft was reacting to a weekend speech by the PAC's Transkei central region vice-chairman Mr Gilbert Sineke in which he said: "The PAC is fighting for the return of the land and we are happy to learn that white farmers are leaving their farms

because of Apla — a move which will facilitate land distribution in our country."

A farmer in the Albany district, Mr Moorcraft said the PAC's statement would be music in the ears of right-wing whites who were itching to avenge the death of white farmers.

"What the PAC is doing is fueling the flames of a race war which will reduce South Africa to a wasteland," he said.



# The last all-white call-up?

Star 7/1/93

By Shirley Woodgate

A small group of national servicemen gathered at Nasrec yesterday for the July SA Defence Force call-up — mostly unaware they could be making history. They were probably marching off to their one-year camp as part of the country's last all-white intake.

Commandant Mannie Ahlo of Witwatersrand Command would only comment briefly: "National service still remains in force according to Defence Act No 44 of 1957, which means all white male citizens are liable for military service.

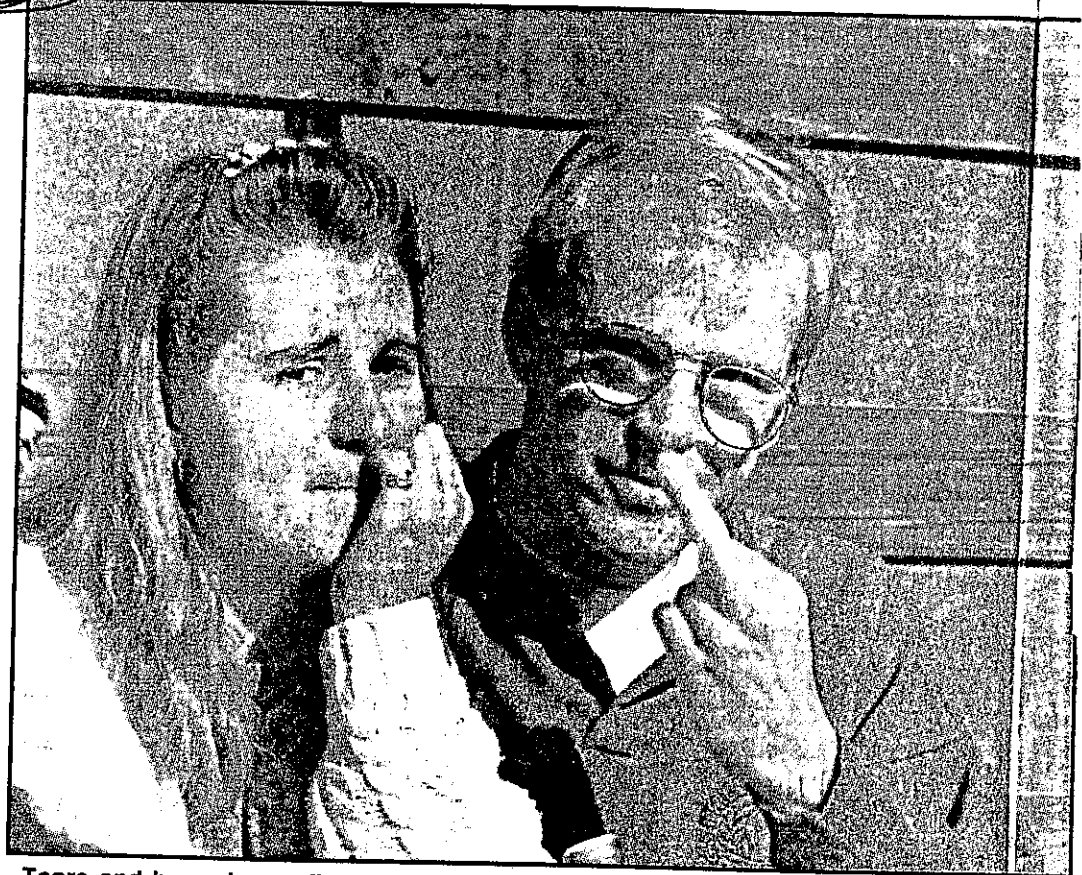
"Future manpower requirements of the South African Defence Force will be decided through negotiating processes."

There were the usual tears and brave faces among the handful of men.

Durban surfer Noel Labuschagne (19) was heading for Saldanha Bay equipped with a broad smile and his surfboard.

Adriaan Lombard (18) from Vanderbijlpark was swapping his job as a vegetable and fruit hawker for the parade ground. He said he would be happy to serve alongside blacks, "as long as they behave the same as I do".

Clinton Daley (17) of Rosettenville looked forward to a year in uniform as a break from his apprenticeship as a fitter



Tears and bravado . . . Ilona Anderson spends a last few quiet minutes yesterday with boyfriend Claron Chidley before he heads off to the army in what may be the country's last all-white call-up.

Picture: Jacob Rykliff

and turner.

Watching it all for the umpteenth time, Major Andreas-Jordaan warned that servicemen who failed to report yes-

terday or today would be prosecuted.

But the End Conscription Campaign suggested it was the final sabre-rattling, and advised

school leavers to ignore their call-ups. "It has become virtually a voluntary system since the SADF is not prosecuting any longer," a spokesman said.

## R30 000 bail for Boumat chief

Dr Adam Klein, chief executive of Sandton engineering company Boumat, was granted R30 000 bail at a special hearing in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court last night.

He was arrested yesterday at Jan Smuts Airport in connection with charges of fraud, theft and forgery involving \$180 000. He had arrived from the United States.

Bail was reduced after initially being set at R50 000.

In a statement, Boumat said Klein had been suspended pending an inquiry and disciplinary hearing.

He will appear in court today.

## Urgent move on land issue

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Municipalities north and north-east of Johannesburg yesterday made a firm commitment to identify land in their areas for low-cost housing before the end of this month.

Midrand town clerk Henry Lubbe said discussions involving the Midrand, Verwoerdburg, Sandton, Randburg, Tembisa, Kempton Park, Modderfontein and Edenvale town councils had developed a sense of urgency as a result of the continued demolition of illegal shacks adjacent to Ivory Park.

He said the councils had accepted that they had a responsi-

bility to identify the land and could not always "look to the TPA" to solve the problem.

It was not yet clear who would finance the projects, Lubbe said.

Ivory Park Residents' Association chairman Victor Mabalane said residents were satisfied that "there was a promise" to speedily address the lack of housing.

Lubbe said a technical committee involving representatives from all the municipalities would meet on Monday to identify possible areas for affordable housing.

Their proposals would be considered and decided upon at a final meeting on July 24.

## Man confesses to R2-m fraud

A man who allegedly swindled investors out of more than R2 million handed himself to the Johannesburg Commercial Crime Unit on Monday, police said yesterday.

Eric Harrison appeared in court yesterday and confessed to defrauding several investors who had placed their money with his firm, Monarch Securities. Harrison said he took the investors' money, but never actually made the investments, police said.

Harrison, who was released on his own recognisance but opted to remain in jail, is scheduled to appear in court again on July 15. — Crime Reporter.

FOR  
continue organising  
owners. Another bid

BY CO  
and  
president

# Whites 'resigned to poor government'

Biday  
8/1/93

CAPE TOWN — White South Africans have become resigned to poor government administration and increased taxation, according to the findings of a national opinion survey released yesterday.

A study conducted among 800 white women by the Omnichek division of Research Surveys soon after this year's Budget found fewer than 20% of respondents believed government would succeed in improving its administration in the coming year.

Nevertheless, only 7% of respondents said they resented having to pay the higher taxes which resulted from poor administration.

Two out of every three respondents said increased taxes were necessary to keep the economy on a sound footing, while one in four said they had become

Political Staff

resigned to tax increases.

Omnichek director Binky Kellas said the result indicated that South Africans were clearly "under no illusions" about the quality of administration provided by government.

However, it was equally clear that they did not realise what effect the historically poor administration had had on the country's economy.

"They believe that increased taxation will rescue the economy, and that it is their duty as responsible citizens to shoulder the burden," she said.

Kellas added that there were people who had become so accustomed to ever-increasing demands in terms of taxation and inflation that they would accede to further demands.

## Biday 8/1/93 Call for new drought plan

Gen

MARIANNE MERTEN

THE National Consultative Forum on Drought has called for the establishment of a national early warning system for food security to co-ordinate government drought relief to rural communities and commercial agriculture.

A forum newsletter, Drought Monitor, said the drought had "highlighted the desperate need for a more systematic way of gathering information about natural disasters" to ensure SA's food security.

Information currently available was inadequate for the planning of effective relief and development programmes, it said.

The early warning system would monitor indicators such as crops and livestock, water levels, weather patterns and food sales. The information gathered through these indicators should be widely accessible and form the basis of policy responses.

## Communities demand land

MARIANNE MERTEN

NATAL community representatives called for the return of their title deeds by August 8 in a meeting with Regional and Land Affairs Department representative Johan van Dam in Lady-smith on Wednesday.

The Association for Rural Advancement said yesterday the communities of Charlestown, Roosboom, Stoffelton, Tembalihe, Matiwane's Kop, Cornfields and Steincoalspruit wanted the deeds returned and mineral rights restored.

Full compensation should be given if the land had been sold or the mineral rights ceded. Infrastructure "demolished because of government's apartheid policies" should be restored.

Representatives said they were sceptical about the new title deed legislation passed by Parliament last month because of government's track record.

Van Dam said he would reply by August 8.

## PWV faces threat of water rationing

By Day 9/7/93

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — Water rationing would be imposed on the whole PWV region in December if early rains failed to alleviate current shortages, the Water Affairs Department said yesterday.

After two seasons of poor rainfall, including the second lowest on record in 1991-92, a third would mean the likely application of "drastic" restrictions, a statement said. *3 Gen*

"If the coming rains have not relieved the situation by December 1993, water rationing for the whole PWV water supply area must be considered."

Latest weekly statistics on the state of reservoirs in SA show the Vaal Dam is now at 21% of capacity, from 31% at this time last year. With the Bloemhof Dam level falling from 20% to 12% of capacity in 12 months, Erfenis from 64% to 38%, Klipdrif from 50% to 36%, Saulspoor from 51% to 35%, and even the deep Sterkfontein dam from 99% to 76%, the situation had reached "alarming proportions", the statement said.

In the event of another poor rainy season, harsh restrictions were scheduled for May next year. The imposition of rationing in December would lessen the severity of the May cuts.

Inflow to the Vaal River system last year had been around 678-million cubic metres, against the annual average of 2 000-million cubic metres.

□ Sapa reports that several areas were declared drought disaster areas by the national drought committee of the Agriculture Department yesterday.

They are the southern part of Bultfontein, the Wydehoek area of Potgietersrus, Moedersdeel in Heilbron, the northern part of Britstown, and the Indwe district.

Askham, Dwaalhoek, Langklip and Kalahari West, all of which fall within the Gordonia-Upington district, were also declared disaster drought areas.

# Pensioner bids for land payout

S Times [C Metro] 11/7/93

By AYESHA ISMAIL

A PENSIONER is waging a battle for compensation for land which her father was forced to sell in terms of the Group Areas Act, which today forms part of one of Cape Town's more valuable shopping complexes.

In 1954 Mrs Stella Nelson's father was forced by law to sell his property measuring about 615 square metres, including two houses, for £1 600.

Today this land is part of the upmarket Cavendish Square in Claremont.

Her father, Mr John Henry Bessick — who originally bought the land in 1946 — used the money from the sale to pay off his bond and to put down a deposit on a house in Heathfield.

But he struggled to keep up the bond repayments and eventually lost the property.

Mr Bessick died a penniless pensioner in 1985.

Now, Mrs Nelson is attempting to claim compensation or restitution for the land, which she says her father had intended to be a legacy for his family.

At present the law makes no provision for people in Mrs Nelson's position, according to Legal Resources Centre attorney Henk Smith.

But, if proposals by the ANC to deal with people who were forced to sell their land are accepted, Mrs Nelson's case would "definitely be considered".

At present, people whose land was confiscated under the Group Areas Act, and which is still in the hands of the state, will be given restitution.

According to the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Amendment Bill recently passed by Parliament, "no provision is made



GROUP AREAS VICTIM . . . Mrs Stella Nelson and her husband Douglas Picture: AMBROSE PETERS

for compensation as such for prejudice suffered as a result of forced removals and in respect of disputed land that has since been alienated or developed".

However, a memorandum attached to the Bill proposes those victims of forced removals, "may claim other state land which has not been developed or utilised by the state for public purposes".

Speaking from her one-bedroomed flat in Southfield earlier this week, Mrs Nelson told of the "humiliation and prejudice" her family suffered because of the Group Areas Act.

Mrs Nelson and her husband, Douglas, who is also a pensioner, say

they can "barely survive" on their old age pension.

"I am still bitter about us being forced to move from Claremont."

She said her parents were heartbroken when they had to move.

"I feel that although my father was paid for his property, he was not adequately compensated and would not have sold his property if he was not forced to do so by the law".

Minister of Housing in the House of Representatives Mr Gerald Morkel said the Land Commission was unable to assist Mrs Nelson as her father had been compensated financially.

III  
(3) ARG 12/7/93  
**Vaal water restrictions in December?**

**The Argus Correspondent**

JOHANNESBURG. — The PWV area and Eastern Transvaal could be faced with water restrictions as early as December if the regions are hit in the summer rainfall period by a third dry season in a row, the Department of Water Affairs warned.

All eyes will be on the level of the Vaal Dam, now being maintained at 20 percent with the help of water released from the feeder Sterkfontein Dam.

The PWV area, the whole of the Eastern Transvaal and other areas were dependent on the Vaal River system and the de-

mand was increasing, said the department.

If the Vaal Dam recorded another low inflow this summer, the introduction of rationing before the end of the year would mean less drastic water curbs in May — if cuts were delayed until the end of the 1994 summer rainfall period.

The 1992/93 inflow into the Vaal Dam was 678 million cubic metres, the department said.

This was much lower than the average 2 000 million cubic metres, particularly considering that about 2 200 million cubic metres were used annually.

The dam was now about half

full with 4 000 million cubic metres stored.

The Lesotho Highlands Water Project, aimed at solving the problem in the long term, would probably start supplying water only in 1997.

Eastern Transvaal dams are only 41 percent full, compared with 47 percent at the same time last year.

Vaal River System dams are slightly higher at 43 percent compared with 56 percent in July last year and the situation in the Western Transvaal is worse, with the total at 28 percent, the latest Water Affairs Department bulletin said.

# Natal drought worst in memory

DURBAN. — Natal's drought is far worse than that of 1982-83 when drastic water restrictions were necessary in Durban and Maritzburg.

But, says the Department of Water Affairs, thanks to the construction of the huge Inanda Dam in the years between the droughts that the two major Natal cities aren't under restriction.

Mr James Perkins, Deputy Chief Engineer for the Department of Water Affairs in Natal, said yesterday:

"Most people will tell you it is the worst drought in living memory.

"But, it is possibly the worst in 200 years."

Midmar Dam had dropped from 90 percent to 60 percent.

③ ARG 13/1/93

# Redistribution

Star 17/1/93

## — private land

3 Gen 23

## is also eyed

**LAND redistribution is a priority in SA and if State land does not meet the needs of disadvantaged people, then private land should be expropriated, a conference of traditional leaders was told.**

THE Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA (Contralesa) says that, if redistribution of State land does not meet the needs of disadvantaged people, then private land should be expropriated.

Contralesa president S P Holomisa said land redistribution had to be addressed as a priority "if the imminent change of government is to be viewed as the advent of genuine liberation".

Opening a conference on customary law and the future role of traditional leaders in Broederstroom, north of Johannesburg yesterday, Holomisa said the current land debate was "clouded by the question of ... compensation. In our view this is a misdirection."

Vast tracts of land had been acquired by force or by fraud, he said. "If there must be talk of compensation, the people entitled to compensation are those who have been illegally deprived of the right to occupy and to use the land."

Holomisa, who is the brother of Transkei military leader Major-General Bantu Holomisa, said it "would ... perhaps" be better to concentrate first on State land. However: "If after this land has been redistributed there are still people in need of land for purposes of housing, grazing and cultivation, then the land in private ownership should be the next."

● It is reported from Harare that the Zimbabwean government appears set to seize large tracts of commercial farmland after official sources said it had rejected the majority of appeals against "designation for resettlement" of 70 farms, most of them owned by whites.

Officials in the Ministry of Agriculture said 49 farmers had lodged objections in May after 70 farms covering 190 000 ha were targeted for "designation".

Of these, 22 had been told the designation notices on their farms had been revoked.

### Barred

This indicates the government intends to confiscate at least 27 farms against their owners' will. For the next two years, the owners of these farms and of the other 21 properties whose owners did not object to designation, are barred in terms of controversial land laws from selling their property, improving it or removing any of the fixtures.

The sources said most of the 27 farms whose applications were rejected were fully utilised, productive farms.

The disclosure is the latest indication of what observers see as the government's determination to effect its policy to seize 5 million ha of farmland. — Sapa.



# A bank for the poor — and it works

South 1717 - 217193

The Rural Bank provides loans to the poorest of the poor women in Bangladesh.

## WAGHIED MISBACH

spoke to the bank's director, Professor Muhammad Yunus, about what South Africa can learn:

**E**STABLISHED bank officials in Bangladesh thought Professor Muhammad Yunus was throwing money away by setting up a bank that would give loans without collateral to the poorest rural people.

And defying custom in his country he decided to target women.

But the success of the Grameen or Rural Bank, formed in 1983, has thrown the banking system, on its head. With a repayment rate of 98 percent on its loans it is the most successful bank in Bangladesh.

Yunus, a 53-year-old development economist, challenged the traditional "trickle down" economic theory, which assumes that if the wealthy are given concessions to create wealth, this will trickle down to the poor.

"It never happens this way. The money evaporates at the top," says Yunus. He was speaking at a seminar in Cape Town this week, and will be visiting Durban and Johannesburg to meet with various development groups.

Today, Grameen has 1029 branches in 32 000 villages in the country's rural areas. The average loan, or micro-loan, is \$80 (R240), which to many of the people is more money they have seen at one time in their life, says Yunus.



**GRASSROOTS:** As the most oppressed group in society, rural women stand to benefit most from initiatives like the Rural Bank

Loans are paid back at an interest rate of 20 percent. Yunus says this may drop back this year to the original rate of 16 percent.

About 92 percent of bank's loans are to women.

"Firstly, they are the most closeted in Bengali society and had to be helped out of their circumstances, and secondly they are more trustworthy than men. Because they have children to care for they will not spend their money carelessly."

Yunus says the established bank-

ing system would never loan money to those without assets, especially women.

"The banks are anti-poor. They make rules, build walls and call them collateral," says Yunus.

"They are anti-women and anti-illiterate. Look at the amount of paper they make people sign."

New loans are approved not by bank officials but by the women, meeting in groups weekly.

Groups are usually made up of five members who are residents of

the same village. A bank official attends the meeting, but the group members decide who gets the loan.

The Grameen board consists of 13 members. Nine are elected by borrowers, three are members of the government and one is elected by the board.

Besides opposition from established banks, Yunus encountered jealous husbands and religious groups who thought he was trying to convert the predominantly Muslim women to Christianity.

"When there were two divorce cases in the beginning this worried us. We wanted to give up, and did so for a while. But because of the tremendous need we started again."

Yunus says that once religious groups realise that his efforts are helping women, they have accepted them in their villages.

Grameen may be the only bank in the world to encourage birth control, sanitation and a clean environment as part of its lending policy.

Thus borrowers pledge to "keep our families small", shun child marriage and the "curse" of wedding dowries, "build and use pit latrines" and "plant as many seedlings as we can during planting season".

For South Africa and other developing countries, the Grameen bank provides a discussion point or a point of departure, says Yunus.

Yunus says that it is impossible for commercial banks to set up similar projects as they have a different mind-set.

"This kind of bank needs a different structure than that of commercial banks who require collateral. The Grameen bank works on the basis of a person's character, not on what assets they have," he says.

Already South Africa is among 30

countries which have based similar projects on the Grameen phenomenon.

The Women's Development Bank (WDB) was formed two years ago in South Africa and has already started giving out loans to women in rural areas. The WDB is an affiliate of Women's World Banking based in New York which works through the commercial system using, among others, a direct lending, risk sharing and guarantee programme.

With the population of Bangladesh at 115 million and expected to double in 30 years time, Yunus estimates that about 10 million families need assistance.

So he needs money to grow. But his relationship with aid agencies has been cool.

He says United States Development Aid was actively opposed to the Grameen Bank from the start.

He hopes that with the Clinton administration all this will change. He says Clinton introduced the same system into his state of Arkansas, when he was still governor, after meeting with Yunus. And when he took office he promised he would set up the "Good Faith Fund" because of the inner-city problems, high unemployment and poverty in America.

Clinton has plans to set up 1 000 micro-lending programmes in the US based on the Grameen model, says Yunus.

His relationship with the World Bank is allegedly strained. He was promised \$200 million (R600 million) by the World Bank in 1988 but refused to take the money.

"I told them I didn't like the way they did business. After a while they will send their experts and tell you what to do. I tell every donor they have to look thoroughly at the way the bank works, and if they don't like it, they can get out."

However, things are looking up. He would not say with whom he was negotiating, but a sum of \$250 million (R750 million) for the next four years is at stake.

And what about help from the government?

"The best way they can help is to stay away from us," he laughs.

FM 2317/93

# Seeking a balance

(3) Gen

Whatever political bargains may be struck at the negotiating table, SA's prospects depend on a single economic issue: how to redress the inequities of the past without damaging our growth potential.

This debate has moved from angry exchanges over nationalisation to arguments about the merits of other mechanisms for redistribution. The controversy relates not to sins of commission — as when traders and householders were removed from their properties under the Group Areas Act and transferred to less profitable and salubrious areas. It relates to sins of omission, when people were denied the opportunity to live and work where they chose and were disadvantaged by a panoply of race laws.

ANC economist Tito Mboweni has proposed a reconstruction levy to make good the property losses inflicted on most South Africans by apartheid. "Unless all South Africans face up to this challenge, this country will remain polarised . . . and dreams of economic growth . . . may never be realised."

The SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) acknowledges "that discriminatory measures of the past have undermined overall respect for that principle (property rights). Corrective measures will be required which will not only redress such injustices but will allow the market to operate in a way that will secure an equitable and efficient outcome.

"Failure to pursue such a course will result in continued opposition both to the principle of property rights and to the market-driven economic system."

These comments come in a submission to the National Negotiating Forum's technical committee on fundamental rights, expressing concern at the lack of urgency in dealing with fundamental economic issues. It points out that, of 24 rights and freedoms considered by the committee, 18 have been decided on. Among the six referred back to the technical committee for debate are property rights and economic activity.

Essentially, the question is at what point a reconstruction levy — or any similar mechanism — threatens property rights.

Mboweni says the idea "is drawn from the experience of Germany after World War 2

## ECONOMY & FINANCE

... The basic principle was that those who were able to keep their properties in part or in whole during the war would contribute money into a fund." All individuals and corporates had to pay a levy amounting to half their 1948-1949 assets, either as a lump sum or in quarterly payments over 30 years. Mboweni suggests that, in SA, the levy could be based on both property and income.

He argues that a reconstruction levy is not

a wealth tax. The latter is "introduced by fiscal authorities at a certain percentage for a specific group of wealthy individuals. Normally this could be a tax for the top 5% of income and asset owners (which) is built into fiscal policy and is continuous."

"This makes it fundamentally different to a reconstruction levy. Another difference is that the levy is not directed at the wealthy top 5% but at all income earners and asset

owners. It is a one-off contribution."

The principle of reparation is sound.

But, if it is to be implemented it will have to be carefully thought out. A tax, for instance, could only succeed if the people obliged to pay:

- Can afford to, given the already high rates of taxation; and
- See it as worth their while. They could prefer emigration — especially if they don't

FM 2317/93

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believe their payments will stabilise the economy.

If the German example were to be followed, it would either erode assets (possibly accumulated over a lifetime) or effectively be a continuous tax.

And the implications are broader. Says Sacob's Raymond Parsons: "Business and investor confidence — needed to secure high levels of growth — will require reassurance on property rights."

If, as Sacob points out, future property rights can only be meaningfully debated once the property violations of the past have been addressed, a solution must be found that does not violate property rights of the future. Sacob argues: "Property relates not merely to a physical object but to a social order sanctioned by the State . . . The creation and execution of plans to produce depend upon a firm expectation about property rights. Trade in its essence is concerned with the exchange of those property rights."

Merton Dagut, who heads the Wits University economics department, suggests a constructive way of transferring resources from the beneficiaries of apartheid to the non-beneficiaries would be a direct tax based on expenditure. This, he says, is a better measure of what people are taking out of the economy. It would favour saving, encouraging risk-bearing and wealth generation, which would provide the resources required

for uprooting poverty.

He proposes a high threshold and progressive taxation thereafter. This would gradually draw more taxpayers into the net as low income earners become economically empowered. Moreover it is a gradual but continual process which will not send shockwaves through an already shocked economy.

Parsons argues that the best way to deal with socio-economic upliftment (another way of describing reparations or reconstruction) is sound economic and development policies. This, he argues, requires a guarantee of property rights.

"If the political negotiators allow this issue to go by default then business confidence in a new constitution and future economic policy will be correspondingly reduced." ■

**news**  
**in brief**

Sowetan 29/7/93  
**Advice on use  
of water**

USE water sparingly.  
That's the message from  
Minister of the Environ-  
ment and Water Affairs  
Mr Japie van Wyk.

If South Africans do  
not take heed of this  
warning, "shortages may  
be common in future and  
the potential for conflict  
between various water  
consumers cannot be ig-  
nored", he said.



3 Gen

CO-OPERATIVES

# Heading for a listing?

Government's R3,6bn handout to debt-ridden farmers and co-operatives last year might be the last bit of charity the sector sees for a while. Farmers cannot expect a new government, faced with more pressing spending demands, to be so benevolent.

Little wonder then that the co-operatives are taking stock.

In 1991 SA's 285 primary co-operatives (only farmer members) and central co-operatives had a total turnover of R19,3bn and declared a combined net pretax profit of R448m. According to members, were it not for the high interest bill, net profit margins would have been sweeter. Hence proper capitalisation and reducing debt are major concerns.

The pressures of political and economic reforms and the indebtedness of many co-operatives could force them to restructure.

Earlier this year, the Co-operative Act was amended to allow co-operatives to become limited liability companies, subject to 75% of members being in favour. But, even before the legislative change, several had shown the way towards greater profitability for members.

Apart from directly changing into a registered company, they can also consider entering into joint ventures and partnerships with listed companies. Langeberg is, a case in point.

"The Langeberg fruit canning co-operative, which declared a R5m loss in 1984, turned this into a R12m profit by 1986 by changing and upgrading its management style.

"But, by late 1987, it realised that it needed a focus change towards a more profit-orientated policy and additional capital to reduce debt and improve its ratios," Tiger Oats director Jan van den Berg told a conference on agricultural co-operatives in Johannesburg this week.

Langeberg decided it needed to recapitalise by getting a R100m cash injection. But "own funds" should, ideally, make up about 50% of total funding, compared with only 16% at that time.

With members turning over a mere R45m a year, this refinancing looked impossible — without outside help.

"After contacting Tiger Oats as a possible partner, it was decided to place Langeberg's factories in a separate company.

"Tiger would pay R80m cash for a 50% stake in the company (to be listed later), while members would pay a mere R10m for a further 25%, leaving 25% for the co-opera-

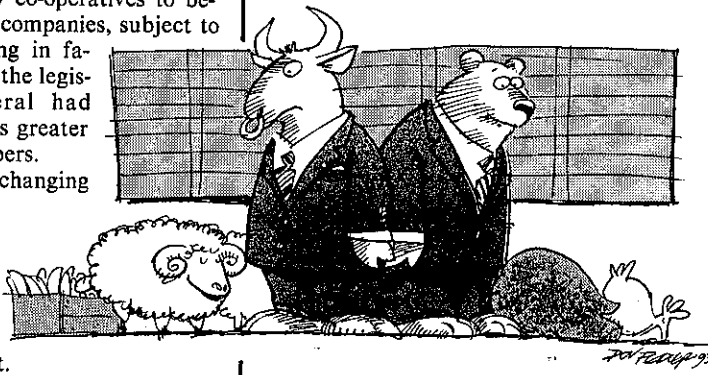
FM 30/7/93

tive, which contributed the factories," says Van den Berg.

Part of the agreement was that the new company would buy the output of co-operative members, assuring them of an outlet for their produce.

"As at July 22, the listed Langeberg had a market capitalisation of R800m, which means that farmer members, who contributed a mere R10m in 1987, now hold a theoretical share capital value of R200m, while still retaining full control of their co-op."

Meanwhile, between 1984 and 1992 the Langeberg Group increased its operating income from R22m to R103m, reduced its interest bill from R27m to R15m and improved interest cover from 0,8 to 6,7. And, with the ratio of own capital to total assets improving from 6% to 59%, the 1984 book value of Langeberg shares shot up from a mere R12m to R800m.



But an SA Agricultural Union spokesman says that for other co-operatives to follow suit, they should also first establish a profitable track record — as Langeberg did.

Nevertheless, many profitable co-operatives might be sitting on similar leverage potential and all that may be needed to activate it would be to convince members (and management) to follow the listings route either on their own or by bringing in outside capital and expertise.

Other examples of co-operative success stories include Sunripe Fruit (taken over by Imperial), Bonnito (formerly Kaap Suiwel Ko-op), Ceres Fruit Growers (which, like the KWV, decided to remain a co-operative but to enter into profitable deals with the KWV and SA Breweries).

Even the R2,7bn-a-year meat co-operative Vleissentraal, whose Bull Brand joint venture with Imperial Cold Storage has been running for years and is now looking into listing.

Absa merchant banking company financing division GM Danie Vlok says: "With the possibility of unlocking wealth for the co-ops and their members by listing suitable assets

at attractive pre multiples, and using the proceeds to reduce debt, more co-ops could follow suit." ■

# The case of the shrinking gardens

SOUTH 3117 - 418193

Residents of Pniel, near Franschoek, find their properties have shrunk as the maps of the boundaries are inexplicably withdrawn. The local authorities are less than helpful, reports

## CHRISTELLE TERREBLANCHE:

**F**or decades now the government has done what it wishes with hereditary tenure in the rural areas and now they suddenly want to force down respect for private property."

This is the view of Mr Peter Harmse, National Party (NP) MP for Suurbraak.

He admitted to SOUTH that his efforts to resolve the Pniel land problems for the NP ended with an NP minister neglecting to help people. "They are going to petition the State President and are thinking of joining the ANC," Harmse says.

Harmse intervened in the Pniel constituency after residents found themselves once again at the losing end of the land reforms in the wake of the government's White Paper on Land Reform.

This makes it compulsory for the current hereditary tenure ownership to be transformed into fully-fledged private property with title deeds.

After that people can sell their properties if they wish, and it is estimated that the value of Pniel's large erven could be high.

What irks a lot of residents is that they have recently found their properties to be much smaller than their "allocation letters" or the original maps show.

This discovery follows years of hush-hush debate in the community about the fact that of the 49 hectares of land sold to the "freed" Pniel community after

abolishing slavery, seven hectares "disappeared".

They have been unsuccessful in discussions with management of the adjacent Rhodes Fruit Farms properties owned by Anglo American — to which they suspect the missing land has been allocated. *(3) Gen*

But this time they mean business. The latest discovery was made after Mr Leonard Meyer protested against the management council's disregard for his property in going ahead with laying a water pipe across it.

The pipe is supposed to run only 1,5 metres into his property, but according to his letter of ownership, it is five metres inside.

After much letter writing, he forcibly stopped the work. His intervention was too late to prevent his orchard from being ruined completely. *(2/2)*

The council took him to court, and Meyer's attorney discovered that the town plan map which formed the basis for allocating land according to hereditary tenure in the seventies, was scrapped in 1988, so no official map of Pniel exists. The scrapped map was inaccurate too.

The surveyor-general's office has agreed to draw a new plan with the view to giving people full title deeds. But the current lack of a plan confirmed the residents' suspicions: their plots have shrunk, possibly irrevocably.

Meyer has 70 square metres less property than his letter says. But he is not the only one.

Mr Sidley Davids tells how he lost several metres on two sides



**FRUITS OF WRATH:** Mr Leonard Meyer's orchard was dug up to lay a pipe without his consent

of his property to roads the council built without his consent. He is being forced to relinquish another metre or two to enable neighbours to open a window.

It appears the council gave the neighbours permission to build on a room up to their property fence. Since they cannot open the window in the new room, Davids must remove the fence.

Several similar stories were told to SOUTH, supported by letters and documents.

"The council has been making and breaking as they wish for years, while we have struggled for more than a decade to secure our property rights," says Mr Andrew Meyer, member of the Ratepayers' Association in Pniel.

"If something is not done now to curtail the officials who are dealing with property like this, the rural towns will turn into ghost towns," Harmse adds.

**T**he Ratepayers' Association members also tell of 15 years of questions and letters about their ownership problems to a long line of ministers in the House of Representatives who deal with rural areas and local government.

They named current MP Mr David Curry, now in the Democratic Party, but formerly minister for the Labour Party. Curry would not respond until he has

more information at his disposal.

Other ministers included the Reverend Andrew Julies, Mr Cecil Herandien, and now Mr Gerald Morkel, minister of the budget and of housing.

Pniel residents say they pleaded with Morkel to visit the area and deal with people's problems. This he did in June this year. But Harmse says he refused to listen to all their problems and decided rather to talk to the local management council.

Efforts to reach Morkel for comment were unsuccessful. Residents say they have tried to contact him for weeks since his visit.

Pniel's council used to be elected, but when people discovered favouritism and incompetence were rife, they asked for it to be abolished. In 1991 Curry appointed a new council.

Over the years two committees were asked to investigate the alleged fraud by the council, but argued that this was done through "ignorance" and not "criminality".

The residents dispute this since the council had ten years' experience by then. "This is a sore point with us," says Meyer. "Now they are criminalising us by taking us to court. We want things to be put right. If the State President does not resolve the issue, we will call upon the Ombudsman."

# Land act proposed

Own Correspondent

KOKSTAD. — The ANC last night suggested that the most viable method of redistributing land would be to create a land reform act agreed to by all political parties.

Addressing a public meeting on land reform at the Kokstad town hall, Mr Ezra Sigwela of the ANC's land desk said the basic aim of this new act

would be to set up a land claims court.

He said this court would function outside of the judiciary and would be more of a constitutional court.

Mr Sigwela said the ANC felt that all communities forcibly removed from their land should be able to lay their claim. (3) (2) CT418193

About 70 people attended the subdued meeting — with only about 15 white farmers attending.

# Huge drought relief package

③  
#CT6/8/93

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. — In a bid to combat unemployment and limit the effects of South Africa's worst drought on the rural economy, the government announced yesterday it had allocated R724m for drought relief programmes and intensive labour schemes.

At a news conference here yesterday, Agriculture Minister Mr Kraai van Niekerk said R469m would be spent this month to assist a wide range of agricultural activities.

Manpower Minister Mr Leon Wessels said R255m would come from the sale of strategic oil supplies to fund the expansion of job creation schemes.

He said that of the additional R255m allocated to create jobs, R25m had been set aside for training, R20m for the maintenance of government buildings by

## R724m for new jobs, farmers

small businesses and sub-contractors, R5m for the erection of places of safety for the young and R25m for getting beginner farmers started.

The balance would be administered by the National Economic Forum using structures already in place for the creation of intensive labour schemes.

The drought aid package, which included R81m in assistance to stock farmers for the maintenance of herds and R52m for areas

with emergency water shortages, was designed primarily to safeguard thousands of jobs in rural areas and SA's food supply, and to prevent the collapse of the rural economy.

SA Agricultural Union president Mr Boet Fourie said organised agriculture was grateful for the aid which would help the sector contribute to an economic upswing.

Mr Fourie added that while the R469m was considerably less than the union had requested, it understood government had to find money from a budget "already under enormous pressure".

● Cosatu yesterday welcomed the government announcement of additional funds for job creation programmes.

Spokesman Mr Keith Madonsela said any move to create jobs was positive. But the funds should be seen only as part of continuing measures and not as the solution.

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# Government announces R724m drought relief and jobs programme

PRETORIA — In a bid to combat unemployment and limit the effects on the rural economy of SA's worst drought, government yesterday announced that it had allocated R724m for drought relief programmes and labour-intensive schemes.

Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk said Cabinet had approved the expenditure this month of R469m to assist a wide range of agricultural activities.

Manpower Minister Leon Wessels said R255m would be obtained from the sale of strategic oil supplies to fund the expansion of job creation schemes.

The drought aid package, which includ-

ed R81m in assistance to stock farmers for the maintenance of herds, and R52m for areas with emergency water shortages, was designed primarily to safeguard thousands of jobs in rural areas and SA's food supply, and to prevent the collapse of the rural economy. (3) Gen

If the drought continued it would bring "unprecedented hardship to rural economies and the national economy".

The aid package, the result of an in-depth investigation carried out by several Agriculture Department task groups, has been approved by the Cabinet. It includes:

- R20m for the sugar industry;

Biday 6/8/93  
ADRIAN HADLAND

- R45m in interest subsidies on loans to farmers aimed at the re-establishment of long-term crops and vegetables, and R50m for low-interest production loans;
- R133m in continuing aid for self-governing territories and TBVC states; and
- R52m for sinking of boreholes and pipeline construction in areas with emergency water shortages.

SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie said organised agriculture was grateful for the aid which would help the

sector contribute to an economic upswing.

While the R469m was considerably less than the union had requested, it understood government had to find money from a Budget "already under enormous pressure", Fourie said.

Van Niekerk said although normal and well-distributed rain this year had caused a substantial improvement in some areas, "dire circumstances" were being experienced in large parts of SA, including the eastern Cape, the central Karoo, the northern parts of the Transvaal and along the east coast from Ciskei to KwaZulu.

Wessels said that of the additional

R255m allocated to create jobs, R25m had been set aside for training, R20m for the maintenance of government buildings by small businesses and subcontractors, R5m for the erection of places of safety for the young and R25m for getting beginner farmers started.

The balance would be administered by the National Economic Forum using structures already in place for the creation of labour intensive schemes.

Where special skills were required, such as in the building of roads and dams, the

□ To Page 2

## Drought relief Biday 6/8/93 □ From Page 1

Manpower Department would provide support for the schemes, Wessels said. The projects, which would be expected to use labour-intensive methods of construction, would be allocated according to tenders.

"Where possible, labourers will be paid on a basis of job-work and in the case of daily wages it will be lower than the minimum wage in order to create maximum job opportunities," he said.

About R300m had now been made available for job creation programmes.

ERICA JANKOWITZ reports that Co-

satu yesterday welcomed government's announcement of additional funds for job creation programmes.

Spokesman Keith Madonsela said any move to create jobs was positive. But the funds should be seen only as part of continuing measures and not as the solution.

The money would be allocated according to the parties' National Economic Forum positions and would focus on public works programmes aimed at improving standards of living. (3) Gen



# 'Don't neglect reform of agriculture'

③  
Black farming is at the bottom of the list for reformers. This is wrong, argues Merle Lipton

IT IS a truth far from universally acknowledged that agricultural reform is a priority for South Africa. Some argue that agriculture is, inevitably, a declining sector in developing economies and that the future lies with industrialisation and urbanisation; that black farming — destroyed by apartheid — is now in a hopeless state, and that blacks, understandably, don't want to farm.

Indeed, it is argued that the shift of blacks out of agriculture was delayed by apartheid, which tied people down in low-wage work on white farms and in subsistence farming in the Bantustans. Otherwise, even fewer people would now work in agriculture.

It is also argued that South Africa has a poor agricultural endowment — its comparative advantage does not lie in expanding agriculture but in producing other goods and services and buying food cheaply on international (including regional) markets.

Finally, it is argued, attempts at agricultural reform could undermine confidence, disrupt production on the white farms, and stir up a rightwing political backlash. Meanwhile, the rural poor, the potential beneficiaries of reform, have little political leverage.

However, there are compelling reasons for devoting attention and resources to agricultural reform. First, is the need for decent livelihoods. Many people are still in the rural sector. In 1985, they accounted for 31 percent of the total population, and 41 percent of Africans. The absolute number of rural dwellers is projected to rise from 12.5-million to 16-million by 2010. The high costs of creating urban jobs and infrastructure will severely limit the number of urban livelihoods. It is essential to exploit the potential of rural development, based on a reformed, labour-intensive agriculture — to generate jobs at relatively lower cost.

Second, agricultural reform (involving both the ending of apartheid and "deregulation" of a range of other controls) could generate efficiency gains. Historically, extensive racial and class interventions pushed South Africa's highly-regulated agriculture into an unduly large-scale, capital-intensive structure, in conflict with its relative factor endowments, such as a shortage of land and capital and an increasing over-supply of labour.

This growth path involved the suppression of small-scale and more labour-intensive black agriculture, as well as less employment on the mechanised, large-scale "white" farms. It also resulted in premature "deagriculturalisation" — South Africa



Poor and almost forgotten ... But around 40 percent of blacks live in the rural areas

has much lower agricultural output and employment than most other countries at its level of development.

Reform could stimulate a more efficient, less distorted agriculture, more congruent with South Africa's factor endowments, and with the prospect of more efficient, low-cost production and more livelihoods. Such reform could also stimulate output and employment in related rural activities, such as processing, trading and construction. Such small scale activities can be both labour-intensive and competitive. Yet they have been heavily discouraged by the marketing and servicing system established under apartheid.

Third, failure to create rural livelihoods could intensify social and political conflicts. The extent of explosive rural-to-urban influx is often exaggerated. However, South Africa shares with countries such as Brazil and Mexico both the high urban-rural differentials and the high intra-rural inequality that appear to be correlated with explosive migration rates.

South Africa also has a backlog of rural-to-urban migration, because of influx control. South Africa is thus a candidate for explosive migration unless steps are taken to create attractive rural livelihoods.

What is required is both reform of property rights, with the extension of land rights to blacks, and reform and liberalisation of the policy-making and institutional framework. A per-

suasive case has been made for a limited, clearly defined programme of restitution to communities recently dispossessed of their land.

However, the main emphasis needs to be on redistribution of land to smaller-scale and (as international experience shows) usually more labour-intensive and efficient farmers.

The often adverse experience with state land authorities suggests that maximum use should be made of market mechanisms — enabling people to buy land themselves. But the process can be strengthened by measures (such as a progressive land tax and ceilings legislation) to keep down land prices and the size of holdings. The costs of land reform should not, however, be imposed only on white farmers, but should be met out of progressive taxation.

Moreover, the cost can be kept down by recognising that land rights do not just mean ownership. They can be extended by operational arrangements, such as tenancy, sharecropping and outgrower schemes.

These can be useful mechanisms for poor farmers without capital to acquire experience of farming on their own account, to accumulate savings, and to work their way up the agricultural ladder. These contractual arrangements barely exist for blacks in South Africa, as they were forbidden under apartheid.

Unfortunately, the De Klerk administration recently lost two rela-

tively easy, low-cost opportunities of redistributing land. First, "Native Trust" and state land is being hastily doled out to the government's corrupt and discredited allies in the Bantustans. This increases the likelihood that land will go to "yecoman politicians" rather than to family farmers whose labour-intensive operations could generate the efficiency gains and livelihoods that small-scale farming can provide.

Second, as Martin Rimmer has shown, most of the R4-billion allegedly set aside for drought relief is being used to bail out heavily indebted white farmers, some of whom might otherwise have left farming, making land available for black farmers (who received little of the drought relief).

South Africa's centrally regulated system of agricultural marketing and administered prices led to the concentration of production on a relatively small number of large-scale, capital-intensive farms, as well as an oligopolistic structure in related processing and marketing activities.

South Africa now needs to move towards more market-related prices and the more open and competitive system, with opportunities for new entrants, that makes liberal capitalism attractive. However, this can only happen if there is first the reform that extends property rights to a large class of smallscale farmers — as happened in the major land reforms that started the development process in

Taiwan and South Korea.

South Africa also needs to reorganise the huge, fragmented agricultural bureaucracy (with its 14 ethnic departments and numerous parastatals), and to reorientate its impressive technical and managerial skills away from their exclusive servicing of the large-scale white farms, and towards support for emerging small-scale farmers.

Since the mid-1980s, there have been some desirable changes in macro policies (more market-related interest rates; a reduction in subsidies and tax concessions for mechanisation), induced by the need to reduce the heavy fiscal costs of the inefficient and increasingly costly agricultural structure.

As Colin Thirle and Johann van Zyl have shown, these changes have already led to some restructuring of the commercial farms, with a shrinkage of inefficient grain production, a reduction in capital intensity and an improvement in total factor productivity. There has also been a relaxation — or at least erosion — of some of the draconian marketing controls. If the government adopts the recommendations of the recent Kasser Committee, these trends will continue.

However, sections of the agricultural establishment are seeking to evade genuine reform by pre-emptive restructuring, such as the recent attempts at "nomenklatura privatisation", which would have ensured that the mafias that run the meat and dairy boards could convert their public monopolies into private monopolies.

Some of these attempts were thwarted by opposition from the media, the growing consumer lobby, rebel groups of disaffected white farmers, and rural non-governmental organisations. This showed that, although the rural poor are weak, there are some powerful potential allies for reform.

Moreover, the agricultural establishment is not homogeneous, as can be seen from the divisions and infighting within the South African Agricultural Union and the marketing boards.

There are also signs that some of the younger, especially the more technical, bureaucrats might respond positively to assertive reformist political leadership.

Despite the political difficulties, agricultural reform offers a post-apartheid government, which pursues this economically rational strategy, the prospect of creating for itself a political constituency, as well as easing the social problems that are leading to land invasions in the countryside and to explosive tensions in the urban areas.

This article is based on a paper in *State and Market in Post-apartheid South Africa*, edited by Lipton and Simkins, and recently published by Wits University Press

# R569-m aid bonanza for farmers

Star 6/8/93

③ Gen

By Norman Chandler  
Pretoria Bureau

The Government is to provide devastated rural communities and farmers with a huge R569 million emergency aid package to help overcome a second year of disastrous drought brought on by the El Nino weather pattern.

Agriculture Minister Dr Kraai van Niekirk said in Pretoria yesterday that while the money, to become available to the agricultural industry, rural communities and independent states on August 25, might not be enough, it was the most the country could afford at present.

"The most important purpose is to safeguard thousands of employment opportunities and stabilise the food security of the total population," he said.

Targets include rural communities, summer crop areas, districts hit by water problems, and the sugar industry.

The latest package is one of several helplines thrown out in recent months. The Government wiped off R2,4 billion from farmers' drought aid debts to the Land Bank; Operation Hunger was given R2,3 million by the Government; Japan contributed R619 000 for drought relief; and the Maize Board paid out a R3,30-a-ton "disaster payment" to producers to assist with their costs.

Van Niekirk yesterday fore-

cast a "deepening of the disaster circumstances for an unforeseen second consecutive year" which was certain to bring hardship to rural communities and the national economy.

"Although near-normal and well-distributed rain caused a substantial improvement in the summer crop areas, dire circumstances are being experienced in the eastern Cape, the central Karoo, the far northern Transvaal and along the east coast from Ciskei to KwaZulu," Van Niekirk said.

## Aggravated

The El Nino factor had resulted in the "most severe climatic drought which South Africa has ever experienced and the effects are aggravated by a serious economic recession in agriculture and rural societies."

El Nino is the warming of the central Pacific Ocean which affects weather patterns throughout the world.

The overall result, Van Niekirk said, had been an escalation in unemployment, socio-economic decay and a threat to rural infrastructure. The purpose of the package was to reach the rural community as far and wide as possible, and was essential to help counteract the long-term collapse of rural economies.

The additional funds were being allocated to supplement existing assistance schemes and finance new schemes.



□ **FOOD QUEUE:** Children queue for food at an Operation Hunger post in Natal.

## Natal a 'death camp' as starving numbers grow

3  
ARG 7/8/93

Weekend Argus Correspondent

**DURBAN.** — People are starving to death daily in Natal. The crippling drought, now in its second year, escalating political violence, the poor economy and job retrenchments are turning the province into a death camp.

Seventeen million South Africans are living within the international definition of extreme poverty. Operation Hunger, itself severely cash-strapped, is desperately trying to help the starving masses.

In Natal in the past nine months the feeding programme has escalated from 35 000 people fed every day to 180 000. The waiting list is between 15 000 and 20 000 for people needing food aid.

It costs 15c to feed a person an enriched and balanced soup and mielie meal formula specially made for Operation Hunger. One such meal a day can prevent malnutrition.

"We are even feeding people in government hospitals, so I don't know what's happened to the De-

partment of Health and Population Development's National Nutritional and Social Development Programme, which was assisting us on a rand-for-rand basis," said Philippa Yarker, Operation Hunger's regional director in Natal.

She added that the problem had no racial barriers, with Operation Hunger and many church groups in Durban providing food for starving white families.

"The father of a young white child at a primary school in Durban came to see me the other day. He was crying because he didn't want to send his son to school another day without something to eat. I rushed off and made sandwiches for him, only to find out later that he'd been beaten up by his classmates because he had sandwiches for lunch and they didn't," Ms Yarker said.

"The situation in many of the areas where we have soup kitchens and feeding schemes has become intolerable. The drivers delivering the mielie meal from the mills which provide us are having their vehicles hijacked at gun-

point, not for the vehicle but for the food they are carrying.

"For the past six months we have had to phone the feeding areas to determine whether it's safe for our field workers to venture into some places. It's ridiculous, because we only go to places where our assistance has been requested in writing and permission granted by the necessary chiefs or indunas in charge.

"The situation in some of the areas is so tense, not only because of the violence. One of our field workers asked if he could remove the stickers on his car as he kept being swamped by people desperate for food."

Ms Yarker said communities had to work for the food they were given and used their own pots, wood and water.

"We don't give out cooked food. We are also moving from providing food aid to setting up development programmes.

"When we stop feeding in an area we ensure that the communities are self sufficient in that they can buy or grow their own food," Ms Yarker added.

Once again they get the lion's share

PETA THORNYCROFT  
Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Almost three-quarters of the R700-million drought relief programme announced this week is destined for white commercial farmers.

A paltry R166-million will go to those hardest hit by the drought — poor, black rural communities.

And of that the overwhelming amount is destined for generally "discredited" so-called independent homelands and self-governing territories.

The consultative forum on drought and rural development has welcomed the announcement of funds for drought relief, but is dismayed that once again the commercial farmer has been given the lion's share.

Despite the government's stated recognition for the urgent need of adequate water supply, R39-million has been allocated to programmes which service commercial farms, and R13-million for rural communities.

The forum has played a decisive role in persuading the gov-

ernment to allocate money for rural job-creation and about R25-million has been earmarked to help put beginner black farmers into production.

Most of the drought relief funds will be administered either through the Department of Agriculture or homeland governments.

A spokesman for the forum said: "Some of the intentions have been good and are new, but we are dismayed about the priorities and some of the structures which will administer the funds."

③ ARG 7/18/93

IN BRIEF

Caballe 'satisfactory'

BARCELONA. — Spanish soprano Montserrat Caballe, 60, was discharged from



# Drought aid, imports cost taxpayers R9bn

B/Daw 9/18/93

ROBYN CHALMERS

SA's prolonged drought has cost recession-hit taxpayers about R9bn in food imports and government handouts to the agricultural sector over the past 18 months.

Official statistics put the cost of aid packages at R4,3bn, but it could be as high as R5,5bn, taking into account spending by other departments. Additional food imports to offset crop losses had already amounted to R3,5bn by early this year.

The ANC-aligned Land and Agriculture Policy Centre said that while drought relief packages had warded off widespread foreclosures and a further fall in land

prices, they had not addressed the sector's future vulnerability to drought. ~~Gen~~

On the positive side, agricultural spokesmen said several thousand farmers were now less vulnerable to losing their land and bankruptcies. Job losses in agriculture linked industries had been reduced, as had the Land Bank's exposure to farming debt.

The downside was that, with the exception of the R469m drought aid package announced last week, relief schemes had been financed through borrowings. This

left a future government in a weaker position without addressing the long-term problems of the sector. ~~Gen~~

The Agriculture Department's financial assistance directorate's chief, Koos van Zyl, said the most recent aid package would be funded by selling strategic assets, including oil and minerals, which had been hoarded during the sanctions period.

Economists warned that should the drought continue, not only would food imports exceed their current high levels but farm debt in real terms could start rising

□ To Page 2

## Drought aid

B/Daw 9/18/93

□ From Page 1

again, if government remained committed to allocating no further aid funds.

Statistics from Boland Bank's economics division show that although farm debt has risen dramatically in nominal terms — from R1,4bn in 1970 to R18,5bn in 1991 — in real terms it peaked in 1985 and has fallen slowly since then. ~~Gen~~

Measured against 1992 money values, the total agricultural debt burden amounted to about R15,6bn in June, implying a real decline of R14,2bn since 1984. ~~Gen~~  
However, economists believe the wors-

ening debt to asset ratio of farms and the fact that the proportion of short-term debt is growing, give cause for concern, particularly when compounded by the sorry state of maize and wheat production.

Although the agricultural sector's contribution to SA's GDP amounts to only about 3%, it employs 12% of the economically active population, accounts for 10% of SA's total non-gold exports, and has a direct effect on other industries, particularly in the motor and transport sectors.

● Comment: Page 6

# Farm safety cash 'for radios only'

CT 10/8/93 (3) (2/10)

PRETORIA. — Minister of Law and Order Mr Hernus Kriel announced yesterday that the government had approved radio subsidies for the protection of farms and smallholdings.

Mr Kriel said that because communications had been identified as the primary security priority, the recently announced R50,97 million subsidy scheme for the protection of farms and smallholdings would now be made available only for the establishment of radio communications.

Subsidies of R2 000 for the purchase of a Marnet radio and R1 000 for a citizen band radio had been approved.

No further subsidies would be paid for other security measures such as

alarm systems, lighting and fencing.

The new subsidies would be made available immediately and could be paid retrospectively from May 24.

To qualify for the subsidy, applicants had to be actively involved in an organised security system such as Farm and Plot Watches.

Besides farmers, smallholding owners over the age of 60 who met the criteria could apply for the subsidy.

"The new scheme will be highly advantageous to the agricultural sector in that it represents a dramatic increase in the number of potential beneficiaries — from a possible 17 000 applications under the previous scheme to about 44 000," Mr Kriel said. — Sapa

# Buthelezi in dark over Inkatha talks

Biday 10/8/93

BILLY PADDOCK

INKATHA Freedom Party president Mangosuthu Buthelezi had not been kept informed of progress in discussions between his negotiators and the ANC and could not give any indication of when his party would return to talks at the World Trade Centre, he said yesterday.

Inkatha would definitely not take up its seats at the negotiating council today.

Responding to questions, Buthelezi said from Ulundi: "There has been no decision by any of the IFP decision-making bodies that the IFP goes back to the talks at Kempton Park. In fact, apart from what I read in the media, I have not even heard from anyone how the talks (last Wednesday) with the ANC went."

His reply follows confusing statements from Inkatha officials, reflecting differences among the party's negotiators.

On Sunday, senior negotiator Joe Matthews said Inkatha negotiators had been "in constant discussions with Ulundi on the

very successful meetings we have been having with the ANC and government" and the party would decide within a day whether it would return to talks this week. Matthews, who leads the team negotiating with the ANC, said there was a "strong possibility we will be back on Tuesday".

However Walter Felgate, who leads the team in discussions with government, said yesterday there was "absolutely no chance we will be back tomorrow and that is authoritative".

He said a decision on returning to the negotiating council would be made on Saturday when the Inkatha central committee met.

Meanwhile, the negotiating council was informed yesterday that the KwaZulu government was changing the terms of its lawsuit against it. Felgate said this did not alter the court date or the substance of the action but was merely a technical change in documentation.

## Inkatha refiles its bid to set aside election date

Biday 10/8/93

THE KwaZulu government has refiled its application in the Pretoria Supreme Court in a bid to set aside the ratification of the April 27 election date.

KwaZulu, supported by other members of the Concerned South Africans Group (Cosag), is contesting the validity of the sufficient consensus ruling at talks which was used to adopt the election date.

The application consists of affidavits from KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the chief negotiator Ben Ngubane.

According to a member of the planning committee at the World Trade Centre at Kempton Park, the application was refiled last Friday because of inaccurate information.

The application names two respondents, Lebowa's M J Mahlangu and Pravin Gordhan of the Natal and Transvaal Indian Congresses, in their capacity as chairmen on three separate occasions at the talks.

Ngubane argues in his affidavit that sufficient consensus as it appears in the negotiations' standing rules "is quantitatively and qualitatively vague and ambiguous to the extent that it cannot serve as a proper guideline for the exercise of a discussion as to whether sufficient consensus exists or does not exist".

Buthelezi, in his affidavit, said a fair debate on federal constitutional proposals had, for all practical purposes, failed. — Sapa.

## Subsidy for farm radios

Biday 10/8/93

DIRK VAN EEDEN

GOVERNMENT'S R51m subsidy for farm protection would be spent on radio communications only. Law and Order Minister Hennis Kriel said yesterday.

Kriel said communication had been identified as a priority after consultations with organised agriculture. By excluding other security measures the number of farmers who could be helped could be increased from 17 000 to 44 000.

Transvaal Agricultural Union President Dries Bruwer said his union had suggested the revised scheme to "stretch the rands". The R50,97m made available by government was not nearly enough, but the union accepted government could afford no more.

## Moves to restore East Rand schooling

Biday 10/8/93

KATHRYN STRACHAN

A MAJOR effort to find a way of resurrecting schooling in the violence-racked townships of Thokoza and Katlehong is to be launched this morning when teachers, pupils and community representatives meet to discuss ways of protecting schools.

SA Democratic Teachers' Union representative Vusi Ndlovu said schooling had received a severe blow and pupils could not afford to wait until the violence had subsided to continue. "We have to find a way of restoring a culture of learning despite the violence."

Ndlovu did not elaborate on proposals to be presented to the gathering at KwaDukathole High School, except to say community members would discuss setting up a "ring of steel" around schools.

People, disillusioned with the security forces, would not enlist their help.

National education forum spokesman Alan Tonkin said the meeting was a positive move.

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Business 1018193  
**Unity in agriculture**

THE SA Agricultural Union resolved to maintain a greater distance between itself, government and all political parties in terms of a new policy adopted by organised agriculture's umbrella body.

The decision follows a union meeting in Pretoria to discuss the findings and recommendations of a committee on the promotion of unity in organised agriculture.

The committee found there was a perception among farmers that secret organisations, especially the Afrikaner Broederbond, were "unduly interfering" with the union's activities.

REPORTS: Business Day Reporters, Sapa.



## AGRICULTURE

# The giant stirs

Fm 13/8/93

Farming's hidden impact makes it vital to economic recovery

Despite the drought that still grips large parts of SA, the last summer season was kind in that the timing of its scattered rainfalls helped to more than double the vital maize crop.

Last year the drought cost more than R2bn in additional food imports. More than 4 Mt of maize alone had to be shipped in. Combined with lost exports — in good years, maize earns about R1,5bn in foreign exchange — this added to the heavy drag on SA's balance of payments, reserves and prospects for recovery.

Apart from these costs, government also had to provide more than R3,2bn to bail out debt- and drought-ridden northern summer-rainfall agricultural areas, saving many farmers from bankruptcy.

For some sectors, it hasn't ended there. SA could earn millions this year by exporting surplus maize — but wheat imports could cost an additional R240m.

According to Oilseeds Board spokesman Dawie van Zyl, while import volumes of oil cake (an essential animal protein feed) and



Kassier



Willemse

vegetable oils should drop this year, the low rand could boost the forex cost to an additional R460m. **③ Gen**

These few statistics underline the importance of agriculture, and therefore the weather, to the economy. In 1989, excellent rainfalls pushed the wheat crop to a bumper 3,5 Mt, compared with this year's expected meagre 1,75 Mt (local needs exceed 2 Mt a year). And, in the case of sugar, growers expect to be short of about R790m in lost production revenue after two dry seasons.

Apart from the national impact, regional economies can be severely affected. No wonder Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk provided R469m in drought aid to sugar, livestock and subtropical fruit producers, as well as subsistence farmers.

With a good maize crop, enough food on the shelves, excellent rains in the winter rainfall areas and water still running freely from northern taps, most city dwellers might think the drought is over. Not so, says Koos van Zyl of the Agricultural Credit Board: "This year, the number of magisterial districts declared as disaster drought areas exceeds that of last year. Natal, for example, is suffering its worst drought in living memory." And the eastern Cape and eastern Transvaal are also having unprecedented drought.

Many major dams are at levels that could lead to water restrictions, unless rainfall patterns are above average this summer. The important Fanie Botha irrigation dam in the north-eastern Transvaal is less than 1% full; the Vaal Dam has constantly to be replen-

CONT →

# Taipan Pass.

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# Grandfather wants his land back

By MEGAN POWER

AN 82-year-old former railway worker may get his land back because the state was sloppy in its expropriation procedure more than 15 years ago.

And, if the Ezakheni, Ladysmith, resident succeeds in his bid for the return of 15,4ha of farmland when it goes before the Maritzburg Supreme Court on Thursday, about

100 claimants could follow suit. 1518193

Mr Andries Radebe is one of 99 people who owned land in Cremin, 30km north of Ladysmith, before it was expropriated by the state between 1977 and 1978. More than 3 000 people, many of them tenants, were removed.

The government said we were 'black spots' in white areas and they wan-

ted us out. They paid me peanuts for my land - R2 338," said Mr Radebe from his Ladysmith home, which he shares with his five children.

Mr Radebe inherited the land from his father, who bought it in 1912.

"When residents in other areas started claiming their land back recently, I decided to try. I want my land back," he said.

# Removals victims query rights bill

Star 16/8/93

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Parties negotiating the future Bill of Rights can expect the bill's property clause to be intensely lobbied by communities who lost their land under apartheid (~~2002~~)

"We are concerned that the property clause in the Bill of Rights ... ignores the rights of people who were forcibly removed from their land," a group of 60 rural communities declared at the weekend. (S) G24

"We fully support the protection of security of tenure. However, the clause proposed by the negotiators prejudices those who have already lost their security of tenure in favour of those who now own land."

Representatives of the communities met near Johannesburg on Saturday

to discuss a campaign of mass action to be mounted under the slogan "Back to the land".

They warned that they expected a Bill of Rights to guarantee the return of their land. "If it does not do that, we will have no option but to return to our land by force, whatever the consequences."

Communities demanded that:

■ The Government impose a moratorium on the sale and transfer of State-owned land.

■ The Government cease making unilateral decisions on land distribution and setting up "unrepresentative advisory structures".

■ An effective land claims court be set up.

■ Land be restored to those forcibly removed from it.

■ The landless be given access to land.

## Bank's land reforms rejected by farmers

PRETORIA — The SA Agricultural Union yesterday rejected World Bank plans for land reform, saying solutions had to be found by South Africans themselves.

SAAU vice-president Thinus Hartman said failures elsewhere in the world should not be forced on SA from outside its borders. "Any decisions on land policy and land reform in SA will be taken in the country itself, not by the World Bank's head office in Washington. <sup>Biday</sup>

The World Bank's plans amounted to large numbers of subsistence farmers being settled on land which was utilised for commercial farming, Hartman said.

"The union rejects with contempt the argument that the commercial farmer is ineffective and that this is an important motivation as to why small farmers must be resettled," he said. <sup>1718193</sup>

Although the World Bank acknowledged its information basis was scant and unreliable, it nevertheless concluded that commercial farmers were ineffective, he said. The bank failed to indicate where in the world small farmers had been settled successfully on a large scale. "Especially in Africa there are sufficient examples of efforts which have failed dismally to reform agriculture." <sup>3</sup>

Hartman said SA farmers, in spite of weak agricultural conditions and erratic rainfalls, had always succeeded in supplying sufficient food for the country's needs and it was one of only seven countries that was a net exporter of food. — Sapa.



Seeking justice . . . Johannes Kraalhoek, Peter Bahumi and Philemon Tsese want to return to the land their forefathers farmed. PICTURE: JO-ANNE COLLINGE

## Farming in his bones

Star 17/8/93

BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Johannes Kraalhoek, life and wit brimming in his lined face, is a flesh-and-blood argument for a land claims court.

Still working at the age of 60 as a builder in Bloemfontein, he plans to retire within months to farm at the Bethany Mission near Edenburg.

His family have lived there for five generations and he itches to get back among his sheep: "I must become a farmer again. It is in my bones."

The problem with Kraalhoek's retirement dream is that he has no title to land at Bethany.

Although his Griqua ancestors settled there in the early 19th century, apartheid and its racial forerunners have since played havoc with land tenure.

The Berlin Mission Society, which was originally granted a corner of land for its church by Griqua chief Adam Kok, has become the registered owner of the entire property.

Kraalhoek says this somersault of ownership took place in two traumatic steps.

In 1934 a regulation was

### OWNERSHIP dispute as dispossessed families seek land claims court.

passed requiring the traditional owners to submit to the supervision of the mission.

"Those who refused — and only few stayed behind — were driven out with about 8 000 sheep. And, I'm told, thousands of animals died on the road."

Then, about three decades later, the farm was declared "white" under the Group Areas Act.

"And an amazing thing occurred — the title of the land was vested temporarily in the name of the Berlin Mission," says Kraalhoek.

While the Griqua people remained, about 1 000 Tswanas were forced to move to Thaba Nchu, now in Bophuthatswana.

"Look at the tragedy of the place. Today only two Griqua families remain at Bethany as farmers. And it is the church that really farms on the land."

Now that apartheid's laws are a thing of the past, the people from Bethany want their land back. They have no faith that the Government's Advisory Commission on Land Allocation (Acla) can do anything about it.

In the first place, it doesn't seem that Bethany would fall within Acla's terms of reference. And, like other communities attempting to reclaim their land, they have come to regard Acla as "slow, unrepresentative and toothless".

When Bethany's Peter Bahumi recently registered the demand for a land claims court, he spoke on behalf of 60 dispossessed communities. "We need a court which can take decisions. We need a speedy process," he said.

Philemon Tsese of the Orange Free State Land Committee says the new constitution must provide a mechanism to deal justly with land rights. If the present property dispensation is inflexibly protected by a Bill of Rights, "it will mean that what was done to black landowners in the name of apartheid is justice".

# Farmers expect angry discussions

PRETORIA — Angry discussion is expected at the Free State Agricultural Union's annual congress in Bloemfontein today and tomorrow, sparked mainly by the recently drafted farm labour legislation.

Other issues expected to provoke heated debate were land reform and farm security, while the union's continued affiliation with the SA Agricultural Union could also come under pressure, agriculture sources said yesterday.

Free State union president and CP MP Piet Gous said after the announcement of the draft legislation the Agricultural Labour Act could not be implemented until it had been accepted by the congresses of the different agricultural unions.

Free State and Transvaal farmers rejected "any form of labour legislation" at a meeting in Potchefstroom this year.

However, representatives of all the unions who negotiated the legislation with Cosatu, said they were satisfied with the agreement.

In earlier statements Gous said farmers were being murdered in an attempt to intimidate others off their land. Financial

DIRK VAN EEDEN

problems also forced white farmers away from agriculture and played into the hands of the land-hungry ANC/SACP alliance, he said. *BIDay 17/8/93*

The discussion on agricultural unity and the continued affiliation of the Free State union with the SA Agricultural Union follows recommendations by an ad hoc committee on agricultural unity, which was appointed by the SAAU. The committee's recommendations included that no political leaders should be allowed on the boards of agricultural unions. Both Gous and Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer are CP MPs. ③

Afrikaner Volksfront directorate chairman Gen Constand Viljoen was to open the congress while Bophuthatswana president Lucas Mangope would also speak, Free State union GM Lullu de Jager said yesterday.

Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk, Deputy Minister Tobie Meyer and police and SA Defence Force representatives would attend, De Jager said.

# Viljoen appeals for an 'Afrikaner Israel'

**BLOEMFONTEIN** — The Afrikaner would use his military and political might to create a balance of power and defend farmers' property rights, Afrikaner Volksfront director Gen Constand Viljoen said yesterday.

Opening the Free State Agricultural Union's congress, he said stability could be reached only through a balance of political and military powers. *Biday*

"If all the military power is concentrated in the hands of one dominating political party, the consequences will be dire."

Plans made at the multiparty negotiations would leave the Afrikaner dominated in all the regions. *18/8/93*

The biggest threat to security and peace in a future SA was the possibility that the ANC/SACP alliance would abuse their political strength by taking away Afrikaners' land, Viljoen said. *(scribble)*

"The Boer Afrikaner's entire existence centres around his land. Do not touch it."

Farmers provided stability in times of crisis and to defend land, one had to live on it and cultivate it.

The outlook on land differed between black and white people. "Black people do not believe land can be owned privately."

The Volksfront therefore called for an "Afrikaner Israel". Here the Afrikaner could promote Western values and his own culture and it would be a spiritual home even for Afrikaners not living in the region. Also, the region would, by drawing on

**DIRK VAN EEDEN**

Afrikaner expertise in agriculture, be able to provide food for the rest of SA.

However, the Afrikaner would never submit himself to the new SA with the current leaders in power.

In his presidential address to the congress, union leader Piet Gous said political decisions made this year would have a greater impact on agriculture than drought or financial crises.

In the African context, the protection of ownership in a constitution had never been a guarantee for the continued exercising of ownership rights, he said. "For us ownership is something precious, we will not discard it easily and peacefully."

Agriculture could not escape the consequences of the proposed constitutional dispensation, Gous said.

Farm security would remain a nightmare and farmers would be declared targets in a racial war as long as black people were told their land had been stolen from them and they would govern the whole of SA after the elections.

Farmers now had to decide whether they were going to accept an ANC/SACP government which had a declared policy of nationalisation. This was the primary question on which to base a decision about continuing farming.

If they refused to submit to such policy, farmers had to unite in a bid to stem ANC/SACP dominance.

## Kriel warns farmers about loans

**BLOEMFONTEIN** — Agriculture Minister Kraai van Nierkerk warned farmers yesterday it was becoming increasingly difficult for government to bail them out of financial problems. *Biday 18/8/93*

Addressing the Free State Agricultural Union's congress, Van Nierkerk said farmers had to realise government would not be able to help them if they could not earn the interest on their loans through farming.

Farmers had to sharpen their managerial skills and realise success did not depend on the size of their crops, but on what they sold and at what price. They also had to adapt their living standards to the economic output of their farms. *(scribble)*

However, he assured them government intended to protect their property rights. "We are standing firm on property rights. If it is not part of the negotiated settle-

**DIRK VAN EEDEN**

ment, we are not part of it either."

The weather, economy and politics were all against farmers and no policy could provide a quick fix.

It was essential for black and white agricultural unions to come together in one power bloc to negotiate with government.

Earlier yesterday Van Nierkerk issued a statement in Pretoria expressing concern about reports claiming red meat imports were causing problems for producers.

Sapa reports he said imports constituted only about 3% of local consumption and were used for essential manufacturing purposes, such as meat canning.

Import tariffs provided adequate protection for the industry and beef imports had dropped considerably, he said.

# SAAU slates Bank's land reform plans

Business Staff

THE South African Agricultural Union has hit out at the World Bank plans for land reform in South Africa saying they are "unacceptable" and based on "scanty and unreliable" information.

In a statement, SAAU vice president Thinus Hartman said "failures elsewhere in the world must not now be forced upon South Africa from outside the country's borders".

"Briefly the World Bank's plans amount to large numbers of small subsistence farmers being settled on land which is presently used for commercial farming. The union rejects with contempt the argument that the commercial farmer is ineffective and that this is an important motivation as to why small farmers must be settled. (3) CT18/8/73

"The SA farmer, in spite of weak agricultural conditions and extremely erratic rainfall over the long term, has as yet always succeeded in supplying sufficient food and fibre for the country's needs and the country is one of only seven in the world which is a net exporter of food.

"The only food items which have to be imported are those which economically cannot be produced locally, such as rice."





## Back to the land

### We say that:

- We strongly object to the inclusion of a property clause in the transitional bill of rights. Property rights are too important to be rushed through the inaccessible processes at the World Trade Centre. Instead, they should be dealt with by all South Africans after an election. It is not clear how long transitional property rights will last but they will prevent any restoration or redistribution of land from taking place during that time. We believe that land restoration needs to be tackled urgently, and we demand that it is completed within the next five years.
- Because of the discriminating laws and policies in South Africa, our country is now owned by white people. The Land and Group Areas Acts prohibited us, as blacks, from owning land up until 1991, and our property rights were flagrantly disregarded through the policy of forced removals. The proposed clause sets out that black rights to land that was stolen from them are "dependent on feasibility". A property clause in this context will protect white power and privilege.

### We note with deep concern that:

- If property rights for existing owners are guaranteed in the constitution, without sufficient provision for land restoration and redistribution, then a land claims court or a land reform policy will be vulnerable to challenge or review. It will enable whites to challenge any laws and policies aimed at restitution on the basis that they conflict with their constitutional rights.
- As affected communities, we have not been thoroughly consulted, and especially not by parties such as the National Party and the Democratic Party.
- Extra-parliamentary organisations and certain parliamentary organisations like the Progressive Federal Party (now the Democratic Party) have a proud history of resisting forced removals. Attempts to "de-constitutionalise" the restoration issue fly in the face of this history and could prevent the restoration of our land.

## A Call for More Discussion on a Property Clause in the Bill of Rights

*We, the rural and landless communities participating in the Back to the Land Campaign, have borne the brunt of discriminatory land policies. Together with the service organisations we work with and other supporters, we bring the following message to the negotiators at the World Trade Centre.*

③ Gen

### We hereby demand that:

- the proposed property clause, be either scrapped, or be drastically changed in order to ensure that those who have been unjustly deprived of their land have a right to restitution;
- all affected parties, particularly the landless and rural people, be given the time and opportunity to make submissions on the matter;
- thereafter, the issue be openly and thoroughly debated in the multi-party negotiating forum; and
- this debate should be broadcast in full on radio and television, for all South Africans to hear.

### To each delegate at the forum, we say:

There can be no freedom without land, and there can be no peace until the emotional issue of land is settled. The multi-party forum needs to commit itself to restoration and land reform before a new constitution is drawn up.

We are concerned that the property clause, which is due to be finalised at the World Trade Centre, underplays the rights of people who were forcibly removed from their land and who have been denied access to land.

We fully support the protection of security of tenure. However, the clause which the negotiators are proposing legitimises rights that were obtained through statutory discrimination of the past. It prejudices those who have already lost their security of tenure and works in favour of those who now own land.

The Bill of Rights is an important document with far reaching implications for all South Africans. We expect it to guarantee the return of our land, or the granting of access to the land. If it does not do that, it will have no legitimacy in the eyes of landless and rural communities. We will then have no option but to return to our land by force, whatever the consequences.

**Submitted on behalf of the Back to the Land Campaign. A campaign of over 70 rural and landless communities, supported by the National Land Committee and affiliates.**

# ANC backs SAAU reaction

THE ANC has backed SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) condemnation of the World Bank's blueprint for land reform.

The SAAU reacted angrily this week to the report which suggested that large numbers of subsistence farmers be settled on land now used for large-scale agriculture. Part of the World Bank's justification for such a move was that it believed existing commercial farming in SA was inefficient.

ANC land affairs spokesman Derek Hanekom said yesterday that although the World Bank's report was "useful background information", it was also simplistic. He said it was not accurate to accuse SA's commercial farmers of inefficiency, an assessment which he said was "completely exaggerated".

The ANC supported the concept of small farmers and wanted to encourage their development. Subsistence farming could provide employment and a living for large numbers of people, he said. However, this did not mean the commercial sector should

GAVIN DU VENAGE

be taken apart. *B/Say*  
"We need to develop small farmers, but we cannot throw out the whole system," Hanekom said. *19/8/93*

He said farmers were usually the first to be criticised for perceived inefficiencies, such as unchecked food price rises. But discussions with farmers had shown most were happy to operate in a free market environment, provided controls were lifted across the board. *(3) Gen*

This meant controls over fertilisers, fuel and machinery would also have to be lifted if farmers were to compete on an equal basis, Hanekom said. *(11/1)*

He emphasised the ANC would support a policy that encouraged subsistence farmers, but would also assist the commercial sector. Hanekom said the ANC also agreed with the SAAU's assertion that local agriculture should be restructured by South Africans.

GDP

**Windfalls and rainfall**

**Agriculture** operates outside the business cycle. Though a buoyant economy increases demand for agricultural products, the outlook for this sector of the economy is determined by supply — basically the weather. Growth in mining, too, is not a reflection of domestic demand but of increasing activity in international markets which boosts the price of commodities.

So the second-quarter surge in agriculture (see box) and the improvement in mining tell us little about the business cycle. From the manufacturing sector, where activity declined in the second quarter, comes evidence that the turning point in the economy has not yet been reached. And changes in non-agricultural GDP over 18 months (see graph) show that the traumatic events of the second quarter set back a tentative recovery in the first.

However, the benefits of mining and agriculture will spill over into the rest of the economy. As GDP in constant rands is an index of physical output, the second-quarter figure does not reflect the higher gold and platinum prices in the period. But eventually the higher nominal prices, if sustained (now looking less likely), would increase disposable income and stimulate production in other sections of the economy — at which point it would be captured in GDP figures.

Similarly in agriculture, the knock-on effect of the first-quarter recovery are still working their way through the system as farmers restore their finances and recover their confidence.

In June last year, the Reserve Bank *Quarterly Bulletin* published notes (by Coen Pretorius and Daleen Smal of the Bank's economic unit) on the macro-economic effects of the drought on growth, investment, the current account of the balance of payments, inflation and employment.

Based on a long-term trend, Pretorius and

Smal assumed that gross value added by the agricultural sector is 2,5% a year when rainfall is normal. Then they assumed a decline in agricultural GDP of 14% in 1992 as a result of the drought. They discussed the potential impact of this on the rest of the economy — through forward and backward linkages with other sectors.

"The agricultural sector is an important purchaser of the products and services of other sectors. The manufacturers of livestock feed, fertilisers, insecticides, agricultural machinery and implements can be singled out as dependent on sales to farmers." These are backward linkages.

Forward linkages are the delivery of raw materials to the secondary sector. Pretorius and Smal cite a report of the Economic Advisory Council in 1986: "According to the input-output table of the national economy, about 58% of the value of the agricultural production was delivered to secondary industries for further processing, whereas the delivery of agricultural production to processing industries amounted to 8,2% of the total value of inputs to manufacturing production." Any increase or reduction in prices of these commodities affects disposable income available for other expenditure.

The authors concluded that a 14% decline in agricultural GDP would reduce real GDP by about 1,8% — a direct impact of one percentage point and an indirect impact of 0,8 percentage points. That means, in current prices, GDP would have been R4,6bn lower in 1992 than in a normal year. (In the

event, the decline in agricultural GDP amounted to 25%; so, to correctly calculate the impact of the drought, the findings would have to be adjusted accordingly — an exercise the researchers have not yet done.)

This year's recovery in agricultural GDP has, of course, set in motion a chain of growth. An important benefit from the bumper season in many crucial crops is that the reduction of agricultural imports will free SA's meagre supplies of foreign exchange for imports of other (much needed)

goods. To the extent that these are capital and intermediate goods, this should increase domestic output.

The performance of the mining sector is potentially more important to SA than that of agriculture, as it represents about 13% of GDP, whereas agriculture amounts to only 5%-6%. Moreover, the multiplier is bigger. Research by Hans van Rensburg of the Department of Regional & Land Affairs, presented at a Mintek seminar in 1992, established that growth in the mining

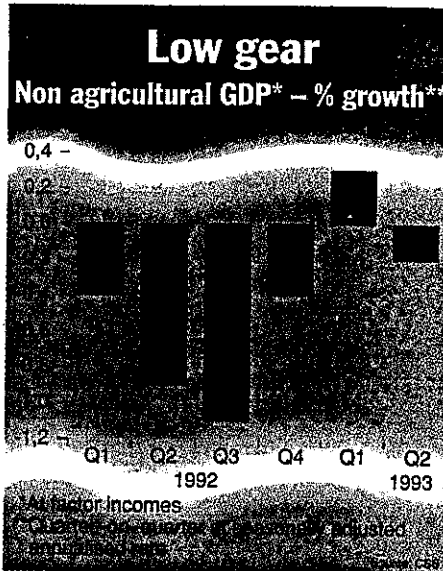
industry adds an additional 90% value to the rest of the economy (an extra R900 000 for every R1m in mining output).

Research by the Department of Agricultural Development in 1992 showed that for every R1m of agricultural production, additional output of R600 000 will be generated in all other sectors.

But, in the second quarter, the extent of the growth (R1,5bn in constant 1985 rands) in agriculture dwarfed that of mining & quarrying (R95m). So it would have had a greater effect on the economy in the second quarter. This is likely to continue in the third quarter as agricultural output is expected to sustain its improvement.

The performance of manufacturing could improve. Productivity in the second quarter was inhibited by public holidays, political stayaways after the assassination of Chris Hani and fears of further disruption. The absence of these events in the third quarter could allow the tentative recovery of the first quarter to resume.

Overall prospects for GDP are better than they have been since early 1991 when the expected recovery failed to materialise. This time support will come from increasing economic activity in the US and UK, which should stimulate demand for SA exports. But no big improvement can take place until political settlement is achieved domestically and the level of violence reduced. This will allow demand and supply of goods to increase, boosting GDP in all sectors. ■



# Landless to stage demo at talks

LANDLESS people from around the country are to stage a protest outside the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park on Monday against the property rights clause which the constitutional negotiators are proposing for the Bill of Rights. (3) Gen (2-1)

The National Land Committee said in a statement yesterday that the protest had been initiated by the "Back to the Land Campaign", which involved more than 70 rural and landless communities.

The committee said these people were concerned that the property clause ignored the rights of people who had been

removed from their land.

It said people would be travelling from Natal, the eastern Cape, western Cape, northern Cape, Border, Orange Free State, Transkei and Transvaal to take part in the demonstration.

The committee also said rural communities from the northern Cape would be staging a demonstration outside the SADF's Witwatersrand Command headquarters in Johannesburg on Monday to protest against a Supreme Court application by the SADF to evict them from the Gatlose-Maramane nature reserve near Kimberley. — Sapa.

# New tactics in fight to get land back for community

S/Times 22/8/93

By CARMEL RICKARD

LIKE a silent jury, 12 members of the Cremin community listened intently this week to argument about whether they were lawfully "robbed" of their land by the government 15 years ago.

The 12 were chosen by the community to represent them at the Maritzburg Supreme Court hearings on which they pin their hopes of returning to their land, near Ladysmith in northern Natal.

Across the country, many communities which

similarly lost their land to apartheid planners, are anxious to go home, but most depend on moral suasion and political pressure to achieve this goal.

Now the Legal Resources Centre in Durban is using a different tactic, and has taken the Cremin case to court. The man in the judicial hot seat is Mr Justice Willem Booysse, who must decide two crucial issues which could have far-reaching impact.

## Delay

He must decide whether the expropriation of the land was carried out "correctly". This means considering whether the officials who took the land away observed all the technical niceties laid down in the law.

Then he must decide whether to condone the community's long delay in bringing the action. Fifteen years have elapsed since they were forced out, far longer than is normally allowed to bring such a challenge.

Among the 12 former Cremin landowners watching the advocates argue about the future of the community sat the appli-

cant in the case, Mr Andries Radebe, 83. In court papers, he explained why it took so long to get to court. He never accepted that his removal was valid, but when he consulted a lawyer soon after they were moved, he was advised the expropriation was legal.

Poverty-stricken after losing his land, he did not have money for a second opinion. Then came successive states of emergency, and he feared for his safety if he continued organising community resistance to their removal.

Arguing for Mr Radebe, Mr Ian Chadwick, SC, said that in addition to the alleged defects in the expropriation procedure, Mr Radebe had "justice underlying his case" as he was a victim of the now universally condemned apartheid policy.

Counsel for the government, Mr Chris Marne- wick, SC, said: "Unpalatable as it now seems, such removals had been part of government policy and could not now be set aside on the grounds that they had not been carried out for public purposes."

Judgment has been reserved.

## Report looks at reform of land

JOHANNESBURG. — Land reform programmes should promote the integration of black farmers into the South African agricultural economy, the Development Bank of Southern Africa says in a discussion document on agricultural land reform.

In addition, a market-based approach to land reform should be considered. — Sapa

3/18/93

B Day 2318193

# Foodcorp to support black farmers

Business Day Reporter

FOODCORP has joined forces with the Free State University in a long-term programme aimed at providing appropriate education, guidance and planning support to small-scale black farmers.

Foodcorp will initially contribute more than R500 000 to the programme. A portion of the sponsorship will be used to establish a bursary fund to help educate black agriculturalists in the field of agricultural development processes.

The programme, which will be steered by a committee consisting of representatives from the university, Foodcorp and the agricultural community, will contribute to job creation in rural areas related to food

production, education for farming entrepreneurs, environmental protection and research and system development around the realities of SA's soil and climate.

Foodcorp CE Dirk Jacobs said: "Protection of the soil for continued and improved food production is a national priority and of special importance to the Foodcorp group."

In a statement he expressed his confidence in the diverse yields for Foodcorp's stakeholders from this investment. He believed empowering the black farmer would save SA from "the fate of famine and unemployed masses in urban ghettos".

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# KwaZulu land deal

## angers ANC

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The ANC has lashed out at government for agreeing to consolidate almost 500 000ha of land in Natal into KwaZulu, and warns that it may take strong action if the transfer goes ahead. **3** **GAU**

In terms of the agreement between Ulundi and Pretoria, ownership of some of the land will be transferred to the KwaZulu Finance and Development Corporation and other bodies, while other portions will be given to tribes and tribal authorities. **(2)**

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said his organisation was unhappy about the unilateral transfer of land when SA was talking about integrating all these areas into a united SA.

The agreement follows a decades-old tussle over the land which government had initially agreed to give to KwaZulu in terms of its consolidation programme.

The deal appears to be a compromise on KwaZulu's original demands for full control of more than 90 pieces of land. Most of the land consists of tribal villages and townships, conservation, forestry and agricultural areas.

SA retains responsibility for education and policing in the affected areas, and some parts, including townships, will continue to be administered by the Natal Provincial Administration.

A Land Affairs spokesman in Pretoria confirmed the deal, but said several "role players" still had to be consulted before the transfer could go ahead.

A technical committee consisting of KwaZulu, the NPA, and certain SA government departments, has been established to execute the transfer of the land.

Del...



Washington — The controversial World Bank report on land reform criticised by the SA Agricultural Union last week does not recommend Zimbabwe-style government expropriation or even purchase of South African white commercial land to be resettled by subsistence farmers.

The report by Hans Binswanger and Klaus Deininger instead recommends a market-assisted land reform policy where the poor are given government grants and land bank loans to buy commercial farmland from willing sellers.

But it does issue a dire warning that if South Africa does not embark upon large land reform, including transfer of some commercial farmland to new, small farmers, it will face a violent peasants' insurrection and perhaps even civil war.

SAALU vice-president Thinus Hartman slammed the report last week, basically telling the World Bank to keep its nose out of SA's farming business and not try to enforce resettlement schemes which have failed elsewhere.

'Land reform urgently needed to avert civil war'

# Warning of 'peasant insurrection'

Star 25/8/93

## REPORT moots Kenya-style resettlement of farms, not Zimbabwe-style seizure and redistribution

World Bank sources have emphasised that the report represents the views of its authors and not those of the bank. But its recommendations are not as radical as might be supposed from the reaction. It specifically advises against any form of direct government intervention — either through expropriation or purchase — to take over commercial farmland to resettle small farmers.

They do, however, recommend judicial settlement of claims to specific plots by groups evicted

from their land during the SA Government's policy of removing people from "black spots".

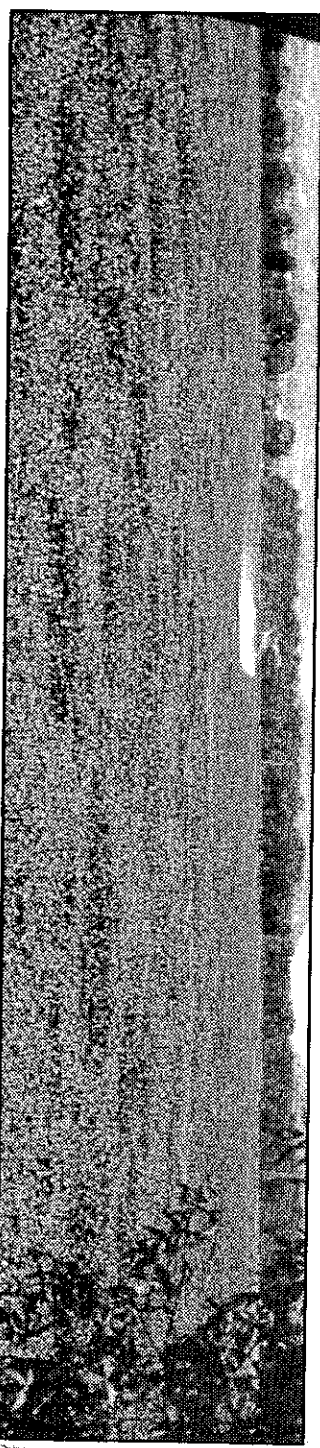
This same system of judicial restitution could be used to settle the rights to housing, plots and grazing of current and former long-term workers, squatters and labour tenants — subject to clear rules and cut-off dates.

"The general claim for restitution arising from past land policies and from the systematic destruction of smallholder farming cannot be handled by judicial means," the World Bank report continues.

"But it could be handled by a market-assisted land reform, as in Kenya, where the poor were given grants to help them buy land from the commercial sector," it adds.

### 3 Gen

A critical allied recommendation of the report, though, is that the Government repeal all "dis-



Greener pastures . . . the World Bank's report on land reform recommends giving the poor grants and loans to buy smaller tracts of farmland from "willing sellers" and insists it does not advocate forced resettlement schemes.

tortions" which favour the commercial farmer in the form of tax breaks, land-bank credit, the agricultural marketing board system and access to services and technology.

It argues that these distortions have made commercial farming of large tracts of land seem more productive than it really is.

Removing the distortions will lower the value of commercial farmland to the point where new small-plot farmers could afford to buy it. Removal of the distortions would also make small-plot farming more viable than large-plot farming in many areas.

They argue that the land-reform experiment in Kenya, which they recommend for South African imitation, demonstrated that small-plot farming (on average, 12.6 ha each) was more productive than large-plot farming, when large-scale farming was denied preferential fiscal treatment by the government of the day.

The report says the financing of the land-reform policy would have to come from external and internal sources, including an external donor consortium, the uncollectable debt claims of the commercial farm sector, or an income or value-added tax levied "on the past beneficiaries of apartheid".

The authors express the conviction that the only alternative to a large programme of land reform to redress the injustice of apartheid is "decades of peasant insurrection, possibly civil war, combined with capital flight and economic decline".

If the hopes raised by the Land Acts are not met by additional assignment of land from the commercial sector, land invasions are likely to increase.

These will at first be uncoordinated and sporadic, and will concentrate on Natal and other areas close to the homelands.

Afrikaner farmer groups will be able to defend areas not contiguous to the homelands "and are arming themselves to do so". But they will be "powerless against murders committed by current and former workers and tenants".

Ultimately some political group will organise a "well-equipped peasant movement capable of co-ordinated insurrection and terrorism, using the rapidly increasing stock of arms in rural areas".

Token appeasement schemes will at that stage only be able to postpone the inevitable "co-ordinated peasant insurrection".

# Forum breaks deadlock on release of public land

APR 26/8/93

□ Urban development commission members agree to compromise

**BRUCE CAMERON**  
Business Staff

INITIAL agreement has been reached in the Western Cape Economic Forum to break a deadlock on the release of public land.

Extra parliamentary groups have been arguing for a moratorium until decisions can be made by democratically elected bodies.

But, members of the forum's urban development commission representing many of the bodies involved in the dispute have agreed to a compromise.

In terms of the agreement,

which has yet to be ratified at a plenary session of the forum next week, land will be released where it is urgently required, such as for affordable housing for the disadvantaged.

But, the commission stipulates that there should be widespread consultation, particularly with itself, first.

Public land is defined land owned by the central and provincial government, local and regional government and state-owned companies.

The commission sees the release of public land as one of the main weapons available to correct "many aspects of the

current inefficient and inequitable structure and functioning in the Cape Metropolitan Area".

In reaching agreement, commission members have spelt out a guideline for the future release of public land to protect rights and to control development for the whole region to meet priorities and environmental needs.

The guideline calls for an inventory of all public land and a development plan for the entire region which will highlight the priorities.

The commission recommended a tiered approach to

developing or selling public land.

The first step should be to test any proposal against a broad development plan for the metropolitan region, gradually filtering the scheme down to the local authority with greater detail added at every step, down to approval of final building plans.

As part of the compromise the commission recommends that any immediate plans to develop publicly owned land should first be vetted by the commission and approved by affected communities.

## Ordeal over for SADF soldier

MICHAEL HARTNACK

**BULAWAYO** — The eight-month ordeal of a sergeant in the SA Defence Force's No 5 Reconnaissance Regiment, stationed at Phalaborwa, ended late on Wednesday when he was freed by security police in Bulawayo.

Earlier, regional magistrate Sandra Mungwira had rejected charges that Lindelani Headson Miya, 32, was a SA agent sent to destabilise Zimbabwe.

She found that a "confession" Miya made to Zimbabwe's central intelligence organisation had been extorted under torture, and because he feared for his wife, who had been detained with him during a Christmas 1992 visit to his home outside Bulawayo.

Miya, a Zimbabwean who has served in the SA forces for many years, was released late yesterday following his acquittal, family members said.

State witnesses testified that they might have confused Miya with another SADF member of the same name who, they said, had brought explosives into Zimbabwe from SA in April 1992.

Miya originally pleaded guilty to charges under Zimbabwe's draconian Law and Order Maintenance Act which carries a maximum 25-year prison sentence.

But during his trial he changed his plea to not guilty.

The case threatened the thaw in relations between Zimbabwe and SA and the relaxation of President Robert Mugabe's 13-year ban on ministerial level contact with the De Klerk government.

# Drought empties irrigation dams

Biday 27/8/93

DIRK VAN EEDEN

**PRETORIA** — Irrigation water levels were critically low in large parts of the summer rainfall areas, SA Agricultural Union spokesman Koos du Toit said yesterday.

Water levels of irrigation dams, for the second year or longer, varied from almost empty to less than 40%.

Although fairly normal and widespread rains to a large extent had brought relief in the summer cropping areas where a total maize crop of 8,9m tons was expected, compared to a crop of only 3m tons in 1992/93, disaster drought conditions persisted in large parts of the country.

In the eastern Cape, the central parts of the Karoo, the northern and eastern parts of Transvaal and the entire east coast from the Ciskei as far north as Kwazulu, the situation was "extremely grave", Du Toit said.

Effects of the drought, which continued to spread and intensify, had assumed critical proportions, particularly in extensive stock grazing areas. About 80 districts and parts of districts were currently listed as disaster drought areas. (3) Gen

The unprecedented drought in the eastern high rainfall areas had resulted in enormous losses for producers in the sub-tropical, fruit, sugar, timber and vegetable industries.

An estimated 15 000ha of fruit orchards, 23 000ha of sugar cane and 13 000ha of timber plantations had been destroyed since the onset of the drought three years ago.

Land Bank MD Fanie Hugo said yesterday that his bank was doing everything in its power to accommodate clients in difficulties. The Land Bank had over the years only acted against 0,56% of clients unable to pay back long-term loans.

"When other creditors obtain a judgment against a client of the bank, the Land Bank is in terms of the provisions of the Land Bank Act, forced to act against such a client.

"Farmers can be assured however that when the Land Bank assumes the initiative to act against a client it is done as a last resort," Hugo said.

## Law firm turns its attention east

THUNDI BOOI

SA law firm Webber Wentzel is turning its attention to Asia and will be a participant at SA's first trade exhibition in Singapore, which starts next week.

Webber Wentzel said there would be a growing demand for experts in international trade and investment law given SA's acceptance in Asia. The firm had opened a department specialising in the area and would be looking for developing opportunities as trade between SA and Southeast

Asia increased.

Webber Wentzel partner Peter Arthur said small to medium-size companies tended to look to Europe for mature markets, but found it hard to compete.

He said developing Pacific Rim economies would offer better opportunities now that sanctions had ended and SA could benefit from Singapore's expertise.

## Adult learners get better education deal

Biday 27/8/93

ADRIAN HADLAND

**PRETORIA** — A new era in adult education began yesterday with the signing of a co-operation agreement between Pretoria University and National Colleges, the university said.

According to the agreement, certain distance education programmes offered by National Colleges would be recognised by the university, giving adult learners improved access to tertiary education.

The university said that everyone, including those who normally did not qualify for tertiary education or who received vocationally orientated edu-

cation in the informal sector, would be afforded the opportunity to prepare for the future via a combined university and college education.

The university would be able to make a greater contribution towards satisfying post-school demand for education by using its statutory and certification capabilities in conjunction with National College's infrastructure, personnel and distribution networks.

First-year BComm studies, certifi-

cate programmes for people without matric, diploma programmes for those with matric as well as academic programmes leading to university credits would be offered.

Pretoria University vice-chancellor and principal Prof Flip Smith said that with the number of new learners increasing by 4,3% per year, the formal education sector could not provide education for all children, and new models had to be found.

A model which would contribute to affordable education and training had been created through the agreement, Smith said.

# Sugar drought losses to top R1,5bn

THE local sugar industry is now reaping the bitter harvest of a two-year drought with the loss of production in excess of R1,5bn, SA Sugar Association chairman Tony Ardington said in the association's annual review.

It would be the smallest crop produced since the industry expanded into the Natal Midlands and the eastern Transvaal, being more than 1-million tons short of 1991/1992 season production.

He said low rainfall, restricted availability of water in the irrigation-dependent areas and heavy frosts in the Natal Midlands were main reasons for a 35% fall in production.

The financial impact of the drought saw the reduction of about R480m of foreign proceeds compared with a normal year.

## MZIWAKHE HLANGANI

It has been so severe that many of the 400 community boreholes sunk when the drought broke in 1983, had dried up, he said. *B/day*

The industry was in the throes of expanding its capacity in the eastern Transvaal with the establishment of a new mill at Komatipoort by Transvaal Sugar Limited. *27/8/93*

Ardington said this, plus investments by supplying growers and by the state in the Driekoppies Dam, represented an investment of close to R2bn. *(3) Gen*

While there had been major increases in productivity in various sugar industries and the world of sugar would become a competitive place, the local industry had not achieved the same increases.

Cane production at 12,96-million tons was lower than 13,42-million tons crushed in the 1983/84 drought, association executive director Michael Mathews said.

This was, however, offset to some extent by a record sucrose content of 13,82% and an 8,58 tons cane to sugar ratio resulting in the final sugar production of R1,51-million tons.

The total industrial proceeds for 1992/93 amounted to R2,3bn.

Mathews said that, after setting aside 1,38-million tons sugar to meet the requirements of the domestic market, the lack of export availability reduced export income drastically, and this prompted the decision to postpone the repayment of industry price support loans.

Total sales for the season of 1,3-million tons were 2% better than in the 1991/92 season.

## 'No underwear' picket continues

DURBAN. — More than 300 dismissed workers from a chicken factory in Camperdown, Natal, yesterday continued their three-week-long picket in nearby Maritzburg, protesting against having to work without underwear. ~~WPA~~ 3

~~WPA~~ POULTRY  
The women, under the banner of the Food and Allied Workers' Union, were fired from National Chick Farms between April and June because they refused to work without underwear, according to union official Mr J J Ngcobo.

CT 28/8/52  
Repeated attempts to reach National Chick Farms' managing director failed yesterday, and a director declined to comment. — Sapa

## Govt to pay water arrears

GAVIN DU VENAGE

WATER account arrears of eight local authorities would be paid by diverting funds from other services, Local Government Minister Tertius Delport said last week.

Debts to the Rand Water Board stand at more than R40m. Earlier this month it said it would end services to townships in arrears.

Supplies would be cut by the end of the month unless payment or guarantees of payment were received.

Delport said government, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Water Affairs Department had agreed to divert money for other services to pay off the debt and pay for existing services.

Future payments of intergovernmental transfers would be used first to cover water supply before being spent on other services. *BISAW*

The agreement provides for the payment of all arrears within two months, relieving the board of a critical shortage of funds. *3018193*

Delport said water was "essential" and that its suspension would have drastic implications.

It would lead to health risks and damage to infrastructure such as sewerage systems. However, it was possible to guarantee water supplies only at the cost of other essential services. *(3) aeu*

## Farmers likely to reject new labour law

PRETORIA — Transvaal farmers were likely to reject the recently proposed Agricultural Labour Act at their annual congress this week, Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) president Dries Bruwer said.

The TAU would probably adopt a resolution calling on members to defy openly provisions of the legislation, which would probably be passed by Parliament next month, he said. *Bibay*

Bruwer said Transvaal farmers were on record that they did not want any labour legislation. *3018193*

Agricultural observers agreed at the weekend the congress in Pretoria on Wednesday would generate heated debate, particularly on the questions of labour legisla-

DIRK VAN EEDEN

tion, farm security and land redistribution.

The farmers were also expected to reject SA Agricultural Union recommendations that no career politicians should be elected to the boards of provincial agricultural unions. Bruwer, a CP MP and senior Afrikaner Volksfront member, said he would be available for re-election. *(45)*

At the Free State Agricultural Union's annual congress held in Bloemfontein this month, farmers resolved to resist an ANC government in the region, particularly on the grounds of the ANC's "communist land policy". Bruwer said Transvaal farmers were likely to follow suit. *(45) (3) Gen*

## ANC seeks balance on land

DIRK VAN EEDEN

PRETORIA — Unlike the situation in Zimbabwe, land reform in SA would strike a balance between correcting social injustices and the responsible use of land, ANC agriculture spokesman Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

Addressing the Agricultural Writers' Guild, he said the ANC had no blueprint on land reform but realised a mere transfer of land to disadvantaged people would not necessarily be in the national interest.

The ANC was not in favour of any form of forced removal. Expropriation would take place only in exceptional cases. *Biday 31/8/93*

A special court would handle historical claims to land.

"The court will not be racist, but it must be biased in favour of people who lost their land through racial discrimination."

The 13-million hectares of state-owned land could be distributed among people who previously had no access to land. *(S) (S) Gen*

Credit had to be more readily available to people who in the past could not provide the necessary collateral to buy land.



# Demonstrators hand govt land ultimatum

PRETORIA — About 600 people from 25 rural communities said yesterday they would reoccupy land from which they had been forcibly removed if government failed to heed their demand for land rights by October 30. *Biday*

After a demonstration in central Pretoria yesterday, a delegation representing the 600 protesters handed an ultimatum to Regional and Land Affairs land allocation director Nico van Rensburg. *3 GEM*

The demands included unconditional return of land to victims of forced removals, establishment of a land claims court, and labour law protection and guaranteed security of tenure for farmworkers and labour tenants.

The Transvaal Rural Action Committee, which organised the march, also called for the rejection of a proposed constitutional clause enshrining property rights. The right to land should rather be included in the constitution, it said.

The marchers rejected the land allocation advisory commission, set up by government to investigate

**ADRIAN HADLAND**

land claims, as "toothless".

The ultimatum was a follow-up to a land rights memorandum delivered to negotiators at the World Trade Centre in June this year. *21 9193*

If Regional and Land Affairs Minister André Fourie had not responded by the end of next month, rural communities would have "no option but to reoccupy their land", it said.

Van Rensburg said he would communicate the slow progress of the advisory commission to the Minister today and would arrange a meeting between representatives of the communities and Deputy Minister Tobie Meyer as soon as possible.

Van Rensburg said the department was considering an 80% subsidy for people wishing to buy additional land on a "willing buyer-willing seller" basis.

The department said the delegation had been informed of assistance programmes initiated by government to broaden access to land and emphasised its "open-door policy" for discussions on land issues.

## Union wants martial law

DIRK VAN EEDEN

PRETORIA — The Transvaal Agricultural Union said yesterday it would call on government to declare a state of emergency or martial law. *Biday*

Farmers almost unanimously supported the proposal, made at the union's annual congress after re-elected union president Dries Bruwer said the time was ripe for an interim military regime. *2/19/93*

Delegates accepted a farm labour Act in principle, but warned government not to deviate from the negotiated Agricultural Labour Act, which did not set a minimum wage but specified work conditions, including hours, and provided for a special farm labour court. *(3) Gen*

Delegates voiced concern about the effect illegal strikes might have.

Some speakers feared the farm labour law was part of a communist plot to force farmers off their land.

Farmers would revolt if any future government tried to force them off their land, Transvaal Agricultural Union security division chairman Herman Vercuiel said.

3  
APR 21/92

## Call for land tax to boost output on SA farms

### Business Staff

JOHANNESBURG. — A land tax must be imposed to encourage a productive agricultural sector, says SA Fiscal Association Think Tank member and Ernst & Young partner Ian Heinstock

This could be achieved by allowing landowners to offset the proposed land tax against the income tax payable when the land is productively used.

"It is certainly not a means of generating revenue or redistributing land, but it should be punitive enough to make people use land profitably.

"For example, given a piece of land measuring 1 000 ha and a land tax of R15 per hectare a year, a landowner would face a total tax of R15 000.

"However, if he put this land under wheat which he eventually sold for R1 million to earn a net profit after production costs of R50 000, assuming a 35 percent rate, he would be liable for tax of R17 500.

"From this he would deduct the R15 000 tax already paid and only pay income tax of R2 500.

"Though the tax may appear burdensome, it will provide a powerful incentive for land to be used productively and a healthier agricultural sector could provide a shot in the arm for the economy."

*'Bloody struggle' promised over land*

# Time for military rule, farmers told

Star 2/19/93

③ Gen

■ BY NORMAN CHANDLER  
PRETORIA BUREAU

Farmers sent tough messages to the Government yesterday to ensure that a future government did not try to expropriate farmers' land.

Delegates to the Transvaal Agricultural Union congress in Pretoria also called for the installation of a military government.

At the opening of the congress TAU president Dries Bruwer told about 500 farmers, as well as Deputy Minister of Agriculture Tóbie Meyer, Conservative Party leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg and Afrikaner Volksfront leader General Constand Viljoen,

that a bloody struggle would break out if the issue of land was not settled with care.

"It is now time for an interim military government to take over the country and bring back law and order," Bruwer said.

"The country is already in the throes of a revolutionary war, with an all-out ethnic war taking place in certain townships, and the security situation is deteriorating daily."

With an "explosive situation" developing on the farms, there was also division within the security forces, Bruwer said, without elaborating.

Bruwer, who is also a CP member of Parliament, said any guarantees given to farmers by

the present Government "will mean nothing under a future government".

TAU security committee chairman Herman Vercuiel alleged that ANC branches in country areas had been approaching farmers with requests for R8 000 a month as protection money to prevent farms from being attacked.

The TAU in the days ahead would have to warn a future government not to tamper with farmers' land, implement an agricultural security policy, behave in an orderly fashion and cut down on rhetoric, and press for medical costs to be paid for any farmer or his family injured by acts of terrorism.

# Deregulators head for a showdown

SI Times 5/9/93  
By CIARAN RYAN

THE deregulation lobby is on a collision course with the Government over agricultural reform.

The Organisation of Livestock Producers and Sunnyside Group, which lobbies for policy reform and appropriate regulation, say the Government-appointed Policy Evaluation Committee (PEC) plans to recommend replacing one form of single channel marketing with modified centralised control.

There are fears that the free-market recommendations of the Kassier report will be largely ignored by the PEC when it tables its report this month. The PEC denies the charge.

PEC secretary Barth van der Merwe says: "The Kassier report will form an integral part of the PEC recommendations, but we have also taken into account other submissions. The Kassier report has not been rejected in total."

Mr van der Merwe says the report will be available for discussion.

Nils Dittmer, executive director of the Organisation of Livestock Producers (OLP), says: "The Government is trying to diminish the relevance of the Kassier report by claiming it is only one of several submissions used to determine future policy."

"All we want is the right of voluntary association and the right of voluntary taxing and levying. We do not believe the PEC will give us this."

The ANC and deregulation groups have not made submissions to the PEC.

Mr Dittmer says several requests for representation on the PEC by the OLP were rejected.

The OLP and Sunnyside Group also question whether the composition of the PEC is representative of all shades of farming opinion.

Mr van der Merwe says the PEC is made up of trade, consumer, producer and government representatives.

Chris Daroll, executive director of Sunnyside Group, says that if the PEC findings become policy, it will amount to unilateral restructuring.

Others to question the PEC's credibility and legitimacy are producer organisations, Cosatu, the ANC and the Housewives League.

Miss Daroll says: "It appears the PEC has operated according to a hidden agenda due to the non-disclosure of process followed in the nomination of its members."

Mr van der Merwe says the PEC is inviting submissions from interested groups, but no political organisations are represented on it.

"It is the prerogative of the government of the day to decide on policy matters."

**D**ESPITE the ANC's urban bias, it is plausible to expect that land reform will be high on its agenda when it takes power next year. Why and how that reform should be carried out is the subject of a major research effort being funded and refereed by the World Bank. The intention is to have a full-scale "rural restructuring programme" ready for implementation by early next year.

The bank is determined that this should be a plan devised and owned by South Africans if it is to have any chance of success. Accordingly, a wide array of interest groups has been invited to participate in its formulation. These include the ANC and PAC, government, the SA Agricultural Union and a number of non-governmental organisations.

One group that has thus far shunned the effort is the Transvaal Agricultural Union, according to bank staff. They feel this may explain SAAU vice-president Thibus Hartman's recent harumph that "any decisions on land policy will be taken in the country itself, not by the World Bank's head office in Washington". Though intended as criticism, the bank heartily concurs.

**T**he nominal cause of Hartman's wrath is the growing consensus among the researchers that SA's commercial farms, especially those involving grain and livestock, are a highly inefficient use of capital and labour; would not be viable but for the economically and socially ruinous racial socialism of successive NP governments; and should make room for black small-holdings.

The assumptions underlying the restructuring project were laid out at a workshop in Mbabane last November, sponsored by the bank and the UN Development Programme. None of the main speakers, whose papers the bank will shortly publish, was a wild-eyed revolutionary out to wreak vengeance on white farmers. They are people who believe in markets, property rights and governments that protect and foster such things. They think there is a desperate need for land redistribution for a very good reason: the status quo is

# Land reform vital to address flaws in the status quo

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SIMON BARBER in Washington

economically irrational.

Hans Binswanger, a senior adviser to the bank on Latin America agriculture who has been seconded to the SA initiative, did, it is true, sound a slightly apocalyptic note, and one that clearly struck a chord with some white South Africans who feel the ANC is being pushy/annoying on the land reform question.

SA, said Binswanger, had two choices — "rapid and massive redistribution of land to black and coloured groups, which would involve substantial resettlement from the homelands on to land now in the commercial sector; or decades of peasant insurrection, possibly civil war, combined with capital flight and economic decline."

Merle Lipton, of Capitalism and Apartheid fame, and her husband Michael, a fellow at Sussex University's Institute for Development Studies, chose their words more carefully, but agreed with all of Binswanger's essential premises, as did Robert Christiansen, a senior economist in the agriculture section of the bank's southern Africa department, who is co-ordinating the research effort.

Government policies, the Liptons argued, had systematically smashed black agriculture while subsidising large, capital-intensive white commercial farms, often to grow products (wheat in the western Cape, for

example) in which SA was not competitive internationally. To continue down this path in the belief that the country's economic salvation lay in more rapid industrialisation at the expense of investment in small-scale, labour-intensive farming would merely be to repeat the errors of the past under another name.

It would also be to forgo an opportunity to mitigate rural poverty, create employment on and off farms at levels of investment per job far lower than those entailed in mining and manufacturing, generate new exports and stem the influx into already stressed urban areas.

The country's factor endowments — the oversupply of labour, the high cost of capital and the increasing scarcity and exhaustion of good land and water resources — pleaded for policies that encouraged labour-intensive, yet technologically sophisticated (the two are not incompatible) agriculture. Suggestions that it would be preferable to have even fewer people working the land, but at higher incomes, were perverse: they entailed "capital costs per job that SA cannot afford, except with levels of unemployment that are politically and humanly unacceptable".

The promotion of black small-

holdings was an obvious solution. As Binswanger noted, "the literature contains no single example of economies of scale arising for farm sizes exceeding what one family with a medium tractor could comfortably manage". Indeed given undistorted access to inputs and markets, family-size farms were regularly more efficient than commercial operations — one reason why white farmers had demanded government to adopt policies effectively shutting out black competition.

The argument advanced by Hartman, that small-holders had failed in the rest of Africa was meretricious in the Liptons' view. These farmers had been done in by policy biases closely akin to SA's. Where those policies had been changed (in parts of Kenya, for example) there had been successes. As for failed attempts to stimulate black farming in the homelands, by mostly involving large-scale projects where farmers were not working for themselves but as de facto labourers employed by the state or "expensive private sector consultants" This model had failed worldwide.

Neither the Liptons, nor anyone on the bank's staff, are arguing for the complete dissolution of commercial farms. A mix is required. Nor, in their view, should the temptation to use foreclosure to acquire land lead

to settlers being dumped into "semi-arid areas on which many marginal white farmers have been unable to make a living".

"What is essential," said the Liptons, "is improved access to land rights (both ownership and tenancy) and to marketing and other facilities for small-scale farmers; adoption of technologies that are complementary with labour absorption; and de-regulation of the rural non-farm sector in a way that enables small-scale traders to enter markets currently dominated by large-scale private or state monopolies."

Quite apart from the costs, both political and economic, of land acquisition — and no one aside from the PAC is suggesting expropriation — rejigging the agricultural sector to "level the playing field" (Binswanger's phrase) for small-holdings will be a gigantic undertaking.

Although government has already begun the necessary policy reforms, much remains to be done at the legislative and constitutional levels. A new code of land tenure will have to be agreed. There will need to be substantial investment in infrastructure, extension and social services. Existing input and marketing monopolies will have to be turned into competitive systems. Agricultural research will need to be redirected to the needs of small farmers. And claims to land, both general and specific, will have to be adjudicated.

**T**he Liptons fear that once in power the ANC may choose to focus its limited resources elsewhere. Christiansen, in an interview last week, noted that while the multifateral institutions would be more than happy to help underwrite the rural restructuring, it was entirely conceivable a new government might decide international borrowing would be better devoted to education, housing and health care.

"The political difficulties of securing for the rural population an efficient (let alone just) share of national resources will be great," the Liptons warned. "Much power will lie with the urban trade unions and with mobilised, unemployed urban youth." It would be strange if these groups ended up in an effective alliance with the commercial farmers.

# GATT expected to influence price of food

MARITZBURG.— The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade would have a significant influence on product prices, Natal Agricultural Union president William Mullins said.

He told the union's congress yesterday that the commercial agricultural sector was expected to compete with foreign producers without the playing field being levelled.

As far as direct payments made to farmers were concerned, SA, Australia and New Zealand ranked among the lowest in respect of

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Own Correspondent

exporters of agricultural products.

He said cheap food would become a very important strategy in the coming election. Political players would try to keep food prices as low as possible, and commercial farmers would not be treated very sympathetically.

"The Damocles sword of cheap imported food will most certainly be held above our heads," Mullins said (3) GEM

**Death penalty call**

APR 10 1973  
MARITZBURG. — The Natal Agricultural Union called on the government to reinstate the death penalty. The NAU congress here also called for severe penalties for attackers of "soft" targets and unanimously approved a motion calling for a review of parole provisions. — Sap. (3)



# Farmers up in arms over terrible road conditions

## The Argus Correspondent

MARITZBURG. — Some country roads were so bad that people drove next to them instead of on them, Hlobane farmer Andries van der Westhuizen said during an angry Natal Agricultural Union debate on roads.

The union's congress reaffirmed its call for the government to rededicate the fuel levy for the immediate funding and maintenance of Natal's road infrastructure.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said some tar roads were so potholed that people had to drive slowly on them.

Another Northern Natal farmer, Mr Koos Erasmus of Swartmfoloji, said some Natal rural roads were hole upon hole "een gat op die ander" and were worse than those in Kwa-Zulu, Free State or the Transvaal.

Dr Carl Seele, of the SA Timber Growers' Association, said a dedicated fuel levy was the fairest, easiest way to finance road building and maintenance. In this system, the user paid.

Mr Warwick Barnsley, of Lions River, said a dedicated road levy was needed to allow second and third tiers of government to identify where the infrastructure was "falling to piece" and to repair it.

Mr Sathie Naidoo, MEC for Roads, said the problem was not that the Natal Roads Department was getting a smaller slice of the cake, but that the cake was getting smaller, largely because of the recession.

Another source of anger was the unreliable country telephone system. Mr J de Villiers of Pongola said that some farmers who ran big businesses and needed up-to-the-minute information to make big decisions lost money because of the unreliable telephones.

Zululand pineapple farmer Mr A Bisschoff said that, while huge advances in telecommunication technology had taken place South African farmers had to make do with a primitive, unreliable system. Telkom's monopoly should be broken so that more efficient systems could be introduced.

3 (1) ARG 13/9/93

# Land claims court 'can address past injustices'

Friday, 15/9/93

PATRICK BULGER

A LAND claims court, assisted by a standing commission on land claims, would address past racial injustice in land allocation and help entrench effective property rights in SA, says the Urban Foundation.

Presenting the product of two years of research into the issue at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday, foundation executive director Ann Bernstein said even organisations like the SA Agricultural Union, which had previously opposed a court, now understood the need for a judicial process to adjudicate claims.

Land claims by black South Africans should not be ignored or downplayed.

"This issue will not go away and open public debate is essential to find the best possible solution," Bernstein said. The foundation research was intended as a contribution to the debate. (3) Gen

She said that in 1991 the foundation had expressed its view that government's Advisory Commission on Land Allocation was an inadequate and partial response to a vital national issue.

She identified 13 pieces of legislation that had been used since 1855 to deny blacks ownership of land. She said a distinction needed to be made between reparation and restitution, which implied handing back a specific piece of land to an owner dispossessed of it.

Reparation, however, was a more useful route because it allowed innovative remedies for the dispossessed, among them land sharing and involvement in rural development programmes.

She said a land claims court could be headed by three Appeal Court judges and

three assessors. A standing commission on land could recommend suitable awards, consider land claims, investigate government documents and offer financial, legal and research assistance to claimants.

A judicial mechanism combined elements of justice and fairness and allowed for appeals and reviews. However, land claims should not be confused with or seen as a substitute for affirmative action.

She said state land should be borne in mind when land was needed to make reparation to a person, family or community unfairly dispossessed. Expropriation by the state, in much the same manner it followed when land was expropriated for bridges or dams, was also an option.

Bernstein suggested that discussions on a land claims court take place in tandem with the introduction of a Bill of Rights to prevent new injustices, Sapa reports. Past injustices needed to be addressed in such a way as to promote reconciliation.

"If there is a property clause in a future Bill of Rights, it will protect all kinds of ownership, including current ownership of the land in dispute."

Bernstein suggested that a new government should call all interested parties together to decide through broad consultation and consensus on the kind of judicial mechanism and legislation needed for dealing with land claims.

New legislation would have to define the criteria whereby claims could be brought before court, ways to test their validity, institutions comprising the court and possible remedies granted by it.

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# Appeal for land claims to be established

Star 15/9/93

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The Urban Foundation has urged the establishment of a land claims court and has called for an inclusive political process to decide the rules which such a court would be called on to apply.

Land claims of black South Africans could not be glossed over, argued executive director Ann Bernstein, presenting the findings of the foundation's research to a Johannesburg press conference yesterday.

## Reconciliation

"It is our view that we have to deal with the injustices of the past and that we must do so in a way that helps the process of nation-building and reconciliation — and does not create new injustices," she said.

In addition to redressing the wrongs of racial laws — either by restoring land to the dispossessed or by offering appropriate compensation — a land claims court should complement a sound development strategy, suggests the report, "A land claims court for South Africa?"

"The land claims court idea also deals with fu-

ture land rights, and hence with questions of security, investment and economic growth," the report states.

It points out that there is no relevant common law which could guide a land claims court.

## Legitimate

"The substantive rules to be applied in land claims cases should be formulated politically," the report asserts.

"It is of the utmost importance that a legitimate political process involving all major interests leads to the adoption of legislation spelling out the procedures and broad guidelines dealing with the substance of adjudicating land claims."

Bernstein made it clear this was not a call for unilateral action by the present Government.

The first democratically elected government would probably set in motion the "inclusive" consultations envisaged.

She said many stakeholders — ranging from the SA Agricultural Union to dispossessed communities — saw a legal process as the most appropriate way of settling land disputes.

## FW, Mandela named

OSLO. — President FW De Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela have been nominated for the 1993 Nobel Peace prize.

The news surfaced yesterday when it became known that the nominations for the 1993 prize closed on February 1 — leaving peacemakers Mr Yassar Arafat and Mr Yitzhak Rabin outside the deadline.

Other nominees include Czech President Mr Vaclav Havel, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

"I expect that we shall see the most recent events in the Middle East reflected in the nominations for the peace prize," said Mr Geir Lundestad, director of the Nobel Institute.

"But the deadline for nominations for the 1993 prize closed on February 1."

There were 120 nominations for this year's award, worth R2,89 million. The names of the recipients will be announced on October 15.

## UIF call to farmers

BLOEMFONTEIN. — Free State farmers should not fulfil their obligations to the Unemployment Insurance Fund, said Dr Pieter Gous, president of the Free State Agricultural Union.

Contrary to previous information given to farmers, the fund had serious financial problems, he said yesterday.

As farmers were not responsible for this crisis, which could lead to big increases in premiums, they

could not be expected to make the fund liquid and healthy. Dr Gous said the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) had already asked for registration to be postponed until 1994.

There were urgent negotiations under way with the Department of Manpower and to strengthen the hand of the SAAU farmers should wait for further developments.

Those who had already registered were advised not to pay the increase of 0,9% to 1%. — Sapa

## Tourist shot dead in Miami

MONTICELLO, Florida. — A British tourist was shot dead and another wounded yesterday at an interstate highway rest stop in northern Florida — nearly a week after a German tourist was killed in Miami.

Police said a man was killed and a woman was wounded in their car by two young men who went up to the vehicle in an apparent robbery attempt.

The man died at the scene. The woman was airlifted to hospital, where she was in satisfactory condition.

The man was the ninth foreign visitor to Florida to be killed in the past year. — UPI

## Unita closes in as truce call is rejected

JOHANNESBURG. — Rebel forces closed in for the kill around the besieged Angolan city of Cuito yesterday as the government rejected a Unita ceasefire offer.

The government demanded international sanctions against Unita and said its truce call was a propaganda ploy before a United Nations Security Council debate on the renewed civil war.

The rebels poured artillery fire into Cuito and there was fighting on all defence lines, Angolan state radio said.

"A thick pall of smoke makes it difficult for the sun's rays to get through. The number of dead is incalculable. They must be several hundred," the report said.

"The city is being put to the torch and the sword."

The central highland city — described by foreign aid workers as a "forgotten Sarajevo" because of its appalling suffering — has been under siege for eight months.

The total death toll is estimated at 20 000 people.

Unita military commander, General Arlindo Chenda Pena "Ben Ben", on Monday presented proposals for a unilateral ceasefire from next Monday.

Diplomats expressed scepticism about the offer, saying Unita had repeatedly violated the 1991 peace accords since returning to war after losing elections last September to the ruling MPLA. — Sapa-Reuter

## Call to punish rights violators

JOHANNESBURG. — Perpetrators of human rights violations during the apartheid era should be brought to book, three prominent political figures said on last night's Agenda.

The TV programme, featuring former Progressive Federal Party MP Mrs Helen Suzman, Nobel Peace Prize-winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Azanian People's Organisation's Dr Aubrey Mokoape, centred on the ANC's recommendation that a Commission of Truth be established. A fourth guest, Pretoria bomb blast victim Mr Neville Clarence, said it would be more practical to simply wipe the slate clean.

Archbishop Tutu and Mrs Suzman said people who had committed atrocities on both sides should be brought to book. Mrs Suzman emphasised compensation for families, and Archbishop Tutu stressed the need to deal with the past to start with the future.

The mutilated bodies of the East African...  
Biday. 15/9/93

# Land claims court 'can address past injustices'

PATRICK BULGER

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three assessors. A standing commission on land could recommend suitable awards, consider land claims, investigate government documents and offer financial, legal and research assistance to claimants.

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# Focus on land

Sowetan 15/9/93

**T**HE CONTROVERSY over land redistribution in Zimbabwe has aroused more international interest than most African issues, yet it has echoes in much of the continent — including South Africa.

The land question has been one of the most sensitive in modern Africa, where the colonial legacy ensured that at independence much of the land belonged to minority white groups. Redistribution of it became a priority for every government where this situation existed.

White ownership and control of land is seen by many peasants and former combatants in the liberation struggles as a form of dispossession and deprivation which stirs strong feelings. But finding an equitable way to meet their demands for redistribution has eluded many African governments.

Kenya, as one of the first countries to experience a liberation struggle (albeit a limited one), was one of the first to run into the land redistribution issue. Here, the principle of "willing seller — willing buyer" was strictly adhered to, but Kenyans often felt they were not given fair access as they did not have the funds to buy the land even though the big estates had been divided into smaller farms.

In Zimbabwe, where one of the most bitter liberation struggles was fought, the issue not unexpectedly came to dominate politics.

Former guerilla Moses Rushinga put it this way: "We just want our land back — land the settlers stole from us. It does not matter what we do with it ... we just want what is ours."

In Zimbabwe 30 percent of the 39 million hectares (11,2-m ha) of land remains in the hands of 4 700 mainly white large-scale farmers while 8 600 black small-scale farmers own only 1,2 million hectares. Communal land makes up 20 million ha, 3 million of which was bought for resettlement since independence.

In Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda's land nationalisation policies after independence contributed to turning the country from food exporter to food importer. Many believe this came about because the fertile land was misused and mismanaged. Now, President Frederick Chiluba is trying to turn this around and farms are being made available for purchase by white farmers.

Closer to home, the Namibian government has assured farmers that they will not lose their farms "if they are productively utilising the land". Former Agriculture Minister Gert Hanekom has said that nationalisation of farming land was the "last thing" Swapo considered. But if land was not being used effectively, "then we will have to talk with those owners".

Like many other African governments, Swapo's greatest fear is that any radical land policy can result in white farmers emigrating,

**Joe Latakgomo** of the *Sowetan* Africa News Service, looks at land redistribution policies in various African countries. How to implement the policies has been one of the more vexing problems:

**While private land would not be touched in the process of redistribution, the ANC would use land under SADF control when compensating those who had lost their land rights.**

taking their stocks and razing their ranches.

But they also hope to parcel land into small acreages which they believe will be more manageable. The government says it will avoid managing state farms and plans to experiment in cooperative farming managed by skilled black farmers who are currently employed by white absentee owners.

But that is not good enough for the National Farmers Union, which has been pushing the government to adopt land acquisition programmes similar to those in Zimbabwe "to correct imbalances created by colonialism", as Hudson N'embongi, director of the union, puts it.

The land question, he says, was central to the armed struggle which led to the country's independence from South Africa in 1990.

"Our view based on the profiles from Zimbabwe is that land must be acquired and must be redistributed. About 96 percent of Namibians own only four percent of productive agricultural land. The rest is owned by white farmers, some of whom are absentee landlords."

Recognising the increasing call for redistribution, the Namibian government has set up committees to look into the matter. But there is a problem for the government: the independence constitution has an entrenched bill of rights to protect ownership of private property.

In South Africa the land issue has come to the fore even before the new dispensation is finally negotiated.

The African National Congress spokesman on agriculture, Derek Hanekom, recently said land reform would seek a balance between

correcting social injustices and the responsible use of land.

Expropriation would, he said, only take place under exceptional circumstances and a special court would handle historical claims to land. The 13 million hectares of state-owned land could be distributed among people who previously had no access to land. Recently Nelson Mandela assured whites that there was no danger that the ANC would seize privately owned land.

"While private land would not be touched in the process of redistribution, the ANC would use land under SADF control when compensating those who had lost their land rights."

The SADF, he said, controlled about 40 percent of the land.

The Pan Africanist Congress policy, on the other hand, is firmly based on the land issue.

"The land is the substance and symbol of indivisible nationhood, national independence, self-determination, national development and national culture," the organisation says in its land policy document.

The PAC "emphatically rejects the view which holds that freehold title to land should be protected and that land should be made available only in situations where current owners are willing to sell it" — a position which they describe as "pro-status quo".

The President of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa), SP Holomisa, has called for redistribution to be addressed as a priority "if the imminent change of government is to be viewed as the advent of genuine liberation." But South African Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer warned that a bloody struggle could ensue if the question of land was not handled with sensitivity.

An indication of the restlessness over land emerged again recently when about 600 people from 25 rural communities said they would re-occupy land from which they had been forcibly removed if the Government failed to heed their demand for land rights by October 30.

Their demands included unconditional return of land to victims of forced removals, the establishment of a land claims court and labour law protection and guaranteed security of tenure for farm workers and labour tenants. They said that if Regional and Land Affairs Minister Andre Fourie had not responded by the end of next month, rural communities would have "no option but to re-occupy their land".

*Drought worst in 200 years in places*

Star 15/9/93

## PWV water curbs imminent

BY SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Water restrictions are inevitable in the PWV area by the end of this year, followed by an increase in the price of water late next year, unless good rains arrive this season, Water Affairs Department acting water resources manager Pieter Pretorius warned yesterday.

Price increases would be necessary to offset the expected drop in water sales which would be suffered by various water boards once restrictions were imposed, he said.

With many dams at critical levels, the current drought equalled the worst recorded in

AGRICULTURE — and consumers — face a critical summer as irrigation resources are rapidly depleted

some areas, he said.

The Fanie Botha Dam in the northern Transvaal and the upper Orange River dams, including the massive Hendrik Verwoerd and P K le Roux dams, were at record lows.

Pretorius's comments were underscored by a warning from Southern Transvaal Agricultural Union general manager Johan Hartman, who said: "We are fac-

ing a critical summer. I fear the worst unless we get sustained, heavy and widespread rains over the entire northern Free State and Transvaal region.

"There is absolutely no chance the agricultural sector can withstand another drought after the past two years.

"Already restriction-hit citrus and subtropical fruit farmers dependent on the Fanie Botha Dam in the lowveld have seen the level drop to 1 percent.

"We must have up to 50 mm at a time to halt the deterioration in the ground water, which could affect tobacco farmers, in particular, in Rustenburg, Brits, Potgietersrus and Nelspruit ...

Northern Transvaal cattle farmers will have to bring in additional feed," Hartman said.

■ Hopes of a return to a "normal" summer rainfall season had been boosted by the steady weakening of the El Nino phenomenon — the warming of the Pacific Ocean — for the third consecutive month, said Pretoria University meteorologist Professor Johan van Heerden.

But, warning against over-optimism, Van Heerden said although the latest information from the US indicated the general tendency was that the warming in the Pacific Ocean was disappearing, a reversal was still not out of the question.

# SA rewrites agricultural proposals

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — SA's agricultural policymakers are hastily rewriting reform proposals after GATT indicated that the July package did not go far enough in liberalising farm trade, sources said yesterday.

The Agriculture Department confirmed a revised GATT offer would be completed by the beginning of next week, after missing Monday's deadline, but declined to elaborate. A spokesman said the point of departure was to avoid harming agriculture and to build in as much flexibility as possible in the GATT offer.

SA Agricultural Union economist Johan Pienaar said the earlier proposals circulated for comment contained high levels of protection from international competition for commodities such as maize, wheat and meat and it would be surprising if GATT had found that acceptable.

To comply with GATT, SA has six years to reach lower levels of protection. Policymakers had hoped that even after six years of adjustment, agriculture would still be entitled to substantial protection from imports. The tariff rates bound under GATT are maximum levels, and the actual levels can be lower if the country decides it can afford further reform.

## Scrapping

Examples of high maximum import tariffs for the end of the reform period stipulated in the draft package are 94% for maize, 150% for wheat, 115% for frozen beef, 100% for poultry, 261% for milk, 151% for sugar, 90% for sunflower products and 50% for pork. It is generally expected that these levels will be revised downwards in the final offer.

A major part of the agricultural reform proposals is the scrapping of all quantitative control of imports. Commodities that enjoyed protection from foreign competition through import quotas would receive protection in the form of tariffs instead. It is understood GATT objected to the calculations SA used to convert import quotas into tariff rates for reform purposes.

Expectations of an export bonanza for SA farmers after GATT reforms are based on the assumption that all countries will liberalise substantially.

Economists said SA's GATT offer would still require significant adjustments. World markets would influence domestic prices as price intervention was scrapped.



# Farm trade package revised

B/Da9 16/9/93

GRETA STEYN

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To Page 2

## Farm trade **B/Da9 16/9/93** From Page 1

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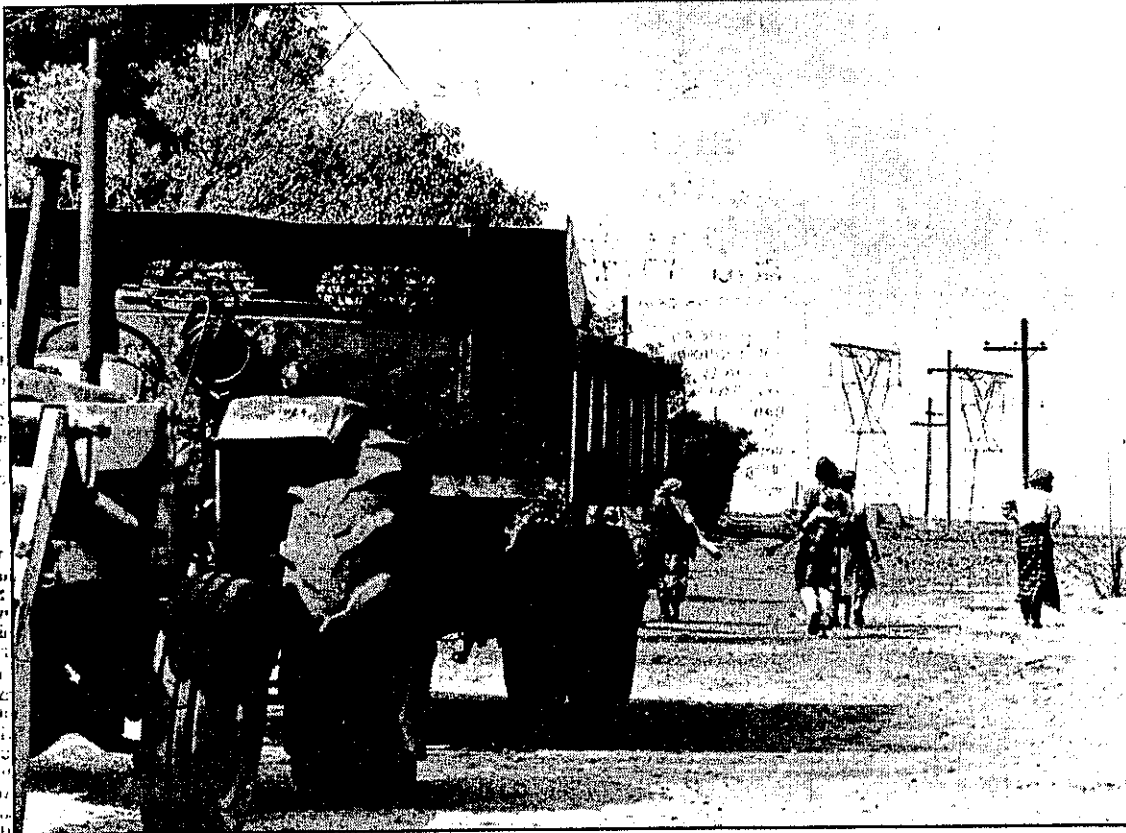
A major part of the agricultural reform proposals is the scrapping of all quantitative control of imports. Commodities that enjoyed protection from foreign competition through import quotas would receive protection in the form of tariffs instead. It is understood GATT objected to the calculations SA used to convert import quotas into tariff rates for reform purposes.

Land and Agricultural Policy Centre economist Jonathan Beynon said although he welcomed the substantial room for manoeuvre built into the offer, the high maximum levels failed to send a policy signal to agriculture on the direction actual reform was likely to take. He said SA should think twice about giving up the option to impose quantitative controls on agricultural imports, as it could be wrong-footed if other countries retained controls.

Agricultural trade reform has been one of the most controversial areas of the GATT negotiations. French farmers' outrage over moves to cut European farm subsidies is threatening to hold up conclusion of the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations, scheduled for December this year. Reuter reports no GATT pact can be reached unless the 12 EC member states and Washington agree on how deeply and how quickly to cut agricultural subsidies, blamed for distorting the world economy.

Expectations of an export bonanza for SA farmers after GATT reforms are based on the assumption that all countries will liberalise substantially. **(4) Gen**

Economists said SA's GATT offer would still require significant adjustments. World markets would influence domestic prices as price intervention was scrapped.



Relief at last? . . . the conditions of thousands of farmworkers across the country are expected to improve as a result of new legislation giving them labour rights for the first time. PICTURE: PETER MOGAKI

## Pressure cooker looks set to burst on farms

Star 17/9/93  
3 Green

The battlelines are being drawn down on the farms as anxious farmers consider their futures under a new government in a new South Africa in the autumn of 1994.

For months on end, farmers have been warning they will take action if the present Government is unable or unwilling to help contain the security situation on the *platteland*, which has seen nearly 60 farmers killed on their properties this year alone.

The pressure cooker that makes up the sharp edge of the agricultural industry has been boiling a long time, and is now at such a pitch that it may only take a match to turn the tinder-dry lands of 65 000 South African farmers into an inferno which will, to all intents and purposes, engulf the country.

The signs have been there.

Apart from widespread revulsion at attacks on farms, there was the boeing off the stage at Potchefstroom of SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie, who was seen not to be siding with the farmers, the rise to power of Transvaal Agricultural Union boss Dries Bruwer, the meteoric arrival on the political scene of Afrikaner Volksfront (AVF) co-ordinator General Constand Viljoen, trade union legislation for farmworkers, and, now, a World Bank statement that subsistence farmers should be given a share of agricultural land.

At the recent congress of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, Bruwer made it very plain that a military government was required to take over South Africa and ensure that law and order was brought under control, and that ownership of land was sacrosanct.

**FARMERS are preparing for "a hard summer of discontent", facing security problems and others' efforts to control their labour and expropriate their land for subsistence farmers. Norman Chandler of the Pretoria Bureau reports**

It is no secret on the farms that people are looking to Viljoen to be their saviour, with Bruwer running a close second.

They talk of "the generals" and how "the generals" will ensure the country is again on a path followed by the National Party in the years after 1948.

The fact that Deputy Minister of Agriculture Tobie Meyer attended the TAU congress is seen as indicative of Government alarm over the path being followed, and that it appears to be lagging behind in the battle for the hearts and minds of the *platteland*.

He will have taken particular note of anger now manifesting itself over trade union legislation concerning farmworkers hammered out by the SAAU and Cosatu. The Agricultural Labour Bill was tabled in Parliament this week.

While the SAAU gained important concessions in its negotiations on the Bill, which, in effect, limits the ability of farmworkers to

take industrial action, the farming community is nevertheless both figuratively and mentally gearing to fight people they regard as "the enemy".

Many ordinary farmers fear that they will, in fact, have to deal with strikes and other go-slow methods at harvest time, and this is being aired time and time again at agricultural forums throughout the country.

The message was put very clearly at the Free State and Transvaal agricultural union congresses, and will be high on the agenda at the Cape and Natal congresses which follow.

"Look at the contents of the (proposed) law and you get the feeling that the worker will get everything while the employer is left out in the cold," Philip Nel, chairman of the TAU's manpower committee, says.

Meanwhile, elderly people as well as farmers' wives and children are undergoing a rapid transformation from an all-trusting community to one under siege.

They are being urged to stock up on foodstuffs, on ammunition, keep weapons clean, maintain constant vigil over children, provide identification cards for workers (to keep unknowns out of the districts) and practise security procedures.

Keeping doors locked — once unheard of on the *platteland* — is now standard procedure.

The Marnet radio network is being extended, thanks to a R50 million subsidy from the Government, so that farmers can be in constant touch with neighbours and security forces, now well-established in many previously unpoliced districts.

**L**and redistribution has been the core issue on which liberation movements have based their struggle. But how to implement the policies has been one of the more vexing problems. Joe Latakomo reports for Star Africa Service

# Landed with redistribution problem

Star 20/9/93

**T**he controversy over land redistribution in Zimbabwe has aroused more international interest than most African issues, yet it has echoes in much of the rest of the continent, including South Africa.

The land question has been one of the most sensitive in modern Africa, where the colonial legacy ensured that at independence much of the land belonged to minority white groups. Redistribution of it became a priority for every government where this situation existed.

White ownership and control of land has been seen by many peasants and former combatants in the liberation struggles as a form of dispossession and deprivation which stirs strong feelings. But finding an equitable way to meet their demands for redistribution has eluded many African governments.

Kenya, as one of the first countries to experience a liberation struggle (albeit a limited one), was one of the first to run into the land redistribution issue. Here, the principle of "willing seller, willing buyer" was strictly adhered to, but Kenyans often felt they were not given fair access as they did not have the funds to buy the land even though the big estates had been divided into smaller farms.

In Zimbabwe, where one of the most bitter

liberation struggles was fought, the issue, not unexpectedly, came to dominate politics. Even Zimbabwe's Catholic Church took up the call for land in a 1989 pastoral letter, which recalled that the war had been fought primarily over land ownership.

Former guerilla Moses Rushinga says: "We just want our land back, land the settlers stole from us. It does not matter what we do with it ... we just want what is ours."

In Zimbabwe 30 percent of the 39 million hectares of land remains in the hands of 4 700 mainly white large-scale farmers while 8 600 black small-scale farmers own only 1.2 million hectares. Communal land makes up 20 million ha, 3 million of which were bought for resettlement after independence.

In Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda's land nationalisation policies after independence contributed to turning the country from food exporter to food importer. Many believe this came about because the fertile land was misused and mismanaged.

Now, President Frederick Chiluba is trying to turn this around and farms are being made available for purchase by white farmers, including disillusioned Zimbabwean farmers. South African farmers are also looking at the prospects in Zambia.

Closer to home, the Namibian government has assured farmers that they will not lose their farms "if they are productively utilising the land". Former Agriculture Minister Gert Hanekom has said that nationalisation of farming land was the "last thing" Swapo considered. But if land was not being used effectively, "then we will have to talk with those owners".

Like many other African governments, Swapo's greatest fear is that any radical land policy can result in white farmers emigrating.

But they also hope to parcel land into small acreages which they believe will be more manageable. The government says it will avoid managing state farms and plans to experiment in co-operative farming managed by skilled black farmers who are currently employed by white absentee owners.

But that is not good enough for the National Farmers' Union, which has been pushing the government to adopt land acquisition programmes similar to those in Zimbabwe "to correct imbalances created by colonialism", says Hudson N'embongi, union director.

The land question, he says, was central to the armed struggle which led to the country's independence from South Africa in 1990.

In South Africa the land issue has come to the fore even before the new dispensation is finally negotiated.

ANC spokesman on agriculture Derek Hanekom said recently land reform would seek a balance between correcting social injustices and the responsible use of land.

Expropriation would, he said, only take place under exceptional circumstances and a special court would handle historical claims to land.

The 13 million hectares of state-owned land could be distributed among people who previously had no access to land.

Nelson Mandela assured whites that there was no danger that the ANC would seize privately owned land.

"While private land would not be touched in the process of redistribution, the ANC would use land under SADF control when compensating those who had lost their land rights."

The SADF, he said, controlled about 40 percent of the land.

The Pan Africanist Congress policy, on the other hand, is firmly based on the land issue.

"The land is the substance and symbol of indivisible nationhood, national independence, self-determination, national develop-

ment and national culture," the organisation says in its land policy document.

The PAC "emphatically rejects the view which holds that freehold title to land should be protected and that land should be made available only in situations where current owners are willing to sell it", a position which they describe as "pro-status quo".

In principle, the organisation says, it is opposed to buying land since the land was obtained "through colonial conquest". However, it believes that on moral grounds compensation should be paid, but only for developments on the land.

There is therefore absolutely no question of buying colonially-occupied land from the settlers, even under the type of "willing buyer, willing seller" system.

President of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa), SP Holomisa, has called for redistribution to be addressed as a priority "if the imminent change of government is to be viewed as the advent of genuine liberation".

But South African Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer warned that a bloody struggle could ensue if the question of land was not handled with sensitivity.

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ple from 25 rural communities said they would re-occupy land from which they had been forcibly removed if the Government failed to heed their demand for land rights by October 30. Their demands included unconditional return of land to victims of forced removals, the establishment of a land claims court and labour law protection, and guaranteed security of tenure for farmworkers and labour tenants. They said that if Regional and Land Affairs Minister Andre Fourie had not responded by the end of next month, rural communities would have "no option but to re-occupy their land".

Shimbarashe Musimbisi is a 42-year-old decorated war veteran of Zimbabwe's "chimurenga" war. He lives in a log cabin in Dzivaraseka, Harare, having been evicted from Porta Farm.

"I left this country to join the liberation war because I wanted to win back the land of my ancestors," he says. "Despite the many sacrifices, I am now doubtful this will ever happen. To add insult to injury, they now call me a squatter. I feel betrayed and forgotten."

There are many in South Africa who feel like Musimbisi.

The danger of unfulfilled expectations is real unless the land issue is dealt with realistically, urgently and decisively.

# Agriculture: Praise for ③ ANC plans

27/7/93  
Political Staff

ANC proposals to drop agriculture control boards in favour of deregulated food trading echoed the country's move from producer to consumer protection, Professor Ecker Kassier of Stellenbosch University said yesterday.

Welcoming ANC proposals released at the weekend, Prof Kassier said deregulation would benefit consumers.

Prof Kassier published an analysis of control boards earlier this year.

The ANC policy document calls for the scrapping of more than 20 control boards and restrictions on marketing and moving agricultural products. Minimum health and hygiene regulations would remain.

The ANC's Land and Agriculture Policy Centre recommended a single regulatory and legislative system to market agricultural produce.

# Huge stock losses for Eastern Cape farmers

③ 27/9/93  
Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — Stock losses following last week's sudden cold and wet snap have been described as a disaster for Eastern Cape farmers.

East Cape Agricultural Union president Mr Pieter Erasmus said last night initial figures showed losses would run into millions of rands.

"Thousands of animals have died and many more could die," he said.

"In one district alone — Aberdeen — 14 000 angora goats and 1 000 merino sheep have died.

"The final figure could be close to 100 000. It is horrifying."

The worst drought-hit parts of the Eastern Cape did not share in the welcome rains and the situation was worsening daily, said Mr Erasmus.

# Report calls for talks on land claims laws

CAPE TOWN — The Urban Foundation has called for broad-ranging negotiations to formulate land claims legislation to limit a potentially vast number of bids for land. 2819193

In a report on a Land Claims Court for SA, the foundation suggests possible measures to filter land claims, but it does not make a specific recommendation on what limits should be laid down.

"The nature of these limits lies at the heart of the debate we should be having," the report says.

"The issue of land claims should be resolved through a politically inclusive process aimed at providing a set of legal rules specifying the rights of all concerned."

The report proposes the establishment of a standing commission on land claims, in addition to its earlier recommendation in favour of a land claims court.

The commission could inquire into removals and resettlement and do research on land claims.

The commission, consisting of representatives of all interested parties, could also serve the critical function of allowing the poor access to the land claims mechanism. 3 Gen

The report suggests two mechanisms to limit the potentially infinite range of claims. The first would use the concept of "racially motivated land dispossession", the second proposes an "unfair removal" test.

The proposed land claims court could be asked to assess the weight of a claim against the feasibility of redress, given national priorities in general and the current use and status of land.

THE COURT could be given the power to grant monetary compensation, restoration of ownership, transfer of property or granting of preferential status to claimants in terms of development programmes.

Because of potentially enormous macro-economic and financial implications, remedies might be made subject to a budgetary ceiling and time limits on claims and settlements.

The report suggests that an affirmative action policy might not be sufficient, because affirmative action is not primarily about undoing past wrongs and it may be unsatisfying to those wronged.

It could validly be asked whether new laws on land reparations would not have economically disastrous consequences, even if they were the result of legitimate claims.

It was also necessary to ask whether scarce state resources needed for rural and urban land development should be diverted into unproductive land acquisitions for reparations.

The report says Parliament should devise ways to control the amount spent on reparation and criteria for land claims should be agreed so that the potential number and hence the cost could be reduced.

It was possible for land claims awards to take the form of participation in existing settlement schemes or preferential access to development projects.

More investigation into alternative mechanisms to reduce the potential costs needed to be done, the report says.

BY TIM COHEN

## Badly managed farms

It's no surprise that a government-appointed committee packed with representatives of the farming establishment finds that last year's R3,8bn drought-aid package was money well spent. *Fm 11/10/93*

What is surprising — and heartening to anyone who believes market forces rather than State aid should determine a farmer's fortune — is the committee's bold admission that bad management and inherent structural instability contribute significantly to the industry's troubles in times of natural disaster.

It recommends an urgent investigation of these issues and of the disturbing tendency by most farmers to over-estimate the economic viability of their land. The committee, chaired by Elsenburg Agricultural Development Institute director Johan Burger, was appointed by Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk in December to study the impact of the State's largest agricultural rescue package. Its report was released in Cape Town last week.

It finds that the package:

- Contributed to a R3,66bn increase in GNP compared with an estimated R3,83bn GNP growth that would have resulted had the funds been allocated to the industrial sector. *③ Gen*
- Increased the number of farmers with "good" survival potential (a debt:asset ratio of 20% or less) by 27% and reduced the number with no survival potential (a 50% or higher debt:asset ratio) by 31%;
- Saved 2 000 farmers who would have gone under without aid and improved the long-term survival prospects of all the others;
- Saved the jobs of 160 000 farm workers, which is 116 000 more jobs than would have been created had the funds been used in the industrial sector; and
- Reduced from 4 200 to 1 900 the number of farmers that agricultural co-operatives in the areas concerned were not able to continue financing.

But in spite of the aid, 21% of the sample group of 11 000 farmers still had little or no prospects of survival. The committee also reported that the aid had not solved the underlying problem of low profitability. The findings also show that, in spite of changes in recent years, there are still serious structural imbalances that expose farmers to greater risk from natural disasters than should be the case.

For instance, a sample of nearly 7 000 farmers "almost without exception" gave their land far higher scores for resource potential than agricultural experts, who found that only 15% of maize and 22% of wheat in the areas concerned were "well adapted" to the resource base.

The committee says this has serious implications for the financial viability of the farms because production inputs and economic expectations for land with a potential crop

*Fm 11/10/93*  
yield of 4 t/ha were considerably higher than for 2 t/ha. This means that farmers with unrealistically high assessments of the potential of their land are exposed to high production risks because their crop expectations are probably often not realised. When faced with natural disasters the risk increases significantly. *③ Gen*

Apart from recommending a probe by the Department of Agriculture into aspects of farm management and the structural instability exposed by the investigation, the committee makes a wide range of other suggestions, including:

- Assisting as many farmers as possible to stay on the land, but helping those who are unlikely to survive (about 2 500 in the area studied) to "retire with dignity;"
- A clearer State policy on disaster relief — including a permanent safety net — so that farmers know when they qualify for aid and are able to make their own structural adjustments to minimise risk;
- Better training for new commercial farmers and training programmes to "brush up the financial discipline and managerial skills" of existing farmers; and
- A programme to promote mutual respect and understanding between farmers and consumers.

Responding to what he calls a scientific and well-presented report, Van Niekerk says he will ask his department to adapt State policy to implement the recommendations. ■

Star 2/10/93

# And now stand by for the land tax

BY CLAIRE GEBHARDT

SA Fiscal Association Think Tank member and Ernst & Young partner Ian Henstock says a land tax should be imposed to encourage a productive agricultural sector.

This could be achieved by allowing landowners to offset the proposed land tax against the income tax payable when the land is productively used.

Though a land tax probably carries great symbolism, Henstock says he is steering clear of any emotive political or revenue-raising connotations.

enue-raising connotations.

"It is certainly not a means of generating revenue or redistributing land, but it should be punitive enough to make people use land profitably.

"For example, given a piece of land measuring 1 000 ha and a land tax of R15 per hectare per annum, a landowner would face a total tax of R15 000. (3) Gain

"However, if a landowner put this land under wheat which he eventually sold for R1 million to earn a net profit after production costs of

R50 000, assuming a 35 per cent rate, he would be liable for tax of R17 500.

"From this he would deduct the R15 000 tax already paid and only pay income tax of R2 500. (82)

"Though the tax may appear burdensome, it will provide a powerful incentive for land to be used productively and a healthier agricultural sector could provide a shot in the arm for the economy."

Any additional taxes aimed at the existing tax base would only serve to frustrate growth, he says.



Ian Henstock ... steering clear of revenue-raising connotations.



4/10/93  
Star

# Govt aid saves farmers

■ BY NORMAN CHANDLER  
PRETORIA BUREAU

Two thousand farmers who would have left the land because of drought and other agricultural problems have been persuaded to stay on as a result of the Government's R3,8 billion aid package to farming.

In addition, the financial positions of thou-

sands of others has been stabilised, said Dr Johan Burger, who chaired a government task group looking into the plight of the farmer.

Burger said the aid package "had a colossal impact on the economy, which benefited by R3,6 billion as a result".

"In the summer grain areas alone, it stopped

the outflow of 160 000 workers and their 580 000 dependants," Burger said.

Aid was being directed to 1 500 farmers with reasonable to limited survival potential while a further 2 500 "with scant survival potential" had been identified in a bid to help them recover sufficiently to maintain their farming hopes.

③ Gen

# Rainfall brings hope of end to drought

③ CTS/10/93

JOHANNESBURG. — The Weather Bureau and farmers were cautiously optimistic that the good rainfalls in the last few days might herald an end to the past two seasons' crippling drought.

But the Free State and Transvaal Agricultural Unions warned that while the first widespread summer rains were a welcome relief, the drought was far from broken in certain areas.

OFSAU spokesman Mr. Koos Botha said good rains had fallen in the central and eastern Free State, but the southern and north-western parts of the province remained parched. — Sapa

**C**onservative western Transvaal farmers look to the ANC for a viable alternative to AWB blood and thunder, reports Norman Chandler of The Star's Pretoria Bureau

# Oom Ferdi, they join the ANC in Lichtenburg

Star 5/10/93

③ Cram

The sun scorched mealie lands of the western Transvaal are proving to be an unlikely recruiting ground for the African National Congress.

At least 36 white farmers have linked with the liberation movement which is more than likely to form the majority in the government of National Unity which should follow the April 27 general election next year.

Wherever one travels through the conservative-thinking maize belt, which provides a huge proportion of the country's crop, the talk is about "die manne wat saam met die ANC wou praat" (the people who want to speak to the ANC).

The word "speak" is perhaps not an appropriate way to put

the issue. Farmers who only a few years ago would not be seen dead in the company of a man of another colour except in a labour situation have actually signed membership forms.

Western Transvaal people spoken to during a recent visit to the drought-stricken area were not forthcoming about their political views, and certainly did not wish to be quoted, except in very nebulous terms.

"Look, it is difficult enough living out here. No rain, no crops, political change. To identify whoever has joined the ANC is not an option," said one farmer on the lawns of a lovely home overlooking the Molopo River.

"All we know is that the ANC is making efforts to talk to us. We appreciate that, and, believe

me, we have found them to be most interesting people."

The farmer's viewpoint was echoed by others in the Lichtenburg district.

Said one: "Man, we have to do something. Oom Ferdi (Hartzenberg, leader of the Conservative Party) and the others can say what they like, we have been here for years. We supported them, but we can't see our farms and our families ruined. Okay, the ANC are not going to stop the drought — that's in God's hands — but at least we can give them the chance to help us survive over the next few years."

Of those who have so far indicated to the ANC that they are serious about membership, several have received threats against themselves and their

properties, The Star was told.

It is known that a list of farmers who have joined the ANC is being circulated by right-wingers, and this is what worries most.

Afrikaans and English-speaking farmers (there are some) say ANC officials are working hard to convince many others that they should consider linking up with the organisation, and spelling out the advantages when a new South Africa is in place in the future.

Pitfalls do not include land redistribution — that feared bogeyman — or the expropriation of choice land for subsistence farming. Carrots extended to the community apparently include increased aid in general and improved marketing techniques

(although this has apparently not been spelt out clearly as yet).

The long distances to be travelled in the area give a lot of people a chance to think, and, above all, to consider whether the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) is a viable option to the ANC.

The AWB is much in evidence — direction signs are defaced with the letters "AWB", names of townships on the outskirts of sun-baked towns such as Lichtenburg, Sannieshof, Delareyville and others are similarly obliterated, and men (and women) walk around with holsters, presumably carrying loaded pistols.

Even in Mmabatho, capital of independent Bophuthatswana, a couple of burly farmers carried

arms.

The AWB has received the "freedom" of various towns in the area — the ANC has played a tit-for-tat game on this by extending similar "freedoms" to senior officials, usually on the same day as ceremonies in so-called white towns.

The position in the western Transvaal is generally not looked upon as a barometer for the rest of the country but the mere fact that Afrikaans-speaking farmers are now talking to an organisation which a scant few years ago was regarded as "the enemy" is regarded out there as nothing short of miraculous.

The views can be summed up in what one farmer said: "Ag, old \*&#\* is thinking at last."

27 11 1933  
**Drought aid to  
end — minister**

PORT ELIZABETH. —  
Cash-strapped, drought  
embattled farmers lis-  
tened in disbelief when  
they were bluntly told  
yesterday the govern-  
ment had no money in  
the kitty for additional  
drought aid. (3)  
Agriculture Minister  
Dr Kraai van Niekerk  
said this could lead to  
the phasing out of many  
farmers, a drop in land  
prices and more farms  
coming onto the market.

Legislation on land distribution has slipped through parliament without anyone really noticing, resulting in a "Back to the Land" campaign. The following report from "Land Update" magazine:

**L**ESS than nine months before South Africa's first non-racial election, several laws affecting land distribution were smuggled through parliament.

The laws — disguised as amendments to existing legislation — allow for massive dispossession and forced removal, and introduce land policies which the government failed to bring into force at the height of the apartheid era.

In effect, they consolidate South Africa's bantustan states, despite the fact that these are going to be dismantled after the elections.

The legal changes were introduced towards the end of the last parliamentary session and specifically affect the situation in regard to land ownership, tenure, administration and allocation.

All the laws were passed with unseemly haste — the entire process, from first publication of the laws to final enactment as an act of parliament, took place in less than two weeks.

This left no time for public debate, for evidence to be given to parliamentary select committees reviewing them, or for organisations to ensure their objections to the laws were heard and recognised.

In August this year a "Back to



**LAND DISPUTE: Spearheading the Back to the Land campaign are Siculo Dilima, Peter Bahumi, Lydia Mariha, Brendan Pearce, Andries Buffel, Bright Mashego and Philemon Tseze**

the Land campaign" was launched in Johannesburg to oppose the implementation of the new laws.

National Land Committee (NLC) director Ms Joanne Yawitch has slammed the new laws, saying: "They have far-reaching implications for the administration and allocation of land matters. They allow government policy — which has been widely criticised and rejected — to be implemented in the months before elections.

"A framework has now been cre-

ated for the legal implementation of a process of pre-emptive and unilateral restructuring," Yawitch said.

Yawitch said two themes ran through the amendments:

- Apartheid institutions and government allies have been given power to dispose of trust and state land. The laws legalise the long-threatened transfer of state lands. They also allow the transfer of state land and "coloured" trust land to the (coloured) management councils.

- The privatisation of communal,

trust and state land. This is despite the fact that international studies have shown that land privatisation has no inherent advantage in terms of productivity.

Ms Aninka Claasens, of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, said "hasty and ill-managed" privatisation of existing traditional and informal land rights could lead to large-scale dispossession, removals and instability in land rights.

"The acts create the danger of

future forced removals," she said.

She pointed out that the state's hasty privatisation measures had been successfully challenged in 1991, when it tried to introduce the Rural Development Bill.

The bill was overwhelmingly rejected by groups across the political spectrum and had to be withdrawn.

Now, said Claasens, many of the bill's provisions are being enacted "through the back door".

"This pre-empt's the findings of a major World Bank study on appropriate tenure rights for South Africa," she added.

Similarly, bills to transfer power over South African land to homelands were hotly contested in the eighties and had to be withdrawn under pressure.

Yawitch said the government was determined to press ahead with the implementation of the measures.

In its last months of power, she warned, the government could wreck many of the creative and constructive solutions which could be found for South Africa's very difficult land problems.

She said for months there had been a widely-supported call for a moratorium on any further alienation of public land.

"This has been disregarded by the government," she said.

Yawitch said the NLC believed the call for a moratorium should be pursued, and that the issue of unilateral land restructuring should be raised with the government in all appropriate negotiating forums.

This would slow the pace of current developments and create insecurity in the mind of potential beneficiaries of these ideals.

"In addition, we believe that the implications of this legislation and the problems it will cause need to be publicised as widely as possible."

### What the new laws will do

- Alienate large amounts of state land, and land belonging to communities, in favour of bantustan and tri-cameral authorities.

- Entrench land privatisation — which will mean the loss of a key redistributive asset to the country.

- Force the privatisation of communal land

- on people without proper debate about more creative options for building security of tenure.

- Entrench the complex and bureaucratic process of managing land allocations. In most cases, these processes are better handled at local level, by communities, without bureaucratic interference.

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Land laws sneaked through

South 8/10 - 12/10/93

P.T.O. →

# 'More food for SA from land reform'

SITHU (Buss)  
10/10/93

By CIARAN RYAN

SOUTH Africa could increase food production through land redistribution, says a study for the World Bank.

Entitled Agricultural supporting services for land reform, it says that countries which implemented land reform recorded "significant increases in agricultural output" after sub-division of large estates and plantations.

The most dramatic results were in China after the break-up of State-owned communes into family-run units.

"The world has never before witnessed such a sustained level and period of agricultural growth."

A conference on land redistribution options will be held in Johannesburg by the Land and Agriculture Policy Centre, which is preparing agricultural policy options for the ANC.

Other studies suggest that state- and church-owned land would be most readily available for redistribution. Commercial land would have to be made available at market rates.

Reform should transfer land to as many rural dwellers as possible, focusing on those who do not grow enough to subsist.

The bank report says a

major problem for the new government will be how to rationalise administration because many public servants will be either unwilling or unable to take part in restructuring the farm sector.

Large-scale commercial farming has been heavily subsidised for the past 50 years, 80% of aid going to the richest 20%, a system which applies in Europe and the US. Until the mid-1980s there were no subsidies for black farmers although "huge amounts of money were spent on large prestige projects" and "betterment schemes".

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Agriculture has become large scale, overcapitalised and overdependent on high input use and low-cost labour.

About 85% of land in SA is too dry for other than high-risk cropping. Most of it is owned by whites. Only 3% of land is fertile and well watered, says the study.

"Perhaps the most important is land which is transitional in quality between medium and low potential. It

is in these areas in SA where a combination of subsidies and overoptimism have led white farmers to extend maize cultivation beyond its climatic limit, leaving them heavily indebted.

"Such marginal land will thus be among that most easily available for transfer to blacks. Where this land occurs in the homelands, blacks have been forced for lack of alternatives to use it for crops, often at intensities of settlement so high as to make environmental degradation inevitable."

A study, entitled Financing land redistribution in SA, by Nick Vink of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, says land reform must be market based, requiring funding from the private and public sectors.

Funding mechanisms for poor farmers with no collateral must be found.

"This means that the real and perceived riskiness of lending by the private sector to the new entrants to farming must be addressed at the macro and micro levels to unlock new sources of capital, including own contribution from those farmers who can afford it."

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DRILLS

# Mandela suggests a land bank

CT 13/10/93

## Own Correspondents

LONDON. — ANC President Mr Nelson Mandela last night suggested the setting up of a bank to ensure land was made available to the majority of South Africans — without state interference in current ownership.

"We're not talking about nationalisation here — we're merely saying that 85% of the population currently owns just one fifth of the land and that this needs addressing," he said on emerging from an hour-long meeting

with British premier Mr John Major.

Mr Mandela was responding to confusion caused yesterday by reports that quoted him as saying that South Africa still needed to turn to nationalisation, in spite of pressure from industrialists not to do so.

What he had said in Birmingham was that every country that had gone through a traumatic experience had resorted to "some sort of state intervention".

"Britain did after World War II — so did France, Germany, Italy. I was say-

ing that apartheid was like a war; it destroyed an economy. This (land bank loans) is one way of redressing the imbalance in ownership of the resources of the country," he said.

The ANC leader spent 50 minutes with Mr Major, outlining his position on the "fruitlessness" of a national referendum and emphasising that talks with the Freedom Alliance were continuing.

● Mr Mandela came under attack yesterday for blowing hot and cold on

nationalisation during his tour.

His reported remarks to business leaders in Britain and Portugal placed the international business community's faith in South Africa's future in jeopardy, political leaders said yesterday. (3)

Mr Mandela assured a group of businessmen in Portugal last week that the ANC had moved away from nationalisation and then this week reportedly told Birmingham businessmen it was an option.

*'Programme of redistribution needed'*

# ANC spells out land reform plan

Star 13/10/93

3 Gen

**MEASURES** to address the racial imbalance in land ownership are vital to build peace and stability, says Cyril Ramaphosa

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The ANC is committed to a programme of land reform which goes beyond settling the particular land claims of the victims of forced removal, ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa reasserted last night.

Opening a Johannesburg conference on options for land redistribution, he said: "If we turn our backs on the land question, we are no longer the ANC and we give up the history that started in 1912."

He described measures to redress the legacy of forced removals as a fundamental point of departure. "Effective measures to ensure that landless people gain access to land on



Cyril Ramaphosa . . . imbalance of ownership.

fair terms, and a legal process to resolve competing claims to land, will be introduced by an ANC government as a matter of priority."

Local land committees and a land claims court would be set up to achieve equitable settlements, involving restoration of land or compensation for its loss.

However, the ANC had little doubt that this procedure, on its own, would prove inefficient and slow. A broad programme of

land redistribution would have more impact. This remained the general objective of the ANC.

Without addressing the huge racial imbalance in land ownership it would be impossible to secure peace and stability, let alone respect for a legal system of property rights, Ramaphosa said.

Other economic reasons for land reform included the prospect of increasing productive employment in the rural areas and the need to relieve poverty.

Ramaphosa appealed to whites to acknowledge that the land was the common heritage of all South Africans and promised a land policy that would be "as fair as the previous one was unfair, as participatory as the former was dictatorial".

The three-day conference has been organised by the Land and Agriculture Policy Centre, an independent research organisation based in Johannesburg. Much of the work to be presented at the conference has been produced in collaboration with the World Bank.



# NEWS

*SAAU congress expected to debate land redistribution*

Star 15/10/93

# Farmers want rope back

BY NORMAN CHANDLER

South Africa's farmers want the Government to lift the moratorium on the death penalty in order to curb crime, particularly on the platteland.

This is one of the most important issues to be debated at the annual congress of the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) in Bloemfontein next week.

## FARMERS put the return of the death penalty high on the agenda for their annual congress

The conference, known as the "farmers' parliament", will also debate property rights and land issues, security in rural areas, labour legislation

and marketing policies, among other topics.

To be officially opened on Tuesday by Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry Japie van Wyk, the congress is expected to dwell on ANC and World Bank calls for land redistribution.

Discussion is expected to centre on calls by the SAAU that private property rights to land be entrenched in legislation, that redistribution of land

through nationalisation and confiscation measures was unacceptable, and that land claims arising from forced removal policies should be settled through the courts.

The Free State and eastern Cape unions have expressed "grave concern and displeasure" in particular, the apparent unwillingness and inability of political leaders to discipline their fol-

lowers in this regard".

These unions are sponsoring a motion calling for the moratorium on the death penalty to be lifted immediately, that sentences handed down by magistrates and judges be in accordance with the severity of the crime, and that the Department of Correctional Services revise its parole policies as a result of "the premature release of criminals".

# Food faces a roasting as trade walls fall

THE food sector, a potential leader in South Africa's quest to become internationally competitive, will have to act quickly to avoid becoming a loser as trade barriers are lowered, says Tiger Oats executive director Hamish McBain.

Anyone with a job is likely to benefit from increased competition from imports. But Mr McBain fears that jobs will be exported because of unfair competition from imports supplied by nations whose agriculture is highly subsidised.

He told a conference on food processing that pressure on food raw material prices caused by imports would help processors to control costs. But they would also face increased competition from processed food imports.

Mr McBain says competition will intensify if a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) pact on agriculture is reached. But an agreement is likely to hurt SA's trade. Past Gatt agreements worked because the US dominated the world economy and could hand out concessions.

Now the negotiations are among blocs

— the US, Europe and the Pacific Rim — which are swapping concessions. Nations on the sidelines are likely to be disadvantaged, although they cannot afford to be outside of Gatt.

He says Tiger has first-hand experience of the complex, high subsidies for agriculture in the US, where it has a major oilseed business which benefits, and in Europe, to which it exports.

It is also conversant with the myriad health and environment regulations which abet or replace tariff barriers in keeping out imports.

Mr McBain says SA's commitment to end quantitative import controls, part of its offer to Gatt, would remove a serious impediment for food manufacturers. Imports of food raw materials and processed products would rise immediately even if tariffs were still be applied.

However, he doubts that a Gatt agreement on agriculture will be reached soon or at all. Negotiations have breached five deadlines already.

Even if agreement is not reached, SA's trade will have to be liberalised. Its tariff

By TEIGUE PAYNE

structure, the second most complex among developing nations, will have to be simplified. (3) Gen

Some reforms will have to be phased in, others done immediately. But officials seem to regard no decision as better than a wrong one. (1) Gen

He believes certain totally uncompetitive sectors — wheat and soya, for instance — will have to go. But he says SA's core, potentially competitive farm sectors should be given fair protection. Otherwise, efficient farmers will fail and huge numbers of jobs and the basis for a sound food industry will be lost.

Mr McBain says SA farmers are falling behind biotechnological developments — genetic engineering — in other countries. In Europe, intensive biotechnology has upgraded deciduous fruit, closing the quality gap with SA.

SA canned fruit, fruit juices and wines, which comprised 42% of food exports of R1,9-billion in 1992, could be threatened.

So could many other sectors, even before they think of exporting.

Mr McBain says agricultural control boards must take much of the blame. They have not communicated the desires and complaints of food processors to farmers or encouraged production of hybrids for profitable niche markets. In desperation, Tiger went directly to farmers and found them highly receptive to its approach.

Results of SA agricultural research are also not communicated effectively to farmers. US farmers have close links with universities and are aware of what is going on.

Mr McBain says SA food processors have controlled costs well, but will have to do more. Two relatively high cost factors are power and distribution.

Because SA is thought to have cheap power, companies are much less aware of its cost than their European and American counterparts. Most factories buy power from municipalities at hugely loaded prices. Power in Randfontein costs more than double the Eskom tariff.

Kempton Park charges close to double Eskom rate. Eskom rates are flexible, but its hands are tied.

SA's food distribution costs are about twice those in Britain. Food processors are incensed by the long hours their trucks wait before offloading at retailers and wholesalers.

But they have not dealt with many issues of standardisation and rationalisation which could reduce costs.

Food processors have generally kept up with technology in spite of sanctions, but even productivity will have to be raised. A sophisticated machine in the hands of untrained, uneducated workers can lower productivity.

The likely phasing out of the general export incentive scheme (GEIS) from 1995 will end a major source of profit for established processed-food exporters.

Although GEIS has been a major factor in raising exports of manufactured goods, two-thirds of customs revenue from imports goes to export subsidies. It was also not foreseen that the system would be much abused.

# SAAU, World Bank agree on farm plan

*Biday 19110193*

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — The World Bank and the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) had reached agreement on how a programme for the large-scale establishment of small farmers should be undertaken, SAAU president Boet Fourie said yesterday.

Following recent discussions between the two organisations in Pretoria, the SAAU said it supported the small-farmer concept in agriculture and welcomed the World Bank's views on the matter.

The bank had suggested that only land falling within the homelands or within the jurisdiction of tribal authorities, or excess government land, should be used for setting up preliminary pilot projects. Fourie said ~~(SAAU)~~ (S) Gen

Once these projects had proved successful, and a number of small farmers had become established and viable, further projects could be launched.

If further land was required, it would be acquired on the open market at market prices.

The bank had agreed that no land should be expropriated, or nationalised with a view to establishing small-farmer projects, Fourie said.

The SAAU had said it would give its full support to the programme on condition that commercial agriculture was not adversely affected and the agricultural potential of the land was maintained.

It was also important that farmers involved in the projects were helped to progress from relatively small operations to fully fledged commercial farming, Fourie said.

The agricultural sector, which employed 1,2-million workers, represented the heartbeat of the rural economy, he added.

"The position which commercial agriculture in SA assumes in the national economy must be placed in clear perspective when the World Bank's plans to establish small farmers on a large scale are considered," Fourie said.

Star 19/10/93

# Farmers gather for crucial meeting

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■ BY NORMAN CHANDLER  
PRETORIA BUREAU

Farmers are to urge the Government this week to revise agricultural policy as a result of political and social changes.

This is one of the major issues on the agenda at the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) congress which starts in Bloemfontein today. Others include the economy, property rights, security, and labour legislation.

The congress — regarded by agriculture as possibly the most important ever held — will be asked by the northern Cape and Free State agricultural unions to take a deciding role in forcing the Government to rethink agricultural policy.

They say ad hoc policy adjustments have to be avoided and the White Paper on Agricultural Policy must be revised to create a policy framework with clear objectives.

■ The World Bank has ruled out the nationalisation of SA's farming land for subsistence farming.

The World Bank had initially supported a plan to use commercial farming land for subsistence farmers, drawing criticism from the SAAU.

At a meeting between the SAAU and the World Bank in Pretoria at the weekend, the organisations agreed that the position which commercial agriculture assumed in the national economy "had to be placed in perspective when plans to establish small farmers on a large scale are considered".

SAAU president Boet Fourie said yesterday the union supported the establishment of small farmers on condition that commercial agriculture was not adversely affected, such farmers were helped to become fully fledged commercial farmers, and the agricultural potential of the land was maintained.

Star 19/10/93

# 75 trapped miners brought to surface

■ STAFF REPORTER

At least 75 of the 120 mine-workers trapped at Carletonville's Kloof Gold Mine since Wednesday have been safely brought to the surface.

Mine spokesman Marion Brower said today that rescue and paramedic teams were continuing to hoist miners to safety and the operation would "hopefully be completed by the end of today".

She said that a lot of progress was made throughout last night.

The rescue teams are providing those miners still trapped with high-energy foods and liquids.

They are also administering medical supplies to combat exhaustion and dehydration. Brower said that the air supply to the miners had not been affected.

At least one man has died, but the cause of the volunteer rescuer's death is still unknown.

The rescuer collapsed underground on Saturday afternoon.

The workers were trapped late Wednesday afternoon when 270 m of steel water piping collapsed down the No 3 sub-vertical shaft, severing communication lines.

Brower said the process of bringing miners to the surface had been very difficult.

## Hoisted

Each miner had to be hoisted 300 m individually before they reached an exit walkway.

The men had been trapped on levels 43 and 41, at 3 341 m and 3 192 m below ground.

They were first lifted to 39 level then moved to the surface via an alternative route since passage through the No 3 shaft was blocked.

*Dramatic drop in farm prices*

## Farmers forced to leave land in droves

Star 21/10/93

■ BY NORMAN CHANDLER  
PRETORIA BUREAU

South Africa's 60 000 farmers are quitting in droves because of the recession, the drought and political uncertainty.

The result has been a dramatic drop in the price of land per hectare as well as a 17,4 percent increase in the number of farms sold. Many purchases have been made by speculators, experts say.

The state of the nation's agricultural industry, revealed in a special Central Statistical Service survey on "transfers of rural immovable property", covers only farms.

In terms of area, sales for 1992-93 showed a decrease of 10,6 percent compared with the previous year. The number of farms sold jumped in the Cape and Free State, in particular.

**DROUGHT, recession and politics are named as factors harming the platteland after 'honeymoon period'**

Land transfers totalled almost 3,5 million ha after a shortlived recovery from a 1988-89 figure of 4,1 million ha. Lower prices were obtained in all four provinces, with the lowest in Transvaal and OFS. The price per hectare for 1992-93 was R604 — more than R160 a hectare less than the previous year.

Farm sales organisations said these were the lowest prices in many years.

Maritzburg-based SA Farm Consultants managing direc-

tor Chris Dobson said yesterday: "Farmers are definitely leaving the land."

"In many maize-growing areas they are finding that farming is uneconomical. No farm costing less than R500 000 is considered to be an economical unit."

"Politics and violence, recession and the drought have combined to create enormous uncertainties."

In the Cape and OFS, which traditionally have large farms, there has been a steep drop in prices for big farms — in the OFS up to 21 percent a hectare.

He said farmers experienced "a honeymoon period" when grain prices escalated with inflation, "but that has disappeared altogether".

► **Bring back gallows, say farmers — Page 6**

# Opportunities for agriculture

B/Say 22/10/93

**BLOEMFONTEIN** — The lifting of sanctions had created new opportunities not only for the "white sector" but also for the informal sector in agriculture, Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekirk told the SA Agricultural Union's annual congress in Bloemfontein yesterday.

Van Niekirk said it was a reality that SA agriculture was on the road to a free-market system. The informal sector and its problems should be seen as a challenge.

A land tax must also be put into perspective. There had been a land tax for many years in the Cape, where farmers' land was taxed towards the maintenance of roads.

There were facets of land taxation which could be looked at, similar to rates and taxes on urban properties, Van Niekirk said.

Meanwhile, the union decided the White Paper on Agricultural Policy in SA should be revised to create an acceptable framework with clear objectives for expansion of the industry.

The union's general council was instructed to play a decisive role in this regard. It was noted that as producer of food and fibre, agriculture performed a wealth-creating function in the economy and contributed to the welfare of rural areas.

SAAU labour legislation ad hoc committee chairman Chris du Toit told the congress there was no secret agreement between Cosatu and the committee.

He said Cosatu was not the friend or soulmate of the ad hoc committee, but it had to be recognised as a factor in the labour field. The committee had merely come to an agreement with Cosatu about appropriate and practical labour legislation.

The final agreement with Cosatu was that all the relevant parties would endeavour to reach finality on this issue within a year from the date on which the Agricultural Labour Act came into operation.

Free State Agricultural Union president Pieter Gous said government's lack of action against police mutineers was making outcasts of even the most loyal black policemen.

Gous said his union was being swamped with calls and letters from farmers' associations and district unions which made it clear farmers would no longer allow black policemen on their properties.

They made it clear the reason was the mutiny of Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union members, who appeared in public, armed and in full uniform, screaming slogans like "Kill the boer, kill the farmer". — Sapa.

**Bank's stance welcomed**

APR 23 10 42  
PRETORIA. — The South African Agricultural Union said it welcomed the World Bank's view that no land should be expropriated or nationalised with a view to establishing small farmers. The union said land already controlled by government authorities and excess government land should initially be sold to small farmers. — Sapa

3 21

# Family in bid to get back land

SITimes [C/Metro]

24/10/93

By NAZEEM HOWA

TWENTY-SIX years after a Stellenbosch family's prime property was expropriated in terms of Group Areas legislation, lawyers have launched a bid to have the land returned to them.

This week a memorandum prepared by lawyers acting for the Hendrickse family was submitted to the Commission on Land Allocation. The

memorandum requested that a moratorium be placed on developing the 900m<sup>2</sup> land.

The commission was originally set up to investigate and rectify losses suffered by people whose land was expropriated under the Group Areas Act.

Attorneys believe the family has a better-than-even chance of

the land being returned to them as it is still in the possession of the state.

Bordering the Stellenbosch central business district, the Hendrickse's land has remained vacant since it was expropriated by the Community Development Board on October 26, 1967.

Two months ago, however, Stellenbosch Municipality — the present owners — announced plans to develop it into a parking lot.

Lawyers have now acted to halt development until the commission has investigated.

Miss Eleanore Hendrickse, a daughter of the owner of the property at the time of expropriation, believes the land should be returned to the family.

"Giving it back will not automatically heal the hurt we've suffered. When the government took away the property 26 years ago they split an extended family which had lived there happily for more than 70 years.

## Memories

"From when my grandfather bought it for £37 and 10 shillings from the municipality in 1897, the property was handed down from generation to generation."

Miss Hendrickse remembers vividly the day community development officials delivered the expropriation order.

"Some time in the late 1950s the property was declared an 'undecided area'. From then on we lived in fear of the Group Areas axe falling on us.

"When the order was finally delivered we were in for another shock. In terms of the order, the property was immediately transferred to the Community Development Board and we had to start paying rent to them."

The family was paid R10 000 compensation. At that time the property had been valued at over R80 000.

It was eventually transferred to the Community Development Board in 1969 and the family forced to move.

Miss Hendrickse said that, ironically, the expropriation order stated that the land was needed for community development.

"They demolished a 70-year-old family home to allow the property to remain unused for more than 20 years."

The family is being represented by Mallinicks, Ress, Richman and Cloenberg Inc.



DISPUTED LAND ... Eleanore Hendrickse and her brothers Neville and Alfred Hendrickse study their father's original deed of ownership for the property expropriated from the family 26 years ago. Picture: TERRY SHEAN



# Property rights plans opposed

26/10/93

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JOHANNESBURG. — The National Land Committee (NLC) and the Rural Women's Movement have objected to the property clause and parts of the clause on customary law in the latest draft of the interim Bill of Rights, due to be discussed at the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park next week.

Explaining their concerns at a press conference here yesterday, the NLC said it believed there should be no property clause in the interim Bill of Rights, but a land claims court should be set up to deal with competing claims.

The NLC — an independent group of nine organisations dealing with rural and landless people — said the proposed clause would entrench unequal ownership and prevent significant land reform.

Communities would meet next month to consider land occupation if their concerns were ignored, said NLC chairman Mr Nicholas Matabese.

On the proposed clause on customary law, Rural Woman's Movement spokeswoman Ms Thelma Makoro said women objected to discriminatory aspects of the law, in which women are not allocated land except through men, and cannot inherit land. — Sapa

# Guns held by Popcru members worry police

BIDAY 26/10/93

LLOYD COUTTS

POSSESSION of firearms by Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) members was "worrying" because the organisation's loyalties did not lie with professional policing, Law and Order Ministry spokesman Craig Kotze said yesterday.

Law and Order Minister Hennis Kriel met top SAP generals yesterday to discuss Popcru activities and "politicisation of the force" by the union and the ANC, Kotze confirmed.

He declined to divulge details of the meeting, but said police grievances had also been discussed. Kriel would issue a statement "in due course".

Referring to the dismissal for mutiny of 88 policemen in Motherwell, Port Elizabeth, Kotze said the SAP was trying to recover weapons issued to the affected policemen, not from Popcru members in general.

"(However), the issue of firearms in the possession of Popcru members is very worrying because they consort openly with Umkhonto we Sizwe and Apla.

"The matter is of concern because Popcru's loyalties do not lie with professional policing. Clearly they lie with private armies," Kotze said.

Sapa reports that the SA National Civic Organisation said police would no longer be allowed into black residential areas around Port Elizabeth, nor would their authority be recognised until urgent atten-

tion was given to the reappointment of dismissed policemen.

NP law and order spokesman Hennie Smit said yesterday his party was concerned about the Sanco threat.

Smit said although the reasons for the Sanco call were not clear, the NP suspected it was a concerted effort by Sanco and Popcru to discredit the SAP to prevent the force from maintaining law and order and to create no-go areas.

"We sincerely hope that the SAP will not be intimidated by actions such as these and that they will continue providing services to all communities," he added.

Kotze said the SAP's duty to enforce law throughout the country would not be compromised by "blackmail" from organisations such as Sanco.

The ANC, meanwhile, said after a meeting with Popcru chairman Gregory Rockman yesterday that it supported the union's demands for reinstatement of dismissed policemen and withdrawal of mutiny charges against them, lifting of the suspension of other members and withdrawal of the internal stability unit from police stations in Port Elizabeth.

The organisation said yesterday Popcru proposals would be tabled at the next ANC national working committee meeting.

## Property rights clause opposed

ERIQA JANKOWITZ

THE National Land Committee yesterday strongly objected to a proposed property clause in the interim Bill of Rights, due to be finalised by the negotiating council at the World Trade Centre this week.

Committee chairman Nicholas Matabese said the clause would guarantee the right to compensation for expropriation — which could lead to people who had become property owners as a result of forced removals being unjustly enriched by receiving market-related compensation. This would "prevent restoration and land reform", making the clause unacceptable to the committee's nine affiliates.

As the clause stipulated the payment of "just and equitable compensation", prices above market value might be paid for low-cost housing projects. (3) Gen

"If the state runs out of funds, no more land reform will be possible, present land owners will keep their land and those who were dispossessed will remain without

land," he said. BIDAY

This would entrench inequality in land distribution by giving existing property rights unreasonable protection, and "society could be torn apart and the constitution destroyed in the process".

Matabese said that in stark contrast, the Bill of Rights did not offer the same protection to those who were removed from their land under previous legislation.

Restoration would be subject to the availability of resources to pay for restoration or compensation, the enactment through Parliament of appropriate legislation and the payment of compensation to existing property owners. 26/10/93

As land was a fundamental right with grave implications for peace and stability, Matabese called for all parties to be given the opportunity to make submissions before the clause was processed.

# Scramble to beat land reform date

Star 26/10/93

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Significant land reform will be blocked if the draft property clause is adopted unchanged as part of the transitional Bill of Rights, warns the National Land Committee (NLC).

③ *GRU*  
"We are not against the protection of property rights as such," NLC chairman Nicholas Matabese said. "However, if existing property rights are entrenched, there will never be equitable distribution of land ownership in this country."

"Instead, a property clause — in the name of human rights — will entrench the wrongs of the past."

The NLC, an independent organisation which supports landless and rural communities in all provinces, is running a race against time to get the property clause

thrown out or modified before the November 5 deadline for finalising the transitional constitution.

The NLC objects to the following features of the draft property clause:

■ Its guarantee to pay compensation for expropriation of "rights in property". This meant that even if the State did not expropriate the land as such, but took away some of the rights attached to land ownership, it would be obliged to pay compensation, Matabese pointed out.

■ Its provision for "just and equitable" compensation to be paid. The courts' interpretation in the past was the market value of the property, or market value and more, the NLC claimed.

■ The "imbalance" in guarantees given to the propertied and those offered to the landless.

# NLC opposes property clause

**By Joshua Raboroko**

THE National Land Committee, an independent national network which services rural and landless people, is strongly opposed to the proposed property clause due to be finalised at the World Trade Centre this week.

Addressing a Press conference in Johannesburg on Monday, NLC officials said they believed there should

*Sowetan 27/10/93*  
be no property clause in the interim Bill of Rights, but a land claims court should be set up to deal with competing claims.

It said the proposed property clause would entrench unequal ownership and prevent any significant land reform. *(3) Gau*

The NLC said submissions by landless people, who in August travelled to the World Trade Centre to

voice their concerns about the property clause, had been ignored by the negotiators.

Communities were closely monitoring developments at the multiparty talks and would meet early next month to consider the occupation of land if their concerns should continue to be ignored, NLC chairman Nicholas Matabese said.

## 'Land aid' in the offing

DIRK VAN EEDEN

PRETORIA — Emerging farmers, particularly those disadvantaged by apartheid, should be helped to acquire land, Deputy Agriculture Minister Tobie Meyer and National African Farmers' Union representatives agreed at talks.

They also agreed that a moratorium on the sale of state land should apply only to land which was in dispute or the subject of a historical claim, Meyer said.

Other matters discussed at the meeting included tribal lands, property rights, communal ownership and financing schemes.

Meyer said talks with the union were part of a series of meetings with various role players on the issue of land.

(3) Gen

# Farmers despair at drought and debt

Biday 27/11/93  
3 Gen

DIRK VAN EEDEN

PRETORIA — Many livestock farmers have lost all hope of recovering from the drought, old debt and the drastic drop in produce prices.

Northern Cape Agricultural Union GM Johan van Rensburg said yesterday that some rain had fallen in the meat- and wool-producing areas, but for most farmers, especially those in the northern and eastern Cape, the drought and financial uncertainty continued.

Research by the SA Agricultural Union had produced shocking figures. If a stock farmer owed more than 20% of his capital investment there was no hope of his even covering the interest.

"In a drought it is better to keep your money in an ordinary savings account than to farm. If you were clever, you would sell all your stock and live off your interest," Van Rensburg said.

But farmers would sell livestock only as a last resort to survive. It could take up to 20 years to develop a good wool-producing flock. Many farmers would have to start from scratch once the drought was broken.

For others, the drop in the wool price and the stabilisation of the meat price were even worse than the drought. A leading northern Cape farmer said: "Last year my gross profit was R230 000. This year it is R130 000. I have no option: I have to sell the family farm of three generations."

Selling was becoming popular, Van Rensburg said. There were many farms on

the market, especially in the eastern Cape. But with the political and economic uncertainty, it could take years before a farm was sold.

Government had done what it could, including setting aside R50m this year for interest subsidies for farmers in emergency drought areas. They had brought relief, but restricted farmers to "safe" stock numbers, even in good times, to protect land against overgrazing and farmers would not have enough stock to sell, even if there were good rains.

Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk said at an emergency meeting in Middelburg, Cape, earlier this month that there was nothing more government could do.

Farmers are now banking on a brainstorming session to be held with the presidents of the Northern and Eastern Cape agricultural unions and representatives of the Agricultural Credit Board and Land Bank in Middelburg on October 28-29.

"Nothing less than creative thought can prevent many farmers from jumping off the wagon now," Van Rensburg said.

Sapa reports that the drought in parts of the northwestern Transvaal bushveld has become the worst in 20 years.

Agricultural spokesmen said stock farmers would have to further reduce core herds they had managed to keep through the drought years.

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# More jobs lost in N Tvl drought

Star 28/10/93

3 Gen

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BY DIRK NEL

Pietersburg — As the prolonged drought continues in the far northern Transvaal, unemployment is soaring because many farmers are no longer able to pay their workers.

Agricultural industries such as canning factories, packaging plants and transporting concerns were also caught in the inevitable vicious circle of having to retrench staff in a region which already has the highest unemployment rate in SA.

With no rain falling, and irrigation-water quotas cut drastically, many farmers are facing serious cash flow prob-

lems as debts mount to millions of rands.

Spokesmen for agricultural unions in the Waterberg, Koedoesrand and Pietersburg districts said hundreds of farmers had applied for government subsidies to help them cope with their debt backlogs.

Parts of the north-western bushveld, Gazankulu and Lebowa have not had any rain since February.

Soutpansberg Agricultural Union president Manie Eloff said many cattle farmers had been forced to reduce their herds, but the condition of the remaining animals was fair. Game farming in the Soutpansberg region was generally in

good shape, judging from the demand and the prices at auctions earlier this year.

But he expressed sympathy with fruit farmers in the Letaba region, where irrigation water was no longer available.

A spokesman for the Letaba Co-operative said the banana and citrus industries had suffered severe setbacks which would take years to reverse, and then only if the region had several very good rain seasons.

Water restrictions in all northern Transvaal towns have remained in force throughout the year, and stricter measures would be likely if it did not rain soon, according to town councils.



*Debate on land redistribution opens up — just as the Bill of Rights threatens to strangle the options, writes Jo-Anne Collinge*

# Landmark for dispossessed

**T**here was a time when the case for post-apartheid land redistribution was made only by the Left and African nationalists. That time has gone. Land redistribution is now on the lips of development agents of all ideological shades, not least the World Bank.

The question is no longer whether it is a good idea to get land into the hands of those made landless by apartheid, but how to do so.

Many crucial players in this passionate land drama find themselves in a similar position to ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa, who recently admitted that, although land redistribution remained the ANC's objective, "until today there has been little discussion of ways and means".

The tardy development of policy on land reform has opened the process — and the outcome — to hazards.

First, the transitional constitution, and particularly the Bill of Rights, may exclude certain options in land reform. This will depend how the clauses on property and land rights are phrased.

Second, the policy adopted may not be sufficiently homegrown. Especially if a new government finds itself under pressure to deliver on the land front, it may be tempted to grab at

ready made answers.

The World Bank is streets ahead of all local players in its formulation of a rural restructuring proposal for South Africa. The bank's Robert Christiansen stresses this is not a blueprint. And the ANC's Trevor Manuel insists that the ANC "reserves the right to retain a critical distance" from the bank's programme. But there is disquiet about the bank's sweeping annexure of the research skills of local land experts.

The approaching deadline for the transitional constitution and the presentation of the World Bank's research at a Johannesburg conference last month have sharpened the debate.

A key difference is whether land should be redistributed mainly through the market, with the Government awarding full or partial monetary grants to enable those who qualify to purchase their land.

Or whether it should be a claims-led process, in which claimants seek to secure their land by negotiation or by judicial award and the state then compensates the owner in terms of the settlement or ruling made.

The World Bank has opted for a market-led scheme. Although it sees some role for a Land Claims Court to restore land to those who lost it under apartheid, this mechanism

would be "too time consuming," the bank reckons.

The dominant mechanism would be a programme of redistribution for which beneficiaries would be chosen in terms of set criteria. The bank suggests two groups of beneficiaries: those eligible for social welfare reasons, for whom land would provide subsistence; and others chosen for their capacity to engage productively in small-scale farming.

The first group would get a full government grant; the latter a partial government grant for a larger farm, determined mainly on a rand-for-rand basis.

The advantages of such a "matching grant" system, the World Bank says, are that it "reduces frivolous requests for land... increases incentives for using land in a productive and sustainable manner (and)... may encourage prudent thrift and capital accumulation among the beneficiaries".

The role of the Government, apart from securing finance for grants, is to ensure that sufficient land comes on to the market at a reasonable price.

The case for a claims-led process is argued mainly by professionals who have closely supported communities who fought for the return of their land.

They argue that the new political climate has already created a situation where owners and claimants are negotiating land transfers. It is a process, they believe, which empowers the landless and creates a new form of security on the platteland.

This claims-centred dynamic could be extended through land claims courts and land boards to become the foundation of land reform. Prospective claimants would include victims of forced removals; those who lost title when annexed into homelands; labour tenants; and those dispossessed in the misguided development strategy known as "betterment".

Legal Resources Centre national director Geoff Budlender argues that claims settlement would be no slower than screening candidates for land grants, as many claims would be group based.

"A community within a homeland would make a claim to land. The local land board would receive the claim... and would start looking at land in the vicinity... Negotiations would be opened with landowners in the area."

The question of compensation payable to landowners is obviously crucial. The National Land Committee (NLC) holds that the latest draft property clause in the Bill of Rights

would strangle a claims process.

The clause specifies that the courts determine "just and equitable" compensation. The NLC observes that, internationally, "this has been interpreted as the market value of a property or market value and more". It argues that other factors — such as the resources of the state, the way the land was acquired, the interests of the parties — should be added into the compensation formula.

The claims-led lobby argues that redistribution will have limited impact unless the costs can be kept down. It reasons that a market-based scheme, with guaranteed subsidies, can only drive up the price of land.

Roger Plant, co-ordinator of the land rights project of the International Commission of Jurists, submits that South Africa will have few options to consider if it opts for "blanket protection" of property rights in the constitution.

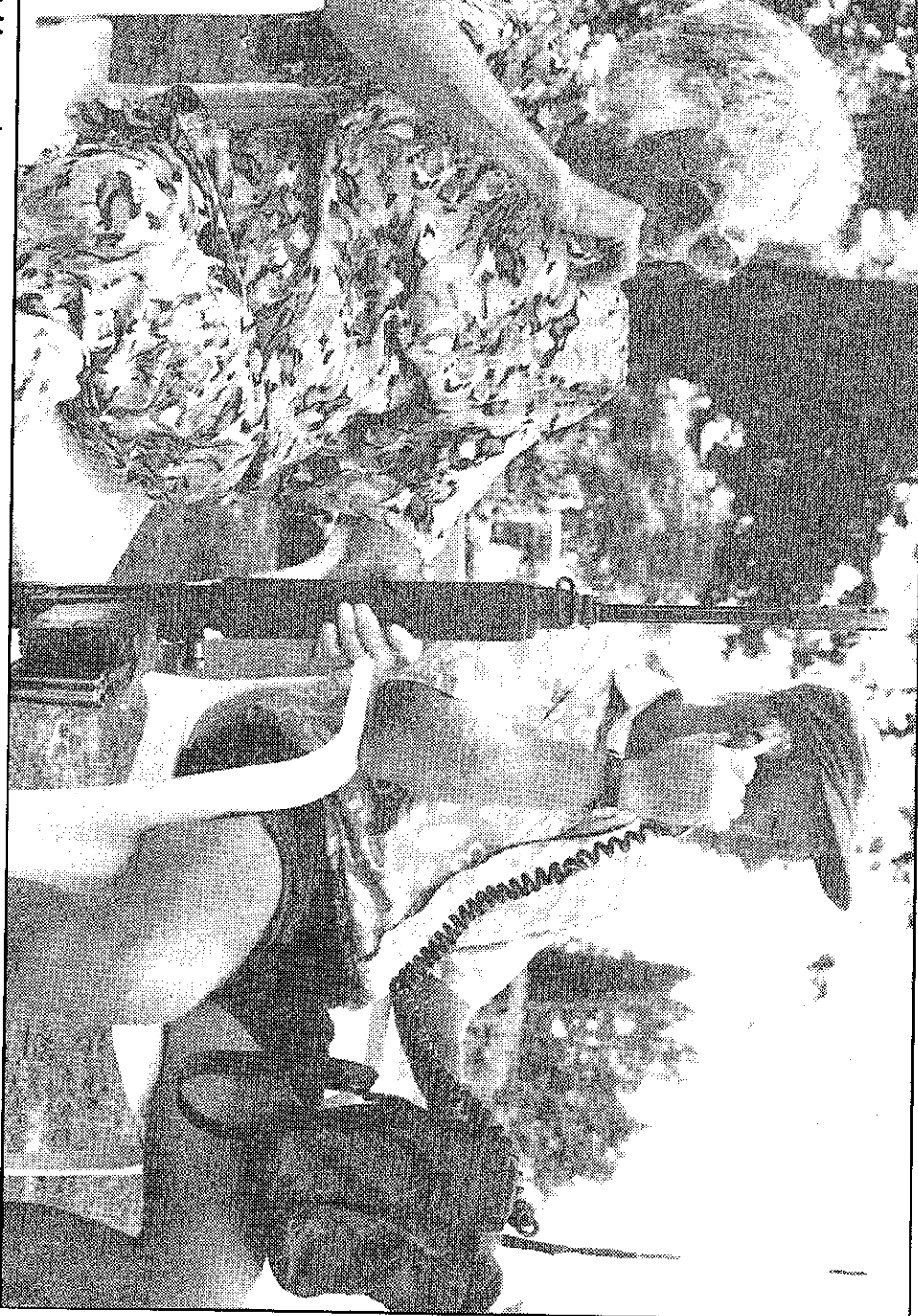
He suggests that the constitution leave the policy options open by embracing the notion of the social function of property. This "seeks the middle ground between unfettered market approaches and socialist options. It enshrines the constitutional principle that land rights are not sacrosanct, but have to be tempered by other social considerations".



The average South African farmer is finding out the hard way that attitudes ingrained over generations are leading to the selling at ridiculous prices of some of the country's finest farming land, reports Norman Chandler of The Star's Pretoria Bureau

# Farming mindset is killing the land

Star 2/11/93



Taking no chances . . . but a radio system, electrified fences and rifles aren't much use if men bristling with AK-47s mean to attack the farmer. Many families are deciding they don't need this way of life. PICTURE: JOAO SILVA

The buzz word in the politics of today's South Africa is a very simple one — the police, and now the farmer, are finding out that the word is "mindset" . . .

The police have launched a huge programme to alter the "mindset" of its members. Farmers are lagging behind and, in some instances, paying the ultimate price.

The word covers a wide range of sins which may or may not have been carried out over 40 years or so of *kraggadigheid*, another word which means so much to so many — power and strength.

Out on the plateland, power and strength have been catch words for generations, but now it would appear that the chickens are coming home to roost.

The average black man away from the cities and major towns has experienced *kraggadigheid* in one form or another, whether it be on the lands, in the streets of small towns, or in police cells.

Experiencing a radical switch in "mindset" by just about every person in a white skin in rural areas is almost beyond belief for a black man who has experienced whippings on farms in Delmas, been uprooted from his home and neighbours at the whim of the government of the day as well as that of individual farmers, and suffered the indignity of unemployment, starvation, poor housing and other deprivations over many decades.

Suddenly, however, it is all coming back to haunt the farming community. It is not as if the warning signs had not been there.

Some people say that due to a devastating drought, the economic situation, fear of the unknown, and, of course, the political manoeuvring leading up to the first democratic election next April, it was inevitable that

the "mindset" of people had to change.

When you hit a man in his back pocket, as the saying goes, so he changes . . . Central Statistical Service has blandly chronicled that fact with a report just issued on how many farms are being sold, and for how much.

The number sold in the 1992-93 period has been far in excess of what was expected. What the farmer got for his farm was also far less than he expected.

In some cases, farms have been sold, say agricultural experts, because of a desire to retire from the industry but in many, many cases it has really been the low-intensity targeting by criminal elements and Apla forces of farmers remote from towns and neighbours.

A Marnet radio communication system and 3 m barbed or electrified wire fences are all very well, but when someone is intent on entering the property, there's not much a lone man with a gun can do against a gang wielding AK-47s

**Summed up** *Green*

Security on farms is uppermost in the minds of the industry but it costs money.

Farm salesman Chris Dobson of Maritzburg put it in a nutshell recently when he said: "Politics and violence, the overall recession and the drought have combined to create enormous uncertainties."

About 80 farmers have died this year on their own properties, their wives and families terrorised off the farms, cattle and other livestock mutilated.

This all adds up to a disaster for the plateland, and whether the farmer likes it or not, his family wants no part of it: they are forcing him to leave the lands on such a

scale that the average price of a hectare of land has dropped by R160 to a national average of R604.

On a provincial basis, there have been drops of R200 a hectare in Natal and Transvaal, R150 in the Free State and R40 in the Cape.

In the eastern Cape's Dias district, so many farms have been sold that the price a hectare has dropped in some instances to R29,80.

Dobson sees parallels to what is happening here with what took place in the then-Rhodesia in the months prior to independence.

There was a flurry of farm sales before and after Robert Mugabe took office, when prices reached rock bottom. Some buyers have since made enormous capital gains as a result of buying in early on.

"I would think something very similar could happen here," Dobson observes. He says there are lessons to be learnt, and very quickly.

"The farmer in Zimbabwe had to knuckle down and get on with the job, and, above all, be left alone by the politicians.

Those who chose not to be efficient in their farming methods or who took part in politics were bought out by inefficient people, and now one can see what is happening" to Zimbabwe's farming community," he added.

The big question among farmers is whether they will be allowed to continue their important role in the food chain.

As it is, they are being wooed by the African National Congress on the one hand and killed by Apla fighters on the other.

It is as a result of the latter, coupled with an ingrained "mindset", that they are making their choice: sell and get out, much to the detriment of South African farming.

**NEWS FEATURE** *Attitudes lead to farms being sold at ridiculously low prices*

# Farmers learn hard way

Sowetan 2/11/93

By Norman Chandler

## ■ UNCERTAIN FUTURE *Parallels*

*between what happened in Rhodesia and current flurry of farm sales in SA:*

THE buzz word in the politics of today's South Africa is a very simple one — the police, and now the farmer, are finding out that the word is "mindset".

The police have launched a huge programme to alter the "mindset" of its members. Farmers are lagging behind and, in some instances, paying the ultimate price.

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experienced whippings on farms in Delmas, been uprooted from his home and neighbours at the whim of the government of the day as well as that of individual farmers, and suffered the indignity of unemployment, starvation, poor housing and other deprivations over many decades.

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expected. What the farmer got for his farm was also far less than what HE expected. ③ *Gre*

A Marnet radio communication system and 3m-high barbed or electrified wire fences are all very well, but when someone is intent on entering the property, there's not much a lone man with a gun can do against a gang wielding AK-47s despite all the bluster that one hears from khaki-clad people, whose "mindset" is obvious, in the bars of any small dorp...

### Throw in the towel

Security on farms is uppermost in the minds of the industry — as has been stated by the South African Agricultural Union and its affiliates as well as the police — but it costs money. And without a reasonable harvest or a good herd of cattle or flock of sheep, plus being saddled with crippling bank debts, it



Robert Mugabe

soon becomes time to throw in the towel.

Farm salesman Chris Dobson, of Maritzburg, put it in a nutshell recently when he said: "Politics and violence, the overall recession and the drought have combined to create enormous uncertainties."

Almost 80 farmers have died this year on their own properties, their wives and families terrorised off the farms, cattle and other livestock mutilated.

Many farms have been attacked in one way or another. Rural shops have been robbed.

In the Eastern Cape's Dias district, so many farms have been sold that the price a hectare has dropped in some instances to R29,80.

Dobson sees parallels to what is happening here with what took place in the then-Rhodesia in the months prior to independence.

There was a flurry of farm sales before and after Robert Mugabe took office, when prices reached rock bottom. Some buyers have since made enormous capital gains as a result of buying in early on.

He says there are lessons to be learnt, and very quickly.

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The big question among farmers is whether they will be allowed to continue their important role in the food chain.

# Supply-side farm policy 'is outdated'

PRETORIA — A fundamental change in SA's outdated agricultural policy was required to redress rural poverty and the inadequate distribution of food, Pretoria University agricultural economist Prof Johan van Zyl said yesterday. *B1204*

Speaking at the National Veld Trust's 50th jubilee conference on sustainable land management, Van Zyl said on paper SA continued to produce a surplus of basic foodstuffs yet 40% of the population lived below the minimum subsistence level.

Of the 16-million in SA below the minimum subsistence level, he added, 11-million were rural dwellers.

This was due in part to the current policy of self-sufficiency and supply-

ADRIAN HADLAND

side agricultural production, a policy discarded by most other nations in the 1970s, he argued, who had moved on to sustainable development and demand-side production. *3/11/93*

Sanctions and SA's isolation from international markets had entrenched SA's policies and had encouraged the state to bolster the production and prices of strategic agricultural goods. *(3) Gen*

Policy planners incorrectly believed farmers would be better off and would produce more if the price of goods was increased, Van Zyl said.

But as only a very small minority of producers were able to sustain surpluses, price increases generally had

a negative impact on the rural economy by pushing up the cost of seed and related products.

"We must get rid of the policy of self-sufficiency and focus on the accessibility and price of food," he said.

Improved co-operation with neighbouring countries and more farmer support programmes could make a substantial difference.

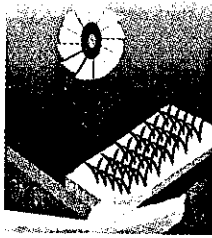
Agricultural policy was, however, very much at the mercy of macroeconomic decisions and trends, Van Zyl added. Interest rates and exchange rates, artificially bolstered by the "biggest control board in SA, the Reserve Bank", severely affected the competitiveness of local agricultural production.

AGRICULTURAL LAND

Fm 5/11/93

# Getting in touch with reality

Radicals are romantic about the number of blacks who want to be farmers



There was only one conclusion to be drawn from last month's conference in Johannesburg on land redistribution options. It is that the Left has, once again, lost touch with the realities of agricultural land usage in this country.

The explanation is that the word agricultural is conveniently ignored in such discussions. The issue is seen as land *per se*, with all the emotional connotations that has in SA. Analysis flies out the window, to be replaced by flirtation with notions that are economically and politically dangerous, while promising no relief to the needy.

There are three separate matters that have to be addressed: land that was taken from blacks by the Nationalist government in the name of resettlement; the participation of blacks on a significant scale in commercial farming; and the alleviation of widespread rural poverty. The first is essentially political, the second is about levelling the commercial playing field, while the last will be achieved only through broad regional development of a social as well as economic kind.

Answers offered in any of those areas must be affordable, politically acceptable and promote economic development.

It will be difficult to meet all those criteria. For one thing, though the land issue produces a great deal of emotion, there are few hard facts available.

Take, for example, the matter of land dispossession. According to one estimate, about 3,5m people were affected by forced removals. Outside of the PAC, though, and notwithstanding the observation by one foreign speaker at the conference that the sanctity of property rights is a myth, no-one is suggesting that anyone who acquired legal title to any of that land should have it confiscated. If it is to be taken from them, the general view runs, they must be fairly compensated.

But that would mean spending State resources. How much would be required, and what of economic value would be achieved? Nobody knows who "owned" the dispossessed land, how many would want to return to it, or what the cost of buying it back (or compensating those who did not want restoration) would be.

Legal Resources Centre director Geoff Budlender told the conference that it cost R33m merely to establish who the long-term residents of 162 000 houses in Soweto were, with a view to transferring ownership to them. And that, he added, despite the fact

that all the people lived in the same limited area; the claims were all for identifiable pieces of land; official records existed indicating who at least had a *prima facie* entitlement; and the beneficiaries were "urban people with a relatively high degree of literacy." Take note of those factors, he observed, "and the scale of the difficulties facing a national programme for selecting individual rural beneficiaries becomes apparent."

The establishment of a land claims court would almost certainly raise hopes of compensation that could never be met. Yet without such a court, the scope of the problem and the desire of the dispossessed for restitution cannot be ascertained. Nor is it morally or politically possible to close the book on the past and, as government has suggested, forget that dispossession ever took place.

As with land repossession, so with land redistribution. There seemed to be wide agreement among the experts addressing the conference that the latter should be demand-driven. Given the general assumption there that demand would exceed the State's financial ability to meet it, the experts set about discussing criteria, processes and methods for selecting beneficiaries.

"But how many black people would like to

patation, all they want is a half acre or so to grow food for their families and perhaps a little extra to sell.

So how much land would that amount to?

Sender says the number of rural poor has been estimated at about 11m but about half of those are on white farms, where they may well already have use of a little land or could negotiate it. Assume that the rest comprise about 1m families and that they would all like to obtain use of a half acre. That adds up to no more than 200 000 ha.

The World Bank reckons the State holds 320 000 ha of arable land that is not already occupied. How productive it is (up to 10 ha of the Karoo are needed to support one sheep), and how much of it is in areas that families could move to, needs to be worked out. It could turn out that not a single hectare needs to be obtained at public expense.

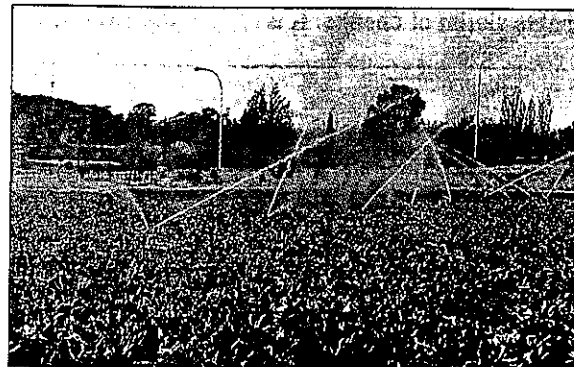
The danger is that government planners might assume that providing this modest amount of land absolves them of any further responsibility towards the rural poor. It does not. As a World Bank report observes: "Agricultural settlement schemes, except in special circumstances, do not make good welfare programmes."

The rural poor are caught in a poverty trap because a lack of water, health care and education has rendered them incapable of functioning in a modern economy. And "almost all able-bodied people have left to work outside the homelands," observes the Development Bank of Southern Africa's agricultural development expert Nick Vink. "That creates a labour problem for homeland agriculture."

The solution to rural poverty does not therefore lie in land redistribution. It requires social upliftment and further measures that will encourage industrial investment in rural areas. Indeed,

the Urban Foundation casts its net even more widely. "The most important component," it says, "must be the growth of secure urban employment and residence opportunities for all. Urban and rural development are two sides of the same coin."

Talk of State encouragement of rural industry immediately, of course, rings warning bells, given the disastrous results of past industrial decentralisation incentives. Certainly, a radically different approach must be adopted to promoting rural development. For a start, a new government should concentrate far more closely than earlier planners did on what Sender calls agro-industry — manufacturing that depends on local agri-



Productive land ... a matter of business, not politics

farm on a commercial scale?" asked someone from the floor. The sole answer provided was like a bucket of cold water, and should have brought the conference to a rapid end.

Few would, said Wits University economics professor John Sender, citing field research by himself and others. What almost everyone in rural areas wants, he continued, is steady jobs paying good wages — not the risk and heavy physical demands of farming for his own account.

His explanation was quite simple and remained uncontested. Most rural adults are women, struggling — with virtually no material resources other than old-age pensions or remitted wages from urban relatives — to raise children. When it comes to land occu-

Continued on page 28

P.T.O.

# Put handouts in the bin

Sowetan 8/11/93 3 Gen

**COUNTRY LIVING** Rural people want to become independent:

By Joe Mdhlala

**O**RDINARY people in the reserves will continue to lead unfulfilled and uneventful lives if funding to set up projects is not made available to them.

This is the view of Mr Horst Kleinschmidt, deputy chief executive of Kagiso Trust.

Men, women and children who have been thrown into these desolate rural settings by the apartheid Government want an opportunity to lead meaningful and productive lives.

"They are far from bitter and dependent," he says. "But they want a better future for their children."

He is right. These are the men and women who refuse to bask in the sun, hoping against hope that a miracle will improve their lot.

"No, that is not what we want," says an articulate and proud elderly Mr Key Kwinana who has spent all his life in Thembalethu, a rural settlement in Ciskei.

"We want to grow vegetables."

Then his eyes become slits. The forehead furrows, not that he is angry, but being a calculating man he gives every

**‘ We want to grow spinach, cabbage, carrots ... we want to grow anything that will make us self-sufficient. We do not want favours or handouts ’**

word meaning.

He will not talk for the sake of talking. He knows he has got to make a strong point, a strong case for his people.

"We want to grow spinach, cabbage, carrots ... we want to grow anything that will make us self-sufficient. We do not want favours or handouts."

In his simple, yet erudite way, Kwinana says part of the produce will go to the market. What remains will be consumed by the community.

Clearly, he understands basic eco-



A community wishing to be self-sufficient.

nomics. Perhaps not the text-book stuff, but the economics of survival.

### Hope despite extreme hardship

Women folk support their leader as he talks about the projects of small-scale farming.

"We will produce and then sell. From our sales we will save some money so that we can develop our projects into co-

3 Gen

operatives," says Kwinana.

Thembalethu means hope. Indeed, it seems the country folk in this part of the world are sustained by hope, despite the lack of resources.

However, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and not the Government, are likely to help realise the dreams of this community. These organisations include among others, Inde-

pendent Development Trust, Kagiso Trust and the South African Council of Churches and Interfund. Without their help there is little hope of helping rural dwellers improve their lives.

But the best intentions and the most ambitious plans need funding to "kick-start" even the simplest economies.

Windmills to draw water to irrigate farming projects require money.

The brick-making mills need money.

### Community funding project

Deputy chief executive officer Kleinschmidt put it this way: "Without the assistance of the NGOs there will be more problems for these communities. No funding will be forthcoming, so that there will be very little to motivate them to run any project."

He says NGOs play a very important role in developing the communities, "especially in the areas where the Government is not prepared to give support."

In the final analysis, the NGOs only provide the funding and training. It is the rural dwellers who must in the end take control of all the projects they initiate. The role of the NGOs is limited to funding and giving encouragement and moral support.

The community development programmes are helping to spur on rural communities whose desire is to be empowered "so that the question of handouts in their lives is relegated to the rubbish bins of the apartheid era".

For another view of the community funding project, tune in to TSS at 9pm tonight.

**‘ We will produce and then sell. From our sales, we will save money so that we can develop our projects into co-operatives ’**



Living hope to rural dwellers.

# Threat to occupy 'our land'

B/day

15/11/93

MARIANNE MERTEN

THE Back to the Land Campaign, which represents more than 80 landless communities, threatened yesterday to refuse to respect a proposed Bill of Rights property clause and forcibly occupy land they claim is theirs. *3/2/93*

In an open letter submitted to the multi-party negotiators, the campaign said the clause, expected to be included in the Bill of Rights this week, did not respect the right of dispossessed communities to have their land restored to them.

The property clause would give unfair protection to current landowners because it stipulated that courts would award "fair and equitable" compensation, which could be interpreted as meaning market related compensation.

This favoured landowners who had acquired the land cheaply.

Dispossessed communities feared the principle would undermine the process of restoration because of possible financial constraints on a future government.

Instead, the "fair and equitable" principle should be balanced with factors such as government's ability to compensate and

interests of other parties.

A property clause which did not allow for land restoration was unacceptable, the letter said.

The campaign also said Parliament's role in allocating compensation in cases where restoration was unfeasible was prejudicial when compared to the fair and equitable compensation to be awarded to landowners. The letter said the campaign was not against protection of property rights in principle. However, protecting property rights of current landowners now would further entrench unequitable land ownership.

SA's new constitution needed to reflect the rights of the dispossessed and the landless. "The new constitution should mark the end of the old SA," the letter said.

The Back to the Land Campaign, which is co-ordinated by the National Land Committee, has unsuccessfully raised its concern about the property clause with the negotiators on several occasions since June this year.

# Food gardens flourishing on the Flats

□ Help given to 10 families blossoms until over 1 500 grow own veggies, sell them

③ ARG 10/11/93

ANDREA WEISS  
Staff Reporter

FOOD gardens are flourishing on the Cape Flats through the efforts of the Fairest Cape — one of the organisations which will benefit from readers' donations to The Argus Christmas Hamper Fund.

A portion of the money raised for the R30 hampers will be donated to the Fairest Cape to pursue the four-year-old project.

The project started in Khayelitsha with 10 families who were given compost, seeds and good advice on how to start a vegetable garden the size of a door using the trenching method.

Today more than 1 500 families have been helped.

Apart from feeding themselves, some families have also taken to hawking their vegetables to earn extra cash.

Fairest Cape projects co-ordinator Vera Lawrence said the project had restored dignity and self-respect to many people who could now feed their own families.

Another participant in the scheme, Rocklands Primary School in Mitchell's Plain, has developed its own garden which it uses to sell vegetables cheaply to the parents of children in the economically depressed area.

Some of the vegetables also go towards the school's soup kitchen.

And now enthusiastic pupils and the physical education teacher Zita Cheemee have turned their talents



to cultivating a herb garden for cooking and medicine.

Principal Clive Scheepers is confident that next year the garden project will grow.

Readers who want to boost the garden project — and bring a little Christmas cheer to Cape Town's poorer families — are being invited to donate money towards The Argus Christmas Hamper Fund.

The hampers are being provided cost-price by Spar supermarkets and contain a whole bunch of treats for the Christmas season.

And donors are being asked to challenge others to give up something and donate the money towards the fund.

Donations should be posted to The Argus Christmas Hamper Fund, PO Box 97, Cape Town, 8000, or hand-delivered to The Argus Promotions Department, on the fourth floor of Newspaper House in St George's Street.



Picture: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.

**FOOD GARDEN:** Give money to The Argus Christmas Hamper Fund and help the Fairest Cape food garden project. Here Allison Webber, 12, a pupil at Rocklands Primary School tends the school's garden, set up with the help of Fairest Cape.

**CK DOWN prices**

EKMEKILBLOM

# South Africa back in UN food and agricultural fold

PRETORIA. — South Africa was readmitted to the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) yesterday, the first United Nations agency to accept the country back into its fold since political reforms were instigated.

Delegates to the FAO's bien-

ennial conference in Rome applauded when results of the secret ballot — 128-10 with five abstentions — were announced.

But South Africa, which left the FAO in 1964, will be given full rights and privileges only once the transitional executive council is in place.

Welcoming the decision, minister of agriculture Kraai van Niekerk said membership of the FAO would enable South Africa to offer her expertise, technology and facilities, while sharing in the expertise available in the rest of the world.

Foreign minister Pik Botha

ARLT 10/11/93 (23) (3)  
said: "Resumed membership of FAO is a tangible recognition of the irreversible political progress achieved so far."

"It is a milestone on the path of regional co-operation."

South Africa's readmission increases FAO's membership to 169. — Sapa.



## Farming body opposes Act

*B. Day*  
Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG. — The Natal Agricultural Union has objected to the government's Provision of Certain Land for Settlement Act, saying it "smacks of political appeasement" *12/11/43*

NAU president William Mullins said the organisation did not oppose settlement of rural communities but feared the Act, which gives sweeping powers to the Administrator and makes no provision for consultation with agricultural bodies, would create squatter townships in areas with neither services nor jobs.

The Administrator had neither infrastructure nor knowledge to settle small farmers and ensure they could sustain themselves, he said. This type of settlement could result in the loss of valuable farmland.

Mullins said that, despite legislation preventing farm subdivision, thousands of hectares of key farmland had been targeted around Estcourt, Weenen, Newcastle, Utrecht and Vryheid in terms of the recently promulgated Act *3/1/44*

Government had not consulted the SAAU or the NAU, and the Administrator of Natal had decided on areas to be acquired. Consultants had been hired to value land and make offers to farmers who often had financial problems.

# Grant lets vegetable co-op grow

THE Japanese government boosted a small Boland town's hopes of becoming agriculturally independent with a grant of more than R100 000.

The money will be used on a co-operative farm begun by six residents on 12 hectares of land in Saron four years ago.

The community believe the farm is set to flourish as they will be able, for the first time in years, to buy much-needed agricultural equipment.

The farm, which has grown to 20 hectares, employs 35 people, the chairman of the civic association, said Reverend William Cloete.

By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

"Although the farm has always delivered the product, we were never able to produce to our full potential due to the shortage of equipment."

The money has already been earmarked for a tractor, seeds and other equipment which they previously could not afford to buy, he said.

Rev Cloete said he was confident that the injection of cash would create more jobs.

As there was no industrial development at Saron, many residents had to travel as far as 50km to work.

## Reconstruction accord will be enforced — SACP

THE SACP will insist on any new government abiding by the reconstruction accord, spokesman Jeremy Cronin says in the latest issue of Barometer.

The accord is a Cosatu-initiated project that calls for massive reconstruction and efforts to redress apartheid imbalances, funded by the state.

Cronin says there will be mass organisation and mobilisation if necessary if a new government is reluctant to stick to the accord. However a wide range of participatory forums in which civil society and government interact will be the preferred method of getting the accord off the ground, he says.

"Reconstruction is not an effort to squeeze change from a reluctant state but is rather a broad parliamentary and extra-parliamentary effort."

He says the accord is expected to be adopted next month at an ANC convened conference involving a wide range of extra-parliamentary forces.

Cronin says the accord will not create unrealistic

GAVIN DU VENAGE

expectations. Millions of people already had legitimate hopes that democratisation would change their lives. The function of the accord is to translate their hopes into reality.

On the SACP's relationship with the ANC, Cronin says the alliance will be maintained in the future. Nor does he anticipate an ideological rift developing between the alliance partners.

Cronin says there may be a "real tendency towards elitism" within an ANC government. He says the ANC will have to remain a broadbased movement if it is to protect itself against bureaucratisation.

## Farm labour Act 'flawed'

INDUSTRIAL Court president Adolph Landman has strongly criticised technical weaknesses in the new Agricultural Labour Act.

Writing in the latest edition of Contemporary Labour Law, Landman said there were many confusing and "terminological inaccuracies" in the Act, which bears the marks of compromise and undue haste.

One apparently unintended consequence was that any changes to the Labour Relations Act would not apply to farming activities. A further complication was that the Industrial Court would have to ascertain which of the two statutes would apply according to whether the litigants were involved in a farming operation.

In terms of the Act, an agricultural labour court, or agricut, would be established to adjudicate unfair labour practice disputes. It may order compensation, reinstatement or a monetary settlement as a remedy.

Awards may be enforced by criminal proceedings if the party concerned refused to comply with the order.

ERICA JANKOWITZ

Landman contended it was unclear when an aggrieved party may approach this court, as the Act specified compulsory arbitration for the resolution of all disputes be they of right or interest. His interpretation was that parties may contract out of this provision by mutual consent and prosecute disputes in the agricut.

The statute stipulates that the agricut would be similar to the Industrial Court in composition and its inquisitorial powers.

"This means that the court, rather than the parties, will be in control of proceedings," Landman said.

Legal representation of parties would be allowed and the agricut would have discretionary powers to allow employer and worker organisation office bearers or officials to fulfil a similar function.

If a party wished to take an agricut decision concerning reinstatement or compensation on appeal, it may do so via the Industrial Court. Other orders would have to be challenged in the Supreme Court.

## East Daggafontein Mines, Limited

(Reg No 05/04237/06)  
("East Dagga")

# Dispossessed can reclaim land

BY CHRIS WHITFIELD  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

In a historic decision the Negotiating Council decided yesterday that people whose land was dispossessed in terms of discriminatory laws would be entitled to claim restitution.

In terms of a recommendation before the council the claims for a return of land or compensation can date back to June 19 1913 and the introduction of the noto-

rious Land Act.

However, at the time of going to press the specific date had not been settled.

The PAC and traditional leaders argued that claims should date back further, but this seems unlikely to win support. All other aspects of the proposal were accepted unanimously by the council.

The right to restitution is to be made a fundamental right in the interim Bill of Rights. Details

are fleshed out in the Interim Constitution.

Labour Party negotiator Lewellyn Landers said: "The dispossessed will now know that this Negotiating Council has gone a long way to right the wrongs of the past. It is this council's crowning achievement."

Deputy Justice Minister Sheila Camerer said the decision showed the Government was committed to "righting past wrongs".

In terms of the agreement those dispossessed of their land shall be entitled to claim restitution in a court of law.

A specially appointed commission will process claims. Unsettled claims will go to court which can, if feasible, order the restoration of the land when the land is in the possession of a private owner — the acquisition of the land subject to "just and equitable" compensation to the owner.

# SA water expertise <sup>③</sup> for world

CT 16/11/93  
PRETORIA. South Africa's expertise in purifying water will soon be used across the world, according to the Water Research Commission here.

The WRC has just published the world's first comprehensive manual on how to design a water purification works using dissolved air flotation.

The South African document will also be used to form the basis of an international manual envisaged by the International Association of Water Quality.

The aim of the manual is to combine local design data and international research in one document to be used as a guideline for engineers and institutions dealing with the subject.

The air flotation process is used extensively in South Africa to remove excess algae from water. — Sapa

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# Concern over rise in lobster catches

CT 16/11/93 FISHING ③

Staff Reporter

THE rock lobster season opens today amid growing concern about the sharp increase in the number of lobsters being caught by recreational fishermen.

According to Environment Affairs Minister Mr Japie van Wyk, an estimated 470 tons of lobster were caught during the 1992/93 season — compared with only 160 tons during the 1991/92.

He said he was "extremely concerned" about the increase.

The minister has decided to retain the minimum legal size of 80mm and a limit of four rock lobsters per person per day for holders of recreational fishing permits.

The minimum size for commercial fishing has been set at 75mm, and the total allowable catch at 2 200 tons — the same as last year.

Director of Sea Fisheries, Dr Louis Botha, said yesterday the decision to set the commercial limit at 75mm was influenced by the reluctance of the Japanese — South Africa's main market — to buy larger lobsters.

"It also tallies with scientific advice on the issue," Dr Botha said.

The decision to keep the 80mm limit for recreational fishermen was made because of the huge increase in the recreational catch over the last three years.

"Commercial fishermen have already been hit, because their quotas have been reduced in recent years from 3 800 to 2 200," Dr Botha said.

Dr Mike Bergh of UCT's Department of Zoology said yesterday the 75mm limit for the commercial industry was more in line with scientific recommendations.

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**NEWS** Strike goes into its third day

# Mixed reaction to land clauses

Sowetan 17/11/93

**By Mathatha Tsedu**  
Political Editor

CHEERS and dismay have greeted the land clauses approved by the multiparty negotiators on Monday night.

The clauses deal with land claims by people who were dispossessed during forced removals and stipulate that 1913 would be the cut-off date.

Anyone whose claim dates beyond June 19 1913 will not be entertained. It is this stipulation that has raised the anger of organisations involved with displaced communities. (3) Gen

The National Land Committee, which lobbied extensively against previous clauses, yesterday hailed the agreement but said the cut-off date would create problems for communities displaced before that date.

"We would maintain that communities or individuals who can show cause for their claims should be provided for even if the dispossession took place prior to 1913.

"There are claims from communities dating back to 1652 and they have to be addressed," a spokesman for the NLC said.

The African National Congress supported the clause while the Pan Africanist Congress decried the cut-off date, also citing 1652 and the arrival of white settlers as the preferable cut-off date.

Traditional leaders sided with PAC but were both defeated by the combined ANC-NP lobby.

The Azanian People's Organisation, which is not part of the negotiations, condemned the cut-off date and said while the move was on the whole a worthy effort, "1913 merely represents the consolidation of years of expropriation". It called for the state to bear the costs of litigation.

The approved clause states:

"Any person who, or any community which, at any time after a date fixed by an Act of Parliament (which shall not be earlier than June 19 1913), was dispossessed of a right in land under, or for the purpose of furthering the object of, any law which would have been inconsistent with the prohibition of racial discrimination ... shall be entitled to claim restitution in a court of law in respect of such right from the state". Claims can be handled by a commission or a court.

If the claim involves land held by the state, "the court may order the state to restore the relevant right to the claimant if the state certifies that such restoration is feasible".

Where the land is held by private individuals, "the court may order the state to purchase or expropriate such land".

Change <sup>3</sup>  
clause on  
CT 18/11/93  
property

Political Staff

THE property clause in the draft bill of rights and the proposed composition of the Constitutional Court should be changed, the South African Agricultural Union urged yesterday.

The appeal was made by SAAU president Mr Boet Fourie in a letter to President F W de Klerk.

He said the government would be abandoning farmers and property owners if the proposed property clause was passed by Parliament.

The property clause, supposed to protect property rights, "was in fact intended to open the door to large-scale expropriation of land without fair compensation", Mr Fourie said.



Tongaat<sup>3</sup>

CT18/11/93  
sidesteps

hard times

with 8,2%

growth in  
earnings

DURBAN. — Tongaat-Hulett reported an almost flat turnover in another six months of drought conditions, but lower tax and interest bills helped lift the group's attributable earnings 8,2%.

Earnings rose to 94,6c a share in the six months ended September 1993 compared with 87,4c a share. The group increased its interim dividend by 2c to 25c a share.

Turnover was almost static at R1,97bn (R1,95bn) and operating profit fell 18,7% to R115m (R142m).

However, lower interest payments of R22,9m (R38,9m) and a sharp fall in tax to R21,6m (R37,4m) resulted in a 8,2% rise in attributable earnings to R70,8m (R65,4m).

Chairman Chris Saunders said agricultural tax allowances arising for the R100m Heatonville irrigation scheme will cushion the expected fall in the sugar division's earnings in the current financial year.

He said while good spring rains had fallen, it was too late to benefit the group in the 1993/94 financial year.

The building materials and aluminium divisions continued to be adversely affected by the recession, but the textiles and starch and glucose divisions were performing well, he said.

Saunders added the group hoped to reduce net borrowing by March year end to R120m from the current R491m.

## Cosatu claims 'delaying tactics' on farm Act

BR Day 19/11/93

ERICA JANKOWITZ

COSATU yesterday expressed alarm at government's apparent lack of progress in promulgating the Agricultural Labour Act, due to be operational from January 1, and said farm workers needed maximum protection in the run-up to the election.

Cosatu suggested government had been lobbied by agricultural interests intent on protecting their own rights and was using delaying tactics. (3) (u) (u)

It said the Act had been designed as a temporary measure to prevent labourers being coerced to vote for a political party.

The issue would be raised at a National Manpower Commission meeting scheduled for next week and with the Manpower Minister and Manpower Department.

"Failure to promulgate the Act as a matter of urgency will jeopardise the Cosatu-SA Agricultural Union agreement," Cosatu warned.

Cosatu also called on the National Council of Trade Unions to join it in its campaigns and negotiations.

# Land Bank lends less to farmers

B1 Day 26/11/93

TIM MARSLAND

LAND Bank loans to farmers fell R2bn to R8,42bn in the year to October following the sector's improved financial stability after better climate conditions, sources said yesterday.

Land Bank GM Freddie van Staden said financial stability had also led to a noticeable rise in demand for farming property.

Latest data from the bank shows short-term loans to co-operatives fell the most, dropping R1,25bn to R4,046bn.

Long-term loans to individual farmers were down R225m to R3,614bn.

The bank has about R2bn raised in the capital market and a further R4bn in the money market.

Sources said the bank tended to approve more short-term loans because of the nature of farming.

Van Staden said the decline in the loans given by the bank was due to drought-related assistance from government during 1993 and a more favourable climate.

"The more favourable climate conditions which have prevailed since the previous summer season have resulted in a definite financial stabili-

sation in the agricultural sector," he said.

"With a noticeable increase in demand for farm property, the Land Bank's exposure to risk is declining progressively."

Van Staden said risk relating to the loans had also decreased because of rising land values.

"Generally, the productive value of agricultural land is much lower than the market value, allowing a fair security margin."

"It is only during prolonged periods of disaster, drought and unfavourable climate conditions that the safety margins narrows to such an extent that the Land Bank becomes sensitive to risk."

He said the bank also applied sound financial norms which matched the production potential of farming units and entrepreneurs' ability to repay loans.

Sources said it had not yet been decided whether the bank would provide funds to "subsistence farmers".

However, it seemed the Agricultural Department would fulfil this role.

## Record year possible for farmers

THE agricultural industry was on track for a near record year providing the outstanding start to the season was supported by follow-up rains, SA Agricultural Union chief economist Koos du Toit said recently.

Under these conditions, he forecast the industry could make a 7% contribution to the GDP, while 7,5% was possible.

"It could be the most productive summer season in more than a decade with all sectors, including meat and deciduous fruit, making

solid contributions."

Nampo chief economist Kit le Clus said early prospects for a good crop were good.

If the season continued favourably, with reasonable rains in the critical early months of the new year, a yield of 2,8 tons a hectare over the 3,6-million hectares that were expected to be planted could produce a crop of 10-million tons, leaving 3,5-million tons for export.

15/5/84 26/11/84  
GERALD REILLY

**M**an's contribution to changing the Earth's climate, and in the process turning arable land into deserts, has been outlined at a conference in Pretoria. Norman Chandler looks at the theories

Star 26/11/93

# Land abuse means deserts for Africa



Spreading Sahara ... once there was grass and forest in this area of Mauritania, now there is only sand and a lone, struggling tree. PICTURE: AP

**A**frica's great deserts — the Sahara, Kalahari and Namib — may soon be joined by others as man, caught in a circle of poverty, continues to abuse productive land.

It is estimated that in sub-Saharan Africa alone, 650 000 sq km of formerly productive land have been transformed into desert at a rate of 70 000 sq m a year through community activities, political interference, and mismanagement of land.

Worldwide, 70 percent of 5.1 billion hectares of potentially productive land is threatened.

Desertification and drought is man's fault, declared Kenyan scientist Mary Omosa, and she added that the fight against desertification was a fight for survival for all.

Speaking at a conference on global change and social transformation in Pretoria, she said attempts aimed at combating drought and desertification needed to be people-centred, and focused on local communities.

"The inability of man to control or adapt to his immediate environment has resulted in a vicious circle of poverty which further weakens Third World economies, and particularly those dependent on agriculture," Omosa said. "We cannot aim at conservation without making it possible for the poor to meet their basic nutritional needs for themselves and their offspring."

The occurrence of drought and desertification is linked to global climatic changes, but the state of the soil is mainly altered as a result of human activities.

The depletion of the ozone layer — South Africa is now taking a more active role in combat-

ing this phenomenon — is a clear illustration of what people can do to the climate.

Scientists say the so-called hole in the ozone layer is getting larger, with international organisations instituting more research to see what can be done.

Global climatic changes have resulted in significant new weather patterns. The most recent example is the freezing weather which blanketed Europe.

"Drought and desertification are caused by changing agricultural patterns, resulting in serious land degradation and severe climatic conditions," Omosa said.

Over-exploitation of available natural resources has made soil vulnerable, lowered the water table, and prevented natural regeneration of vegetation.

## Survival

"African economies depend on the continent's forests, pastures and croplands for survival.

"These sources of livelihood have, however, been mismanaged through land activities that remove too much and return too little, if any," Omosa says.

"This is reinforced by the fact that development policies have not been geared towards reducing poverty.

"The poor receive little support in breaking the vicious circle of poverty that forces them to over-stretch land, one of the few resources that they tend to have access to."

Nearly half of Africa's people live in abject poverty, and it is projected they will increase by 100 million within seven years.

One of the primary causes of

environmental degradation and loss of forest cover in Africa is tenure of land.

Omosa said that when politicians interfere with rights of tenure, catastrophe can result.

The ending in some countries of traditional customary arrangements for land use has in many cases resulted in land management projects being shelved.

A failure by governments to appreciate the complex relationship between local communities and land management is the cause of major problems.

Omosa sees South Africa as falling into the same trap in the absence of land reforms.

"That 84 percent of the land is owned by a minority with privileged access to other resources and infrastructure, and that the apartheid policies have resulted in the concentration of a majority on just 14 percent of the agricultural land, has negative environmental implications," she said.

The importance of trees to climatic patterns and economies cannot be under-estimated. By the turn of the century, 7.5 million hectares of tropical forest will have been cleared in the interests of progress.

"At this rate, an eighth of all the world's tropical forests would have gone ... resulting in increased soil erosion and rapid surface run-off."

Omosa said that unless deforestation was halted, there would be no tropical forests in 177 years.

An indication of the seriousness of the issue is that Africa will by the year 2000 need 100 times more than the continent's existing 19 million hectares of fuel wood plantations.

# A community comes back home

**JO-ANNE COLLINGE**

ABOUT 100 members of the Mampuru community set up camp near their former chief's kraal on the Groblersdal district farm, Brakfontein, yesterday after re-occupying the land from which they were removed in 1973.

The sound of ululating rose from among the bushes as women claimed bundles of bedding and clothes and made their way, perspiring but beaming, to the hilltop where the stone kraal still stands.

The land claimants form a small fraction of the Mampuru community, most of whom were resettled about 150 km from Brakfontein, along a steep and stony hillside, at Steelpoort in Lebowa. They came home to Brakfontein in a large bus and several bakkies



**20 YEARS ON:** Staking claim to land lost to apartheid in 1973. ● Photograph: GARY BERNARD

this week.

"I was born in this country in 1917. It is mine," said Jeremiah Moganedi. He was fearful, nevertheless, that there might be "trouble".

The police arrived at Brakfontein yesterday soon after the occupation started. While the

women, children and youths made their way rapidly through the lands to the kraal, most of the men were halted at the entrance to the farm.

Although community members claimed that the police had threatened to arrest them,

members of the force — in a single van — left the scene about lunchtime without taking action.

Neels Bezuidenhout, one of several farmers who bought portions of Brakfontein from the Government years after the removal, eyed the waiting Mampuru men and said: "They're not coming in here — finish and klaar."

But Bezuidenhout and his companion left shortly after the police. And the men of Mampuru lost no time in transferring the baggage from their stranded bus into bakkies and heading on to the land they so treasure.

Women descended from the hillside to meet them.

Looking up at the heavy skies and laughing into the rain, Anna Skelwane (76) spoke for them all: "We are saying God has blessed us today."



# Tribe's land claim a thorny issue

STIMCO  
By DAWN BARKHUIZEN

TEMPERS are fraying in the Tsitsikamma region of the Eastern Cape, where white farmers fear they will lose land the government confiscated from the Mfengu tribe in 1977 and resold at below market price five years later. 28/11/93

The farmers, once determined to remain on their lush dairy farms, have done an about turn and offered to sell the state all their land for R39-million, said Mr Peter Korkie, one of the farmers.

But as the deadline on their offer expired last week, there was silence from the government that had moved swiftly to uproot 500 Mfengu families and truck them 450km to a barren patch of Ciskei veld at gunpoint. (3) GRM

Department of Regional Land Affairs' chief director on land reform Eric Buiten said the matter had been referred to the cabinet, but no response had yet been received.

Said Mr Korkie: "We are extremely frustrated with the state. For years they lulled us into a false sense of security, promising our rights were secure and saying we would never have to forfeit our farms. Now our questions are being met with silence."

His frustration is shared by the Mfengu, who have never stopped fighting for the 8 000ha granted to them by Queen Victoria in 1837, and the ANC.

Tsitsikamma Exile Association co-ordinator and ANC East Cape land desk chief Mashwabada Msizi, said: "The ANC believes the state is dragging this matter out in the hope of passing the buck, but we don't want to get involved in correcting the wrongs of apartheid. This is a National Party mess. It has been going on for years, and they must sort it out."

The Mfengu are demanding compensation for loss and suffering — a package worth more than R78-million. They were paid an average of R429 compensation for their homes.

Should the state not act quickly, Mr Korkie predicted there could be "ugly repercussions" from a mixed bag of farmers who were standing together for the first time in their decision to sell the 5 857ha valued at an average of R229,70 a hectare in 1982.

They were so despondent that all development had stopped and farmers were "just keeping things ticking over" while some were considering packing up altogether, he said.

"Certainly, the land was originally cheap, but it cost millions to make appallingly poor soil fertile."

Fuelling the fears of the farmers is uncertainty over whether a new government can afford to buy them out at market related prices — or, worse still, make discounts against land bought at subsidised rates.

When the farmers bought the land, it was at an average price of R229 a hectare, and they were granted 100 percent loans by the Department of Agriculture.

Two years ago, the land was valued at R5 000 a hectare, and even after deducting the multiple bonds registered against almost every property, the owners stood to clear an average profit of R1-million — if they had sold.

Government grant makes dreams come true as

# Black farmers buy prime land

STimes 28/11/93

③ Cress

TWO black rural communities in the Natal midlands will make history soon when they use a new government grant scheme to buy 11 farms for more than R5-million.

More than 700 families living on 842ha of overgrazed and eroded land at Cornfields and Tembalihe, near Estcourt, plan to buy 8531ha of prime cattle country from four farmers who belong to the giant Thukela Biosphere before the end of the year.

The two communities are surrounded by the Biosphere and there is a long history of friction between the rural people and farmers in the area because cattle belonging to the sub-

Report: RYAN CRESSWELL

Picture: HORACE POTTER

sistence farmers have often been found grazing on white farmers' land.

Now the communities propose to use the additional land for communal grazing, access to water, firewood and thatching grass.

This will be the first time people have benefited from the recently promul-

gated Provision of Certain Land for Settlement Act, which provides for the government to grant up to 80 percent of the price of land which a disadvantaged community wants to buy. The community must provide five percent of the price as a downpayment and repay another 15 per-

cent over five years.

The Estcourt communities plan to sell off some of their 2 000 cattle and 2 500 goats to pay the deposit.

Mr Emmanuel Mhbele, 52, chairman of the Cornfields Residents' Association, said the chance to buy the land was "a dream come true".

"Our problems will be over. We have been very crowded for many years.

"In the past there was also trouble between the white farmers and us and now the relationship has improved. It is good to know that everything will be sorted out legally."

Mr Chris Wilkinson, conservator of the 64 000ha Thukela Biosphere Reserve, said the land owned by the two communities had become "denuded" because of overgrazing, and the extra land was vital for the rural farmers.

Mr Mhbele said farmers and experts were drawing up an agricultural plan for the use of the additional land so no more desertification would take place. He said some members of

the rural communities were also starting to take basic courses in animal husbandry.

Mr Wilkenson said the farmers who sold the land had also agreed to erect a game fence around the whole area to protect the rural people from wild game and to keep their cattle from straying.

Members of the Biosphere also plan to uplift living standards at Cornfields and Tembalihe.

"We realise we all have to live together. We are happy with this situation because we believe a self-sustainable venture is possible. We also plan to ask the communities to join the Biosphere if all goes well."

But not everybody is happy with the plan. Some farmers in the area feel the additional land will also be overgrazed and neglected.

The proposal — signed this week — is the result of months of negotiations between members of the rural communities, Biosphere farmers, Association for Rural Advancement field workers, Natal Parks Board officials and local educationists.



## Efforts to keep farmers on land

PIETERSBURG — At least two agricultural unions — those of the Transvaal and Free State — are to establish a forum to help keep farmers on their property, it was reported yesterday. *3 Oct 29 11 193*  
Transvaal Agricultural Union president Mr Dries Bruwer said discussions between the agricultural sector, commercial banks and cooperatives to ensure that farmers would not have to leave their land as a result of the drought were in an advanced stage. — Sapa

# Co-op crash hits farmers

PORT ELIZABETH. — Hundreds of farmers and other investors stand to lose millions of rands due to serious cash-flow problems experienced by trading giant, the Gamtoos Handelsvereniging at Patensie.

This was confirmed by the co-operative's chairman last night.

A well-placed source who declined to be named, said staff at the farmers' co-operative feared they would not be paid this month because the co-operative's bank on Friday allegedly re-

fused to honour its cheques.

More than 2 000 people had invested about R3 million with the co-operative, a source said.

New Gamtoos Handelsvereniging chairman Mr Daniel Ferreira last night confirmed the co-operative was in dire financial straits.

"We are selling some of our properties to try to meet our commitments. I am confident the Christmas season will help solve our difficulties," he said. — Sapa

③ CT 29/11/93

# New fund for donations to agriculture

CAPE TOWN — A fund would be established to receive donations for the development of agriculture, Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekirk said yesterday.

Speaking in Parliament during the debate on the Agricultural Development Fund Bill, Van Niekirk said although the state had a system for dealing with donations, it was inadequate regarding donations for the development of agriculture.

Under the Exchequer Act, any money given to the state was paid into the revenue account, and making it available was a

TIM COHEN

lengthy procedure. *BIDAY*

The Agricultural Development Fund Bill would establish the fund and authorise the Minister to appoint committees to advise on utilising the money. *30/11/93*

Since the Minister authorised appointments, he could appoint persons from outside the civil service, such as donors or their nominees. Donors often considered such representation important when making decisions on what to fund. *3 GEM*

## 27 held in occupation of farm land

Star 11/21/93

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Within a week of their reoccupation of ancestral land near Groblersdal, 27 members of the Mampuru community have been arrested and charged with trespassing.

Maserumule Matlala, one of those charged, said police arrived at the farm Brakfontein yesterday and arrested men only. Women and children were not taken into custody.

Matlala said bail had been set at R100 each.

About 100 members of the community moved on to Brakfontein last Friday in a bid to reclaim the land from which they were forcibly removed in 1973. The land was expropriated and subsequently sold by the State to a number of farmers.

The Mampuru community did not remain intact after the removal, partly because the resettlement area near Steelpoort was particularly barren. Only a fraction of the community took part in last week's reoccupation.

But Matlala said that he expected their numbers to expand further during the next few days. "Whatever the authorities do, we are not leaving Brakfontein again." (3) Gen

# Land Bank

## loans down

③ CT 2/12/93

PRETORIA. — Land Bank loans to the agricultural sector declined by R797m to R8,42bn in the year to October 1, latest bank statistics show.

Land Bank short-term agricultural production credit via co-operatives fell the most, dropping R1,12 billion to R4,046 billion.

The statistics show short-term finance to individual farmers rose to R188,41 million from the previous level of R69,60 million.

Land Bank risks are, however, falling, according to a bank official.

"With a noticeable increase in demand for farm property as a result of the more favourable climatic conditions prevailing since last summer, the Land Bank's exposure to risk through land loans is declining progressively," said Freddie van Staden, the bank's general manager.

— Sapa

## Labour tenants refuse to budge from occupied land

LABOUR tenants in the southeastern Transvaal and northwestern Natal Midlands say they will refuse to move from the land they are occupying and will stake their ownership claims despite the threat of forced removal.

Farmworker Research and Resource Project coordinator Abie Dithlake

MARIANNE MERTEN

said tenants would claim ownership rights to the lands they had occupied for at least three generations.

The decision was taken at a meeting of labour tenants from 23 farms who met in Piet Retief on Sunday to discuss the evictions.

Individual farmers and forestry companies such as HL & H, Mondi and Sappi had evicted more than 200 families over the past 18 months in the Piet Retief and Midlands areas, Dithlake said.

However, HL & H group human resource director Pieter Page denied the company was evicting people. At the moment, HL & H was negotiating land tenure rights with communities in the Amsterdam area of the southeastern Transvaal, he said.

A Mondi spokesman said there had been no recent evictions. Labour tenants in Lowburg, northern Natal, were allowed to stay on company-owned land they had occupied for several generations after an agreement had been reached between Mondi and the Association for Rural Advancement last week.

Labour tenants said at the meeting that evictions were meant to intimidate tenants.

Tribe wins 25-year-long battle for home

# Farm returned but occupation delayed

Star 3/12/93

BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The Bakubung-ba-Ratheo tribe heard on Wednesday that the Government had decided to give them back their Western Transvaal farm, 25 years after their forced removal.

But an alleged threat from farmers in the Boons area kept the land claimants from setting foot on the undulating 4 500 ha farm.

About 150 men and women of the tribe received the long-long-awaited news that their land had been restored to them while gathered at the locked entrance to the farm.

The community's lawyer, James Sutherland, explained that the farmer who rented the

land from the Government had received threats from others in the area that "there's going to be a whole lot of trouble if we go on to the land today".

He said the farmer, who had allowed them to visit their ancestors' graves in the past, had requested that Bakubung wait until the Government had held talks with the agricultural union later this week before making their celebratory visit.

Nico van Rensburg of the Department of Regional and Land Affairs confirmed that "on a recommendation of the Commission on Land Affairs it has been decided that the land will be returned".

The crowd pressed close to

hear his words and cries of "Pulal (rain)" went up, meaning that the gods had heard the people's prayers.

At the centre of the circle, beside the officials, stood community leader Arthur Monnakgotle who suffered torture and imprisonment for resisting removal.

The permanent reoccupation of the farm will probably take place early next year. The Government has proposed that a committee be set up to deal with the practicalities of the move.

The Bakubung presently live at Ledig, near Sun City. The land they were given in compensation for their farm at Boons has been encroached on by the Pilanesberg game reserve and the golf course at the Lost City.



Back to the land Sipho (left) and Alfred Njokweni celebrate the return of their beautiful farm near Boons.



WE WANT OUR LAND BACK . . . David Noko and his wife, Naomi, hope they will be able to return to Schmidtsdrift  
Picture: COBUS BODENSTEIN

## Three groups battling for dry stretch of land

S Times 5/12/93

By JAMES BRITAIN

DAVID NOKO leant quietly on his stick throughout a land hearing in Kimberley this week, occasionally rising from his seat to unfold his legs.

The six-member commission on land allocation had gathered at the town's municipal offices to settle a struggle for a dry stretch of Northern Cape savannah called Schmidtsdrift.

Mr Noko, a 63-year-old Motswana, used to live on the land with his family. In 1968 they were among an estimated 1 000 families moved by the army to a barren patch of land near Kuruman. *③ GEM*

He longs to go back to Schmidtsdrift, the "lovely place" he still calls home.

The 36 000ha of land 70km west of Kimberley is now owned by the SA Defence Force, which told the hearing it needed the land and that it would cost taxpayers about R120-million if it had to relocate elsewhere.

This argument is rejected by the Batswana and a group of Griquas who say they want the land back.

Counsel for the Batswana, Kate Owen, said her clients' forefathers were known to have settled at Schmidtsdrift in around the 1880s.

In 1968, her clients had been unceremoniously moved in military vehicles to an inhospitable place unsuited to either crop or livestock farming.

The removal was unlawful, and her clients had suffered physically, materially and psychologically.

"The community submits that the only adequate redress is the restoration of their ancestral land," said Mrs Owen.

The Griquas claim they were already on the land when the Batswana arrived. Griqua National Conference spokesman Calvin Andrews said Griquas had settled in the area as early as 1804.

While admitting that there were neither title deeds nor records to prove the tenure of the Griquas, Mr Andrews submitted that they had been forced off the land by successive white settlers and would fight to get it back.

"We'll squat on the land if it comes to it," he said after the hearing.

In the battle for Schmidtsdrift, no one knows what will happen to more than 4 000 former 31 Battalion San soldiers and their families, settled there in a tent town by the SADF when Namibia became independent in 1990.

Brigadier Thero Durr said the SADF was considering resettling some of the San in Namibia and that a trust had been set up to look after their interests.

George Mokgoro, a Motswana who grew up at Schmidtsdrift and later spent 10 years on Robben Island with ANC president Nelson Mandela, said he would not share the land with the San.

"I am not talking about apartheid. I am just trying to reflect the feeling of my community. We are the Tswanas. We cannot have two different peoples on the same piece of land," he said.

Deciding who is the rightful owner of Schmidtsdrift is just the beginning of the commission's task. Various proposals for the use of the land were heard, including those of the National Parks Board, the Cape Provincial Administration and De Beers — who have a game ranch nearby.

All three organisations suggest that the land, used by the SADF for training and weapons testing, be utilised for community-managed eco-tourism and hunting. Local farmers support this option.

As they left the hearing, Mr Noko and other members of the Batswana community were optimistic.

They were returning to Kimberley's township of Galeshewe, but are confident that soon they will be going "home".



# More held in land struggle

Star 7/12/93

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Police have made repeated arrests at the Groblersdal farm of Brakfontein, where members of the Mampuru community are attempting to reoccupy their ancestral land.

A group of 30 women and 24 children was arrested yesterday for the second time after being released on warning and returning to the site of their former chief's kraal on Brakfontein, eastern Transvaal police spokes-

man Isak van Zyl said.

Van Zyl said 30 men were arrested in two earlier swoops on the farm. (S) Cren

The Mampuru community was removed from Brakfontein in 1973 to a desolate resettlement area near Steelpoort in the northern Transvaal.

On the day of the first arrests, 27 structures had been destroyed by the owner of the ground and other farmers, said Van Zyl.

# Land may be given back — after 20 years

South 10/12 - 14/12/93

By Quentin Wilson

HOPE flickered for the people of Riemvasmaak in the northern Cape last week.

Land taken from them 20 years ago seems set to be returned.

The land, estimated at around 700 000 hectares, was taken away from the community in 1973 in terms of the government's "Black Spot Removals" programme — which aimed to keep black South Africans in bantustans.

Now the 142 families who want to return to Riemvasmaak have had their hopes raised after the National Parks Board, current owners of the land, came out in their support.

In their submission to the government's commission of land allocation in Upington last week, the Parks Board said they were "eager" to negotiate a transfer of land ownership to the community.

Their submission, greeted by thunderous applause at the commission sitting, clears the way for the return to Riemvasmaak.

"Before we left to Upington, we were apprehensive as to whether we would get anything out of it," said Mr Freddy Bosman, who was 14 years old when his family was forcibly removed from the area.

"But now we have great hope of getting our land back. The Parks



**HOPEFUL IN PRAYER: The people of Riemvasmaak pray for reparation: the return of the land forcibly taken from them through apartheid's "Black Spot Removals"**

Board came out completely in support of the community and they have also cancelled any future contracts with the SADF, who have used the land up to now," said

Bosman, who is also president of the "Back to the Land Campaign".

The SADF, in its submission, said it needed the land to continue its missile firing practice — but

said it would abide by the decision of the commission.

The commission is expected to make a final decision in the next few weeks.

# TEC asked to suspend labour tenant evictions

BIDA 15/12/93

THE National Land Committee yesterday asked the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) to place a moratorium on the eviction of labour tenants from farms in the eastern Transvaal and Natal midlands until after the April 27 elections.

At a Johannesburg media briefing, Farmworkers' Research and Resource Project co-ordinator Abie Dithlake said evictions had increased significantly during the past few weeks, compared to the past six months.

Recent evictions were conducted in an organised manner after farmers sought legal advice, he said.

They obtained court interdicts, which meant workers had no legal recourse and had to leave the land after a period of grace. Previously farmers had simply ordered tenants off their farms.

"Farmers have reportedly told the tenants that they are being evicted to prevent them from claiming the land in the future," Dithlake said.

Sapa reports Dithlake said forestry companies were also attempting to drive labour tenants off their land.

The World Bank, the ANC and the Land Affairs Department have identified such tenants as the primary beneficiaries of land reform programmes.

Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) president Dries Bruwer warned yesterday that "farm land should not be used as a

MARIANNE MERTEN

political football". Farmers had the right to secure their land by evicting tenants.

An Eastern Transvaal Labour Tenant Committee member said farmers were confiscating tenants' livestock to force them off the land. Assaults by farmers in conjunction with police had also increased.

Tenants in the eastern Transvaal were no longer prepared to live under these conditions, and were prepared to die for their land, he said.

Cosatu media officer Neil Coleman said workers in the Free State, eastern Cape, eastern Transvaal and Natal midlands had complained that their identity documents had been confiscated. The union federation's regional structures would monitor the situation.

The National Land Committee's request will be discussed by the TEC on Tuesday.

□ A policeman was killed and a Natal Provincial Administration worker injured in a confrontation with squatters in the Dukuduku forest on Natal's north coast yesterday.

Police spokesman Maj Bala Naidoo said about 100 people living in the forest resisted a court order for their removal from the area, leading police to discharge teargas.

Maj Naidoo said the residents fired shots at the authorities, wounding NPA worker George Pearce and a policeman, who died.

## Ex-cadres fight crime

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Security company Trans-Sizwe is employing returned Umkhonto we Sizwe exiles to combat truck hijackers.

The company, based near Soweto, offers to protect cargoes and vehicles in the PWV area, particularly in townships. It hopes to eventually offer third-party distribution countrywide.

"Obviously we have to develop in stages but we know we can offer a professional service that meets the needs of the market," says MD and former Umkhonto commander Steve Manjaro. Since forming last month the firm has trained 32 security guards.

"Our members are all military-trained and sport their old Cuban and Eastern bloc uniforms. We are selecting and training the very best for our transport protection units."

Former cadres who had been unemployed could now offer a valuable service to the community.

The initiative had the blessings of the ANC executive and Cosatu, Manjaro said.

## Government killings

by GAVIN DU VENAGE and LLOYD COUTTS

the incident disgusting, and that of ANC "people's courts". He said the incident showed that to find solutions was limited, we need to find an all-inclusive settlement urgent.

analyst Wim Booysse said yes-incident did not herald a major offensive against blacks. particularly savage, it was a isolated incident.

spokesman said no arrests had made. Another spokesman denied s were imminent, as reported

ports that Inkatha Freedom Party for Jeppe Hennie Bekker told yesterday the Randfontein could bring the country closer to old of an ethnic bloodbath.

in debate on the Electoral Bill, atha condemned the cold-blood-re in the harshest terms.

is opposed to any violence, if it has an ethnic or racial ker said.

oped and trusted the barbarous would soon be arrested and

## 10 years' jail for murder

SUSAN RUSSELL

A FORMER policeman who murdered his bedridden wife and mother-in-law on their Randfontein small-holding and fled to Namibia, was sentenced to 10 years' jail in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Gideon St John Barnard, 36, shot his wife Myrna, 57, and her mother Maria Cherry, 84, on December 30 last year.

Barnard flew to Namibia where he spent three months completing a book on cycads.

Barnard admitted murdering the two women but said he had done so because he could no longer bear to watch them suffer. Barnard was unemployed and was caring for the two women.

Sentencing him yesterday Judge L Goldblatt rejected submissions that Barnard had killed the women as an act of mercy.

Goldblatt said the murders were premeditated.

## TBVC residents will be able to vote in election

CAPE TOWN — There would be no obstacle to TBVC residents participating in the April 27 elections on SA territory, Home Affairs Minister Danie Schutte said yesterday.

Introducing the second reading debate on the Restoration and Extension of SA Citizenship Bill, he said TBVC residents would participate in the election as full SA citizens.

The Bill restores SA citizenship to TBVC residents who lost their citizenship when the four states became independent.

It also enables qualifying individuals, who had become citizens of the TBVC countries in terms of their laws, to apply for certificates of naturalisation as SA citizens.

The Bill takes effect from January 1.

Schutte said the loss of TBVC residents' SA citizenship had led to great anger

and frustration.

CP MP Daan van der Merwe said the Bill drew a line through everything whites had achieved since 1910. The old NP had not only tried to ensure white self-determination, but had also freed black nations from colonial rule.

The Bill was a slap in the face for leaders such as Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope, he said.

He assured Mangope that Afrikaners in the CP were his friends and would not desert Bophuthatswana.

"Have you no shame for betraying your word to a black man?" he said.

CP deputy leader Willie Snyman described the Bill as the brainchild of communists and the final crossroad in SA's history.

"The Afrikaner government has betrayed a black nation but the Boere Afrikaner will stand up and help him." — Sapa.

# Land grants urgent priority

THE allocation of agricultural land to the rural poor was an urgent priority, the ANC-aligned Macro Economic Research Group has said.

In a section dealing with agrarian reform in a policy recommendation document submitted to the ANC early this month, Merg said the land allocation issue should be "achieved in the short run".

The re-allocation of land to employers capable of achieving the technological dynamism to in-

crease levels of employment, wages, production and exports was another area which required State intervention.

"But hasty or ill-considered state interventions could easily disrupt existing agricultural production and employment with harsh consequences for the retrenched and the poorest rural households," Merg warned. The group proposes a set of incentives in the form of subsidies and favourable taxation in the interim while the entire agricultural sector is being overhauled.

Any restructuring of large scale white

farms should be conditional on economic viability not merely replacing white capitalists with black ones, Merg said. In line with strategies to improve employment, Merg puts emphasis on labour intensive forms of production in large scale farms.

Also, massive investment in social and physical infrastructure to improve the standards of living of the rural community was essential. Investment in human resources, particularly in rural women could have positive economic impact as well, Merg added.

Sowetan 17/12/93

3 GEN

# Government to foot R35,3m account

THE government had to foot a bill of R35,3 million that was owed to the Land Bank for an irrigation scheme in the Kalahari region, according to a report tabled yesterday.

The completed cost of the Kalahari East Rural Water Supply Scheme was about R70,7m, of which the government had given a two-thirds subsidy of R46,667m, the report said.

Because government funds

were restricted, the Water Board had to fund the balance with a state-guaranteed loan from the Land Bank. ③

"This unusual aid was justified on the grounds that for strategic and social reasons, it would be in the national interest to incur this expenditure so that the population and economy of this border region could be stabilised, despite the fact that the scheme could not be

justified on economic grounds," the report said.

The scheme supplied water for stock-watering to 256 farms covering 1,412 million hectares in the central-eastern Kalahari.

To finance the scheme, the Water Board was obliged to take a R19,733m Land Bank loan for construction. With accrued interest, the Land Bank loan would total R35,3m on April 1.

The report said the Water Board would be able to meet its first R5,22m instalment by November next year, but not other instalments as drought-stricken farmers could not afford the increased water rates.

Due to the drought and low meat prices, they were now only paying R16 per large stock unit (LSU). This would go up to R63 per LSU should the loan be repaid in full. — Sapa

# Study shows SA's food production set to soar

8 Times 19112193  
FOOD production in some of South Africa's best farmland could soar by more than 25 percent in years to come, according to research just published by the University of Natal.

A study into climatic change by the university's department of agricultural engineering claims massive increases of more than two tons of maize per hectare where only eight tons per hectare are now produced. Lower yield areas will also show major improvement, expanding profitable farming land well towards the west of the country, it shows.

By BRONWEN JONES

The hoped-for surge in production would come only just in time as the population of the study area (South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland) is expected to rise from its present 40-million to 90-million by 2035. (3) Gen

Said Professor Roland Schulze: "The north-eastern highveld and south of the Lesotho highveld will show the biggest improvement in yields."

All is dependent, however, on the accuracy of the statistics and computer models used.

The study admits to big gaps and does not even venture into the area of rainfall prediction. For statistical convenience, precipitation has had to remain the same but temperatures and carbon dioxide levels are assumed to rise sharply.

And, while farmers using First World techniques can expect to reap big dividends, the large number of subsistence farmers will suffer, particularly in marginal rainfall areas.

Postgraduate researcher on the project Richard Kunz said: "Fortunately, there will be fewer subsistence farmers in the future. There have to be. Unless South Africa increases food production by three percent a year, every year, by use of better irrigation and fertilisers, people will not be fed."

In addition to better technology, the Greenhouse Effect will increase the efficiency with which plants use water.

Said Mr Kunz: "We can

expect maize in the future to use only 80 percent of the water it needs now."

South Africa's areas of highest maize production are found on the eastern coast and northeastern highland plateau regions, where average annual rainfall regularly exceeds 600 millimetres a year. More marginal production areas are to the west.

Maize can be grown anywhere in South Africa where there is more than 300 millimetres of rain a year. Effectively, this means it is possible to grow maize over 70 percent of the country and, with the improved future climate, it will be possible to grow it at a profit across this area.

Better still, expansion of higher revenue crops is on the cards. Said Mr Kunz: "It is not impossible to imagine commercial farming of bananas and pecans outside Johannesburg in the future. Larger and larger areas will be available for sub-tropical crops."

Some signs of climate change are already here. Not only has there been a decade of unseasonably high temperatures, but bugs are moving into new regions. Maize farmers in Natal are suffering an infestation of grey leaf disease, linked to the higher temperatures and humidity.

Future farmers will have to spend more on herbicides, pesticides and nitrogen. Though they may have to spend R60 a hectare on nitrogen treatment, with maize fetching R350 a ton, the economics remain sound.

# Land restoration strategy criticised

B/DCM 22/12/93

DESPITE the existence of new land reforms, government officials are still implementing community development policies of the '50s and '60s, an article in the latest issue of the National Land Committee's magazine Land Update has charged.

The article, by Transvaal rural action committee member Harald Winkler, said government was "trying to turn the process of (land) restoration into an exercise in betterment planning".

Former employees of the disbanded Development Aid Department, now employed by the Regional and Land Affairs and Agriculture Departments and provincial administrations, were still trying to regulate the lives of rural communities instead of taking the communities' needs into consideration, said Winkler.

Citing two cases, at Goedgevonden and Magopa in the western Transvaal near Ventersdorp, he said government officials initially refused to consult displaced communities.

After legal action forced government to negotiate with the two com-

MARIANNE MERTEN

munities, officials insisted on implementing their ideas for development in the area. During negotiations, officials manipulated rifts within each community's leadership in order to have government development plans approved, charged Winkler.

In the case of Goedgevonden, former Development Aid Department director Gillis van de Wall and a government-picked community representative signed an agreement which made the restoration of land conditional on the adoption of a model of "white agriculture", rather than communal farming.

This meant the land was not given back to the 3 000 to 5 000-strong community, but subdivided into 21 units and sold to "progressive" black farmers who employed others as farm labourers. Only 60 families would be accommodated under the current agreement and most of those displaced in 1978 would remain in Vriscgewaagd in Bophuthatswana, the article said.



DISPOSSESSED FARMWORKERS ... One day the land will belong to them.

## focus on land

**O**RGANISED AROUND THE slogan of "Back to the Land", rural communities have made significant gains in the past few months.

The campaign started in earnest in August, when representatives from 80 rural communities converged on the World Trade Centre. They confronted negotiators with their objections to the proposed property clause in the interim constitution's Bill of Rights — chief of which was the fact that the clause would entrench current (white) property rights and effectively make it impossible for a new government to implement large-scale land restoration compensation.

In addition, the negotiators finally agreed to include in the Bill of Rights a clause guaranteeing restoration of land rights to victims of apartheid dispossession — a significant victory for South Africa's landless people.

There were other victories for rural people. Increasing organisation among rural communities has, for example, seen some success in negotiations between labour tenants and individual landowners. Tenant communities have also campaigned for recognition of their land rights.

### Difficult question

The ANC, in its land policies, has undertaken to recognise labour tenant land rights — and the World Bank's land reform proposals for SA, presented in October 1993, suggest that labour tenant land claims be part of a future restoration process.

The question of land claims remains a difficult one, however, and the Government-appointed Advisory Commission of Land Allocation (Acla) has failed to act as an effective mechanism for either land restoration or redistribution.

Since the commission's establishment in 1991, it has heard 42 cases. Of the 23 cases on which it made recommendations, 11 involved claims from removed communities. Only six of these communities who brought claims will have their land returned.

Proposals for an alternative to Acla have not been implemented, but are likely to happen once a new government is in place.

Calls for a more effective land claims mechanism — one which is able to make decisions about claims and disputes — are already starting to get wider support from, among others, agricultural unions and the World Bank's researchers in SA.

The bank's proposals — despite their market-based approach — are perhaps the most comprehensive presented so far. In terms of land restoration, they propose either an administrative tribunal or a land claims court to deal with claims.

Claims which would qualify are those resulting from removal after the 1913 Native Land Act — which would include black spot, bantustan consolidation and labour tenant removals.

The campaign to restore the land to South Africa's dispossessed is starting to bear fruit, writes **Estelle**

**Randall** in *Work in Progress*.

*Sowetan*

24/12/93

**◊ In addition, the negotiators finally agreed to include in the Bill of Rights a clause guaranteeing restoration of land rights to victims of apartheid dispossession ◊**

The bank argues that white property owners who may have been expropriated through racial land policies should be excluded from the land claim process, on the assumption that they have been adequately compensated and have had access to the political process denied to victims of apartheid. **③ GRU**

To meet land redistribution needs, the bank suggests a basic grant would be enough to pay for a major share of a rural housing site and would be available to people who meet the requirements for redistribution. The matching grant would support increased access to productive land and those wanting land would provide part of the purchase price.

The bank argues that if beneficiaries are exempted from paying for part of land redistribution and current owners and farm creditors also have to be compensated, the State will have to pay all land acquisition costs. Given large resource requirements for other social needs, redistributing land on only a grant basis would mean either drastically reducing numbers of beneficiaries or stretching out the programme over several decades.

### State land

While debate about mechanisms for land restoration and redistribution rages on, the Government continues to dispose of State land in various ways. Among these is the administrative transfer of about 1,2 million hectares of state land to bantustan governments.

These agreements include the possibilities of State land being transferred to ownership of "tribes" and parastatals in the bantustans.

The government also hastily passed nine new land laws affecting land distribution in July. The National Land Committee warned that the laws would effectively alienate large amounts of State land and land belonging to communities in favour of bantustan and tricameral authorities.

The laws would also entrench privatisation of land, and force privatisation of communal land and people without proper debate about other more creative options for secure tenure. They will also entrench complex bureaucratic processes of managing land allocations. The NLC believes these processes would be better handled at local level.

The Government has also tried to secure its place in broad rural restructuring through renaming old discredited departments, such as the Department of Development Aid — now split into the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Regional and Land Affairs.

While a lot of attention was focused on getting broad consensus on land claims, it remains unclear how and when substantial land reform will be managed in South Africa.

Issues on rural local government and rural development have also been largely neglected, in part because of the ambiguous status of bantustan governments and the weak organisation among rural people. As an interim measure, rural local government arrangements are likely to mirror those for the urban sector.

Broadly, these involves racially-based councils being replaced by non-racial transitional councils, comprised equally of people drawn from statutory bodies and non-statutory bodies, such as civics. Forums proliferated and became potential centres of decision-making around development. But, in most of these, rural issues remained peripheral. An exception was the National Consultative Forum on Drought, which, although set up to coordinate a national response to the drought, found itself having to take on broad rural development by default.

Various forums have begun to seek ways to include rural concerns. But, the challenge remains of effectively including a rural community voice, when communities are still in the initial stages of organisation. Another challenge is to streamline and rationalise the plethora of forums so that emerging community organisations can effectively engage with them.

**◊ Claims which would qualify are those resulting from removal after the 1913 Native Land Act — black spot, bantustan consolidation and labour tenant removals ◊**



## Cape Town water restrictions next month

CAPE TOWN— Water restrictions are to be applied in Cape Town and parts of the Boland in spite of a drop in consumption over the past three days. <sup>8/10/93</sup>

Cape Town city engineer Arthur Clayton said the use of garden sprinklers and hoses for cleaning cars would be restricted from January <sup>(3) 9/11 (3)</sup>

Penalties for not adhering to the restrictions would start at R40. <sup>28/12/93</sup>

Exemptions would be granted to commercial nurseries and car washes.

The restrictions were necessary because of a delay in the commissioning of the R450m Faure water treatment works, which would meet Cape Town's needs for the next six to eight years. The project is expected to be completed in February, and the city has plans to invest another R240m to meet rising demand.

Last week Clayton said warnings of a water shortage because of sizzling-hot weather and a large influx of visitors had been ignored. — Sapa-Reuter.

# Water curbs in W Cape on January 6

VIVIEN HORLER  
Staff Reporter

WATER restrictions will be in force across the Western Cape from dawn on January 6 in a bid to save 10 percent of the area's water consumption.

The only areas unaffected will be Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, whose water supplies are independent of the Cape Town City Council.

The restrictions are expected to be in force for about six weeks.

In terms of the restrictions, which will be advertised on January 6 and come into effect immediately, the use of garden sprinklers

□ Sprinkling gardens and hosing cars to be banned

will be banned, although hand-held hoses will be allowed. Cars can be washed with buckets but not with hoses.

Assistant city engineer for water John Saunders said the restrictions did not affect the filling of swimming pools at this stage, nor did they affect commercial enterprises such as garden nurseries or car wash companies.

"In summer about 35 percent of domestic consumption goes on watering gardens and this is an area in which substantial savings can be made."

Yesterday Cape Town used 1 099ml of water, just one megalitre off the 1 100 megalitre maximum.

Early today there was a burst in the water main from Voëlvlei, one of Cape Town's major dams, effectively reducing production by 25 percent, and it is almost certain the city will have to dip into its water reserves today. The pipeline is expected to be repaired by late today.

The decision to impose restrictions was taken before the water

main burst, Mr Saunders said. Soaring consumption over the summer holidays had made it likely, and it was decided to introduce the restrictions before industries returned to work, placing an additional demand on supplies.

He said the restrictions would be policed "with difficulty".

"Although water inspectors and all the council's law enforcement officers, including traffic officers and beach constables, will be going around with eagle eyes, we rely on people's co-operation.

(3) ARCT 29/12/93  
"We're really targeting those people who simply leave their sprinklers on for hours."

The problem was not a shortage of water, but of treated water, Mr Saunders said.

"We can supply a maximum of 1 100 megalitres of purified water a day, but on really hot days the demand exceeds this."

The areas affected by the restrictions are all those supplied by Cape Town, including Cape Town and the Cape Flats, Pinelands, Goodwood, Milnerton, Fish Hoek, Simon's Town, Bellville, Parow, Brackenfell, Kuils River, Paarl, Gordon's Bay, Strand, Somerset West and Wellington.

# Soaking rains begin to break country's drought

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Driving rain across the country has begun to break the drought and dams are expected to start filling up soon, says weather bureau spokeswoman Liesl Dyson.

She said the rain had begun to raise groundwater levels. This means continuing rain will no longer soak into the ground but run off into streams, helping to fill dams.

While many parts of the PWV area have received close to the average monthly rainfall, Ms Dyson said more heavy thundershowers were expected today.

Jan Smuts airport has recorded 92mm so far this month, compared with a monthly average of 106mm, while Pretoria has received 109mm compared with the average of 120mm. In Orange Grove more than 160mm has been measured since the beginning of the month.

Ms Dyson said that on a satellite picture, rain could be seen falling across much of the country east of Kimberley, in-

cluding the eastern Cape, which has been in the grip of a crippling drought.

The rain in the eastern Cape has not all been good, after hail the size of pigeons' eggs battered Dordrecht and Sterkstroom, breaking windows and smashing roofs.

Ms Dyson said the drying El Nino effect was behaving in a new way, making it hard to predict what would happen early next year.

She added that while there had been good rains in the early part of last year, El Nino usually came into effect in January and February.

But she said the current rain was coming from moist tropical air, the same air which brings rain in the early part of the year, which was a positive sign.

Storms lashing the Natal area have killed at least six people and are expected to continue for another day or two.

Five members of a family were killed and three others seriously injured when lightning struck their home in Impendhle, in the Natal Midlands.

## Northern SA will lead beef production

PRETORIA — KwaZulu/Natal, the Free State and Transvaal would be the largest beef producers in the new SA, the Meat Board said yesterday. *Sapa*

The western and northern Cape were destined to be the main producers of mutton and lamb, while Transvaal and the western Cape would dominate pork production.

The board said its latest livestock and meat statistics showed that in the third quarter of 1993 there were more beef sales — 40 290 units — in

KwaZulu/Natal than anywhere else. In the PWV region 36 963 units were sold, and in the Free State 29 046 units. *30/12/93*

The western Cape sold 213 092 units of mutton and lamb, and the northern Cape 197 102 units. The eastern Cape's sales totalled 126 952 units. *Sapa*

The PWV sold the most pork, with 36 085 units, but did not necessarily produce all the meat slaughtered and sold there. Transvaal bred the most pigs. — Sapa.

## Farmers say minister's statement 'deplorable'

**JACOBSDAL.** — The Riet River Farmers' Association has criticised Deputy Minister of Agriculture Dr Tobie Meyer for telling the media there were no irregularities in the allocation of state land in the Riet River irrigation area.

The association's executive said in a statement yesterday it was deplorable that a minister, who should be impartial, could issue a statement without consulting those who had called for the investigation.

— Sapa

③ CT 30/12/93

AGRICULTURE — GENERAL

1994

# Rain to rescue of farmers

ARG 11/14  
3

GOOD rains in the Karoo since September have brought relief to many farmers and towns in the area but more rain is needed to break the four-year drought which had brought many farmers to their knees.

Although the veld has improved tremendously in areas like Graaff Reinet, Willowmore, Aberdeen and Beaufort West, a spokesman for the Weather Bureau in Port Elizabeth said many dams were still empty as there was not much run-off from the parched veld in catchment areas.

One exception is the Gamka Dam near Beaufort West which has been overflowing since the beginning of December.

Deputy city engineer Joppie Venter said that in August the dam was more than five metres below zero level. The dam was last this empty nearly 10 years ago.

And although water was stil

■ Farmers in the Karoo have breathed a sigh of relief after rains following a four-year drought.

**WILLEM STEENKAMP**  
Weekend Argus Reporter

being pumped out of the dam to supply the town's needs, most of the water used in Beaufort West came from 17 boreholes.

At the height of the drought five months ago townfolk were restricted to only 12 kilolitres per household a day. On average a household uses about 50 kilolitres.

Many residents have their own boreholes and were able to maintain their gardens, although some trees withered and died.

It started raining in September and by the beginning of December the Gamka dam started overflowing. The veld has also improved and things are

looking up for the farming community.

But in Graaff Reinet the picture is not so rosy. Although the veld is looking green and lush after good rains, no water flowed into the Van Ryneveld Pass Dam which is still a bed of dry caked mud.

A spokesman for the municipality said the town was dependent on boreholes. It was hoped that the level of the underground water table would at least be stabilised by the early rains until the dam started filling up.

"Things are looking up, particularly for the farmers, but we need more rain. Our rainy season only ends in April and we are hopeful that we will get more rain," said the spokesman.

There has also been good downpours in the Willowmore, Aberdeen district and the Middleburg area with the Beervlei Dam near Willowmore filling up substantially.

## Late rains lead to fruitful year for farming sector

GAVIN DU VENAGE

Biday  
blitai

LATE but heavy seasonal rains led to a net income increase of 26% for the agricultural sector for the year ended September, figures supplied by the Agriculture Department in its latest economic overview show.

Despite late rains and above normal temperatures in July, August and September, agriculture's contribution to GDP rose 11,8% (3) Gen

By the end of September widespread thundershowers had provided good soaking rains over the Transvaal highveld, the Free State and Natal.

At the end of the third quarter dams in SA were nine percentage points lower than in the previous year, or at 38% (47%) of the net supply potential. Only dams in the western and eastern Cape had improved.

The department said the low level of reserves remained a concern.

Total agricultural production increased more than 4%. The department said it expected total maize production for the year to be just under 2-million tons, compared with the 1,3-million tons of 1992.

Producer prices were on average 9% higher than the previous year. Farmers also spent more on machinery, equipment and vehicles. A total of almost R1bn was spent, an increase of 6%. However farmers' debt also increased slightly to R17,2bn (R17bn).

The free-on-board value of imported agricultural products was expected to be R5,46m for 1993 (R5,4m).



# Reforms will cut farm support 20%

BIDON

14/11/94

GRETA STEYN

SA's agricultural trade reform in terms of GATT entailed a 20% cut in domestic farm support, Trade and Industry deputy director-general Gerhard Breyl said yesterday.

Subsidised exports would be sliced 38% in value and 21% in volume and all import barriers would be converted to tariffs which had to be cut 38% on average over six years.

A World Bank and OECD study said 90% of the global benefits due to trade liberalisation would come from farm trade reform, with the rest reflecting tariff cuts on industrial goods. Most countries, rich and poor, would gain on balance but some, notably the poorer net importers of food, would be worse off. The European Union's consumers would receive the most benefits.

Overall, the GATT farm deal could lead to an eventual increase of 10%-30% in world agricultural prices as it outlawed the dumping of subsidised food on world markets.

However, Breyl said the study omitted mentioning that there would be advantages for developing countries. These included regeneration of

domestic food production as imported food became too expensive, gains to services sectors (especially as a result of enhanced access to technology), and increased market access for higher value-added exports of tropical and natural resource-based products. (3) GATT

Since the inception of GATT, agriculture, with its strong cultural and political connotations, had generated a great deal of sensitivity and had become problematic in international trade negotiations.

To bring agriculture within the ambit of the world trade watchdog had been "a major feat".

Breyl noted SA's trading partners had been emphatic that it could not be classified as a developing rather than developed country.

To be reclassified as developing would mean preferential treatment in SA's export markets.

"In the circumstances, it is hardly wise to place any reliance on a reclassification. Ultimately, this country's economic future depends on its ability to grow competitive, outward-looking industries," he said.

# This land was their land

By SHADLEY NASH

A NEW body is expected to hear land claims running into millions of rands by hundreds of Port Elizabeth residents who were forced out of their homes by the Nationalist's Group Areas Act.

The claims, mainly from coloured residents removed from Fairview, South End, Korsten and Salisbury Park, are expected to be addressed by a representative forum

*Ci Press 16/11/94*  
established in the city recently *(3) Gen (20)* the goods".

The forum was launched after a high-powered meeting between the Port Elizabeth Land and Community Restoration Association (Pelcra), the Port Elizabeth municipality and city council, Cape Provincial Administration and the Department of Regional Land Affairs.

Pelcra spokesman Danny Jordaan said the central requirement was that the forum "deliver

"We are hoping the statutory bodies in the forum will come with a mandate to settle the issues."

Department of Regional Land Affairs physical planning director Robert Smith said the forum would meet in mid-February to map out frames of reference.

Pelcra has already won significant concessions from the PE city council and property developers.

08002



Hortec chairman Gerard Marais who has great hopes for the export opportunities afforded by the removal of sanctions.

Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

## Blossoming markets for SA cut flower producers

MUNGO SOGGOT

SA's cut flower producers could become major players in an expanding \$5,5bn a year international trade which is hungry for flowers from the southern hemisphere.

As northern growers stop expanding operations because of high capital and labour costs, it has become even less profitable to grow flowers during northern winters.

Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Thailand are among the developing countries SA has to compete with to feed the northern winter market, which is restricted by supply but not demand. *BIDON 17/11/94*

A group of SA engineers and growers saw the gap and formed Hortec International, which offers technical and marketing expertise to export-orientated producers.

Hortec chairman Gerard Marais believes the removal of sanctions has opened large untapped markets, particularly in the East. Marais is a shareholder in a farm, Rosia, near Vanderbijlpark, which produces miniature roses for a new niche market in the Far East. *(3) Crean*

Hong Kong, Singapore and Japan receive the bulk of Rosia's exports, but Marais says China is the market to aim for. "Miniature roses sell well in the East because consumers there like things that are small and delicate."

Rosia is a fledgling experimental project which Marais hopes to expand with the help of an IDC loan.

Marais hopes Hortec will help set up similar projects to grow both "normal" and miniature roses for export, so as to "generate foreign exchange and sustainable job opportunities".

● See Page 8

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The success of GATT efforts to scale down governmental support for surplus agricultural exports would greatly benefit SA, possibly to the extent of tens of millions of rands a year, SAAU chief economist Koos du Toit said last week.

For a large section of the SA farming industry, the playing field in the international trading environment was not only uneven but badly rutted.

However, GATT had placed strong focus on the production of greater trading discipline and diminished state involvement.

Du Toit said GATT had issued

## GATT farm proposals offer benefits

guidelines aimed at compelling participating countries to determine import tariffs for farm products. Quantitative control had become unacceptable. *BIDON*

He said large-scale state interference in international trading in agricultural products had resulted in unwieldy surpluses and a disruption of production patterns.

World prices, especially of grains, had been disrupted to an extent where developing countries had barely been able to export. The biggest culprits were the major powers. *(3) Grey*

The level of support given to agriculture in countries such as the US; EC and Japan had become too costly for them.

A reliable analysis showed about 50% of the value of production in the EC resulted from state involvement. In Japan it amounted to 70% compared with an estimated 10% in SA. *17 1194*

GATT had directed that state involvement, including export incentives, should be scaled down.

The Agriculture Department, with assistance from branches of industry, had evaluated agricul-

ture in accordance with the directive and a proposal was submitted to GATT late last year.

The proposal was discussed with other participants including the US, Australia, Canada, and the EC. Feedback indicated it had been generally accepted, except for certain technical adjustments.

While the underlying principle of the entire project had been to determine the international rules for the game of trade in farm products, SA could not distance itself from the process, Du Toit said.

# Foodcorp shares fall after CE is shot dead

5/Day 18/1/94  
Mervyn Harris

FOODCORP shares fell 2,6% or 100c to R37 on the JSE yesterday on news of the death of group CE Dirk Jacobs in a shooting incident during an armed robbery at his home in Parktown North, Johannesburg, on Sunday night.

Jacobs, 53, was highly regarded in the food industry and was a key player in the link-up of Foodcorp with US food giant Pillsbury. But sources in the group said his death should have no effect on the deal.

Speaking from London, where he is on business, Malbak and Foodcorp chairman Grant Thomas said Jacobs had been a talented and charismatic business leader whose death was a tragic loss not only for his family and the Malbak group, but for SA.

It is understood no decision has been taken on a successor and that

Thomas will assume control of Foodcorp until the next board meeting.

Jacobs's involvement with the food industry began in 1983 when Barlows appointed him head of the Allied Foods division after acquiring Tiger Oats. He achieved a substantial performance turnaround in the first year of reorganisation.

He joined Gencor as CE in the industrial division in 1985 and moved to Malbak the following year when it was made a vehicle for Gencor's industrial interests.

In 1987 he was appointed executive chairman of Kanhym and swiftly transformed it from a company close to collapse into a successful marketer of value-added products.

Jacobs convinced Sankorp to sell Fedfood to Malbak and in 1991 Kan-

hym and Fedfood were merged to form one of the three biggest food companies on the JSE.

Born in Springs, Jacobs, who was also an executive director of Malbak, was educated at the Hoër Volksskool in Potchefstroom, Pretoria University and Unisa.

Sapa reports robbers shot Jacobs and left him and his family tied up in their home.

Police spokesman Lt Deon Peens said five gunmen had overpowered his daughter, Heloise Jacobs, 20, as she arrived home at 9pm.

They forced her into the house, where they held up Jacobs and his wife, Beatrice, before ransacking the home and taking two firearms, Kruggerrands and jewellery.

They shot Jacobs once in the chest and tied up the family before fleeing.

## CAPE



Picture: HANNES THIART, The Argus.

**BIG YIELD:** Wynand Fourie shows off the results of his new farming technique.

# New idea is a growth industry

GLYNIS CROOK  
Staff Reporter

A FARMER always makes a plan — even when he isn't one by profession.

On a recent trip to England, businessman Wynand Fourie saw examples of sub-hydroponic agriculture which he believes could revolutionise vegetable farming methods in South Africa and, at the same time, create thousands of jobs for the unemployed.

When he returned to South Africa, he started an experimental farm on a hectare of ground in Tyger Valley and used these methods.

Sub-hydroponic farming is widely used, even on a commercial scale, in Holland, Israel and England, but Mr Fourie says his three-month-old experiment is the first of its kind in South Africa.

Vegetables are planted in a special soil mixture in plastic bags which can be placed on waste ground or even on con-

crete. It is labour-intensive because everything connected with this farming has to be done manually and there is no need for tractors and other machinery. Water is supplied either by a drip system or overhead sprinklers.

The growing mixture comprises manure and soil rich in chalk, which is good for vegetables. The soil is replaced after every three harvests.

Mr Fourie said: "This farming method is used intensively in Europe and not only for vegetables — I've seen it used for flowers in Holland."

Mr Fourie said his experiments had shown that excellent results could be achieved locally with vegetables.

"We have harvested good-quality beans, lettuce and cabbage so far."

One of the advantages of this method was that less water was needed because the bags helped retain more moisture in the soil mixture.

ARC 21/1/94 (3)  
"We don't have a weed problem either because the plants are isolated in their bags. And, we don't need chemical fertilisers as the soil mixture has a lot of manure."

He said studies in Israel had shown that one hectare of ground could support six people using this farming method.

Mr Fourie has a vegetable processing factory in Bellville where the produce from Lawy farm is sold.

He said his major aim was to create jobs and, so far, he had employed 56 people and hoped to train more.

He paid workers about R130 a week while training them on the farm. Two men now were able to go out on their own and he had found land for them to begin their own farm in Durbanville.

"They can sell their vegetables to me and I am always there to offer them advice."

He said commercial farmers had been positive about his plans and had offered help.

# Unpaid workers vow to take revenge

By RYAN CRESSWELL

ANGRY workers have vowed to take revenge on a bank which lent money to their former employer who, they allege, owes them two months' pay.

Former employees of Thornville Abattoir and community members from the township of Hopewell in the Natal Midlands will gather on the property today to vote whether people should move in to the site to set up a squatter camp.

The community is holding Boland Bank, holder of a mortgage bond on the property, responsible for pay they claim is owed to 25 former employees.

They allege the bank allowed abattoir employees to work on the bank-owned property, knowing there was "something suspicious" about the

farm manager, known as Anton White in Thornville, but as Anton Buchan or Anton Bakker in other places. 23/1/94

Mr White allegedly did not pay his staff for two months and was arrested on a fraud charge in November.

A spokesman for Boland Bank said the institution was aware of the workers' allegation that it should have "prevented" Mr White from hiring them and leading them to believe they would be paid, but that Boland Bank had no knowledge of their employment contracts or the terms.

The former assistant manager of

the abattoir, Mr John Nortje, has become a spokesman for the employees and the community.

Mr Nortje claimed he had been told by a senior employee of the bank that it was aware Mr White was operating under a false name and had a false passport, but he had offered to buy the abattoir and was erecting buildings on it, so they took no action.

"Perhaps in a strict legal sense the bank does not owe the staff anything, but in a moral sense it certainly does," said Mr Nortje.

Mr Freddie Mkhize, co-ordinator for the Natal Regional Land Committee, said if the vote was in favour of a land invasion, people would start "putting up homes and ploughing".

# New proposal to encourage black farmers

B/Day 25/1/94

③

PRETORIA — A new national agricultural marketing policy to deregulate the sector and encourage black farmers while adhering to GATT guidelines, was proposed yesterday.

The policy, in the form of guidelines and objectives, was presented to Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk by the agricultural policy evaluating committee, which was appointed by government a year ago.

The committee — made up of representatives from the AHL, Sacob, Nafcoc, consumer bodies, organised agriculture, control boards and government — said one umbrella marketing policy should be set up to cater for the needs of the commercial and developing agricultural sectors.

With the Uruguay Round of GATT completed successfully, SA was required to move towards tariff protection policies, the report said. The quota and permit system of quantitative import protection was administratively time-consuming, ineffective and "largely in contravention of the rules of GATT".

The establishment of a price band as a basis for fixing tariffs was proposed. "This technique will expose the local market to international prices, but will limit the negative effects of large fluctuations on international markets."

Agricultural marketing should also be subject to minimum government intervention, the committee advised.

However, all schemes currently operated or planned by agricultural control boards would be frequently reviewed and audited, while sufficient support for statutory measures had to be given by producers and other affected parties.

Single channel marketing systems could

ADRIAN HADLAND

be acceptable in certain circumstances, such as for "global players", but there were strong objections to producer dominated bodies fixing prices. As the current single channel system worked against the principles of comparative and competitive advantages, it should be phased out.

Applying tariffs in compliance with GATT meant it would be impossible for control boards to act as the sole importers of products. "Imported products should be allowed to move freely," the report said.

Past agricultural policies, which were aimed at achieving a reasonable level of self-sufficiency in food supplies, needed to be reviewed and expanded in the broader context of a food security policy.

A balance had to be found between the need to maintain reasonable price levels and affordability of food.

An agricultural marketing policy should be consistent with national economic policy and the use of comparative and competitive advantages should be fostered.

"Price differentials and costs relating to market factors should be devolved to the functionaries where they originate."

This implied the pooling of income and costs should be limited, "preferably avoided and constantly scrutinised" while cross-subsidisation between products and regions was highly undesirable.

The committee proposed the restructuring of the national marketing council to include members representing consumers, developing agriculture, commerce and industry, as well as producers and the state. "This ought to ensure a balanced view

To Page 2

## Farm policy

B/Day 25/1/94

From Page 1

representing the public interest" would be addressed at regional levels.

Agriculture Department spokesman Frans Loots said hundreds of thousands of subsistence and marginal farmers made up the developing agriculture sector.

While responsible for only 10% of marketable agricultural produce, this sector created considerable levels of employment and non-marketable produce.

A 1992 committee of inquiry into the Marketing Act found that fair and equal access for all producers was "thwarted by discriminatory legislation with a bias in favour of large-scale farming".

In the new policy, obstacles hindering smaller farmers' entry into commercial agriculture — such as lack of infrastructure, training and the transfer of techno-

logy — would be addressed at regional levels. "Imbalances between commercial and developing agricultural needs should be addressed by direct development support and use should be made of the infrastructure and know-how available to commercial agriculture in supporting developing agriculture," the report said.

A single agricultural marketing policy serving and granting access to both commercial and developing agriculture was essential, while the deregulation of agricultural marketing should form part of an integrated economic liberalisation programme for the whole economy.

Interested parties have been given until February 25 to comment on the policy.



# Marketing policy for farmers mooted

③ CT 25/1/94

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. — A new national agricultural marketing policy aimed at deregulating the sector, encouraging black farmers and adhering to GATT guidelines was proposed yesterday.

The policy, in the form of guidelines and objectives, was presented to Agriculture Minister Dr Kraai van Niekirk by the agricultural policy evaluating committee.

The committee, which was appointed by the government a year ago and consists of representatives from organised agriculture, consumer bodies, agricultural control boards and the government, said one umbrella marketing policy should be established that would cater for the needs of both the commercial and developing agricultural sectors.

Agricultural marketing should also

be subject to minimum government intervention, the committee advised.

Agriculture Department spokesman Mr Frans Loots said hundreds of thousands of subsistence farmers constituted the developing agriculture sector and in the new policy, impediments to the entrance of these farmers into commercial agriculture should be addressed.

A single agricultural marketing

policy which would serve and grant access to both commercial and developing agriculture was essential and the deregulation of agricultural marketing should form part of an integrated economic liberalisation programme for the whole economy, the committee's report suggested.

Interested parties have been given until February 25 to forward comments on the new policy.

# Monthly update on major dams

BY SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Today's update on dam levels throughout the country will become a regular monthly feature in The Star, focusing on some of the more significant reservoirs from the 139 which are regularly surveyed by the Water Affairs Department.

Dams in the Vaal River system include the Vaal Dam — the PWV's major supplier which rose from 31 percent last week to 32 on Monday; Sterkfontein, which is still on 68 percent and is used as a back-up to the Vaal when its level nears 15 percent; the Bloemhof (1 percent up this week) and the Grootdraai (up from 91 to 95 percent in a week) which will spill over to the Vaal when it is full.

## Same level

The levels of most eastern Transvaal dams remain the same as last week, ranging from Loskop (on 45 percent), which is mainly used for irrigation; Fanie Botha (a critical 1 percent), a major irrigation source for the Tzaneen area; and Witbank Dam (up from 74 to 75 percent), which is a popular watersport venue and supplier of drinking water to Witbank.

**REPORTS on dam levels are to be included in The Star from this month, with emphasis placed on the more important dams**

Western Transvaal dams include the Hans Strijdom (up from 45 percent last week to 46); the Hartbeespoort (45 to 46 percent full); the Roodeplaat, which is still 100 percent full and soon to come on stream as a supplier for residents in the Magalies region; and the Vaalkop (up from 8 to 9 percent), which supplies industry and irrigation needs in the vicinity of Northam, north of Rustenburg.

The Upper Orange River area includes the country's two biggest dams, the Hendrik Verwoerd (up from 60 to 64 percent); the P K le Roux (constant at 32 percent); and Kalkfontein (still 31 percent), which supplies irrigation water to Jacobsdal and the Rietfontein River valley.

The western Cape, where dams in the winter rainfall re-

gion are dropping, includes Theewaterskloof (down from 81 to 80 percent) and Voelvlei (down from 67 to 66 percent), two of Cape Town's main drinking water suppliers; and Brandvlei (down from 47 to 46), which caters for Worcester.

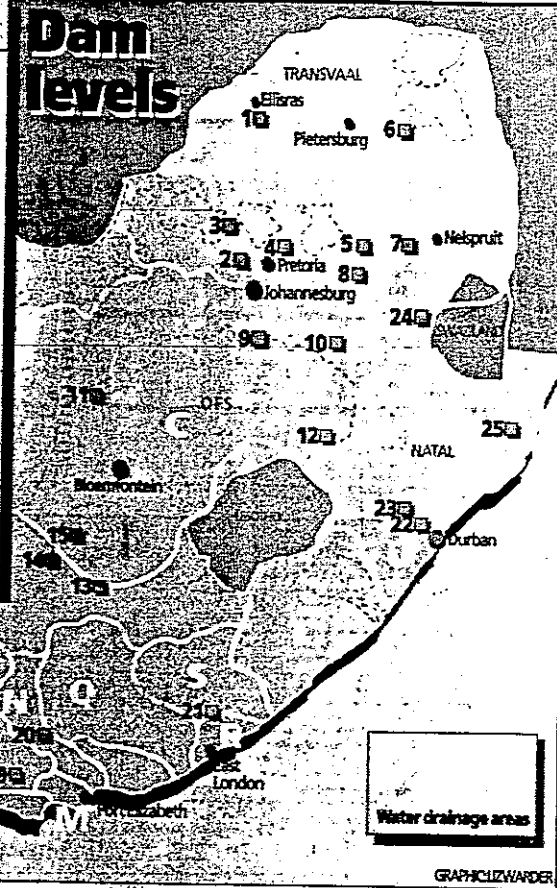
Eastern Cape includes Paul Sauer (down from 96 percent last week to 95 this week), which caters for Patensie, the Gamtoos Valley and Port Elizabeth; Lake Mentz (up from 38 to 46 percent in one week), an irrigation supplier for the Lower Sundays River area; and Wiggleswade (up from 34 to 37 percent by Monday), which supplies King William's Town and East London.

## Irrigation

Natal includes watersport venue Midmar (up from 86 to 93 percent) and Albert Falls (up from 23 to 25 percent thanks to recent rains), both drinking water suppliers for Durban, Cato Ridge and Maritzburg; Pongolapoort (up from 42 to 43 percent), an irrigation supplier for the Makatini Flats in the north; and the relatively small but significant Hluhluwe (constant at 100 percent) which supplies irrigation water to Zululand.

*Star 27/1/94*

Major dams	Capacity (Million cubic metres)	% full	% full 24/1/94
1. Hans Strijdom	146	53%	46%
2. Hartbeespoort	184	33%	46%
3. Vaalkop	553	23%	9%
4. Roodeplaat	41,2	88%	100%
5. Loskop	348	24%	45%
6. Fanie Botha	157	8%	1%
7. Braam Raubenheimer	161	12%	21%
8. Witbank	104	49%	75%
9. Vaal	2529	16%	32%
10. Grootdraai	356	54%	95%
11. Bloemhof	1269	22%	19%
12. Sterkfontein	2617	90%	68%
13. Hendrik Verwoerd	5670	20%	64%
14. P K Le Roux	3173	38%	32%
15. Kalkfontein	320	53%	31%
16. Theewaterskloof	480	70%	80%
17. Voelvlei	164	84%	66%
18. Brandvlei	289	58%	46%
19. Paul Sauer	128	81%	95%
20. Lake Mentz	187	20%	46%
21. Wiggleswade	92	12%	37%
22. Midmar	178	59%	93%
23. Albert Falls	290	42%	25%
24. Pongolapoort	2446	29%	43%
25. Hluhluwe	28,8	64%	100%+



The level of South Africa's main dams on January 24.

ARG 27/11/94

## UN focus on SA's food needs

ROBIN DREW  
Argus Africa  
News Service

HARARE — The World Food Programme, a United Nations agency, is assessing the situation in South Africa, which is now a member state.

The executive director of the WFP, Catherine Bertini, said South Africa could become both a donor and recipient, depending on the results of research being undertaken about the need in poorer parts of the country. By the end of the year it should be clear what action was needed.

Ms Bertini also announced a new emergency operation to supply food to 2.1 million people affected by war and drought in Angola. From February to July this year 167 000 tons of food will be shipped to Angola.

Ms Bertini, an American, is presiding at a meeting of the WFP being held in Harare.

Last year the WFP delivered four million tons of food, most of it to victims of conflict.

In addition to emergency food aid programmes, the WFP is involved in 1 600 development projects.

Ms Bertini said a major success story was the role played by the WFP in moving food to and through Southern Africa during the worst drought in memory in the season before last.

The WFP charters ships, aircraft, barges and lorries to get food to the hungry.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING  
Fm 28 1194  
**Step in the right direction**

Though the new National Marketing Council proposed this week by the Agricultural Marketing Policy Evaluation Committee goes a long way towards giving consumers and black farmers a say in agricultural policy, it still relies heavily on the old heavy-handed control systems.

The current six-man marketing council has no consumer representatives and has been seen as an extension of the producer-dominated control boards. The recommendation for the reconstituted council is three representatives each from consumer groups, commercial and developing farmers and trade and industry. (3) Gen

Fm 28 1194  
The 29-member evaluation committee, led by current marketing council chairman Gerhard Basson and comprising groups from across the spectrum of agricultural interest groups, was appointed early last year by Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk in response to the free market reforms proposed last January by the Kassier committee, which was also appointed by Van Niekerk (*Business* December 10).

Basson's committee's 70-page interim report will now be discussed with the agricultural boards and industries. The deadline for written submissions is February 25 and a final report is expected in April.

Critics, however, are not satisfied with the committee's acceptance of so many old policies that were denigrated by Kassier. The report rationalises (in certain circumstances) the ongoing existence of single-channel and floor price schemes, control boards, producer levies and even levies to support bodies such as the SA Agricultural Union. (3) Gen

And instead of eliminating statutory marketing intervention, the report suggests that intervention should be governed by strict guidelines, subjected to the test of public interest and reasonable necessity and "confined to essential actions that are largely aimed at addressing shortcomings in the ser-

Fm 28 1194  
vice structure, market environment and market mechanism." In other words, a board will intervene when it thinks the market isn't working. (3) Gen

Pretoria University agricultural economist Jan Groenewald says he has a basic problem with a committee consisting of representatives of the very industries and bodies that must be reformed. "Can one really expect them to vote themselves out of their jobs?"

The Consumer Council's Daan Kruger says that while the interim report is a well-reasoned, sober report that indicates a further movement towards greater market freedom, its recommendations are still rather broad. "Two major farming sectors, sugar and wine, seem to be excluded from its focus and need to be brought under scrutiny. Furthermore, while its focus is market-driven, the committee should also investigate the impact of future marketing arrangements on agro-industries. After all, the end consumer does not buy directly from the farmer."

The report also recommends that:

- "Highly undesirable" cross-subsidisation and price-pooling systems should be avoided;
- Freedom of association and of economic activity, in line with the new Bill of Rights, should be applied in agriculture;
- The National Marketing Council should be the referee and arbiter of changes to marketing schemes and its decisions should be made within the parameters of what is "reasonably necessary and in the public interest;"
- The Minister's political powers to override Marketing Council recommendations should be curbed;
- The Board on Tariffs & Trade should liaise closely with the Department of Agriculture in tariff policy decisions; and
- Tariff policy should be "transparent, easy to administer, non-discriminatory, effective, adequate while not disrupting normal trade and in compliance with Gatt."

While the principles seem sound, the real work obviously lies ahead. ■

# Fewer jobs on farms, but wage bills go up

B Day

31/2/94

MUNGO SOGGOT

THE agriculture sector was employing fewer people but spending more on cash wages, according to the Central Statistical Service's 1992 agricultural survey, released yesterday.

In 1992, the sector employed 6,4% fewer regular employees and 4,6% fewer casual workers than the previous year. However, total annual cash wages went up 16,6% and 20,2% for regular employees and casual workers respectively.

Farmworkers Research and Resource Project director Simon Norfolk said these statistics were "hiding a more a complex picture". He said the fall in agricultural employment was not surprising because of the drought. But the cash wage increases had to be seen in the context of what had happened to wages in kind — such as food — over the same period.

The survey said payments in kind had increased in 1992 by R30m for regular workers and R4m for casual workers from the 1991 amounts of R615m and R31m respectively.

But Norfolk said his organisation's research in the western Transvaal last year showed that in addition to a fall in employment, farm workers were often receiving neither wages in

kind nor annual bonuses.

He said the survey included agriculture's more profitable sectors — such as fruit farming, which had export markets — which helped explain the contradiction between his organisation's findings in the western Transvaal and national statistics.

Norfolk added that rough calculations — using the survey figures — showed the average cash wages of regular farm workers in 1992 was R256 a month, compared with R227 in 1991. During 1992 the average inflation rate was 13,9% which meant there was no average cash wage rise in real terms.

Furthermore, a study on wages as a percentage of total operating costs in the maize industry showed that cash wages never exceeded 15% of farmers' operating costs. Norfolk said this figure was as low as 8,01% in the western Transvaal.

The survey also said gross farming income had risen 7,8% during the same period. Current expenditure was up 10,9% and capital expenditure 6,3%. There was also a 1,4% increase in farming debt during 1992.

## Meeting on property

③  
④  
12/4/2/94  
Political Staff

A NATIONAL congress of rural and landless people will meet next week to demand the scrapping of the property rights clause in the constitution, the Surplus People's Project (SPP) said yesterday.

It would also demand equality of access to land by men and women, as well as secure and independent housing for farmworkers, the Cape Town-based SPP said.

The property rights clause of the transitional constitution, although approved by the Multi-Party Negotiation Council and Parliament, has been criticised by some groups on the grounds that it entrenches existing land ownership patterns.

# Call to press new govt to entrench land rights

GAVIN DU VENAGE

White farmers were throwing out workers before the elections "because they fear these people are going to be given land rights by the new government and have to take precautions by evicting people in advance".

He said three weeks ago in the eastern Transvaal, a 17-year-old youth had been hacked to death by farmers for refusing to leave land he occupied. Other workers had disappeared and police had done nothing, he claimed.

Ditlhake said some white farmers were willing to negotiate and were being told: "We don't want to kick you out, but we want to share the resources."

But he added that restitution had to include productive land and the provision of services to enable them to work the land.

Officials said the committee had invited political parties contesting the elections to send representatives to hear the demands of the country's rural and landless people.

Asked whether they were putting pressure on the ANC, Lydia Kompe of the Transvaal Rural Action Committee said: "We want to put our demands straight to any political party that will be in power...."

"The rural people need their demands to be met, and first and foremost they need their land back. This is not negotiable."

PRESSURE would have to be exerted on a future government to ensure land rights, and particularly the right to restitution for dispossessed communities, national land committee officials said yesterday.

Speaking at a briefing ahead of this weekend's rural conference in Bloemfontein, they said rural communities, who represent about half of SA's voting population, had been largely ignored during negotiations.

Committee official Brendan Pearce said the clauses in the interim constitution granted only dispossessed communities the right to claim their land through the courts. It did not guarantee the right to restitution.

Rural dispossessed had therefore the same rights as any other claimant using the civil courts — an important distinction that had to be redressed, he said.

Committee official Abie Ditlhake said growing right-wing resistance was expected as changes in rural policy gained momentum. The mass evictions of tenant labourers and the refusal to allow voter education were early indications of resistance that could be expected.

Reuter reports Ditlhake said a key demand ahead of April's elections was an end to intimidation and farm evictions.

"In the past 18 months or so, we have discovered massive evictions taking place from farmers' fears of land reform," he said.



The Land Reform Commission's Lydia Kompe tells a Johannesburg news briefing about the land reform rally planned in Bloemfontein this weekend. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

## SA, Namibia adopt anti-crime measures

WINDHOEK — The Justice Ministers of SA and Namibia agreed yesterday to adopt measures to diminish the profitability of crime, including the enforcement of one another's confiscation orders.

After meeting in Walvis Bay, Kobie Coetsee and Ngarikutuke Tjiriange expressed common concern on the illegal

traffic of drugs, arms and prohibited animal products.

Coetsee also met Namibian Defence Minister Peter Mueshihange and they agreed on the phasing in of a Namibian military presence in the enclave, which falls under Windhoek rule in less than three weeks. — Sapa.

# Landless to raise voices

Star 9/21/94

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Tens of thousands of rural and landless people are expected to tell politicians to sit up and take note of them when they endorse a charter of rural demands at a mass rally in Bloemfontein this weekend.

The National Land Committee (NLC) predicts that the event will "spark the beginning of a rural people's movement".

The rally will be preceded by a conference on Saturday at which 400

delegates from rural communities will hammer out the content of the charter.

"The Community Land Conference is the largest national meeting of rural and landless people to date, involving five times as many communities as have been involved in previous meetings," said Lydia Kompe of the NLC-affiliated Transvaal Rural Action Committee.

She added that high-profile political figures would attend the rally, including the ANC's elections chief Terror Lekota;

Pandelani Nefolovhodwe of the Azanian People's Organisation; and Eric Buiten, chief director of land restoration in the Department of Regional and Land Affairs, who would represent the National Party.

The demands will be aimed at the first democratic government, at institutions like the World Bank and the Transitional Executive Council, which will be urged to "end farmworker evictions and scrap the property and (land) restitution

clauses of the Interim Bill of Rights".

The NLC is confident that the Seiso Ramabodu Stadium in Mangaung will be packed.

According to Abie Dittlake of the Farmworkers Research and Resource Project, regional meetings held in preparation for the national conference indicated that "the most significant demands concern 'more land'."

Fierce debate is expected about women's demands that polygamy be abolished.



# Farms to be no-go areas — OFS union

Star 10/2/94

③ GRU

■ BY KAIZER NYATSUMBA  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The Free State Agricultural Union has pledged to allow farm workers to vote for parties of their choice in the April election, but said farms would remain no-go areas for all political parties.

In a statement yesterday, Free State Agricultural Union president Dr Piet Gouws said although his union would adopt "a neutral approach" when it came to farm workers' voting preferences and allowing off-duty workers to attend political meetings in public areas, it nevertheless had serious problems with political activity on farms.

There were three main prob-

lems, chiefly the difficulty to distinguish between bona fide party recruiters and criminals as well as inter-party conflict.

Gouws said it had to be remembered that there were numerous attacks on farmers in the Free State last year, and some of the attackers had even posed as policemen.

Farmers, alone on their farms "miles away from the comfort of neighbours or a police station", were therefore worried about their safety.

Inter-organisational rivalry would also be a problem and could result in open conflict.

Farmers did not want and could not afford to have their farms become battlefields of op-

posing political parties.

"Until the ANC and others have shown a willingness and an ability to control their supporters — which they have not been able to do so far — OFS farms are out," Gouws said.

Another problem, he said, was that supporters of some "white-controlled" parties allowed only branches of their parties on their farms. This, he said, created "an unbearable situation which is not only immoral but puts farmers as a group directly in the firing line of big party conflicts, threats, abuse and even strong-arm tactics where the innocent farmers will suffer".

(Report by K Nyatsumba, 47 Sauer St, Jhb)

# Bid to regain land fails

AN ELDERLY Natal man, evicted from his ancestral home under "black spot" laws, has lost a Supreme Court battle to have his land returned.

In 1977, Andries Radebe and about 3 000 other people from Cremin near Ladysmith moved to Esakheni after the government expropriated their land.

Last year, he brought an application in the Maritzburg Supreme Court for his land to be returned to him. He argued that he had never accepted the legality of the expropriation.

He had also not understood the significance of accepting government compensation for his land and property. Mr Radebe told the court he had never accepted Esakheni as his home and never lost his longing to return to Cremin.

In an unusual approach, Mr Radebe argued that the officials who carried out the removals, expropriation and other associated functions, had not done so properly under the laws of the time.

They had ignored or neglected a number of im-

By CARMEL RICKARD

portant technicalities, thus making the expropriation invalid.

He said he was too confused and frightened to have done anything earlier about challenging the legality of the state action, although he had consulted

an attorney some years ago who advised him the expropriation had been legally carried out.

Because of government action in expropriating his land, he was too poor to seek further legal advice.

In his judgment this week, Mr Justice Booysen said Mr Radebe should have brought his challenge

13/2/94  
STIMED  
years ago instead of waiting 17 years to contest the expropriation of his land. The judge found this a "grossly unreasonable" delay which the court was not prepared to condone.

The judge said if he allowed the application it would gravely prejudice the present owner of the land and the other respondents in the case: several key players had died in the intervening years, while important files had been lost or destroyed.

Lawyers from Durban's Legal Resources Centre who acted for Mr Radebe said they would study the judgment before deciding whether to take the matter to the new land court or the Appellate Division.

## Rural communities table land demands

B/D  
MARIANNE MERTEN 4/2/94

BLOEMFONTEIN — Rural communities would occupy vacant and state-owned land if their demands regarding land rights and restoration were not met.

Almost 800 representatives from more than 3 000 rural communities countrywide met at the Community Land Conference in Bloemfontein at the weekend to draft a national demands list. (3) Gen

In a media briefing afterwards, Back To The Land co-ordination committee chairman Freddie Bosman said occupation of vacant land would happen regardless of what government was in place.

"Our people want their land back right now. They would go back tomorrow," he said.

The conference decided to send a list of nine key resolutions to government and the ANC. It also called on the TEC to deal with land issues.

The nine resolutions broadly dealt with fundamental land needs, land restoration, rights of tenants and farm workers, women, local government, housing, development, political rights and future action on land issues.

BEATRIX PAYNE reports that National Land Committee land rights co-ordinator Brendan Pearce said while these demands were contrary to World Bank land reform proposals, delegates would press government to provide services and finance.

"Land reform would be expensive and there are limitations as to what the state can spend," he said.

White farmers would be compensated if their land was reclaimed, but not at market value.

Pearce said private business could play a role in land reform, particularly through the land tax which would make a large contribution to land reform funding.

Farm union  
stops talks  
with Slovo

PIETERSBURG — The Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) has withdrawn from personal discussions with South African Communist Party chairman Mr Joe Slovo on the union's decision to ban political parties from farms.

TAU president Mr Dries Bruwer said Mr Slovo was conducting "calculated political delaying tactics" as he had already postponed discussions with the TAU four times. The SACP was deliberately avoiding the issue in order to gain maximum local and foreign publicity.

This put farmers in an unfavourable light. — Sapa

# Vacant land threat

By Mpikeleni Duma

Sowetan

14/2/96

THE National Land Commission decided at a community land conference held in Bloemfontein at the weekend to occupy vacant land should the Government ignore their demands.

A spokesman for the NLC, Mr Philemon Tsese, told *Sowetan* that a memorandum would be sent to the African National Congress and the Government to ensure that their demands were met before the elections. He said the conference would also send a memorandum to the Transitional Executive Council to request a formal meeting.

He said: "The demands will be aimed at the first democratic government, which will be urged to end eviction of farm workers and scrap the property and land restitution clauses of the interim Bill of Rights."

He said the Independent Electoral Board, National Peace Accord and the international observers would be called upon to ensure that voter education should be conducted in rural areas and farms.

## ANC flags and brochures

About 400 delegates attended the conference which was followed by a rally yesterday.

Representatives from various political organisations attended the rally.

Rebecca Malope, Pure Magic, Winnie Kumalo and Mzwakhe Mbuli entertained delegates at the Seisa Ramabodu Stadium despite the rainy weather.

ANC flags and brochures were waved at the rally despite denials by the NLC that this event was not part of the ANC's elections campaign.

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# Sexes battle at land talks

③ CT 14/2/94

BLOEMFONTEIN. — A "battle of the sexes" broke out at the Community Land Conference held in the City Hall here on Saturday.

An orderly gathering of nearly 700 delegates representing 353 rural communities became riotous when the subject of marital relations came up during land reformation talks.

Delegates had been wrestling all day to draw up a list of demands on behalf of landless rural people.

The delegates were sharply divided on a demand for polygamy to be abolished, with all women voting in favour. One middle-aged Zulu woman said:

"We will reconsider if it can be explained how one man can have so many loves."

A demand that married women no longer be inherited by their brothers-in-law when their husbands died was not adopted.

Mr Mike Nabe, a Zulu, said that if the demand were to be adopted the matter of 12 to 15 cattle the husband had paid for his wife would have to be addressed.

"What would happen to the cattle?" he asked.

The conference was attended by delegates from the NP, DP, ANC, IFP, PAC and Azapo. — Sapa

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# Mogopa ruins still blot the landscape

Star 14/2/94

3, Gen

The passing of a decade since its people's forced removal has not erased the scars on the face of Mogopa. Dark stone ruins still pock the gentle green landscape.

"This was my house," says Joseph Kgatitsoe, as he indicates a rectangle of black rubble framing a patch of grass and weeds.

Nearby is the weathered tin shack where Kgatitsoe has lived since he returned to the Ventersdorp district farm of Mogopa — initially unlawfully — several years ago. The Government formally restored a portion of the land to the community in 1992.

"Rebuild my home? With what?" asks Kgatitsoe. He is deeply respected in the community — chairman of the Mogopa Interim Committee and counted among the community's leaders for 14 years — but he is broke, after a decade without a single harvest.

The people of Mogopa are very conscious of the losses which have not been made good. They are particularly bitter that the Government returned only one of their two farms, and has retained Hartebeeslaagte which comprised most of Mogopa's arable land.

For a couple of months the Government has been sitting on the recommendation of the Commission on Land Allocation on the future ownership of Hartebeeslaagte, and the delay has only heightened fears that the finding will be unpopular.

But, hand-in-hand with this sense of grievance is an unmistakable pride in the community. The 350-odd families who have returned are well aware that they won back their land not as a general by-product of the collapse of apartheid, but through their own struggle.

Pule Mohutsiwa, a development worker in the field of educare, was a schoolboy when officials and police invaded Mogopa under cover

**TEN years after the forced removal of the people of Mogopa, the question of land rights remains along with the scars, reports Jo-Anne Collinge**

of dark on February 14 1984. He remembers that he tried to "lock the house with my body" to keep the removal squad out.

Anyone who has heard the name Mogopa knows that it took less than a week for the majority to rally and to mount an unremitting fight for their land.

First they refused to remain at the resettlement area of Pachsdraai, near Groot Marico. They trekked en masse to Bethanie and Barseba, areas of Bophuthatswana from which their tribe originated.

After nearly four desolate years, armed with an Appeal Court finding that their removal had been unlawful, they mobilised to march back to Mogopa. The then Minister of Development Aid, Gerrit Viljoen, sensed a bloody showdown and offered temporary accommodation at Onderstepoort, near Sun City.

Mogopa's people then trekked to Onderstepoort. But 15 months later, land adequate to replace their lost farms failed to materialise. And, stealthily, they began to return to Mogopa in early 1989 under the guise of visiting their ancestors' graves.

When the Government turned to the courts to oust them, the Acting Chief Justice directed the parties to find a solution out of court. The result was the official return of half of Mogopa to those who had fought so hard for it.

The Government halved the land settlement on the grounds that only a portion of the community

had reoccupied Mogopa and that others, who had left Mogopa either willingly or by coercion before Valentine's Day in 1984, were still living on Government-supplied land at Pachsdraai.

A Mogopa Development Forum, comprising community members and representatives of institutions involved in upgrading Mogopa, has been created.

Women fill half the positions on the Mogopa Interim Committee. Ruth Boikanyo is one of them. She reflects that development has run an uneven course in the little village. With Independent Development Trust funding, they now have piped water and taps in the streets. The school, which was smashed and rebuilt and smashed a second time in the course of the removal struggle, has been replaced.

Probably the most conflict-laden question in post-restoration Mogopa is that of land rights.

After the removal, the old differentiation between title-holders and tenants became blurred. The view developed that tenants who lacked inheritance rights to land could win them by the loyalty and courage they displayed in fighting to regain the land.

While some residents are keen to see extended land rights written into the new constitution of the community association, others are vehemently opposed to this. Some of the old title-holders seem to have seen the return to Mogopa as an opportunity to increase their land holdings.

The dramatic rupture between those who consented to removal a decade ago and those who resisted was, thus, only the most visible of the conflicts born of removal. The original community has been whittled away by the initial uprooting and by subsequent moves. It is leaner — and, in its attitude to the Government, certainly meaner — than before.

# Land meeting 'ANC-aligned'

MARIANNE MERTEN

THE community land conference held in Bloemfontein over the weekend was yesterday slated by the NP and the Free State Agricultural Union as being ANC-aligned.

Sapa reports that Free State Agricultural Union president Pieter Gous said "the masses were being deliberately incited to make land demands which would give the new government the excuse for large-scale redistribution of land".

Gous said Sunday's rally confirmed the union's belief that what had been built by generations of "Western civilisation and brainpower" would be seized.

Farmers in SA had to stand together and actively resist the transitional constitution, he said.

An NP statement said the conference demand for one farm for every farmer was in line with the socialist ideology which had destroyed agriculture in the socialist eastern bloc and African countries.

A National Land Commission spokesman rejected the allegations as "electioneering tricks to dismiss the serious demands that came from the rural communities".

She said the commission, as an independent organiser, could not prevent people from attending the rally to show their political support. The local ANC branch had handed out flags and pamphlets, but any other political organisation could have done the same. The conference on Saturday had been apolitical.

The NP, Inkatha Freedom Party, DP, PAC and Azapo had been invited, but "only the ANC took the trouble to attend".

The commission spokesman said community representatives had attended the conference after lengthy local and regional discussions around their demands regarding land reform and development.

A resolution dealing with fundamental land needs had referred to "one farm, one farmer" but had also called for land to be shared between blacks and whites. Land suitable for redistribution included state-owned land, forestry and SADF land. The only condition was that the land should be fertile and suitable for agricultural use.

Report by M Merten, TML, 11 Diagonal St, Jhb.



Star 15/2/94

# NP slams land demands

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The National Party has attacked the land reform demands of the Community Land Conference as "ill-considered and short-sighted" and has in turn been attacked for attaching an ANC label to the conference.

"The demand that farmers should not be allowed to own more than one farm does not accord with economic realities. It is tantamount to placing a damper on the individual's ability to achieve," reads the NP's reaction to the conference.

The NP described this demand as being in keeping with "socialist principles which destroyed agriculture and the economy of the Eastern bloc and Africa".

The conference was attended by more than 700 delegates from about 350 deprived rural communities. It was convened by the National Land Committee, an umbrella organisation of regional development groups.

The NLC hit back at the NP's

claim that the conference was ANC-leaning. It pointed out that communities themselves had dominated the conference and that these communities "have worked hard at maintaining party-political independence, especially in areas such as Natal, where political intolerance continues to claim lives".

(3) Gen  
In the light of this climate of violence it was "mischievous and dangerous of the NP to label the conference as ANC-oriented", the NLC said. (SPP)

Delegates rejected in no uncertain terms the NP Government's minimal land reforms, and dismissed the State President's Commission on Land Allocation as a useless mechanism.

The NLC pointed out that it had invited six major political parties to the rally. Only the ANC sent a high-profile political leader — probable Free State premier Patrick "Terror" Lekota. The NP sent top civil servant Eric Buiten.

# Strike delays land probe

**By Joshua Raboroko**

THE commission of inquiry into irregularities in land transactions in Diepmeadow, Soweto, has been delayed because of the strike by municipal workers.

The commission was supposed to sit this month to gather information, according to an official of the commission, Mr Van Gend Botha.

The wage strike by 1 200 Diepmeadow workers ended last Friday.

*SOWETO*  
Botha said people had made sworn statements regarding the land transactions, but it had been difficult to get more information from the Diepmeadow Council offices because of the strike.

The commission, appointed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration last November, will now sit early next month and hopes to present its findings to the TPA executive committee by mid-March.

The appointment of the commission follows complaints by residents

*15/2/94*  
that they had been promised homes by developers who claimed to have obtained council land.

Property developers have allegedly ripped off hundreds of prospective home buyers after undertaking to build them homes on "promised land" in Diepmeadow and then disappearing with the deposit.

Irregularities can be reported to Mr Van Gend Botha, at (011) 498-5132.

They can also be reported to (016) 71-2982, or Victoria Mokone at (011) 474-2763 or (011) 474-1510.

Star 17/2/94

# Govt defends rural land policy

BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

It is unacceptable for rural communities to raise new issues in land policy after the negotiation of the Interim Constitution and despite talks between non-governmental groups and senior officials, the Government says.

Eric Buiten, chief director of land reform in the Department of Land Affairs, has added his criticism of the 700-delegate Community Land Conference to the objections raised by the National and Democratic parties and or-

ganised agriculture.

He takes issue especially with the demand that the planning of game reserves take place in consultation with local communities and that the people share in the benefits of such developments.

Buiten condemns the conference conveners, the National Land Committee, "who are supposed to be well informed" for "emotionally influencing the crowd with the statement that 'animals should not any longer be given preference to human beings'".

Ecotourism generates more jobs and income than small scale farming, Buiten argues.

"The notion has never been and will never be that nature reserves benefit animals rather than people."

He also hits at the conference for failing to praise the labour law applicable to farm workers.

Instead, conference delegates demanded far more statutory protection for farm workers, including a minimum wage and measures to effectively halt child labour.

# Ministers face wrath of farmers

Star 17/2/94

BY NORMAN CHANDLER  
PRETORIA BUREAU

3 Gen

South Africa's 61 000 farmers made it plain to three top Government Ministers yesterday that they were not prepared to be pushed around.

Farmers, through the SA Agricultural Union, spelt out their concerns about safety, regional proposals and the honouring of property rights at a high-level meeting held in Pretoria.

A union delegation, led by SAAU president Boet Fourie, met Justice and Defence Minister Kobie Coetsee, Correctional Services Minister Adriaan Vlok, and Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel.

Attention was given to stock theft, farm safety, co-operation between security forces and the farming community, regional protection, and the honouring of property rights.

The issue of security on the farms has long been a major one with farmers, many of whom have been killed in hit-and-run raids mounted on their properties, particularly in the Transvaal and Free State.

Millions of rands have been allocated by the Government to assist farmers with communication systems and the use of commandos to protect isolated areas.

Farmers expressed fear that their farms would be taken away from them by regional parliaments passing local legislation even though a new government may have guaranteed certain property rights.

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## Govt rejects new calls on use of land

Political Correspondent

THE government yesterday slated demands emerging from the community land conference in Bloemfontein at the weekend — particularly the “one farmer, one farm” proposal.

The National Land Committee (NLC) criticised political parties for not attending the conference. Only the ANC had taken the trouble to attend, it said.

The Department of Regional and Land Affairs said the NLC conference had tried to bypass agreements already negotiated on property rights and restitution and now incorporated in the interim constitution.

The “one farmer, one farm” proposal had strong socialist connotations, it said.

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# Land posers for a new government

Rural communities got together at the weekend to draw up land demands, reports **Estelle Randall**

**R**ADICAL demands for land reform which emerged last weekend could set rural and other deprived communities on a collision course with land-owners and a future government.

More than 700 delegates representing about 350 communities voiced their land and development needs at a watershed conference organised by the National Land Committee in Bloemfontein last weekend, saying: "We will not sit back and watch as the wealth builds up in the cities, while on the edges of the cities, in the small towns and the countryside, we continue to suffer and starve."

The conference rejected 1913 as a cut-off date for land claims, setting it at 1652. It also called for the scrapping of property rights and restitution clauses in the interim constitution and tabled ambitious demands for farmworker and labour-tenant rights.

The National Party and the South African Agricultural Union slammed the demands as unrealistic and part of an attempt to give a future ANC-dominated government the excuse to embark on a land redistribution programme.

Derek Hanekom of the ANC's land desk dismissed this as over-reaction. "I think it's fine that people express their demands."

However, the ANC would not accede to a land court considering claims dating back to 1652. Between 1960 and 1982 alone, an estimated three million black people were dispossessed under apartheid laws.

"We believe a land claims court must be effective and for this to happen, it has

to deal with very specific claims," Hanekom said. "We believe 1913 is an acceptable cut-off date."

It was also unlikely property rights and restitution clauses in the interim constitution would be set aside. "It would be possible for parliament to consider amendments if these proved to be hindrances to a land restoration programme," he said. "But we don't believe that these clauses would inhibit a future government from expropriating land for restitution."

The ANC proposed using a market and state-assisted process for redistribution rather than expropriating land. Said Hanekom: "We don't need a constitutional guarantee for this." People had to come to terms with the fact that the interim constitution was a compromise document.

National Land Committee national advocacy officer Brendan Pearce said the 1652 demand arose because some communities represented at the conference had claims pre-dating 1913. He believed the "realities of the situation" would lead communities to realise the demand was unreasonable.

"My personal view is that it would be very difficult. One problem would be providing a court with evidence ... It would also get complicated because of South Africa's history of land conquest and dispossession. Land has changed hands so many times."

But delegates were determined that the property rights and restitution clauses be scrapped. "They have threatened to occupy land, if necessary. There is likely to be a lot of conflict around the issue, but I think a new government will be forced to accommodate communities' demands."

Delegates will meet again towards the end of February to discuss a plan of action to further the demands made at the conference and will be approaching the Transitional Executive Council.

③ WM 18-24/2/94

# Watershed fog research could net litres

FRANS ESTERHUYSE

Weekend Argus Political Correspondent

WATER problems could be over — or at least considerably eased — for communities in arid Cape west coast regions within three years if a new research project succeeds.

The research, aimed at obtaining new water supplies from fog or low clouds, is being conducted by climatologist Dr Jana Olivier, of the department of geography at the University of Stellenbosch, and other researchers.

The water is obtained by erecting special nets against which fog droplets can condense in order to be collected as a water supply.

Dr Olivier told Weekend Argus the method is being used successfully in a number of South American desert communities in Chile and Ecuador, as well as in Oman in the Middle East, where the incidence of fog is very high and regular.

In one area in northern Chile more than 10 000 litres a day are obtained from 75 fog screens. Each screen is 12 metres long and four metres high.

The regions which can benefit from this method include the Cape west coast and the Eastern Transvaal escarpment.

Fog screens have already been erected in Darling and more screens are to be installed at Namaqua Sands.

A manufacturer of special screens used in filters in mines and in cooling towers has donated screens for the project.

The research project will take about a year to complete.

"This source of water is inexpensive but effective and of great importance in a country where water is one of the scarcest natural resources," Dr Olivier says.

Dr Olivier has invited communities, schools and individuals who would like to participate in the project as fog observers to contact her at Stellenbosch. ☎ (021) 808 3106 or 808 3218 daytime, and (024) 53 3294 after hours.

# PAC vows to grab 'every grain of SA soil' for Africans

3/11  
PAC 21/2/94

□ 'Non-negotiable property' says Makwetu

**VUYO BAVUMA, Staff Reporter**  
THE Pan Africanist Congress has pledged to redistribute "every grain of soil in Azania" among Africans because it is their "non-negotiable property."

It also unequivocally rejected any "protection of freehold title" to the land and opposed all private land transactions once the land was restored to the people through the constitution.

These were some of the pledges in the PAC manifesto released by the movement's president Clarence Makwetu at a lively rally attended by about 7 000 people in Khayelitsha yesterday.

Mr Makwetu said the launch of the manifesto was the beginning of the PAC's campaign to form a Constituent Assembly that would write a "constitution for the African majority, a constitution for liberation".

The PAC pledged not to buy the land from "the settlers because the settlers bought no land from our people".

The land would be expropriated through legal means such as the Land Reform Act and Land Claims Commission under the Constitutional Court. The state would act as curator of all property.

On education, the PAC would work towards free and compulsory education for every child up to Standard 10 or the age of 18 years, "whichever comes first".

Loans would be provided for tertiary level students and English would be the medium of instruction at schools.

On violence, the PAC promised to deal effectively with violence of the "far right, which is continuing because the regime allows it".



**IN CONVERSATION:** PAC president Clarence Makwetu, left, listens to PAC national organiser Maxwell Nemdzhivanani at a rally in Khayelitsha yesterday.

It would disband all "counter-revolutionary and reactionary formations" and prosecute the culprits instigating or carrying the violence.

A PAC government would also remove all foreign mercenaries and end the migrant labour system.

The party promised to abolish the "inequalities caused by the settler minority" by introducing taxes and anti-trust legislation, would abolish monopolies and set up fair competition in the marketplace.

Big conglomerates would not be nationalised — instead the PAC government would "socialise and democratise them to meet the needs of the community at large."

A vigorous programme of affirmative action and job-creation would be introduced.

"The PAC will pay specific at-

tention to the 16.5 million of our countrymen currently living below the breadline," the manifesto read.

On health, the PAC favoured a holistic public health service, including alternative medicine, directed towards family and community reconstruction.

It would adopt a single health policy for all sectors of the community.

The PAC would provide favourable tax deductions to the private sector to encourage it to build houses for the people.

Self-help schemes would be encouraged and hostels would be abolished.

The PAC government also promised to guarantee workers' rights.

(News by V S Bavuma, 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)



**FULL SUPPORT:** One of several thousand PAC supporters shows her approval for the election manifesto.

## Makwetu warns against unrealistic poll mandates

**VUYO BAVUMA, Staff Reporter**  
THE Pan Africanist Congress did not promise the people a chicken in every pot, nor gold and diamond mines at the touch of the button after the election, PAC leader Clarence Makwetu said.

Addressing an enthusiastic crowd of more than 7 000 in Khayelitsha yesterday, Mr Makwetu said this was because the PAC regarded the election as a means to an end, not an end in itself.

A wrong mandate obtained on the basis of extravagant, but hopelessly unrealistic promises would only perpetuate the subjugation of the people, he said.

But, as a matter of national urgency, the PAC would take immediate and drastic steps to end the violence

which had claimed many lives in the townships.

Mr Makwetu said: "We also promise immediate and firm control of the far right. These forces of darkness and racism continue to butcher our people every day in pursuit of their cherished apartheid dream — the dream of a volkstaat within the borders of our country and in which the indigenous African will not be allowed to live and work."

"We promise an immediate end to the school boycotts which have been orchestrated and conducted by people whose own children are far away from township schools — hypocrites whose children are safe in private schools, while ours are forced to the frontline to face the murderous weapons of the racist police."

(News by V S Bavuma, 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)



# PAC land policy draws protests

CT22/2/94 (3)

By ANTHONY JOHNSON  
Political Correspondent

THE PAC's land policy unveiled as part of its election manifesto at the weekend sparked howls of protest from rival political parties yesterday.

The National Party said the PAC's promise of one plot of land for every person would destroy the economy as it had in the former Soviet Union.

NP spokesman Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk also slammed PAC president Mr Clarence Makwetu's statement that his organisation would resume the armed struggle if the land question was not resolved. The Commission on Land Allocation was already examining the issue, Mr Van Schalkwyk said.

The Democratic Party said the PAC's pledge to redistribute "every grain of soil" through a policy of confiscation and denial of property rights

showed the PAC was "totally out of touch with reality".

DP spokesman on agriculture Mr Errol Moorcroft said land confiscation would destroy South Africa's economy overnight by causing the "biggest flight of capital and skills that Africa has ever seen". It would also make South Africa a no-go area for international investors, whose development capital "we so desperately need".

Mr Moorcroft added: "Even more seriously, it will also immediately destroy our capacity to feed our people."

The Conservative Party's agriculture spokesman and OFS Agricultural Union president, Dr Pieter Gous, said the PAC's election manifesto clearly illustrated why no farmer of "normal intelligence" would subject himself to a government in which the PAC played a prominent role.

## Denel wares in Singapore

STEPHANE BOTHMA

PRETORIA — Local armaments manufacturer Denel is promoting a distinctly non-military product — the low orbiting Greensat satellite priced between R200m and R900m — at the Asian Aerospace '94 airshow in Singapore.

The Rooivalk attack helicopter developed by Denel is not on show.

At a media conference in Singapore, Denel MD Johan Alberts said his priority was to seek alliances.

"We do not want to only supply products in the region. We have committed ourselves to forming joint ventures with reputable companies."

Denel was looking to the Asia Pacific region to help the company achieve a balanced military and commercial portfolio of products, he said.

Referring to the Rooivalk, which had attracted much attention at the Dubai and Malaysia airshows last year, Alberts said modifications were being made to the helicopter to suit major customers.

Instead, Denel was promoting the Greensat, which was a much cheaper option than similar available systems in the market.

# New farm produce marketing plan

B/Dew 25/12/94

STEPHANE BOTHMA

PRETORIA — A single agricultural marketing policy, which would serve and provide market access to the commercial and developing agricultural sectors, had been endorsed by Cabinet in principle, Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk said yesterday.

But the future existence of single-channel marketing schemes and boards had not been ruled out. (3)

Agricultural marketing had to be structured to prevent interference with market forces and to restrict state interference, Van Niekerk told the Agrocon '94 conference held at the CSIR.

He said he supported recommendations by the agricultural marketing policy evaluation committee that marketing policy be reformed.

The guidelines drawn up by the committee were significant in the light of the changing political, economic and social environment in which agriculture would have to operate.

He had submitted the committee's report to Cabinet and it had, in principle, endorsed the report's framework and guidelines.

The committee had recommended one agricultural marketing policy for SA, in line with the market-driven national economic policy.

Although the Bill of Rights provided for the right to take part in economic activity without constraint, it did not prohibit measures to improve quality of life, economic

growth and human development, Van Niekerk said.

For these and other reasons it was possible to justify limited state intervention, and single-channel marketing schemes and boards had therefore not been ruled out.

Van Niekerk said he supported the restructuring of the National Marketing Council if marketing regulations were transparent, were supported by affected parties and were applied without political interference.

The committee had recommended that the National Marketing Council represent commercial and developing agricultural producers, trade and industry and the consumer. This would enable the council to ensure marketing regulations and statutory levies were fairly applied.

Van Niekerk said SA was prepared for open world markets brought about by the successful completion of the Uruguay Round of GATT.

Although SA had had to make certain concessions to take part in a more disciplined international trade environment, the long-term benefits far outweighed short-term disadvantages, he said.

The Uruguay Round implied a levelling of the playing fields. An increase in world prices of most agricultural products was expected. "This will strengthen the comparative advantages of SA products internationally and domestically."

## 'Caution' on regional trade membership

B/Dew 25/12/94

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — SA should be cautious about which regional trade organisations it joined and what kind of regional trade policy it pursued, Sacob economic policy director Ben van Rensburg said yesterday at the Agrocon '94 conference.

The drawbacks as well as the benefits of different approaches in regional co-operation should be carefully considered.

"A reality is that trading patterns in sub-Saharan Africa do not point to major gains from the creation of regional trade blocs," he said. This was underscored by the fact that internal regional trade was less than 5% of the region's international trade.

Major political obstacles existed between member countries of the Preferential Trade Agreement and the Southern African Development

Community. These obstacles could be seen to be thwarting the development of the region.

Van Rensburg said the trade agreement focused on the promotion of trade through the reduction of tariffs, whereas the development community had the more ambitious goal of developing production in a more co-ordinated manner. (3)

The results achieved by both organisations had been dismal — inter-regional trade had fallen from 5,6% in the early 1980s to 4,6% by the end of that decade. (3)

Van Rensburg questioned whether either organisation was an appropriate vehicle for SA's attempt to normalise trade and economic relations.

He said the obvious discrepancy in

levels of economic and infrastructural development between SA and the rest of the sub-continent could prove harmful to attempts at regional integration. Regional co-operation could be a preferable first step.

The answer could lie in the creation of a council of southern African leaders, similar to the OECD, which would meet annually to plan a programme of co-operation toward the upliftment of the regional economy and pinpoint priorities for infrastructural improvements.

Improved links with Europe, which was SA's most important trading and investment partner, should also be considered. (3)

The strengthening of SA's ties with Europe "could be the key to opening the door to a prosperous future for southern Africa," Van Rensburg said.

# 200 families get land back

113194  
GAVIN DU VENAGE

THE first government-approved relocation of a dispossessed community in the Transvaal will take place today when more than 200 families move from Bophuthatswana to a farm near Magaliesburg.

However, right-wingers have threatened to halt the community's move to farming land that government has leased to local farmers for the past 27 years.

The Transvaal Rural Action Committee said yesterday the Bakubung Ba Ratheo tribe had been evicted from a farm in 1967 and relocated to Ledig.

Representations to the Land Advisory Committee began more than 18 months ago and the commission found in favour of the tribe's application in December.

A committee spokesman said this would be the first official relocation since the scrapping of the Land Act in 1991.

But there are fears that right-wingers

will disrupt the move or harass the community. Right-wingers and police clashed last year when the Goedgefonden community moved on to state-owned farming land in the western Transvaal.

The spokesman said local farmers had indicated they would not accept the relocation, and threats were made that the AWB would be used to resist the move.

The spokesman said the community had bought the land in the last century from the Paul Kruger government. The people were forcibly moved to Ledig, which was eventually incorporated into Bophuthatswana.

The tribe would be returning to open farming land, as the original village of Molotstad was destroyed soon after the evictions, the spokesman added.

Report by G. Duvenage, T.M.E., 11 Diagonal St. Job.

# Evicted Bakubung back after 30 years

*B. Day*  
GAVIN DU YENAGE

THE Bakubung tribe began moving back to land yesterday from which it was evicted nearly 30 years ago, despite threats by right wingers to halt the relocation of more than 200 families.

Several truckloads of people and building materials moved onto the farm after tribal leaders and local farmers reached an uneasy agreement earlier this week to allow a limited number of families back onto the 4 500 ha farm. *213194*

This was the first state-sanctioned relocation since the scrapping of the Land Act in 1991.

The returnees would be using the site of a Lutheran mission for the time being. Tribal leader Author Monnakgatla said the tribe had decided to make a symbolic occupation of the land until facilities were provided to house the rest of the clan. *(251) (3) 924*

The Transvaal Provincial Administration had undertaken to provide boreholes and sewage facilities but a shortage of funds made this unlikely to happen soon.

Monnakgatla said the tribe would farm, planting corn, maize and beans.

Local farmer spokesman Jan Combrinck said many local farmers did not object to having a black tribe in their midst, provided they followed sound farming practices, but some feared the land would be misused.

Some of the farmers were strongly opposed to the relocation and had refused to take part in discussions.

Tribal authorities fear they may be attacked by right wingers, similar to the attack on Goedgefonden near Ventersdorp several years ago.

# Land demands to be put before De Klerk, IEC

By Day 11/2/94

MARIANNE MERTEN

A DELEGATION representing rural and landless communities will meet President FW de Klerk and the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) today to submit land demands and voice concerns about the election. ~~(S.A.P.)~~ (S.A.P.)

Yesterday it met ANC president Nelson Mandela and the TEC to hand over a list of key demands drafted at the National Land Conference in Bloemfontein last month.

Western Cape regional representative Patricia Kamana said communities were concerned that white farmers would prevent workers from voting.

The delegation would call on the IEC to exert its authority and challenge recent threats from agricultural unions to stop voter education programmes on farms.

She said the IEC should use its resources to get information into rural areas and ensure chiefs allow voter education and voting to take place, especially for women.

Southern Cape regional representative Lewis Louw said the ANC's redistribution policy was raised at yesterday's meeting with Mandela and the TEC.

Louw said there was not enough state-owned land available for redistribution and that land owned by the SADF, forestry companies, absentee landlords or indebted farmers should also be considered.

Louw said Mandela had conceded the ANC had not had adequate consultations with affected communities. The ANC had committed itself to drastically changing or even scrapping the controversial property and redistribution clauses of the interim constitution.

The restitution clause effectively meant displaced communities had a right only to claim compensation, not necessarily to receive it, said Louw.

He said the TEC had agreed to take up the problems faced by landless and rural communities after the delegation asked it to stop the sale of state land.

Louw said the Land Allocation Commission was ineffective. Only 12 communities had been given back their land, and the delegation had requested that the commission report to the TEC until a representative land claims court had been set up. The delegation also objected to the commission's joint administration of land in homelands.

# Cape Town's water needs secured

③ APR 17/3/94

Staff Reporter

CAPE Town's water needs are secured until the turn of the century with the coming on line of a new R128 million purification plant at Faure.

The plant is the first in the country to use the "declining rate rapid gravity sand filter system" which uses gravity rather than pumps for the flow of water. It came on line yesterday.

It will ensure that greater Cape Town has enough water until the end of the century.

It will also mean that water restrictions such as those imposed by the city council in January will be unnecessary.

The present water treatment system can deliver a maximum of 1 100 megalitres a day. The new plant will increase the capacity by 45 percent to 1 600 megalitres.

Its 35km water pipeline will carry water from the Theewaterskloof Dam near Villiersdorp to the general distribution system for Peninsula suburbs.

Water is brought from the Steenbras, Wemmershoek, Voëlvlei and Blackheath reservoirs for use in the greater Cape Town area.

Until now there has not been a shortage of water as such, but rather of the availability of treated water for domestic and



**FUTURE WATER:** Project manager Peter Flower at the new multimillion rand water purification plant at Faure, which will secure greater Cape Town's water needs until the turn of the century.

Picture: DOUG PITHEY, The Argus.

industrial consumption.

The system supplies water to towns in the Western Cape as far afield as Paarl, Wellington and parts of Somerset West.

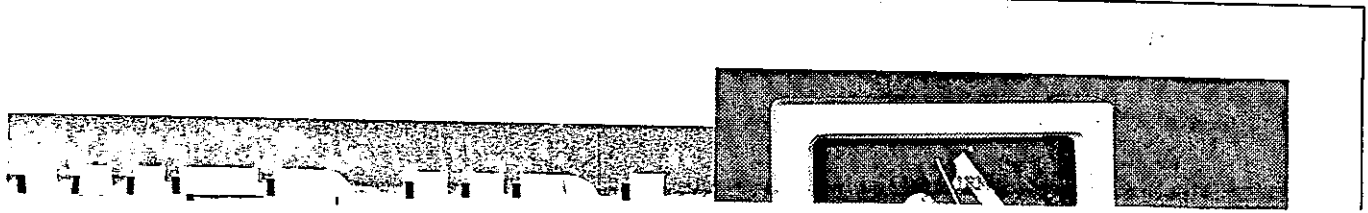
"We will now be able to far

exceed any projected demand till the end of the century," said project manager Peter Flower.

The estimated cost of the civil engineering work is

R92 million and of equipment, R36 million.

The plant is being built in two phases. The second will be operational by the end of the century.



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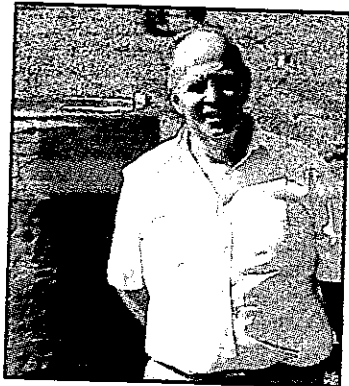
*Unsung hero believes in hard work*

# Miracle of clean water for poor

Star 21/3/94

③ Gen

■ BY SHIRLEY WOODGATE



Paul Dell ... opened up underground springs.

South Africa's worst curse, drought, and its greatest blessing, water, are being forced to square up to each other within the space of a couple of hundred kilometres in Gazankulu and KaNgwane — in the lowveld near White River.

Just beyond the impoverished homelands' borders, the drought has broken, but within the two regions the rivers run sickeningly dry.

This is where one of the country's unsung heroes, a larger-than-life Samaritan called Paul Dell (64) has devoted almost a lifetime to bringing that very ordinary commodity — clean drinking water — to thousands of virtually destitute people surviving on bucketsful transported daily over many kilometres by wheelbarrow or in 25-litre cans on women's heads.

## Liberal dose

Now operating under the umbrella of Springs Ministries, which he founded nine years ago, Dell's teams has provided permanent clean water and food gardens for a massive 400 000 rural people in the eastern Transvaal alone.

His secret? A liberal dose of religion and a great deal labour.

"Faith means little without hard work," claims the one-time tobacco farmer who gave it all up to help the needy.

The key to Dell's success is the area's wealth of underground springs, flowing less than a metre below the surface, which, with the help of scores of previously unemployed locals, he has opened up and linked to sealed concrete tanks constructed on-site in townships dotted throughout the region.

Spin-offs include communal, fenced 10 m x 20 m vegetable gardens which have sprouted as oases providing food and employment for local communities.

Then there is an extensive

tree-planting programme focused on the "miracle" leucaena species, and a pilot project siting rainwater tanks next to houses and schools to collect run-off from roofs.

The next logical link was providing water for schools — many of them built, incredibly, without toilets or running water.

Travel two hours on dirt roads from White River to Mnyamana Primary School near the Manyeleti Game Reserve, where deputy principal Phinida Sibuyi said: "When Mahesh (meaning 'the one that violently cleanses or changes') builds us a block of toilets, it will be the first time these scholars have ever used pit latrines."

The CSIR has declared the project the most cost-effective, viable technology in rural areas. Dell was last year presented with the State President's Award for service to the community and was recently allocated R2,4 million from the National Economic Forum's R225 million job creation programme.

But still the need for money outstrips the supply. That is the other South African curse — money — without which a 50 percent mix of faith and hard labour cannot thrive.

► National Water Week survey — Page 17



Luxury ... a drink of water from a tap attached to one of the thousands of Springs Ministry tanks dotted in the lowveld.

PICTURES: SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Crucial meeting today

Star 24/3/94

# Land occupation threat

3 Gen 27

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The Transvaal Land Restoration Committee (TLRC) describes today's meeting with the Deputy Minister of Land Affairs as a make-or-break occasion.

"If the Deputy Minister does not come up with

something concrete, the communities we represent will be left with only one option, and that is to occupy the land by force," said the committee's chairman, the Rev Othniel Phasha.

The TLRC comprises 25 communities who lost their land under forced removals. According to a

press statement, only two of them have achieved a return to their ancestral land as a result of negotiating with the Government or appealing to the Commission on Land Allocation.

Phasha said communities felt strongly that their claims should be settled before next

month's election.

"Communities feel it would be unfair to be reclaiming the land from a new government, probably an ANC government."

If Deputy Minister Tobie Meyer failed to offer a solution, the TLRC might consider appealing to the TEC to intervene, Phasha added.

## No removal, says Met Chamber

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The non-profit development company Goldev last night failed to gain the backing of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber for the removal of about 500 families from land earmarked for low-cost housing development.

The majority of parties to the chamber turned

their backs on Goldev's request that they "support a process to remove the people from the land", situated near Devland, south of Johannesburg.

Some delegates made the point that they could not change their general aversion to eviction simply because the developer prejudiced by the land occupation was politically correct.

Goldev board chairman Cas Coovadia argued in vain that if the Goldev development, which was participative and democratic, ground to a halt because of the land invasion this could have "a very negative impact on housing development in this region".

Also at last night's chamber meeting:

■ A report was tabled disclosing that the NP in

Johannesburg had been directed by the Minister of Local Government to accept that it did not belong with the ANC, PAC and civic movement on the "non-statutory" side of the table in local negotiating forums.

■ The ANC circulated its proposal for a "streamlined" process to set up a transitional metropolitan council for the central Witwatersrand.

X



# SA 'ripe for land invasion' <sup>(3)</sup>

ARCT 25/3/94

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The election could signal the start of land invasion season, unless the new government moves rapidly to prove it has the means to deliver land to the urban poor, says the Urban Foundation.

"Evidence from many Third World countries shows that land occupation has burgeoned during transitional periods, especially if the new political environment is seen to be more democratic and if land management is in a state of uncertainty," the Foundation concludes in a statement on its latest research report.

The study, entitled "Urban land invasion: the international experience", draws a distinction between piecemeal "encroachment" by individual squatters and highly organised, mass occupation by people who have no authorisation to be on the land they have taken.

It fixes its attention on the latter dynamic, which by 1977 had secured land for 51 percent of the people of Turkey's capital, Ankara, and in decades past formed a common feature of the Latin American landscape. In Santiago, Chile, for instance, 200 000 people took over an area near the airport in the space of a single evening in 1956.

The study concludes that a number of factors combine to make the homeless poor in any given city likely to resort to land invasion. In the first in-

## □ Conditions right for influx of homeless poor — report

stance, there must be a shortage of affordable land and a lack of alternative means to gaining access to land and shelter.

In addition, there must be land available for invasion. Typically this is either low-value public land or communal land, the study concludes.

"Particular public land, such as land set aside for public housing schemes or even ceremonial uses, tends to be forcefully defended by city authorities," it notes. And "private land is normally defended by private interests and/or the State against the actions of land invaders".

If in this situation, there are long-standing urban populations whose living conditions are deteriorating, who see no hope of improvement and who have the capacity for social organisation, then the chances of a land invasion are good.

The prevailing political climate might finally tip the balance. While land invasions have occurred in the face of severe repression, generally they demand a political environment that permits the growth of community organisations.

"Open and democratic political environments, or situations of State neglect or uncertainty, are far more favourable for the occurrence of invasions than the restrictive political contexts," the report observes.

It is notable in South Africa, where land invasions have been relatively few and far between, that a sudden spate took place in the first flush of National Party liberalisation, around 1990/91, with the encouragement of the United Democratic Front and the civic movement.

The report states that where land invasions are successful — that is, where the invaders are not repulsed or evicted and their presence is later legalised — communities in time lose that challenging, activist edge which set them apart. "Political organisation tends to decline after an invasion settlement becomes established," the report notes.

Furthermore, while the land might have been claimed in a flagrant challenge to the laws of private property, "the cheapness of invasion settlements is often only a temporary phenomenon for, as security of the settlement develops, plots begin to change hands

and a commercial land market appears".

Although the report more than hints that South Africa could be ripe for land invasion, its research also points out that the pressing demand for cheap urban land could be funnelled in another, more blatantly commercial, way.

In international development jargon the process is known as "substandard commercial residential subdivision" or "pirate urbanisation". In effect, it is a first cousin of what apartheid bureaucrats used to call "farming with squatters" — the difference being, that the foreign variety refers to the purchase by the poor of little parcels of land, not mere rental.

According to the report, in many Latin American cities this illegal subdivision has taken on where land invasions left off. It has also accounted for extensive settlement in India, Pakistan, Egypt and Tunisia.

"Essentially the key contemporary shift has been that an ever-increasing proportion of the land on which low-income settlements grow and develop is supplied by commercial entrepreneurs," the study notes.

"These land developers either circumvent the administrative apparatus, which is supposed to regulate urban development, or corrupt it so thoroughly that even government-owned land can be subdivided as a commercial operation."

# Protesters sit in at Govt offices

Star 25/3/94

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

About 50 representatives of rural communities occupied the Pretoria offices of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs yesterday to demand the restoration of their land.

Theresa Plewman of the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) said leading members of the Transvaal Land Restoration Committee (TLRC) decided after a meeting with Deputy Minister Tobie Meyer that they would remain in his offices until the Government gave them an absolute undertaking to hand back the land from which they were removed. (3) Gen

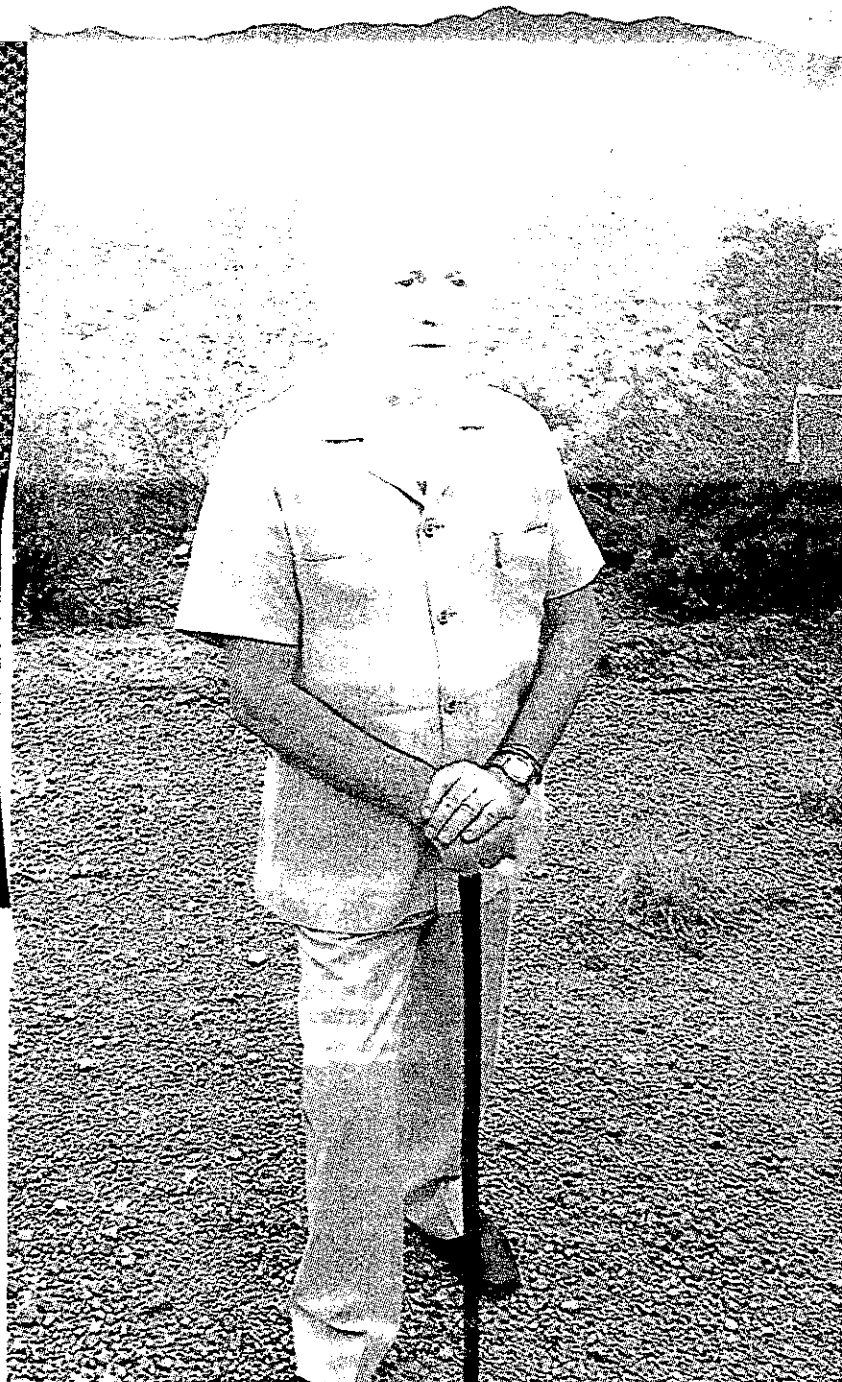
The TLRC consists of 25 Transvaal communities with a population of about 250 000.

Members also held a placard protest outside the building.

TLRC chairman the Rev Othniel Phasha said mass reoccupation of ancestral land was on the cards if yesterday's talks did not yield results.

Sapa reports that an official in the deputy minister's office said he did not know how many TLRC were members still in the building yesterday afternoon.

He added that he was attempting to arrange another meeting in a bid to resolve matters.



Pictures: JOHN YELD, The Argus.

**MAN WITH A MISSION:** South Africa's network of publicly-owned protected areas must be expanded, says conservationist Ian Player, seen here in the Baviaanskloof wilderness area, the fifth largest in the Republic, near Humansdorp.

## Leadership school opens new branch

Environment Reporter

A NEW branch of the Wilderness Leadership School, which already has introduced about 28 000 South Africans to the fundamentals of conservation, has opened in the Eastern Cape.

The school has been leading trails in the rugged Baviaanskloof wilderness area inland of Humansdorp for the past three years and will extend its operations to the Sam Knoff Reserve outside Grahamstown and the Groenendal wilderness area near Uitenhage.

National director Andrew Muir, who has taken over from founder Ian Player, said trailing in a wilderness area was a rare experience and was not only appropriate for an elite few.

"This is the challenge which faces the school," said Mr Muir.

"The qualities of wild areas offer us valuable insights both for specific and broad themes of our existence.

"We need to equip educators, political opinion leaders and youth leaders from various communities with useful knowledge that will enable them to understand natural processes, the need to conserve these areas and the benefits that society can derive from them.

"We mustn't lose sight, however, of the value of wilderness itself. For many people, just the knowledge that wild areas exist is enough."



**RUGGED COUNTRY:** Part of the 175 000 ha Baviaanskloof wilderness area — the Cape's biggest wilderness area.

# 'Land problems will bedevil SA'

□ Exploit healing influence — Player

3 ARLT 28/3/94

JOHN YELD

Environment Reporter

THE land issue is going to be one of South Africa's most difficult problems to solve and there will have to be some form of restitution, says veteran conservationist Ian Player.

At a function in the Baviaanskloof wilderness area in the Eastern Cape, Dr Player also said the country's network of publicly-owned conservation areas had to be expanded so that more people born in urban areas could be exposed to the land's healing influence and continuing township violence could be reduced.

South Africa would face "a hell of a lot" of environmental problems in the future and one of the most contentious would be the land issue, because of the country's history of conquest and taking of land.

"That time has come to an end and there will have to be some form of restitution. That is going to be a battle and who knows how it's all going to be resolved."

But, South Africans could ensure there was communal land — "land we all have a share in, which belongs to all of us", said Dr Player.

"We can and must lobby and work as hard as we can to have more land set aside for everybody.

"Urban dwellers must be allowed to visit these areas, otherwise rolling violence will continue."

National parks and nature reserves also had an historical significance, said Dr Player.

"That landscape speaks to the people — that landscape is alive.

"That kind of experience (of visiting these areas) will be very important for the next generation of people born in urban areas — in fact, it will be life-giving ...

"It really reinforces what (American poet and essayist Henry) Thoreau said a couple of hundred years ago — 'In wilderness lies the preservation of mankind'."

Dr Player pointed out that the existing network of protected areas was under pressure and that the Kruger National Park could not cope with visitor demand at peak times of the year.

"The number of parks must be increased and it goes without saying that people around the parks must be involved in their management."

Also, the "intuitive wisdom" of local people had to be used.

"There were great travesties (of justice) in the past and, in expanding these parks, we have to ensure that we use people's intuition," said Dr Player.

# Land invasion — challenge for SA

By ANNE BERNSTEIN

LAND invasion is often a desperate and risky strategy adopted by the poor to gain access to urban land, says a new research report released by the Urban Foundation's Development Strategy and Policy Unit.

Up to now, invasions have occurred on a relatively limited scale in South African cities.

However, the country will face a particular challenge after the elections.

Evidence from many Third World countries shows that land occupation has burgeoned during transitional periods, especially if the new political environment is seen to be more democratic, and if land management policy and practice is in a state of uncertainty.

According to the report "Urban Land Invasion: The International Experience", millions of poor people in cities and towns throughout the developing world have resorted to invasion, and increasingly to other forms

of authorised or semi-legal residential settlement as a means to secure residential land.

They have taken this route mainly because affordable legal alternatives are not available.

However, a significant new international trend is the rise of "commercial substandard subdivision", in which "developers" illegally or semi-legally subdivide vacant land in or around cities, instal minimal services, and then sell plots to poor homeseekers.

The subdivision and servicing processes often contravene township establishment regulations, but are either ignored by governments, or "brokered" by officials who make "deals" with the developers.

In South Africa, says the Urban Foundation, the threat of urban land invasion or unauthorised forms of "pirate urbanisation" will pose thorny political and policy questions for new central, regional and local government.

A fundamental issue is

the tension between property rights, effective urban management and the urgent needs of poorer South Africans.

With respect to land invasion the new authorities will have both immediate and longer-term challenges:

The task in the period immediately after elections will be to diminish uncertainties about land and to channel popular energy and expectations in such a way that land invasions do not take place.

In the medium term the legitimate and substantial demand for affordable land in the urban areas will have to be met.

And this will have to be done in such a way as to promote the increased economic growth and development of the cities and towns.

This is a very tough challenge. The key lessons of the international experience show that:

● land invaders are almost without exception urban people fleeing overcrowded and physically degraded residen-

tial circumstances — the worse these conditions, the greater the invasion threat;

● if affordable urban land is not available at the scale required, land will be appropriated by individuals and communities in unauthorised ways;

● settlements that arise from land invasion pose tough practical demands on the public authorities who will in time have to provide services and resources to these communities.

The Foundation argues that delivery is thus the critical national and urban imperative for South Africa. The public sector will not be able to meet this challenge on its own.

Effective delivery of land for the urban population will require the involvement of all the country's resources, public and private.

The Urban Foundation's international research shows that other governments which have had to manage a huge demand for urban land in times of social and politi-

cal transition have struggled to find a consistent and developmentally-sound approach.

For example, both Nicaragua and Zimbabwe have swung between the extremes of seeking to accommodate invasion and the mass demolition of the shacks built by invaders.

The Sandinista administration in Nicaragua, in particular, displayed alarming and disruptive policy vacillations.

At first, the new government acted sympathetically toward "progressive urbanisation" in the form of invasion settlements.

Later, however, the Nicaraguan authorities changed direction dramatically and tried to enforce a policy of removing invaders of rural settlements.

This policy resulted in a no-win double-bind: the invaders resisted being moved because they were city people, and the policy led to the neglect of urban development, and hence created the conditions for more invasion.

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For this reason, the plight of urban...  
The government... He is unsuited for high...  
in current South African circumstances.



# Farmers want ANC to spell out land policy

PRETORIA — Organised agriculture will make a strong plea for realism in the ANC's land redistribution policy when an SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) delegation meets an ANC task group on March 26. Farmers want the ANC to spell out their land policy. Allocating productive land to inexperienced farmers could be disastrous for food production in SA,

**Bilou**  
**GERALD REILLY**  
they warn. 28/3/94  
To remain self sufficient in basic food production in the face of a fast growing population should be the overriding aim of a new government's agriculture policy, and reckless redistribution of land could sabotage this goal. The SAAU had reacted strongly to misguided cries

of "one farm, one farmer" and that land claims should be dated back to 1652. Small farmers should only be set up on an economically viable basis, and not at the expense of commercial farmers. Land for small farmers should be acquired through better use of underutilised state-owned land in the hinterlands, said the SAAU. Report by G Reilly, The Star, Pretoria.

# Miners agree to return to work

THE NUM strike at Gengold's Buffelsfontein mine was expected to end yesterday with nightshift workers having agreed to report for duty last night.

NUM president James Motlatsi yesterday said he was confident workers on today's morning shift would also report for work. Motlatsi said mine management had agreed to most of the union's demands, including the reinstatement of six workers dismissed last year.

A mandate received from workers at a weekend meeting was in favour of returning to work "provided management acted swiftly in meeting demands", he said.

The strike, which involved 6 000 workers, entered its fifth day yesterday.

In addition to the reinstatement of the six workers, the strikers were demanding the "removal" of a newly appointed mine manager accused of harassing union members, mass meeting facilities, and better

**B Day** 28/3/94  
**JACQUIE GOLDING**

catering and housing conditions. Motlatsi also said the union wanted an investigation into the deaths of four workers and several injured during clashes with mine security last week.

Gengold spokesman Andrew Davidson confirmed the NUM's regional Klerksdorp office had informed management that workers would be returning to work today.

Davidson could not confirm to what extent management had acceded to union demands but said full production would commence today.

Gengold said 56kg of gold was lost per day in the strike. At average gold prices this resulted in production losses of about 250kg valued at about R10m. Production costs, which have risen sharply in the first quarter, would also be adversely affected.



# Rains and cost controls boost Omnia's fortunes

Biday 30/3/94

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

AGRICULTURE, trading and explosives company Omnia Holdings lifted net income nearly 50% in the year to December 1993 because of good rains, tighter cost controls and greater penetration in its key markets.

However, the company's directors decided to increase the dividend only 10% to 44c from 40c in 1992.

Omnia CE Neville Crosse said this was because dividend cover during the 1992 drought had fallen to 1,5 times from the company's goal of 2,5 times.

According to figures published today, Omnia's turnover rose 27% to R616,9m from R487,1m and its operating income improved 53% to R68,1m from R44,5m.

Finance costs dropped to R18,9m from R21,9m, although Crosse said gearing had risen slightly to 43% from 39% at the end of 1992 because cash flow during the year had been negative. The company's target maximum for gearing was 50%.

The tax bill tripled to R15,2m from R3,1m after assessed losses were fully used in the previous year.

After-tax income increased to R34,1m from R19,8m before an extraordinary item of R378 000 (R3,2m), representing the profit on the sale of a farm.

Crosse said the results, although good, were off a low base. All divisions had

performed satisfactorily.

The agricultural operations had had a good year after the return to normal rainfall patterns, while explosives company BME had increased market penetration to become a leading bulk explosives supplier to the mining industry. BME had signed a technology agreement with Dyno Nobel, the second-largest explosives group in the world. This would enable BME to expand its range into packaged explosives.

Omnia's trading division, which traded in agricultural commodities, had performed well. It had small offices in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mauritius, and was considering opening an office in Malawi, Crosse said. (3) Gen 453

A cautionary notice issued to shareholders more than a year ago had been cancelled as no acquisitions had taken place.

Crosse said Omnia was still looking for an acquisition, probably in the chemicals industry. It would be financed with long-term borrowings, which were low for a group of its size. However, there was nothing on the horizon, he said.

Omnia expected to deliver further growth in earnings in 1994 — although not at 1993's high rate — provided the operating environment was "reasonably stable".

LAND *m 114194*  
**Repelling invaders**

**Burdened already** by creeping fear of a breakdown in law and order weeks before the election, people might have to face a particularly daunting challenge after it: the prospect of land invasion. We have so far had a relatively mild taste of it, most recently with the squatter invasions of houses that had already been allocated to others in Tafelsig, Cape Town, and Cato Manor, near Durban, where the matter is unresolved. *(3) Gen*

A new report by the Urban Foundation's development strategy and policy unit, released this week, describes land invasion as "often a desperate and risky strategy by the poor to gain access to urban land." And while the phenomenon has occurred on a relatively limited scale in SA cities, the foundation warns that the country will face a particular challenge after the elections.

The report says evidence from many Third-World countries shows that land occupation has burgeoned during transitional periods, "especially if the new political environment is seen to be more democratic, and if land management policy and practice are in a

FINANCIAL MAIL • APRIL • 1 • 1994 • 51

state of uncertainty." *m 114194 (3) Gen*

International experience shows that millions of poor people in cities and towns throughout the developing world have resorted to invasion and, increasingly, to other forms of unauthorised or semi-legal residential settlement, as a means to secure land for housing. They have taken this route mainly because affordable, legal options are not available, says the foundation.

It may be worth pointing out that, according to the ANC (and the PAC — which has made "the return of the land to the people" its sole vote-catching platform), there are about 7m squatters in SA.

A significant new trend internationally, says the foundation, is the rise of "commercial substandard subdivision," whereby "developers" illegally or semi-legally subdivide vacant land in or around cities, install minimal services, and then sell plots to poor homeseekers. These subdivision and servicing processes often contravene regulations, but are either ignored by governments or "brokered" by officials who make "deals" with the developers.

The research shows that this is now common in cities such as Bogotá, Ankara, Mexico City, Karachi and Cairo. However, land invasions appear to be giving way to a diversity of informal subdivision schemes. For instance, in Bogotá, 59% of the population are to be found in what are called "pirate urbanisations" or substandard subdivisions, with less than 1% residing in invasion settlements.

In SA, says the foundation, the threat of urban land invasion and the like will pose thorny political and policy questions for new local, regional and central government. "A fundamental issue is the tension between property rights, effective urban management and the urgent needs of poorer South Africans."

The new authorities will have both immediate and longer-term challenges. In the immediate post-election period, the task will be to reduce uncertainties about land and to channel popular expectations and energy in such a way that land invasions do not take place.

In the medium term, the legitimate and substantial demand for affordable urban land will simply have to be met — in a way which promotes increased growth and development of towns and cities.

If the challenge sounds daunting, the foundation lists certain key lessons gained from experience elsewhere. These show that:

- Land invaders are almost without exception urban people fleeing from overcrowded and physically degraded living conditions — the worse they are, the greater the invasion threat;

- If affordable urban land is not available on the scale required, land will be appropriated by individuals and communities in unauthorised ways; and

- Settlements that arise from land invasion pose tough practical demands on the public authorities who will in time have to provide

services and resources to these communities. Servicing unplanned settlements is a harder than dealing with planned situation

The foundation, which has led for years the debate on effectively managing urbanisation, argues that delivery is therefore "the critical national and urban imperative for SA," and warns that the public sector will not be able to meet this challenge on its own.

The effective delivery of land for the urban population, it says, will require the involvement of all the country's resources — public and private.

The foundation observes that other governments which have had to manage a huge demand for urban land in times of social and political transition, have struggled to find the right approach. Zimbabwe and Nicaragua, for example, have swung between the extremes of, on the one hand, seeking to accommodate invasion, and, on the other, the mass demolition of invaders' shacks.

In SA, where the experience of land invasion seems to have been more complex than most, invasions have occurred sporadically since 1985, with a spate in 1990 and 1991, coinciding with the start of democratic reform and a period of political uncertainty.

Some of the latter occupations were explicitly linked to the Mass Democratic Front's 1990 campaign to claim vacant land for the homeless — as in Freedom Square (Bloemfontein), Namibia Square (Grahamstown) and Thornhill in the eastern Cape.

Most land invasions since 1985 have involved relatively small numbers of people, ranging from fewer than 100 to about 1 000. The Tamboville invasion on the East Rand in 1990 involved more than 1 000 people. In many cases the population of such settlements grew rapidly once the bridgehead had been established, as occurred in Ivory Park, Midrand, on TPA land in June 1991, blurring the line between invasion and encroachment.

In most cases, the invaders have been poor and African, and either homeless or badly housed urban dwellers taking last resort action. While private and public land has been affected, public land invasion has by far been the more common of the two. Significantly, the land invaded had often been earmarked for residential development, and in some cases already serviced.

In a number of cases, township residents moved to gain control of housing developments believed to be earmarked for more privileged people. ■

# Gatt's agricultural tariffs no real threat

Teigue Payne

WITH a small exception, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) is a paper tiger for South African agriculture. A much bigger threat, which will bring much more competition from imports, is the silent change in government policy from food self-sufficiency to food security — a policy likely to intensify under an ANC government.

For the industrial sector, the spectre of more competition from imports following Gatt is real. This is because quantitative controls will be removed, as they will be in agriculture, and tariffs will be reduced from their current average levels over time. But in agriculture average tariff levels will rise from 1995, when Gatt will be implemented.

South Africa's offer to Gatt for manufactured products is to reduce average tariffs by 33 percent over five years. The reductions vary greatly between sectors, but uncompetitive companies or industries are under severe threat.

But in agriculture many major products like maize and wheat were never subject to tariffs — they could only be imported by way of permit, and then no tariff applied. Gatt replaces this quantitative control with "tariffication", but the ceiling tariffs which South African negotiators secured are high.

Other nations agreed to high ceiling tariffs for South Africa partly because of sympathy with the country's transitional state, but also because many of them also have quantitative controls on agricultural products and want to replace them with high tariff barriers.

The ceiling agricultural tariffs South Africa secured have to fall by an average of 36 percent over the six years between 1995 and 2000. But even when they reach their lowest, they would be more than enough to protect South African farmers. The tariff agreed for maize (South Africa's largest crop) is 68 percent in 1995, falling to 50 percent in 2000.

Those for other major agricultural products: wheat, 120 percent, falling to 72 percent; chickens, 150 per-

cent, falling to 83 percent; boneless beef, 400 percent, falling to 160 percent; cheese, 190 percent, falling to 95 percent; and sugar, 124 percent, falling to 105 percent.

The recent application by the National Association of Maize Producers' Organisations (Nampo) for a 35 percent tariff on maize (compared with the possible ceiling of 68 percent) to replace the old import permit system illustrates how protective the ceiling tariffs would be if they were used. Nampo's application is being seen as a high "opening offer" which is likely to be reduced before being approved because even 35 percent would make maize imports virtually prohibitive.

The ANC has indicated that Nampo's 35 percent is too high and is clearly leaning in favour of a policy of cheap food for the masses, tempered with some protection so that not too many jobs are lost.

The current government has already lowered many tariffs on less important food commodities like rice, pasta and edible oils, thus silently turning its back on the old

policy of food self sufficiency.

But South Africa's farmers and food processors have not been entirely let off the hook by Gatt. To get the process of freer trade in agriculture rolling despite the high tariffs, Gatt provides that in the first year — 1995 — signatories must provide the opportunity for a minimum three percent of domestic product markets (measured off a base period between 1986 and 1998) to be supplied by imports at low tariffs. This rises to five percent by 2000.

While three percent is small, consumption of most agricultural commodities grows by less than that annually, so a period of growth could be taken from local producers.

And in some sensitive markets which do not have centralised marketing, like chickens, the three percent could cause major price disruptions.

A compensation for the producers and major processors is that a tender system for the three percent is likely to be instituted — so even here they might be able to rein in Gatt if they can corner the bidding.

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# Probe into huge sales of state-owned land

By ANDREW TRENCH

PLANS to sell off vast tracts of state-owned land before the election have been exposed in Transkei and Ciskei.

Ciskei officials announced this week that they would be investigating "massive sales" of state-owned land in the last few months of Brigadier Oupa Gqozo's rule.

Earlier, the Border Rural Committee claimed the Transkei Government planned to sell off 100 000 hectares of state-owned farm land to "wealthy and powerful" individuals.

The organisation has appealed to the TEC to block the sale of the land — which it argues should be retained for redistribution under a future government's land policy.

Ciskei's new Councillor for Justice and former homeland Attorney-General, Mr Willem Jurgens, said there should be clarity on the investigation within the next few days.

"We have barely started, but I do know we are going somewhere," he said.

Ciskei's interim administrators have already placed a moratorium on the further sale of state land.

The Border Rural Committee, which exposed plans to sell off land in Transkei, said it did not have information on the Ciskei deals.

However, interim administrator Reverend Bongani Finca confirmed that the purchases of farms by Brigadier Gqozo will be included in the probe for "irregularities".

Brigadier Gqozo is known to own two farms in Ciskei — New Bradford at Wesley on the Peddie coast and the other, Blacklands, near King William's Town.

Last year Brigadier Gqozo appointed an executive committee to investigate

the sale of state land because of worries "about the way senior officials were abusing their positions to buy up land ... (for) weekend braai places".

The Border Rural Committee said "powerful and wealthy individuals are hurriedly trying to transfer various state resources, including land, into their own hands before the April elections and a new government is in place".

But the committee's protest to the TEC over the proposed land sale appears to have put the deal on ice.

Transkei ruler Major-General Bantu Holomisa said he would abide by the TEC's decision and that no sales have yet occurred. **(3) Gen**

The committee said two of the farms were registered in the names of former Transkei rulers George and Kaizer Matanzima. ~~(S)~~ ~~(S)~~

The disputed farms have been leased to people in Transkei, allegedly to other members of the Matanzima clan and former Transkei cabinet ministers who are now attempting to buy the land.

The 6 500-member Transkei Consolidated Farmers' Union is in favour of sales to proficient black farmers.

"The farmers feel this land should be sold. You cannot improve something that does not belong to you," says TCFU general secretary Gilbert Nomlala.

"Our view is that the farms should be leased back to the farmers for five years. If they are successful, the farms should be sold to them. If they fail, they should be chucked out.

"We do not want farms to be given as gifts — they should be bought," he said, stressing the sales should go ahead before the elections and the inauguration of a new government indisposed to selling the land.

## MK chief's promise on land redistribution

MESSINA. — The ANC has committed itself to redistribute land immediately after the election, uMkhonto weSizwe commander Mr Joe Modise said at the weekend.

3 OCT 11/4/94  
Speaking at a rally in a township near here, he said 87% of South Africa's land were taken away by whites, adding: "We want it back."

Mr Modise promised the ANC would begin by re-allocating vast tracts of land already owned by the South African government. — Sapa

# Fynbos harvest now 'farming'

③ CT 16/4/94

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

COMMERCIAL fynbos farming — now a key agricultural industry in the Western Cape, with exports of more than R45 million a year — is to be officially recognised as a "farming enterprise".

This would exclude the exploitation of fynbos under the jurisdiction of nature conservation or forestry authorities, the Director-General of Agriculture, Dr Frans van der Merwe, and the president of the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU), Mr Boet Fourje, said in a statement yesterday.

Fynbos farming, including protea cultivation, had been the subject of recent discussions between the SA Protea Producers and Exporters Association, the Department of Agriculture, the Western Cape Agricultural Union and the Agricultural Research Council, they said.

Guidelines for the best use of fynbos as a farming enterprise would be made available.

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# Millions in SA lack safe water

JOHANNESBURG. — About 10 million South Africans do not have access to safe drinking water and nearly 18 million lacked adequate sanitation, according to a Water Research Commission statement released yesterday.

~~(13)~~ (3) ET 21/4/94  
The commission opened a two-day workshop in Pretoria yesterday in a bid to co-ordinate research efforts and attempts by more than 100 organisations to provide safe water and sanitation to those in need. ~~(SS)~~

WRC research manager Mr Charles Chapman said representatives from government, local and regional authorities as well as communities, researchers and engineers had been invited to attend the workshop.

A co-ordination committee would be set up to manage research.

Mr Chapman said the committee would be an important mechanism to distribute guidelines and decide on project funding. — Sapa

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# Small farmers given boost by big business

② ARG 22/4/94

□ R10-m fillip for rural communities

**HENRI du PLESSIS, Staff Reporter**

A MAJOR initiative to establish and support small farmers was announced today, as big business and organised agriculture join forces to help formerly disenfranchised rural communities.

The private sector has already raised R10 million for the scheme.

A Small Farmers' Development Corporation (SFDC), unrelated to any existing development body, is to be launched shortly with funds raised from the private sector.

The aim of the corporation is to initiate and help the establishment and private ownership of small farms on a commercial scale, said spokesman Fred Meintjes.

The corporation would help small farmers to buy enough land on which to begin economically viable production, especially in the field of market-gardening, and to obtain finance and scientific advice.

"Obviously, an individual who applies for support will have to show

an ability to farm and run a small business — and this will provide many training opportunities," said Mr Meintjes.

"There is an extensive network of advice and research sources, such as the regional research bodies run by the government. At the same time, suitable land can be identified and small farmers can be helped to pool resources in the form of small co-operatives.

"They will be given assistance with marketing if they need it but eventually they will have to run their farms economically. The system will be designed to shed those who cannot farm economically."

The corporation's establishment follows a meeting of a group of agriculture-related concerns.

Mr Meintjes said the founding of the corporation was not an attempt to pre-empt possible plans of a future government to redistribute land, but merely to start the process off on the basis of sound economic principles.

# Development aid for small farmers

CT 22/4/90 (3)

A SMALL Farmers' Development Corporation (SFDC) is to be launched soon following wide private sector financial support.

The SFDC will initiate and facilitate the establishment and private ownership of small farmers on a commercial scale in South Africa, the corporation's steering committee chairman Louis Kriel said in a statement yesterday.

The establishment of the SFDC followed a meeting of a group of agriculture-related concerns recently when it was decided to establish new commercial farmers from the disenfranchised rural communities.

In-depth consultations had been conducted by a steering committee with possible role-players including representatives of black communities, the commercial agricultural sector, existing development agencies, the authorities and political parties and sympathetic overseas organisations.

The earnestness and emotion involved in the expectations of land ownership that exist among members of the disenfranchised community were recognised by the founder members of the SFDC, Mr Kriel said.

"It has now become necessary that a concerted effort be made to address this matter in a constructive and pur-

poseful way.

"The experts who have been consulted so far are unanimous that the SFDC is a very attainable concept which deserves wide-ranging support," Mr Kriel said.

He said the private sector had raised almost R10-million in less than three months for the project to become a reality.

The project should be based on healthy commercial principles in which the private sector, in partnership with the government helped to establish small farming concerns in all viable branches of agriculture.

Mr Kriel said the first step was to get sufficient private sector participation to ensure an initial share capital of at least R20-million.

"Although this figure has not been reached yet commitments of share participation are sufficient to launch the corporation and to ensure its financial independence," Mr Kriel said.

Services and active support for the concept have also come from the Small Business Development Corporation, the Independent Development Trust, Farm Africa, Industrial Development Corporation, the Development Bank of SA and the World Bank.

# 'Land invasion' season looming

Star 24/4/94

The April election could signal the start of land invasion season, unless the new government moves rapidly to prove it has the means to deliver land to the urban poor, says the Urban Foundation (UF).

"Evidence from many Third World countries shows that land occupation has burgeoned during transitional periods, especially if the new political environment is seen to be more democratic and if land management... is in a state of uncertainty," the UF concludes in a statement on its latest research report.

The study, entitled Urban land invasion: the international experience, draws a distinction between piecemeal "encroachment" by individual squatters and highly organised, mass occupation by people who have no authorisation.

It fixes its attention on the latter dynamic, which by 1977 had secured land for 51 per cent of the people of Turkey's capital, Ankara, and in decades past formed a common feature of the Latin American landscape. In Santiago, Chile, for instance, 200 000 people took over an area near the airport in the space of a single evening in 1956.

The UF study concludes that a number of factors combine to make the homeless poor in any given city likely to resort to land invasion. In the first instance, there must be a shortage of affordable land and a lack of alternative means to gaining access to land.

Additionally, there must be land available for invasion. Typically this is either low-value public land or communal land, the study concludes.

"Particular public land, such as land set aside for public housing schemes or even ceremonial uses, tends to be forcefully defended by city authorities," it notes. And "private land... is normally defended by private interests and/or the State against the actions of land invaders".

If in this situation, there are

**THE new government will have to move swiftly to avoid the rapid occupation of empty land by the homeless. Jo-Anne Collinge reports**

longstanding urban populations whose living conditions are deteriorating; who see no hope of improvement; and who have the capacity for social organisation, then the chances of a land invasion are good.

The political climate here might tip the balance. While land invasions do occur under severe repression, generally they demand a political environment permitting the growth of community organisations.

(3) *Gen*  
"Open and democratic political environments, or situations of State neglect or uncertainty, are far more favourable for the occurrence of invasions than the restrictive political contexts," the report observes.

It is notable in South Africa, where land invasions have been relatively few and far between, that a sudden spat took place in the first flush of National Party liberalisation, around 1990/91, with the encouragement of political groups and the civic movement.

The UF states that where land invasions are successful — that is, where the invaders are not repulsed or evicted

and their presence is later legalised — communities in time lose that challenging, activist edge which set them apart. "Political organisation tends to decline after an invasion settlement becomes established," the report notes.

Furthermore, while the land might have been claimed in a flagrant challenge to the laws of private property, "the cheapness of invasion settlements is often only a temporary phenomenon for, as security of the settlement develops, plots begin to change hands and a commercial land market appears".

Although the UF more than hints that South Africa could be ripe for land invasion, its research also points out that the pressing demand for cheap urban land could be funnelled in another, more blatantly commercial, way.

In international development jargon the process is known as "substandard commercial residential subdivision" or "pirate urbanisation". In effect, it is a first cousin of what apartheid bureaucrats used to call "farming with squatters" — the difference being, that the foreign variety refers to the purchase by the poor of little parcels of land, not rental.

The UF study stops short of questioning the broader impact of the pervasive political patronage and/or corruption necessary for pirate "developers" to deliver the goods to the landless.

# Home and a better life for refugees

Star 24/4/94

Gabriel Langa stood, cap in hand, under a tree at the Umpala train station, waiting to see if this time his wife and children were on the train bringing returning refugees from Swaziland.

There had been 18 other such trains and he had been there to meet all of them. But after this one had pulled in and he had searched vainly among the 700 faces for those of his family, he realised he would have to come back again to search once more when the next train came in.

His hope is shared by about 30 others who joined him in his weekly ritual at the station. It is a hope common among the 1.7 million Mozambican refugees who fled the 16-year civil war and who have been trickling home for a year.

According to Gary Perkins, who heads the operation for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Swaziland, about another 14 trains will be needed to return the rest of the 24 000 refugees based there.

The weekly train from Swaziland is just a small part of the effort by the UNHCR to repatriate those who sought refuge in Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

On a recent visit to look at the repatriation effort in Mozambique, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Sada-

**MOZAMBICANS who fled from the horrors of the long civil war are at last returning and picking up the pieces. Michael Sparks reports**

ko Ogata, said she was pleased with it especially because refugees were being repatriated into Mozambican society. Her pleasure showed when she visited a family Djosia Tongogara.

The 4 metre by 3 metre piece of blue plastic sheet for emergency housing they given to returnees is seen tucked around the village and machambas (smallholdings).

"The people themselves getting involved; they these houses and plant these crops," Ogata said, referring to Romao Novela who was standing next to the huts of his new household.

He farms the half hectare land allocated to him by Boane villagers, growing peas, melons, beans and among other crops.

Life is difficult for him and his two sons, since he has not been able to find employment. Indeed employment is the biggest problem for returnees, but not one he regrets coming home to continue to live in hope jobs will come.

The food assistance provided is not enough for the month, Novela said, but rains come the crops will be his and his family will no longer need help.

Said UNHCR co-ordinator for southern Africa, Lamb: "This is one of the most rewarding aspects of our job. We are bringing people home rather than death during the crisis. At last there is a happy ending."

## MADAM & EVE

By S Francis, H Dugmore & Rico



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Business Report

# Bumper co-op formed

JOHANNESBURG. — One of the most extensive amalgamation agreements in the history of local agriculture was signed by the Boards of two agricultural co-ops this weekend.

After the amalgamation, the South Western Transvaal Agricultural Co-op and Northern Cape Livestock Co-op will form one of the largest co-ops in southern Africa, which will be known as South-West Co-op.

"Agriculture is, and in a new South Africa, will also continue to be one of the pillars of the

economy," Jan de Kock, chief executive manager of the new co-op said.

De Kock said it was for this reason SA needed people and organisations who think and act proactively: "Whoever withdraws now, despondently waiting for things to happen, cannot expect success".

The members of the two co-ops have yet to confirm the agreement.

The co-op will have a combined land area of 10,7m hectares and an annual turnover of some R1,3bn.

# Community Growth Fund tops R100m

Business Staff

SOCIALLY responsible growth fund, the Community Growth Fund (CGF), breached the R100m barrier during the quarter to March and posted a return for the year up 35,8% from the previous March.

Syfrets portfolio manager Guy Woolford pointed out that "CGF has a good spread of quality growth assets which should enable it to continue produce good returns".

CGF currently ranks in the top five among general unit trusts.

# Today's Lucky Bonanza

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C G F	42.4	33.99	6.66
CJ Growth	59.22	48.66	2.27
Composite	115.62	108.04	Na
Fedgro	66.69	155.65	3.69
Guardbank	3358.56	3134.4	3.24
IGI	58.28	147.96	3.0
Momentum	326.22	305.90	3.44
Metfund	272.73	255.27	2.66
Metsife	120.25	126.12	1.77



## Two agricultural co-ops agree to amalgamation

Star 20/4/94  
One of the most extensive amalgamation agreements in the history of South African agriculture was signed by the boards of two agricultural co-ops at the weekend.

After the amalgamation, the South-Western Transvaal Agricultural Co-op and Northern Cape Livestock Co-op will form one of the largest co-ops in southern Africa.

### Pillars

It will be known as South-West Co-op.

"Agriculture is, and in a new South Africa, will also continue to be one of the pillars of the South African economy, said Jan de Kock, chief executive manager of the new co-op said, at the signing ceremony.

De Kock said it was for this very reason that the country needed people and organisations who thought and act

proactively.

"Whoever withdraws now, despondently waiting for things to happen, cannot expect success," he added.

The members of the two co-ops have yet to confirm the provisional amalgamation agreement.

De Kock said the growing number of livestock in sowing areas, together with improved utilisation of available working capital and increased bargaining power were the most important considerations behind the amalgamation decision.

### Land area

With a combined land area of 10,7 million hectares and an annual turnover of practically R1,3 billion, the new co-op will occupy a singularly strong position in the South African agricultural sector. — Sapa.

# World Bank lashes farmers

By SVEN LUNSCHÉ

SOUTH Africa's commercial farmers have come under fire from the World Bank, which describes them as inefficient, unproductive and increasingly dependent on state support.

However, the bank warns that the solution to the agricultural crisis is a land redistribution programme driven by market factors and not administered and operated by the state.

The bank says in a discussion paper, SA agriculture: Structure, performance and options for the future, that land ownership in SA is among the most highly skewed in the world.

About 86% of farm land is held by 67 000 mostly white farmers, supporting a rural population of 5,3-million.

"Consequently, the white rural areas have a very low population density. Conversely, the level of urbanisation is relatively high at 74,5% of the total population."

The report argues that although SA achieved food self-sufficiency and acceptable incomes for white farmers, it did so by "distorting the policy environment and causing society to pay a considerable financial and social cost".

It suggests that a combination of financial assistance programmes and tax incentives is largely to blame for

the fact that most farmers are price- and scale-ineffective. 115194

Most recently, under the guise of drought relief, large amounts of farm debt were effectively written off through a R3,4-billion recapitalisation effort for grain producers. (3) Gen

Artificial support has helped to make SA unproductive by international standards. Between 1947 and 1991, the total factor productivity of agriculture increased by only 1,26% a year.

The report notes a deterioration in price efficiencies, the emergence of a concentrated agrarian structure and large-scale farms and a steady fall in employment on the land in the 1980s.

These trends were exacerbated in the past decade by limited market liberalisation, exposing farmers to a more market-oriented environment.

Profits declined and debt increased in many parts of the farm sector.

This suggests that many elements of the large-farm sector would not be efficient under a new policy.

It suggests that a smaller scale of operations in many sub-sectors would

be "at least as sufficient as the larger-scale farms".

The report warns that the "highly inequitable" distribution of resources — most notably land — is not sustainable.

"The combination of weaknesses in the old strategy, inequities in the distribution of and access to resources, and political change means that quite apart from issues of inefficiency in the large-farm sector, the inequity of the present land distribution will necessitate a major rural restructuring, including land reform."

The bank's preferred option lists elements that have characterised successful reform:

- A market-assisted land redistribution programme.
- A public sector that help this process by ensuring adequate supplies of land on the market.
- The inclusion of a grant component in the programme.
- An anti-trust approach through more powers to the Competition Board.

The bank suggested last year that land reform could create a million rural jobs in SA within five years at a cost of about R2,5-billion.

# ANC's agriculture plan to be tabled tomorrow

8 Day 315194  
AMANDA VERMEULEN

THE future of agriculture in SA is likely to be determined when the ANC tables its agriculture policy tomorrow.

As leader of the new government, the ANC was expected to focus on the land issue and on food policy, farming analysts said at the weekend.

ANC speakers at a conference on land redistribution in October said that until the issue of redistribution was dealt with, it would be impossible to "deracialise" the country.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said the ANC's policies would have to deal with providing access to land as a productive resource and an opportunity for increasing productive employment.

Absa agricultural manager Chris Mostert said at the weekend that although the new government would focus on the needs of developing farmers and providing them with access to infrastructure, it was necessary to realise that commercial farmers, most of whom were white, would continue to produce the bulk of the country's output.

However, white farmers, who had long enjoyed government assistance — currently to the tune of R1bn a year — would lose most of this sup-

port under an ANC-led government.

Mostert said while the majority of white farmers were unlikely to be affected by the ANC's land reform policy, they should accept that the government would make a serious effort to obtain land for more than 1-million black farmers.

Less than 200 000 of these farmers were expected to become commercially oriented as most were farming because of a failure to find employment in the formal sector.

"The ANC has indicated the 4% of farmlands which change ownership every year will be bought at market-related prices. This provides an opportunity for the government to implement its policies regarding emergent farmers," said Mostert.

He added the World Bank, the IMF and several US and European organisations were in favour of market forces assisting black farmers with land acquisition and access to funding. Apart from their funding role, these organisations would work closely with the new government to provide checks and balances.

Mostert also believed the new government would look closely at the

issue of deregulating the sector, long dominated by state support of marketing boards which led to inefficient pricing policies and monopolies.

"The marketing boards were established to look after producers' interests, which resulted in the country being a net exporter of food while a significant number of people lived below the breadline." (3) aen

It was expected the government would continue deregulating the marketing boards, a process which began four years ago.

Most of the boards, however, had deregulated voluntarily.

Initially, government assistance would be essential, but Mostert anticipated that the commercial banks would get involved in financing developing agriculture if there was evidence the sector was a good investment opportunity.

A Land Bank spokesman said no statements would be made regarding its position until the ANC policy statement had been tabled.

Agriculture Department spokesman Frans Loots said the focus of the new administration would move away from commercial farming to developing farming, with a serious effort to give developing farmers access to marketing and financing.

# ANC unveils policies on VAT, land

Star 5/15/94

The ANC will propose that the first session of the new Parliament deal with a Bill to redress the claims of people who lost land through apartheid laws.

And the organisation will exempt all basic foods from VAT as an effective means of reducing the cost of food once it is in government.

Unveiling its agricultural policy at a Johannesburg media briefing yesterday, the ANC said its proposed land legislation should be considered in the first sitting of Parliament because of the urgency and emotions of land claims.

The proposed Land Rights Restitution Act was intended to deal with claims arising from the dispossession of landowners.

The proposed Act would require claims to be lodged within three years of the establishment of a government of national unity.

The ANC proposed that claims be lodged with a land claims commission, which would investigate the claims and try to negotiate and mediate settlements.

The proposed Act would promote the reasonable and constructive settlement of

claims by all the parties involved, in the hope of discouraging landowners from thwarting claims by evicting claimants and selling the land.

In the event of pre-emptive action by landowners the dispute would be referred to the land claims court, it said.

## Nutritional (3) Gen

People whose claims were based on their exclusion from land rights would be subject to a policy of land redistribution backed by a financing mechanism.

"The ANC also favours the introduction of multiple VAT

rates with higher rates on luxury products.

"VAT relief may also be directed at promoting the consumption of certain foods with important nutritional benefits."

The ANC would consider additional food subsidies, but would be mindful of the risk of such subsidies leading to better-off households, the cost of administration and its impact on informal markets.

"The ANC will also investigate targeted direct income transfers in the form of food stamps or vouchers, or social security benefits in cash," the organisation said. — Sapa.

# ANC announces new Land Claims Court

THE ANC yesterday detailed its plans for a new Land Claims Court with the power to transfer state and expropriated land to dispossessed people.

Depending on the circumstances of each claim, restoration awards could include providing alternative land and just compensation to "people who lost land through apartheid laws".

Land expropriated in the past, as well as state land that had been sold to private owners, could be transferred by the Land Claims Court.

The ANC expected more than 1-million

*51 Day*  
*515194*  
**JACQUIE GOLDING**

claims to come before the court. It proposed that all claims be lodged with a land claims commission, which would try to negotiate and mediate settlements before referring matters to the court.

The court will be presided over by a Supreme Court judge, assisted by team of assessors. *(3) Gen*

Cases before the existing Commission on Land Allocation will automatically be transferred to the new court and commission when they come into operation.

The new commission is expected to have offices in all provinces and the court will operate as a circuit court.

The ANC said its policy was that the land restitution process must be "quick, effective and accessible. It cannot be allowed to hang over property rights and the land market indefinitely."

The party would propose that the first session of the National Assembly deal with a land restitution Act. The Act would require that all claims be lodged within three years of the establishment of the government of national unity.

# Warning against discredited leaders

THE National Land Committee said yesterday it feared the ANC might include unpopular homeland leaders and discredited former government officials in the new agriculture administration.

Committee spokesman Sue Wixley said the ANC's agricultural policy could be effective only if competent people headed the agricultural departments.

"The ANC has built up high expectations among rural communities regarding land and since these people have traditionally been left out of land policies, the onus is on the new government to meet their expectations," said Wixley.

She added that the Land Claims Court could be effective only if a "broader process of land reform and redistribution" was instituted to facilitate land claims.

The SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) said yesterday it supported establishing a legal process whereby land claims could be settled but it did have problems with other policies in the ANC document.

Although the ANC agricultural policy identified a "mainstay" for rural development, the SAAU said it expected the ANC to place "a premium on policy directives" whereby the development issues of rural communities could be dealt with.

The SAAU also said it was concerned that the ANC did not attach "sufficient

JACQUIE GOLDING

significance" to the maintenance of a competitive commercial agricultural sector.

"The document clearly states that the ANC wishes to use virtually all available means of the government to serve developing agriculture," an SAAU spokesman said, adding that certain policies within the ANC agricultural policy could undermine confidence and investment in the agricultural sector.

While the union differed with important aspects of the ANC policy, consensus in certain areas existed. These included:

- The recognition that agricultural marketing and other policy directives should be based on market principles;
- The recognition of the state's responsibility in terms of marketing aspects such as the establishment of infrastructure, the balancing of market shortcomings in the price formation process, the availability of market information and the desirability of health and hygiene legislation;
- The importance of agricultural development being dependent on sustainable farming systems; and
- That a balance should be sought in the exposure of agriculture to international competition and in scaling down the protection given to input suppliers.

● Comment: Page 8

## ANC govt will give grants to rural people

*Binau 6/5/94*  
JACQUIE GOLDING

A FUTURE ANC-led government will give grants and credits to rural people, especially black farmers, in a bid to step up rural development.

However, according to Rural Finance Facility director Chris Hock, who contributed to the ANC agricultural policy document published this week, loans should be made at market-related rates. This was necessary to "create a stable lending environment".

Hock said: "There are enormous numbers of people in the agricultural sector for whom credit is one of the constraints to becoming productive, and the policy makes provision for these people."

The ANC's policy favours laws which encourage "new forms of rural financing" to emerge.

It recommends that bodies such as the Land Bank, the Agricultural Credit Board and the Development Bank of SA redirect their grants and lending facilities towards poor farmers and part-time farmers.

"Credit subsidies and bail-outs to help commercial farmers retain land must stop," the policy said.

The document says state guarantee schemes will be developed to provide money for poor farmers, but market-related interest rates were crucial so farmers realised they were not getting a grant.

Hock said: "Maintaining a balance between agricultural credit and grant finance, as well as a good co-ordination of support services, is important within a developing agricultural sector."

The ANC also proposes various "incentive measures" for borrowers and lenders in an effort to encourage loan repayments. (3) (4)

Hock said: "If the Reconstruction and Development Programme is to work in agriculture, we cannot produce an over-debted sector of farmers.

"The present rural credit system is both inequitable and inefficient," he said, Urgent restructuring was necessary, he added.

● Comment: Page 8

# Rights bill 'limits land reform

3  
10/5/94

**JOHANNESBURG.** — The National Land Committee has urged the new government to urgently review the property rights and restitution clauses of the interim Bill of Rights, which it claims severely limits land reform.

At a news conference here yesterday the committee said it was concerned about constitutionally entrenched market-related compensation.

If it was calculated at "market value" farmers would be enriched for the second time — first when through apartheid they bought their land cheaply, and then when the state bought it back, spokeswoman Ms Lydia Mariha said.

The market-related formula would leave no resources to continue with an effective redistribution programme.

The NLC said it welcomed the ANC's commitment to redistribute "30% of the land in the first five years", but as state land alone would be used for redistribution and restitution, the government's ability to fulfil its commitment would be severely limited. — Sapa

# Threat to occupy land if ANC fails poll promises

Sowetan 11/5/94

ERICA JANKOWITZ

THE ANC would have to stick to its pre-election promise to revise the land redistribution and restitution clauses in the interim Bill of Rights or rural communities would take action to force their hand, National Land Commission (NLC) officer Brendan Pearce said this week.

Addressing a briefing on "The high expectations of landless communities" on Monday, Pearce warned that victims of forced removals could reoccupy land taken from them.

"If the new government does nothing tangible soon, we will resort to our back-to-the-land tactics of invading the land," Pearce said.

However, it was still to be decided whether this would be done on a large scale or only by specific communities which had land confiscated.

Pearce said rural people had voted for the ANC because of pre-election promises to redress huge inequalities in land distribution, and the new government would be expected to make concrete moves quickly.

While the NLC welcomed the Land Claims Court proposal unveiled by the ANC, Pearce said this should be run in conjunction with "a broader process of land redistribution, agricultural reform, and restructuring administrative structures in local

government". They also approved of the ANC's plan as outlined in its reconstruction and development programme to redistribute 30% of the land in the first five years.

The NLC said basic services such as water and electricity would also have to be supplied, and training, credit schemes and co-operatives made available.

It again called for compensation for land redistributed by the government to be worked out according to the history of its acquisition and not only according to market value.

"If compensation is worked out at market value then farmers will be enriched for the second time — first through apartheid when they bought the land cheaply, and secondly when the state buys the land at present market rates."

The NLC suggested that land redistribution should not be confined to state land, but should be extended to include that of absentee farmers, unproductive land, and land owned by farmers indebted to the state.

"Redistribution can then bring about a more equitable distribution of the land and ensure that all land is used productively."

The NLC also expressed fears of "discredited former government offi-

cial and corrupt homeland leaders" being given national or regional assembly portfolios which would affect land issues.

"The NLC and the communities with whom we work are saying that only accountable people should be chosen for the new ministries which deal with land. In particular, we are saying that there should be no former government officials and no corrupt former homeland leaders chosen for the positions of cabinet minister, deputy minister, director-general or deputy director-general," the committee said. (3) Gen

The departments pinpointed were land and regional affairs, agriculture, housing and welfare, and local government.

"With regard to local government, we are demanding that the local officials are known and accepted by communities because of the crucial role they play in implementing policies. Further, communities are demanding that they be included in local government structures, especially where decisions are being made around land issues."

On the issue of labour tenants, the NLC called for an immediate moratorium on evictions, and that the new government should "guarantee their security of tenure".



# 'Deliver us land' — communities

Mduduzi ka Harvey *WJM 13-19/5/74*

**M**ORE than 300 landless communities have threatened to occupy land if restitution and land redistribution clauses in the interim Bill of Rights are not revised. (3)

At a briefing this week, the National Land Committee underscored the high expectations of the landless and land-hungry now that a new government was in place.

NLC representative Sue Wixley said the scale of the problem first became apparent at the land conference in Bloemfontein in March this year, when community delegates decided to take their grievances directly to ANC president Nelson Mandela. "Landless communities feared their expectations might be pushed aside in favour of white farmers," she said.

The communities also feared that former government officials and corrupt former homeland leaders would be given portfolios in government land departments as part of a political trade-off between the ANC, National Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party. Another cause for concern was the clause in the constitution guaranteeing market prices for expropriated land, which was seen as double enrichment for white farmers who bought their land on the cheap under apartheid laws.

Mandela told them not to judge the ANC by agreements which did not reflect ANC policy, but flowed from intensive multiparty negotiations. He assured them that if the ANC got more than 66 percent of the vote the movement would change the constitution.

Concern is mounting, following the ANC's failure to secure a two-thirds majority in the election. And since their meeting with Mandela, the communities say they have heard nothing from the ANC. "The communities say they want to see rapid progress," said Farmworkers' Resource and Research Programme Dave Husy.

The NLC's Brendan Pearce said 11 communities in the Northern Cape had decided before the elections to reoccupy their land, by force if necessary.

Land and Agriculture Policy Centre spokesman David Cooper agreed there was a real possibility of land invasions. "But it will depend on the flexibility of the government. Discussions between the government and the affected communities may be the solution."

International experience — for example, in newly independent Zimbabwe and Namibia — held lessons for South Africa, said Urban Foundation spokesman Tim Hart. "During a transitional period, before policy is formulated and when people have high expectations, they invade land because there is no affordable land available. Where people have no legal access to land, they resort to other methods," he said.

Newly appointed Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said a land reform programme in terms of the constitution would be implemented without delay, and that he would meet the NLC.

He also responded to another NLC concern by stressing that in its redistribution policies, the new government would look beyond state land. At its briefing, the NLC also called for the compulsory purchase of land owned by absentee farmers and unproductive land.

Hanekom said his priority will be to set up elected "allocation bodies", with close links to local structures, to address the question of land purchases on the open market and expropriation to compensate those who had been dispossessed. These would also look at how the state could assist poor landless people to obtain land.

"The only reason the ANC retained the land portfolio was that we have a detailed policy programme and we have put it on the table and it will work — but not overnight," he said.

# Deal to return land to removal victims

By CLAIRE ROBERTSON

**NORTH-WEST farmers have begun to negotiate an amicable deal to give up their farms — at a price — to the community removed from the land under apartheid laws 20 years ago.**

They are the first of nine groups of farmers in the former Transvaal province who have been offered a "short-cut" deal by the previous government.

The deal involves the state buying up farms at market value and returning the land to dispossessed communities.

The approach — aimed at avoiding delays by having to go through the proposed land claims court and land restitution commission processes — was brokered by Deputy Minister of Land Affairs Tobie Meyer, and approved by the National Party cabinet during its last month in office.

Mr Meyer, who has retained his post in the new government, said this week he would try to convince the new Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Derek Hanekom, that "this is the route to go — we have the money, we can save a year of these communities' time, and it is only fair that farmers get market value".

The exercise should cost no more than R40-million, he said.

The approach to unravelling this apartheid dilemma — restitution of contested land in private hands — had been approved by the ANC at the time it was mooted.

But Mr Meyer conceded that Mr Hanekom had expressed doubts about market values being the only criteria for setting the price of the land.

The National Land Committee, an independent umbrella body comprising nine organisations which service rural and landless communities, is alarmed at the deal. It has accused government officials of hurriedly brokering profitable land deals for white farmers, risking serious depletion of the land reform budget.

The land involved in the North-West case is the 10 000ha Dithakwaneng Reserve, an 1889 crown grant from Queen Victoria's colonial regime.

The community which inhabited the land was removed from it by the SA government in 1973, and trucked 300km to Deerswaard. The land was divided into five farms and sold, 10 years later, to private farmers or closed corporations.

The Dithakwaneng community resisted the move, and lodged a claim for the land with the government's Commission on Land Allocation in 1992. Nothing happened for at least two years.

"Then suddenly last month the department came with a cut-and-dried deal. I was surprised and suspicious," said former NLC field worker and now ANC MP Jomo Khase.

Mr Khase said what most concerned

him was the fact that "market value" was the only criterion set by the department for compensating the farmers who had bought the Dithakwaneng land.

"There should have been a proper audit of the disputed lands to determine how productive they had been, (and) what price was originally paid."

National Land Committee advocacy officer Brendan Pearce concurred: "Our problem is that this deal is happening between the farmers and the old government, without working to a formula for compensation which will be set out in the new Act."

Mr Pearce was referring to a land reform Act to be considered this year by parliament, enabling legislation needed to give life to constitutional measures for land restitution, such as the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights.

"The danger is that the government is giving lots and lots of money to white farmers — who are laughing all the way

to the bank — and bankrupting the budget for land reform before it is even drawn up," said Mr Pearce.

Fears that farmers might profit unduly from the transaction date back to the Mfengu case two months ago, when the state paid R35,72-million in an out-of-court settlement for 19 dairy farms developed on land originally owned by the Mfengu people of Tsitsikamm.

At the time, the ANC criticised the settlement as "outrageously weighted in the farmers' favour" and accused Mr Meyer of trying to win votes.

Whether or not the Dithakwaneng farmers will make a huge profit is moot. The deeds for their properties do not list purchase prices, and farmers contacted could not recall what they had paid for the farms 10 years ago.

They obtained the farms under the Agricultural Credit Act, which sold undeveloped state land — often bought for a

pittance from black inhabitants who were forced to move — cheaply to white farmers who could not afford to buy on the open market.

After 10 years, all profits from the sale of the farms were theirs to keep. One of the Dithakwaneng farms was sold after 10 years for R1.2-million.

Some of the farms are occupied and have been vastly improved, at the farmers' expense, over the years. Some are no more than undeveloped veld where the owners keep their herds of cattle.

Mrs Betty Niemann, whose husband, Evert, owns one of the farms, said: "If we had known those people would ever demand their land back again, we would never have come here."

The SA Agricultural Union's deputy director of general services, Mr Kobus Kleynhans, said formulas for compensation based on factors other than market value alone were impossible to implement.

## JOBS

# New order will put more food on the table for less

By KEVIN DAVIE

THE National Party election campaign proclaimed that it was the party of free enterprise and the ANC was wedded to socialism.

But agricultural reform policies tabled by the old and new orders show that the former is clinging to regulatory ways while the ANC favours deregulation to drive farm reform.

Kraai van Niekerk, who remains Minister of Agriculture, supports the report of the Agricultural Marketing Policy Evaluation Committee (Ampec).

It was established to review the findings of a committee headed by Eckart Kassier. Professor Kassier caused consternation in organised agriculture by proposing that the marketing boards be voluntary — farmers could bypass them if they chose.

Ampec says the new constitution requires freedom of economic activity.

"It must be foreseen that statutory arrangements that place restrictions on individual rights of freedom of economic activities can be tested in the constitutional court," it says.

But a national marketing council should be established and cornerstones, such as single-channel marketing, of the present system should be retained.

The constitution had not been drafted when Professor Kassier tabled his proposals. His report was ethi-

cally motivated: individuals should have the right to choose.

Professor Kassier says the agricultural authorities tend to be arrogant, even tyrannical, refusing to tolerate alternative marketing schemes.

Ampec's report does speak of the need for minimum political intervention, but it argues for the status quo.

The status quo has been resoundingly criticised by the ANC. Its agricultural policy — also tabled last week — is a framework for tackling land reform, providing cheaper food and a base for sustained economic growth.

This report would receive the approval of the world's leading development agency, the World Bank.

It appears to have drawn heavily on World Bank research on SA, plus benefiting from pragmatic thinking in the ANC.

The ANC, noting skewed land ownership patterns, plans a mix of reform through deregulation coupled with State support to bring hundreds of thousands of small-scale farmers to the land.

The World Bank suggests such a programme could create a million rural jobs over five years, providing food security for about 6-million people.

These aims could be

achieved without disturbing SA's successful farmers. There would be none of the adverse consequences, such as Robert Mugabe's land grab is causing in Zimbabwe.

The reconstruction and development programme wants to make 30% of the land available to small-scale farmers.

Professor Kassier says 4% of rural land comes on the market every year. Deregulation could lift the figure to 6% a year, suggesting that the five-year target could be met — assuming the money was available.

The report does not quantify the cost of its objectives, but it is believed that pilot schemes will begin soon.

A small-scale farming project at Phokoane (Business Times, February 2, 1994) has increased food production by 800% in a mere four years and provided food security for 50 000 people — all from a R600 000 loan.

The ANC says it broadly supports the deregulation of agricultural marketing through the removal of remaining statutory powers of the control boards.

"A less restricted marketing environment will promote greater efficiency and work to the advantage of both commercial and developing sectors.

"Prices will become more closely linked to international prices; uniform pricing will disappear.

"Single-channel marketing systems that have dominated agriculture must go."

The ANC says there remains a need for some intervention in marketing and pricing to ensure that broader food security objectives are achieved and that historically disadvantaged groups are enabled to take part.

Government intervention would be directed at correcting market failure and enhancing efficiency.

The ANC says former agricultural policy placed national self-sufficiency as the central objective, partly because of the threat of sanctions.

A high degree of self-sufficiency has been achieved through high price incentives and input subsidies to producers behind import barriers — at an estimated annual cost of R2-billion to the consumer.

The ANC wants basic foods to be exempt from VAT, with higher rates on luxuries.

Marketing margins, which have grown in recent years, could be reduced through a strong competition policy, including anti-trust legislation.

"This will encourage new entrants at each stage of the marketing chain," it says.

The ANC will introduce measures to improve rights to land and access to credit to improve smallholder productivity and food security.

"The exercise of statutory controls and the alloca-



KRAAI VAN NIEKERK ... old hand still on the plough

tion of subsidies has favoured powerful interest groups, such as certain commercial farmers, processors and the bureaucracy."

Agricultural employment has declined.

Co-operatives have been featherbedded with soft loans, favourable tax treatment and other statutory supports.

"Co-operatives are big business: the 249 in existence have come to form a crucial part of SA's agricultural economy."

Their assets total R14-billion, and debts owed to them amount to R3.9-billion, or 23% of agricultural debt.

Subsidies to farmers from 1970 to 1988, when they borrowed at lower than the inflation rate, encouraged

borrowing, increasing their financial vulnerability.

Artificially cheap credit greatly increased the demand for land, raising prices and making reform more expensive.

The ANC says a rural finance inquiry will be set up within the first 100 days of its coming to power.

So there it is. An ANC-led government: an NP minister, a constitution which demands freedom of economic activity; an ANC lobby which wants market-based reform and a rearguard action which wants to do no more than tinker with the present system.

But the forces of democracy appear unstoppable: increased food production and cheaper prices are on the way.

# Agricultural co-ops heading for the JSE

Friday 12/5/94

MUNGO SOGGOT

CHANGES to the Land Bank's loan terms and an amendment to the Co-operatives Act had prompted agricultural co-operatives to restructure into companies and seek a JSE listing, Finansbank executive GM Willie Ross said at the weekend.

The Land Bank, which had previously offered relatively lenient terms, now offered more market related loan conditions. Deprived of a source of cheap money, co-operatives were being forced to look at their balance sheets and operate like companies. (3) Gen

Ross said Sentraoer and Vleissentraal

had decided to head for the JSE after an amendment to the Co-operatives Act last July allowed co-ops to become companies for the first time. Langeberg Holdings had started the trend, first acquiring Tiger Oats as a major partner. It was listed four years later - in June 1992.

Absa agriculture manager Chris Mostert said co-ops were increasingly turning to commercial banks for loans as their terms were often more favourable than those offered by the Land Bank.

Many co-ops had a low capital base, which caused them problems in meeting commercial bank credit criteria. The only way to improve their capital base was to become a company and operate on a commercial basis.

The Land Bank had previously offered "differential financing" to co-ops, but this had changed over the past 12 to 18 months, during which the bank's loan interest rates had escalated.

One analyst said many co-ops were apprehensive about the new government's likely attitude to farming loans.

# Access to clean water, safe sanitation for all

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. — All South Africans will have access to clean drinking water and safe sanitation within the next three years, Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Dr Kader Asmal said yesterday.

The move was a response to genuine needs and during the ANC's earlier People's Forums access to water had emerged as the most urgent demand over the need for housing and jobs, he said.

Announcing new initiatives and policy adaptations in the department in line with government's Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), Dr Asmal said more than 12

million people in the country currently did not have access to water and 21 million did not have adequate sanitation and refuse removal.

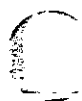
"This appalling situation is unjustifiable and unacceptable and it will henceforth be the policy of the department to treat water security as a basic human right," he said.

He said the immediate aim was to establish a national water and sanitation programme which would assist households to secure a clean, safe water supply of 20 to 30 litres per capita per day within a 200m reach and adequate sanitation facilities.

Dr Asmal said a "minimum programme" could be in place within the next three years.

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CT 2015 194



## Agricultural committee gets go-ahead

3/20/94  
THE National Manpower Commission (NMC) has approved a joint Cosatu and SA Agricultural Union proposal for an autonomous NMC subcommittee to be set up to deal with the concerns and interests of the agricultural sector. 2015194

In the latest NMC Labour Focus, the commission said the subcommittee would be established subject to certain provisos.

These were:

3 Gen  
 It should be set up for a one-year trial period;

ERICA JANKOWITZ

- No other sectoral subcommittees of the NMC should be established during that period;
- Members of the subcommittee should be nominated by Cosatu and the Agricultural Union;
- Progress reports should be submitted regularly for debate within the employer and employee caucuses of the NMC; and
- One of its first tasks should be to review its composition.

# Guard on land row documents

277 3 277

CT 23/5/94



By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

**THE Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Derek Hanekom, has ordered a 24-hour guard on his office in Pretoria to prevent the disappearance of any documents in connection with the controversial KwaZulu land transfer.**

Mr Hanekom also disclosed yesterday that there was a possibility that the records of the deal had been meddled with and that some officials in his department could be suspended pending an investigation.

An ANC source said the land row posed the first serious challenge to President Nelson Mandela's two-week-old government.

A scheduled meeting last night between Mr Mandela and the Inkatha Freedom Party leader Chief Mango-

suthu Buthelezi to discuss the transfer of 1.2 million hectares to the Zulu monarch before the election, is now likely to be held this morning, before today's cabinet meeting.

Earlier, Mr Mandela said as he left an ANC caucus meeting in Parliament: "We are dealing with very serious matters."

He also said the issue had been raised by various members of the cabinet and "one might expect it will be on the agenda" of this morning's cabinet meeting.

## Sensitive

He is also expected to discuss the dispute in KwaZulu-Natal over the composition of the provincial cabinet with Chief Buthelezi, who is Minister of Home Affairs.

Mr Mandela said he would try to defuse tensions over the transfer of the tribal lands.

"These are very sensitive matters ... we will discuss everything neces-

sary to remove the tensions ... the land issue and other issues," he said.

Land redistribution after 340 years of white rule is one of the priorities of the country's new government and ANC officials said the unilateral deal was in violation of an agreed moratorium on the transfer of state land.

Acting leader of the Democratic Party, Mr Tony Leon, said that Deputy President FW de Klerk should be called on to explain the "squalid" KwaZulu land deal, which he had signed.

But the Pan-Africanist Congress said there was no reason to believe that King Goodwill Zwelithini would abuse his powers regarding the Inxanyama land trust. PAC economic director Mr Sipho Shabalala said in a statement that "the land is to be held in trust for the born and unborn citizens" of South Africa.

● The cabinet meeting this morning, due to begin at 11am, will be the first time the government of national unity cabinet meets.

## Suicide causes

# Land claims court coming

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

A LAND claims court and a Commission on Restitution of Land Rights would be established in a new law, the Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Derek Hanekom, announced at the weekend.

However, he stressed the new measure, the Land Rights Restitution Act, and the proposed court and commission would only deal with claims arising from past dispossession of land.

Its main focus would be forced removals.

Mr Hanekom made the announcement at Riemvasmaak in the Northern Cape at a function to celebrate the return of the land to its original inhabitants who were evicted 20 years ago to make way for the SADF.

After the evictions, Riemvasmakers were resettled in Mount Coke, a remote rural area near

## Main focus on forced removals

King William's Town, Damara-land in Namibia and Upington.

Mr Hanekom said the eviction of the Riemvasmakers by force was "one of the most dramatic black-spot removal exercises of the Riemvasmakers by force."

"In the interest of 'racial tidiness', you were dumped, hundreds of miles away, across international borders."

However, the community spirit of the people was strong and they had planned their return despite their displacement.

Mr Hanekom said: "Your tireless efforts were not in vain. It is a sterling example to all South

Africans that a righteous cause will not be defeated by evil."

Mr Riemvasmaak had also shown that restitution entailed more than just the acquisition of lost land and involved good planning, the resettlement of people, the provision of services, economic support, sustainable development programmes and community institution building.

The lessons of Riemvasmaak demonstrated the value of mediation and negotiation in restitution cases, he said.

Mr Hanekom added that the proposed Commission on Restitution of Land Rights would be mandated to do everything possible to help claimants. Also, provision would be made in the legislation to prevent current owners of disputed land from taking preemptive action.

"It is this government's policy that the land restitution process must be quick, effective and accessible," he said.

3 27/23/5/94



## Confiscation threat to farmers aiding AWB

CT 23/5/94  
MMABATHO. — North West executive committee member Mr Rocky Malehana Metsing said his administration would not hesitate to confiscate land, without compensation, from farmers who allowed Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging activities on their farms. (3) (SAP) (SAP)

Addressing a meeting at Bapong near Brits on Saturday, Mr Metsing, whose portfolio is agriculture, said the government would not allow farm land to be used for storing weapons or for training members of the AWB's military wing.

He said the state would do all in its power to ensure that people who were forcibly removed under apartheid laws got their land back. — Sapa

# Ministers to investigate land control deal

CAPE TOWN — The Cabinet yesterday acted to defuse the row over KwaZulu tribal land controlled by the Zulu king by setting up a four-Minister committee to immediately investigate the matter.

However, presidential spokesman Joel Netshitenzhe said after the Cabinet's first meeting that if the committee found that the KwaZulu Ingonyoma Trust Act — which gave King Goodwill Zwelithini control of 1,2-million hectares of land — “blocks the purpose of government's land reform programme”, it would have to be amended.

Netshitenzhe did not rule out the possibility of the Act being repealed.

DAVID GREYBE

The Cabinet committee is made up of Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal, and Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Ben Ngubane.

The committee's task will be threefold:  
 To report on the background and reasons for the establishment of the trust through legislation;  
 To examine and report on the implications of the Act, including security of the tenure of residents in the area, the func-

tioning of the Land Claims Court should any historical land disputes arise, and its possible impact on a future land reform programme, and;

To make recommendations to Cabinet on the position of the trust, with primary consideration of the interests of dispossessed African people, and the security of tenure of rural communities.

A clearly angry Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, speaking before he entered the Cabinet meeting half an hour late, and after he had met President Nelson Mandela at his residence at Westbrooke, blamed the media for the contro-

To Page 2

## Land deal

versy surrounding the issue.

Buthelezi said the Act had been debated and passed “in open session” in the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly.

A statement “on behalf of the Cabinet” by Deputy Presidents Thabo Mbeki and FW de Klerk said: “Cabinet approached the discussion with a view to reaching a consensus that will contribute to the process of nation-building and reconciliation. All parties represented in Cabinet reaffirmed their commitment to such an approach.”

Cabinet's discussion of the issue took place after Buthelezi had said it was not on the agenda, but “a matter between the President and myself”.

Buthelezi said the reason behind the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly's decision was “to give the title (to the land) to the various tribes”.

He said the SA government gave the land to the former KwaZulu government three years ago. However, the homeland ran out of time to hand over the land title to the various tribes and it was decided “it should be given to the king”.

“As far as I am concerned, I do not see

that it is a controversial issue. All communal land in SA was always protected,” Buthelezi said. “The reason we passed that legislation was to prevent it becoming state land. It was always protected.”

Buthelezi said it was “rubbish” to suggest that the transfer of the control of the land was part of the deal which eventually led to the Inkatha Freedom Party's late entry into the election.

Inkatha adviser Mario Ambrosini said he could not understand all the fuss because the Ingonyoma Trust Act flowed from Parliament's adoption on March 4 of amendments to the new constitution which gave provinces control over traditional and indigenous law, which includes communal land.

“The problem was that at the time no one bothered to ask how much land was involved,” Ambrosini said. “Our negotiations involved only the principles.”

He said it appeared the ANC never realised how much land would eventually fall under the direct control of Inkatha-supporting amakhosi (chiefs).

● Comment: Page 14

# Land deal papers not destroyed

BY ESTHER WAUGH  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Initial inquiries in the Department of Land Affairs have revealed that documents concerning the transfer of land to the KwaZulu Ingonyama Trust have not been destroyed, says Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom.

A four-member Cabinet com-

*Star 25/5/94*

mittee, appointed on Monday to look into the deal which came into effect two days before the Interim Constitution came into operation, will meet today for the first time.

*(3) Gen*

Hanekom, who heads the committee, said he had already appointed experts to research the constitutional implications of the transfer of 1,2 million hectares of

tribal land.

The first sitting of the Cabinet instructed the committee to report on the security of tenure of residents in the area, possible land claim disputes and the possible impact of the future land reform programme.

Hanekom said yesterday there was no longer a 24-hour police guard at the department's offices, ordered on Sunday.

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## No 'drastic' plans for land

PORT ELIZABETH. — Deputy Minister of Land Affairs Mr Tobie Meyer said yesterday the government had no plans for drastic expropriation or redistribution of land.

He said access to the farming sector would be broadened by the allocation of funds and the introduction of other measures to assist novice farmers.

The government would not confiscate or nationalise farmers' land.

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# Export blues and drought hit Crookes Brothers

AGRICULTURAL group Crookes Brothers reported a 36,4% decline in earnings to 39,8c a share in the year to March after profits were hit by poor export markets and the effects of the drought.

A final dividend of 13,5c a share was declared, giving a total unchanged distribution of 21c for the year. Turnover increased a marginal 5,9% to R45,9m but taxed income declined 36,4% to R4,8m.

81 Bay 26/5/94  
**AMANDA VERMEULEN**

Investment income increased slightly to R981 000 (R942 000) but net interest received slumped 71,3% to R217 000 following overdraft payments on financing for a R14m capital investment. (3) Gen

MD Dudley Crookes said the decline in income after tax could be attributed to low apple, pear and grapefruit prices in the overseas

markets, and the drought, which affected both production and cane and banana output.

The write-back of the deferred tax provision of R1,6m in the 1992/93 year was a non-recurring adjustment which had increased after-tax profit for the previous year.

Farms acquired in Elgin and Komatipoort would begin to deliver good yields which should boost earnings in the next period.

## Farmers move into Africa <sup>3</sup>

JOHANNESBURG. — South African farmers are to establish themselves temporarily in other African states, in terms of a new feeding policy for the continent.

The Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions and the leader of the Freedom Front, General Constand Viljoen, have held talks with the United Nations, the Commonwealth and international institutions on a feeding strategy for South Africa and the rest of the continent.

The strategy included provision for the temporary establishment of South African farmers in certain African countries to give practical help and advice on crop cultivation. — Sapa

# Submissions on land row invited

CT 27/5/74 Political Staff (3) ~~(2)~~

SUBMISSIONS from interested parties on the controversial kwaZulu land deal involving King Goodwill Zwelethini have been called for by a cabinet committee conducting a probe into the affair.

The cabinet committee was set up last week by the government to probe the controversial deal which gave control of most of the former homeland's territory to the Zulu monarch.

Submissions must be sent to the land affairs minister by Wednesday June 1. The committee will then present a final report and its recommendations to the cabinet on June 14.

Although the handover of the land has been dismissed by Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi as a press-created row, the cabinet committee has described the probe as urgent and sensitive.

Land affairs minister Mr Derek Hanekom also announced yesterday that a technical committee had been appointed to assist the cabinet committee in its investigations.

AGRICULTURE

# Buying into the boom

Fin 27/5/94

Investors have been quick to see forward and backward linkages

**El Nino** — the warm ocean current which occasionally emerges off the Peruvian coastline — spawned southern Africa's severest drought this century. Farmers, already heavily borrowed, demanded government aid on a huge scale; the prime engine of economic growth very nearly stuttered to a halt.

Last summer, that round of El Nino died; the summer rains returned. This season's maize crop is close to a record — and the success has filtered through immediately to companies that service agriculture.

It affects other areas also: real GDP grew 1,1% in 1993 compared with 1992's negative 2,1%. The main contributor to the swing was agriculture, whose output rose by 17,5%, pushing its contribution to GDP to 6%.

Not only did favourable weather directly boost agricultural output, but through backward (fertilisers, chemicals) and forward (food industries) linkages the sector also had a significant indirect effect on GDP.

In fact, the 16,3% jump in gross farm income to R25,1bn caused the economy to grow for the first time in four years. This boost largely came from a 51% rise in field crops produced.

Maize was the biggest contributor: 1993's crop of 8,9 Mt (15% of total agricultural production) stands in startling comparison with 1992's dismal 2,9 Mt.

With 4 Mt more expected to fill the maize silos this year, agronomists suggest the crop's gross value could be as much as R5,4bn — much better than 1993's R3,7bn. With 6 Mt available for export, about R2bn could come from foreign sales. A maize harvest of some 13 Mt in 1994 — the largest crop since 1981

Gen



Sunder ... positive about prospects

— could add another 1% to real GDP growth in 1994.

Maize isn't driving economic growth alone. Sugar farmers are looking at an improved 1,8 Mt production — a 50% increase. Cotton output is set to double to an estimated 150 000 bales. The value of vegetable production is expected to increase by some R200m to about R1,5bn and the potato crop is expected to be as high as R950m against 1993's R862m.

The performance of citrus and deciduous fruit export crops have been mixed, though on the whole revenues are expected to be well above last year. Livestock producers — who have been at the mercy of volatile prices — are expected to hold back stock; indeed, evidence is accumulating of rapid price rises caused by diminishing supplies. Mutton and beef prices are expected to rise by about 13% this year.

Current real GDP growth forecasts for 1994 and 1995 are 3,0% and 3,5% respectively. These may be somewhat conservative, given the widely held view that climate patterns have resumed a semblance of normality; some forecasters suggest southern Africa may now have entered the "wet" cycle which traditionally alternates with dry years.

If these conditions persist long enough to establish confidence, farmers' cash position should improve. Better cash flow is something the industry badly needs. Since 1982, total agricultural debt has increased by R12bn, to total R18bn in December 1993. But in real terms, the debt hasn't increased much; now it should decline.

With gains like these in agricultural output, investors need to look for the most obvious opportunities. Heading the list are the seed, fertiliser and crop protection markets. According to estimates by the National Seed Organisation, demand for seed leapt 15% last year to R500m.

GM Wynand van der Walt does not believe demand will be sustained this year,

citing uncertainties surrounding the recently announced ANC land policy, deregulation of prices and the potential impact of the Uruguay Round of Gatt.

Growth in the fertiliser market has been particularly strong — around 14% to around R1,1bn. For 1994, industry sources suggest growth could be as much as between 10% and 14%.

Agricultural & Veterinary Chemicals Association executive director Jan Kleynhans estimates the value of the composite crop protection market at between R750m-R800m. Of this, herbi-

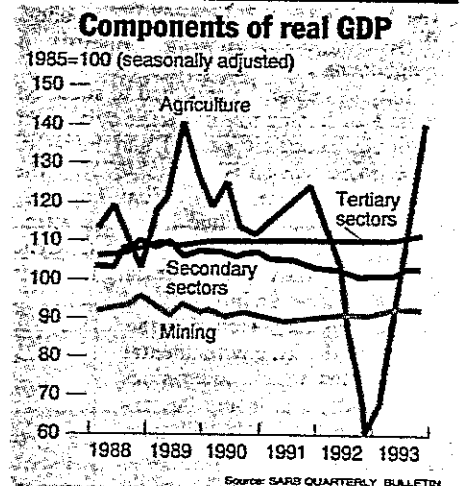
cides are estimated at R352m, followed by insecticides (R240m) and fungicides (R127m).

**Listed vehicles**

Sasol, Sentrachem, AECI, Chemserve and Omnia are the most obvious listed vehicles to benefit directly from this turn-



27/5/94



around. Their share prices have risen across the board, suggesting investors are already discounting potential earnings growth from the agricultural turnaround. But all these companies are difficult to analyse because their reliance on farming varies consider-



ably.

For Omnia, one of the smallest groups in the sector (R465m market cap), which supplies around 30% of the fertiliser market, improved agricultural output has had a significant bottom-line impact, despite only a 3% increase in the price of fertiliser. With fertiliser activities contributing 61% of group profits, earnings jumped 72% to R34,1m in the year to December 1993. Not surprisingly, its share price has more than doubled over the past year.



John Job

Omnia's seed operation doubled earnings in 1993 and is set to grow in 1994. Though large R&D costs make it a low-margin product, once the fixed cost burden is covered, the marginal contribution is large. With seed costing about 25% less than on international markets, export potential is good.

AECI chief Mike Sander believes the benefits of improved yields should manifest themselves this year and fertiliser demand should increase in consequence.

Explosives, chemicals and agricultural products operations, which include Kynoch Fertiliser, produced a third of AECI's turnover in 1993. Kynoch has cornered half the market and has sustained its aggressive export drive of solid fertilisers into Africa.

Sander says this compensated for lower international prices. He is positive about prospects — depending, of course, on the weather and international prices.

Trading conditions in the local animal feeds market were difficult, due to low consumer demand for both red and white meats. One consequence is that farmers bought a lot less feed for beef animals: Sander says overall feed industry volumes contracted by some 12%. However, he is confident Kynoch's range of high quality supplementary feed products positions it well.

As part of AECI's policy of identifying related diversification opportunities, Kynoch

acquired a 50% share in three new businesses: Ceres Food Industries, Cape Plant Propagation Laboratories and Tropical Technologies, which produce plants by tissue culture technology. The emphasis of these operations is on exports.

Sasol, which has a market cap of R14,17bn, is much less dependent on the local agricultural economy. Indeed, 80% of its products are priced in international currencies and the Synfuels division contributes

about 46% to the bottom line.

Though Sasol's principal thrust is in energy-related fields, it is determined to entrench its already dominant position in a variety of markets, agriculture included. Despite its comparatively recent entry into fertiliser production, Sasol's ability to undercut competitors makes it effectively the price-setter.

For Sentrachem, good summer rains meant better trading for agricultural chemicals and for animal products division Agrihold. MD John Job points to the improvement in real earnings which came from increased exports, mainly from joint venture Sanachem.

Agrihold MD Abraham Brink believes "international trade opportunities will be one of the cornerstones of any future economic dispensation." The accommodation on land of small farmers will, he believes, create interesting prospects for the distribution of agricultural chemicals.

Then there are companies concentrated at the wholesale end of the agricultural chain: mainly Premier, Tiger, Foodcorp, CG Smith Sugar, Tongaat-Hulett and ICS. These have in common the business of adding value to primary food commodities — not a good place to be in a time of recession.

Now, however, the change in agricultural fortunes (coupled with the new politics) has encouraged substantial investor interest. One share market trader is quoted as saying

he believes this is the sector to be in: "There are more buyers than sellers. People are very bullish about food."

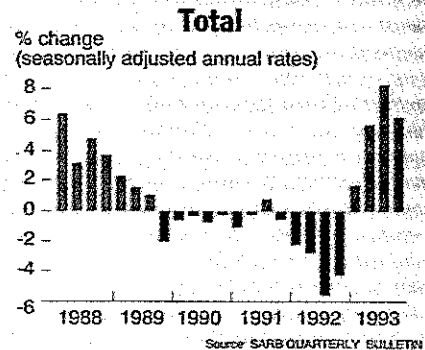
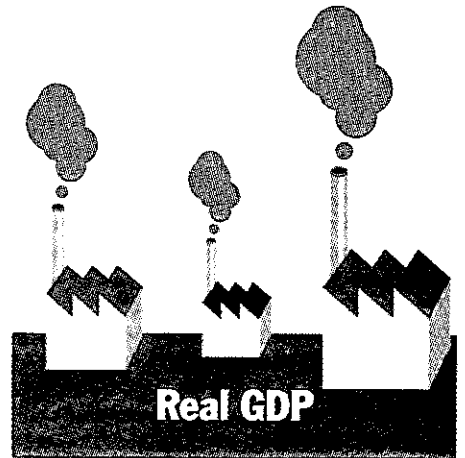
Ed Hern Rudolph director Sydney Vianello disagrees. A good crop isn't necessarily reflected in the profits of food companies, he says. On the whole, volumes have remained flat. And with price ceilings expected to be applied to basic foods, it will be difficult to manage the squeeze on margins.

Unfortunately for the analyst, most of these counters defy assessment based solely on exposure to agriculture. Many have diversified, in some cases into areas far from their origins. For example, both Premier and Tiger are heavily — and successfully — exposed to pharmaceuticals; Ton-

gaat's investment portfolio is so widely cast it has been described as a mini-conglomerate.

While most listed companies with significant exposure to agriculture have enjoyed share price improvements since 1991, there are some notable exceptions. Langeberg, the Cape-based fruit canner listed in 1992, has been marked down ever since. The share was brought on at 800c; it is now 515c and its MD isn't enthusiastic about prospects for 1994, largely because of world oversupply.

Generally, these comments also apply to Del Monte Royal, the company formed by the Anglo American-backed takeover of the



international fruit canner. The share hasn't been a sparkling success — but that may be due in large measure to accurate perceptions about the current global oversupply, the increasing inroads made by house brands and new management's inability to meet forecasts.

It is certainly possible that European markets will turn over the next year; if so, both Del Monte and Langeberg will be sought after. The potential is there but good investor timing is needed.

Most of the listed companies linked to agriculture are already heavily overbought. Investors have pre-empted the potential gains and this suggests that, though earnings may well increase in the current year, movements in share prices won't be as great.

Investors have probably left it too late across the board. For those who have missed out, opportunities may be in counters which still have to benefit from restructuring.

Marylou Greig

## Spotting the opportunities

	Share price (c) 1 yr ago	Current share price (c)	EY %	Forward PE (estimated)
AECI	1 100	2 700	5,7	17,6
Chemserve	3 950	5 400	7,3	13,7
Omnia	520	1 175	7,5	13,4
Sasol	1 800	2 300	10,7	9,3
Sentrachem	868	1 225	6,7	14,9
CG Smith Sugar	310	480	6,6	15,1
Del Monte Foods	850	800	7,6	13,1
Foodcorp	2 800	3 850	5,6	17,9
ICS	1 375	2 500	6,5	15,4
Langeberg	600	515	7,5	13,4
Premier	480	675	4,5	22,4
Tiger Oats	4 200	5 000	5,0	20,0
Tongaath-Hulett	2 100	4 625	4,6	21,6

## LAND REFORM

### No dust settling

Fm 27/5/94

The introduction of a Land Rights Restitution Act, to deal swiftly and effectively with historical claims to land, tops the list of priorities of new Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom.

His land reform programme is to be tackled in earnest — together with other law-making — in August, after the June Budget debate. Hanekom, in outlining the programme, assures us that anything done in the area of land reform will be “strictly in terms of the Constitution.”

Subject to further discussion, research and consultation with rural communities, the programme will look more or less as follows.

It will, he says, consist of various elements — one of which is restitution for those forcibly dispossessed by forced removals. This will be dealt with by the Land Claims Court, via a Commission on Restitution of Land Rights to be set up in terms of the Act. The commission will receive (over three years), investigate and negotiate such claims, including claims for compensation and present evidence to the court. (3) Gen

However, unless there are significant accompanying land reform measures, “we firmly believe the land claims process will not be effective.”

Other measures include land reform purely through the market. While this will not normally be called land reform, explains Hanekom, there are many constraints which need to be dealt with as quickly as possible.

“In other words, there are black people who would certainly want to buy land and enter the land market, but are unable to do so because of the unavailability of finance and because of other legal constraints such as the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act. So this Act will be looked at very soon and will be reviewed, if not repealed.”

The department has already started exam-

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

ining the availability of finance. “We have a team at work drafting the terms of reference for a government-appointed commission to look at the rationalisation of financial institutions.”

Apart from other areas of rural finance, the land reform side of it is basically to ensure that people who want to buy land are not inhibited. In particular, the Land Bank is available to people for land purchase (even of small farms) purely through the market.

State-assisted programmes are also being considered. “There are many people who will not be able to go through normal market channels. The State has to offer assistance in the form of grants in certain cases and in the form of subsidised purchase in other cases.”

According to the Minister, there are many people already on the land who have rights to that land by virtue of having been on it for generations. Different categories of people fall under this heading — for example, la-

bour tenants and people living as communities on white-owned farms whose tenure rights need to be strengthened. “We therefore need to reform existing tenure policies rapidly.” (3) Gen



Hanekom ... encouraging signals from farmers

In order for the land reform programme to be successful and part of a general reconstruction and development programme, “we have to ensure that people not only go back to their land — if that is the first option — or gain access to land, but that they are able to use that land beneficially.”

This means land must be used productively for agricultural purposes, or houses must be erected if the

land is for residential purposes. It also means that people must have the necessary support services to make full use of the opportunities “that will be given to them over a period of time.”

While the emphasis will, it seems, be placed on land restitution rather than on redistribution, Hanekom says the two will go

in tandem.

“It is very important to proceed with historical claims very quickly. We’ve done the homework and there is national consensus around it. We’ll do so with minimum delay but it does require the passing of legislation. So we would line it up as a priority area. We have agreement among the various people who have been involved in the RDP that it is symbolically very important and very important in the lives of many thousands of people.”

But, he adds, there’s no reason to delay moving ahead with other areas of redistribution. In certain cases — and these are already happening — it is by the willing buyer-willing seller arrangement.

“We would certainly encourage farmers to get involved to address the major land problems we have in our country. We’ve received some encouraging signals from many farmers who have already started negotiating with neighbouring black farmers or neighbouring landless people and who would like to be part of this land reform programme, rather than it being imposed on them.

“We would, therefore, give as much encouragement as possible where this co-operative arrangement exists and also in order to address the bottlenecks. The bottleneck might occur as a result of the Subdivision Act and it certainly is there when it comes to access to finance. Those are things we have to move on very quickly.” ■

# Small farmers will get provincial help

Weekend Argus Reporter

③ AR 28/5/94

A LONG-TERM forecast of Western Cape agricultural and food needs has been commissioned to aid farmers in planning crops, Provincial Minister of Agricultural Development Lampie Fick has announced.

He said the provincial government would attempt to balance the needs of established commercial agriculture and the new "small farmers".

"Political involvement in agriculture will be limited to development-orientated policy on technology, natural resources, the protection of free-market principles and rights of private ownership," he said.

Procedures for applying for finance should be eased for "new" farmers. Formal and informal training in agriculture would be given high priority. He said agricultural financing should be completely regionalised.

Mr Fick said a financial package developed specifically for small farmers would be introduced at regional level to replace previous cumbersome applications to the Agricultural Credit Board.

"The insufferably long procedures of the Agricultural Credit Council will be considerably modernised . . . to make it more effective, quicker and more client orientated."

The new Small Farmers' Development Corporation would be fully supported by the Western Cape government, he said.

# No politics in land allocation – Zwelithini

SAR 28/5/94

## S'THEMBISO SANGWENI

DURBAN — The office of Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini said yesterday that the 1,2 million hectares of land handed to the monarch in the controversial Ingonyama Act would be allocated without consideration of political leanings.

However, a spokesman at the king's office, who did not wish to be named, said it was "not inconceivable" that people from a dominant political party in some

of the areas would victimise residents who did not belong to their organisation.

The spokesman added that apart from the land in question, supporters of political parties throughout the country wanted free movement in the terrain of their enemies while they did not allow it in their own areas.

"All political parties are guilty of this practice and this has been proven by the fact that despite leaders of political parties em-

bracing each other in public, the supporters continue to guard jealously their strongholds," he said.

The passing of the Act to transfer the land was probably the last business of the South Africa's old apartheid order.

In terms of the deal, widely criticised for its secretive nature as the ANC leadership had not been informed, the king is the sole trustee of tribal land in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Since the revelation of the land deal, a Cabinet committee has been set up to probe its implications for the planned redistribution of land. (SAR) 3 Gen

Some of the criticism has centred around fears that people will be expected to have allegiance to a particular political party in order to receive sympathetic consideration for land allocation by tribal authorities — renowned for being biased towards the Inkatha Freedom Party.

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MAY 29, 1994

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# NESS TIMES

## CELLULAR PHONES

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THINKING BIG ... Derek Hanekom, ANC-appointed Land Affairs Minister and once a farmer himself  
Picture: TERRY SHEAN

## Land reform's bill set to reach R10bn

SITimes (Russ)  
29/5/94

By KEVIN DAVIE

LAND reform could cost R10-billion over the next six years, says Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom.

The ANC's reform plan, as outlined in its reconstruction and development programme (RDP), aims to make 30% of farm land available to blacks in six years.

Mr Hanekom has a budget of R92-million this year for land reform. He will claim some of the R2,5-billion earmarked in the coming Budget for the RDP.

Mr Hanekom expects international financial aid. He says it is also intended to give tenure rights to settled communities.

Many white farmers are keen to help blacks by establishing them on the land, either out of self-interest or compassion. A problem is that Land Bank rules preclude loans to small-scale farmers.

Mr Hanekom intends establishing a commission to investigate the Land Bank,

the Development Bank, the Agricultural Credit Board and commercial banks leading to farmers. He hopes a rural bank will follow.

Resettlement will be coupled with financial and technical support.

Mr Hanekom will encourage rural business. Some people who receive land will not be farmers.

Parliament will be asked to establish a land claims court this year.

The Commission on Land Allocation has received 1 300 applications, including some from white farmers whose land was expropriated for homelands.

Some cases before the commission involve barren land, but this need not cause major difficulties. A case in point is Riemvasmaak near the Au-grables Falls where a community has won back its land after being forced to leave 21 years ago. The community will earn

money from tourists who visit the falls and the nearby Kalahari Gemsbok National Park and from growing table grapes on irrigated land alongside the Orange River. (3) Gen

Mr Hanekom, an ANC appointee, does not expect difficulties in his dealings with Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekirk.

He is a little worried about the prospect of land invasion, but says this happens for genuine reasons. In most cases it will be possible to find suitable land to house those who have illegally taken over property.

Can he farm himself? Mr Hanekom replies with a question: "Can I brag?"

He attended Nampo's harvest day last week and inspected a Jersey herd which is now rated the second best in SA. The herd's nucleus came from Mr Hanekom's Magaliesberg farm after he and his wife were arrested in 1983 for ANC activities.

## Absa needs a helping hand

By JULIE WALKER

IN a year in which every SA bank reported record growth way above inflation, Absa's attributable earnings for the 12 months to March fell 2,5% to R666,4-million. Extraordinary losses of R48-million lowered net attributable income by R99-million, or 14%, to R619-million.

Absa's chief executive Danie Cronje says it was a priority to bed down the merger of the four banking groups in Absa.

The group's net interest income of R3,7-billion was a shade higher than the previous year's. But bad or doubtful debt of R731-million followed 1993's R781-million and 1992's R451-million.

Absa took a pension-fund contribution holiday worth R103-million which was applied to the provisions.

The only place where Absa fared better

than its competitors was in cost control. Absa's costs rose by 2,8% to R3,7-billion.

Absa is the only banking group to trade at a discount on the JSE. The current price of 720c is 238c below net asset value.

Mr Cronje believes that interest rates are at the bottom of their current cycle and will move sideways for the next 12 months.

Two months ago he forecast two one-percentage cuts in prime overdraft this year.

Absa's mortgage lending — half its business — would benefit from rising rates and South Africa's biggest banking group needs a helping hand.

# Land reform's bill set to reach R10bn

S (Times Cross)

29/11/94

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Sowetan 30/5/94

# Bakubung go home

By Isaac Moledi

THOUSANDS of Bakubung Ba Ratheo in the Western Transvaal celebrated their return to their land at the weekend - 26 years after they were removed and settled in Lidig near Rustenburg.

The community was forcefully removed from their ancestral land at Molote in 1968 by the former South African government.

The government relented in March this year after the tribe made numerous representations demanding their land.

On Saturday, there were tears and joy as thousands of the Bakubung celebrated the return to their land.

However, their leader, Chief David

Rasoou Monnagotla, was not present at the thanksgiving ceremony.

A spokesman for the community, Mr George Monnagotla, said Chief Monnagotla refused to lead his people back to Molote, claiming that he was now settled in Lidig.

He said the community had to elect his brother, Chief Lebusa Arthur Monnagotla, to be the leader of Bakubung.

Monnagotla denied allegations that there was a leadership dispute between Chief Lebusa and Chief Rasoou.

Scores of grannies and children defied the chilly weather and danced to tunes dished out by a band and local choirs.

(3) Gen  
Speakers stressed the need for unity and reconciliation of all Bakubung.

"What our tribe needs is reconciliation and peace. Let us not allow people to divide us," Molote councillor Mr David Moloko said.

A chairman of the North West sub-region of the Transvaal Land Restoration Committee, Mr Peter Ntswe, said the restoration of Molote back to the Bakubung was a sign of hope to millions of those who were still fighting for their land throughout the country.

There is no running water, electricity, or sewerage or transport to ferry the community from the settlement to nearby Boons Station. The Station is 5km from the settlement.

## SA short of red meat, prices up

BLOEMFONTEIN. — There is a serious shortage of red meat, especially mutton, throughout South Africa.

A meat industry spokesman said there was a shortage of slaughter animals ready for the market and the price of red meat was higher than average. The supply was expected to return to normal within three months. — Sapa



# focus on Bakubung

Sowetan 21/1/94

**T**HE RETURN OF the Bakubung Ba Ratheo to their ancestral land after they had been forcibly removed more than two decades ago, has not erased the bitterness pensioner Mrs Betty Mooi feels.

"I'm happy to be back home but this place reminds me of what the Boers did to us 26 years ago," the grieving Mooi says. "Our husbands were bitterly assaulted and tortured for saying they did not want to leave the land of their forefathers. Because of that, I'm no longer with my husband today. He is not here while the Bakubung celebrate their victory."

Born 70 years ago, Mooi was among the Bakubung families whose houses were razed to the ground by the heavy hand of the law in 1969. They were then settled, against their will, in Ledig near Rustenburg.

The community has now returned, and Mooi spoke to *Sowetan* about her bitterness over the removals, her detention spells and her joy at being back home even if her husband is no longer there to share the moment with her.

"My husband and I were not present when our house was demolished. We were both detained. I was at the Boons police station and my husband was detained in Rustenburg. We were among the many people who were arrested for saying 'No to Ledig. We want to remain on our land'," she says.

According to Mooi, her husband Elishah died three years ago while the Bakubung were still in Ledig. Now her task is to make sure that he, too, is buried in Molote.

Mooi, who suffered a stroke more than two years ago, says apartheid laws and bad conditions in Ledig are to blame.

"I was arrested three times for no apparent reason. I was detained twice in a Rustenburg prison.

"I was again detained at Boons police station. Now, here I am, suffering from a stroke. All because of apartheid laws and the bad conditions in Ledig," she charges.

After she was released from Rustenburg

**“I was arrested three times for no apparent reason. I was detained twice in a Rustenburg prison. I was again detained at Boons police station. Now, here I am, suffering from a stroke”**

Bakubung Ba Ratheo have returned to their ancestral lands 26 years after they were forcibly moved to Ledig, near Rustenburg. Their success will spur on other communities to fight for the return of their land, writes **Isaac Moledi:**



prison, Mooi was rearrested on her arrival in Molote and detained at Boons.

She never appeared in court. Neither was she charged.

"When I was released, I, together with those who were arrested with me, was told to go home and pack my things and go to Ledig," she says.

"After a week in Ledig, police arrived again about at 11pm. They kicked in the door of our shack and gained entry.

**Under arrest (3) Gen**

"They found me and my husband and told us my husband was under arrest. No warrant of arrest was produced.

"Before they arrested him, they started by kicking him and hitting him with gun butts. He was thrown into a police van. I demanded to know why he was being arrested but they did not tell me. When I wanted to give him his clothes, they said it was not necessary," she adds.

The following day, Mooi inquired from her friends and found that their husbands, too, had been arrested.

This was the beginning of a long journey for the four women to find out where their husbands were being held.

"I, together with three other women, began searching for them in various Rustenburg prisons ... but in vain," she says.

The women were fortunate that after long months of searching, a Rustenburg prison warden informed them that their husbands were detained in Pretoria.

"We waited for three months, hoping they would appear in court.

"We were surprised to hear on the radio that the men had already appeared and that one of them, a member of the royal family, had already died," Mooi says.

"We were not given permits to visit them in Pretoria. The police told us that we were not allowed."

Mooi cries when she remembers the treatment meted out to her husband got in detention.

"Our husbands really suffered. If you could have listened to the type of treatment my husband got from his captors, you would have cried," she says with tears streaming from her eyes.

After more than two decades, the scars left on

**“This place is ours and we are proud to be back. It is time to think how we are going to develop it”**

Malote are also still visible.

Partly demolished stone and mud structures, amid piles of rubble, still dot the gentle and beautiful bushveld.

"Our house used to be there," Mooi says, pointing at the ruins.

The only things that remain undamaged are the well-looked-after graves left behind 26 years ago. Nearby is the shanty town where about 74 families have lived since their return.

The former South African government re-letted in March this year after the tribe made numerous representations demanding their land.

The Bakubung are happy that about 95 per cent of their arable land has been returned to them.

According to a spokesman, negotiations about the remaining land is going on.

"This place is ours and we are proud to be back. Now it is time to think how we are going to develop it," one woman says.

The community spokesman, Mr George Monnagotla, told *Sowetan* at the weekend that plans are afoot to develop the area.

A committee has been elected to proceed with the development of the area once Vula Trust and Independent Development Trust have processed their plans.

## Chapter of evictions

And so, as the chapter of evictions closes for the Bakubung, another opens, of challenges and of developing their own area. Their success is bound to spur on other communities to reclaim their ancestral land, making this issue one that is bound to dominate the agenda of the new Government.

# At the crossroads of rural ownership

Sowetan

31/6/94

THE land claims of labourer-tenants on South African farms need to be recognised to ensure the success of the Government's land reform programme, says Farmworker Research and Resource Project co-ordinator Abie Dithake.

He said in an interview this week the Government's land reform policy must be fair and a local repetition of the land redistribution scandal in Zimbabwe had to be avoided.

Dithake said the Government faced the challenge of meeting the claims of labourer-tenants which were not recognised in the interim constitution nor the Government's reconstruction and development programme.

Labourer-tenants are distinguished from farmworkers in that they are entitled to plough land and keep livestock.

Dithake said their position was one of the main issues in a current campaign to organise farmworkers in the area between Springs on the East Rand and Piet Retief in the Eastern Transvaal.

"We are looking at a social movement of farmworkers."

"The perception that farmworkers demand only better pay and working conditions is wrong. Both labourer-tenants and farm employees are attached to the land and concerned about its ownership. Underestimating this attachment might threaten the success of land re-

form."

Dithake said the FWRRP had received considerable rural support because it recognised this link, whereas trade unions campaigning among rural workers had concentrated on wage and other employment-related issues.

The FWRRP has been organising rural workers since 1991, when it was established to study the implications of the drought for farmworkers. Its efforts have been focused on the south-western Transvaal and North-western Natal.

Sister organisations such as the Association for Rural Advancement and an "umbrella" body, the National Land Committee, have organised other areas

and developed national strategies.

Dithake said increased organisation had given rural workers the courage to resist evictions and the confidence to demand recognition of their land claims.

"It would be liberation if they can own land, security if they can remain there."

Labourer-tenants wanted the farms they lived and worked on to be subdivided. Many did not recognise the title deeds to the farms, feeling they had acquired ownership rights through their unpaid labour.

Dithake also said the redistribution of commercial farming land needed to be considered. The Government had

earmarked only state-owned land for redistribution.

Also of concern was Eastern Cape senator Mr Govan Mbeki's recent remark that large-scale afforestation might be necessary to curb soil erosion in the province.

Dithake said this might mean the removal of longstanding residents.

A pre-election agreement on labourer-tenants had yet to be passed on by the Transitional Executive Council to the relevant ministries for consideration. A resolution to set up farmer-tenant liaison committees to deal with disputes should be implemented, Dithake said. — Sapa.

# Hanekom favours land tax

③

wm 10-16/6/94

Estelle Randall

**N**EW Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom has said he favours the implementation of a land tax and will be setting up a committee in the next two months to investigate its feasibility.

He said that although a land tax would not provide a source of central state revenue, it would encourage farmers to use land productively. "If they do well, the percentage of income which goes to tax would go down. This would encourage peo-

ple to either produce more efficiently and increase their income ... or, if they can't do this, it will be an incentive for them to sell or lease. Such a tax would provide revenue for local government."

He conceded that although he personally favoured a land tax, its benefits had to be weighed against administration costs and resistance to it from farmers.

This weekend, the new minister and his department are to hold a workshop to identify key problems facing them and what restructuring will be necessary to meet the

challenges ahead.

An obvious one is managing the land reform process so that, as Hanekom put it, "we succeed in meeting our objectives without threatening farmers". The objectives, according to the RDP, are to address land claims resulting from apartheid dispossession and dating from 1913, and to redistribute 30 percent of South Africa's productive land within five years.

Hanekom has identified the land restitution leg of land reform as a priority. He said his department already had 90 rural restitution cases which are not being handled by the Commission on Land Allocation. They are dealing with these, and others which are with the Commission and which can be resolved through negotiation. Cases where there is no prospect of a local solution will have to wait for the Land Claims Court.

He also wanted his department to take responsibility for the rural development aspects of the RDP and to link this to restitution cases for the rest of 1994. "The RDP won't immediately be able to deliver mass basic services to rural areas. But rural people who get back their land need basic infrastructure such as water and roads."

Hanekom's department's current budget is R68-million, but he said he'll be asking for another R250-million to carry out land reform for the 1994/1995 financial year.

A White Paper on Land Reform would come out early next year, detailing the government's overall land reform programme.



LANDLESS TO PROUD OWNERS . . . Mr Willem Arendse and Mrs Katriens Ontong enjoy the rewards of a beautifully cultivated cabbage patch

Picture: JUSTIN SHOLK

## WEATHER



### WATCH

THE Weather Bureau's forecast for today:  
 Cape Town and vicinity  
 Fine but partly cloudy later and fog in the evening. No rain.  
 Wind will be light and variable.  
 Paarl and vicinity  
 Fine and no rain. Wind will be light and variable.  
 Langebaan and vicinity  
 Fine and no rain. Wind will be light and variable.  
 Hermanus and vicinity  
 Fine becoming partly cloudy in the evening with fog patches. No rain expected. Light and variable winds expected, becoming westerly.

# Farm takeover by Boland labourers

SI Times [C1 Metro]

By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

IN A ground-breaking move that could have far-reaching implications for land hungry people in South Africa, 22 coloured families from Saron in the Boland are to legally take over occupation of farms in the area — and more are set to follow in their footsteps.

Private deals between the Saron Farmers Association (SFA) — a body comprising members of the all-coloured community — and white farmers who "want out" are on the brink of being finalised.

If the deal was accepted by the government, more than 10 000 hectares of farming land in the area — where many of these people once worked as labourers — would be managed by locals, chairman of the SFA, Mr Evan Matthews, said this week.

Funding for the project was being considered by the government and the go-ahead was expected during the next three weeks, he said.

The sizes of the farms, all of which border Saron, vary from 100 ha to 4 000 ha.

"Government sources have already indicated

their support and it is just a matter of cutting through red tape," Mr Matthews said.

He would not elaborate on the prices that will be paid for the 10 farms, but said all the purchases would be at market value.

"Good deals have been struck with white farmers who want to sell," he said.

At least three of the farms are owned by absentee landlords who rented them to other farmers.

One farmer, who asked not be named and is to sell his property in the heart of the Rodezandt mountain range, said he was happy as he would be getting a "good price".

He said most of those who were to sell their

properties felt the same way.

"The people's project," as one of the local residents referred to it, was initiated by a group of residents of Saron.

"It sprang from the enormous demand for land in the area," Mr Matthews said.

"Vacant land within the boundaries of this small town simply cannot accommodate the demand from the 10 000-strong population in Saron," he said.

More than 120 men from the town have undergone training in all aspects of agriculture with the help of the Boskop Training Centre in Ceres since the programme began in November last year. A further 100 people are currently being trained.

Training co-ordinator at Boskop, Mr Donald Creighton, said 30 of the

trainees had also completed an extensive agricultural programme, covering various aspects of farming.

Twenty-two of these trainees, who had been identified to take over the management of the farms, were also undergoing further extensive all-round training.

The land will be split into smaller farms in line with recommendations of a recently-completed feasibility study by the world-renowned Elsenberg Agricultural College in Stellenbosch.

These new farmers would manage the farms for two years — with the assistance of two agricultural advisors to be appointed once the deal was finalised.

Thereafter they would have the option of taking over the loan repayments for the farms, Mr Matthews said.

He said the project was a major break through for the people of Saron, who had always cultivated their own fruit and vegetables in their backyards.

"The big task is to ensure that their farms will make a fair contribution towards the economic wealth of this country," he said.

## Harbour for North Cape?

THE Northern Cape provincial legislature is looking at the feasibility of building a deep sea harbour on the North Cape coast.

Speaking to civil servants and business people at Port Nolloth regional premier Manne Dinoo said Port Nolloth

## Cop 'shot with own gun'

By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

A POLICEMAN died early yesterday after an argument with his girlfriend, who allegedly shot him with his own service pistol and then turned the weapon on herself, police said.

He was Assistant Constable Wendell Vos of Richmond in the Cape.

The woman, whom police did not name, is in a critical condition in a Bloemfontein hospital.

Another policeman, off-duty Constable Jacques Swart, 24, of Blackheath, was killed in an accident when he lost control of his car early yesterday morning at the N1R300 intersection near Brackenfel, police said.

# Urbanisation may affect Western Cape farmlands

EDWARD WEST

CAPE TOWN — A radical change in the traditional character of Stellenbosch should be expected in the next two decades and only a few wine estates would remain, Western Cape agricultural development minister Lampie Fick said yesterday.

Fick said urbanisation would change many agricultural trends and the profile of the Western Cape farming community would change dramatically.

With an expected increased demand for agricultural land to house more than double the current population, Fick said the vegetable pantry of Cape Town would move

away from the Cape Flats.

For this reason the traditional character of Stellenbosch was expected to change over the next two decades, with wine production likely to shift more towards Paarl, Worcester, Robertson and the Olifants River Valley. *Biday 14/16/94*

However, Fick said that in spite of the relatively weak agricultural potential of soils in the region, those areas where the climate was favourable for agricultural production should not be used for urbanisa-

tion. The issue would be addressed in the overall provincial development plan, he said.

He said the underlying approach to agricultural development in the region was a free market system with minimum intervention by government.

Some intervention would, however, be required given SA's scant natural resources in relation to its population growth and its human requirements. *(3) Gen*

A draft framework of agricultural policy in the region would be given to national government for approval in a few weeks.

# Rural regions want voice

■ **URBAN BIAS** Communities want legal changes to Local Government Act:

By Tyrone August  
Political Reporter

**T**HE CALL to give rural communities a stronger voice in local government is getting louder. Several rural organisations are planning a programme of action to ensure this call is heard.

A wide range of organisations recently attended a meeting, convened by the Institute for Local Government, to discuss a programme that will campaign for changes to local government law.

This was followed a few days later by a meeting of 69 rural communities in KwaZulu-Natal, which set up a task group to address their problems with local governments.

"Generally, local government is characterised by fragmentation and incoherence arising out of apartheid policies," wrote Mr Alastair McIntosh and Ms Anne Vaughan in a paper recently.

"(These policies) attempted to establish spatially demarcated and ethnically-based entities under differently legislated authority systems."

The two researchers, from the University of Durban-Westville's Institute of Social and Economic Research, looked at Northern Transvaal but their views apply to other rural areas too.

They regard most of the present local government structures — including those under the provincial administrations — as inadequate.

"The existing system has reinforced vast inequalities," argue McIntosh and Vaughan, who feel the Regional Service Councils are partly to blame for these problems.

Instead, they suggest a new local government system made up of local authorities in towns, local councils in commercial farmlands and former homelands, and overarching district councils.

The meeting called by INLOGOV also placed district councils at the centre of their recommendations for an overhaul of the local government system.

"District councils are absolutely critical in non-metropolitan areas for co-ordination and equitable distribution of resources and skills," said those at the meeting.

"Such district councils would be made up both of direct representation of local authorities, ranging from small villages to towns, and directly elected representatives.

"They would in no way undermine the authority of local structures, but would rather enable the provision of services in areas with a lack of skills and resources."

Those behind the proposal include the National Rural Development Forum, Border Rural Com-

mittee, Northern Cape Rural Development Forum and Transkei Land Services Organisation.

As an interim measure, they propose that the RSCs and the Joint Services Boards should be democratised and used until new democratic structures can be established.

"There isn't much local government in either tribal authorities or the JSBs," said Ms Estelle Randall of the Association for Rural Advancement.

"We need to transform them and make them more democratic. And where these don't exist, people are excluded altogether from any form of service delivery or access to resources."

### Rural development

AFRA, the Natal Midlands Rural Development Network and the Regional Consultative Forum on Rural Development agreed last week to request a meeting with the Thukela and Midlands JSBs.

They plan to take up the problems of rural communities left out of local government processes, and have asked for an initial meeting with the two JSBs on June 29.

"The JSBs should be transformed, as a matter of urgency, to make them consistent with the current local government process," they said in a joint statement.

A key aim of the organisations is to ensure that both statutory and non-statutory bodies are represented in the areas

Rural communities are still marginalised ... but are no longer silent. Their organisations are now demanding stronger representation in local government.

in which the JSBs operate.

They were scathing about the JSBs: "The Midlands JSB failed to follow through on promises, there were long delays in service provision and structures were insufficiently democratic."

"The Thukela JSB lacked transparency and did not consult. It also did not promote community empowerment and there was no service delivery to black freehold areas."

The only long-term solution is therefore a new local government system. And this will only be possible if the Local Government Transition Act is changed.

The meeting hosted by INLOGOV drew attention to this: "The Act and the relevant constitutional chapters have been drawn up without due consideration of rural areas."

"If we are going to deliver to rural areas, an appropriate democratic institutional framework is absolutely vital. A national effort is necessary to build effective rural government."

The organisations at the meeting said a national policy framework was needed

to ensure nationally uniform standards throughout the country.

"It is through local structures that people's voice can be heard (and) their newly found basic democratic rights assured," they said.

"Through democratic local structures, rural people's own priorities and needs can be addressed rather than being at the receiving end of traditional authorities, RSCs and JSBs."

Because of the Act's urban bias, McIntosh and Vaughan feel it does not take into account that very few rural governments will have the revenue to sustain a viable local government system.

This has serious implications for the poorer regions: "It could undermine a future local government system where expectations raised by the establishment of forums cannot be met."

"Secondly, such structures could become completely dependent on provincial grants and the patronage of provincial politicians for revenue and services."

McIntosh and Vaughan warn that this could result in "immense opportunities

for abuse".

Another problem area is the lack of clarity on the role of traditional authorities in rural government. Some civic associations reject these, while others believe there is room for them.

These divergent views have potential for conflict, McIntosh and Vaughan caution. The NRDF's Ms Louise Colvin also believes a debate should be opened on the role of traditional authorities.

There are many other areas of concern around rural government. The INLOGOV meeting suggested further consultation with rural communities to identify these.

Their programme of action includes seeing members of the national and regional governments as well as provincial committees on local government.

It is therefore clear that, while rural communities are still marginalised and disadvantaged, they are no longer hidden away in the backyards of the nation's conscience.

They now have a voice. And it is getting stronger and stronger all the time.



# '10 000 new farmers' for W Cape

## Political Staff

MORE than 10 000 people would enter Western Cape agriculture, settling on about 200 000 hectares of state land in the next decade, regional Minister of Agricultural Development Mr Lampie Fick said yesterday.

He was addressing the Cape

fruit leadership seminar at Fleurbaiz in Stellenbosch.

Mr Fick said new farmers would also settle on private land obtained through the market.

He also said agriculture in 1991 provided 12% of all formal jobs in the Western Cape.

A recent study had indicated

that one million jobs could be created by redistributing 30% of agricultural land to disadvantaged new entrants who would apply labour-intensive farming methods.

Mr Fick said the contribution of agriculture in the Western Cape to gross national product was 20%. *CT 14/6/94*

He added that the Small Farmer Development Corporation, founded recently as an initiative of the Western Cape fruit industry, could be an agent for allocating government land and channelling government finance. Training, research and technology transfer were government functions.

# 10 000 farmers to get state land

ARC 14/6/94  
③

**MICHAEL MORRIS**  
Political Correspondent

THOUSANDS of black and coloured farmers are to be settled on state land in the Western Cape in a major small-farms scheme that will dramatically change the face of agriculture in the region.

And wine estates in the historic Stellenbosch area, with the exception of a few showpiece farms, will make way for a "radical" shift in farming patterns in years to come as the vegetable pantry of the Cape moves north from the Cape Flats, Western Cape Agriculture Minister Lampie Fick has announced.

Open land on the Cape Flats will be used for housing.

## THE CHANGING SOUTH AFRICA

About 200 000 hectares of state land in the province, supplemented with private property to be bought in a combined state/private sector thrust to boost small-scale agriculture, is to be used to settle 10 000 small farmers over the next 10 years.

These far-reaching announcements by Mr Fick coincided with his two-hour tour of township "farms" in Khayelitsha and Crossroads yesterday.

He told the newly formed African Farmers' Association at a meeting in Tembani, Khayelitsha, that his officials were investigating legislation to revolutionise small farm finance.

This would create a system of finance that was "modern, effective, fast and which is adapted to the needs of small farmers who do not have enough fixed assets to give in bond".

Mr Fick also announced that the Elsenburg Development Institute near Stellenbosch would become the head office of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture and that a small farmer development unit at the college to provide training and support for new farmers would be expanded.



**FARMER'S TALK:** Western Cape Minister of Agriculture Lampie Fick chats to Khayelitsha farmer Mpati Nodolo. Looking on, left, is general secretary of the African Farmers' Union, Dan Fletcher.

Picture: OBED ZILWA, The Argus



He told township farmers: "The profile of the Western Cape farming community will change dramatically during the next 10 years."

The settlement of 10 000 small farmers in this period means that 20 000 new jobs could be created.

The economic prospects for farmers will be rosier.

The population in the Cape metropolitan area is expected to rise from 2,5 million to 4 million by 2010 and the market for agricultural products will increase by between 50 and 70 percent.

Small farmers will also be well-placed to enter the export market which holds "vast opportunities" for new entrants into the field.

Mr Fick said population pressure would inevitably mean the vegetable pantry of the Cape would move away from the Cape Flats.

"For this reason, a radical change in the traditional character of the Stellenbosch district should be expected during the next two decades.

"Only a few wine estates adding specific value would probably be left.

"Wine production can be expected to shift more towards Paarl, Worcester, Robertson, the Olifants River valley and even the Elgin/Grabouw area."

Mr Fick said he would be ready "within weeks" to submit a structural framework for agricultural development in the province to the executive council.

A draft framework had already been drawn up in consultation with the mainstream, formal agribusiness sector and the informal small-farmer new-entrant sector.

TOWNSHIP TOUR

# Af(farm)ative action

Western Cape Agriculture Minister Lampie Fick shed his jacket and trudged through the dung and dust of township kraals this week to bring a message of hope to the "farmers" of Khayelitsha and Crossroads. Political Correspondent MICHAEL MORRIS and photographer OBED ZILWA trudged along too.

~~PH~~

28 (3) APR 15/6/94

**D**EEP in the shack-packed sprawl of Khayelitsha, there are dairies selling fresh, creamy milk by the litre, and the mug.

Crookedly constructed pens between the houses are home to the fat-uddered cows that are servicing a growing, if unconventional agro-industry.

Incongruous as these "farms" may be in the treeless, litter-strewn landscape, their profitability is a sign that the men and women who run them have found their proverbial niche.

They charge anything from R1.60 to R1.80 a litre — more than most shops, yet clearly within the limits of their own market.

But the fact remains that these "farmers" face almost impossible odds.

They have no grazing other than the verge of the N2 — a perilous paddock, for farmer, cow and passing motorist — or the odd patch among the shacks and houses of the township.

They have virtually no technical know-how, little or no training, no credit or financial backing and a very limited future.

What they do have is the desire to farm.

And Lampie Fick, a former dairy farmer in his old constituency of Caledon, detected this the moment he embarked on his two-hour tour this week.

"This, you see, is the resource," he told *The Argus* as he surveyed a kraal staked out between the shacks.

"It is the farmers themselves. That is the asset. They have no other assets to speak of, and we must find a way of financing that recognises that it is the human resource that is the asset."

Mr Fick's visit to the townships signalled a dramatic shift in the province's agricultural policy, which now formally acknowledges the role of small farmers from population groups denied land rights under apartheid — and is geared to providing opportunities for them.

Among the delegation were general secretary of the African Farmers' Union Dan Fletcher, chairman of the affiliated African Farmers' Association, Chief H Nyembe, and head of the small farmers' support unit at Elsenberg agricultural college, Ben Saaiman.

Mr Fick clearly won the trust and the hearts of the Khayelitsha and Crossroads farmers as he moved confidently among their cattle,

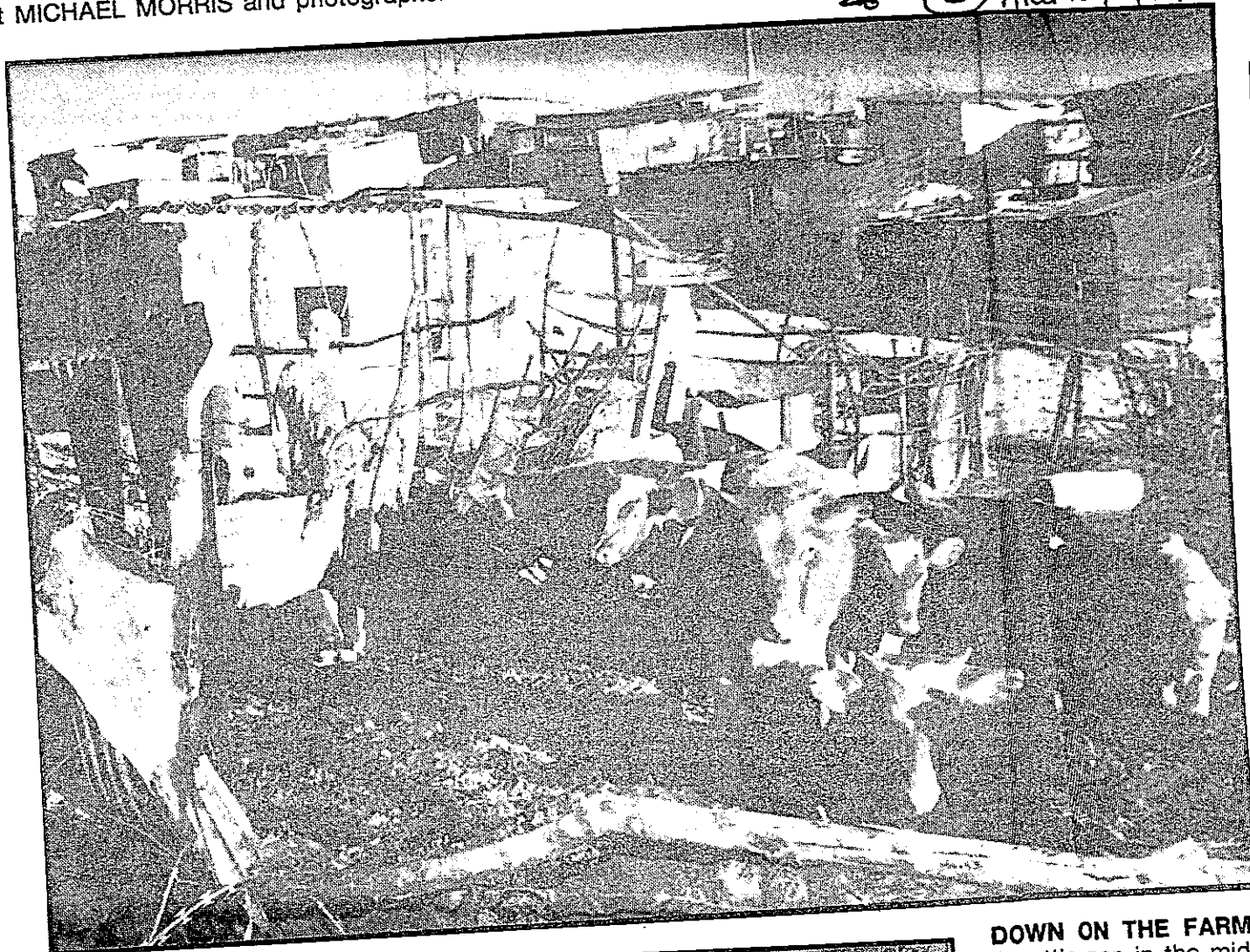
prodding and patting as he went, and discussing the arcane science of udder and rump.

Dairy owners-cum-farmers like Mpati Nodolo and Kenneth Ndayi had never imagined a Minister of Agriculture would express a personal interest in their herds.

And Mr Fick probably never imagined he'd ever get to sample a homegrown township carrot proffered by Site C greens grower Zigebe Tshayingwe, who stood proudly at the gate to his luscious four-by-two metre garden of spinach, potatoes and tomatoes as the visitors filed down the sandy path to his door.

Earlier, at 10 Peach Close in Tembani, an affluent suburb of Khayelitsha, Mr Fick drew laughter from his audience of eager farmers when he closed his speech with the observation that "we must be careful we don't become like rich farmers ... they talk a lot, and work a little. We must stop talking and get to work".

The township farmers are not rich, nor particularly talkative, but they are keen to get the chance to show what they are worth on land they can call their own.



**DOWN ON THE FARM:** A cattle pen in the middle of Khayelitsha is hemmed in by shacks.

□ □ □  
Pictures:  
OBED ZILWA,  
*The Argus*  
□ □ □

**PUMPKIN PATCH:** Proud Khayelitsha vegetable grower Zigebe Tshayingwe, left, shows some of his produce to Western Cape Agriculture Minister Lampie Fick.



## Alfred dreams of a herd of his own . . .

**F**OR as long as he can remember, Alfred Plaatjies has wanted to be a farmer.

A Laingsburg childhood, almost constantly within earshot of the blaring flocks of vast Karoo sheep farms, instilled in him this simple pastoral ambition.

But, as the years went by, it seemed it would remain just a dream.

After all, coloured people didn't really become farmers, even if they wanted to.

Yet, today, the 40-year-old Blackheath dispatch clerk believes his time has come.

The secretary of the newly formed African Farmers' Association, he joined about 50 other aspirant agriculturists at a house in Khayelitsha this week for talks with Western Cape Agriculture Minister Lampie Fick.

Mr Plaatjies, and thousands like him, are preparing to change their jobs and their lives . . . and the landscape of the Western Cape.

His heart is set on being among the first of the 10 000 small farmers the Western Cape government will help to establish in the region in the next decade.

"I am very excited about all these new things.

"I grew up in Laingsburg and farming's in my blood. Once you get something in your heart, you can't let it go."

Married, with two children, Mr Plaatjies realises he cannot be rash.

"What I really want to do is farm with cattle. I would like a herd.

"But I think I'll have to start off with crops, with vegetables probably, because then you can be sure of a harvest every three months or so. And you need that for cash flow.

"The thing with cattle is that it takes time to get a return. But I'll get on to cattle eventually."

Mr Plaatjies is particularly keen on farming in the Malmesbury district.

"But capital is the problem. You've got to get finance, that's the thing."

Vice-chairman of the African Farmers' Association, Toto Ntsobi, wants to farm vegetables . . . and tobacco.

"I have been living in Khayelitsha from the start, and I haven't had the chance to farm, but I really want to.

"Things are very encouraging now, and if we can just get some help with land and finance, we can start."

Mr Ntsobi wants to farm in the Stellenbosch district.

"The township will be our market and we'll set up our own place to sell. We'll sell direct, to cut out the middle-man."

He speaks highly of technical assistance given so far by Elsenberg agricultural college and the Western Cape Agricultural Union in Paarl.

"These are our sister organisations because we realise we cannot operate in isolation," he says.

# Farm settlement 'not a free-for-all'

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

③ THE possible settlement of 10 000 new small farmers in the Western Cape was not a free-for-all, Western Cape Agriculture Minister Mr Lampie Fick said yesterday.

"Farming land will have to be bought. Even if it is state land it belongs to the taxpayer and should be bought at an equitable price," he said.

CTIS/6/94  
The project should encourage people to make profits by producing the quality the market demanded.

"If the discipline of a profit and loss account is not the underlying philosophy the project of small farmer settlement cannot be successful."

Private ownership, backed by training, technological support and financial assistance adapted to the specific needs of new entrants without assets,

should be the guiding principles of the programme, he said.

The wine industry was not likely to disappear from Stellenbosch to make way for vegetable and fruit farming, KWV said yesterday.

KWV was reacting to a statement by Mr Fick, who said the Cape Flats' "vegetable pantry" would be forced to move to Stellenbosch because of pressure for housing on the Flats.

"Quality wine production is a particularly good earner of foreign exchange and is linked to certain microclimates and soil. That is why we still have top wine estates in densely populated areas like Constantia."

A spokesman for Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery said France had had vineyards for thousands of years which no amount of residential pressure had forced them to uproot.

# Land deal 'has limited impact'

BY KAIZER NYATSUMBA  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The controversial transfer of almost 3 million ha of land to Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini was not intended to give the Ingonyama Trust "powers of government" and would therefore have "a limited impact on land redistribution and restitution".

This was the view of the Cabinet committee which in-

Star 16/6/94  
vestigated the land transfer and made its report yesterday. Deputy President FW de Klerk had signed the Ingonyama Trust Act a few days before the Interim Constitution was to take effect.

The committee believed "the relevant parties" could arrive at a solution and secure an appropriate role for the Zulu monarch "as guardian of tribally occupied land", said Land Affairs Minister

Derek Hanekom.

"The goals with the establishment of the trust were to ensure that land occupied or owned by tribes in the area would vest in them when the new constitution came into effect.

Since the land had been occupied by "tribes and communities since prior to 1913", the Act would have limited impact on land redistribution.

(25/2)

(3) Gen:

# Land deal may be nullified

By Josias Charle

THE parliamentary act which enabled former State President FW de Klerk to transfer three million hectares of land to King Goodwill Zwelithini is set to be abolished.

This was announced at a Press conference by members of the Cabinet committee appointed to investigate the controversial transfer made two days before the April 27 election.

The recommendations of the four-man committee were accepted by the full Cabinet at its weekly meeting at

*Sowetan*  
1716194  
the Union Buildings on Wednesday. The committee comprised Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom, Constitutional Development Minister Mr Roelf Meyer, Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Professor Kader Asmal and Dr Ben Ngubane, the Minister of Science, Technology, Arts and Culture. *(3) Gen*

The ministers recommended that the KwaZulu Ingonyama Trust Act be amended or be substituted.

They also recommended that King Zwelithini continue as guardian of the tribally occupied land.

"New legislation should create a structure for managing the land which is sufficiently broadly based to ensure that any unwarranted interference or manipulation of the land is not possible," the ministers said.

New legislation is expected to be tabled in September, but the ministers warned that it could take longer.

It was also pointed out that the act did not make the king the owner of the land, but a statutory trustee.

"Furthermore, most of the land involved is already occupied by tribes and communities."

# Govt to revamp agriculture

By ANTHONY JOHNSON  
Political Correspondent

③ CT 17/6/94  
**THE** government has decided to revamp its agricultural policy to bring it into line with "the democratisation of South Africa" and the reconstruction and development programme (RDP).

Minister of Agriculture Dr Kraai van Niekirk announced yesterday that a committee of experts has been appointed to draw

up a White Paper on a new national agricultural policy.

The minister said the process would be transparent and inclusive. Principles on which the White Paper should be based would be proposed at a seminar on July 21.

Parties interested in attending should approach the secretary of the committee by June 30.

"The democratisation of South

Africa necessitates a new agricultural policy. Such a policy must not only recognise, but also support, the government's RDP as well as the letter and spirit of the constitution."

Inquiries and submissions should be addressed to Mr P A le Roux, Department of Agriculture, Private Bag X250, Pretoria 0001 or fax (012) 326-3454.

## Wine farmers, minister to discuss 'loss' of lands

CT17/6/94 Political Staff (3)

STELLENBOSCH farmers are to confront Western Cape Agriculture Minister Mr Lampie Fick today about his prediction that wine farms in the area will disappear over the next 20 years.

Mr Fick is to address a meeting of the Stellenbosch Farmers' Association at 4pm.

"He will ... discuss the projected change of the Stellenbosch agriculture profile," his office said.

Earlier this week, Mr Fick said he believed the vineyards would be replaced by high-value perishable products over the next two decades.



# Fick on farms: 'I was quoted out of context'

3 APRIL 1974  
JOHN VILJOEN

Weekend Argus Reporter

THE state has no plans to appropriate Stellenbosch wine-lands and hand them over to small-scale black and coloured farmers, Western Cape agriculture minister Lampie Fick has said.

Mr Fick met Stellenbosch wine farmers face-to-face yesterday, days after reports that he had said a radical shift in farming patterns toward vegetable production would see the demise of some wine farms.

He told a meeting of the Stellenbosch Farmers' Association, attended mostly by wine-farmers, that any attempt to take private land would be unconstitutional.

Mr Fick said he had been quoted out of context. The state had no plan of action to change the nature of farming in the Stellenbosch area and believed in free-market forces, he said.

But, it was only realistic that market forces would affect the character of Stellenbosch farming over the next 20 years, he said.

Some farmers might decide voluntarily to diversify and use some of their land to grow vegetables to improve their profit margins, he believed.

During the meeting, wine farmer Jan Boland Coetzee said Stellenbosch farmers should be the ones to decide on

the future of agriculture in the district — not politicians.

Although he agreed with Mr Fick's view on market forces, Mr Coetzee said Stellenbosch had been a successful wine producing area for about 320 years and was likely to remain so for the next 20.

Frans Malan of Simonsig Estate said Stellenbosch was the country's champion region, but not all farms produced great wines. If farmers were going to survive, they would have to produce quality wine.

Mr Malan also said he was concerned that squatters had moved on to "some of the best agricultural land in the country" near the Khayamandi township.

He called on Mr Fick to guarantee that the government would not allow good farming land to be used for housing.

Mr Fick responded by saying he would not formulate any agricultural policy without consulting the farming community.

He had erred in saying earlier this week there were plans to establish 10 000 new farmers in the Western Cape, said Mr Fick. The 10 000 was a national figure, but still meant a few thousand new farmers for the region, he told farmers.

The small-farmer's scheme was not "socialist", he said. Each of the farmers allocated land would be expected to farm for a profit.

pumpkins and carrots'

erupts

(3) Rkt 18/16/94

# 'Wine estates won't be wiped out just because somebody wants to grow Vines v Veggies battle

DAVID BREIER  
Weekend Argus Political Staff

STELLENBOSCH cabernet will not surrender to an invasion of cabbage; nor its pinotage to pumpkins; nor its riesling to radishes.

That is the firm view of the wine industry after Western Cape Minister of Agriculture Lampie Fick predicted this week that most Stellenbosch wine farms would make way for vegetable growing within 20 years to feed Cape Town's growing population. He said existing vegetable farms on the Cape Flats were being swallowed up by housing developments.

But, wine farmers breaking into international markets after the end of sanctions, are convinced that this will not be the first time a politician has been proved wrong.

Cape Estate Wine Producers' Association chairman Sydney Back predicted the main thrust of new vegetable farms would be in the direction of the Swartland rather than the Boland.

"Mr Fick's statement was a bit sweeping. I don't think that in 20 years there will be no more wine estates in Stellenbosch. Wine making is not just a means to make a living. It's a way of life. Estates are not going to be wiped out just like that because somebody wants to grow pumpkins, beans and carrots".

Mr Back said he could not comment on the case of smaller farmers, but he was convinced the estates and the private producers had a long life ahead of them.

"They already have the wine infrastructure and cellars and a whole organisation. Estates are not just vacant pieces of ground," he said.

And, Mr Back pointed out that, with growing tourism, visitors were hardly likely to visit potato farms in the same way they followed the Stellenbosch wine route. Closing wine farms would be a blow to tourism, he said.

Mr Back pointed out that existing vegetable farms were becoming far more productive due to greater efficiency and improved fertilisers, increasing their yields

without the need for more ground.

"Politicians have been more consistently wrong than they have been right," was his summing up of Mr Fick's prophecy.

Frans Malan of Simonsig said vegetables could be grown almost anywhere while it took very specific soil to grow wine, and Stellenbosch was acknowledged to be one of the best wine regions in South Africa and the world.

And, Mr Malan pointed out that increasing numbers of winemakers were emerging in Stellenbosch — far from disappearing from the scene.

"The trend is upwards, not downwards. The new winemakers are a motion of confidence in Stellenbosch," he said.

"I cannot see a future for bulk wines in

Stellenbosch," Mr Malan said, predicting the trend would be towards quality bottled wine carrying the winemaker's label.

He said producing wine was a lifestyle to make a product that had added value which vegetables did not have.

"There is more in wine than in potatoes," he said.

Stellenbosch wine farmers were in the process of receiving expensive irrigation water from Theewaters-kloof Dam which made it less likely they would change to producing cheaper products such as vegetables.

Mr Malan pointed that a lot of vegetables were already being produced in the Stellenbosch area without affecting wine production.

"I cannot see wine estates going out of business now that we are entering the export market." And, with increased tourism, the Stellenbosch wine route would become even more important, he predicted.

Deputy chief executive of KWV Kobus van Niekerk said vegetable farming, in any event, always had been an integral part of mixed farming in the Western Cape. "Vegetables have always been in oversupply on the Cape market."

"Normal residential pressure on agricultural property will continue with population growth. However, land of a low agricultural potential will be used for this purpose. It will not affect high potential wine and fruit cultivation."

# Small-farmer scheme a joint venture

MICHAEL MORRIS

Weekend Argus Political Correspondent

**E**MERGENT farmers will have to pass a thorough selection process before joining the provincial government's far-reaching small-farmer programme.

But, the process would not be designed or driven unilaterally by the Western Cape department of agriculture, said provincial agriculture minister Lampie Fick.

It would be a joint venture, involving the government, local communities and organisations such as the African Farmers' Union.

New farmers would be closely advised and helped by agricultural experts from the Elsenburg Agricultural Development Institute.

He also emphasised that rural development policy would not be planned in isolation and would have to mesh with urban planning.

Mr Fick was speaking yesterday at a briefing at the Elsenburg Agricultural Development Institute at which a map showing how all State land in the province was to be released.

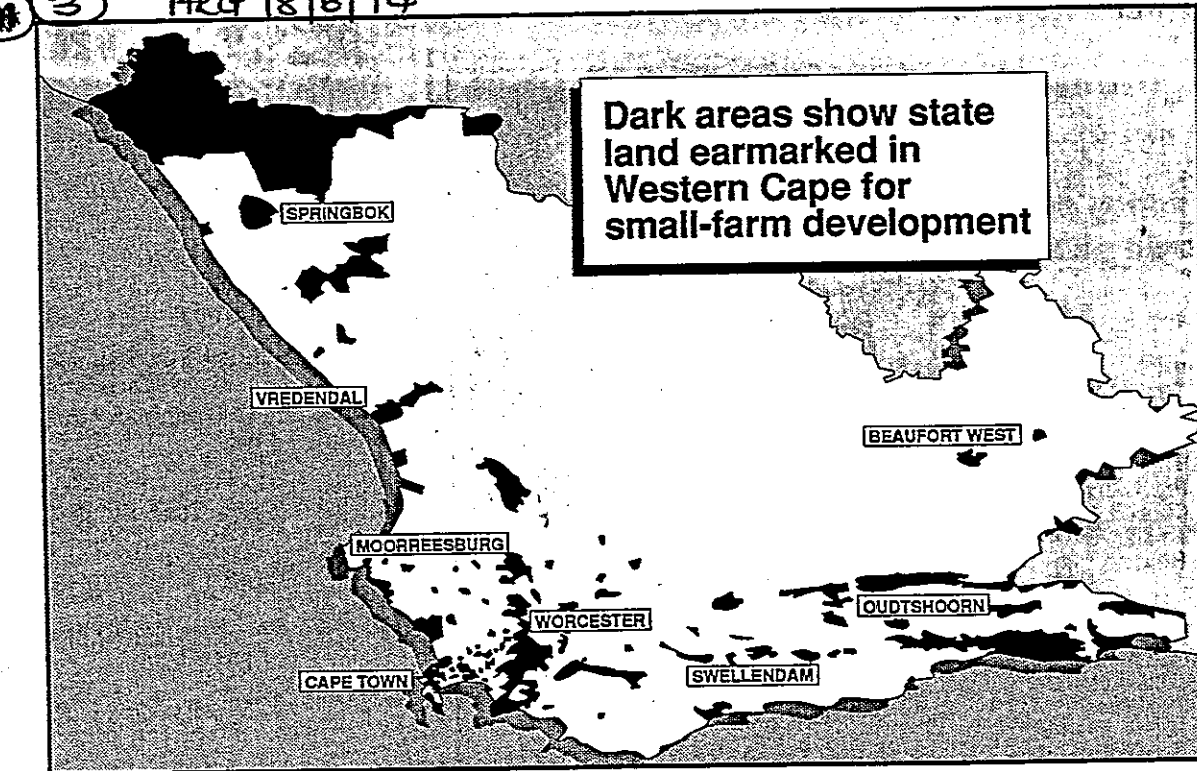
The map shows State land totalling about 1,4 million hectares, but which includes nature reserves such as Cape Point, as well as mountain reserves and forestry areas. Conservation areas will not be exploited.

Within the tracts of State land are pockets of arable land, or grazing — amounting to about 200 000 — which are earmarked for small-farm development.

Director of the Elsenburg institute, Dr Johan Burger, said the small-farmer scheme was not simply the "brainchild" of the department of agriculture, but was "a joint effort between us and the small farmers themselves".

Greater attention would be paid to determining the "profile of the men and women who want to farm ... their aspirations, level of training, abilities and needs".

A survey was being conducted to achieve this. It would also help to find out how many potential small



□ **STATE LAND:** This map shows all the State land in the Western Cape. Of the total of 1,4-million hectares, about 200 000 hectares have been identified as suitable for settling new farmers.

farmers there were in the province.

Both he and Mr Fick stressed that there would be no "hand-outs".

A financial scheme to suit the project — aimed at making it easier for small farmers to get land — was on the drawing board.

There was no question of the State simply "taking" land from property owners or farmers.

Dr Burger said that in many cases, land ownership was not a priority because people were more interested in entering into partnerships in agricultural enterprises.

Acquiring land was not the only element of the scheme. It was aimed as much at existing farmers in communities like Saron — and those in the former "coloured reserves" north of Springbok. For them, it meant having access to

technical and advisory support services.

Mr Fick said the settlement programme would be based on applications from aspirant farmers who would be selected according to strict criteria. These had yet to be drawn up, but would cover the financial and agricultural viability of the proposed farming operation, as much as the suitability of the applicant.

He favoured a system of financing that meant "investing in personal capital, the quality of the individual applicant".

It was vital that communities endorsed the criteria he said.

"The element of empowerment — of communities and not necessarily only individuals — is a key aspect of this."

Asked about the awareness among new farmers of the sensitivity of the environment and the importance of conserving natural resources, president of the African Farmers' Union, Evan Mathews said: "Everything we do is done in consultation with Elsenburg."

"We are not scientists, but in the resettlement programme, we have formed partnerships with the department and have weekly meetings with experts from Elsenburg."

Mr Fick said: "We do not have all the wisdom (on small farm development), but as a result of the proactive work by the department and at Elsenburg, we have a lot of basic information, and the groundwork to get this programme to work."

## Farms 'won't' be taken from whites'

REC 23/6/94  
The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — White farmers in the North West province should not fear that their farms would be taken away from them.

This was said yesterday in Mmbatho by the MEC for agriculture and the environment, Rocky Malebane Metsing, while responding to the premier's policy speech.

Mr Metsing made recommendations to the house that land reform should be a priority for the provincial government.

"We are concerned at the massive manner in which black people in general have been alienated from agriculture as an enterprise.

"Decades of a negative and destructive system as well as of systematic legal process aimed at denying black people access to productive land ownership need to be addressed," he said.

The land should be redistributed to all races. The North West region had about 70 000 hectares of state land that should be used profitably so as to implement the reconstruction and development programme.

# Cancer centre is part of a success story

LIBBY PEACOCK  
Staff Reporter

INVESTMENT in a paediatric cancer centre pays dividends, as 60 to 70 percent of children with cancer can be cured.

And the treatment of paediatric cancer is the "dramatic success story of modern medicine" — but the best results are obtained if children are referred to a cancer centre from the beginning of their illness.

So said Red Cross Children's Hospital head of Oncology Cyril Karabus at the official opening of the extension to the hospital's cancer ward yesterday.

Among the guests were Western Cape Minister of Health Ebrahim Rasool and Marike de Klerk, wife of deputy president F W de Klerk.

The R100 000 needed for the extension — which is designed to accommodate the parents of children when necessary — was raised by hospital staff and the parents of patients with help from the community. They also raised a further R70 000 to decorate the new unit and refurbish the old.

Professor Karabus said more and more people were dying of cancer in the developing world, where it was estimated that only about 10 percent of cancer resources were spent.

"This hospital is a national treasure which contains probably the broadest collection of paediatric expertise on the continent."

Head of Paediatrics David Beatty said cancer was a curable disease, but it required expert care.

"Children need primary health care, but they also need specialised care. We cannot deliver care in isolated packages."

During a tour of the new facilities, Mr Rasool said he was glad that he had the chance to see what was being done for children with cancer.

He was "shocked by the fact that such young children suffer from cancer".

Small alterations — such as the fact that parents could now spend the night with their sick children — meant "so much" and relieved the stress for both child and parent, Mr Rasool said.

Mrs De Klerk, who helped in the fundraising drive, said it was "wonderful" that it had been completed at last.

● The unit holds 14 in-patients, accommodates two live-in mothers and sees 380 out-patients a month. Staff see 80 newly-diagnosed children a year, but 160 children receive chemotherapy at the hospital.

Sixty percent of children treated at the unit are fully cured.



Pictures: OBED ZILWA, The Argus.

**CARING TOUCH:** Western Cape Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool comforts Jonathan Kigo, 2, of Vredendal, a patient in the Red Cross Children's Hospital's cancer ward. Mr Rasool toured the ward during the official opening of a new extension.

# Real demand may, after all, not be for farmland

Biday

24/6/94

③ Gen ~~Gen~~

LAST week's statement by ANC election adviser Stan Greenberg that land redistribution was not a priority for voters flies in the face of conventional wisdom. It also contradicts assertions that people backed the ANC because it promised to redress land inequalities. The Economist recently claimed that "nearly all" of the 3.5-million people it said had been dumped into homelands wanted their land back. Yet Simon Barber reports from Washington that Greenberg attended "lots of focus groups" before the elections but, even in rural areas, "could not find a soul who said that land was what they wanted out of the elections".

Removals generated great bitterness, for example among the Baku-bung community in the western Transvaal. As Betty Mooi, one of those removed and now restored to her home, said: "Our husbands were bitterly assaulted and tortured for saying they did not want to leave the land of their forefathers. Because of that, I'm no longer with my husband today. He is not here while the Baku-bung celebrate their victory."

Last year a World Bank report warned that if SA did not embark upon large-scale land reform the consequences could include a peas-

ants' insurrection. Only last month it was reported that more than 300 landless communities were threatening to occupy land unless the clauses about expropriation in the Bill of Rights were revised.

And earlier in the year PAC leaders were enthusiastically received when they said: "We promise you the return of the land of our forefathers which was taken from you by force. If it means we must go back to the bush to return our land, we will do so."

Part of SA's shameful history is that much black agriculture was deliberately destroyed to reduce competition for white farmers and increase the supply of labour for white employers. This makes a powerful political case for redress, as does the forced removal policy.

There are also other potent reasons why black people willing to brave the elements to go farming should be encouraged. Mining, manufacturing and the tertiary sector will not grow fast enough to provide the jobs this country needs, so black enterprise in the agricultural sector will have to play a part.

Yet although it is widely assumed that there is huge demand for land, we do not know the size of this de-

## JOHN KANE-BERMAN

mand or what kind of demand it is. Of massive demand for housing land in the cities there is no doubt. Assessing demand for land to farm is more difficult. Perhaps it may be less than is sometimes assumed.

In 1977 Barbara Waite painstakingly compiled a huge map to illustrate forced removals. The map shows clearly how the social engineers pursued their policy of racial cleansing, for the arrows invariably point from so-called black spots in all the white-designated areas to homeland areas. It seems inconceivable that all these people will not want their land back, yet we need to examine the claims about this more closely.

Although more than a million of the victims of forced removals were evicted from white farms or black spots — black-owned farms outside the homelands — about a million were already living and working not on farms but in towns.

These were people in black townships adjoining white towns but close enough to the homelands for the

townships to be disestablished and their residents shifted to the homelands, whence they would supposedly commute to work.

At one stage officials even toyed with disestablishing Soweto. The chairman of the West Rand Bantu Administration Board once told me he had flown by helicopter from Soweto to Bophuthatswana to see where a railway could be built. The Johannesburg workforce could be shuttled back and forth on Japanese-style bullet trains. Residents of townships on the East Rand were also due for removal and the bullet train shuttle service — in their case to and from KwaNdebele.

Neither of these schemes was implemented, but numerous others were. Lichtenberg and 13 other towns in the Transvaal had their townships disestablished in the 1970s and their people were moved to Itso-seng in Bophuthatswana. People were similarly removed from small towns in the Free State to Onverwacht, from Duncan Village outside East London to Mdantsane in the Ciskei, from Glencoe and Dundee to KwaZulu, and from Nylstroom and Naboomspruit to Steilloop in the west of Lebowa, to name a few.

These removals suggest why Greenberg might be right and the conventional wisdom wrong. The communities in question were urban communities, not farming communities. Perhaps, in fact, the predominant demand for land is not for land to farm but for housing land.

The white population is now largely urbanised, and the number of whites living in rural areas is diminishing. Black people are showing the same trend. In the 1980s, for example, the rate of increase of the urban African population was much greater than the overall growth rate of the African population.

Between the beginning of the 1990s and 2010 the urban African population is expected to double, whereas the African population in rural areas will grow by only 20%, so that 15 years from now nearly 70% of Africans will be urbanised.

It was, after all, the determination of people to move from the white platteland and the homelands to the cities that broke the pass laws.

□ Kane-Berman is SA Institute of Race Relations executive director.

# This land is my land

By Quentin Wilson



**DREAM:** Bean farmer Tommy Jarvis will start planting on his own land from September 1 Photo: Yunus Mohamed

**A**FTER farming on a tiny section of state land for the past decade, Mr Tommy Jarvis of Saron, near Ceres, can finally plant beans on his own land from the beginning of September.

Jarvis is one of 22 small farmers in Saron who will benefit from the provincial government's pledge to accommodate 10 000 struggling farmers on their own land over the next 10 years.

At a meeting with the delighted farmers last week, Mr Lampie Fick, minister of agricultural development, announced he had secured the support of the Agricultural Credit Bureau in paying for the land.

*Southern* 24/6 - 28/6/94  
"I am overjoyed," exclaimed a 50 year-old Jarvis, "Finally my family is to have its own farm. We are all so excited that we struggle to sleep at night."

Settlement of the 22 farmers in Tulbagh became possible when eight retiring farmers in the area wanted to sell their land (3) (P)

"It has always been my dream to farm my own land," said 58 year-old, Mr Isak Marsch. "Under the old system I never had a chance. I could only farm on state land — and there you never knew when you might get thrown off."

"I had an opportunity to be one of the 22 farmers but I am too old now," he said.

"I thought it would be better to give the chance to my son. I'll

teach him all I know."

Fick said that providing land for 10 000 small-scale farmers was an "important contribution" his ministry could make in the region's Reconstruction and Development Programme.

"If we can get it right, it will be an advantage for everybody. Not only will it create about 20 000 jobs, it will give impetus to farming in the region."

"Successful farmers farm their own land. That is why this push for private ownership is so important," Fick said.

Mr Dan Fletcher, general manager of the African Farmers' Union in the Western Cape, said he was "very optimistic" the scheme would work.

# Western Cape dams set to brim over

Staff Reporter

WESTERN Cape dams are threatening to overflow.

Theewaterskloof Dam was 90,8 percent full at 8am today and rising fast. A Department of Water Affairs spokeswoman said the dam could overflow later today. A year ago it was 80 percent full.

Clanwilliam Dam was just 11 percent full last week. On Monday it was nearly 54 percent full and water is continuing to gush in.

Elands-kloof Dam near Villiersdorp overflowed last night.

Voelvlei Dam is 55,18 percent full compared to more than 90 percent a year ago, while Brandvlei has risen more than seven percent to 37 per-

cent full in the past week.

Similar rainfall patterns prevail throughout the region.

At Steenbras Dam 312mm of rain has fallen so far this month compared to 183mm last year and a long-term average of 155mm.

Wynberg Mountain has also had its fair share, with almost 500mm having been recorded so far this month compared to 175mm last year and an average of 236mm.

Woodhead Dam on top of Table Mountain has already enjoyed 426mm this month. Last June 168mm was recorded. The long-

term average is 242mm.

More than 210mm of rain has been measured at Cape Town Airport this month, almost three times the June average.

At Wemmershoek Dam, with a long-term average of 176,8mm, 367,3mm of rain has fallen this month.

Figures supplied by the Weather Bureau at Cape Town Airport show similar trends.

At Cape Point — known more for wind than rain — 154,7mm has already been recorded this month. The long-

term average is 57,9mm.

Somerset West, which averages 93,7mm, has had 214,6mm of rain so far this month.

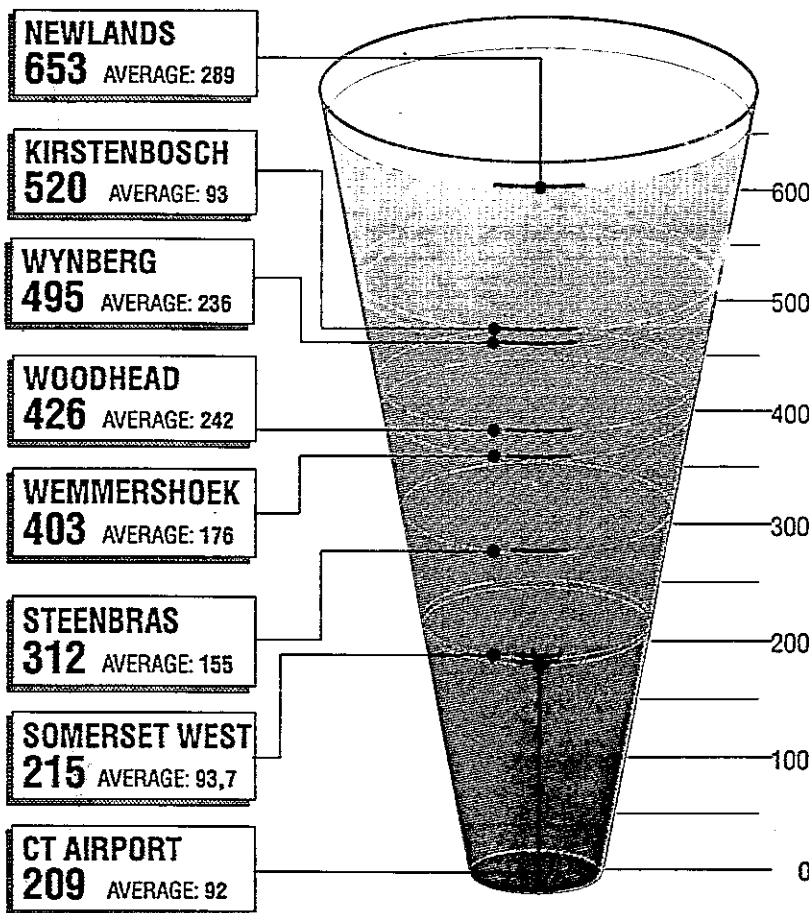
Groote Schuur must be completely saturated by now. The area has been dealt a whopping 520mm of rain so far this month. The long-term June average is 215,8mm.

Latest rainfall figures are:  
Newlands 24mm, Steenbras Dam 21mm, Wemmershoek Dam 18,5mm, Woodhead Dam 19mm, Wynberg Mountain 20mm, Cape Town Airport 11,1mm, Kirstenbosch 24,4mm, Groote Schuur 26mm, Somerset West 14,5mm and Theewaterskloof Dam 37,8mm.

## Peninsula rainfall

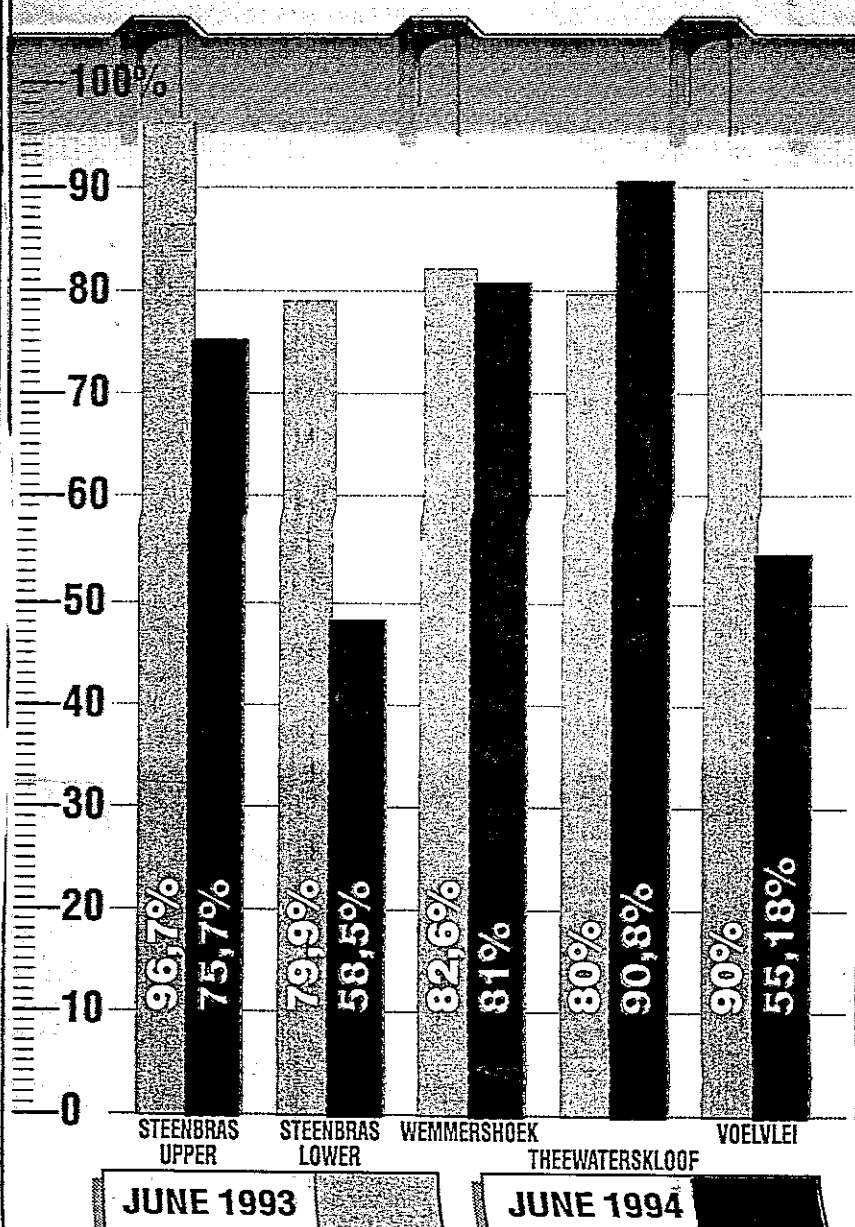
JUNE 1994 AS AT 8AM TODAY

(MILLIMETRES)



Graphic: BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

## Peninsula dam levels



# Help for small farmers

Star 29/1/94

■ BY STEPHEN CRANSTON

A Small Farmers Development Corporation has been set up by various private sector financial institutions and agricultural organisations.

## Communities

It plans to assist disadvantaged communities to become involved with commercial agriculture, but it will only look at commercially viable farming and will not be involved in subsidising marginal production.

Initially it will operate in the Western Cape, but

there are plans to make it a nationwide organisation in due course.

It has an initial share capital of R20 million and its major shareholders are Volkskas Bank, Old Mutual, Sanlam, Unifruco, which exports deciduous fruit, and KVV.

Volkskas's head of agriculture, Andre Louw, says its investment reinforces the bank's commitment to commercial agriculture.

(3) Gen

The state will have no interest in the SFDC, but it could make some of its surplus land available to small farmers.



# Up to 30% of land to be redistributed in next five years —

CAPE TOWN — Government intended redistributing 30% of SA's land in a five-year period starting next year, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

Although he would not say what land would be targetted, Hanekom indicated that it would include land owned by the bankrupt white farmers as well as the state. Land tenure rights would also be extended to farm workers.

"We want significant impact in our land reform programme," he said in an interview. "But it must be a programme which offers people benefits — not just a political

knee-jerk response to demands."

White farmers indebted to the point where they were unable to service their debts — "in other words the sequestration cases — should no longer be bailed out".

A thorough inventory of available state-owned land — its status and potential use — was being drawn up.

Security of tenure for dissatisfied tenants, such as farm workers who had lived on farms for generations, was another area that would be revised. "Obviously they want security of tenure where they are," Hanekom said. It was a delicate issue, but

programme was fully operational, but estimated the figure to be about R2bn a year for the next five years. "We want our chunk out of the national Budget."

His department still planned to redistribute 30% of SA's land, as stated in the RDP, starting one year after the April election. However, Hanekom conceded that "there is no scientific basis for the 30% redistribution figure".

But he was confident SA would avoid a repeat of the two bad land reform scenarios found elsewhere: ill-considered land re-

□ To Page 2

BIDay 29/6/94

DAVID GREYBE

a White Paper would be published by early next year after the completion of a thorough investigation.

The Sub-Division Act of 1970, which restricts the purchase of portions of larger plots of land, is also likely to be revised.

Hanekom said he would ask for at least 10% — R250m — of this year's R2,5bn reconstruction and development programme fund, most of which would be used for compensation payments under a land restitution programme. Draft legislation

had been finalised and would be put before Cabinet at its next meeting.

Hanekom said his department was also busy with a "major market reform initiative to rationalise financial institutions" such as the Land Bank, the Agricultural Credit Board and the Development Bank of Southern Africa. "We want to remove the impediments, and ensure that those people who are in a position to take advantage of market opportunities are encouraged as much as possible."

He said it was difficult to know exactly what land reform would cost once the pro-

Minister

## Land

BIDay 29/6/94

□ From Page 1

form programmes resulting in bad use of land and eventually food shortages; or no real land reform such as has happened in Zimbabwe.

Hanekom said a Cabinet memo was being prepared to appoint a committee to investigate rural finance needs.

Financial institutions had to ensure that rural people got access to finance "both for land purchases and the establishment of small enterprises".

Discussions on the Cabinet memo had so far included the Land Bank, Development Bank, commercial banks, non-governmental organisations, and the Agricultural Credit Board. "There's consensus that there needs to be a rationalisation."

The Land Bank's mission had to be redefined. "It cannot duplicate the functions of commercial banks. If it stands as a separate state-owned institution it has to have justification therefore. Otherwise the commercial banks can do the job."

The Land Bank would have to support

government's land reform programme, providing financing to a defined target group — "those who are unable to go the normal commercial bank routes".

Hanekom expected the restitution programme to be passed into law during the August parliamentary session, clearing the way for the appointment of Land Claims Court judges and members of the Restitution of Land Rights Commission.

The programme could be up and running by the year-end or early next year.

Another area needing urgent attention was a comprehensive state-support programme. This was part of the overall land reform programme study. The study would have to come to grips with the most appropriate land allocation process.

"We've got to give broad criteria nationally, but at the same time we've got to allow scope for democratic process. It should be a demand-led land reform programme, not just a bureaucratic-led one. It must respond to people's real needs."

# Govt set to redistribute 30% of SA

## Political Staff

THE government intends redistributing 30% of South Africa's land over five years starting next year, Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

Mr Hanekom would not say what land would be targeted, but indicated it would include land owned by bankrupt white farmers as well as by the state.

White farmers indebted to the point where they were unable to service their debts — "the sequestration cases — should no longer be bailed out".

Security of tenure for tenants, such as farm workers who had lived on farms for generations, would also be addressed.

"Obviously they want security of tenure where they are," Mr Hanekom said. It was a delicate issue, but a White Paper would be published after a thorough investigation.

The Sub-Division Act of 1970, which restricts the purchase of portions of larger plots of land, may be revised.

Mr Hanekom said he would ask for at least 10% — R250m — of this year's R2,5bn Reconstruction and Development Programme fund, most of which would be used for compensation payments under a land restitution programme.

Mr Hanekom said his department was also busy with a "major market reform initiative to rationalise finan-

cial institutions" such as the Land Bank, the Agricultural Credit Board and the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

He estimated that the land reform programme would cost R2bn a year for the next five years.

He said his department still planned to redistribute 30% of SA's land, as stated in the RDP, starting one year after the April election. However, Mr Hanekom conceded that "there is no scientific basis for the 30% redistribution figure".

He said a cabinet memo was being prepared to appoint a committee to probe rural finance needs.

Financial institutions had to ensure that rural people got access to finance "both for land purchases and the establishment of small enterprises".

## Financing

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The Land Bank would have to support the government's land reform programme, providing financing to "those who are unable to go the normal commercial bank routes".

Mr Hanekom said the restitution programme should be made law during the August parliamentary session, paving the way for the appointment of Land Claims Court judges and members of the Restitution of Land Rights Commission.

et 30/6/94

3



# Grow different crops, tobacco farmers urged

CLIVE SAWYER  
Political Correspondent

TOBACCO farmers have been urged by the parliamentary finance committee to change to crops that are better for the nation's health.

Tobacco industry lobbyists yesterday told the committee that proposed increases in excises on their products would cause thousands of job losses.

They said smuggling of

cheap cigarettes from neighbouring countries would increase were the government to force up the price of tobacco.

The excise on tobacco products was increased in the budget and may be raised further in the coming five years as part of government policy to use "sin taxes" to fund the reconstruction and development programme.

South Africans spend R5 bil-

ARG 1/7/94  
lion a year on tobacco products. The rise in excise duty is expected to net an extra R200 million for state coffers.

Opponents of the industry say that while tobacco is a money-spinner for state coffers, it damages the economy through loss of productivity because smokers are more prone to disease.

Tobacco Board chief Jan Graham said there were 861 to-

bacco farmers, employing 46 000 workers permanently. Counting casual labour there were 56 000 workers in the industry.

For every percentage point the cigarette price increased above inflation, demand decreased by 0,65 percent.

This meant 40 farmers, 2 400 workers and their 14 500 dependents would lose their livelihoods.

# End of handouts to white farmers opens farming up to blacks

ST Times

By JOCELYN MAKER

ONE million hectares of farmland could become available for redistribution in the next five years as farmers go bankrupt.

Debt-ridden white farmers who in the past have been propped up by hand-outs and loans from state institutions will have to seek financial aid elsewhere or lose their properties.

The farms will be snapped up by the Department of Land Affairs as part of their intended five-year plan to redistribute 30 percent of the country's land.

South African Agricultural Union chief economist Dr Koos du Toit said the Land Bank and the Agricultural Credit Board were now turning "a cold shoulder" on farmers who are heavily in debt.

"The big helping hand they have been so used to is no longer there," he said.

Of South Africa's 65 000 commercial farmers, at least 200 are expected to go under this year, leaving at least 200 000 hectares of land available. Over five years the total amount of land coming on to the market could top one million hectares.

But the figure could be higher as farmers who have for many years been heavily in debt with the Land Bank will not be able to survive without this continued assistance.

A Land Affairs technical committee has been formed to investigate cutbacks and changes in institutions which specialise in agricultural financing such as the Land Bank, the Agricultural Credit Board and the Development Bank of SA.

Dr du Toit said white commercial farmers were well treated for many years. Now the emphasis had changed and the attention had shifted to the injustices of the past.

"Sympathy in the Land Bank and the Agricultural Credit Board is now leaning towards the financial assistance of upcoming black farmers," he said.

Dr du Toit said that in future farmers who needed financial assistance would have to go to commercial banks.

"Farmers can also apply to the Land Bank and a decision will be made on merit, but if they get into trouble they

must expect not to get any special treatment," he said. 317194

In Parliament this week Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom said that the redistribution plan would begin next year.

He would not say what land would be targeted but he indicated that it would be that owned by bankrupt farmers and the state. (3) Gen

A spokesman for his office, Mr Helmut Schlenter, said negotiations and investigations into changes in the Land Bank and the Agricultural Credit Board were being discussed.

"These changes will benefit those people who have been disadvantaged during the apartheid years. Financial institutions will have to ensure that rural people get access to finance, both for land purchases and the establishment of small enterprises.

"Legislation regarding the Sub-Division Act of 1970 will also have to be amended. In the past farmers were prohibited from selling off portions of their land. This has to change ...

"But there is one certainty — South African farmers are no longer going to be heavily subsidised with taxpayers' money," Mr Schlenter said.

Mr Frans Loots, Department of Agriculture spokesman, said normal legal procedures would take their course if farmers were unable to pay their debts to the Land Bank. But the time had come for farmers who could not make it to get out now as "it will save them a lot of pain in the future".

Managing Director of the Land Bank Fanie Hugo said that in the financing of the agricultural industry as well as the implementation of relief schemes the bank was able to "co-operate in the establishment of the emerging agricultural producers".

"The bank will play even a greater role, especially with regard to the requirements of the emerging producer, and is at all times prepared to co-operate with other institutions to establish these producers in agriculture," he said.

# Freak weather has cost farming millions

2/Day 4/7/1974

MARK ASHURST and  
BONILE NGQIYAZA

FREAK weather over the past two weeks had cost the agricultural economy millions of rands, with the Eastern Transvaal suffering crop and other losses of more than R31m, agricultural sources said yesterday.

While crops and livestock were lost to cold and rain in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Free State, hundreds of thousands of hectares of veld and livestock were destroyed in fires fanned by gale force winds across the Northern Transvaal, Eastern Transvaal and Natal.

Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk announced yesterday that government

would finance the transport of stock feed to Eastern Cape farmers whose crops had been destroyed by the weather.

The Agriculture Department would meet the cost of transporting donations of stock feed by Spoornet to Ugie, an area badly affected by a tornado and veld fires.

An SA Agricultural Union spokesman said about 100 000ha of farm land in the Eastern Transvaal areas of Belfast, Dullstroom, Carolina and Steelpoort had been

destroyed by fire. A further 60 000-80 000ha was damaged in the Northern Transvaal. Cattle and sheep worth R350 000 had died and 10 farm buildings estimated at R1m were razed. (3) Gen

The series of cold fronts moving over the Cape Peninsula that brought heavy rains and flooding to the Eastern Cape had also led to freak gales in central regions on Tuesday, said the Weather Bureau.

It said cold fronts would continue to move across the Cape this week, although the Transvaal was expected to be fine.

● Picture: Page 2

# Tossed out of CLASS!

C/Press

10/7/94



**CHUCKED OUT! ... Potchefstroom's Berts Bricks farm school pupils who were told not to return when the schools reopen.**

■ Pic: DAN DHLAMINI

By DAN DHLAMINI

AT least fifty-five Potchefstroom farm school pupils are facing a bleak future after the farm owner kicked them out of school this month.

But the farm owner, who manufactures bricks, may be faced with a bleaker future if threats by expelled pupils' parents who live in tin houses are anything to go by.

The parents said they would influence local decision makers not to buy bricks from Gerald van der Merwe's Berts Bricks Company when the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme starts.

The pupils' sin was that some of them, who originally lived on the farms but were forced to leave and had trekked to

Ikageng's Lusaka Squatter Camp, gave "false addresses" to the school authorities about their permanent residence and became "militant" by demanding to attend the June 16 celebrations.

Well known Western Transvaal brick baron Van der Merwe told City Press that he did not regret his decision, because he built Berts Bricks' School with his own money, solely for the children of his employees and neighbouring farms.

He said the reason for the expulsion was that the school was overcrowded because of township children.

Asked why he did not give them a chance until the end of the year, Van der Merwe said he was not prepared to because the pupils had given false

addresses.

"I receive no subsidy from the government. I have never received even a mere thank you from the education department or parents. I did not mind because I felt that it was my duty to help educate my employees' children," said Van der Merwe.

A spokesman for the pupils, Elias Ntonyane, said all those expelled had previously lived on Van der Merwe's or on neighbouring farms. He said some farms had been liquidated and farm hands had to move. On the alleged militancy, Abram Siko (Std 8) said the pupils had wanted to observe a moment of silence for June 16 victims.

The pupils did not know whether they would be accommodated in schools next term.

## Elsie doesn't understand

By DAN DHLAMINI

TO her senior school mates, being expelled from school at this crucial stage and time of the year is tragic, but to little Elsie Montsho (7) it seemed just one of those normal speeches by the "baas".

It only dawned on her after those who understand Afrikaans explained the serious implications of the expulsion that she became sad.

Elsie, a Sub Standard B pupil at Berts Bricks farm school, has now realised that the legacy of apartheid, humiliation and denial were haunting her, even at the time when reconciliation and development were sup-



**WHAT FUTURE? ... Little Elsie Montsho displays a letter of expulsion from Bert Bricks farm school.**

■ Pic: DAN DHLAMINI

posed to be the order of the day.

Elsie learnt with dis-

may this week that she was no longer welcome at the school she so much loved.

She and her fellow schoolmates gazed passively as their seniors told City Press their sad tale which, if not addressed immediately, could ruin their future.

Elsie realised something was wrong when the "baas", Gerald van der Merwe, called them into a classroom and gesticulated as he spoke. Van der Merwe said the reason for the closure was that nobody seemed to appreciate the good things he was doing free of charge. He said he had employed a full-time nurse and sports coach for the pupils.

# Court action over Cape Town water supply

ARG 12/7/94 (3)

**SHARON SOROUR**  
Municipal Reporter

CAPE TOWN will lose four percent of its water supply if a Supreme Court interdict ordering the city council to reduce the Wemmershoek Dam water level to 80 percent is made final.

The dam was 96,3 percent full yesterday.

One of the city's legal advisers told the utilities and works committee the council had legitimately opened the dam's floodgates last July, causing flooding and R1,2 million damage.

The council is set to oppose the court action.

Last week, the Supreme Court granted an interim order to fruit and nut farmer James Golding and St Augustine Vineyards (Pty) Ltd. It remains in force until today, or until the application can be heard in full.

The dam has an automatic facility which opens the floodgates only when the dam is 100 percent full. Mr Golding wants the council to manually operate the floodgates — otherwise, the lives of his family and workers would be threatened by floodwaters.

Their homes were not far from the river bank.

The council's legal officer said the council was not obliged to exercise flood control through the dam.

Councillor Frank van der Velde said the people of Cape

Town would suffer if there was a lack of storage water.

"We have to oppose this strenuously," he said.

● Meanwhile, the second stage of the Riviersonderend/Palmiet River water augmentation scheme, which will be needed by 1997/8, is set to cost R291 million.

The council's utilities and works committee yesterday approved the project, which will go ahead once the council agrees.

A total of R2,3 million will be needed in the 1994/1995 financial year.

The first phase of the scheme — the water treatment plant at Faure — is being constructed and will meet the region's water needs until the turn of the century.

The second phase includes the remainder of the water treatment plant, a raw water pipeline from the Steenbras pumped storage scheme to Faure and associated pumping stations.

It basically expands the bulk water supply system, using Phase 1 of the water scheme.

The pump station and pipeline will be needed by the summer of 1997/8.

Phase 2 will satisfy demands until 2000, and peak summer demands until 2006.

The committee agreed that the city treasurer investigate alternative forms of financing the scheme.

## 'New farmers need support'

JOHANNESBURG. — No provision had been made in the 1994/95 Budget for training the large number of subsistence farmers about to enter agriculture, Free State Agricultural Union president Dr Piet Gous said yesterday. (3)

Dr Gous, a Freedom Front senator who serves on the joint finance committee in Parliament, said there was no provision for a support programme for new farmers. CT 13/19

"This is a serious shortcoming and calls for urgent action, otherwise the farming community and the rural areas will yet again be neglected." — Sapa



Challenge to implement RDP in agriculture

# Government has plans to review all farming laws

Star 18/7/94

BY NORMAN CHANDLER  
PRETORIA BUREAU

The Government is getting ready to wield the big stick in the agricultural sector.

It is planning "a transformation of policy," a review of all laws affecting farming, and a change in attitude by agricultural institutions in favour of the disadvantaged.

This was made clear at a Pretoria conference by deputy Agricultural Minister Thoko Msane, who told agricultural economists that the first moves would be made before the next Budget.

The new policy is planned to be phased in over 3½ years "and the first results visible before the

political pressure of elections comes to bear." A White Paper detailing the new policy is expected to be published later this year. (3) Gen

Msane said the challenge to implementing the Reconstruction and Development Programme in agriculture also meant there had to be the development of a diversified strategy for "the previously neglected agricultural sector."

This is seen as a reference to black farmers who have struggled for years to compete with whites in the purchasing of land, obtaining credit and developing their farms.

The new strategy had to be aimed at providing resources while at the same time empha-

sising agricultural development and ensuring a visible increase in productivity.

She added there had to be efficient and equitable development in rural areas — "this means that development should be seen as a participatory process in which people are empowered to make their own decisions."

Black people in the agricultural sector could not be expected to be viable agricultural producers without access to production and support services. It would be insufficient merely to extend existing services to emerging farmers and that changes would have to come in the

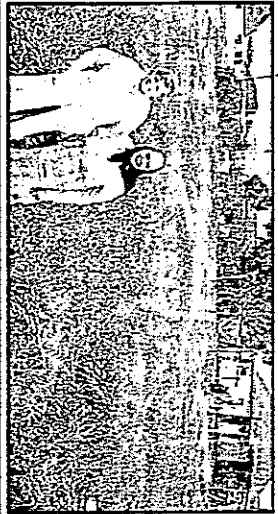
law, agricultural policy and institutional arrangements to promote and empower people who have been disadvantaged.

"There will have to be a transformation of policy as well as the institution and the way in which services have been provided. It is important to note that Government policies are the major determinant of a successful development programme.

"Incompetence and corruption, lack of proper planning and analysis can seriously hamper any type of development that may have been envisaged," she said.

Agricultural policy would be aimed at affordable sufficient food for all South Africans.

HOME: Marjorie Hendricks (left) and Janap Hamdulay on the land they see as theirs  
Photo: Roger Sedres



**THREE generations of the Hamdulay family have fought to regain land in Kensington which they were forced to sell to the city council in 1967.**

Today, their chances of getting it back seem smaller than ever.

"We asked the council on numerous occasions if we could buy back our land. Now they have divided the property into six plots and sold them for R10 625 and R11 326 apiece," said Mrs Janap Hamdulay, 72.

"We can't afford to pay that. And why should we, when they only gave us R5 486 for all six plots?"

Mrs Hamdulay and her cousin Mrs Marjorie Hendricks inherited the land from their grandmother.

"I am disappointed that they have sold the land. Janap and I were born there and my three children were also born on that land," Mrs Hendricks said.

Since 1988, the council's housing office has acknowledged their wish to buy the land with replies that it was being "considered" and "investigated".

Then, in January, the housing office "regrettably" informed them that the plots were being sold to people on the council's waiting list.

"For 27 years we have waited for our land. Now we have no place to go," Mrs Hamdulay said.

Mrs Zohra Dawood of the Surplus People's Project said the family should continue to badger the city council. ~~(S)~~ **3** *GRU*

The Land Claims Commission and a Land Claims Court — which will investigate cases like the Humdulays' and decide on compensation — will only be established in October.

"A bill is being presented to parliament which will also assist people who have been unfairly compensated for their land," Mrs Dawood said.

Time is running out for the Humdulays who can't hold off the bricklayers for much longer.

"All we want is what rightfully belongs to us. I will chain myself to the gates of parliament until they take notice of our plea," Mrs Humdulay said.

The city council was not available for comment.

**'Give us what is ours'**  
**Kensington family battles**  
**to get back their land**  
**BY VICKY STARK**

*(Suppl to Safety)*

July 22 to July 26 1994

# Mines reach accord on tribal land

PRETORIA — The Land Affairs Ministry said yesterday Gencor and JCI had reached an accord with the Baphalane tribe over disputed land near Rustenburg Platinum mines. **BIDAY 26/7/94**

Reuter reports that Minister Derek Hanekom said the parties had met at the weekend and JCI, Gencor and government had agreed to build a village for the community. A joint committee would also be set up to resolve the land problem.

"JCI and Gencor saw that if they waited for the land claim to be handled by the land claims court, which has yet to be constituted, it would find in favour of the claimants. The mines would prefer to come to a negotiated arrangement," he said.

JCI holds mineral rights to state land previously owned and occupied by the Baphalane tribe. Gencor also holds mineral rights and approached the Ministry this year after squatters moved on to the land.

JACQUE GOLDING reports that a JCI spokesman said no firm agreement had

been reached. The board would consider the matter this week.

The tribe had asked that the land be restored to it. The company had indicated that it was prepared to discuss options regarding the balance of farms not occupied by squatters. JCI would make constructive proposals regarding the tribe's claim. **(3) Gen (27)**

Gencor spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports that about 45 families of the Khosis community, under court order to vacate SA National Defence Force land near Kuruman in the Northern Cape, could soon secure rights to the land.

Hanekom met representatives of the community from the Luatla training grounds yesterday and said the SANDF would be asked to withdraw the order so that the details of the community's permanent settlement could be negotiated.

Families who had been forced to move

To Page 2.

## Land

**BIDAY 26/7/94**

From Page 1

should be given the opportunity to return, with housing and agricultural assistance.

The Khosi community has been living on 14 000ha of the 135 000ha Luatla training ground for five generations. **(3) Gen**

An attempt in 1992 to force them off the land resulted in 125 families moving to Jennhaven, 50km away. They were offered houses and other assistance. **(2) 1**

The families who resisted the move had since been exposed to regular shooting practice and other military exercises.

Community representative Gerald

Isaacs said some of the access gates to the area had been welded shut. "Sometimes we have to wait up to five hours for a shooting practice to end before we can enter the area through the remaining entrances."

Hanekom said he was confident the matter could be resolved easily. Deputy Defence Minister Ronnie Kasrils had given a clear commitment that the SANDF would co-operate. "This is a relatively uncomplicated case. We have to clear only a number of obstacles to give the Khosis security of tenure on the land rightfully belonging to them," Hanekom said.



# Talks on land dispute today

*Sowetan*

By Mpikeleni Duma

THE return of the Bethany community to their land will probably be decided today at a meeting in ThabaNchu, near Bloemfontein. *27/7/94*

Bethany community spokesman Mr Peter Bahume said yesterday the meeting would involve his community and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, which owns the disputed land and uses it for sheep-farming. *(3/2/94)*

The Bethany community was forcibly removed from the land.

## CAPE

# Cape Town in 'grave danger of running out of water'

### Municipal Reporter

CAPE Town's existing water supply will run out in 1998, Cape Town city council has been warned.

At the council's monthly meeting yesterday, councillor Frank van der Velde said: "We are in grave danger of running out of water."

He was commenting on a de-

cision of the executive committee to seek an interview with Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal to discuss strategies for the second phase of the Palmiet River water augmentation scheme.

Mr Van der Velde said the Palmiet valley was one of the largest water sources Cape Town tapped.

One of the goals of the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme was to supply people with running water — at least 35 litres a day per person within the next five years.

Mr Van der Velde said this was below the normal supply of 160 litres a day.

"We need to realise that to meet these demands, our water usage might far exceed projections."

He said building a dam in the lower reaches of the Palmiet valley would not be harmful to the environment, and the plea by environmentalists not to build dams in valleys "has to be put in perspective".

③ AUG 29 1994

By **THEMBA KHUMALO**  
Political Correspondent

## Land claims to be heard soon

THE government is gearing itself for hundreds of court cases related to land claims by thousands of blacks who were forcibly or illegally removed from their ancestral land by the apartheid rule through the infamous Land Act of 1913.

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom this week announced that he would soon introduce the Land Restitution Bill in parliament "to bring to rest the process cemented by the Land Act of 1913 which turned the black man into a squatter on his own land".

Once it became a law the proposed Land Restitution Act would facili-

tate the establishment of a Land Claims Court through which the aggrieved victims could file claims to restore their original land, Hanekom said. *CIPrep*

However, the court, whose judge will be appointed by Hanekom himself from among a group of veteran lawmen, will be helped by a Commission on Restitution of Land Rights which will handle smaller cases to avoid a stampede of court cases. *3Gen*

Hanekom said more than 3,5 million blacks had fallen victim to the Land Act of 1913.

He said the proposed commission would be headed by a commissioner who would meet with his members three times a year.

The commission would: *218194*

■ Take steps to ensure that the claimants are helped in the preparation and submission of claims.

■ Weigh and investigate the merits of the claims.

■ Receive and acknowledge all claims to the restitution of rights in land lodged with it in terms of the new Act.

■ Make recommendations or advise the Minister (of Land Affairs) re-

garding the most appropriate form of alternative redress or relief.

■ Advise claimants of the progress of their claims at regular intervals and upon reasonable request.

"Nowhere are the harsh effects of apartheid more visible than in the legacy of forced removals. In pursuit of racial division, some 3,5 million people were forcibly uprooted from their places of birth and dumped inside and outside of the homelands. Families and communities were torn apart: churches, homes and schools were razed to the ground, leaving the rubble of the shattered dreams and aspirations of whole generations," Hanekom said.



of violence and reconciliation, speaks  
crime awareness week, which is to be  
3.

Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

## cripple magazines'

R233m total.

an on tobacco advertising would not  
e serious adverse economic effects,  
would rather promote health", the  
said.

IC researcher Dr Derek Yach said  
e-mongering" by the tobacco indus-  
as intended "to put advertising jobs  
ublic health at loggerheads". — Sapa.

# Groundwater control strategy in pipeline

MICHAEL MOON

A STRATEGY to manage the quality of  
groundwater is being developed by the  
Water Affairs Department. <sup>Biday</sup> 218194

Utilisation of groundwater would play a  
major role in satisfying the demands of  
government's reconstruction and develop-  
ment programme, the department said  
this week.

"Increasing levels of development, ur-  
banisation and industrialisation pose a  
threat to groundwater through over-ab-  
straction and contamination," it said.

Numerous cases of severe groundwater  
contamination had been discovered and  
reported recently.

Groundwater represented the sole  
source of supply for many small urban and  
rural communities, and was becoming in-  
creasingly important in terms of communi-  
ty water supply, the department said.

Mining operations were the main source  
of contamination of groundwater, a  
spokesman for the consulting firm co-or-  
dinating the project said yesterday.

The pollution came from both under-  
ground workings and seepage from surface  
materials, he said.

Coal mines posed the biggest problem,  
due to the sulphide minerals in coal and the  
fact that operations were conducted rela-  
tively close to the surface, assistant pro-  
ject co-ordinator Greg Wells said.

Sewage pollution from informal settle-  
ments, particularly in dolomitic areas, was

also a hazard, he said.

Over-abstraction, or excessive pumping,  
sometimes allowed inferior quality water  
from other areas to seep through into pro-  
ductive wells.

In coastal areas, salt water often spoiled  
over-used sources.

"Since groundwater represents a source  
of water supply to many people, the  
sources of pollution must be managed  
carefully to ensure that the groundwater  
supply is sustainable in the long term. This  
will involve the use of a wide range of both  
statutory and non-statutory regulatory  
measures," the department said.

A comprehensive management strategy  
was necessary to co-ordinate the imple-  
mentation of such regulations.

"Future generations must have access to  
adequate supplies of acceptable water."

Government has called for all interested  
and affected parties to participate in de-  
veloping the new strategy.

Wells said it was believed that there  
were at least 1 200 such parties throughout  
the country.

At present the level of interest and  
availability of these organisations and in-  
dividuals to participate was being gauged.

Various types of input from numerous  
sources would be dealt with by the co-  
ordinators, Wells said.

## Focus on medicines pricing

BEATRIX PAYNE

PHARMACEUTICAL wholesalers,  
manufacturers and medical aids  
would meet later this month to dis-  
cuss restructuring the medicines  
pricing system, National Association  
of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers  
executive director Trevor Phillips  
announced yesterday.

"The association feels that the  
health care industry cannot afford to  
work much longer under the current  
opaque system," he said.

The introduction of a "cost-plus"  
pricing system would mean transpar-  
ency and the end of mark-ups and  
discounts based on the "blue book",  
Phillips said.

But Pharmaceutical Society of SA  
president Cecil Abramson said he  
was waiting for the report of the cost-  
plus working group — due some time  
this week — before the society would  
convene another meeting of the cost-  
plus committee.

He said the report had been drawn  
up by representatives from the asso-  
ciation, pharmaceutical multinationals  
and medical aids, and was intend-  
ed as a discussion document.

Abramson added that the report  
was likely to recommend the use of a  
mark-up system.

The society supported the mark-up  
system and believed "the existing  
system of add-on and discounts has to  
stop," he said.

A change in the pricing structure  
would have a knock-on effect from  
manufacturer to end user and as a  
result several interest groups were  
involved in planning the changeover.

But not all members of the com-  
mittee were happy about a cost-plus  
system. Some private hospital groups  
had expressed reservations.

Pharmacists working in private  
hospitals were paid a lower profes-  
sional fee than their colleagues in  
private practice, Abramson noted,  
and their income would be further  
reduced if the base cost of medicines  
were to fall.

Cost-plus working group chairman  
David Boyce could not be reached for  
comment.

## Union warning on farm interest rates

COUISE COOK

THE union representing SA's black  
farmers has warned that proposals  
for government's White Paper on ag-  
riculture concerning market-related  
interest rates for land purchases  
could thwart attempts to widen black  
land ownership. <sup>(3) Gen</sup>

The National African Farmers'  
Union, which sits on the Wit Commit-  
tee appointed to draw up the new  
agriculture policy, said yesterday  
that moving to market-related inter-  
est rates was "totally unacceptable".

Union spokesman Thabo Mokane  
said border farmers had bought  
farms at a 4% interest rate. Yet the  
committee was proposing market-  
related rates just as SA was attempt-  
ing to expand black empowerment.

Meanwhile Wit Committee chair-  
man Chris Blignaut said marketing  
proposals in a report compiled under  
the previous government heralded  
some of the changes likely to be con-  
tained in the White Paper. These  
strongly favoured deregulation.

# Black farmers lash out over land tax

31/10/94  
31/10/94  
LOUISE COOK

THE black farming sector has joined the row surrounding the proposed introduction of a rural land tax, claiming that Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom has broken pre-election agreements on land ownership. 3/9/94

The row follows Hanekom's suggestion introducing a rural land tax of between 1% and 2%. In an angry response to the announcement, organised agriculture called for Hanekom's dismissal.

National African Farmers' Union president Matome Maponya said his union had an agreement with the ANC that the 1 000 farmers renting state land in the former homelands from the now defunct State Trust Corporation would be given the option of buying the land.

The land was still in the hands of the state, and he accused the Minister of dodging the issue.

The already overburdened farmers rejected a rural land tax, said Maponya. Productive farmers should be given incentives rather than be taxed. Only underutilised or idle land should be taxed to encourage more productive use.

Maponya slammed the Minister for not making a commitment on these issues.

SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie said the proposed tax could not be justified in terms of providing services for rural communities.

Farmers, unlike city dwellers who paid taxes for electricity and other

municipal services, provided their own services and bought electricity direct from Eskom.

The Transvaal Agricultural Union and the Northern Cape Agricultural Union said the recovery of the country's economy depended largely on the recovery of agriculture. The proposed tax would simply put further financial pressure on farmers.

The Northern Cape union's president Stoffel Lombard said the introduction of such a tax did not fall under the Minister's jurisdiction.

Meanwhile, Finance Department head of intergovernmental financial research Collin Donian said the issue of a rural tax was investigated last year under the then Agriculture Deputy Minister Tobie Meyer.

The department had recommended a rural tax only for generating revenue for local purposes. The precise net yield of the tax was not determined, nor was the cost of collection.

Agriculture Department economics director Ben van Wyk, who also served on the committee, said the department supported the recommendation that the tax be introduced at local government level only. Experience elsewhere in the world had shown taxation for the purpose of redistribution of land did not work.

Hanekom said that after consulting Finance Minister Derek Keys, a committee would meet interested parties and make recommendations before the year's end.



# Land Bill 'to redress imbalances of the past'

*Sowetan* 4/8/94

A BILL dealing with restitution to victims of forced removals will be presented to Parliament soon, according to Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom.

Hanekom said the Land Claims Court would start hearing applications from people who had lost their land through forced removals.

## **Positive programme**

The Department of Land Affairs was committed to a positive programme of land reform.

The programme included restitution

to victims of forced removals, redistribution of land, security of tenure and a package of support programmes to new farmers. *(3) Gen*

Land reform was a pivotal element of the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

A larger sum would be allocated to land reform in the next Budget.

The Land Bank's resources would be geared to support the efforts of landless and disadvantaged communities.

The State would also help the people who were unable to acquire land through normal commercial transac-

tions.

Hanekom said the land reform programme would ensure that all South Africans secured title deeds for their properties.

## **New land owners**

A package of support programmes would be made available to new land owners.

It will consist of credit provisions, agricultural extension services and water would be made available to new land owners. — *Sowetan Correspondent*.

# Safex maps out agricultural futures

THE SA Futures Exchange (Safex) will issue a draft consultative document at the month-end on establishing an agricultural commodities futures market.

But Safex CE Stuart Rees cautioned yesterday that the agricultural commodities markets first needed "to get their house in order".

He said Safex would contribute no more than R150 000 to fund the document and the final prospectus, which would be refunded should the market go ahead.

"But the commodity markets need to start trading in a proper and transparent manner, where there is an adequate and rapid dissemination of price information to all parties.

"This is essential before an agricultural futures exchange can be successful. If the underlying market is in a state of disarray, such an initiative is unlikely to work," he said.

The document would open the door for futures trade on any commodity, but would start with red meat. However, it was unlikely that there would be any commodity futures trade be-

PETER GALLI

fore next February, Rees said.

The move follows the first Southern African Commodities Conference held earlier this year, where substantial interest was expressed in commodity futures. *Biday*

A Safex report-back document after the conference said a shortlist of about 100 potential buyers of commodity futures seats on Safex had been drawn up. *412194*

This consisted of 28 commodity traders, 15 large producers, 27 large buyers and processors, 16 futures brokers and banks, and 12 control boards and producer organisations.

"The five commodities that would form the basis for the first futures contracts are beef, potatoes, wool, and white and yellow maize," the report-back document said.

Rees said that the recent freeing of the maize market had opened the door for possible futures trade in that market. This was being addressed and would be dealt with in the document, he said.

While about R2m would have to be raised to launch the market, it was proposed that 80 seats be sold on the exchange in two tranches at R25 000 each, with a minimum subscription level of 40 seats a time.

"Safex will put up the money for the consultative document and the prospectus, which will be refunded to us from the sale of the seats. The rest will come from interested parties who buy seats.

"There will be no need to establish a separate structure as the futures could be traded on screens and Safex would administer the market," Rees said. *(3) Gen*

The report projected that the value of futures volumes in the commodity market would grow from R750m in the first year to R31,8bn by year five. While the exchange would post a projected R742 000 operating loss in the first year, there would be an operating income of R5,3m in year five.

Rees said Safex was also looking at introducing a futures contract in the Kruggerand later this month.

Fin 518/94

# Safex sows seeds for tomorrow's trade

SA could have an agricultural commodity futures market by February. The executive committee of the SA Futures Exchange (Safex) agreed last week to finalise a prospectus to be issued on August 31.

It is a consultative document for prospective market participants but Safex CE Stuart Rees is confident it is only the first step. "The next steps would be to publish the prospectus and establish the market. We would need about R2m from subscribers to launch the market, get it up and running

five.

The main purpose of a futures exchange is to protect producers, processors, wholesalers and retailers against unforeseen price fluctuations which take place daily on commodity spot markets. As overseas experience shows, most futures contracts never lead to physical deliveries but are used as paper trade in hedging mechanisms.

Nevertheless, there is concern locally that trading could be too thin to sustain a successful futures exchange and that some spot markets (especially maize) still have to be established or improved.

③ Gen

Imperial Cold Storage CE Roy Smithers says: "One must remember that the US has a 100-year history of operating these markets. Feedlotter, wholesalers and retailers would have to be educated in the use of the mechanism, especially as forward buying arrangements now represent about 15% of total red meat trade compared with very little a few months back."

This development has reduced the significance of the City Deep, Johannesburg, livestock auction market as a spot market indicator. But Meat Board economist Ernst Janowski says City Deep, despite reduced slaughterings, remains the leading indicator market for red meat spot prices.

"Our studies have shown that most other auction markets still follow the City Deep lead. I believe its prices could form the spot base for a successful futures market." He says the Meat Board supports the idea of a futures exchange.

Vleissentraal CE Jan Lombard says a working spot market providing a flow of freely available market price information is important. Red Meat Producers' Organisation GM Gerhard Schutte says a futures exchange could help to stabilise meat prices but would not necessarily replace the Meat Board's surplus removal floor price system.

"We are worried about the declining role of City Deep as an effective, underlying spot market for red meat prices. Options are being investigated to keep spot prices transparent," says Schutte.

Beier Wool MD Gunther Beier supports establishing a futures exchange for wool as it would create an "additional hedge for wool buyers and sellers." Beier, who chairs the SA Wool & Mohair Buyers' Association, says success would depend on the size and number of contracts traded, including overseas ones.

Maize Board economist Mike Elliot says a thin market could undermine a futures exchange. "We will watch red meat on a futures exchange with eagle eyes before we consider jumping in," he adds.

Arnold van Huyssteen



and, especially, to market the idea to prospective participants. The market could go live in February," he says.

Marketing farm commodities, long the prerogative of agricultural control boards — except for fresh produce, poultry and some others — say analysts, through a futures exchange would herald the beginning of a free market.

A Safex report says five commodities would form the basis for the first futures contracts: beef, potatoes, wool, white and yellow maize. The likelihood that the single-channel maize scheme will make way for a freer spot market early next year adds urgency to the Safex move.

The report identifies as potential participants in the exchange: 28 commodity traders; 15 producers; 28 buyers, processors, wholesalers and retailers; 22 futures brokers and banks; 12 control boards and producer organisations; and 27 service providers and government agencies.

It recommends an issue value of R25 000 for each of the proposed 80 seats on the exchange with a minimum subscription level of 40 seats if the venture is to succeed. The report assumes 5m financial contracts will be traded a year.

Underlying spot volumes for the five commodities should grow from R12bn in the first year to about R17,6bn in the fifth. Futures volumes (based on underlying spot volumes) are expected to grow from R750m to R31,8bn. An operating forecast shows the proposed commodity futures exchange moving from a projected R742 000 loss in year one to a R5,3m net operating income in year

## 'GRAND CONSPIRACY' BEHIND MOTOR STRIKE

Despite this week's strike by up to 25 000 vehicle assembly workers, differences between management and unions are not insuperable. Where they will not find common ground, however, is on the National Union of Metalworkers of SA's grand conspiracy theory that blames Anglo American's gold mining interests for the motor employers' perceived intransigence.

Production by all major vehicle assemblers countrywide was halted by a concerted strike from Monday. Numsa and employers, represented by the Automobile Manufacturers Employers' Organisation (Ameo), were due to meet again on Wednesday to seek a solution. In principle, they are not far apart.

On Tuesday Ameo had increased its final "final" pay increase offer to 9%. Numsa, having started with a 25% demand, said it was prepared to accept 12%.

Likewise, Numsa is tempering its de-

mands on training and the removal of wage anomalies. Both sides agree on the final outcome; it's simply a question of how long it should take to achieve it.

Where there may be problems is in Numsa's demand for a guarantee of no lay-offs and Ameo's insistence that workers should sacrifice some of their own time to undergo literacy training.

Perceptions that Numsa's action is prompted in part by a general flexing of Cosatu's muscles are strengthened by the union's claim that Ameo's position is orchestrated by Anglo. As Numsa explains it, Ameo's offer is driven by the industry's lowest common denominator, Samcor, which is controlled by Anglo.

By limiting Samcor's offer, Anglo is trying to avoid a settlement favourable to workers, in case it has a knock-on effect in future mining negotiations.

On that, at least, there's no danger of Ameo and Numsa finding agreement.

# Farmers' borrowing up 6%

COMMERCIAL bank lending to the farming sector reached R5,5bn for the 12 months to December, a 6% increase on the previous year, figures from the Agriculture Department indicate.

But lending levels slipped in the second half of the year, due largely to improved agricultural conditions.

The department's latest statistics show commercial bank lending accounted for 30% of the total R18,1bn industry debt, slightly beneath its contribution last year.

Standard Bank senior manager Rudi Wilsnach said the second half slip in commercial bank debt was due to improved agricultural conditions which had cut credit needs.

Overall farming debt to banks and other institutions was increasing, with Land Bank borrowings stand-

*Bidewy* *51844*  
**LOUISE COOK**

ing at R3,69bn for the 12 months to April, against R3,89bn last year.

Land Bank CE Dawie Maree attributes the slight rise to a general increase in the cost of commodities required by farmers.

Agricultural financing is currently under the spotlight with the new government looking for money to finance development farming.

Changes to the criteria used to allocate state land by the Agricultural Credit Board, the Agricultural Department's financing instrument, are expected.

Maree would not be drawn on the possibility of the Land Bank becoming involved in the financing of development farmers, which consists mainly of the black farming

community.

He said the bank was represented on a government committee which was looking into the issue of future agricultural financing. *(3) Gen*

Co-operatives and control boards also borrow from the Land Bank. This debt amounts to about R4,5bn, up on last year's level. *(2)*

Total farming debt — to institutions such as commercial banks, agricultural co-ops, Agriculture Department's Credit Board, private persons and the Land Bank — is 23% above the level five years ago.

Commercial banks remain the largest lender in the sector.

Of the 60 000 commercial farmers, statistics further show that most of them own assets of between R1m and R2m.

## Title deeds to fix land rights

1974  
Political Staff

THE government intended issuing title deeds as evidence of land rights to residents in rural and township areas, the Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Derek Hanekom, has stated.

"The government has committed itself to investigate means of giving recognition, protection and security to various forms of tenure," he said in reply to a question in Parliament.

At present, land tenure rights could be upgraded in terms of the Upgrading of Land Tenure Rights Act, but there were certain shortcomings in the act which would be reviewed.

# Kraai calls for single agricultural union

AGRICULTURE Minister Kraai van Niekerk yesterday called for a single agricultural union for black and white farmers to represent the interests of large- and small-scale farmers.

And SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie said he supported the formation of a single farmers' union.

Van Niekerk told the conference the different unions should merge in the interests of agriculture. Agriculture could stop urbanisation if rural areas were properly developed and the land fully utilised.

The department's extension services were undergoing a shakeup to cater for small-scale farmers, and mobile units had been introduced for training them. But language barriers between extension offices and black farmers had to be overcome, Van Niekerk said.

Financial institutions should accept production collateral (credit based on an undertaking to produce) to grant credit. Past problems of lack of expertise in co-operative farming had been wiped out, and small-scale farmers should form a special

LOUISE COOK

co-operative as a link to existing co-operatives, he said.

The new White Paper on agriculture, which was before Parliament, would accommodate the needs of small-scale farmers, but not neglect the interests of big commercial farmers. *3 Gau*

Sapa reports that Van Niekerk said steps to give small farmers easier access to state credit had already been implemented. All racially based preconditions in the Agriculture Credit Board had been removed, leaving only "sound" economic criteria for credit.

His department would promote ownership of land "wherever possible through financial assistance, with sound economic principles as the only prerequisite".

The expertise of the Agriculture Department, in the past directed towards the predominantly white commercial sector, was under a new management system.

"The essence of the new approach is to

*Biden 9/8/94*  
adapt and transform the present information into digestible language to serve all farmers," Van Niekerk said.

The department would provide a support service which included the training of farmers and practical guidance by agriculture officers.

Van Niekerk said his department was "urgently" writing a new marketing Act for agricultural products.

The new Act had to create free access to markets, make room for farmers to market their own products and do away with single-channel fixed price systems.

Changes in the maize marketing system were also progressing well, he said.

National African Farmers' Union (Nafu) president Matome Maonya said state financing facilities should accommodate all types and sizes of farms.

While Nafu supported an inquiry into the financing of rural communities, the people most affected should be informed and consulted about the financing process.

The Land Settlement Act had good features, but also disturbing elements such as

the promotion of outdated communal land ownership, Maonya said. Nafu's view was that traditional communal land had to be upgraded to tenure that would be acceptable to financial institutions.

If black farmers' problems were ignored mass action could be expected, he said.

Black farmers had to be settled immediately on state land not in dispute, and land resources of parastatals had to be released. Maonya slammed the Land Settlement Act which required that state land be bought at market related prices. The Act promoted communal ownership of land and was entrenched by the previous government to deny Africans collateral.

□ Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said in Pretoria that the TAU, concerned about the surge of violence in Northwest province which has claimed the lives of several farmers, would take up the matter with the Northwest provincial administration and central government. It was in the interests of the whole country that the food-producing rural areas be stabilised.

# Bad farm management 'a major cause of problems'

3 ARG 10/8/94

Staff Reporter

INEFFICIENT farm management is one of the major causes of financial and other problems experienced by farmers, says Western Cape Minister of Agricultural Development Lampie Fick.

Mr Fick spoke yesterday at the founding meeting of the Farm Management Association of Southern Africa (Famasa), at Elsenburg Agricultural College near Stellenbosch.

He said an investigation last year among farmers in the summer rainfall area and the

southern Cape showed that some were financially successful in spite of a crippling drought.

"The conclusion is that it is not in the first place high interest rates, inflation, high production costs or even unfavourable weather conditions which are responsible for farmers' financial problems," said Mr Fick.

"Although these certainly contribute to their problems, the main factor which differentiates the successful farmer is his ability as a good manager."

# Hanekom outlines land claims

CAPE TOWN — A total of 2 314 claims for the return of land and property had been received by August 1, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said yesterday. *B. Not*

He told Parliament his department and the Commission on Land Allocation had received 63 claims from parties in rural areas and 2 251 from those in urban areas.

LOUISE COOK reports that not all land disputes are expected to reach the proposed land claims court after claims have been investigated by a planned commission for the restitution of land rights. *10/8/94*

Commission on Land Allocation secretary Jan Barnard said proposals for the court's formation had gone to a Cabinet committee yesterday and the decision

## Political Staff

would be announced next week. A commission for the restitution of land rights would play a mediatory role and assess claims first as more rural land in the former homelands came up for sale.

At the same time the Agricultural Credit Board had called for wider black representation on local credit committees in former homelands. This was seen as a move to privatise state land there. *(3) Gen*

In the past the best deal farmers in those areas could get was to lease state land.

Barnard said more private ownership was likely and small loans of between R1 000-R5 000 had been granted to black farmers by the Agriculture Department.



## 2 314 land claims made

*Star*  
Cape Town — The Commission on Land Allocation has received 2 314 claims — the majority in urban areas. 10/2/94

Only 66 claims for the return of land have been received from rural communities, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

Most urban claims were expected to be dealt with by the new commission to be established in terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Act. — Political Correspondent.

*(3) 9/2/94*

## Farm evictions could be declared illegal

THE continuing eviction of workers from farms might compel the Eastern Transvaal legislature to criminalise the action, Eastern Transvaal premier Matthew Phosa said yesterday. *BIDAY*

He told about 1 000 people at the 38th anniversary of National Women's Day at the Piet Retief Town Hall: "Farmers should stop evicting our people from farms." *10/8/94*

He said government should not be forced to pass laws which would declare farmers' actions a crime.

Phosa was responding to a memorandum handed to him by farm workers who alleged farmers were evicting them.

Phosa told the gathering he had taken the farm workers' grievances to the Transvaal Agricultural Union in the hope of finding a solution. *(3) Gen*

The SA National Civic Organisation's Eastern Transvaal region awarded Phosa the freedom of Piet Retief.

JOHANNES NGCOBO

He was also handed a copy of the Women's Charter.

Phosa urged the crowd to observe a moment of silence in honour of ANC MP Feroza Adam, 33, who was buried in Johannesburg yesterday after being killed in a car crash on Saturday.

Phosa said the Eastern Transvaal legislature wanted the local regional services council to be restructured so that people in rural areas could be included and to ensure development.

Meanwhile, Phosa's spokesman Oupa Pilane said the provincial legislature sitting would commence today and sit for eight days.

Pilane said issues to be discussed included a provincial service commission, an exchequer Bill, a tender board Bill and the provincial legislature's Powers, Privileges and Immunities Bill.

# Thousands want their land back

**By Ismail Lagardien**  
Political Correspondent

SOUTH Africa's new Government has 2 314 land claims — 63 from communities in rural areas and 2 251 from individuals in urban areas, Parliament heard this week.

Minister of Land Affairs Mr Derek Hanekom said this in response to a

*Sweeten*  
question from Democratic Party MP Mr EK Moorcroft.

The Minister said that 22 communities were at present involved in negotiations with his department.

*(3) Gen*  
These negotiations, he said, involved State and privately owned land and were in various stages of completion.

He said an envisaged the Restitution of Land Rights Act would provide for a Land Claims Court, for mechanism to restore land

*11/8/94*  
rights and to allocate compensation where it has been agreed.

In the meantime the Department is involved, in places, in negotiating local solutions to some claims and investigating others.

"In rural areas 63 claims were received up to August 1 1994 from communities and individuals. In urban areas 2 251 claims were received from individuals," the department said.



Access to the land ... Shareholdings for farm labourers is proposed by the Development Bank as a means of land reform

PHOTOGRAPH: RUTH MOTAU

# Fair share for farm labour

(3) (4) WM(BM) 12-18/8/94

The Development Bank has come up with an innovative plan for land reform, reports **Teigue Payne**

**A**N INNOVATIVE way of addressing South Africa's imbalance in ownership of farming land and assets, or at least blurring the "black" or "white" labels on farm land ownership — shareholdings for farmworkers — has received an enthusiastic response among white farmers and others.

The scheme involves sale of shares in the profit, loss and equity of existing "white" farms. Advocates say such schemes would have the advantage of producing quick results for a population with high expectations. They would preserve skills, support the existing businesses of larger farm units which could be more competitive but which might have been in major debt, and save the government the vast costs of new resettlement programmes.

Even if Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom does achieve the RDP target of a 30 percent transfer of commercial agricultural land by the end of the century, the imbalance of land in the hands of whites will be unresolved. And the land transfer programme will cost a fortune for purchase and installation of infrastructure.

Advocates of the farm equity scheme envisage that government could play a role by providing loan assistance, or withdrawing support for unwilling farmers. They envisage a state-linked or private financier would buy shares which would be placed in a trust for the farm workers, who could gradually buy them. Or, in line with modern trends, the farming company could vest in one set of people; the land in another. Or other forms — like share cropping or part title — could be structured.

They say it makes more economic sense to divide up the ownership of the land, instead of the actual land, especially on land which is not of high potential or irrigated — which applies to the majority of South Africa.

■ Continued on PAGE B3

## BUSINESS

B3

# Shares for farmworkers

(3) (4) WM(BM) 12-18/8/94

■ From Page B1

Policy analyst for the Development Bank of Southern Africa, Craig McKenzie, says following his initial address in Durban about the scheme, he received about 200 calls of enquiry in three weeks.

There is no telling whether that response was out of fear or altruism, but McKenzie comments: "Real land reform will happen quickly if the solutions are good." In this case, however, the reality is that progress has been slow. Only one farm has structured an equity share deal so far through the DBSA, though about five more deals are in the pipeline.

Other deals not structured through DBSA have reportedly been done. McKenzie says the DBSA is regarding this as a pilot project. He expects the process to get faster as experience is gathered.

McKenzie says the deals would normally involve concessionary financing because of the poverty

of the farm workers. A standardised contract seems unlikely — every case will have to be adjusted for local circumstances.

The most important function of the trust created in the equity schemes is to make a market in the shares; in deals so far, the trust offers a guaranteed buy-back price for the shares, based on a formula relating to the value of the farm in its circumstances at a particular time. The deals are structured so that farm workers have to sell within two or three years if they leave the farm.

**W**hile the scheme could be viewed as a "white trick" to maintain real control, McKenzie says workers could hold the majority of shares. For many farmers, the attraction of the scheme is its potential to get farm workers involved and enthusiastic about production and production decisions.

Because worker involvement is especially important in high-

value crops like deciduous fruit, the scheme has had a particularly positive reception in the Cape.

He does not believe it is the panacea to land reform — he will be happy if it eventually applies on five percent of farms. It's not suitable for everyone largely because of high transaction costs.

Currently, the DBSA will only consider highly viable farms for the deal. Still, McKenzie thinks any farm could be the subject of a deal provided the farmer is willing to sell at an appropriate price.

And, McKenzie says, enquiries have not only come from farmers. One possible deal is for a hotel.

The idea might have the salutary effect of breaking the conventional wisdom that equity schemes can only apply in listed companies. In fact, perhaps the smaller the company, the better — though finding formulae for ongoing valuation will be a challenge.

# Tenants are 'insecure'

By Mathatha Tsedu *Sowetan*  
Political Editor

THE Eastern Transvaal Labour Tenant Committee and the Farmworkers Research and Resource Centre have called on the Government to amend the constitution to ensure security for farmworkers. 12/8/94

The two organisations say the present property clauses give "an inordinate amount of power to white farmers to the detriment of farm tenants' rights".

In a memorandum sent to Eastern Transvaal premier Mr Matthew Phosa, the two organisations ask him to convey their concerns to President Nelson Mandela and to ensure a process to review the clauses is initiated.

"Labour tenants feel the Government is not doing much to address their plight as they bear the brunt of frustrations generated by the new constitution. White farmers are

venting their anger on tenants living on their farms because there are still no mechanisms to monitor developments on the farms," the organisations says in the memorandum.

The property clauses state:

"Every person shall have the right to acquire rights in property and, to the extent that the nature of the rights permits, to dispose of such rights.

The organisations also called for: (2)92

- An immediate end to evictions and impounding of stock;
- The return of evicted tenants and impounded stock;
- An end to the expulsion of farm workers' children;
- The firm implementation of labour law on farms;
- A minimum wage level in line with the set living wage;
- The rebuilding of destroyed houses; and
- An end to alleged police harassment of farm workers and alleged police collaboration with white farmers.

# Farmers' levies may pay for RDP

S:Times (Buss)

14/8/94

③ Gen ~~(3)~~

By CIARAN RYAN

THE government is eyeing an estimated R1-billion of agricultural control board funds as a potential source of funding for rural RDP programmes.

Bernie Fanaroff, chief adviser to Jay Naidoo, the reconstruction and development programme's Minister Without Portfolio, says the possibility of using these funds has been brought to his attention and will now be raised with Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk.

The funds — raised by charging levies to farmers — are used to stabilise and guarantee minimum prices to farmers.

The extent of the stabilisation funds built up by the 15 boards is not known but the Meat Board alone has R162-million in its fund.

Pick 'n Pay executive director, Gareth Ackerman, estimates the 15 boards control close to R1-billion with assets worth a further R1-billion.

"I believe we should be using these funds for rural upliftment programmes rather than have all these technical experts trying to push up food prices.

"It is now becoming feasible to import meat again. The sooner the control boards are dismantled, the better."

Nils Dittmer of the Organisation for Livestock Producers says although the

funds should be returned to the farmers "we are prepared to consider utilising them for rural upliftment or black farmer education".

David Cooper of the Land and Agricultural Policy Centre, an ANC think-tank, says the control boards need to be reformed to provide price stability, "but not to fix prices".

"We need price stability to ensure that we do not wipe out the producer base. If prices fluctuate too radically you could find one year we have to import maize, while the next year we have a surplus crop."

But Mr Cooper warns that appropriating control board funds belonging to farmers could also be unconstitutional.

"The government may find it has greater success in persuading the control boards to use more of their funds for rural upliftment programmes."

Mr Ackerman says meat prices have risen 40% in recent months and will continue to rise in the months ahead.

Although this is partly an after-effect of stock shortages brought on by the 1992 drought, the price increases are at the producer level, with retailers making no additional profit.

Of the 15 control boards, only the Maize and Wheat Boards fix prices, while

others operate floor price schemes to guarantee minimum prices to farmers.

The Sunnyside Group, which lobbies for appropriate regulation, also says the single-channel marketing system — where farmers are obliged to sell to control boards — must go.

The SA Consumer Council says it welcomes the revision of the single-channel marketing system announced by the government.

An increasing number of farmers are openly flouting the marketing system by selling direct to consumers, putting the control board system under siege.

Producer organisations and retailers are adding their weight to the call to overhaul the agricultural marketing system, which is blamed for contributing to rising food prices.

Last June food giants Tiger Oats, Premier, Maizecor and Foodcorp warned they might be forced to bypass the maize marketing system which they reckoned added R600-million to the country's food bill.

Yet farmers are receiving less for their maize this year than last while consumers pay through the nose to subsidise exporting the maize surplus.

The Maize Board acknowledges that the marketing system is being bypassed, but says it is obliged to stamp out the practice through its network of inspectors.

## Land given back to community 15/8/94

LAND Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom overturned on Saturday a Land Allocation commission decision and returned to the Mogopa community the land they were forcibly removed from 10 years ago.

Hanekom visited Mogopa, a small rural village near Ventersdorp, to make the announcement.

The Transvaal Rural Action Committee said the Mogopa meeting took place after the community had threatened to re-occupy the second of their properties taken from them in 1984 by the former government.

The two farms bought by the community in 1912, Swartrand and Hartebeeslaagte, were expropriated without compensation. "It was a clear cut forced removal," Hanekom said.

After being removed, the community moved twice more before returning to Swartrand in 1988 under the guise of tending to their ancestors' graves.

In 1991, the then Regional and Land Affairs Minister announced the government would return the title to Swartrand. However, without the use of the Hartebeeslaagte farm, the community had been unable to grow crops to support themselves. Unemployment was high and the community was very poor, the committee said.

They applied to the Land Allocation commission for the return of the title to their second farm, and were told they would have to buy it, before Hanekom overturned the decision.

According to the committee, Hanekom committed his department to helping the community to plough the land and to supply other development resources. — Sapa.

*Joy for Mogopa community*

## The land is yours, declares Minister

Star 15/8/94

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom overturned a Commission for Land Allocation decision at the weekend and returned to the Mogopa community the land they were forcibly removed from 10 years ago.

Hanekom visited Mogopa, a small rural village near Ventersdorp in the western Transvaal, on Saturday and said to the community: "The land is yours."

After the announcement, joyous residents clapped and hugged each other. Hanekom joined them in their celebrations.

The Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) said the meeting in Mogopa had taken place after the community had threatened to reoccupy the second of

their properties taken from them in 1984 by the former Nationalist government.

The two farms bought by the community in 1912, Swartrand and Hartebeeslaagte, were expropriated without compensation.

"It was a clear-cut forced removal," Hanekom said.

After being removed, the community moved twice more before returning to Swartrand in 1988 under the guise of tending to their ancestors' graves.

In 1991, the then Minister of Regional and Land Affairs announced that the government would return title to Swartrand. However, without the use of the farm Hartebeeslaagte, the com-

munity had been unable to grow crops to support themselves. Unemployment was high and the community very poor, Trac said.

It applied to the Commission for Land Allocation for the return of their second farm. They were told they would have to buy the farm.

On Saturday, Hanekom overturned this decision. *(3) Geu*

According to Trac, Hanekom committed his department to helping the community to plough the land and to supply other needed development resources.

The Minister requested that on the day the community started ploughing, he be allowed to join them to plough the first furrow, Trac added. — Sapa.

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## Banks agree to provide credit to small farmers

TIM COHEN

CAPE TOWN — A presidential project to facilitate credit from commercial banks to small and micro farmers will be established, following successful negotiations between leading private sector banks and the Land Affairs Department. *Biday*

Land Affairs spokesman Hellmuth Schlechter confirmed yesterday that parties involved in the "rural finance inquiry" had reached agreement on boosting loans to these farmers. *16/8/94*

The decision follows months of discussion between representatives from the Department, commercial banks and rural organisations. *(3) Gen*

The inquiry was established to investigate ways of facilitating access to financial services for the poorest section of the rural population.

The project could involve changes to the mission statement of the Land Bank and changes to the methods commercial banks use in determining credit ratings for small farmers. *(S)*

Apart from representatives from several banks, the National Land Commission, the Land Bank and the departments of Agriculture and Housing were included in the discussions.

Meanwhile, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said yesterday he had met representatives of tenant labourers and organised agriculture to hear their views on labour tenancy.

Hanekom said he was setting up a process to bring together all the parties involved to address the immediate problems facing farmers and labour tenants.

"I call on all parties to exercise restraint pending the envisaged process," he said.

# Plan to help small farmers to get credit

Political Staff

A **PRESIDENTIAL** project to help small farmers get credit from commercial banks is about to be set up after successful negotiations between banks and the Land Affairs Department.

Land Affairs spokesman Mr Hellmuth Schlenther confirmed this yesterday.

A "rural finance inquiry" was established to investigate ways to open financial services to the poorest section of the rural population.

Representatives from several banks, the National Land Commission, the Land Bank and the departments of Agriculture and Housing took part in the talks.

● Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom said yesterday he had met representatives of labour tenants and organised agriculture to hear their views on labour tenancy.

He said he would bring together all the parties concerned to deal with the problems of farmers and labour tenants "as a matter of urgency".

He called on all parties involved to exercise restraint until then.

He endorsed the soliciting of solutions at local level, particularly in the Eastern Transvaal and kwa-Zulu/Natal, but said a national meeting was being arranged.

# Boost in farming lifts GDP by 1,9%

CT 16/8/94 (3)

By AUDREY D'ANGELO  
Business Editor

GROSS Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 1,9% in the second quarter, due mainly to a recovery in the agricultural sector after a disappointing performance in the first three months of this year.

Economists said they expected GDP in the current quarter to be higher, if industrial action did not carry on too long. But they forecast growth for the year would be less than the 3% suggested by Finance Minister Derek Keys.

The producer price index (PPI) for June was also released by the Central Statistics Office in Pretoria yesterday. It showed a rise of 7,9% year on year compared with 7,5% in May. The month on month rise was 0,7%.

But, in spite of the weakening rand, the domestic component of the PPI rose at a faster rate than the index for imported commodities — due mainly to rising food prices.

The domestic component rose by 8,7% year on year and by 0,9% between May and June. Agricultural food prices rose by 2% between May and June although fishing products fell by 2,9%.

The imported component of the PPI rose by 4,4% year on year compared with 4,7% in May. The

## May PPI up 7,9% on year

month on month increase was 0,6%.

Economists forecast a continued rise in the PPI, due to widening profit margins as the upturn continues and to rising imported inflation.

Discussing the GDP figure, they pointed out that an unusually high number of production days had been lost in the second quarter because of the election and the large number of public holidays.

Sanlam chief economist Johan Louw said he expected GDP of 2,3% for the year.

Discussing the PPI he said the continued rise in food prices was a worrying factor. "We shall probably see a gradual increase over the coming months."

This would feed through to consumer price inflation. But he did not expect the consumer price index (CPI) to rise above an average of 8% this year.

Southern Life economist Sandra Gordon said all main sectors of the economy except mining

and manufacturing showed positive growth in the second quarter. But she expected GDP for the year to be no more than 2,5%.

She pointed out that agriculture was coming off a high base in 1993 and was therefore unlikely to have a high impact on GDP figures this year.

"Prospects for the third quarter are not good, given the widespread industrial action. This is disappointing as it is disruption of production rather than lack of demand which is holding back the recovery."

Boland Bank economist Francois Jansen said the PPI figures showed there was "a lot of upward pressure on the whole price mechanism this year."

Cost-push factors included the weakening rand, an acceleration in credit demand, increased activity in the upturn and demand for pay increases above the inflation rate.

He expected GDP for the year to be 2,5%. Discussing the current quarter, Jansen said pay talks usually held earlier in the year were postponed because of the election and this could give a misleading impression that industrial action was being orchestrated.

Old Mutual economist Johan Els said the PPI was "better than I expected because I thought the imported component would have risen more by now, as a result of the weak rand."

# Farmers say they will die to keep their land

BLOEMFONTEIN — Restitution of land by government was rejected yesterday by delegates at the Free State Agricultural Union congress, who said they were prepared to die in defence of their land.

The congress demanded to be represented on all land restitution forums. While SA was urbanising rapidly, agricultural land should not be regarded as a means to reverse the urbanisation process.

A policy of affirmative action in

LOUISE COOK

reverse was adopted, calling for the employment of unemployed whites and school-leavers as farm workers.

The union reiterated its opposition to the introduction of a land tax, which it said would destroy farmers. It also opposed increased estate duty, which could jump to 35% from 15%.

Calls were made for farm labour laws, and the union threatened greater mechanisation if its demands were

not met.

Vice-president Japie Grobler rejected state interference in agriculture and demanded that the land issue be settled soon.

The union had to remove any remaining discrimination from its constitution and represent commercial farmers of all races, he said.

Free State premier Patrick Lekota told delegates local branches of the SA Defence Force should assist police in combating crime on farms.

# Way paved for land claims

THE first of about 1,4 million people could reclaim land by the end of the year under draft legislation approved by the Cabinet on Wednesday, the Land Affairs Minister said yesterday.

Spokesman Hellmuth Schlienter said that if the legislation — the Restitution of Land Rights Bill — was passed by Parliament in the current session, structures such as a new commission on the restitution of land and a land claims court could be performed by the year end.

The structures could investigate and adjudicate claims from people dispossessed on or after 1913, when the Land Acts became law.

The court — which would

## LOUISE COOK

make formal rulings in settlements arranged by the commission — would deal with people who were forcibly removed from agricultural and urban land. Their descendants could also make claims.

EDWARD WEST reports from Cape Town that Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said the Bill would enable dispossessed communities to be resettled or compensated.

Over the years about 3,5-million people had been forced to move.

The Bill, to be tabled in Parliament as soon as it was certified by state law advisers, provided for a commission on restitution of land rights and a roving

land claims court to be set up. Appeals would be heard by the Constitutional Court.

Up to 100 rural communities could be eligible to make land claims. These would have to be made within three years so that restitution could be completed within five years.

The court would have the power to award compensation and prioritise state support in land reform programmes. In cases where resettlement was impossible, alternative state land could be utilised.

Our political staff reports that the head of the task force that drew up the proposed legislation, Geoff Budlender, said it had been estimated that between 90 and 100 rural communities,

involving about 700 000 people, were entitled to restitution. This would cost R1m-R2m for each community, including full support services such as ensuring access to water, financial assistance and agricultural extension services.

About 700 000 people had been forced to move in urban areas in terms of the Group Areas Act. Most had been paid some compensation. This would have to be taken into account.

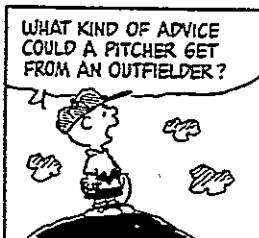
In rural areas, some of the land from which people had been evicted was still owned by the state. This would also affect the level of compensation.

Nanekom said there was a strong lobby for Budlender, executive director of the Legal Resources Centre, to be appointed president of the land claims court, which would have the status of a division of the Supreme Court.

SA Agricultural Union President Boet Fourie called for the three-year cutoff period to be shortened to 18 months to ensure stability in agriculture. He also called for the union to be represented on any bodies dealing with the issue.

## PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



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LAND

## Hanekom digs in

*Dur 19/8/94*

The Department of Land Affairs has compiled a computerised data base of all State land as part of the process of making land available for redistribution to "disadvantaged landless people", or as compensation for people who lost property in terms of apartheid laws.

A Restitution and Land Rights Bill will be introduced by Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom during the current session of parliament.

The Bill will provide for a Commission on the Restitution of Land Rights. The commission will receive, investigate and mediate on claims.

The Bill will also provide for a land claims court. An information document published by Hanekom's department this week points out that though the interim constitution does not specifically provide for a land claims court, its establishment had been found to be feasible and necessary.

It will allow claims to be dealt with effectively without the normal court procedures and delays. The court will have the power to determine restitution and compensation.

The Bill will set a three-year limit on the time within which claims for restitution can be made. *(3) Gen*

The Restitution Bill is one of nine pieces of legislation Hanekom intends tabling in parliament during the session which should make him the most legislatively active Minister this year.

### Technical Matters

Most of the other Bills deal with technical matters that need to be amended to cater for the establishment of the nine provinces.

They are:

- The Land Affairs General Amendment Bill;
- The Physical Planning Amendment Bill which will designate the provincial premiers as the persons responsible for regional planning;
- The Land Survey Bill to replace the Land Survey Act which has been in place since 1927 and now needs substantial changes;

- Dur 19/8/94*
- The Town and Regional Planners Amendment Bill which will repeal the need for a qualified town and regional planner to be a member of an institute for town and regional planners before he or she may be registered as a professional town and regional planner;
  - The Professional and Technical Surveyors Amendment Bill;
  - The Deeds Registries Amendment Bill;
  - The Sectional Titles Amendment Bill to speed up the registration of sectional titles; and
  - The Provision of Certain Land for Settlement Amendment Bill. ■

Restitution process spelt out

# Return of land moves step closer

Stewart 19/8/94

■ BY ESTHER WAUGH  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — In the first concrete measure to return land to nearly 3,5 million South Africans who have been dispossessed of land since 1913, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom yesterday released the Restitution of Land Rights Bill yesterday.

The Bill spells out the restitution process and provides for the establishment of an independent Commission on Restitution of Land Rights and a Land Claims Court.

Removed <sup>3 Gen</sup>

It is to be tabled in Parliament as soon as the draft legislation has been passed by the State law advisers.

Hanekom said he intended to establish the commission and the court before the end of the year.

Both the commission and the court would be able to deal with State and private land from which people have been forcibly removed in terms of apartheid laws.

Hanekom said the dispossessed would be able to submit their claims within the next three years, and that the claims would be finalised within the next five years.

He added: "This legislation may be as significant as the watershed Land Act of 1913, because it brings to rest the process cemented by the Act which, as Sol Plaatje so succinctly put

## BILL provides for an independent Commission on Restitution of Land Rights and a Land Claims Court



Budlender . . . claims expected from rural communities.

it, turned a black man into a squatter in his own land."

The commission will assist claimants in documenting their claims as well as help settle the claims through mediation and negotiation.

However, the court would have the ultimate decision-making powers should a dispute arise between different parties.

Appeals would be lodged with

the Constitutional Court.

Hanekom said the Government had a daunting task in undoing years of forced removals, racial segregation and dispossession of land rights.

"In order to move ahead in improving the quality of life for mainly rural communities, we need to redress the past wrongs and injustices by bringing justice to the victims of the abhorrent laws and policies of apartheid," the Minister said.

Lawyer Geoff Budlender — who is tipped to become the president of the Land Claims Court — told a press conference yesterday that at least 95 claims were expected from rural communities.

The number of those removed in urban areas was estimated to be 700 000.

He added that it would be difficult to quantify the cost of the claims until the court had been established.

### Descendants

The criteria for claims would be that the claimant had held land rights and had been removed in terms of apartheid laws, Budlender said.

The Bill also provides for direct descendants of the dispossessed to lodge claims.

Hanekom said land restitution was part of a broader land reform programme which would include giving people access to land, the distribution of State-owned land, and securing tenure.

# focus on land issues

**A**T THE END of a tortuous gravel road lies a wind-swept hamlet with only a few lonely trees standing guard like sentries.

To the visitor, Mogopa, near Ventersdorp in the Western Transvaal, looks like any other rural village: A few sheep and cattle roaming around, crude dwellings with sheet-metal roofs held down by rocks and mangy dogs lying in the sun.

It is not a unique spot, but a stark reminder of the brutal excesses of the former Nationalist government — a gaping wound created by forced removals.

All that changed last Saturday when Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom returned Hartbeeslaagte, the second of two farms, to the people.

Over the past ten years, Mogopa, populated by the Bakwena tribe, has become a symbol of our dark apartheid past.

It was a "black spot" in an area of white concentration, and for no other reason than that, the people were forced out at gunpoint, kicking and screaming, with no explanation.

They had lived there for 78 years, cultivating the land, raising their cattle and tending crops until February 14 1984, when under cover of darkness the "Boere" and the police descended on them, tore down the village and forcibly relocated thousands to an area called Pachsdraai, 250 kilometres away.

"I feel like dying, I want to cry when I remember February 14 1984," said Ma Nellie Jacobeth Rampo this week.

For ten years she has had nightmares of that fateful day — recalling every moment as if it happened yesterday.

She was born in the village 67 years ago, lived with her children in the house her father built and hoped to see her peach orchard outlast her.

Instead, she spent the early hours of that Valentine's Day terrified, and then angry that the men who came to move her away would not even speak to her.

"I woke up at about 3am ... it felt like I was in Johannesburg — there were so many lights on the hills," she recalled.

Mogopa is at the foot of the Zwartrand. Overnight, the police and government officials had assembled on the hilltops — lying in wait to pounce on the unsuspecting community.

The first the people of Mogopa knew of the removal was when their chief, Jacob More, spoke to them through a loud hailer.

"He told us not to be frightened, the South African police were around us and we would be moved," recalled Ma Nellie.

"I could feel my heart getting weak but I was still cheeky.

"When the men did not speak to me I went up to them and hit out ... I wanted to die on the spot, I did not want to move," she said.

Ma Nellie says that once the people of Mogopa had been moved out, their brick houses were torn down, trees chopped down and water

Sowetown 19/8/94  
The Bakwena of Mogopa are back where they belong — on land forcibly taken from them 10 years ago.

Features writer **Sharon Chetty** provides an insight into their elation:



Ma Nellie says her 10-year nightmare is over now that Mogopa has been given back to the people.

pumps removed.

Diamonds had been found in the area and some of the area was excavated, parts were used for grazing for white farmers' livestock while the rest lay fallow.

"It was bad," is the only way 59-year-old Johannes Hector can describe the past ten years.

"We were rich ... there was food, we worked the land and had our meat.

"The Boere took all that away," he said, his voice tinged with bitterness.

The father of five, like Ma Nellie, returned to Mogopa in 1989 as part of a concerted campaign to win back the land.

Under pretext of tending to their ancestors graves, a few families returned to Mogopa and refused to return despite a Supreme Court challenge by the government.

When they were eventually allowed to stay on in 1992, the more arable Hartbeeslaagte portion was still out of bounds.

This was returned to them on Saturday.

"Ja, when the rains come, we will dance," said Ishmael Mokajane.

"On the first day in September we can plough the fields ... we can reclaim our land," he said eagerly.

Those who are there now say that the Mogopa community was a "wonderful" group.

③ Geir  
**When the men did not speak to me I went up to them and hit out ... I wanted to die on the spot, I did not want to move**

Some of that changed, though, after the removal when the community was divided between those who wanted to return home and those who opted for resettlement in areas such as Pachsdraai and Bethanie.

But for people like Ma Nellie, Oupa Johannes and Ishmael, there is no question about where home is.

Now that their fight is over, they have to rebuild Mogopa into the thriving village they grew up in — for their children's children.

This week they walked tall, a spring in their step, as eager preparations for the celebrations were made.



# Bill for return of land

By Ismail Lagardien  
Political Correspondent

THE restoration of ancestral lands confiscated over decades from indigenous Africans, will start within months once Parliament passes the Land Rights Restitution Bill.

Minister of Land Affairs Mr Derek Hanekom yesterday presented to the media the draft legislation for restitution — the first piece of legislation passed by the Cabinet of the Government of National Unity — and promised that the effects of years of forced removals would begin to be rolled back within months.

"Where appropriate, as the case of Magopa, we will not hesitate to expedite the restitution process, bringing to an end with all the speed and urgency the misery and uncertainties facing such communities..."

"Nowhere are the harsh effects of the evils of apartheid more visible than in the legacy of forced removal..."

"In order to move ahead in improving the quality of life for mainly rural communities, we need to redress the past wrongs and injustices to the victims of the abhorrent laws and policies of apartheid," Hanekom said.

The Bill makes provision for the Right to Restitution, the creation of a Commission for the Restitution of Land Rights and of a Land Claims Court with the relevant judges. **3 am**

The commission and court will deal with specific claims which will have to be lodged within three years, and hopes to conclude its work within five years.

### Will move around

The court will move around the country into rural areas where it will listen to and consider claims.

The Bill serves "to provide for the restitution of rights in land of which persons or communities were dispossessed under or for the purpose of furthering the objects of any racially discriminatory law..."

This effectively means that any person or descendant of a person or a community that has been removed from any particular piece of land after June 19 1913 would have the right to present a case to the commission and the court. He confirmed that cases are being heard at present.



**T**he new Government has taken promising steps towards returning land to apartheid's dispossessed, thanks largely to the efforts of Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom. Jo-Anne Collinge reports

# Breaking new ground on land claims

Star 22/8/94

**M**inister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom has literally sweated over the return of land to apartheid's dispossessed, travelling long and dusty roads to negotiate with people who were discarded in remote parts.

In just three months he is perceived to have done more to right the wrongs of the old forced removal policy than the National Party did during the four-year transitional period.

"Derek Hanekom has been pro-active. He takes time to meet the people and he takes action before things mess up," says Themba Maluleke, a development worker with the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac).

Estelle Randall, press officer for the Natal-based Association for Rural Advancement (Afra), says there is now a sense of dealing with a government that wants to see the land problem resolved. "There seems to be more openness, accessibility and seriousness."

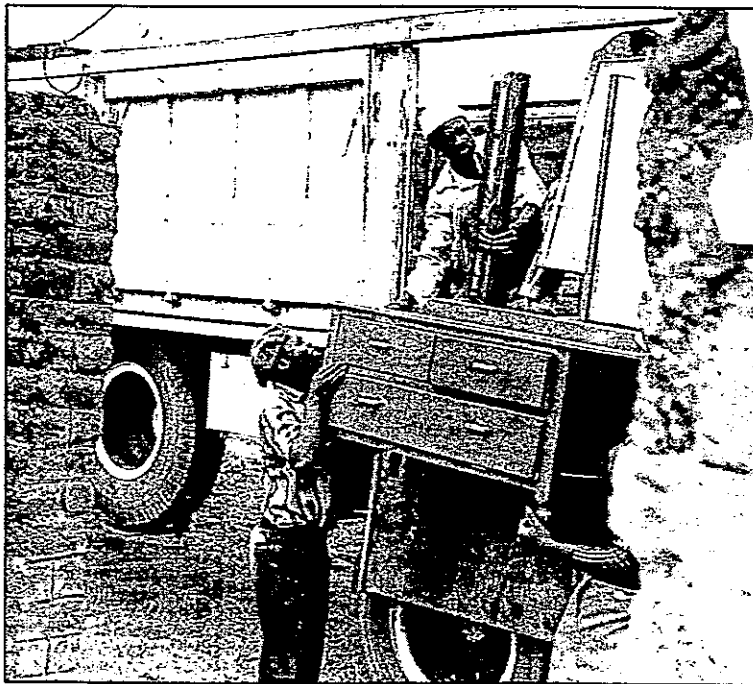
Brendan Pearce of the National Land Committee (NLC) readily recognises that Hanekom has used his personal authority positively. "I think he has definitely been moving very fast — especially if you consider this is without having a proper land claims court in place. He's committed to solving the easy cases."

This praise cannot simply be dismissed as coming from a choir of ANC voices. Although it is probable that Trac, Afra and the NLC would be generally better disposed to an ANC government than an NP government, they have shown themselves willing to take on anyone where the rights of the landless are in jeopardy.

When you look at the figures, it is clear that Hanekom's success lies not so much in the quantity of properties restored to victims of forced removal, but in the quality which he brings to the process.

Ministerial spokesman Hellmuth Schlenter says the Department of Land Affairs has before it 63 rural land claims (most of which are communal) and 2 250 urban land claims (most of which are individual).

Only 10 rural communities have so far had their land restored — and at least half of these chalked up their victory under the NP



Times change . . . Mogopa residents (left) are forced to move from their homes in the '80s, while (right) displaced residents of Bakubung, near Magaliesburg, were able to return home this year.

government, in the last few weeks before the election.

The qualitative difference between the old land restoration and the new is well reflected in the experience of the Mogopa community, the last "black spot" subjected to forced removal by the NP government, back in 1984.

After unrelenting resistance, the Mogopa community won back Zwartrand, one of their two original farms, by negotiating with the

NP government. Still feeling short-changed, they appealed without success to the Commission on Land Allocation for the return of their second arable farm, Hartbeeslaagte.

This month, Hanekom went to Mogopa and announced not only the return of Hartbeeslaagte, but immediate financial support to ensure that the people of Mogopa would have the inputs and the implements to harvest their first crop this summer.

Where the NP's return of Mogopa's first farm was grudging concession, which failed to acknowledge the extent of the original injustice, the new Government's subsequent decisions have been a more wholesome attempt to restore a community and to recompense it for past suffering.

But Pearce and Randall point out that, when it comes to the tough cases of land restoration — for instance, when the land in

week, and it will be up for public comment almost immediately.

Under the Bill, communities deprived of their land will have three years in which to register claims for restoration, or, alternatively, for the award of compensation.

All claims will be filtered through the commission, which will do detailed fact-finding and will attempt to settle matters out of court. Where no solution is possible, the claims will be forwarded to the Land Claims Court, which will have the status of a court of appeal. Its rulings will thus be final, except where the issue is of a constitutional nature.

Existing legislation allows for only a narrow margin of distribution of land to the landless by means of 80 percent subsidies to approved communities. So far, says Schlenter, six communities comprising 1 700 people have been awarded such subsidies.

The cost to the State had been R11.4 million. Another R24 million was earmarked for this purpose during the current financial year and would be allocated to 24 communities.

In a number of cases, the communities assisted were those which had successfully resisted removal, but where the land had become overcrowded because of previous racial restrictions on purchase. They negotiated the purchase of neighbouring land and then approached the State for financial help.

Randall observes that non-governmental organisations such as Afra play a significant role in safeguarding the subsidy scheme from possible abuse, by assisting communities in negotiating fair prices for the quality of land on offer.

In addition to funding from the departmental budget, land restitution will receive a modest boost from the RDP fund. Pilot development projects on restored land are planned for all provinces.

Pearce sums up with the comment: "There is definitely movement, but it's not all smooth and it's not all solved". He warns against allowing the glow of a few welcome instances of restoration to cloud the fact that there is, as yet, no agreed policy on redistributing land to the mass of the landless who have no special claim to lodge before the Land Claims Court.

## SA farmers to share skills

PIETERSBURG. — South African farmers will temporarily settle in other African countries to assist and train farmers in terms of a Southern African Development Corporation project announced yesterday.

③ CT 23/8/74  
The South African-based organisation's chairman Mr Johan van der Westhuizen announced that talks on the plan were presently being held with agricultural unions in the PWV and Free State.

The project would be promoted in Mozambique, Zambia, Gabon and the Congo over the next month. — Sapa

## Farming's big contribution

LOUISE COOK

AGRICULTURE is expected to make a significant contribution to economic growth this year, says SA Agricultural Union chief economist Koos du Toit.

He estimates agriculture's direct contribution to GDP to be 0,6% and its indirect contribution, taking into account transport and processing, is likely to amount to 1%. *81 Day 25/8/94*

Total agricultural production for this year is expected to increase 13% to R29,5bn on 1993.

Estimates for this year's crop production total R10bn and animal production R13bn.

Agricultural exports could top R6bn compared with last year's R5,4bn. *(3) Gen*

With the exception of sugar, which needed to be imported, all crops had done well, Du Toit said.

# focus on farming

Sowetan

③ Gen

25/8/94

Executive director of the People's Agricultural Development organisation Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe has his way, the subsistence farming sector will be strengthened, encouraged to be productive and develop a long-term capacity to produce exports.

But first things first.

The starting point is to build capacity to produce for domestic consumption, "because that is where the need is most pressing".

"Only then can the PAD consider encouraging members to produce for the export market. This, as you might understand, is a long-term objective. Importantly, we need to develop our capacity to produce for domestic consumption. "We really need to gear our people to uplifting themselves," says Nefolovhodwe.

About 35 agricultural projects under the direction of the PAD are operational throughout the country. All these projects are manned by rural communities, often supervised for profitability by field trainers who conduct regular on-site workshops.

"This allows farmers to be updated on new agricultural technology so they can be more productive in their work."

Nefolovhodwe says black economic empowerment has to start at a primary industry level like agriculture.

"It is a great pity that businessmen often want to give the impression that manufacturing and retail markets are the only activities capable of empowering blacks.

"The truth is that if we neglect agricultural activities, we can never end the dependency syndrome and therefore cannot wholly enjoy the concept of black economic empowerment," he said.

He argues that by developing the agricultural capacity of "our rural people", blacks will be on course for true emancipation.

The projects Nefolovhodwe refers to are located in KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Transvaal, Eastern Transvaal, Eastern Cape and the PWV region.

## PWV still in infancy

"One has to say the PWV region is still in its infancy in terms of developing its resources to the level of the other regions," he says.

Nevertheless, Nefolovhodwe is happy that there is a lot of activity in progress in the region, with project Siyalima in De Deur near Vereeniging taking shape and showing great promise.

"In addition to Siyalima, there are a number of projects in the process of being initiated. Within a matter of weeks I will have visited some of these projects to assess progress," he says.

Nefolovhodwe is all praise for PWV regional minister of agriculture Mr John Mavuso for "taking initiatives to consult with us in addressing the needs of our people".

"It is not always the case that governments show interest in the work done to promote the

Only by developing the agricultural capacity of rural people can South Africans end the dependency syndrome, executive director of the People's Agricultural Development organisation tells reporter **Joe Mdhlela:**



**Pandelani Nefolovhodwe**

work of the disadvantaged communities. However, we have been impressed with the way Mavuso has shown interest in our projects."

In order to have financial muscle, black subsistence farmers have formed themselves into "community financial institutions". This, says Nefolovhodwe, is done with a view to helping access loans to the poor so they can establish their own farms.

A number of these institutions, including Vukani Save and Serve Credit Association (Eastern Cape), Zikhuliseni Savings and Credit Association (Natal-KwaZulu), are in operation and have already made significant start-up loans to the farmers.

"We want to cultivate a sense of self-sufficiency among our people. If properly run, these ventures will strengthen rural structures, giving them the economic muscle for sustenance," says Nefolovhodwe.

In the final analysis, the organisation is bent on adopting a holistic approach which not only develops the farmers but also attends to their educational and training needs in order to de-

velop solid support system structures.

"We believe all these programmes will lead to the emancipation of our people from the shackles of poverty and dependency," he said.

He is concerned about the fact that "so far Government subsidies have gone to white farmers. Virtually all of us are fed by the white farmers. That is a worrying scenario which we need to address urgently.

"We hope the process we have started will reverse the trend so the Government will commit some of its resources to our farmers, and thereby help us develop a good number of fullfledged farmers who will produce food on a large scale," Nefolovhodwe said.

Nefolovhodwe is grateful to Kagiso Trust, one of their major donors. They also get support from the Commission on International Aid of the Netherlands Reformed Church amounting to R50 000 a year.

"The trust has funded us to the tune of R300 000. We have to express our gratitude to Kagiso Trust because their funds have enabled us to help our people," says Nefolovhodwe.

# Big water projects for north

③ AUG 26/8/94  
Political Staff

TWO multi-million rand construction projects — one designed to benefit mainly rural domestic water-users in the Northern and Eastern Transvaal — have been announced by Water and Forestry Affairs Minister Kader Asmal.

Mr Asmal said in a debate on his budget vote in the national assembly yesterday that the R275 million Injaka dam and the associated Bosbokrand transfer pipeline would improve supplies to the Sabie and Sand river basins in the Eastern Transvaal and Northern Transvaal provinces.

The R260 million Tugela-Mhlataze water transfer project "will entail abstraction works in the Tugela at Middeldrift". A pumping station, a rising main and a tunnel would pump water into the upper reaches of the Goedetrouw dam in KwaZulu/Natal.

Urgent consideration was also being given to Umvoti and its environs, particularly in the Stanger area north of Durban, said Mr Asmal.

The minister added that the construction of the "massive and strategically important" Lesotho Highlands water project was proceeding well in spite of political tensions.

"The completion of this project by January 1988 is an urgent necessity," he said.

# Farm income surges

PRETORIA. — Net farm income for the year to end June surged 37,7%, outstripping analysts expectations. (3) CT 26/8/94

According to figures from the latest quarterly report from the Agriculture Department's economics directorate, the volume of agricultural production rose 7,6% in the year and the contribution of agriculture to the gross domestic

product (GDP) increased 16,2%.

Producer prices rose on average 1,9% while prices of farming requisites were up 9,4% and spending on intermediate goods and services increased 10,7%.

Confidence was reflected in the strong upsurge in investment. Investment in machinery, implements and vehicles rose 41,7% to more than R1,38bn. — Reuter

# Rural land tax possible

By BARRY STREEK

THE possibility of introducing a rural land tax was being considered, the Minister of Land Affairs, Mr Derek Hanekom, said yesterday.

However, the effect of this proposed tax would have to be studied before a final decision was taken, he said in reply to a question tabled in Parliament by Senator E K Moorcroft (DP).

Urban property owners in South Africa paid rates on the market value of their stands, businesses and other

property, but there was not a comparable tax on rural land and improvements, Mr Hanekom said.

"A rural land tax should be a revenue source for local governments. It should probably be set between one and two percent of actual market value of the land (and possibly some improvements)."

A committee will be appointed before the end of this year to make recommendations on a land tax.

ET 27/8/94



# Farmers reject land tax idea

PRETORIA. — The South African Agricultural Union on Monday has rejected the notion of a land tax, saying it would ruin many farmers.

Union president Boet Fourie said yesterday that such a tax would swallow up to one third of farmers' profits and undermine the viability of small farmers.

He was responding to reports that Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom was considering a land tax of

two percent on the market value of farms. (3)

Mr Fourie said rural communities would be especially hard hit by such a tax.

ARG 30/8/94  
He added: "The minister did say he would first want to examine the effects of a land tax. His statements before such a study had been done must be rejected as premature and untimely." — Sapa.

**PROPOSAL draws angry protests from organised agriculture, including a call that Minister be sacked**

■ BY ESTHER WAUGH and BRENDAN TEMPLETON

The Government is to investigate the possibility of introducing a rural land tax of between 1 and 2 percent, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom announced yesterday.

After consultation with Finance Minister Derek Keys, Hanekom said a committee would consult interested parties and make recommendations before the year's end.

The proposal drew protests from organised agriculture, with Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer calling for Hanekom's sacking.

He said farmers were already "under seige" following years of drought and 1994's small, government-controlled price increases for many agricultural crops. *3 Gen*

Any added burden on the agricultural sector could force many of South Africa's 60 000 farmers into bankruptcy and threatened the livelihood of the 8,4 million people directly dependent on farming.

If the proposed tax was implemented, a citrus farmer on a 50 hectare farm would have to pay up to R35 000 a year in extra taxes. Only 12 percent of South Africa's land was arable, meaning the new tax would put the squeeze on an already threatened sector, Bruwer added.

Sapa reports that SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie also slammed the proposal, warning the tax could swallow up to one-third of farm profits and undermine the viability of small farmers.

Hanekom, in a written reply to a question by Democratic Party Senator Errol Moorcroft, told Parliament that while urban property owners paid rates on the market value of their properties, there was no comparable tax on rural land.

A rural land tax could generate funds to finance roads, schools or other services for rural communities.

Hanekom said a rural land tax should draw revenue for local government.

"It should probably be set between 1 and 2 percent of actual market value of the land — and possibly some improvements."

The ideal land tax would be a pure SITE-value tax based on the value of the land.

*Payments will be based on market value of ground*

# Rural land tax

*Star 30/8/94*

# Planned

## Celebrations as water pipeline is completed

CHAMPAGNE corks popped on Monday when a pipeline that should solve the problem of Cape Town's increased water needs up to 1998 was completed. (3) CT 3/18/94

The pipeline runs for 35km between Theewaterskloof Dam and Philippi via the Faure treatment plant and was completed at a cost of R125 million.

The 12km section of pipeline from Stellenboschberg tunnel at Theewaterskloof to Faure was completed at the end of 1992.

# Transvaal farmers' union in attack on RDP, GATT and land

LAWS

SA's largest provincial agricultural union yesterday took a stand against the new SA, slamming the reconstruction and development programme, GATT, land redistribution and labour legislation, calling it "the second phase of the revolution".

The Transvaal Agricultural Union's annual congress also heard that the commercial farming industry — run by 65 000 mostly white farmers — faced "antagonistic forces" who were conducting a vendetta against organised agriculture.

TAU executive council member Wilco Beukes said farmers would not summarily

participate in economic development. Instead the industry had to ensure it was not disadvantaged by new developments.

He said GATT did not present an equal playing field and might not contribute to lower costs, expand markets or increase earnings potential. Agriculture had to ensure GATT was a fairer international trade system. If not, "political opportunism" could become rife.

The industry had to be freed from cartels and unrealistic labour practices. Farmers accepted the basic principle of supply and demand but state intervention

21/9/94  
LOUISE COOK

through exchange control measures jeopardised producer prices.

SA farmers were accused of inefficiency and were being railroaded into restructuring, while 46% of agricultural production in the EU was subsidised, 71% in Japan, 49% in Canada and 28% in the US, skewing prices on international markets.

TAU security chairman Herman Vercueil lashed out at the SACP and Cosatu. Their backing for new labour legislation represented "the second phase of the revo-

lution", he said.

He reaffirmed farmers' refusal to part with land, blaming politicians and academics for "planning behind desks" while successful land reallocation depended on "the reality of farming".

SA would not have the R2,8bn required to foster the required number of black farmers within five years, he said. The solution was rather to enter into partnerships with those farmers and to support small-scale farm settlement.

(3) Gen  
Subsistence farming producing only enough for a family unit with nothing left

to sell — had no place in agriculture in SA and 1ha to 4ha pieces of agricultural land had no chance, Vercueil said.

Meanwhile, TAU president Dries Bruwer said the union was expanding its power base. He foresaw farmers in the Northern Transvaal forming a separate union rather than following political divisions of the Transvaal. Farmers in the Southern Transvaal could then unionise.

He also called for the establishment of an umbrella producer organisation, incorporating the different agricultural sectors, to protect farmers' interests.

# Transvaal farmers slate new SA

THE country's largest provincial agricultural union yesterday took a stand against the new SA, slamming the RDP, GATT, land redistribution and labour laws, calling it "the second phase of the revolution".

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TAU executive member Mr Wilco

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CT 2/9/94



Pictures: JOHN YELD, The Argus.

# Progress flows down a pipeline to the Buis clan

□ 'A water tap, I can't believe it!'

ARL 6/9/94 (3)

**JOHN YELD**  
Environment Reporter

AFTER a lifetime of thirst and hard labour that involved digging for water in a dry river bed and heaving buckets up a steep slope, residents of the historic Buisplaas community near Albertinia now have the luxury of pure running water.

Delighted members of the Buis clan — or Buys, depending on the particular lineage — travelled from as far afield as Cape Town this weekend to witness a ceremonial opening of a stopcock at the end of a new 14km pipeline costing R1,75 million which supplies drinking water to the family farm on the banks of the Gouritz River.

"Water — I can't believe it! There's a tap in my yard! It's a new era," said a delighted Colin Buys.

He is one of the ancestors who have inhabited the property since it was registered in the name of the two sons of a lover of French Huguenot Frederick Petrus de Buis in 1863.

Today, the community comprises about 300 people living in 60 houses, one school and two churches.

The property is registered in the name of 10 members of the Buis family and administered by the Buisplaas Residents Association.

The community, many of whom are migrant labourers in towns like Albertinia, Mossel Bay and Herbertsdale and return to the farm only at weekends, fought off repeated attempts by the government to have the property expropriated and declared a "coloured" residential area in terms of apartheid legislation.

As a result, no state funding was forthcoming and the community languished.

Also, one of their main sources of income — tapping indigenous aloe plants to supply pharmaceutical companies — was severely hit a few years ago when the plants developed a disease.

Although the settlement is on the banks of the Gouritz River, the water in the river — when it flows — is too salty for irrigation and has been declared unfit for human drinking by SABS standards.

In times of drought, residents were forced to dig up to two metres into the river bed or to transport water in drums from Albertinia.

Now the community has access to both electricity and water, and residents are hoping for a more prosperous future.

The water is gravity-fed via a 14km pipeline from boreholes sunk in December 1992 at Lodewykstenk, an old railway siding near Albertinia.

Labour-intensive construction methods were used to provide employment for about 30 men from Buysplaas for six months.

The aloe plants have recovered, and small-scale irrigation is a possibility.

"It's a new life — there's new hope. Now we can share in the peace of other people," said "Oom" Attie Joseph, principal of the local school who acted as master of ceremonies at the weekend celebrations.

"We'll be using taps for the first time. This is something other people have taken for granted.

"Buisplaas can be a winning recipe for the new South Africa. The hatchet of conflict must be buried, then there will be a better future for everyone."

Agriculture and Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, who was guest of honour, told the community they had to decide on their own priorities and the government would then support them.

"I am very inspired that things are already happening here," he said.

"One of the cruellest aspects of the old apartheid laws was that people didn't have access to land, they didn't have security of tenure. You need security before you can talk about development."

The Reconstruction and Development Programme was an integrated concept, Mr Hanekom said.

"It's not only about houses or about water or land — it has to be seen as a package."

Mr Hanekom emphasised that the government did not plan large-scale land expropriations.

"Ownership rights have to be respected, but it also has to be recognised that many people don't have access to land and something has to be done about that."

**ON THE BANKS:** The Buisplaas community is situated on the banks of the Gouritz River but its "brak" water is too salty for drinking or irrigation.



**LET IT FLOW!** Delighted Buisplaas residents taste the first gush of clean water flowing through the new pipeline to their historic community.

# Cabinet approves bill on land claims

VUYO BAVUMA  
Political Staff

A BILL which allows uprooted communities to reclaim their rightful land has been approved by cabinet, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom told the National Assembly today.

The Restitution of Land Rights Bill would be submitted to parliament as soon as the state law advisers had certified it, he said during his budget debate.

The bill provided for the formation of the commission on the restitution of land rights and for a special land claims court to deal with state and private dispossessions carried out in terms of racially discriminatory laws.

The court will have powers to award compensation or alternative relief to the victims of the forced removals.

The claims will have to be made within three years after the bill becomes law.

The Department of Land Affairs was involved in discussions with several dispossessed communities which included Mfengu tribes in the Eastern Cape, and the Mandla Nzini and Zulukama in KwaZulu-Natal.

The government had also instituted a policy of land distribution by creating access for people to relevant administrative institutions and finance mechanisms within the context of the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

The department also made a firm commitment to fund land acquisitions for rural communities with 2 400 families.

Recently the department established a national task force to co-ordinate pilot land reform programmes, but made provision for the acquisition of land, provision of basic infrastructures and local level planning.

Mr Hanekom said his ministry suggested the formation of a rural finance inquiry committee because the current institutional framework for land financing in the rural areas was inadequate to meet the needs of the people.

Another important aspect of the land reform programme was to strengthen and secure tenure rights for all South Africans.

A departmental task team was already reviewing the existing legislation. The department of land affairs recently invited the public to submit proposals and recommendations on ways to restructure the consultative process.

**On the verge**

For 9/9/94

For a company which is 99 years old this year, financial 1994 wasn't the best of times. But it is only fair to say that, perhaps surprisingly, this company is on the verge of significant advances. **(3) Gem**

Crookes Brothers was first established as a sugar farming and milling partnership in Renishaw, still its headquarters, in 1895. It was only in 1980, however, that the pace of its development gathered momentum; the asset base is underpinned by its holding of 3m C G Smith shares, currently valued at

The dividend was held again at 21c, the same as for the last three years, and achieved this time at the expense of a large drop in cover from three times in 1993 to the current 1,9 times.

As you would expect from a conservative company run by the heirs of a strong Natal farming family, the balance sheet reflects inherent strength; shareholder interest is high, borrowings which have grown a little in the last year still remain modest (R5,5m on shareholders' funds of R103m, gearing of 4%), and the fixed asset base continues to expand (now R98m).

The size of Crookes Brothers' business is revealed only by examining the dry

**COMPANIES**

For 9/9/94

about R51m. Over the last five years it has devoted much of its cash and management energy to the development of new enterprises; these include sugar cane and bananas in the Komatipoort area, citrus in Swaziland and Nkwalini, and apples from Ouwerv in the Western Cape.

**Activities:** Produces primary agricultural products — sugar cane, fruit, grain and animals — in Natal, Swaziland, Western Cape and Eastern Transvaal.

**Control:** The Crookes family.

**Chairman:** D V Crookes. MD: D J Crookes.

**Capital structure:** 12m ords. Market capitalisation: R101m.

**Share market:** Price: 840c. Yields: 2,5% on dividend; 4,7% on earnings; p:e ratio, 21,1; cover, 1,9. 12-month high, 840c; low, 450c. Trading volume last quarter, 181 000 shares.

Year to March 31	'91	'92	'93	'94
ST debt (Rm) . . . . .	1,3	1,6	0,5	4,4
LT debt (Rm) . . . . .	1,0	0,5	nil	1,0
Debt:equity ratio . . . . .	0,05	0,02	n/a	0,04
Shareholders' interest . . . . .	0,92	0,94	0,96	0,94
Int & leasing cover . . . . .	11,6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Return on cap (%) . . . . .	5,9	6,0	4,2	3,6
Turnover (Rm) . . . . .	34	43	43,3	45,9
Pre-int profit (Rm) . . . . .	6,8	7,8	5,9	5,7
Pre-int margin (%) . . . . .	14,6	16,0	11,8	10,5
Earnings (c) . . . . .	52,0	60,0	62,6	39,8
Dividends (c) . . . . .	19,0	21,0	21,0	21,0
Tangible NAV (c) . . . . .	901	1 016	1 135	1 224

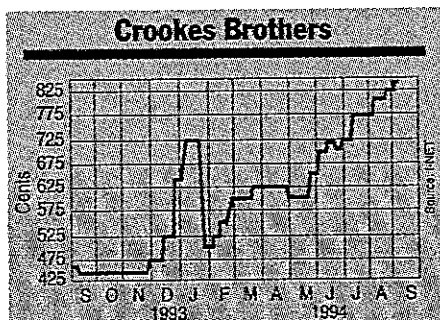
While all that sounds good, it cannot disguise the poor operating performance of the last two years: the peak was achieved in 1992, when operating income reached R6,9m. Since then it has tailed off — R5m in 1993, R4,7m this year. Attributable income of R4,8m compares with last year's R7,5m — a fall of 36%, enough to make even the most sanguine of investors sit up and take note.

# **(3) Gem**  
 agricultural statistics: 325 000 t of sugar cane; 5 700 t of citrus, 3 500 t of apples, 4 500 t of barley — the list goes on to include 9 000 crocodiles, last year that is, but they've since been sold with an enterprise called Crocworld.

Chairman Dennis Crookes (as you would expect, there are three Crookeses on the board) forecasts after-tax income of R7m this year: that is, an increase at the bottom line of about R2,2m or 46%. It is a big improvement and it indicates the unusual swings in fortune which accompany all farming enterprises, hostage as they are to the vagaries of an unpredictable climate.

If you like agriculture and are prepared to accept the risks which go with this business, Crookes is as good a company as any to be invested in.

David Gleason





JOHANNESBURG. — Net farm income rose 37,7% in the year ended June 1994 compared to the previous year, the Economics Directorate in the Department of Agriculture said in its latest quarterly report.

The volume of agricultural production increased by 7,6% during the year and the contribution of agriculture in monetary terms to the gross domestic product increased by 16,2%, the report said.

Producer prices of agricultural products were on average 1,9% higher and prices of farming requisites were up by 9,4%. The expenditure on intermediate goods and services increased by 10,7%.

Investment in machinery, implements and vehicles increased by 41,7% and amounted to R1,383 bn.

On 1 July 1994 nineteen of the 83 districts in

# Farm <sup>3</sup> income surges 37%

the country were listed under the Disaster Drought Assistance scheme, the report said.

Veld fires had occurred countrywide from the middle of May due to dry conditions, destroying thousands of hectares of grazing and severe frost over most of the interior during the winter affected horticultural crops in particular.

According to the report the value of exports of agricultural products amounted to R5,410 bn for 1992 and R5,491 bn for 1993. — Sapa

**REDISTRIBUTION to be a 'demand-driven process' whereby people will be given assistance to buy land on the open market**

■ **BY CHRIS WHITFIELD**  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The Government aims to redistribute 30 percent of agricultural land in South Africa within five years, but has no plans to emulate Zimbabwean methods, according to Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom.

Responding to a question in the Senate by National Party Senator Jan Jooste, Hanekom said the land reform programme involved, among others:

■ Strengthening property rights of communities and people already occupying land, mostly in the former homelands.

■ Allocating available State land.

■ Offering financial support to people to acquire land for "residential, farming and other purposes".

■ Using the market "to redistribute land by removing existing institutional and legal impediments".

He said the redistribution of land would in the main be a "demand-driven process" where people would be given State assistance to buy land available in the open market or where affected parties have come to an agreement on the sale. Asked if the Government intended emulating Zimbabwe's policy of land reform, Hanekom said valuable international lessons could be learnt but it was not the intention to copy any model, "also with respect to Zimbabwe".

"It is the intention of the Government to follow a policy on land reform which respects existing property rights and which provides for just and equitable compensation as prescribed by the constitution."

His answers were read by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi as Hanekom could not be present.

*'Zimbabwe option' ruled out*

# Five-year land reform plan

Star 14/10/94

③ Gen

# 30% of land for spread

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

CT 14/9/94  
③  
THE government intended redistributing 30% of agricultural land in South Africa within five years, Land Reform Minister Mr Derek Hanekom, said yesterday.

"This reflects the firm commitment of the government to the meaningful redistribution of land, in addressing the historical denial of access to land," he said in reply to a question by Senator Jan Jooste (NP).

Mr Hanekom also said the government did not intend copying any land reform model, including that of Zimbabwe.

He said the redistribution involved various categories of rural land. Available state land would also be used to implement land reform.

The redistribution of land would mainly be a demand-driven process in which selected people or groups would receive state help to acquire land that was available on the open market or where parties had agreed on its sale.

## 30% of land to be redistributed

Political Correspondent

THIRTY percent of South Africa's farm land will be redistributed in the next five years, land affairs minister Derek Hanekom has told the senate.

This was in terms of the reconstruction and development programme. The process of redistribution would be guided by demand (20) (3)

Government policy on land distribution would respect existing land rights.

There was no intention to copy any prior land reform scheme, such as Zimbabwe's, he said. ART 14/9/94

# Treat drought as normal, says draft

Star 15/9/94

3 Gen

Cape Town — The draft White Paper on agriculture proposes that drought should be recognised as a normal phenomenon and should be treated as such in farm aid schemes.

"Farmers should be encouraged to farm in accordance with the climate in their region," the draft says. It was submitted to the parliamentary agriculture committee yesterday for comment and will go before the Cabinet next week.

Since some aid schemes used to focus only on the effects of drought and not on the

cause, farmers were helped without switching to less vulnerable production systems.

The paper says unsustainable farming practices that created man-made droughts had been common in South Africa. "Livestock farmers are now required to reduce stock to qualify for assistance.

"The Government must not support measures that soften the blow to farm incomes caused by poor risk management, as this will cause farmers to use high-risk methods and endanger resource conservation."

While assistance would be given during natural disasters such as floods, runaway veld fires and untimely frosts, "such disasters do not include natural phenomena which occur on a regular basis".

The draft White Paper says the Government recognises the important role played by large-scale commercial farms but wants to help poorer, smaller farmers operate more effectively. An increase in agricultural production would also help create more jobs than in any other sector. — Sapa, Reuter.

# Agricultural amendments proposed

BIDay 15/9/94

CAPE TOWN — Proposals for a new-look agricultural marketing system, with strictly limited government intervention, were outlined in a draft White Paper on agriculture released yesterday. **(3) Gen**

The document called for affirmative action programmes for people previously denied access to farming opportunities, stricter control over drought aid, and recognition of the role of farm labourers in agricultural production.

Agriculture deputy director-general Chris Blignaut, who headed the committee that drew up the White Paper, told the National Assembly's standing committee on agriculture that he hoped it would be finalised as soon as possible. The department was already holding back some draft legislation to ensure that it fitted the principles of the White Paper. "This is going to be a living document. It's not going to be a piece of paper."

The draft said the Marketing Act should be amended to provide for a national agricultural marketing council that would include representatives of commercial and small-scale farmers, commerce and industry, and consumers. Producers would have to get the support of other affected parties for any statutory intervention.

Government intervention in agricultural marketing should be limited to correcting market imperfections and "socially unacceptable effects", and should serve the needs of society in general. It should never be used to correct socially unacceptable conditions when market mechanisms were appropriate.

Discriminatory and unnecessary regula-

tions preventing equitable market access for new and smaller participants in farming should be removed. Government accepted that freedom of choice and of association should be a cornerstone of its marketing policy.

Government should support the full spectrum of production systems, from urban food gardens and small-scale production for household income and food security, to large-scale production.

Reuter reports the White Paper said the current agricultural structure would meet the country's food needs until at least 2010 and government would rely on small and large farmers to improve national and household food security.

But, although there was national food security, about 2,3-million people could be described as malnourished and, in 1989, about 16,4-million people had incomes below the subsistence level.

Acknowledging that a country could be a net exporter of food while many of its people lived on the breadline, the draft said it was of the utmost importance to ensure there was enough food for the nation as a whole, and for each household.

Dealing with drought aid schemes, it said government should not support measures that softened the blow to farm incomes caused by poor risk management, as this would encourage farmers to use high-risk methods and endanger resources.

The temptation to provide cheap credit should be avoided and agricultural financing should rather be market related. "Cheap credit is highly disruptive as it increases land and input costs and leads to

To Page 2

## Agriculture

BIDay 15/9/94

From Page 1

excessive mechanisation.

"Interest rates at very low levels force financial institutions to ration credit and contribute towards the inability of the institutions to recoup lending costs. Low interest rates also act as a disincentive to farmers to repay loans." **(3) Gen**

The main criterion for access to agricultural finance should be the ability of the borrower to repay, rather than the traditional collateral requirements.

Finding ways of financing beginner farmers and those who were previously disempowered should be a priority. "Re-assessing priorities is necessary in public

sector financial institutions. A more flexible approach is needed."

The role of the public sector needed attention and SA should learn from other countries where it had been shown that these objectives were better achieved by non-governmental and private sector institutions "with government support".

Farm workers' contribution had to be recognised. "They manage many large commercial farms while the owners are attending to other matters such as organised agricultural activities or while they are debating in Parliament." — Sapa.

## LAND REFORM

# Delivery debates

Heated reaction to a possible land tax has missed the point

**Poverty runs** deep in the former homelands. At the same time, commercial farming in formerly "white" SA supports 7m or more blacks. They outnumber whites on those farms by nine to one, yet are not even sure of the roofs over their heads, let alone their jobs. What can land reform realistically do to change all that?

The opportunity to ask Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom, who is responsible for land reform, was presented when his proposed budget was recently up for debate in parliament. It was largely ignored.

Yet there are grounds for believing that government is struggling to understand the rural problems it has inherited. One declared aim of the ANC's Reconstruction & Development Programme (RDP) — to see 30% of white-owned agricultural land move into black ownership during the next five years — is not supported by any detailed strategy or programme. Instead, the document called for the creation of a "central Ministry of Rural Development & Land Affairs." But Hanekom's department has refused to accept responsibility for rural development.

That was a wise decision. Rural development needs co-ordinated input from various government departments. It also needs effective co-operation between the various tiers of government and between them and community organisations.

A lone Ministry cannot be expected to take on all that, which is why the task has in fact been given to Minister Jay Naidoo, who is responsible for co-ordinating the RDP.

Naidoo, in turn, has inspanned a director of a non-governmental organisation involved in rural development, the Environmental & Development Agency. Her name is Tanya Abrahamse Lamola, with a doctorate from London University's Imperial College of Science. Naidoo has appointed her convenor and chair of a rural development task team.

Comprised of representatives of key government departments (water, land affairs, agriculture), its task will be to bring co-ordinated government resources to rural projects announced last week by President Nelson Mandela. In doing so, says Lamola, the aim is not only to make those projects sustainable, but also to learn how to deliver resources — the "links, mechanisms, resource requirements and fiscal-flow systems."

There are nine of these "presidential lead projects," one per province. Their total cost of R26,6m will come, not from Land Affairs' budget, but from the RDP, supplemented by foreign aid.

Getting all of them established, says Hanekom, will take two years. Learning from them — especially how to create skill in local communities in defining needs, establishing priorities and helping implement projects — is likely to take considerably longer.

Meanwhile, it has to be asked what is going to happen elsewhere in rural areas while all this learning is going on. Part of the answer is that cities are going to spread even further afield, as land-accessing legislation produced by Land Affairs makes it easier for people to acquire land on city outskirts for houses, market gardens, cattle feed lots and so on. When it comes to improving the lot of homelands residents and those living on white farms, little is likely to happen for some time.

Cities will continue spreading because that is where most people reckon they can make a living. By now, says a survey of SA's nine provinces by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), close on two-thirds of the country's population is effectively urbanised.

The survey reckons total population at about 41m. Of those, about 7m live in the former homelands. They are mostly women, children and old men. Many have no land at all, while most of the rest have not even a couple of hectares. They survive, says the DBSA survey, thanks largely to money sent home by migrant relatives. No more than 13% have the energy, time, land and other resources to earn anything from the sale of produce or livestock. Only 0,2% succeed in making a living from farming.

These are the people who represent government's greatest development challenge. It is unlikely, however, that land reform has anything directly to offer them — and government appears to have accepted this. The great need is to provide economic opportunity in and near the former homelands for the young, vigorous and able who have migrated or relocated to cities. Not all such opportunity need be in farming, but it would have to be related to it. Farming, in other words, is the necessary economic catalyst.

This would require land redistribution within the homelands so as to create farms of viable size. But that, in turn, would mean that many people would have to give up their land — a political minefield. Land in traditional societies is more a social than an economic asset. Community leaders and chiefs retain land distribution rights; to

remove it from them and hand it to market forces might prove politically impossible, even for the new government. Hanekom observes that it has taken Botswana 20 years to achieve useful reforms of traditional land tenure systems.

Even if it could be achieved, and additional land were provided close by from the State's own resources or through the market, the viability of small farms would still look uncertain without major support programmes from government in the form of extension (professional advice) services, guaranteed prices and transport

links to major markets. The same factors would bedevil the development of downstream economic activities, as decades of expensive failure by the Nationalist government to decentralise industry have shown.

Meanwhile, there are those 7m people living on white-owned farms. Hardly any of them are likely to want, let alone have the financial and professional capacity, to become self-employed on their own farms in formerly white SA. They know at first hand the risks of farming, and that the risks are even greater for smallholders.

The truth is that small farms are feasible only when crops yielding relatively high gross revenue per hectare can be grown on them. That requires deep soil, with plentiful rain or affordable irrigation. Not much of the country meets those requirements and where it does (mostly KwaZulu/Natal and the Western Cape), the land is expensive and tightly held.

There is substantial cost to government, too, in promoting the division of large farms into numerous small units. Access roads would have to be built, water pipes installed, electricity delivered and extension services provided. For a government facing heavy demands on all sides, it would take a long time to find the funds.



Lamola ... bringing resources together

FM 16/9/94

Meanwhile, the real desire of most farm workers is security of tenure over their homes. It would probably be difficult, notwithstanding that many of those houses have been built with government subsidies, to provide occupants with legal security. An alternative was put forward some years ago by sugar farmer Tony Ardington, who called it "villagisation."

It means building villages for farm workers, where they can buy their homes and where social services such as health and education can be delivered to them more economically.

Where, though, would money to create such villages come from? In Hanekom's view, from a land tax. It was looked at by the previous government, which last year formed a working group comprised of representatives of government departments, the SA Agricultural Union, the National Farmers Union and the Agricultural Credit Board. The group produced nothing of consequence.

Hanekom intends soon to appoint a committee to investigate the tax's feasibility. Already, however, he has indicated the provisos he believes should attach to it. They are that it should be both levied and spent by local governments and that it should be introduced only after "a process of consultation."

This cautious approach — which, in the absence of effective local government structures, suggests that several years would elapse before any land tax could be introduced — has failed to mollify farmers. Transvaal Agricultural Union chairman Dries Bruwer has called for Hanekom's dismissal, while SA Agricultural Union president Boet Fourie condemned Hanekom's public statement about the tax as "ill-timed and presumptuous and (to be)

condemned in the strongest terms."

What mostly drew their ire was Hanekom's mentioning the probability of the tax being levied (if at all) at an annual rate of 1%-2% on the value of the land. At 2%, said Fourie, the tax "could absorb as much as one-third of total farming profit (which) would undoubtedly mean the downfall of many farmers." The DBSA confirms that farming produces an average after-tax profit on total assets employed of about 5%, which equates to about 6% on the land only, which generally represents 80% of total assets.

But many farmers, of course, would fall well below the average, yet still have to pay a land tax. **3) Gru**

The level at which the tax would be set is only one of several important questions that need asking. Bruwer pointed the direction they should take when he asked: "What's the tax going to be spent on?"

Hanekom observed that such a tax would "generate revenues with which to finance roads, schools, or other infrastructure and services for people who live in rural areas." He also observed to the *FM* that those who provide the revenue should have a say in how and where it is spent.

On the face of it, then, the land tax would be levied, collected and spent by local government after serious consultation with those who had paid it. Its intention, in other words, would not be to redistribute from the haves to the have-nots. The land tax, Hanekom confirms, would not be used to



Hanekom

"finance the land-reform programme."

Why, then, did he ever become involved in discussions about a land tax, if it has nothing to do with land reform? If it essentially involves discussions about the future powers and resources of provincial and local government and their fiscal relationship with central government, then Provincial & Local Government Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer should be fielding the questions and flak that have come Hanekom's way.

Meanwhile, SAAU executive director Piet Swart

reckons that, at 1%, a land tax would yield R600m a year, since the total value of all commercial agricultural land in SA is, he says, between R50bn and R60bn. Should such revenue, if raised, be spent on facilities for those who paid it? Or should it be spent in the former homelands?

The latter have a similar relationship to commercial farming as black townships do to white municipalities — that of poor cousins. The notion of cross-subsidisation of municipal, as well as electricity and water, charges seems to have won the day. A similar form of wealth redistribution is becoming evident in the deployment of income tax revenue. There is no automatic reason why commercial farmers should be saved from this process.

There is, at the same time, every reason why the former homelands should be regarded as a case for welfare payments. Some have argued that the migrant labour system, by preventing workers' families from joining them in the city where they would need relatively expensive housing and other services, kept down the cost of labour to both the State and employers. Cities and industrial areas, in other words, prospered at the cost of the homelands. Indeed, the argument continues, influx control (the purpose of which was to keep non-working blacks out of urban areas) produced such overcrowding in the homelands as to destroy any chance of producing viable rural economies.

Either way it seems pretty clear that efforts to produce viable economies in the homelands have only a remote chance of succeeding. Paying for basic homeland welfare from urban-derived revenue would be no more than enlightened self-interest for the future economy.

Whether to finance that welfare and those facilities with funds raised regionally or centrally is the major rural issue needing resolution.

If regional poverty — far greater in the Eastern Cape or Northern Transvaal than in the PWV or Western Cape — is not to be perpetuated, the obligation may have to fall on the central fiscus.

## BEAT THE RUSH

**Sir Alan Walters**, chief economic adviser to British former premier Margaret Thatcher for much of the Eighties, will be one of the key speakers at this year's *FM* Investment Conference at the end of next month. A prolific contributor to learned and professional journals, Sir Alan has also been consultant to the governments of Israel, Singapore and Malaysia.

Some of the other top speakers:

- Chris Stals, Governor of the SA Reserve Bank;
- Chris Liebenberg, newly appointed Minister of Finance in succession to Derek Keys;
- Gavin Maasdorp, director of the Economic Research Unit at the University of Natal;
- Larry C Farrell, American entrepreneur and author of *Searching for*

*the Spirit of Enterprise*; and  
□ Rabbi David Lapin who will speak on Ethics and Affirmative Action.

The *FM* Investment Conference will be held at Johannesburg's Carlton Hotel on Thursday October 27 and Friday



Sir Alan

October 28. The fee per delegate is R2 850 plus R399 Vat; for every additional delegate from the same company, the fee drops to R2 500 per delegate plus R350 Vat.

Bookings: telephone Brigitte at (011) 497-2135 or Yvonne at (011) 497-2437.



# Farmers in state land proposal

THE SA Agricultural Union supported affirmative programmes in agriculture, but wanted resettlement to take place on state land to avoid disrupting existing commercial farming production, SAAU director Piet Swart said yesterday.

Swart was reacting to a stipulation in the newly released White Paper on agriculture calling for "affirmative action programmes for people previously denied access to farming".

Programmes should ensure that new farmers were established on an economic and technically sustainable basis which did not result in economic collapse after a year or two.

He supported stricter control of drought aid to farmers called for in the Paper. Aid would still be necessary, but farmers had to accept the basic principle of conserving the land.

LOUISE COOK

Overgrazing aggravated drought conditions and was unacceptable, he said.

Work by the Agricultural Marketing and Policy Evaluation Committee to rewrite the existing Agricultural Marketing Act and to have these changes contained in the new White Paper on agriculture, was "extremely necessary".

Swart said the SAAU supported the principle of market-related interest rates as proposed by the

Paper.

Pretoria University agricultural economist Johan van Rooyen welcomed proposed programmes to broaden the base of agricultural production. He said newcomers should not only have access, but be assisted to use production means effectively. Former homeland areas and periurban areas had been very badly served in the past.

He welcomed White Paper proposals to bring interest rates in line with market rates. (3) GCM



MEDIATION . . . ANC MP Mr Tony Yengeni (second from right) mediates during a sit-in at the Department of Sea Fisheries yesterday. A group of fishermen, led by Harbour Fishermen's Trust "chairman" Mr Lawrence Hlwele (right), demanded that R500 000 handed over to the trust by trustee and Sistro Fishing Company managing director Mr Manuel de Olim (in open-necked shirt) be distributed among fishermen.

### Newsman 'kidnapped' after sex slur

CAIRO. — An editor who criticized the UN world population conference has disappeared after questioning by security officials on charges of taking bribes to damage Egypt's reputation. Mr Mustafa Bakry, editor-in-chief of the opposition daily Al-Ahram, "was kidnapped after he left the state security building on Sunday night", said Mr Abdel Fattah Talaat, the newspaper's managing editor. Mr Bakry was summoned to the state security building to explain his newspaper's coverage of the UN world population conference, which ended here on September 13. Government officials charged that the newspaper's attacks on the conference were launched in return for money from countries like Sudan and Iraq. Al-Ahram was one of the strongest critics of the conference, charging that its action plan encouraged homosexuality and pre-marital sex. — Sapa-AFP

# ANC members rejected fishing firm share scheme

By CHRIS BATEMAN  
THE R6-million experimental share purchase in Sea Harvest launched by top ANC members to give West Coast fishermen a "slice of the cake" was aborted when other ANC members "reacted negatively". This emerges from an official ANC report released to the Cape Times late yesterday — a week after it was promised. In it the investigating lawyer Mr Charles Macdonald tells the South African Fishing Company (Safic) board members: "The controversy is largely your fault" — and they admit to not having con-

sulted widely enough. The report states: On the board of Safic were Mr Norman Michaels (top adviser to Western Cape Economic Affairs Minister Dr Allan Boesak), lawyer Mr Essa Moosa, businessman Mr Fred Robertson and a latecomer — veteran local fisherman Mr Piet Orlam. The Safic auditor was Mr Mustaq Brey. ANC chairman the Rev Chris Nissen last week said nobody had been found guilty of wrongdoing, nor had they broken any ANC policy or made any profit. Asked by Mr Macdonald why

Safic had maintained a "long silence" instead of immediately correcting press reports, a Safic spokesman replied that legal advice was that an immediate reply would merely "fuel speculation". Safic chairman Mr Moosa stressed that all those involved had "fisherfolk in mind and not their personal gain". No mention is made in the report of Pentech rector Mr Franklin Sonn and former UWC rector and now adviser to President Nelson Mandela, Professor Jakes Gerwel having been board members. Both reportedly resigned early on.

## Fishing sit-in ends in payout

Staff Reporter  
A SQUABBLE over R500 000 led to 150 fishermen besieging the Department of Sea Fisheries offices in the harbour yesterday and ended eight hours later when a cheque for the amount was handed over for distribution among them. The squabble was the result of tensions in the Harbour Fishermen's Trust. The 150-member faction, led by Mr Lawrence Hlwele, who claims to be the trust chairman, demanded immediate payment of the R500 000, the first payment on the trust's fishing quota. The amount had been paid to the trust for its 951-ton fishing quota by trustee and Sistro Fishing Company managing director Mr Manuel de Olim. After the stand-off, in which ANC MP Mr Tony Yengeni mediated, Mr De Olim reluctantly handed over the cheque to Mr Hlwele's group.

FISHING ③ CT 20/9/94

Picture: ALAN TAYLOR

# Farm prices could drop in the wake of a land tax

Bl Day 21/9/94

PRETORIA — Farm prices could fall sharply if government implemented a land tax, damaging the industry's ability to gain bank backing, three experts from the University of Pretoria's agricultural economics department said yesterday.

Sapa reports Herman van Schaikwyk, Jehan van Rooyen and André Jooste told the national conference of the Agricultural Economics Association of SA that a fall in prices was one of several factors to be considered before a decision on land tax was taken.

"Decreasing land prices may also negatively affect the security values of financial institutions," they said. "This may hamper the ability of farmers to obtain credit and may in some instances lead to bankruptcy."

A 1% land tax would lead to a fall of 6% in land prices, and land values would theoretically become zero if a

tax of 8% was imposed. A 3% land tax could cut prices 18%.

A possible advantage of a land tax set at a fixed amount per unit was that it would give an incentive to reduce farm sizes. <sup>3 Gen</sup>

"This may be important in view of the potential need to stimulate small-scale farming in SA."

A small or zero tax per minimum farm size could be introduced, with a rise in tax as size increased. Such a progressive land tax would fall more heavily on those better able to pay.

Land taxes had, however, failed in several countries, including Argentina, Brazil and Jamaica.

The cost of introducing a land tax and the ability to administer it should be weighed against the income that could be generated.

"If land taxes were directed towards improvement in the areas where they had been collected, public

support might be possible."

The paper's authors concluded there was no simple answer to whether or not tax should be levied on agricultural land.

"Though it might be a sensible route for provincial governments to tax land as a source of revenue, the possible distortions which such a land policy could bring about should also be considered."

LOUISE COOK reports that the National African Farmers' Union yesterday said a land tax should be restricted to unproductive land — land that was being under-utilised by white farmers.

"This would put direly needed land on the market for those who want to enter into this sector," director Thabo Mokone said. "No farmer would pay tax on land not used."

Any other form of land tax would jeopardise black farmers.

3 4  
Farmers  
ARG 22/9/94  
warn unions  
on recruiting

PIETERSBURG. — Uncontrolled recruiting of farm workers by labour unions could lead to serious conflict between organised agriculture and the unions, and was jeopardising the good relationship between worker and employer, Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said.

He warned canvassing trade unionists to make appointments with farmers before setting foot on private land.

He was reacting to reports that a union had gained thousands of rands illegally from farmers fearing outrageous demands from unions.

"Farm workers are better off when compared to labourers in any other sector when it comes to housing, medical services, financing and the provision of food. But the unions are trying to disrupt this harmonious co-existence. This could lead to serious conflict," he said. — Sapa.

Live sport broadcasts are to be cut and placed elsewhere. The ball-by-ball commentary of a cricket international can be heard on Radio 2000, but, as its future is in the balance, Reddy and his team are looking at a 24-hour news and sport channel. "The idea, though, is still in the pipeline."

The news department will also be beefed up. "The news presentation, as it is, is dead. We would prefer our journalists who write the news to also read the news. We aim to make more use of sound bytes (live inserts), reports from correspondents and excerpts

from speeches. An hour-long talk-back programme is also being planned."

Reddy is adamant that the news content will be fair, objective, balanced and accurate.

"We will treat the news value according to its importance and no preference will be given to any political party or viewpoint," he stresses.

A report compiled by Australian consultant Anne Tonks will form the basis of a number of planned changes at Radio SA. Meanwhile, a radio transformation committee, comprising management, staff and

union representatives, is assisting Reddy in compiling a report on radio station changes for the group's board and executive.

Former commercial radio head Pietie Lotriet, who retired a month ago, is on contract to help Reddy's office.

Once completed and accepted by the board, the report will be submitted to the Independent Broadcasting Authority for approval.

Implementation will, however, take some time. "The main factors to be reckoned with are finances, the personnel component and training," says Reddy.

## LAND

## FEATURE

## Piloting reform

Em 23/9/94

The Department of Land Affairs has to play two sides against the middle. While recognising that land reforms developed in a hurry and imposed from above have seldom worked anywhere, it must somehow also try to satisfy sharply increasing land hunger of the previously dispossessed.

Borne out of this dilemma is the department's Land Reform Pilot Programme, which will be made up of one project in each of the nine provinces. This is intended as a "kick-start" measure, which will at the same time provide lessons to be fed into a broader policy on land reform.

To maximise the learning opportunity, the nine districts to be chosen for the pilot projects should contain at least five possible kinds of land transfer. They are to range from State-owned to private land, rural to peri-urban, from communities with articulated land needs to farm workers requiring tenure security and communities seeking restitution.

However, because of fiscal, financial and probably also political constraints, the pilot projects will be restricted to areas where State land is available or where acquisition processes are already underway. R315,8m has been made available for the programme during 1994-1996, most of it coming from the RDP fund and some R45m from foreign donors. The total cost of land reform will be around R10bn, spread over five years, so the department hopes to expand its budget substantially next year.

These limitations are criticised by the National Land Committee (NLC), which wants the concept to be broadened immediately: "The dispossessed rural communities have high delivery-expectations, largely fed by the ANC before the election. I am not sure if they are prepared to wait until the programme is scaled out to three projects per province in the next three years and then finally into a holistic land reform," says the committee's Brendan Pearce.

The NLC also views the pilot programme as being too market-related. Though it comes with an acquisition subsidy scheme based on a sliding scale, the beneficiaries

will still have to pay a proportion on their own. "But what about people who cannot at all afford to buy land, for example, farm workers and labour tenants?" <sup>(3) Gen</sup>

According to Joanne Yawitch, adviser to Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, the scheme will be structured in a way which makes sure that everybody can "at least get a piece of land to live on."

But if the emerging farmers need more land to become really productive, they will in fact have to put up an amount of money "up front." This will be supplemented by State funds, according to department spokesman Hellmuth Schlenker — and they would have to get land through the market. This was almost impossible for small-scale black farmers in the past, as the rural finance market was structured very much towards white commercial farmers.

To redress this, Hanekom has announced in parliament the appointment of a presidential commission, to investigate ways to offer credits to small borrowers and to reform institutions like the Land Bank.

More has to be done, however, to make land reform an integral part of a broader programme of rural development, says the department. One of the most serious impediments in rural areas is the lack of any local government structures. Therefore, the setting up of district offices, charged with managing and monitoring the single projects, has been made the starting point of the pilot programme. These offices are intended to provide a "pool of experience" to be used in the establishment of rural local government in future.

But in line with the RDP's commitment to "people-driven development," the pilot programme does not leave all decision-making power to this level, but seeks to involve the beneficiaries themselves in the planning and implementation process. Planning grants of between R100 000 and R600 000 will allow the communities to appoint a planner to support them once they have been constituted into legal entities.

The Departments of Water Affairs, Agriculture and Housing have been involved in

the pilot programme to ensure that land reform does not come to an end once the land transfers are finalised. In a common endeavour they want to meet basic needs like water supply and infrastructure of the rural communities. To achieve this, the departments will have to be co-operative and flexible, Yawitch stresses. The R12 500 subsidy per household of the national housing programme, for example, might be transformed in a "homestead basic needs grant" to provide a range of basic needs in rural communities like water provision, sanitation, or homestead improvement.

The Department of Agriculture comes in to help the emerging farmers not only to get access to land, but also to enable them to use it productively. "We try to change the messages of our running programmes to include small-scale or subsistence farmers," explains Jan Volschenk, the department's director of inter-governmental relations. "As many of them are illiterate, this means that we will have to change our communication channels." The division of engineering services in the Ministry has now started to develop appropriate technology for the new farmers and the Agricultural Research Council has 70 projects running, aimed at previously excluded communities. The Lowveld Agricultural College is providing the crucial service of training the trainers, who will in the future provide extension services to the communities.

Most provinces, though, (which are to be responsible for most agricultural support services), are still trying to get themselves organised. Problems range from having to establish a new agriculture department for the PWV to the need to merge four separate departments into one in Northern Transvaal. "So the power has not yet been devolved to the provinces," explains Patricia Hanekom, who chairs the PWV's agriculture standing committee.

In view of these challenges to successful land reform, Hanekom's step-by-step approach seems correct, even though the landless want visible progress quickly.

AGRICULTURE

Fun 23/9/94

# Grey areas in the White Paper

If the sentiments in the draft White Paper on Agriculture released last week are anything to go by, government plans to focus its attention on developing the emerging small-scale subsistence farming sector.

But commentators have warned that if government downplays the vital economic role of the commercial farming sector in order to achieve its objectives, it could be courting catastrophe.

The White Paper contains some commendable, even refreshingly new, policies in support of free enterprise, market principles, the sustainable use of agricultural resources and provision to farmers of more focused research, data collection and extension services.

But it also provides for government intervention in the "public interest," contains a lot of socialist sentiments and focuses strongly on "empowering" SA's 300 000-odd impoverished (mainly black) subsistence farmers.

Lieb Nieuwoudt, dean of the University of Natal's Maritzburg-based chair of agricultural economics, says: "The support for market principles (the deregulation of control boards, market-related interest rates and reduced drought aid) and its focus on smaller farmers are to be welcomed.

"But the commercial farming sector should not be neglected or damaged in the process. The sector plays a far bigger role than its 4%-5% direct contribution to GDP reveals. Forward and backward linkages more than double its impact on GDP and it remains one of the economy's largest employers."

George Kershoff, researcher at the University of Stellenbosch's Bureau for Economic Research, says second-quarter economic growth (at factor cost) of 2,2% would drop to 0,8% if the contribution from agriculture were removed.

Agriculture is providing a major boost to SA's still-faltering economic upswing. With export earnings still to come from a bumper 12 Mt maize crop, third- and fourth-quarter GDP growth should be further boosted.

Kershoff says the economic value of the R5,5bn foreign exchange earned through agricultural exports in 1993 should not be underestimated.

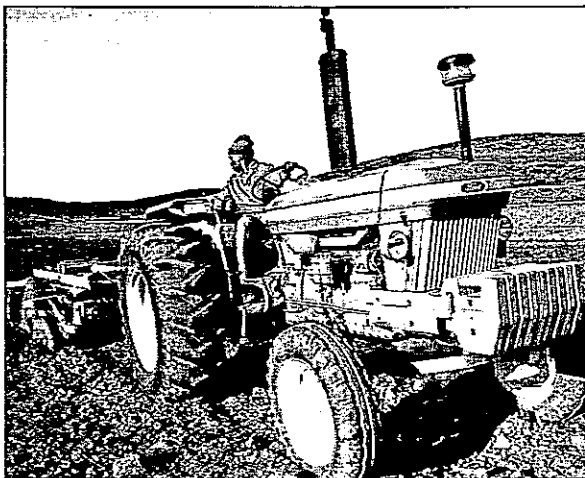
The ability of large commercial farmers to "save foreign exchange is vitally important for the economy" as it creates the ability to import machinery used for manufactured exports. If SA were forced to

import food for the same amount it would severely limit the economy's growth potential in other areas. **3 Gen**

SA Agricultural Union chief economist Koos du Toit needs little convincing about the economic importance of the commercial farming sector. "At a rough estimate, a 25%-30% growth in agricultural output equates to about a 1% increase in GDP. But an additional 1% should be added to GDP growth to take account of the forward and backward linkages of the farming sector to the rest of the economy."

Du Toit says the sustainability of this kind of effort (weather permitting) is also important to the economy. Further, he questions whether the alleged inefficiencies of the commercial farming sector could be improved by the encouragement of large numbers of new smallholder farmers.

Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk says the expertise of SA's 60 000-odd



Small-scale farmers ... text in line for patronage

commercial farmers in often harsh and unpredictable African conditions has been acknowledged by the World Bank as "the most important agricultural asset on the African continent.

"This is not an overstatement, considering that drought-prone SA, with 4% of Africa's land mass, produces about 30% of the continent's marketable farm produce.

"Even more remarkable is that while about 100m ha of the 122m ha of surface area is used for farming, only about 4m ha is high-potential arable land." Van Niekerk notes that SA's research and biotechnological achievements, emanating from 12 institutions specialising in African adaptations of mainly Europe-sourced farming technologies and disease control methods, are world-renowned and a major source of technology transfer to African States.

On October 4, the Agricultural Research Council will hold a special information day for Africa embassies at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute in order to facilitate further agricultural exchanges.

The draft White Paper, like the ANC's farm policy proposals published earlier this year, sets out new agricultural policy "principles" that are couched in social welfare sentiments. Though SA obviously has new policy priorities, it urgently needs to continue on the twin paths of deregulation and market reforms.

While the support for affirmative action programmes, the removal of financing and administrative discrimination, a new deal for farm labourers, a renewed focus on training, extension services and "customer-focused" research and development are a step forward towards introducing more equity to the agricultural sector, the transition should be measured and conducted at a pace that is not seen to prejudice the vigorous commercial farming sector. ■

## ESKOM Fun 23/9/94 Window of opportunity

There was good news for electricity consumers when Eskom announced its new rates last week: tariff increases for 1995 are being held down to a mere 4% — almost 6% below the inflation rate.

The corporation can afford to be generous. A multibillion rand power station capex splurge in the Eighties left a 25%-30% surplus in generating capacity.

Now, Eskom is aiming to reduce electricity charges in real terms by an effective 20% below inflation over a five-year period, ending 1996. In 1992, Eskom committed itself to a "compact" with consumers in terms of which it undertook to pass on the benefits of its surplus generating capacity, its improved productivity and reduced capex requirements.

Eskom CE Allen Morgan says Eskom's conservative, below-inflation tariff policy has meant that about R28bn will have been "ploughed back into the economy over the past seven years" giving SA a major competitive advantage in global terms. SA's electricity is now the second-cheapest in the world — after that of New Zealand.

"This gives SA a 10-year window of opportunity — until our next big projects start coming on stream by around 2007. Even at that stage, we would have a choice of plugging into the regional power grid with its cheaper hydro-power or building economic gas-powered generating capacity."

## AGRICULTURE

For 23/9/94

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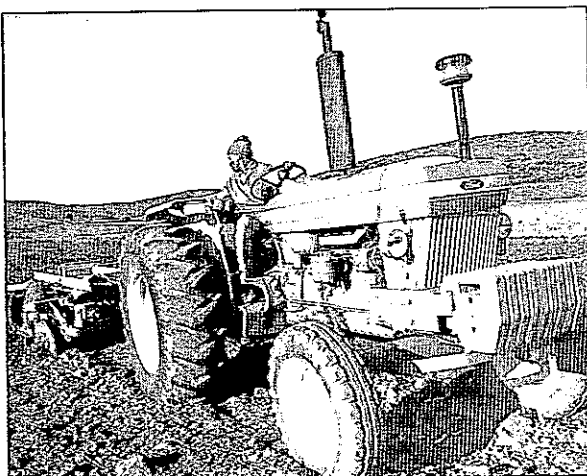
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Small-scale farmers ... next in line for patronage

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# Call to scrap dam proposal

By BARRY STREEK

Political Staff

③ CT 26/9/94

A SINGLE water control board should be formed in the Western Cape and the controversial Lower Palmiet River dam proposal scrapped, the Botanical Society has proposed.

It has also called, in a circular to members, for a review of alternatives such as recycling and desalination.

It said water supply options in the Western Cape should be implemented only after each option was subjected to a full environmental impact assessment, with public participation.

The pricing of water should be reviewed and standardised so that the water for human consumption "is supplied relatively cheaply and the excessive use of water be made more costly".

The proposed World Biosphere Reserve for the Palmiet River area should also be supported and important catchment areas such as the Lower Palmiet should be left as relatively undisturbed river systems for future generations.

It realised there was a limit to water resources in the area and that people in the area should have access to sufficient clean running water for healthy living.



## 'corrupt' cops

BLOEMFONTEIN. — Many former members of homeland police forces were guilty of corruption and would not be considered for inclusion in the Free State's new police service, Free State Premier Mr Patrick Lekota said yesterday. ~~(S)~~ CT 28/9/94

He said investigations into corruption were still in progress.

Mr Lekota said some of the most experienced policemen and officers were involved. — Sapa

Pallo Jordan will present the re- cism from the Independent Netshitenzhe.

## Farmers should be let off the hook — union

PIETERSBURG. <sup>(3)</sup> CT 28/9/94 Transvaal Agricultural Union president Mr Dries Bruwer said yesterday SA's cash-strapped farmers should also benefit from debt write-offs similar to those extended by town councils to residents unable to pay for services.

Mr Bruwer said the national debt of the country's farmers — running into billions of rand — could not be redeemed in the current financial climate.

If city and town councils could write off millions of rand for services rendered, and if neighbouring countries' debts could be set aside, then the agricultural sector should expect the same sympathetic approach, he said. — Sapa

## Arrears: Mofokeng 'opts out'

JOHANNESBURG. — PWV Local Government Minister Mr Dan Mofokeng had opted for a way out of his plan to scrap all service and rent arrears in coloured and Indian suburbs, Provincial Affairs Minister Mr Roelf Meyer said here yesterday. ~~(S)~~ CT 28/9/94

He said Mr Mofokeng had been present at a meeting between himself and provincial ministers on Friday. "We didn't force him on it. We tried to create a way out

for him because his Wednesday statement was clearly totally unacceptable."

"Instead of going back and trying to find a solution for the PWV only, we said let's rather address the problem on a nationwide basis." Mr Meyer said the ministers agreed to examine ways of spending a budgeted R709 million on supporting households earning less than R5 000 a year.

"Through that we gave him a

way out as well. So he gladly accepted."

Mr Meyer described as incorrect Mr Mofokeng's claim that an agreement signed in January by ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela and then-president Mr FW de Klerk allowed him to scrap all arrears. The agreement was applicable only to service charges in black local authorities for which R238m had been budgeted, Mr Meyer said. — Sapa

In the kwazulu/natal legislature, the ANC had sin-... people were... asked whether the ANC had sin-... for continued violence be-... out for violence



# Small-scale farming 'makes jobs'

PRETORIA — At least one quarter of jobs created in the PWV through the reconstruction and development programme were likely to stem from small-scale farming, PWV agriculture minister John Mavuso said yesterday. **Bibau**

He told a think tank meeting hosted by the Agriculture Department's agricultural research council that 660 000ha of municipal land in the province had been earmarked for small farming projects.

Plans presented to the provincial government so far included projects of between 5ha-10ha at Roodeplaat near Pretoria, an area east of Daveyton, the area between Johannesburg and Vereeniging, the area west of Soweto, Ivory Park, Midrand, and Atteridgeville and Lenasia.

"This is the first time these farmers would be able to farm with the government supporting them," Mavuso said.

He said no final decision about funding had been taken, but it was likely that support would be geared towards establishing

LOUISE COOK

abattoir facilities and new markets for fresh produce. **Siio194**

Sapa reports Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk told delegates Africa had the potential to feed three times its population and should not be regarded as a failure. Africa had all the elements to be a thriving continent. **3 Gen**

"We could join forces to establish agriculture as a worthy foundation for sustainable socioeconomic development. We could stop famine and we could ensure a healthy environment," he said.

"If we are to survive in Africa we must begin with agriculture, to produce food and to generate income and economic growth."

SA would gladly make its agricultural expertise available to the rest of Africa.

He said that through isolation "we had to solve our own agricultural and environmental problems. Today we have technologies and practices tailor-made for Africa."

# The dispossessed return after 10 years of torment

*S Times 9/10/74*

By CHRIS BARRON

WHEN government trucks came for Ephraim Pooe 10 years ago it was too dark for him to take a last look at the fields and hills of his youth.

Now a new government has brought him home again, but that last look has eluded him forever. He is 89, and blind.

Perhaps it is better so.

The home he remembers was a vibrant self-sustaining community of some 400 families set in 3 839 ha of fertile farming land in the Western Transvaal.

Today it looks like a village devastated by war.

His people, the Bakwena baMogopa, had paid for it with whatever money they could scrape together to an English farmer — those without money gave a cow — and arrived from the Free State in 1913.

With bare hands they dug a borehole for water and built houses and kraals with large, roughly hewn rocks. In time four churches were built, a school and a clinic.

They lived off their crops and cattle, and, says Mr Pooe, "we never wanted for anything".

But they were in the heart of right-wing country, only 40km from the AWB's stamping ground in Ventersdorp, and their land was coveted by white farmers. Eager to woo the right wing, the government of PW Botha decided they must go.

In 1963 some were moved without too much difficulty 250km away to Pachsdraai.

The rest, including Mr Pooe, decided they would not go so quietly, and they resisted.

A member of the African Zionist Church, he prayed at the top of a hill overlooking the community "that our land would not be taken".

But in 1984 the government made it clear their hour had come.

Their cattle were eagerly snapped up by white farmers at an average of R100 a head, well below the going rate of between R400 and

R600. Mr Pooe had 20 sheep and six head of cattle which he had to sell.

"They came for us when we were asleep," recalls Mr Pooe. "By daylight they had moved those they thought would give them trouble. The fields were looking good, the mielies were waist high. We were looking forward to harvest."

Instead they found themselves in Bethanie, near Brits, and in Onderstepoort, near Rustenburg, and the government rented their land to local agricultural unions.

"People died because they longed for their land. They died because their hearts were broken."

When they died they were brought "home" for burial. This was more than just sentiment, it was a carefully planned strategy.

"Our sole aim was always to come back," explains Mr Pooe's great-nephew, Andrew Pooe. "We buried them here so people would not be reluctant to move back."

The government permitted some of them to return periodically to maintain the graves. But when they used the opportunity to stay it obtained a Supreme Court order instructing the Ventersdorp police to evict them.

Their lawyer, Jules Browde, called it "one of the most flagrant violations of human rights conceivable," and 12 European governments delivered a stinging diplomatic protest to the then Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha.

Three years ago the community began a tentative, still illegal, return. They built tin shacks next to the homes that had been flattened by bulldozers.

But only in August this year, when Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom visited them and said, "the land is yours", did they know that this time it was for keeps.

Mr Pooe's grizzled, white-bearded face creases into a smile.

"If you fight a war and you win," he asks, "would you not be happy?"

# No SAAU merger, says black union

THE black-membership National African Farmers' Union has ruled out a merger with the SA Agricultural Union because the SAAU's main members have so far failed to open their doors to other races.

Nafu spokesman Bigman Malua said at the weekend that the SAAU's Transvaal and Free State members were not fully open, despite the SAAU's claim that membership was open to all races.

The SA Sugar Association — which represents 45 000 black cane growers

Bigman  
**LOUISE COOK**

— has already withdrawn from the SAAU for the same reason. 12/11/09/0

Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk has previously called for the two unions to merge, and SAAU president Boet Fourie said a merger was possible.

But Malua said any merger would hinge on the SAAU dealing with provincial union membership requirements. 3/Gen

Meanwhile, Nafu president Matome Maponya said the organisation would call

on the state to change legislation if the co-operatives were not made readily accessible to farmers. Nafu would complain to the Agriculture Department about co-operatives keeping black members out by raising membership fees.

Maponya said Nafu was not planning to duplicate agricultural co-operatives already existing.

"We have been suffering from apartheideosis and are now expected to positively contribute to the complete healing of that illness," he said.

## SA farmers to assist in Africa

PIETERSBURG. — The South African Development Corporation and the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions will meet cabinet ministers in Pretoria today to discuss the settlement of white farmers in African countries to help establish organised agricultural systems. (3) 0712/10/94

SADC chairman Mr Johan van der Westhuizen said about 300 farmers had applied for settlement in countries which had asked for agricultural assistance, among them Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Ivory Coast and Zambia.

He said selected farmers would be settled by mid-1995. — Sapa

# New law to speed up land development

B Day 12/10/94

3 Gen

ROBYN CHALMERS

THE recently published draft Development Facilitation Bill would slice through red tape to provide a fast-track method of developing land for SA's poor and homeless, government said yesterday.

Housing Minister Joe Slovo and Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said the main aim of the Bill, published in the Government Gazette on Friday, was to boost the rate and scale of land development to facilitate government's reconstruction and development programme.

By providing a nationally uniform point of reference in a single piece of legislation, the Bill would strive to bypass bottlenecks in existing regulations such as town planning Acts, the registration of bonds and the establishment of townships.

Hanekom said this would be achieved without detracting from security of tenure and sound planning practices.

One of the Bill's crucial elements was amplifying existing land tenure registration measures to ensure that end-user finance, such as mortgage loans or government subsidies, would be made available easily and quickly.

"This will hopefully reduce the holding costs of land and services in new developments, thereby diminishing the demands on subsidy and loan amounts," Slovo said.

Attorney Johan Latsky, who was involved in drafting the Bill, said land development had become highly complex as provinces had inherited a multitude of laws from former provinces and homelands. "We needed to cut through the complexities of developing land in order to speed up the RDP, while at the same time achieving greater transparency and community involvement," he said.

Slovo said existing planning and development laws applied only in geographical areas based on racial considerations. "The administrative position is therefore extraordinarily complex."

Analysts said the Bill would not eradicate current land development legislation, but rather run parallel to such laws and provide nationally uniform standards to be applied countrywide.

"It will also provide provincial legislatures with the option of adopting their own legislation after they have considered longer-term reforms and improvements to legislation," said Hanekom.

Latsky said the Bill was not aimed solely at facilitating government's low-cost housing programme, but encompassed a wide range of property developments. These in-

To Page 2

## Development

B Day 12/10/94 From Page 1

cluded low-cost housing, residential, industrial and commercial property, community facilities and rural land uses.

Public discussions on the Bill began last week, and workshops will continue next week. Interested parties have until October 28 to express their views.

Most developers and associations have reserved judgment until after the talks, which could lead to changes before the Bill is presented to Parliament next month.

The Bill makes provision for a Development and Planning Commission consisting of national and provincial bodies. It would investigate longer-term reforms, such as

planning, land assembly and release, land use control and tenure issues.

Development tribunals would be set up in the provinces to allow greater community involvement, expedite development decision-making and the granting of approvals during the development process.

Other guidelines include land development procedures for the subdivision, servicing and land use zoning of urban and rural development. The Bill also provides for setting development performance measures, such as housing targets, whereby the development performance of local government bodies can be measured by provincial governments.

# Land: 'Poor favoured'

PRETORIA. — The poor will be favoured by land development procedures set out in the draft Development Facilitation Bill, Housing Minister Mr Joe Slovo told a news conference yesterday. (3) ET 12/10/94

He said the bill aimed "to cut through the legacy of apartheid legislation on land development".

"The procedures are designed to favour the poor and to reduce costs."

The bill, published in the Government Gazette last week, provided "a nationally uniform point of reference" for "integrated and sustainable land development".

Mr Jay Naidoo, the minister responsible for the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme, told journalists the bill provided "a highway to implement the RDP on the ground". It would bring an end to the bureaucracy currently delaying the RDP.

Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom said the private and public sectors had responded positively to the draft. — Sapa

● Housing provision hits the Budget skids — Page 8

**T**he naturally opposing views of the landed and the landless require something of a fairy godmother to reconcile. Derek Hanekom did his best to play the role, but the end result was a cross between a cop-out and a lesson in mediation. Denis Beckett reports

# No magic wand for land issue

③ Gen

**O**ne side talks "buy". One side talks "give". There, I dare say, is the land issue in South Africa in eight syllables.

It was certainly the issue that dominated in Weenen last week when Derek Hanekom, Minister of Land Affairs, tried to broker a peace deal there.

It was an extraordinary meeting, this, from the moment that Hanekom's mini-motorcade whisked in to the Weenen town hall on time to the very second, 11 am on the nail.

In Switzerland they're never this punctual by design, never mind Natal, and in this case it was a fluke. The first thing I noticed was the very surprised people, mainly among the whites of whom there were about 30, blinking at their watches. The second thing was the crutches, entirely among the Zulus of whom there were some 300.

## Slaughter

I've never seen so many crutches in one place at one time. Singles and doubles, wooden and aluminium, home made and factory models. At first sight you might have thought you were at a crutch exhibition. But no, it is a punchy lesson that aside from natural disabilities, of which Weenen has a high quota, it is also the world capital of the Traditional Fend, which is to say old-style clan slaughter as opposed to the new-fangled political brand.

Here now is Derek Hanekom cast as Fairy Godmother, with the populace waiting for the Magic Wand. The representatives of the landless and the representatives of the landed are gathered jointly to work out how the former get somewhat more landed and the latter perhaps a little less so, without anybody shooting anybody or breaking heads. It's quite some task, with everybody expecting Hanekom



Peace broker ... Derek Hanekom (above) tries to find the middle track between farmers and Zulus in Weenen last week. Though nothing was resolved, time was bought at the meeting and, after a few hectic moments, mediation won the day. **PICTURES: DENIS BECKETT**

in the middle to produce the rabbit from the hat.

Hanekom is bok, all right, and indeed brimful of enthusiasm. He opens by calling for a prayer. An old umfundi obliges and everyone is on their feet with bowed heads and closed eyes, Boers and Zulus both, their body language attesting to devotion. In how many of the world's battle zones, I wonder, do both sides pray to the same God in the same words. The omens look propitious.

So much for the omens. Here the big slide begins. Hanekom invites members to introduce themselves, and in no time this is Theatre of the Absurd. The farmers present a sole spokesman, Mark Winter, a Natal man with roots deeper than the town of Wintertan. The Zulus present

hundreds. We're about to spend all day on introductions. Drastic pruning is vital, but easier said than done.

At the start Hanekom happily stated that he can stay until 1.30. Ha. It's 12.15 before attendance is sorted out, accompanied by a painful and — I felt — unnecessary process of bidding farewell to 200-odd non-members (tutle, too — most, ushered out en masse, slipped back through the other door).

Then comes, simply put, a white-bashing session.

ANC firebrand Harry Gwala arrived unexpectedly, blithely took a seat at the prized central table and delivered a long speech in Zulu with English asides such as "terrible lies!", and "what an insensitivity!"



To the smattering of outsiders present, Hanekom included, the content was pretty much Greek but the effect was conspicuous. The temperature was rising drastically.

Gwala's message, it turned out, was that the farmers had no claim to the land whatsoever; it was all the Zulus' land. The farmers failed to smile upon this idea. One, former MP Graham MacIntosh, expostulated that Gwala had no role and should leave.

For Hanekom, a rough moment. Breakdown was imminent. Democracy to the rescue. He asked the meeting for guidance. A tense pause.

Then the land-invasion side's de facto leader, the immensely impressive Bonginkosi Dladla, presented a masterstroke of di-

plomacy. Weenen, he said, whatever its other troubles, had escaped party-political conflicts. They accepted the Minister because he was Minister, regardless of party. It would be a pity now if party people, any party, took over, so perhaps Mr Gwala should be an observer only.

Applause eclipsed the thunderclap palpably rising from Gwala's brow. He left wordlessly not long after and I'll bet Hanekom breathed a word of thanks to his God, too.

The meeting is back on track, but this is one wobbly track, with so much bash-the-whitening that even Mark Winter's benign countenance turns thick with wince.

"White men speak with forked tongue," says one Zulu, literally, as if he's been reading Sitting

one might say. Here is a case of Have and Have-nots in extreme form.

It sounds so clear, what the Zulus are saying: "You have plenty (and what is more it was once our forebears), now give us some." And yet, and yet, the subtexts around here are deep as mineshafts.

One of the farmers asks for clarity on the "Zulu politics" involving faction fights, and is shot down all round.

You can't talk about "Zulu politics" nowadays. But is it because it is an impolite notion or an untrue one? Even here in this meeting the Mbele faction and the Mchunu one are at cross-purposes with depths unseen.

Joseph le Roux, big man in khaki, the very picture of a traditional farmer, has a question: "Do you believe in private ownership of property?" He puts it repeatedly to Hanekom, who repeatedly doesn't reply.

That goes to the nub. Le Roux, son of a railway worker, bought his farm. Must he now give it away, or watch politely while it gets taken away? In the cities it gets easy to say "hey, give over a bit". But does the first bit mean a second bit five years later? Where is the stopping? Moreover, for all the enormous paper wealth of large landowners, few of these people are in practice as wealthy as the average urban executive.

And then there's the Great Unstated Worry: so what happens to the land? Despite all the general land wreckage of the area, the farmers' farms are on the whole still farms, and the Zulu land is on the whole a dust-bowl.

Hanekom, I later learn, is packed with enthusiastic and visionary ideas for making small farming work, but here in the Weenen town hall that issue is a silent bogey underlying all else. If the farmers surrender this land, is it not also desert in a

few years, with everybody losing out?

Still, the core question is pay: who will pay. Look at all these millions Mandela is bringing back from America. Let the Government buy land. So it goes on. "Give", "Buy" on and on in cricles.

Hanekom's plane is missed, his police escorts are tapping their watches hard enough for the glass to break.

The Zulus are talking invasion: the whites are talking resistance, and there are real signs that tomorrow morning there'll be blood.

Whereupon ... how did it turn? Nobody I spoke to could understand. Perhaps the personalities of the central players — Hanekom, his invaluable right-hand man Bahle Sibisi, Dladla and Winter. Perhaps the immunity of violence.

## Appreciation

Suddenly, agreement is breaking out all over: the farmers will halt "unfair" evictions (meaning they can still sack troublemakers); everybody will "identify" land available for transfer and meet again in three weeks' time.

In one sense it was a cop-out closing. In another, profound. It ended with goodwill rampant.

The Zulu speeches were suddenly about appreciation for the farmers. Mark Winter spoke with tears in his eyes about everyone paddling the joint canoe together.

Heartfelt prayers ended proceedings, and suddenly all was over, with Graham MacIntosh brilliantly closing on an offer to pay the fines to release the Zulus' goats from the pound behind the hall.

When Time was bought. But the magic wand had not yet been waved. It has been quite some lesson, not only in the art of mediation but in the gulfs that need the mediation.



# SANDF to give back Cape land

Star 17/10/74

■ BY ESTHER WAUGH  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The SA National Defence Force is to return land near Riemvasmaak — the site of forced removals in the Northern Cape — to those who were evicted from it.

Plans are also afoot to return land at Smithsdrift, near Kimberley, to those who were forcibly removed in terms of apartheid laws.

Major-General Phillip du Preez told the parliamentary joint portfolio committee on defence on Saturday that the go-ahead had been given to return the land at Riemvasmaak. (3) Gen (2) A

The SANDF would use only its second area in the Northern Cape at Vastrap.

He said Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom and Defence Minister Joe Modise were involved in finding land near Kimberley for the military. Smithsdrift would then be returned to those who had been evicted.

# Urgent probe into Lebowa land deal

AR 6/18/10/94 (3)

□ Ministerial inquiry into 'privatisation'

## Political Staff

THE government is facing a second land scandal with the disclosure today that tens of thousands of hectares in former Lebowa were "privatised" and handed over to tribal chiefs shortly before the elections.

About 30 percent of former Lebowa's land, controlled by the tribal authorities, was given to chiefs before the April poll.

A R6 million trust was also established two weeks before the elections to enable parties to buy this land from chiefs. Former land affairs minister André Fourie was in charge of Lebowa's finances when the trust was set up.

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom confirmed

today his department had launched urgent investigations into the matter. He would not discuss the issue but said it had been brought to his attention recently.

Mr Hanekom said he would take the matter to a special cabinet meeting tomorrow.

It is unclear exactly how much land is involved. But, apart from the urban areas, it is understood that all land in Lebowa was under the control of tribal chiefs and it is estimated just under a third of the former homeland's land was transferred.

The disclosures came after similar reports in May involving the transfer of virtually all rural land in Kwa-Zulu-Natal to the king in terms of the Ingonyama Trust, which was set up with

the authorisation of former President De Klerk. Mr De Klerk signed the proclamation authorising the transfer on April 26, a day before the election.

Government sources said that a further 30 percent of former Lebowa land was to have been transferred to chiefs soon. However, certificates authorising the transfer of title deeds were recently cancelled by the government after details of the deal were uncovered.

The attempt to transfer further land by certain government officials appears to indicate an attempt to disobey a moratorium on the disposal of state land announced on July 1 by Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe.

# Govt is jealous: land row lawyer

Star  
19/10/94

BY HELEN GRANGE  
and ESTHER WAUGH

The Pietersburg attorney commissioned to "privatise" thousands of hectares of land in Lebowa says the new Government's decision to freeze all further land transfers is a case of "sour grapes".

The Star revealed yesterday that about 36 percent of Lebowa's land was transferred to tribal chiefs shortly before the April election. A further

## Relief proceeds used for trust — Page 7

30 percent was due to be transferred on October 6 in terms of certificates issued by officials in the Department of Public Works.

The Government cancelled the certificates authorising the transfer last week, saying it breached the moratorium placed on the disposal of State land declared on July 1.

The attorney, P J Steytler, told The Star yesterday he had

► To Page 3

HL

3 General

## Sour grapes, says land lawyer

◀ From Page 1

been allocated R1 million of the R6 million Lebowa Farmers Title to Land Trust for processing the transfers.

The trust was established from the proceeds of a drought relief programme.

Former Lebowa chief minister Nelson Ramodike is a trustee of the Lebowa Farmers Title to Land Trust, which effectively gives him and his deposed colleagues the capacity to control land allocation.

Steytler told The Star: "The decision to start transferring State land to people in tribes claiming rightful ownership was contained in legislation in 1991, but it only became

applicable in Lebowa in October 1993.

"There is no question that the intention was honourable and the transfers done so far are legal and above board.

"The trust money was for the costs of surveying the land and legally transferring it," he said.

### Suspect

"Now, because of what I suspect is political jealousy on the part of the new Government about the fact that this was an initiative of the old government, thousands of poor black farmers still waiting to be granted land ownership will be bitterly disappointed."

Steytler said he was

being paid progressively from his R1 million trust allocation and that he learnt "at the deeds office" only last week of the State's moratorium.

In addition to ordering two separate investigations into the transfer of approximately 400 Lebowa farms, the Cabinet will discuss the matter at a meeting today.

Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe yesterday said he was appointing an investigating team "to go to the bottom of the matter".

The investigation would also look into whether any similar land deals were made in the other former homelands and self-governing territories.

It is understood that

the Lebowa deal was brought to Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom's attention last week by his department officials.

Radebe said the Lebowa land deal was a "very sensitive matter".

### Discuss

Since May he has held at least six meetings with the nine members of executive councils responsible for public works to discuss the issue of the transfer of State land.

Slamming officials of his department who issued the certificates, Radebe said he would consider taking steps against them once the investigation into the matter has been completed.

**Lebowa's land transfer would enrich ex-politicians only in terms of public support, writes Jo-Anne Collinge**

Star 20/10/94

# Buying support through land

3 Gen

2099

It must be every Third World politician's dream to be able to dispense land title wholesale to the rural poor. And, until this week, it looked as though former Lebowa chief minister Nelson Ramodike and a few associates were all set to fulfil this political Father Christmas role.

The vehicle through which they aimed to achieve this was the Lebowa Farmers' Title to Land Trust, which had more than R6 million in the kitty and was funded entirely by the proceeds of a drought relief programme paid for by the South African Government.

The trust's work was interrupted this week when the Government launched an investigation into Lebowa land deals which took place in the dying days of the homeland government in March and April.

In Lebowa — as in most former homeland territory — hundreds of thousands of families perch tenuously on patches of land under the control of tribal authorities. The land is inadequate, but often the improvements on it represent a life's investment and occupants are desperate to secure their hold on this property.

This became technically possible with the extension of the Upgrading of Title Act of 1991 to the area of Lebowa about a year ago. This piece of legislation provided a way for people with "inferior" forms of land entitlement to upgrade to freehold title.

According to Lebowa's last director of agriculture, Jacobus Christiaan Renken, the homeland government did not have sufficient money in the budget to give effect to its policy of promoting private land ownership.

"It was at this stage that the Cabinet decided that the funds (drought relief proceeds) which were invested by the Lebowa Agricultural Corporation on behalf of the government, should be used for this purpose," Renken stated in papers before the Pretoria Supreme Court.

In fact, the actual Lebowa Cabinet resolution to transfer the funds was taken on April 7. On the same day, the deed of title of the trust was registered. Ramodike and his last minister of agriculture, Chief K P Phasha, were among the eight trustees.

This move took place just 20 days before the elections which would wipe Lebowa off the map. Ramodike was already widely regarded as a liability to the ANC as an electoral candidate — and before the month of April was out, he had been condemned to the political wilderness by being dropped from the ANC list for the National Assembly.

The corruption of Lebowa's administration had been widely exposed. The Lebowakgomo government, teetering under public service strikes, had already been stripped of all financial powers and was under direct supervision of the central government, represented by then minister of land affairs Andre Fourie. And the Transitional Executive Council was monitoring Lebowa.

In these circumstances, the creation of the trust and the diversion of R6 million belonging to the Lebowa government into its hands, cannot escape being interpreted as an attempt by men facing political demise to extend their influence in public affairs well beyond their governmental lifespan.

Ramodike's corrupt and inefficient government had close to three years to see that the Upgrading of Land Tenure Rights Act was applied in Lebowa. Their last minute scramble is less than convincing, especially as a landslide ANC victory was on the cards and the ANC was openly committed to land redistribution and secure title for all.

In the narrow legal sense, as Supreme Court judge Roos ruled last month, the Lebowa government might have been entitled to put its money (even if that money was generated by a drought relief programme) into a



**Hungry for security . . . thousands of rural people living on tribal land want full land rights.**

PICTURE: ETIENNE ROTHBART

body such as the Title to Land Trust.

Considerations of good public administration, however, raise a number of additional questions about the matter. For instance, whether it is excusable to use huge amounts of public money to give waning public figures new images as public benefactors? Not all members of the trust are political figures, but a good proportion are.

And, whether it is proper that this huge sum of once-public money will be spent without the

checks and transparent procedures that are increasingly demanded of public bodies? A single firm of Pietersburg attorneys has handled all the land transfers to date and R1 million has already been paid into the lawyers' trust account, to be transferred as professional fees when work is completed.

Although the Lebowa case is a "land privatisation scandal", it is quite different from other major land controversies which have erupted this year.

The temptation is to lump it

with the transfer of 1.2 million hectares of tribal land in Kwa-Zulu/Natal to the Ingonyama Land Trust Act, headed by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini. This deal was approved by outgoing state president F W de Klerk in the tense days when the Inkatha Freedom Party's participation in the elections was in doubt.

It only became public after the installation of President Mandela and although the ANC was furious about it, the matter was papered over in the interests of national unity. The Ingonyama

Trust was widely interpreted as being part of a "deal" to get the IFP into the polls. And it certainly could not be separated from the concern of central KwaZulu figures to preserve the relationships which were based on tribal jurisdiction over land.

The Lebowa case certainly has none of the circumstantial features which applied to the decision to set up the Ingonyama Trust.

Nor is the Lebowa scandal in the same league as an abortive attempt to privatise some 100 000 ha of state-owned land in Transkei shortly before the election. This was reported as an intended land-grab by the wealthy and powerful. Prospective buyers were said to include Transkei MPs and cabinet ministers, as well as traditional leaders.

## Moratorium

The Border Rural Committee appealed to the TEC to step in and enforce its moratorium on the sale of state land. When the TEC opposed the sales, the Transkei government decided to halt the transactions.

Unlike the Transkei ploy, the Lebowa privatisation plan does not appear to aim at putting land directly into the hands of an elite, thereby increasing the general land hunger in the region. On the face of things, it does not seem to promote the "ugly face" of privatisation.

Furthermore, the Lebowa Farmers' Title to Land Trust is not a direct road to material gain by the trustees — although it remains to be seen how well lawyers do out of the trust's work.

The pay-off in Lebowa is surely to be calculated in terms of the public support to be won by securing land title for the poor. Political observers speculate that it is part of an attempt to replace the patronage of the chiefs with a new form of patronage, which might seem more viable in the democratic order.

# Farmers' union rejects proposals for land tax

CAPE TOWN — The SA Agricultural Union has asked the the Katz commission on taxation to reject notions of a wealth tax or a land tax.

The farmers' submission, in a document sent to the commission recently, was released at the union's congress yesterday.

It also called for a VAT zero rating on all food.

The union asked the commission to introduce selective tax concessions for foreign investors and to enter tax agreements with other countries.

It called for tax rebates to more than cover the cost of training workers.

The document demanded that the current R6 000 rebate on the provision of housing for farm workers, which had not been adjusted in the past 10 years, be increased to R30 000.

Western Cape Agricultural Union president Chris Du Toit said at the congress that those in favour of a land tax were attempting to nationalise the sector.

The constitution called for equality before the law, but a land tax would infringe on this, he said.

Land was merely one form of wealth and it would be impossible to refine the tax to be fair to all sectors of the economy.

Such a move had a political motive and had nothing to do with sound farming, Du Toit said.

As farmers' average profit was 4%, the introduction of a 2% land tax would halve land values.

Inflation, unemployment and the number of squatter camps would increase as a result of such a tax, Du Toit said.

However, Natal Agricultural Union representative Dave Williams warned against "hot-headedness", saying a land tax could provide an opportunity to secure a greatly improved infrastructure in rural areas.

A land tax should not be used as a means

to redistribute land.

The formal recommendations, which followed discussions between SAAU president Boet Fourie and the commission, demanded that married couples be taxed equally and that this taxation be adjusted systematically to allow for limitations in the Budget.

Emphasising the importance of foreign investment in SA, the union pointed out that in countries such as Austria, Turkey, Sweden and Germany the trend was to shift the tax burden from the farmer to the consumer. There was also a move towards dropping the marginal rates on personal income tax.

It was imperative that SA's tax structure be brought in line with the structures of countries with potential investors.

This would negate tax as an issue among potential investors.

The union called for further selective tax concessions for foreign investors as, despite the reduction in company tax, the secondary tax on companies could see them paying tax at an effective rate of 48%.

Foreign investors had to contend with a further 15% withholding tax on dividends, dissuading them from investing.

The union told the commission field tax had been tapped dry by the state. It was against increased fuel tax.

It demanded to be consulted in the case of any changes to schedule 1 of the Income Tax Act, which pertained to agriculture.

The union called for Inland Revenue to allow farmers to write off tractors in a single tax year, rather than over three years, as had been the case since 1988.

The tractor fleet had diminished from 211 000 units in 1992 to 131 000 in 1993, a drop of 38%.

LOUISE COOK



**FARMERS MEET . . .** Agriculture Minister Dr Kraai van Niekerk gives a bale of wool the nose test at a South African Agricultural Union meeting in the city yesterday. With him are the German agricultural attaché, Dr Peter Bohlem (left), president of the SAAU, Mr Boet Fourie and director of the SAAU, Mr Piet Swart. Picture: ALAN TAYLOR

# Tax 'death-knell' for farming

CT 20/10/94

By MELANIE GOSLING

THE South African Agricultural Union has come out in strong opposition to the government's proposed land tax on farms, which some farmers described as the death-knell for commercial agriculture.

At the union's annual congress in the city yesterday, a resolution was passed which unanimously opposed the proposed tax on agricultural land at any level of government.

Mr Hennie Wentzel of the East Cape Agricultural Union, described the land

tax as "blatant discrimination" against a sector which was one of the biggest employers in the country.

He said land taxes in other countries had contributed to the stagnation of agricultural production.

"In Zimbabwe the Chelliah Commission found land tax had no merit as a mechanism for redistribution. Nowhere in Africa has land tax been successful," Mr Wentzel said.

Vice-president of the agricultural union, Mr Chris du Toit, said the World

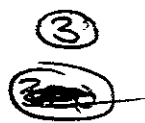
Bank had found those countries which taxed agriculture the least had the highest economic growth rate.

Minister of Agriculture Dr Kraai van Niekerk warned farmers at the meeting not to issue the government with demands, but to negotiate.

"You must be careful not to paint yourselves into a corner. 'Never' should not be a word in your vocabulary. If you don't negotiate you can lose your whole case and soon you will find yourselves irrelevant," he said.

# Agricultural union condemns land tax

AKG 20/10/94



□ 'Blatant discrimination with political overtones'

**JENNY VIALI**  
Staff Reporter

THE South African Agricultural Union has rejected a tax on land as being financially discriminatory and a ploy to get white farmers off their land.

This rejection, contained in a unanimously adopted resolution, was voiced at the SAAU congress in Sea Point yesterday.

Eastern Cape representative Hennie Wentzel said agriculture had stagnated in many countries in Africa due to land tax.

"The agriculture sector is the backbone of the country and will continue to be — if it's allowed to. Land tax is nothing but blatant discrimination against this sector.

"We say to the government: Wake up! There's no place for a land tax in South Africa."

SAAU vice-president Chris du Toit said there was not one fair

argument in favour of land tax, but the arguments against it were overwhelming.

"It's obvious that the land tax has political overtones and has nothing to do with a just tax system or a healthy agricultural policy," said Mr du Toit.

A land tax amounted to nationalisation, Orange Free State delegate Johan Neethling said.

"Farmers must have land to produce, just as factories need machinery. Why is my means of production to be taxed, but not the factory owner's?"

The congress unanimously accepted a resolution stating the SAAU's opposition to a tax on agricultural land as a source of income for the government.

The resolution said any land tax aimed at a redistribution of land to artificially influence the price of agricultural land was unacceptable.

Transvaal delegate Leonard

Venter said farmers had to design a strategy to fight the land tax at grassroots level.

Dave Williams, of Natal, cautioned against rushing in and condemning the land tax without first knowing all the facts.

"We are not looking for a system to pay more tax. But we may be able to channel the land tax into the upgrading of our rural infrastructure and reap benefits from a local tax being spent locally. Let us proceed with caution."

Other delegates said they believed land tax was aimed at getting white farmers off the land and bringing people of colour onto the land.

● The congress also passed a resolution that the SAAU fully take part in the development of a favourable environment policy to enable agriculture to contribute to the sound development of the country's economy.

# Lebowa land transfers not authorised

AUTHORISATION for the transfer of former Lebowa government lands to tribal leaders has been withdrawn pending an investigation into the matter, Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

A central and provincial government task team had been set up to investigate the transfers, which had apparently infringed on a moratorium on the disposal of state land.

"Due to legal and administrative un-

certainties, the process of transferring further land has been stopped by the Department of Public Works, at the request of my department and the Northern Transvaal Provincial MEC, Mr John Dombo," he said in a statement. ~~(2)~~ (3)

"The section 239 certificates, which oblige the Registrar of Deeds to transfer land, have been withdrawn pending the findings of the investigation."

Mr Hanekom said he had briefed the

Cabinet on the Lebowa land transfers yesterday. *CT 20/10/94*

He said the former Lebowa government had apparently set aside state funds to set up a trust to, among others, facilitate the transfer of state lands to different tribes.

The Lebowa Farmers Title to Land Trust was formed on April 7 and registered on April 11 with the Pretoria Supreme Court.

Following this, a number of trans-

fers had taken place before April 27 and since then there had been attempts to transfer further land to tribal authorities in Lebowa.

"It is not clear whether the appropriate resolutions were taken by the concerned tribes as required by law.

"Furthermore, the implementation of the transfer would seem to infringe upon the moratorium on the disposal of land," Mr Hanekom said. — Sapa



# Foodcorp reports 5% rise in earnings

BEATRIX PAYNE

3 General 21/10/94 B/Day

MALBAK's food group Foodcorp reported a "satisfactory" 5% rise in attributable earnings to R107m for the year to August in spite of a difficult market, CE Dave Kennealy said yesterday.

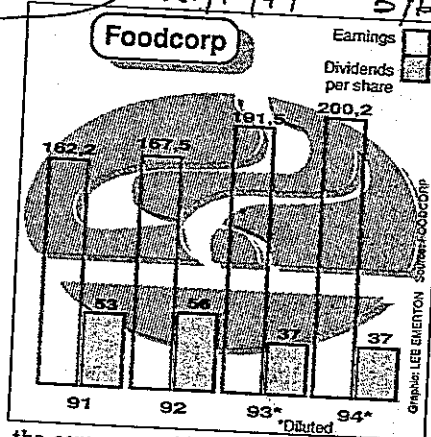
A "patchy" second-half improvement in the market was offset by problems in the maize industry, strikes at major customers, intense competition and lost trading days over the election period.

Turnover rose 4% to R2,8bn (R2,7m) but comparisons were skewed by the Pillsbury Brands Africa, Enterprise and Cold Chain joint ventures. Operating income rose 4% to R188m and restructuring and tight cost control enabled the group to maintain its operating margin at 6,8%.

Financing costs fell 22% to R21m (R27m) after the group redeemed its preference dividends and received the proceeds from Pillsbury.

Pre-tax income rose 8% to R167m, but a rise in the effective tax rate to 35% (33%) left the tax bill 14% higher at R58m.

After-tax income rose 4% to R109m and



the company paid out R2m (R3m) to minority shareholders.

A R20m extraordinary item arose from goodwill on acquisitions and costs related to the closure of the Enterprise Newtown factory and disposal of Montelimar.

Fully converted earnings a share rose 5% to 200,2c (191,5c) and a final dividend of

□ To Page 2

## Foodcorp

□ From Page 1

37c — unchanged from the previous year — was declared.

Gearing rose to a "comfortable" 28% (20%) as interest-bearing debt surged to R218m (R141m), Kennealy said.

The rise in debt reflected capital expenditure incurred during the development of the group's fish meal and canning complex in Chile, a major upgrading of Ruto's maize milling facilities, an increase in livestock at Middelburg Estates and a rise in maize and sunflower stock levels.

The year had been characterised by the consolidation of joint ventures and operations. "Of the businesses we manage, we have eliminated all loss-making factors."

Simba contributed significantly to earnings and increased its market share, with profitability improving after a review of prices and a rationalisation of brands.

Enterprise performed "ahead of expectations in a difficult market", following its rationalisation after last year's merger with Renown.

Profitability at Pillsbury Brands Africa was affected by a partial crop failure and reduced demand for frozen vegetables. The division's launch attracted "great market interest", but the full financial

benefits would be felt only next year.

The Cold Chain venture with Imperial Cold Storage (ICS) produced disappointing results because of stock losses at its depots. The problem was being addressed.

Results from edible oils division Nola were "exceptional". In spite of the turbulence in the grain industry, Ruto and Sunbake achieved their profit targets.

Agribusiness's performance improved, drawing a last-minute benefit from the surge in red meat prices, but the Marine Products division suffered from low white fish prices.

Chile-based operation Pesquera del Norte contributed "as expected" with poor catches in the north compensated by better fishing in the south. An increase in hide prices saw Hanni produce satisfactory results as it concentrated on production for the automotive industry.

Kennealy said earnings would exceed inflation in financial 1995, but growth would depend on the degree to which consumer spending recovered. "We are now a very lean company and the margin on any increase in turnover as a result of improved consumer spending will go straight to the bottom line."

# 'No blueprint for land reform'

CT 21/10/94 (3)

THE government did not have a blueprint for land reform, Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom told the annual congress of the South African Agricultural Union yesterday.

"There is no blueprint for land reform. There are many different steps which could be taken in different parts of the country."

Land reform would take place without jeopardising economic growth, stability and food security.

There would be restitution to people who were forcibly removed from land. Farmers who had bought that land would not be paid market-related prices if they had bought it at below market value.

Mr Hanekom said land reform had to be undertaken in co-operation with farmers. Only if the programme did not work would the government have to consider more drastic future action.

Communities and individuals would have up to three years to lodge claims for land restitution.

In other cases the government wanted to settle black farmers on land that would be bought from white farmers willing to sell.

Reform would also be undertaken using the Upgrading of Tenure Act, which allowed for communal land to be converted to private ownership. — Sapa

# Hope for land grab victims

Stuur [C/Metro]

THE 32-year exile of the Elands-kloof people, who were forced from the land granted to them by Queen Victoria in 1890 after it was sold by the Dutch Reformed Church, could soon be over.

In 1962 the church sold Elands-kloof, a picturesque farm set in a mountain valley near Citrusdal, claiming it was a drain on mission funds.

Since then the people of Elands-kloof have been refused access to their church and school or to tend their family graves by the white farmer who bought the land.

The community was scattered far and wide and many people left the area in search of a place to stay, although 13 families settled on Allendale Farm about 5km from Elands-kloof.

But now independent valuers acting on instructions from the government have put a price on the land and negotiations have been started to buy it from the owner.

This week Mr Jean Ehlers of the Department of Land Affairs confirmed that the valuers' report has been completed and is awaiting approval by the Minister of Land Affairs.

The owner had indicated his willingness to negotiate a sale, opening the way for the return of the community to Elands-kloof, he said.

A committee consisting of representatives of the Elands-kloof community, Dutch Reformed Church, government, Surplus People Project and Legal Resources Centre has been set up to negotiate the return of Elands-kloof.

## Mistakes

In 1991 the owner of Allendale farm initiated legal action to remove the Elandkloofers off his land, where they had lived since 1962. But in January last year, the families were granted a reprieve and given permission to remain on the farm rent-free until January 21 1997, when the owner can take steps to have them removed.

Mrs Aletta Titus, 53, who was born on Elands-kloof farm and now stays at Allendale, said: "The time for forgiveness and reconciliation has arrived."

"The church and the government have admitted they made mistakes. It has now become possible for us to talk about the past and plan for the future."

Elands-kloof was founded as a mission station in 1862.

In 1890 more land was requested from Queen Victoria as the community on the farm had expanded. A further 2 826 morgen was made available, with the proviso that it be used for mission purposes.

According to Mrs Titus, this condition was removed illegally from the original title deed by the state when the farm was sold.

"The church offered each resident R200 to aid us in resettling, but we did not accept the money. We would have

By AYESHA ISMAIL

sold our rights if we had accepted the money," Mrs Titus said.

She said she was confident the Elandkloofers would get their land back.

She said the Elands-kloof committee had sent application forms and placed advertisements in newspapers calling on former residents wanting to return loof to contact the committee.

"We will start farming again, and have already met with neighbouring farmers in preparation," Mrs Titus said.

Mrs Titus recalls that her father Hendrick had sheep, goats, donkeys and poultry and that they grew their own fruit and vegetables.



NO ENTRY... Mrs Aletta Titus, who is prohibited from entering the Elands-kloof farm on which she was born. Picture: AMBROSE PETERS

23/10/94

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# Tribes' bid to reclaim land

By Khathu Mamaila 24/11/94

A CONFRONTATION is looming between the Northern Transvaal government and tribes who want to repossess their ancestral land by "invasion".

The Mamabolo clan of Sekgopye, near Duiwelskloof, have occupied the land around Turfloop and have already allocated themselves hundreds of sites, while the people of Davhana have occupied a farm that was owned by the Venda government in the Levubu area.

Both clans are adamant that their actions are justified as they are merely reclaiming what was stolen from them by white settlers.

Headman Magekha Davhana, who led his subjects to invade the Stildrift farm, told *Sowetan* at the weekend that the final objective was to reclaim the thousands of hectares on which Chief Davhana once ruled supreme.

He said the strategy was to take the farm, cut sites for his Davhana people, settle and develop their land as a people.

He said dozens of families had moved onto the farm.

"As a people, we decided that the fastest way of reclaiming our land was to occupy it. We know it is our land and we were forcibly removed to make way for white settlers to occupy the fertile land," said Magekha.

Commenting on the invasion of land, government spokesman Mr Jack Mokobi said the government would not allow the "disorderly occupation," adding that there was a land claim's court which would attend to the matter in an orderly fashion.

He said that those occupying the land would be asked to leave by the government.

"The government will hold talks with their leaders to persuade them to leave, but if the discussions fail, the law will have to take its course. Eviction will be our last resort," said Mokobi.

Approached for comment, Azanian People's Organisation deputy secretary-general Mr Don Nkadimeng said his organisation supported land invasion as a means of repossession relating to the 87 percent of land held by whites.

PAC regional deputy chairman Mr Ntwampe Morwamoche said the dispossessed people resorted to occupying land because they realised that they would lose the battle once they go to court.

# Farming dept for W Cape

CT 24/10/94  
Political Staff

THE Western Cape will have its own department of agriculture from November 1, the Western Cape Minister of Agricultural Development, Mr Lampie Fick, said at the weekend. (3) (12)

He said a Western Cape Act for Agricultural Financing would be proposed to the provincial legislature to replace its Agricultural Credit Act.

Mr Fick told delegates at the NP's Western Cape congress at Somerset West it provided for 80% of agricultural functions to be administered by the provinces.

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# Farmers look to the north for new homes

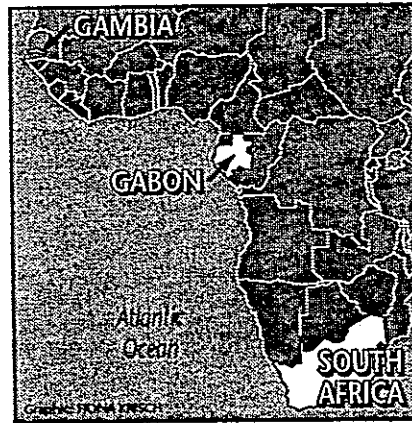
**THE "Second Great Trek" by South African farmers may soon reach equatorial Africa — Gambia and Gabon.**

This week officials from the Transvaal and Free State agricultural unions and the Southern African Development Corporation (Sadevco) left on a week-long state visit to the West African countries.

The mission forms part of a Sadevco initiative to develop the agricultural potential of the continent. More than 200 South African farmers have already settled in Zambia and a few in Zimbabwe. Sadevco director Johan van der Westhuizen said this week that his office handled hundreds of inquiries every day. The group, including the presidents of the two agricultural unions and the South African ambassadors to Gambia and Gabon hoped to finalise deals for South Africans to emigrate. They would also visit the land which would be available to the settlers, Mr van der Westhuizen said.

He said criticism that this "Second Great Trek" was just modern imperialism was unfounded and unfair. Sadevco ensured that the farmers who emigrated had the knowledge and the experience to farm successfully and to make a contribution to the local communities. They also had the full blessing of those governments.

Agricultural develop-



By DIRK VAN EEDEN

ment not only meant a much-needed capital injection into these communities, but may be the only way to provide the continent with enough food, Mr van der Westhuizen said.

"Contrary to what many people believe, SA is not

really suited for agriculture. Only 12 percent of South African land can be used for agriculture, while only four percent has a high agricultural potential. Just one percent of the land is under irrigation.

"Even though conditions in the rest of Africa are sometimes vastly different to that in South Africa, ex-

perience has shown that South African farmers in Zambia yielded up to three times as much as their local counterparts.

"Land in South Africa is also highly overpriced. This is not the case in the rest of the subcontinent," Mr van der Westhuizen said.

According to Sadevco, the emigration of farmers would not be another "brain drain". South Africa had more qualified farmers than could be accommodated on the little land suitable for agriculture, while some African countries had a dire need for people experienced in scientific farming.

"It is basically just a redistribution of skills throughout the continent in a bid to keep our people fed," he said.

For South Africa there are also a number of spin-offs. If the farmers could

provide employment and food, it could drastically improve living conditions in Africa. This could help solve the problem of illegal immigrants, Mr van der Westhuizen said.

"Where there are successful farmers, there are soon needs for other service-providers — shops, schools and churches. Sound agriculture can be at the heart of a sound community," he said.

Another reason why Africa's agricultural potential should be developed was the poor quality of food which foreign countries often dumped on the continent. Much of the grain imported from the US, for example, had to be classified as cattle fodder, but Africans often had no choice but to eat it in times of drought.

According to statistics from the Department of Agriculture, South Africa produced 73 percent of Africa's wool and 52 percent of Africa's maize. If South Africa experienced a drought the entire continent suffered.

If the rest of Africa's farming potential is developed, it will lessen the burden on SA farmers' shoulders.

## Mercury's lover is HIV positive

FREDDIE MERCURY'S lover, Jim Hutton, has been tested HIV positive.

Hutton, who lived with the late pop superstar for seven years, has revealed he has twice tested positively for the virus.

Irishman Hutton, 45 — called "my husband" by Mercury — makes the revelation in a book about the Queen singer, *Mercury And Me*, due to be published next month.

- (2) whether any (a) forums and (b) transitional local councils have been established in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (i) how many and (ii) what are the further relevant details in each case;
- (3) whether his Department and/or any provincial departments intend taking any steps in respect of rural local government; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) when are the transitional arrangements in this regard to be implemented? N354E

**THE MINISTER FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

- (1) Yes. In terms of Proclamation No R129 dated 15 July 1994 the Local Government Transition Act, 1993 (Act No 209 of 1993), was made applicable in the national territory referred to in section 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993 (Act No 200 of 1993), as well as on any local government body established by or under any law in force in an area which forms part of the national territory referred to in section 1 of the latter Act. The result of this provision is that the Local Government Transition Act, 1993, is now also applicable in the area formerly known as Transkei.

In accordance with the Constitution, the Local Government Transition Act, 1993, was assigned to the provinces by way of the above-mentioned Proclamation. The implementation of the Act is therefore the responsibility of the provinces.

In general it must be mentioned that I meet with the MEC's responsible for local government on a monthly basis to, inter alia, evaluate progress with the implementation of the Act. Flowing from such a meeting a Task Team of the Department of Constitutional Development was for example established which visited the various provinces during June and July 1994 to meet with the MEC's responsible for local government. During these visits problem areas were identified and discussed and recommendations were made to address these problems.

- (2) (a) and (b). The information is unfortunately not readily available in the Department. In order to assist the Honour-

able Member the following information has been obtained from the Eastern Cape Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

No forums have been recognized in terms of section 6 of the Local Government Transition Act, 1993, but 24 applications out of a total of 28 towns have been received for consideration. The Secretariat of the relevant Provincial Committee is currently checking the applications and intends submitting it to the Executive Council soon. As each forum must negotiate on the establishment of a transitional council no transitional local council could have been established yet.

- (3) Yes.

- (a) During a meeting with the MEC's responsible for local government of the nine provinces held on 12 July 1994, it was resolved that a Task Team be appointed to investigate various options for rural local government. The Task Team's terms of reference entails the following:

- (i) application of the pre-interim phase in rural areas;
- (ii) elections in rural areas;
- (iii) different options for rural local government; and
- (iv) financial arrangements.

A draft discussion document on rural local government was compiled after consultation by the Task Team with various roleplayers. The aim of this document is to serve as the basis on which provinces can expand with regard to which model will best serve the various provinces and to draft legislation in this regard.

During a further meeting with the MEC's responsible for local government on 30 August 1994, it was resolved that the Task Team would visit the provinces in order to discuss the document. The provinces will invite members of organised local government as well as other relevant roleplayers to attend these meetings. The Task Team visited the Eastern Cape on 13 August 1994. During the next meeting with

the MEC's on 23 September 1994, the Task Team will report to the meeting regarding the progress that the nine provinces have made with regard to rural local government.

- (b) It is envisaged that transitional arrangements will be in place by 1995, allowing representatives of rural areas to be elected on the same day as the elections to be held in urban areas.

**Commission on Land Allocation: applications received**

175. Mr A FOURIE asked the Minister of Land Affairs:

(3) ~~(2)~~  
As at the latest specified date for which information is available, how many (a) applications had been (i) received and (ii) finalised by the Commission on Land Allocation for the (aa) 1993-94 and (bb) 1994-95 financial years, (b) individuals and/or communities (i) had been resettled in terms of the applications processed and (ii) were being subsidised by the State as a result of this process and (c) applications were outstanding? N344E

**THE MINISTER OF LAND AFFAIRS:**

- (a) (i) The number of applications received from tribes, communities and persons concerning land which has been identified and advertised and with regard to which public hearings were held in terms of the provisions of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act, 1991, (Act 108 of 1991) as amended, is as follows:

(aa) 1993-94: 293 applications

(bb) 1994-95 (up to 20 September 1994): 176 applications

- (ii) The number of applications finalised, in other words where orders and recommendations were forwarded to the former Minister of Regional and Land Affairs and the present Minister of Land Affairs regarding applications which were received and with regard to which public hearings were held, is as follows:

(aa) 1993-94: 293 applications.

(bb) 1994-95 (up to 20 September 1994): 144 applications.

- (b) (i) The Department of Land Affairs is presently assisting at least ten communities in rural areas to resettle. The number of individuals is not known.

- (ii) Funds from the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) have been approved to assist the above-mentioned communities with planning, infrastructure and settlement costs.

- (c) Orders and recommendations on 32 applications received by the Commission on Land Allocation concerning land which was identified and advertised and with regard to which public hearings were held in terms of Act 108 of 1991, as amended, with effect from August 1994, have not yet been forwarded to the Minister.

**General Remarks**

The provisions of Act 108 of 1991, as amended, empower the Commission on Land Allocation to deal with land within its jurisdiction.

Although the Commission has to date received approximately 2 500 applications, those not yet dealt with by the Commission are primarily applications concerning land which was not placed within the Commission's jurisdiction by the present and previous Government, as required in terms of the Act. The majority of these are applications in urban areas. The Department of Land Affairs is presently gathering information on some of those claims which have not been dealt with by the present Commission. This is being done in preparation for consideration by the envisaged Commission on Restitution of Land Rights.

Since its appointment, the Commission has, up until 28 February 1994, made recommendations to the former State President and the former Minister of Regional and Land Affairs with respect to more than 613 000 ha of land.

**Transfer of farmland purchased for consolidation purposes**

181. Mr J A JORDAAN asked the Minister of Land Affairs:

- (1) What extent of farmland has been purchased for consolidation purposes in respect of each of the provinces during the past 29 years;
- (2) whether any of this farmland has been transferred to tribal chiefs or tribes for

**TOAST TO**

**HEALTH:** Provincial Health and Social Services Minister Ebrahim Rasool and ANC MP and consumerist Albertina Sisulu sample a freshly launched vitamin and mineral-enriched loaf.

Picture: DOUG PITHELY, The Argus.



# The staff of life — enriched and nourishing

(3) AK4 27/10/84

□ It's their contribution to RDP

**LENORE OLIVER**  
Staff Reporter

A MAJOR food supplier has constructed and developed a new vitamin and mineral-enriched bread — as a contribution to the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

Sasko's new loaf was launched yesterday to generous praise from provincial Health and Social Services Minister Ebrahim Rasool who said the initiative proved the private sector could do more than just giving money to the RDP.

"The private sector should sit up and take note of your contribution to the RDP. Your creative contribution in the field that you know best is laudable," he said.

As bread was the most accessible form of food for many South Africans, the new enriched bread would go a long way to curbing malnutrition.

The supplements include B-vitamins such as thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, pyridoxine and folic acid, and calcium.

Sasko human resources director Kobus Laing said the ingredients had been selected in consultation with international and local nutritional experts and would not affect the taste, texture or colour of the bread.

"We believe that our enriched standard bread will not only enhance the quality of life of all South Africans but also help significantly to counter malnutrition in the country.

"As such it is supportive of the objectives of the RDP," Mr Laing said. Food enrichment was not something to be lightly embarked upon in a culturally, socio-economically and geographically diverse country.

The bread will not cost more and will be easily identified by a distinctive "vitamin-enriched" symbol on the packaging.



# W Cape gets agriculture dept

By CHRIS BATEMAN

③

THE Western Cape became the first province yesterday to get an Agriculture Department.

It has a budget of R200 million and a priority will be to promote farming skills among the poor.

Powers were finally devolved from Pretoria yesterday, a delighted Agriculture and Sport Minister Mr Lampie Fick announced at the Elsberg Agricultural Institute where the department will have its headquarters.

Another priority would be to settle small farmers

and broaden access to farming. "I'll be giving this urgent attention as there are not enough people who are able to enter farming," Mr Fick said.

He would identify land and finance, and said Elsberg would double its intake of informal trainees to 1 200 next year.

Many students came from the Cape Flats and black townships.

The training course would focus on production and bridging techniques to enable illiterate people to enter the formal courses.

OT 2/11/94

# Land rights bill set for Parliament debate

27/11/94 (3)

## Political Staff

THE Restitution of Land Rights Bill had been approved at committee level and will be voted on in Parliament next week, Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

According to the bill, a commission with regional offices will be established to investigate and mediate claims of people or communities who feel they were dispossessed through discriminatory legislation.

A three-year period will be set for the commission to receive claims.

A Land Claims Court will also be set up to determine the restitution of land rights, compensation, and to

speed up claims that otherwise would have been referred to normal, but lengthy, court procedures.

Land Affairs standing committee chairman Mr Patekele Holomisa said yesterday that after multi-party support for the bill, it would be debated in Parliament on Tuesday.

Owing to time pressures and the need to push through the legislation in the current Parliamentary session, the committee had not been able to receive oral evidence but written submissions had been received.

The Freedom Front has expressed some reservations over the bill.

# Transport plan threat to Philippi farmers

S Times [C1 Metro]

By MICHEL MULLER

A CONFIDENTIAL report commissioned by the Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC) has warned that plans to develop a road and rail network across the Philippi horticultural area (PHA) would have serious implications for vegetable farming in that region.

At present 80 percent of Cape Town's vegetables and 25 percent of South Africa's sand comes from that area.

The report by the Chittenden Nicks Partnership questioned the proposed extension of the R300 (from Vanguard Drive) across the Philippi horticultural area to link with Kromboom Parkway and the Simon van der Stel Freeway.

Also under consideration is a proposal to construct a freeway, the False Bay Arterial, along the southern boundary of the study area, the report says.

"There is also a proposal to construct a rail link from the Philippi East line westwards through the PHA and to provide an additional three stations within the PHA."

## Management

The consultants question the sense of building two major freeways 5km apart and bluntly state: "Transport links should not be permitted to cut through the area. The freeway and railway lines must be either realigned or repealed."

The report recommended, in a possible interim management scenario, that authorities should "continue to convert the PHA's local road network into a closed system by closing all through routes".

"This has already been initiated by closing Springfield Road and other access point roads that open onto major perimeter roads."

The report also slams the management of the area by the Western Cape Regional Services Council and accuses it of "ineffective policing" and "a perceived lack of local authority administration".

"The lack of effective or strongly-enforced planning regulations has resulted in an increase in illegal land uses such as equestrian centres, compost manufacturers, feedlots, informal abattoirs and dumping."

It calls for an effective and appropriate policy to stop environmental damage, urban encroachment and the illegal use of land.

"If no action is taken to halt the continued degradation of the area, there is a danger that the PHA could be urbanised

in a piecemeal fashion.

"This will fail as a satisfactory urban environment while effectively destroying the long-term agricultural viability of the area." (3) Gen

Cape Flats and District Farmers Association chairman Anton Horstman agreed that the WCRSC management of the area was "very

poor".

The report points out, however, that there is 19 000ha of under-utilised land within the Cape Metropolitan Area (CMA), 13 000ha of which is publicly owned.

"In terms of reinforcing the existing transportation system and pattern of existing urban opportunities, this land

is better located.

"There is therefore no need to persist in encroaching on environmentally-sensitive or useful agricultural land." 6/11/94

"The PHA is the largest supplier of low-cost, basic-needs vegetables such as carrots, lettuce and spinach to both the Epping Market and informal traders.

"Last year 53 percent or R11-million of the vegetables sold at the Epping market were supplied by the PHA."

Mr Horstman said the farmers were not concerned.

"All we know is that we have got the assurance of the Department of Agriculture that our livelihood will not be threatened.

RSC spokesmen declined to comment as the "matter was confidential".

# Workers become part owners of farm

CAPE TOWN — A milestone in SA agriculture will be reached this week when farmworkers on a Grabouw farm become one-third part owners of Whitehall Farm.

The consensus between farm owner Henry Hall and the Whitehall Workers' Committee will enable farm workers to obtain part-ownership of profitable agricultural venues and is one of the proposed models for land reform.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa and the committee will later sign a Whitehall equity participation loan of R3,6m and a further concessionary loan of R2,3m will be signed with the Independent Development Trust (IDT). The Standard Bank

has extended, on commercial terms, a loan of R4,8m, to be signed later.

The development bank said on Friday participating permanent workers would, with its share of R10,7m, acquire part-ownership of the R30m farm enterprise through a workers' trust. Workers would elect trustees annually to represent their interests.

Bank southern region general manager Johan Kruger said the project was an example of how the private sector, the community and development agencies could work together to make the reconstruction and development programme work without straining government's fiscal resources.

The IDT had provided financial

support to the workers' trust for the appointment of an external chartered accountant who would ensure a transfer of skills to the trustees so they could manage the trust.

Workers' committee chairman Johannes Muller said on Friday the fact that a third of the shares of the enterprise — not merely a section of the farm — had been sold to them made the project interesting.

Muller said as many as 300 workers were employed on the farm during harvesting and 165 would have a one-third controlling interest.

The Whitehall farm has for the second year in succession won a National Productivity Institute award for being the most productive farm in Western Cape. — Sapa.

# SA seeks water from African states

Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — Talks will be stepped up with water-rich African countries to help meet the country's future demands for fresh water and hydro-electric power, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

Opening the 18th congress of the International Commission on Large Dams here, Mr Mandela said the previous government had managed to ne-

gotiate some water agreements with African countries, including the Lesotho Highlands Water Project.

But because of the strong links forged with African neighbours during the liberation struggle, the new government was in a better position to "maximise co-operation with African countries on any issue, including water".

President Mandela also spoke about

the government's intention to "democratise" the country's dams.

"There will be a decided change in emphasis. In the past, some of our dams were constructed virtually for the exclusive use of the privileged section of our population.

"The accent will now shift to enhancing the standard of living of especially the majority. Clean drinking water for each citizen within a reason-

able distance from home will be our goal."

Water for the expansion of irrigation was very limited and new dams would be needed for domestic and industrial use.

"However, whatever water does become available for irrigation use will also be applied to increase the productivity of land owned or occupied by the underprivileged." Mr Mandela said (3) CT 8/11/94

# Land Bill a beacon of hope for dispossessed

B. Day 8/11/94

CAPE TOWN — The National Assembly is expected to approve the first major legislation aimed at undoing the wrongs of apartheid when the Restitution of Land Rights Bill is debated today.

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom says he is adamant that the Bill be passed this session, although the measure has been criticised on the grounds that it is being rushed through the legislature without adequate consultation.

Although there could be opposition from the Freedom Front and the Inkatha Freedom Party, the Bill is expected to have an otherwise easy passage in the ANC-dominated assembly.

The Bill provides for a Commission on Restitution of Land Rights and a Land Claims Court to adjudicate the claims of individuals and communities to land from which they have been forcibly removed.

Claims will be heard dating back to June 19 1913, the day before the passage of the 1913 Land Act which provided the legal basis for the division of land on a racial basis.

Hanekom said yesterday the Bill was "part of the monumental effort to undo the wrongs of apartheid and bring justice to the victims of forced removals".

"In doing so it is bringing hope to millions of South Africans," he said.

The Bill, which will be read for a second and third time, will have to be passed by the Senate next week before President Nelson Mandela can sign it into law.

The DP, the Freedom Front and the Inkatha Freedom Party have all criticised the fact that the assembly's standing committee on land affairs has not heard oral submissions from interested parties, as was originally intended.

The DP's Errol Moorcroft said the Land Affairs Department had floundered in the face of an earlier decision by the standing committee on land affairs to hear oral evidence.

The committee received written submissions from the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU), the National Land Committee, the SA Property Owners' Association, the Cape Bar and others, before coming to the decision that no new evidence could emerge in oral submissions.

Tomorrow however, the SAAU has been given the opportunity to make an oral presentation to the joint Assembly and Senate Land Affairs committees, in time for the Bill's consideration by the Senate.

Hanekom warned that a further three-month delay could have disastrous consequences for the process of orderly land reform.

"We have managed to avert land invasions up to now by presenting people with a real and viable alternative, but people are impatient." (B) Gen

"The implications if it is not passed would be a possible loss of confidence in the Parliamentary process among the dispossessed, who have been waiting patiently, for generations in some cases." — Sapa.





**SHAKE ON IT . . .** Whitehall farm owner Mr Henry Hall, left, and workers' committee chairman Mr Johannes Muller shake on an historic agreement giving workers one-third part-ownership of the R30 million enterprise near Grabouw.

Picture: NIC BOTHMA

## Labourers now 'own' R30m farm

By WILLEM STEENKAMP  
AGRICULTURAL history was made yesterday when the workers of a R30 million Grabouw farm became one-third part-owners of one of the most successful farms in the Western Cape.

At a ceremony on Whitehall farm, attended by Minister of Land Affairs Mr Derek Hanekom and Western Cape Agriculture Minister Mr Lam-pie Fick, most of the farm's 165 workers became partners of farmer Mr Henry Hall and his family.

The deal, the culmination of 16 months of tough negotiations, is one of the proposed models for land reform in South Africa.

The workers have received loans from the Development Bank of SA, the Independent Development Trust and the Standard Bank.



**NEWS** Strike goes into its third day

# Mixed reaction to land clauses

Sowetan 17/11/93

**By Mathatha Tsedu**  
Political Editor

CHEERS and dismay have greeted the land clauses approved by the multiparty negotiators on Monday night.

The clauses deal with land claims by people who were dispossessed during forced removals and stipulate that 1913 would be the cut-off date.

Anyone whose claim dates beyond June 19 1913 will not be entertained. It is this stipulation that has raised the anger of organisations involved with displaced communities. (3) Gen

The National Land Committee, which lobbied extensively against previous clauses, yesterday hailed the agreement but said the cut-off date would create problems for communities displaced before that date.

"We would maintain that communities or individuals who can show cause for their claims should be provided for even if the dispossession took place prior to 1913.

"There are claims from communities dating back to 1652 and they have to be addressed," a spokesman for the NLC said.

The African National Congress supported the clause while the Pan Africanist Congress decried the cut-off date, also citing 1652 and the arrival of white settlers as the preferable cut-off date.

Traditional leaders sided with PAC but were both defeated by the combined ANC-NP lobby.

The Azanian People's Organisation, which is not part of the negotiations, condemned the cut-off date and said while the move was on the whole a worthy effort, "1913 merely represents the consolidation of years of expropriation". It called for the state to bear the costs of litigation.

The approved clause states:

"Any person who, or any community which, at any time after a date fixed by an Act of Parliament (which shall not be earlier than June 19 1913), was dispossessed of a right in land under, or for the purpose of furthering the object of, any law which would have been inconsistent with the prohibition of racial discrimination ... shall be entitled to claim restitution in a court of law in respect of such right from the state". Claims can be handled by a commission or a court.

If the claim involves land held by the state, "the court may order the state to restore the relevant right to the claimant if the state certifies that such restoration is feasible".

Where the land is held by private individuals, "the court may order the state to purchase or expropriate such land".

# MPs applaud passing of <sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sub>ARL 9/11/94</sub> landmark bill

**VUYO BAVUMA**  
Political Staff

JUBILANT African National Congress MPs applauded and cheered after the national assembly passed the Restitution of Land Rights Bill by 212 votes to 26.

It was the first time the national assembly had divided for a vote since the elections in April.

The bill, opposed by the Inkatha Freedom Party and Freedom Front, is a first significant step to implement a policy of fair and just distribution of land to dispossessed communities.

It also allows the formation of a specialised court of law and a commission on the Restitution of Land Rights.

But the passing of the bill — the first major step to redress the wrongs of apartheid — was not smooth.

Andre Fourie (NP) said land affairs minister Derek Hanekom had bull-

dozed the bill through parliament and ignored verbal submissions from the South African Agricultural Union.

Harriet Ngubane (IFP), who was heckled by ANC members during her speech, said the bill was too narrow and did not fully meet the expectations of the African people.

It was too restrictive because it did not address the problems caused by land dispossession before the 1913 Land Act, Professor Ngubane said.

Pieter Grobbelaar (FF) opposed the Bill because it created a "potential for conflict" as the agricultural sector had not been adequately consulted.

Clarence Makwetu (PAC) who severely criticised the bill for not fully meeting the African people's needs, nevertheless supported the bill, indicating that the struggle for land rights had just begun.

Mr Hanekom described Mr Fourie as "master of gutter politics and distortion and dishonesty" but he was made to withdraw the remark.

# Joy as workers are made part owners of Grabouw farm

**NORMAN JOSEPH**  
Staff Reporter

AG 9/11/94

THERE was jubilation at Whitehall farm near Grabouw when workers and farmer Henry Hall signed an historic agreement giving workers part-ownership of the 270 hectare farm.

The deal also involved a finance package of R10,7 million, backed by the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the Independent Development Trust (IDT) and Standard Bank.

The Whitehall Workers' Committee and Mr Hall signed the agreement at a ceremony last night which allowed the workers to buy a third of the shares in the R30 million farm.

The DBSA and the workers' committee will later sign the Whitehall Equity Participation loan of R3,6 million.

A further loan of R2,3 million will be granted by the IDT and Standard Bank will lend the workers R4,8 million.

DBSA general manager Jo-

han Kruger said the agreement could lay the foundation for future reconstruction and development programmes in the farming industry without straining government resources.

"The agreement is a milestone in South African agriculture as it serves to empower farmworkers to obtain part ownership of profitable agricultural ventures," he said.

For the past two years the farm had won the productivity award presented by the National Productivity Institute.

"Key factors which led to the signing were that workers had access to information, financial resources and capacity building support.

"It is a clear example of how South Africa's human resources can be developed.

"There are already signs on the farm of improved productivity and quality of life," Mr Kruger said.

4

**NEWS** Righting wrongs of past policies ● Coloureds, Indians demand new deal

# Land Bill reaches back to 1913

**T**HE Restitution of Land Rights Bill — the first major piece of legislation aimed at undoing the wrongs of apartheid — went through parliament yesterday.

The Bill was passed by 212 votes to 26.

Victims of the previous government's land policies had three years to lodge claims against dispossession which started with the 1913 Land Act, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, said during the debate.

He said the Bill had struck the right balance between the expectations of

**■ THREE YEARS** Victims can claim against the dispossession of property:

dispossessed and the uncertainties of landowners.

"The resolution of the land question is at the heart of our quest for liberation from political oppression, guilt, insecurity, rural poverty and under-development."

The Bill only dealt with restitution and, as such, provided for a Commis-

sion on the Restitution of Land Rights and a specialised court, the Land Claims Court.

Hanekom said the Government would have no legitimate means of stopping land invasions if the Bill was not passed by the end of this parliamentary sitting.

"The Bill is not about taking away people's land again. It is not about confiscation and coercion. It is about justice and reconciliation. It's part of our joint attempt

to rebuild society, to reach out to one another with compassion and fairness."

Hanekom said the commission would deal with claims arising from dispossession of private land on the basis of racially discriminatory laws.

The court, in turn, would be able to award compensation while prioritising state support in land reform programmes. (3) Gen

"Enshrined in the Bill are principles of equity and public interest which are innovative features of law."

Claims had to be lodged within three years of the new legislation

coming into operation.

Quoting writer Sol Plaatje, he said South African "natives" had become pariahs in the land of their birth with the passage of the 1913 Land Act.

This Act had been the cornerstone of territorial segregation.

"It was a policy built on the destruction of the dreams, hope and aspirations of millions of black South Africans . . . they were effectively consigned to the periphery of South African society."

The commission would be accessible to all and would help claimants in documenting their claims. — Sapa.

*Victims of forced removals have three years to press claims*

# Historic land Bill

*Sabar 9/11/94*

# passed

■ BY ESTHER WAUGH  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The first legislation designed to roll back the effects of grand apartheid — the Restitution of Land Bill — was passed in the National Assembly yesterday.

The historic decision means that South Africans who were forcibly removed from their land since 1913 can soon lodge claims for the return of land.

Introducing the legislation in the National Assembly, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said: "Through the restitution of land rights and by enabling uprooted communities to re-establish themselves where they belong, the Bill gives meaning to the process of reconstruction, economic empowerment and development."

The Bill was transformed into law by 212 votes to 26 after being opposed by the Freedom Front and Inkatha Freedom Party.

It will be debated in the senate before it goes on to the statute books.

Under the Bill, three years are allowed for the lodging of claims for State and private land with the Commission on the Restitution of Land Rights. The commission would settle claims by way of mediation and negotiation.

Disputes about claims would be referred to the Land Claims Court, which would be able to award compensation for land.

Both the commission and the court are to be established before the end of the year.

It was in the country's interest for land claims to be handled fairly and effectively in order to prevent "impatience on the part of both the dispossessed and landowners deteriorating into confrontation", said Hanekom.

**NOBODY can just claim land without substance, it will have to be proved as dispossessed — NP**

*(3) Gen*

He said the legislation struck the right balance in dealing with the expectations of the dispossessed and the uncertainties of landowners.

Supporting the Bill, National Party MP and former land affairs minister Andre Fourie said his party would monitor the appointments to the commission and the court as well as their operations.

In a statement issued after the debate, Fourie said: "Nobody can just claim land without substance — it will have to be proved as dispossessed due to discriminatory laws of the past since 1913 without sufficient compensation either through alternative land or financial compensation."

Opposing the Bill, the IFP's Professor Harriet Ngubane accused the Government of perpetrating the exclusion of millions from access to land. She said the legislation restricted the restitution of land to a mere 13 percent of the country.

PAC leader Clarence Makwetu criticised the lack of guarantees for land tenants and share croppers.

Freedom Front MP Pieter Grobbelaar said the legislation contained great potential for conflict. Anybody could lodge a claim, would receive legal aid and could use hearsay evidence. The matter would be heard by assessors without a legal background. Grobbelaar said land could be expropriated after an appeal to the Land Claims Court.

# Agriculture 'not heavily subsidised'

CAPE TOWN — State support to farmers since 1991 amounted to about R4bn a year — excluding drought relief — but a perception that the sector was heavily subsidised was incorrect, SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) president Boet Fourie said yesterday.

In a presentation at a select parliamentary committee meeting on agriculture, water, forestry and land, Fourie said agriculture was heavily subsidised and protected in most industrialised countries.

The R4bn equated to 15,8% of SA's total agricultural output of R25,2bn in 1993/94 and was slightly more than the R3,6bn paid out by the sector in salaries and wages in that year.

Fourie said in terms of the so-called producer subsidy equivalent — used by developed countries to measure agricultural support — only Australia and New Zealand supported their agricultural sectors less than SA. However, support to farmers would be affected directly by tariffs on products — with its subsequent closer correlation between local and international prices — during the next few years.

Agriculture's share of the Budget in 1994/95 shrank to 1% from 4% in the mid-1970s.

This was a "grave underestimate" of the socioeconomic services the sector provided in terms of employ-

ment, housing and relatively favourable living conditions, he said.

"The merits of transfers and/or special concessions to agriculture to support these sociological functions remain valid, since these costs are not recovered in market prices for agricultural products alone and cannot be financed from farming income alone."

Fourie said the competitiveness and profitability of export-orientated agriculture would be affected seriously by the phasing out and scaling down of the general export incentive scheme (GEIS). The SAAU was appealing for retention of category two of GEIS or its replacement with an alternative incentive.

Agricultural sector export incentives were allowed under the GATT and there was concern in agricultural circles that alternative supply-side measures considered by the Trade and Industry Department would entail indirect and inadequate assistance in the absence of GEIS, he said. The value of GEIS for agriculture in 1994/95 amounted to R386,7m.

Fourie said the sector's high debt burden and declining profitability were problems. Despite an increase of 23,1% in 1993, real farming profit in that year amounted to only 49,1% of the 1980 and 1981 average.

## SAAU criticises Land Rights Bill

LOUISE COOK

THE South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) yesterday criticised the Restitution of Land Rights Bill, passed by the National Assembly earlier this week.

SAAU administration deputy director Kobus Kleynhans said there would be three years of uncertainty because it was not known which land would fall victim to claims. The three-year period for claims was too long — the SAAU had asked for it to be two years. Fortunately a Land Claims Court would be established, which would eventually bring more clarity to the issue.

"Hopefully, government will in future afford more representation to the SAAU when it comes to legislation that affects agriculture."

But the support organisation for rural communities, the National Land Committee, welcomed the passing of the Bill.

But spokesman Sue Wixley said appointments to the Land Claims Court and commission had to be transparent. She called for appointments to be made in a way "not dissimilar to the SABC board".

"The land claims process will not deal with all land problems and there is still a great need for a land reform programme which will deal with, among other things, tenure rights, the right of farm workers and labour tenants and development."

● Comment Page 14

81 Day 10/11/94  
EDWARD WEST

# EP threat to fishing

ARG. 12/13/11/94

3.

# commission

**JEAN LE MAY**

Weekend Argus Reporter

PROVINCIAL governments of the Western and Eastern Cape are headed for a sharp confrontation over Environment Minister Dawie de Villiers' national fisheries policy development commission.

Weekend Argus has been reliably informed that the Eastern Cape has threatened to have nothing to do with the commission.

The African National Congress-controlled Eastern Cape cabinet, according to the Weekend Argus informant, is up in arms because the commission was being set up without them being consulted.

They say it is monopolised by Western Cape interests and the West Coast fishing industry.

Commission chairman Mandla Gxanyana, who is general secretary of the Food and Allied Workers' Union, flew from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth yesterday in an attempt to cool the situation.

Weekend Argus understands that exception has been taken to a circular sent out last month by Mr Gxanyana in which he named proposed members of the commission. They included Johnny Issel, the ANC spokesman on fishing, Norman Michaels, personal assistant to Western Cape Eco-

■ The Eastern Cape has threatened to withdraw from Dawie de Villiers' national fisheries policy commission.

nomics Minister Allan Boesak, and Ekhart Kramer, managing director of giant fishing group Sea Harvest.

Stuart Bartlett, spokesman for Eastern Cape Minister of Economic Affairs Smuts Nkonyama, told Weekend Argus the provincial legislature recently had appointed a select committee headed by ANC MP André de Wet to look into fishing policy.

Mr Bartlett said there was resentment in the province that West Coast fishing interests operated in Eastern Cape waters without benefit to the local industry and fishermen.

Many fish processing factories in the Eastern Cape had closed down or were about to close, with disastrous economic consequences for the province, where more people were unemployed than anywhere else in the country, he said.

Boya Chetty, chairman of the Port Elizabeth fishing forum, said the forum was not prepared to accept nominations put forward by Mr Gxanyana and Dr De Villiers to represent the province on the commission.

The forum had been assured of Mr Nkonyama's support, he said, adding that neither the provincial government nor the

Port Elizabeth forum had been consulted about the nominations.

Moreover, the forum objected to the nomination of "political" representatives on the commission, he said.

"We are totally against the way the commission is being chosen, because this will maintain the way the Western Cape has always dominated the fishing industry," Mr Chetty told Weekend Argus.

"As it is, we are at a disadvantage compared with the Western Cape when it comes to fishing quotas. About 150 000 tons of hake are caught in Eastern Cape waters every year, but the latest quota for Port Elizabeth-based fishermen and companies is only 3 200 tons; 450 tons of crayfish may be taken out of Eastern Cape waters — Port Elizabeth got only 25 tons. The squid boats come from Cape Town every year — and take all the squid they catch back there.

"We are not prepared to put up with this situation any longer."

Mr Chetty said the Port Elizabeth fishing forum was being extended to cover the whole of the Eastern Province, including East London, Port Alfred and Jeffrey's Bay.



**LEGACY OF THE 1913 LAND ACT ... Forced removals left thousands destitute.**

# Last battle in land war

Clifford 13/11/94

(3) Gen

IN the final death blow to the draconian measures that deprived black South Africans of land for 81 years, the "battle for the land" was effectively reduced to a three-man show in the National Assembly this week.

A war of words was waged between Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, Inkatha's Professor Harriet Ngubane and NP spokesman on land affairs André Fourie over the Restitution of Land Rights Bill.

PAC president Clarence Makwetu could have been the fourth "combatant" - had he not backed down after being assured by Hanekom that his fears about certain clauses of the Bill would be addressed.

**OVER the years, successive white governments used the notorious Land Act of 1913 to deprive millions of blacks of their right to land. On Tuesday, in less than two hours, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom successfully fought for the restoration of that right by arguing for the passage of the Restitution of Land Rights Bill of 1994 in parliament. Political Correspondent THEMBA KHUMALO captures the mood in the debate.**

than welcome. However, instead of just making his contribution and then leaving it to the committee to consider the Bill impartially, he remained part of the deliberations and virtually bulldozed the Bill through. I don't believe that this is the way to handle legislation."

Retorted Hanekom: "I would like to remind Mr Fourie that I would not like to destroy the sense of

Bill was misleading. The rest of the Bill did not make provision for the second paragraph, she said.

Ngubane said the Bill was not only inadequate, but it also discriminated against a large number of people while it "pretended to cater for them".

"The IFP cannot be associated with this blatant flouting of constitutional human rights, accompanied by covert dishonesty. We've had enough of that sort of thing under the NP. We were optimistic enough to think we might get something better from the ANC majority government, but really, we should have known from past experience that in the end, the ANC lets Af-



and NP spokesman on land affairs André Fourie over the Restitution of Land Rights Bill.

PAC president Clarence Makwetu could have been the fourth "combatant" - had he not backed down after being assured by Hanekom that his fears about certain clauses of the Bill would be addressed.

Makwetu said the Bill bordered on "robbery rather than restitution of the land to its rightful owners".

With the backing of the ANC bench, Hanekom set the tone for the debate - evoking the ire of Ngubane and Fourie in the process.

Stung by Hanekom's sharp criticism of the previous government for its dubious handling of the land question, an exasperated Fourie threw his hands in the air and sporadically howled and jeered at Hanekom. He clearly did not take kindly to a slight directed at his former government - maybe because he had been in charge of the land affairs portfolio then.

Fourie occasionally objected loudly as Hanekom slammed "the former regime" and looked around for sympathy.

Jac Rabie and David Chuenyane, who sat next to him, didn't offer much solace with their half-hearted grunts objecting to parts of Hanekom's speech.

Intermittently, the house roared with laughter as the ANC MPs reduced the persistent objections by Ngubane and Fourie to a joke. The objections faded under the laughter and humiliation and a bit of a sense of humour shown by the Deputy Speaker, Dr Bhadra Ranchod.

The Bill was widely embraced by the ANC, and accepted with a grain of salt by the NP, the PAC and the DP.

The Freedom Front and Inkatha rejected it outright.

Fourie told the National Assembly that Hanekom had "bulldozed" the Bill through the Select Committee on Land Affairs.

"Without clearing it (the Bill) with the committee, the Minister arrived to address the committee. I do not argue with that. He was more

than welcome. However, instead of just making his contribution and then leaving it to the committee to consider the Bill impartially, he remained part of the deliberations and virtually bulldozed the Bill through. I don't believe that this is the way to handle legislation."

Retorted Hanekom: "I would like to remind Mr Fourie that I would not like to destroy the sense of occasion by talking too much about him because I mentioned previously that he is a master of gutter

ied by covert dishonesty. We've had enough of that sort of thing under the NP. We were optimistic enough to think we might get something better from the ANC majority government, but really, we should have known from past experience that in the end, the ANC lets African people down," she said to loud jeers by her



**BAD OLD DAYS ... Bakoena tribesmen prepare for relocation.**

politics, distortion and dishonesty."

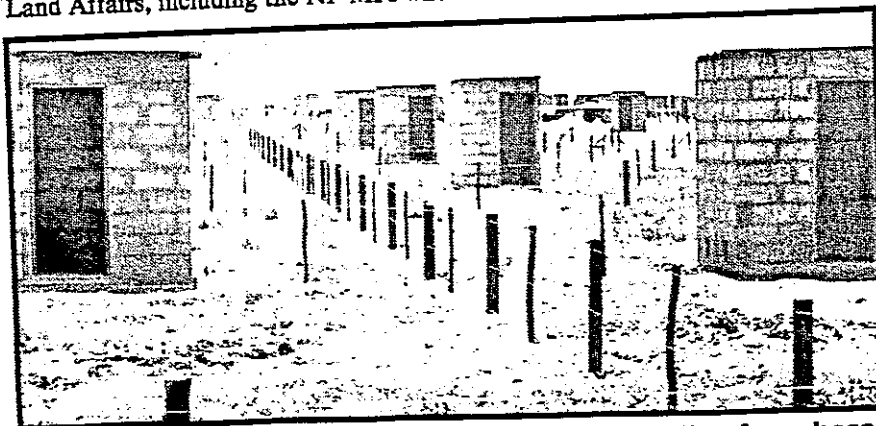
Fourie and his NP colleague, Jacob Maree, objected strongly to these remarks and after being warned by the Deputy Speaker, Dr Bhadra Ranchod, Hanekom withdrew them.

But Hanekom said he also felt insulted by Fourie's earlier remark in his speech that he (Hanekom) had "bulldozed" the Bill through parliament. It was also an insult to members of the Select Committee on Land Affairs, including the NP MPs who were serv-

ivals.

The last straw for her came when she and the Freedom Front's J Chiole opposed the Bill and the matter was put to the vote.

The results three minutes later were a humiliating defeat for the duo.



**TOILET TOWN ... People were moved to the middle of nowhere.**

ing in the committee, for Fourie to insinuate that he (Hanekom) had manipulated them to "bulldoze the Bill against their will", Hanekom said.

Ngubane entered the fray towards the end of the debate on the Bill. She braved loud howls from the ANC bench, who subjected her to zealous laughter when she interrupted Hanekom's speech to ask if he had forgotten that at the meetings of the Select Committee on land Affairs she had pointed out repeatedly that the second paragraph of the preamble of the

They had lost by 212 to 27 votes.

Hanekom also prompted a response from Inkatha MP Walter Felgate when he said the Bill had been approved by the Cabinet with not a single voice of opposition from three Inkatha ministers.

# 'Lost' region plans agribusiness revolution

KWAZULU/NATAL was pushing for the development of 69 farms in its "lost" region at Vulamehlo and Umzinto between Ixopo and Richmond, Farmer Foundation executive director Clive Nicholson said yesterday.

The area, consisting of 14 districts with a population of 400 000, is to be "revolutionised" by the Land Affairs Department at a cost of R35m over the next three years. (3) Gen

The success of the pilot programme, aimed at turning 200ha of high potential farmland into small commercial farms, also depended on the support of local commercial farmers who would provide expertise and equipment, Nicholson said.

Project co-ordinators — the Farmer Foundation was one of four short-

LOUISE COOK

listed — were expected to be appointed by the department within a week.

Nicholson said an example of what was needed to boost the area was a halt to the large quantities of Free State maize going to Natal broiler farms as chicken feed and the transport of broilers all the way back.

"This interferes with job creation in rural areas and forces urbanisation to take place on a large scale.

"The Farmer Foundation is applying a structured approach to the reconstruction and development programme in rural areas of Kwazulu/Natal. The imbalances of the past that are being addressed through this programme will not only

reduce capital flight and improve the province's GDP, but will also revolutionise the agribusiness and create a series of rural livelihoods."

Nicholson said the pilot programme involved a number of aspects including the establishment of the Kwazulu/Natal Agriculture Forum and on which the Natal Agricultural Union, the Kwazulu Agricultural Union and the Farmer Foundation was represented.

Other aspects included using "unconventional farming techniques", extension services by experienced farmers, help from the Agricultural Research Council and the CSIR and a move away from subsistence farming to "sustainable" farming systems on small farms of 2ha. (2) Gen

# R19bn water, sanitation plan

CT 16/11/94 (3) (123)

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE government plans to spend up to R19 billion over the next five to seven years to bring adequate drinking water and basic sanitation to all.

The White Paper of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry tabled in Parliament yesterday envisages providing — for the first time — clean drinking water to one-third of the nation's 40 million citizens and sanitation to half of the population.

The document also proposes a new system of tariffs that require payment by all users, with charges escalating along with usage.

Water Affairs Minister Prof Kader Asmal told a press conference the basic aim was to provide about 25 litres of potable water per person per day within five years.

Estimates of what this would cost ranged from between R7bn and R19bn over the five- to seven-year period.

On tariff policy, Prof Asmal said there were widely differing tariffs im-

posed for water supply. "In some of the cases the anomalies border on the immoral because the poorest communities are paying the highest tariffs."

He emphasised that everyone would be required, within the next two years, to pay for their water supply, albeit at differing rates.

Three tariffs are suggested:

- A life-line tariff to cover basic human needs. The quantity will not exceed 25 litres per person per day and the tariff will cover only operating and maintenance costs.

- Normal tariff, not exceeding 250 litres per person per day. The tariff will be set at cost (operation and maintenance plus capital) including the losses incurred through the life-line tariff.

- Marginal tariff, which is for water consumption exceeding 250 litres per person per day, which will be charged at "marginal cost" defined as the present day cost of the latest or next augmentation scheme.

ARG-1611194

## Elephant trade plan dropped

3 General

JOHANNESBURG. — South Africa has withdrawn a proposal to trade elephant meat, hair and skin on world markets which some environmentalists said would have weakened protection for the threatened species.

The plan was opposed by other African nations with large elephant populations and caused a rift among conservation groups at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Some delegates saw it as a threat to hard-won curbs on the international ivory trade.

The plan would have allowed South Africa to sell elephant products on the international market from animals culled from its herd of 7 500 in the Kruger National Park. — Sapa-Reuter.

# Farm plan for George passed

By CHRIS BATEMAN

A R4,3 MILLION farm settlement project where Tembalethu residents near George can apply to use 361 hectares of sub-divided land in a communal enterprise is expected to be functional within 18 months. (3) CT 17/11/94

This was announced yesterday by Western Cape Agriculture Minister Mr Lampie Fick, who described it as the "first real comprehensive farm settlement project" in the Western Cape.

The sub-division of the area and the launch of the project was approved yesterday.

The area was "ideal" for the 26 envisaged small farms, averaging three hectares of viable market-gardening land each.

Mr Fick said the project would include a farming school run by the parastatal Boskop Training Centre. Anyone with basic skills could apply for loans from the soon-to-be-established Western Cape Agricultural Credit Board.

The plots could either be purchased or rented by Tembalethu residents, he said.

# Land restitution bill signed into law

CT 18/11/94

(2)

(3)

THE Land Restitution Bill, the first major piece of legislation aimed at undoing the wrongs of apartheid, was signed into law by President Nelson Mandela yesterday.

The measure will make it possible for individuals and communities dispossessed under racist laws from the 1913 Land Act onwards to reclaim their land, or to receive compensation.

Land Affairs Minister Mr Derek Hanekom called for nominations to the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights, one of two bodies set up by the act.

Mr Mandela said the purpose of the act was not to address the racially-skewed allocation of land in the country, but to bring about "real restitution" — ensuring those who were deprived of land were given back their properties.

This was a very sensitive issue and had led to a great deal of concern, especially among white farmers, who felt they faced the loss of their land.

The act would do "nothing of the sort", he said.

Restitution could be done "without depriving people of their property or their farms. There is no need for the widespread concern in the farming community."

Mr Hanekom said that in the rare cases where expropriation was necessary full compensation would be paid.

The act provides for a chief land claims commissioner, a deputy and as many regional commissioners as the minister feels necessary.

Names should go to: The Selection Panel for the Appointment of Land Claims Commissioners, PO Box 56720, Arcadia, 0007. — Sapa



Women at the pump: The community will be drawn into decision-making around the distribution of water

PHOTO: GUY ADAMS

# Let the poor drink water, says Asmal

Justin Pearce

WJM 18-24/11/94

**F**IFTEEN thousand communities without basic water services, and a bureaucratic labyrinth designed to keep things that way: these are the twin conundrums faced by Water Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal — which he takes on in the White Paper on Water Supply and Sanitation Policy published this week.

The White Paper is founded on the premise that basic water and sanitation services are a human right, and that water is a national resource. This is in marked contrast to previous water planning, which was conducted in an ad hoc way, with little if any regard for the needs of the poor.

The poor are the first concern of the White Paper, which sets out principles designed to ensure all citizens will gain access to "adequate basic services" — a potable water supply of 25 litres of water per person per day within 200m of home, and a ventilated pit latrine.

Together with this approach goes the recognition that the poor know best how to meet their own requirements. Asmal insists that those who will use the services be drawn into making decisions on water supply, particularly women who carry most of the water from communal taps, and the disabled who are the most disad-

vantaged by not having water on tap.

To ensure all people have access to water Asmal envisages profound changes to the 16 water boards, responsible for the provision of water to local authorities. While the paper provides for the retention of the boards in the short term, he has promised their composition will change to become representative of the population served by the board.

In certain areas, water has already been allocated — and if subsistence farmers are to get their share, commercial farmers and industrialists are going to have to learn to make do with less. The South African Agricultural Union has yet to comment on the White Paper, but spokesman Kosie Visser told the *Mail & Guardian* that the SAAU's priority would be to safeguard farmers' irrigation rights.

At a local level, the White Paper provides for statutory water committees, representative bodies which would convey the needs of each community to the regional water board. Such committees will be crucial to the provision of services in rural areas.

Although the White Paper's plan favours the poor, it is blunt about the fact that people must pay their own way. Only in the very poorest areas will the initial provision of basic services receive a state subsidy.

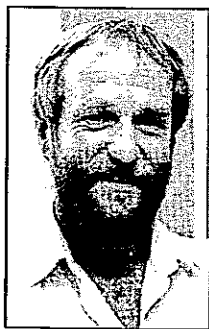
restitution of land rights or compensation for loss of land must be lodged within three years. Hanekom hopes the process will be completed within five years. The State is compiling a register of public land to facilitate the work of the commission and the court.

Until now claims for the restitution of land rights have been dealt with in terms of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act which was passed by parliament as part of former President FW de Klerk's reform package in 1991. However, the Act was deemed by the new government to be inadequate because no provision was made for the payment of compensation and because the procedure did not offer a judicial alternative.

Speaking in the Senate last week, Hanekom said the Bill was restricted to "very specific cases," but needed to be seen in the context of broader measures to address the need for land. "Numerous far-reaching legislative, financial and institutional measures will have to be taken in

order to provide opportunities to those who need, but cannot afford, to acquire land without assistance."

The symbolism of the Bill was marred to an extent by a squabble in the Senate over what some Senators regarded as the undue haste with which it was pushed through. But



Hanekom

Hanekom said the National Assembly select committee on Land Affairs decided not to hear oral evidence on the measure because it would have resulted in a three-month delay in passing the Bill. Both he and his deputy, Tobie Meyer, were concerned about the serious implications of the Bill not being passed this year. However, he argued that it was incorrect to suggest that he was able to bulldoze MPs and Senators into doing what he wanted: the decisions to speed up the passage of the legislation had been taken by the committees. Proposed amendments by a number of organisations, including the SA Agricultural Union and the SA Property Owners' Association, were included in the final draft of the measure.

The IFP refused to support the Bill because, according to Inkatha Senator Narend Singh, Hanekom was unable to give a categorical assurance that legislation would be tabled to address the imbalances of apartheid and that everyone who had been dispossessed would be accommodated in some way or another.

Agriculture Minister and Nat Senator Kraai van Niekerk said he was concerned that a perception had arisen that Hanekom had created expectations among dispossessed people that would have to be met

at any cost, regardless of the long-term effect. "One gets the feeling that the Minister is now scared that the hungry monster that he has created through expectations must be fed before it eats him. Why else is there such a rush to get this legislation through?" (3) Gen

DP Senator Errol Moorcroft said the Bill was the most important piece of legislation dealt with in the current parliamentary session — and perhaps for many years. He also questioned the haste with which Hanekom was rushing it through. ■

LAND RIGHTS  
 Acknowledging wrongs

The Restitution of Land Rights Bill approved by parliament last week was never meant to redress the racial imbalance in land distribution. It affects few people and

is expected to cost little to implement. But it is arguably the most important symbolic measure adopted since the general election in April. (3) Gen

It formally acknowledges the terrible injustices that began with the notorious 1913 Land Act and then systematically stripped millions of blacks of their right to own land. The Bill, which is one element of a broader land reform programme aimed at eventually redistributing land to people who need it, provides a process through which dispossessed communities and individuals can regain their land or compensation.

Earlier this year Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said he was aware of about 95 rural communities which had claims. Also, about 110 000 urban families were forced to move in terms of the Group Areas Act and could have claims for restitution. (3) Gen

Hanekom estimated the cost of restoring land to rural communities at R95m-R190m. The potential cost of urban claims is impossible to quantify.

In terms of the measure, any person or community is entitled to claim restitution of a land right from the State if they were dispossessed in terms of apartheid laws after June 19 1913.

Restitution will not apply in cases of bona fide expropriation in terms of the Expropriation Act if "just and equitable" compensation was paid.

A Commission on the Restitution of Land Rights may investigate the merits of any claim, mediate, settle disputes arising from the claims and present evidence to a Land Claims Court on unsettled claims. The court can settle claims by ordering the State to restore the relevant land right, if it is feasible to do so, either by handing over State land or purchasing it from a private owner and handing it back to the claimant.

However, land rights will not be restored in this way unless it is "just and equitable" to do so taking into account all the relevant factors of dispossession, the hardship caused, the current use of the land, the history of its acquisition, the interests of the current owner and other people affected by the possible restoration, and the interests of the dispossessed.

If restoration of land rights is not feasible, the court can order the State to give the claimant other suitable State-owned land, pay the claimant compensation or give alternative relief. Claimants can appeal to the Constitutional Court or the Appeal Court against decisions of the Land Claims Court.

The new law is in line with the interim constitution which provides for the establishment of the commission. Though the constitution does not provide for a Land Claims Court, it was found necessary so that claims could be dealt with effectively and without the delay associated with normal court procedure. Claims for the



# Water for ALL people

ARG. 19/20/11/94

3

**DAVID BREIER**

Weekend Argus Political Staff

**AFFLUENT** suburbanites with lush gardens and sparkling pools are going to pay through the nose for their water in future.

And, black squatters who struggle for every drop of water will be charged much lower rates for every litre they use.

This is the nub of the government's new water and sanitation policy tabled in parliament this week by Minister of Water Affairs Kader Asmal.

Water officials told Weekend Argus the new policy would abolish one of the great iniquities of apartheid. The rich have paid much less for every litre of water they used in the past and the poor have had to pay much more.

This is because water reticulation in established suburbs was built many years ago. It was subsidised by the authorities and has been paid for. The water it supplies, therefore, is charged at a cheap rate.

But, in new black urban settlements, new reservoirs and pipes have to be provided — and water is more expensive in order to pay for this.

In addition, many areas have no water supply at all — and residents are forced to buy it from tanker suppliers at exorbitant rates.

Twenty litres of water supplied by tanker can cost between 50c and R2 — and buyers have to haul it away themselves in buckets and jerrycans. By contrast, a kilolitre (1 000 litres) piped to plush suburbs costs as little as R1,50 to R3.

This means that the poor can pay roughly 50 times more than the rich for every drop of water they use.

This injustice is one of the reasons many blacks have rebelled and refused to pay for any services at all over the past few years, officials believe.

The White Paper turns this injustice upside down and proposes charging the poorest the lowest tariffs and the most extravagant water users the highest. It pro-

poses three water tariffs.

■ The lowest tariff will be charged to the poorest who use on average no more than 25 litres a person a day. This is regarded as the barest minimum for drinking, cooking and washing. The tariff will cover only operation and maintenance costs. This will be called a "life-line" or "social tariff".

■ The second tariff known as the "normal tariff" is for the average user. The limit will be 250 litres a person per day. This water will be provided at cost and will also help subsidise the lower "social tariff".

■ The highest rate known as the "marginal tariff" will be charged for those who use more than 250 litres a person a day. This will be calculated as the cost of building a new water scheme at today's high prices.

In practice, this will hit the Constantia or Bishopscourt set who run their sprinklers all day and keep their swimming pools well-filled through heatwaves.

Professor Asmal insisted this

week that everyone who used water would have to pay for it — but, the charge per litre was in future going to be higher for those who used huge amounts compared to those who had barely enough to survive.

Many householders who take tapped water for granted have no idea what a struggle it has been for about 12 million blacks to obtain water, say officials. These are the people who do not have access to an adequate supply of drinkable water.

There are many blacks who fill bottles with water at work and take them home at night just as many affluent people might pick up a sixpack of beer on their way home.

In squatter areas, large numbers of shacks are served by one communal tap. Residents have to queue for water and lug it home over long distances.

The White Paper stipulates that the maximum distance over which water should be carried in such cases should be 200 m.

The goal is for as many houses as possible to have their own water meters so people pay for what they use. But, where communities share a tap, they should work out among themselves how to share the costs.

Government planners believe their finance policies could raise up to R19 billion over the next five to seven years to bring adequate water and sanitation to all. This will mean spending an additional one percent of the national budget over this period, they say.

In addition to water supply, the white paper's goal for proper sanitation for poorer areas depends on the new buzzword in government circles: the VIP — which stands not for very important person but "Ventilated Improved Pit toilet".

The white paper recommends the bucket system be abolished, but concedes proper waterborne sewage in most cases is not achievable.

"Adequate basic provision is therefore defined as one well-constructed VIP toilet per household," states the policy document.

■ The rich will be squeezed dry for each litre of water they use and the poor will pay less for every litre in a new government policy aimed at financing clean water supply for millions who don't have it.

# Hated Land Act axed

By **THEMBA KHUMALO**  
Political Correspondent

IN FIVE minutes and with a stroke of a pen, President Mandela did away with one of South Africa's most obnoxious apartheid laws: the Land Act of 1913.

Dressed casually in an open-neck shirt, he signed in a new law entitled the Restitution of Land Rights Act in Cape Town on Thursday.

With Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom beside him at Tuynhuis, President Mandela

*CIP News 20/11/94*  
afterwards put down his pen and said: "This has been a sensitive matter to all groups involved, the farmers and the black people who were forcibly removed from their ancestral land. *3 Gen*

"Thirteen percent of the population occupied 87 percent of the land while blacks, who were the vast majority of the population, were systematically deprived of their birthright to land."

The introduction of the Restitution of Land Rights Act is a culmination of 81 years of struggle by different political parties who re-

sorted to all forms of resistance to regain the land rights of blacks.

Mandela warned however that although the new law on the land question was "real restitution to ensure that all those who were deprived of their right to land got it back, it won't be easy to instruct the present owners to hand it over".

Hanekom said the new law would bring justice to many people and affected people might either settle their land disputes through the Land Commission or the Land and Claims Court, which were to be established as soon as possible.

## Rural call for engineering aid

A PROPOSAL to involve engineers in supplying water to rural areas was adopted at the Western Cape Rural Women's initiative conference at the weekend. ③

The proposal, drafted by the Phambile Women's Organisation (PWO), will be sent to Minister of Water Affairs Professor Kader Asmal.

Ms Evelyn Rabaji, executive director of the PWO, said: "It is time for women who have skills to transfer them to rural areas, to empower the rural women, to forget individual projects and to begin to enhance the projects of the RDP."

CT 21/11/94

# Crookes Bros reaps a reward of 107%

*BiDay 24/11/94*

BEATRIX PAYNE

CROP development projects and improved rainfall saw agricultural group Crookes Brothers post a 107% leap in attributable earnings to R4,9m for the six months to end-September, the group said yesterday.

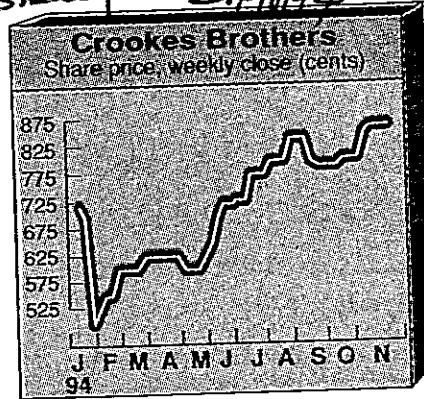
"We expected our long-term investments to pay off," MD Dudley Crookes said, but rainfall levels were still unsatisfactory in the Eastern Transvaal.

Earnings a share rose 107% to 41,2c (19,9c) and a dividend of 10c (7,5c) was declared. Turnover for the six months rose 32% to R30,2m and operating profit surged 114% to R5m. Income from investments increased to R556 000 (R490 000) and the group paid out R26 000 in interest after receiving R109 000 last year.

This left pre-tax income 88% higher at R5,6m. The tax bill rose to R645 000 (R579 000) while income after tax rose 107% to R4,9m.

Interest-bearing debt increased to R4,3m (R1m) on the back of development projects in the eastern Transvaal. But these had been halted until rainfall in the region returned to normal, Crookes said.

The group had been able to develop only 50% of its targeted sugar crop in the region owing to the drought and would continue to experience water shortages until the Driekoppies dam was completed in 1997 or 1998, Crookes said.



Cash generated from operations rose to R6,8m (R4,2m). Gearing was virtually zero but the group had no specific acquisition plans. No major capital expenditure commitments had been entered into, he said.

Crookes said all the group's major crops had made a positive contribution to operating profit. He said sugar cane remained the major profit producer and barley farms continued to show "satisfactory" returns. Deciduous citrus fruit and banana crops were adding significantly to improved profitability. *(3) Gen*

The results were off a low base, but Crookes was confident the group would maintain earnings at their current level at year-end.

# Farming group Crookes Brothers lifts earnings 107%

Better rainfall in some areas last season helped agricultural group Crookes Brothers lift

earnings 107 percent to R4,944 million for the six months to September. An interim dividend of

Star 24/11/94  
10c is being paid — up 33 percent on last year. MD Dudley Crookes says all major crops

made a positive contribution to operating income — up 114 percent to R5,059 million. — Sapa.

(3) Gen

... SAA's public relation's department held a function for Carlos O'Brians restaurant in Cape Town recently. Seen at the party were PRO's, Morakane Ngubeni (Johannesburg) and Jani van Vuuren (Cape Town).  
Schwalbach (Durban).

# SA farmers pledged R50m in loans

JOHANNESBURG. — South African small-scale farmers were the latest beneficiaries of foreign financial assistance, following an agreement signed by South Africa and the Republic of China (Taiwan) yesterday.

The agreement concluded an Economic and Technical Cooperation Conference, which takes place alternately in South Africa and Taiwan every 18 months.

In terms of agreements reached, South African small-scale farmers would reap the benefits of a R50m concessional loan from a leading Taiwanese bank.

The loan, granted to the Development Bank of Southern Africa, would be aimed at encouraging entrepreneurial skills in the agricultural sector and would include training and technical support.

Other agreements reached focused on the status of import restrictions on certain products once Taiwan becomes a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Working groups discussed trade and investment opportunities linked to the implementation of the reconstruction and development programme, including prospective joint ventures in various fields.

The two governments agreed on a two stage approach concerning a proposed petro-chemical joint venture. Further discussion centred around existing cooperation with regard to companies such as Taipower and Eskom and Taiwan's possible involvement in water drilling in South Africa.

3  
ET 30/11/94

from Saturday ... Views at ...

# SA Angola role up for debate

3

AFR 30/11/94

## Political Staff

SOUTH Africa could today signal the end of its policy of military non-involvement in the affairs of other states when the cabinet considers whether to send troops to Angola to assist in the peace-keeping effort.

But those in favour of full participation in Unavem 3 (United Nations Angolan Verification Mission) are believed to be in a minority and will have a hard time persuading colleagues that such a move is in South Africa's interests.

The National Party and Inkatha appear to be set against the deployment of National Defence Force members while some within ANC ranks feel it would be sufficient to contribute medical supplies, technology and logistical advice.

But the fact that Zimbabwe and Zambia have jumped in early with offers of soldiers may put greater moral pressure on South Africa to play a role.

The parliamentary joint standing committee on defence also expects to be consulted by President Nelson Mandela and Defence Minister Joe Modise before a final decision.

Mr Mandela has not yet called the committee together but when he does he can expect some tough questions, according to chairman Tony Yengeni.

"Whatever decision is taken (by the cabinet) we will insist that parliament and the committee be brought on board," Mr Yengeni said.

Although the committee would support efforts to bring about stability in the sub-continent, his personal view was that South Africa should play a political role and exhaust diplomatic forms of intervention first.

"I don't think sending combat troops is important. We should be there to promote peace rather than get involved," he said.

Security analysts said South Africa would probably want very clear guidelines and a firm mandate from the United Nations before leaping into the fray.

## Community returns home

THE first 200 members of the Doornkop community of about 20 000 — removed under apartheid laws 20 years ago — are expected to start returning to their farm near Middelburg tomorrow, the Transvaal Rural Action Committee said yesterday. *30/11/90*

Doornkop was declared a “black spot” in 1964, but people continued settling there until the early 1970s.

Forced removals to Bothashoek and other areas in the Northern Transvaal began in 1974. The land remained vacant until 1988 when a police training base was built. *3 Gen 27*

Negotiations to restore the land began in 1992 and the matter was settled in September. — Sapa.



# OFS loan deal for farmers

BLOEMFONTEIN. — A loan agreement for drought-stricken farmers has been announced by the Free State department of agriculture. ③

The agreement with financial institutions was concluded after a conference. The institutions include the department's directorate of financial assistance, the Land and Agricultural Bank, commercial banks and agricultural co-operatives.

It provides for closer co-operation among the institutions and between them and farmers. *ARC 3/12/94*  
Department spokesman Johan Eys-

sen said yesterday farmers with financial problems should contact their co-operative branch manager for advice. These managers would act as co-ordinators for the agreement.

Provincial Minister for Agriculture and Environmental Affairs Cas Human told Thursday's conference that relief schemes for poor people affected by drought had to be improved.

Mr Human said the removal of state subsidies for major farmers, in line with an international trend, was likely to lead to less intensive farming and so reduce damage to the environment.

# Drought revisits farmers

AGRICULTURAL'S contribution to the gross domestic product this year is likely to be below average as drought continues to ravage crops, writes DON ROBERTSON. **SITING**

Last year the sector contributed R15-billion to the GDP compared with R12,8-billion in the previous year. But Rudi Wilsnack, senior manager of Standard Bank's agricultural division, says that with only scattered rains in many summer rainfall areas, an average or below average contribution can be expected this year. **1112194**

Maize farmers in some areas are awaiting good summer rains before planting. By November 30, only 1,5-million hectares had been planted compared with 2,5-million at the same time last year. During last year's bumper season, 3,9-million hectares was planted, producing 12,1-million tons of mealies. However, some farmers have another four weeks in which to plant. **304**

The citrus growing area in the north of the country, bounded by Tzaneen, Letsi-tele and Giyani, is experiencing its fourth year of drought. **CPSS**

Edward Vorster, chairman of the Letaba Agricultural Union, says more than 530 000 citrus trees have died, while mango, avocado and vegetable crops have also been severely affected. Most sugar mills in Natal have closed early because of the poor crop although at 1,66-million tons, it is better than last season's 1,17-million tons. This, however, compares with a more normal crop of 2,1-million tons. **CPSS**

Local consumption is about 1,3-million tons, leaving about 346 000 tons available for export. This should be sufficient to meet international contractual commitments, especially in the premium US market, says Brian Sugden, director of agricultural economics at the SA Cane Growers' Association.

Last season, however, the industry had to import 107 000 tons worth about R100-million to meet domestic needs. The wheat crop this season is expected to be about 1,7-million tons compared with local consumption of about 2,2-million tons. This will require imports of about 700 000 tons at a time when the international price is soaring.

# Song and dance at return to the scarred land

Star 3/12/94

**AFTER 20 years of forced absence and the conversion of their rightful land to a target range for the security forces, the battle to reconstruct and build up a meaningful community life is carried along by the simple joy of being back at Doornkop. JO-ANNE COLLINGE met the people and felt their happiness.**

3 Gen

WHEN the Doornkop community began to reoccupy their ancestral land outside Middelburg this week, lorries piled with household goods trundled past a noticeboard carrying a police warning that the land might conceal unexploded shells and mines.

Nobody paid the slightest heed to the warning, as the returning families sang and danced in triumph at regaining their land from the Government a full 20 years after being forcibly removed.

## Concern

Police officers at the scene were evidently confident that there was no danger from hidden ammunition.

Their concern was to discuss with residents the future of a police structure on the land — a "lapa" built for recreation and training purposes.

Department of Land Affairs spokesman Nico van Rensburg said they were negotiating possible compensation for the "lapa" with the police. The building, he reckoned, could serve the Doornkop community in future as a clinic or school.

The property to which the first 45 families returned this week was a far cry from the fabled Doornkop which parents described to their children as they made a new existence in the resettlement areas of Monsterius, Praktiseer and Bothashoek.

There is simply no sign of the hundreds of fruit trees. The remains of the old stone homesteads are invisible in the long grass. Only the walls of the old school building still stand.

And they are clear evidence of the use to which Doornkop once had been put.

The walls of the school are pitted with holes. The floors are littered with shooting targets bearing human outlines. And scattered outside the buildings are empty teargas canisters, shotgun and other shells and the remains of various types of grenades.

Doornkop served as a shooting range for the security forces. In the 1990s the police built their "lapa" there, the stern "keep out" board went up and locals reported at one stage that Koevoet, or men who spoke no South African language, were being trained there.

On Thursday, as the children pecked curiously through the traces of this ac-



**LEFTOVERS:** Evidence of the previous use of Doornkop.

PHOTOGRAPH: TJ LEMON

tivity, their parents pledged to return the land to productive use. "Let's develop this land and show them (the authorities) we can use it," urged Peter Ntshoe of the Transvaal Land Restoration Committee.

The Government has budgeted both for temporary services at Doornkop and for permanent development, says Van Rensburg. Before the end of the first day, the portable toilets were in place and a tanker had made its first daily delivery of water.

## Uphill battle

Kalushi Kalushi of the Doornkop Homecoming Committee says that, while Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom agrees that the people have got back what was justly theirs, it was an uphill battle all the way.

People simply wanted to return and the initial living conditions were a secondary concern. "We are willing to improvise," he said.

Doornkop was regarded as an "easy" land claim because the Government had not resold the land to a third party. "If Doornkop was easy, God save us from the difficult cases!"

# Govt inundated with claims for farm land

THOUSANDS of land claims were being stalled until the formation of the new commission for the restitution of land rights was finalised, Land Affairs Department chief director Eli Enslin said yesterday.

He said claims for agricultural land were streaming into the department's offices but the public had been asked to hold back further claims "for the time being".

Once it was constituted early next year, the commission would have to sort out more than 2 500 claims.

Land Affairs spokesman Helmut Schlenter said government was concentrating on the establishment of the commission because the Land

LOUISE COOK

Claims Court would be used only as a last resort. The commission's task would be to settle as many disputes as possible. 6/12/94

Friday was the closing date for nominations for commissioners and a selection panel would make recommendations to Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom this month. Appointments to the Land Claims Court would be stricter than those of the Constitutional Court, Schlenter said.

The commission should begin work early next year. (3) Gen

Land and Agricultural Policy Centre manager Theresa Plewman said

SA was the only country to have adopted a "highly sophisticated land reform monitoring system".

The system, controlled by the Land Affairs Department, would measure and record all land transfers, the sequence of events and duration of the legal process, land usage and holding patterns as well as invasions. Aspects which the department was unable to monitor would be contracted to private consultants, Plewman said.

In terms of the Restitution of Land Rights Bill, passed in Parliament last month, victims of forced removals from land would have the right to lodge a claim with the commission on the restitution of land rights.

RURAL LAND TAX  
*Lu 9/12/94*  
**Gesture of equity**

Having sparked a furious row in farming circles earlier this year over a suggestion that rural land be taxed, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom seems to have stepped back to allow the issue to cool.

A committee to investigate levying a tax on farm land was to have reported back to Hanekom by the end of the year, but has still not been appointed. It is understood that other priorities were identified at a recent meeting between Hanekom and Finance Minister Chris Liebenberg and that the committee will now only be appointed sometime next year. *(3) Gen*

Regardless of what the committee says, the political aspect of farm land tax will have to be decided by Cabinet. There is a strong view among farmers that the proposal is more of a punishment for their perceived benefits from apartheid than a means of generating additional revenue.

It has been condemned by the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) and affiliates in the Transvaal, Free State, Northern Cape and Eastern Cape and by the predominantly black National African Farmers' Union (Nafu).

SAAU president Boet Fourie says a land tax could cost farmers as much as a third

*Lu 9/12/94*  
of their profits and ruin many of them. Transvaal chairman Dries Bruwer called for Hanekom to be sacked for the suggestion. Eastern Cape president Pieter Erasmus says further pressure on the commercial farming sector would "kill the goose that lays the golden egg."

Nafu president Matome Maponya says unused land should be taxed, but not that worked by farmers who are already financially over-burdened.

Pretoria University agricultural economics specialist Herman van Schalkwyk says land taxes in general tend to generate very little revenue. In a recent article in *Farmers' Weekly*, he says studies in 49 countries have shown that taxes on building and land contribute an average of only 1,24% of total tax revenue. "These figures suggest that in most instances a land tax effectively results in little more than a gesture of equity."

He says it was estimated in 1992 that SA's agricultural land was worth R27bn. A tax of 1% would yield R240m, 2% would yield R540m and 4% would yield just over R1bn, which, he says, is about the same amount raised by tax on non-gold mining companies.

Nevertheless, there is reasonable consensus that a land tax could contribute significantly to revenue at provincial level. A progressive rate of tax could also have the effect of breaking up large farm holdings, which would make more land available on the market.

But Van Schalkwyk warns that a land tax of over 2% would be tantamount to nationalising the land. He also points to two reasons why a land tax has not been successful anywhere in sub-Saharan Africa: traditional land tenure complicates the identification of a tax base and potential taxpayer; and the lack of formally registered land rights. However, these problems are not as acute in SA, because most land is privately owned in terms of statutory and common law. *(3) Gen*

Hanekom says there needs to be a wide-ranging debate on his proposal, but is worried that its merits may be swamped by emotion. "We should enter into this debate in an open-ended fashion, willing to listen to good, coherent arguments. It does not help to get emotional about it. It is a reality which is applied in certain countries in the world.

"In so far as the debate leads us to conclude that it is a valuable instrument for our purposes, we should adopt it. If the conclusion of the debate is that it will have negative effects on food production and on the plight of the farmers, then we should reconsider it and not adopt it."

Farmers are at this moment rallying their forces and Hanekom is no doubt thinking of new ways to win them over. He will need to apply his mind very carefully. The government cannot afford to botch any aspect of its policy on an issue as sensitive as land. ■

# JOBS

# Farm equity project takes root

A QUIET revolution launched on a Grabouw apple farm stands to transform farming in South Africa.

Observers believe the pilot scheme has the potential to give workers more access to productive land than all other land reform programmes.

The case of apple farmer Henry Hall and the Whitehall Workers' Committee, who set up a trust to secure farmworkers a 30% stake in the R30-million farm (reported in Business Times earlier this year), led to several hundred telephone calls to the Development Bank of SA, part financiers of the scheme.

These inquiries have resulted in 80 written applications from farmers keen to start their own equity schemes.

The Grabouw plot is simple in concept although a complex agreement has been struck between Mr Hall and his farmworkers. The agreement seeks to anticipate all potential prob-

A scheme which turns farmworkers into shareholders has led to a flood of inquiries from farmers wanting to give equity stakes to their workers, writes KEVIN DAVE.

lems. Mr Hall bought out his farmhouse, leaving a R30-million, 348ha farm. The Whitehall Workers' Committee set up a trust which secured 30% of the farm for R10-million.

Ownership of the trust will be transferred to the 166 farmworkers over a 12 years, but the new co-owners are keen to shorten this period.

"We expect to own the trust in eight to 10 years," says Johannes Muller, chairman of the trust.

The farmworkers used their Christmas bonus for a deposit to secure the trust, and will now use their share of farming profits to pay off remaining loans.

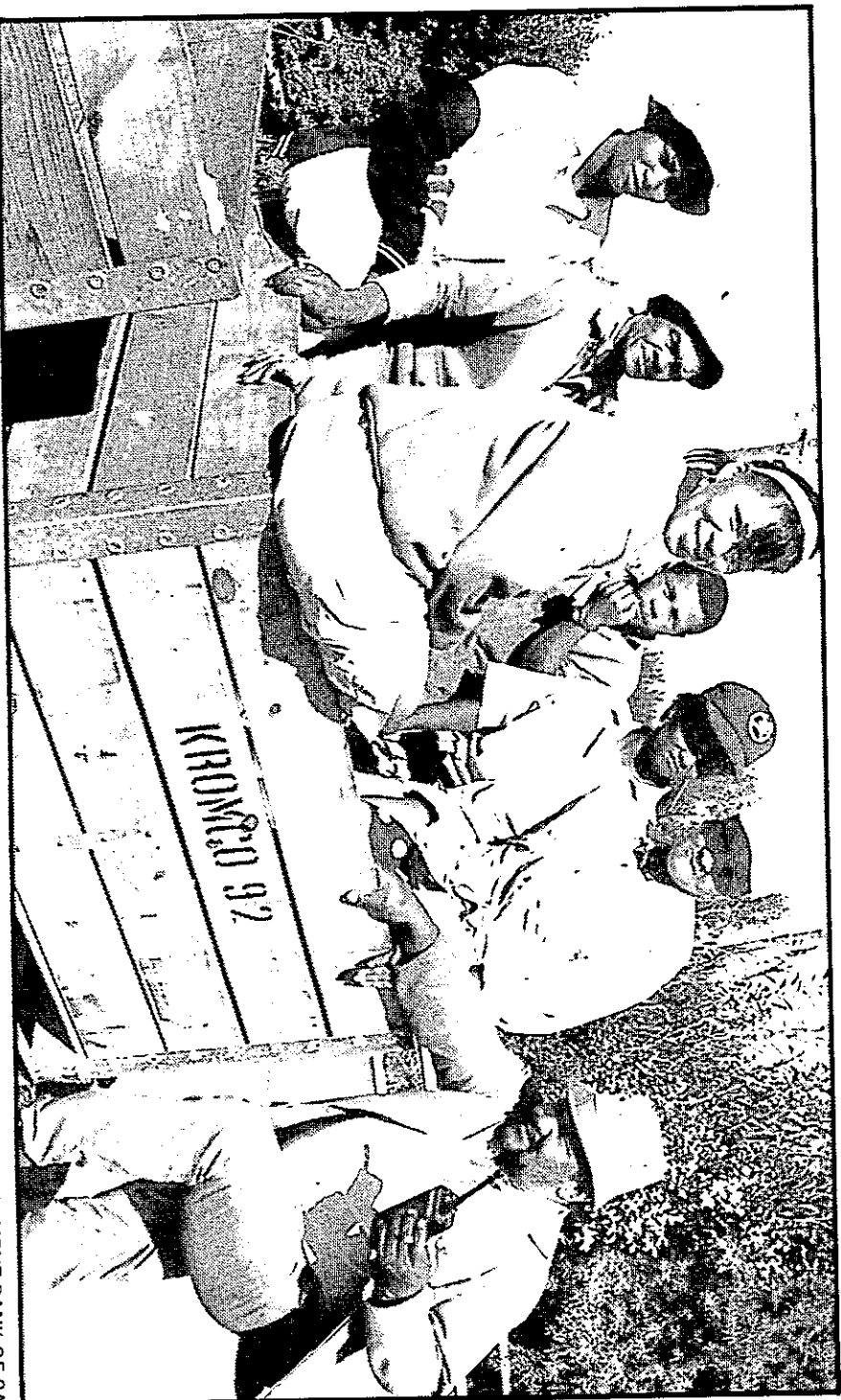
The R10-million loan finance for the trust was raised from the Independent Development Trust

(R2.3-million), DBSA (R3.6-million) and Standard Bank (R4.8-million).

The capital portion of the IDT loan will be repaid interest-free, the DBSA loan is at a concessionary 10% and the Standard Bank loan at the prime rate. This gives an effective interest rate of 11.2%, helping to make the 30% stake affordable.

Phillip Nel of the DBSA says the farmworkers have now turned their attention to improving profitability so that they can own the trust as soon as possible. One of every three bags of apples picked belongs to the workers.

"The attitudes of workers has changed," says Mr Muller. "They're working for themselves. You can already see an improvement in the quality of the product." The workers also come



ALL ON BOARD... members of the Whitehall Workers' Committee tend to their investment

up with ideas to improve productivity and pressure the temporary workers to work harder.

Temporary workers are benefiting too — from higher wages and bonuses linked to improved productivity. The farm is virtually fully developed. It is extensively planted with apples.

A consideration was to remove a "nice to have" vineyard which does not make a major contribution to profits.

But Mr Muller says this idea is no longer in favour

and the wine from the vineyard is likely to continue making its way to Woolworths shelves via winemaker Neil Ellis.

The farmworkers can use the trust as security for other investments. Options include building retirement centres and/or buying another farm. First choice for Mr Muller, though, is to find ways to invest in the education of trust members' children.

DBSA's Craig McKenzie says the equity scheme has the potential to make more

productive farming land available than all other land reform.

The strength of this model is that the beneficiaries get a stake in a productive unit, rather than underdeveloped land which may be unsuitable for agricultural use.

Mr Nel says farm values are artificially high in relation to their productive value. This problem is less severe as reform in the agricultural sector has low-

ered market values. But Mr Nel says the gap

between market value and productivity must be bridged if farmworkers are to use farming profits in securing a stake in the farm over a reasonable period.

The government's R12 500 housing subsidy to urban dwellers is expected to be extended to rural dwellers, who are also likely to receive R12 500. This money could be used to leverage equity schemes such as Grabouw's.

The DBSA has participated in the Agricultural Credit Board's Kosie van Zyl says the board is prepared to make loans at 8% to feasible propositions. "We just need applications."

agricultural financing is not a key part of its mandate.

The Land Bank says it is willing to finance such schemes at a 15% interest rate subject to the bank's normal criteria. It says the scheme should not just be a case of a farmer with excessive debt bailing himself out by disposing shares to the farm workers.

The Agricultural Credit Board's Kosie van Zyl says the board is prepared to make loans at 8% to feasible propositions. "We just need applications."



# Ban on transfer of perlemoen diving rights

ARC

15/2/94

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**JOHN YELD,**  
Environment Reporter

AN immediate ban has been placed on the transfer of lucrative perlemoen diving rights, and Environmental Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers is to meet Hawston fishing community representatives today to discuss their grievances about the perlemoen industry.

In another development in the perlemoen poaching saga, which has increased sharply in recent weeks, the police internal stability unit is to be deployed in the Hawston area to help marine inspectors in their battle against poachers.

Also, police said they would not hesitate to call in Interpol to help crack international perlemoen smuggling syndicates apparently operating between South Africa and the Far East.

Police spokesman Raymond Dowd said criminal activities related to the poaching of perlemoen at Hermanus, Hawston and Kleinmond were unacceptable

and police intended taking "firm action".

Since January 10, marine inspectors at Hermanus have seized 14 530 perlemoen weighing 2,6 tons and valued at R156 581.

At least 42 people have been charged this year for the illegal possession of large quantities of perlemoen taken from the Hermanus area, and a further 10 are under investigation by the Attorney General.

The police were legally bound to help marine inspectors "to put a stop to the rape of our marine resources", Colonel Dowd said.

"It's obvious that the perpetrators do not have the support of the community as they are restricted to about 70 persons.

"They have no respect for law and order and disregard all laws and regulations, merely looking for confrontation with the police."

In an incident involving alleged perlemoen poachers in the marine reserve at Betty's Bay on Tuesday night, a man

was shot by police and he and two companions arrested when they approached a house where a police surveillance team from Kleinmond was operating.

"A group of people who were busy removing perlemoen from the sea approached the house and tried to gain entry by force," Colonel Dowd said.

"Threats were made that the people inside would be killed. The police were forced to fire warning shots, whereafter the alleged poachers ran away.

"However, one of these men pointed a firearm through a window at police, and he was shot by police."

Police seized two bags of perlemoen and a pistol, Colonel Dowd said.

The moratorium on the transfer of perlemoen diving rights was agreed during a meeting yesterday between the divers, Hawston community leaders and Sea Fisheries chief director Louis Botha.

The divers will also apply to the interim quota board — appointed recently by Dr De Villiers and headed by retired Supreme Court judge Mr Justice Harold Levy — for a share of the total allowable catch (TAC) of perlemoen, set at 605 tons for the 1994/95 season.

The TAC is shared among five quota holders and caught on their behalf by 55 registered divers.

Dr Botha agreed to set up a committee which would attempt to resolve differences between the unregistered divers, the five quota-holding companies and the registered divers — most of whom live in Hawston — who supply them with perlemoen.

Dr Botha said the main grievance of the angry divers was that they did not have legal access to the perlemoen industry, and that existing catching rights were being sold "to rich white guys outside our community".

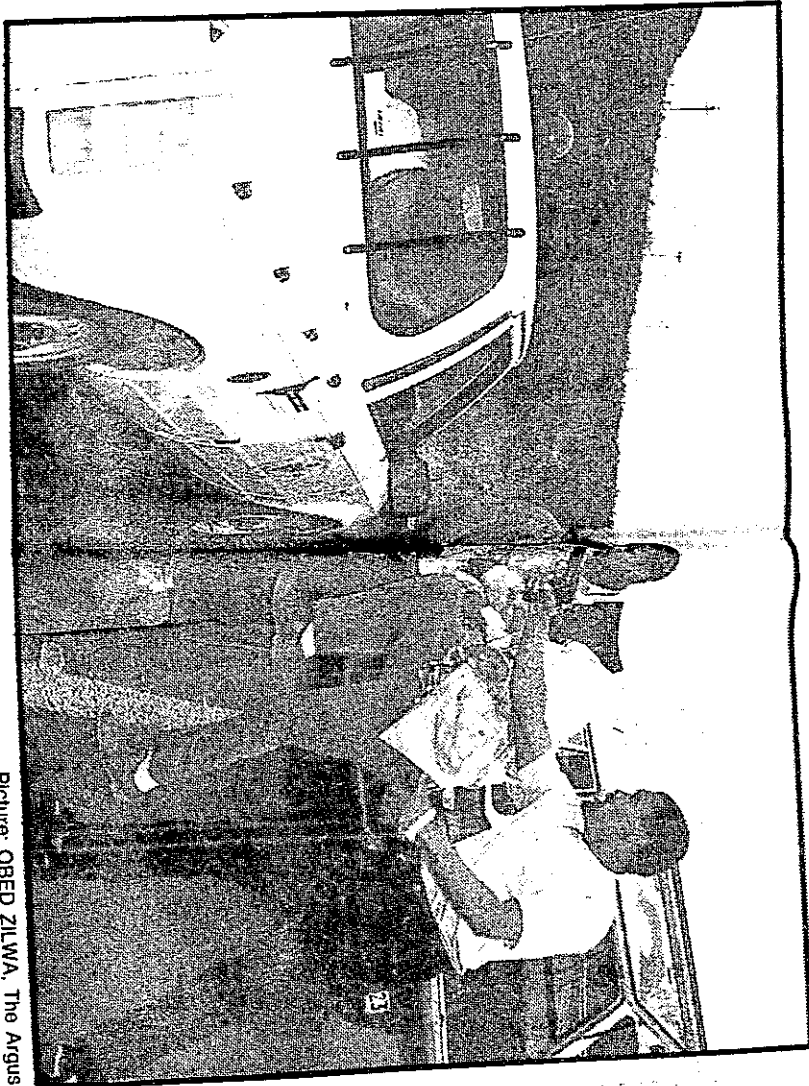
● See page 16

It's war in the perlemoen industry as mutinous poachers fight

# Battle for the pearl of the sea

ARK6 15/12/94  
for the right to compete

JOHN YELD, Environment Reporter



FLASHBACK: Protesting perlemoen poachers rioted in Hermannus last Friday. A traffic officer who fired at the crowd found himself begging for his life when a protester grabbed his gun from him and threatened to shoot him.

**T**HE decade-long "closed shop" arrangement in the highly lucrative perlemoen industry, and a good measure of human greed, are the main causes of the chaos and violence which has spilled out into the open in recent months.

The problems are centred on the little fishing village of Hawston, near the mouth of the Bot River estuary about 10 km from Hermannus, where angry divers — self-confessed perlemoen poachers — fought running battles with police during the past fortnight.

This week, there were unfounded reports that the illegal stripping of perlemoen had spread from the Hawston-Vermont area — claimed by some sources to be virtually denuded because of heavy poaching — to the marine reserve at Betty's Bay.

Violence flared again on Tuesday night when poachers and police exchanged shots at the reserve. One of the poachers was wounded and three arrested.

Police also confiscated a firearm and two bags of shelled perlemoen. But the poachers say they have been operating illegally for years because of the unfair quota system in the industry without damaging stocks, and they question why it has become a highly publicised issue only now.

In an agreement brokered during the term of office of the late John Wiley when he was Minister of Environment Affairs, all perlemoen catches — set each year as a maximum Total Allowable Catch (TAC) on scientific advice from Sea Fisheries — are divided among five quota holders.

This year, the TAC was set at 605 tons, with a reserve of another five tons, and was divided among the quota holders as follows:

- Abalone Processors, registered address Sea Point — 35,9 tons.
  - Blue Star Holdings, Sea Point — 60,7 tons.
  - Sea Plant Products, Hermannus — 193,3 tons.
  - Tuna Marine, Hermannus — 171,7 tons; and
  - Walker Bay Cannery, Cape Town — 143,3 tons.
- That TAC is caught by 55 registered divers, who supply the five main quota holders.

tion — they think the people will take it (their catching rights) away from them.

"It is a money-making business and the people want access, they don't want hand-outs. But at the moment a lot of it is going to people outside.

"These people (the Hawston 'poachers') love the sea and they want to look after it — they just want a legal way to come into this resource."

Dr Botha said he had been reassured repeatedly by the Hawston community that they had no intention of exceeding the TAC and that the overall state of the perlemoen resource was healthy.

"There may be local denudations, that's for sure, at places like Hermannus and Pearly Beach, but generally the resource is stable," Dr Botha said.

"I wouldn't say these so-called poachers are irresponsible — they just want to be part of the system. Their problem isn't exceeding the TAC — it's the problem of getting to the TAC."

The perlemoen industry had been effectively closed since about 1984 when the entire quota system had been restructured, Dr Botha said.

"It's an historical situation that has been frozen since that time. The main problem is now access rights within the TAC, and these will have to be dealt with by a legitimate new Quota Board.

"We as a department are trying to distance ourselves as far as possible from this Quota Board.

"The impression (that we issue quotas) is not correct — the board is an independent statutory body.

"There are great expectations in this new South Africa and people have the impression that they're all going to be helped.

"But from the department's side this all has to be handled on a strictly scientific basis."

Because of the huge amount of money to be made from perlemoen in the Far East — and given human nature — poaching is unlikely to stop, even if quotas are distributed more equitably in future.

A marine inspector said there was no doubt that foreign interests — probably Taiwanese businessmen — were buying illegal hauls of perlemoen, and he dismissed claims that present illegal catches were being used directly to feed hungry

The divers' individual catches range from 61,9 tons to 21,507 tons, and these rights may be sold on the open market.

According to Hawston fishermen, these catch quotas have been traded recently at R83/kg — making them highly valuable.

At that price, the catch quota for the entire industry is worth R50,2 million, with the smallest catch quota worth R507 000 and the largest R1,78 million.

The quotas were awarded by the old Quota Board, whose term of office has now expired.

An interim quota board, headed by Mr Justice Harold Levy, has been appointed by Environmental Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers and will hear evidence for the first time on December 21.

Ironically, most of the 55 registered perlemoen divers and their assistants live in Hawston itself, and there are apparently serious tensions between some of these men and the "poachers" who also want a share.

Of the 55 divers, 32 have Hawston addresses, as are 16 of the 19 registered assistant divers.

Of the remainder, most are from the same area: six from Hermannus, three from Kleinmond, two from Sandaai (between Onrus and Hermannus) and one each from Onrus and Stanford.

Hawston community leader Philipus May, who led the delegation of poachers which met Sea Fisheries chief director Louis Botha to discuss the issue on Wednesday, confirmed the tensions.

"The old divers got their permits for nothing, but about 10 of them have bought theirs, so they are very much against the people (poachers) getting allocations," Mr May said.

"They don't understand the situation of the local 'pearl of the sea' managed sustainably far into the future, it is certain that the inspectorate will have to be given substantial new muscle — new Quota Board or not.

"Our guys are also getting a bit skrikkerig (nervous) — you saw that picture of what happened to the traffic cop at Hermannus. The inspectors have been having a hard time of late."

"We're supposed to be working a 40-hour week, but a lot of the work is overtime at weekends when you have just one person trying to cope with the huge number of fishermen. Our guys are also getting a bit skrikkerig (nervous) — you saw that picture of what happened to the traffic cop at Hermannus. The inspectors have been having a hard time of late."

"The inspectorate did not have enough personnel to deal with the problem and were over-worked and demotivated, the inspector said. Also, their low pay could result in bribery."

"We're supposed to be working a 40-hour week, but a lot of the work is overtime at weekends when you have just one person trying to cope with the huge number of fishermen. Our guys are also getting a bit skrikkerig (nervous) — you saw that picture of what happened to the traffic cop at Hermannus. The inspectors have been having a hard time of late."



ARG. 15/12/91

# Minister advised to take farms

The Argus  
Correspondent

③

JOHANNESBURG. — Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom has been advised to expropriate about 400 farms in the former territory of Lebowa.

The farms were transferred from the government to tribal leaders shortly before the dissolution of the homelands.

The land deals, which involved about 30 per cent of the area of the former Lebowa, rest on unlawful or irregular acts by the authorities, a technical committee appointed by the minister has concluded.

Furthermore, certain families living on tribal land are likely to suffer discrimination if the deals are allowed to stand, the committee asserts in the report handed to Mr Hanekom this week.

The committee has recommended that the Lebowa Farmers' Title to Land Trust, set up by Chief Minister Nelson Ramodike's government to finance the transfers, should be disbanded.

And, since the trust was financed to the tune of R6 million from the proceeds of drought relief, the money should be recovered for drought relief.

ARG 16/12/94 (3)

# De Villiers calms tensions in perlemoen dispute

## Staff Reporter

REPRESENTATIVES of the Hawston fishing community are positive that the perlemoen dispute between local divers and officials will be sorted out without further conflict.

This follows a meeting of a delegation from Hawston with Environment Minister Dawie de Villiers yesterday.

Discussing illegal perlemoen fishing, Dr De Villiers told fishermen he could not condone

transgression of the law as there was great concern over the damage done to perlemoen resources by illegal poaching.

He said South African marine resources had to be handled in a responsible manner and a programme had been initiated to develop an inclusive fisheries policy which would form the basis of future allocation of resources.

An investigation of community trusts was near comple-

tion. The Quota Board had been reconstituted and would begin its work next week.

Dr De Villiers said he sympathised with problems experienced by the fishing community and was looking into constructive solutions for these problems.

Hawston Community Association chairman Phillipus May said today his delegation had asked that the sale of perlemoen permits held by commer-

cial divers to "rich people from outside Hawston" be halted.

He said Dr De Villiers had agreed with this and had confirmed that divers would be told they had to stop transferring permits to new divers entering the market.

Mr May said if the government gave permits to between 10 and 15 Hawston divers, who were desperate and "really make a living out of the sea", poaching would stop.

# Poachers get protector

DAVID BREIER

Weekend Argus Political Staff

POACHERS, accused of devastating Cape marine resources, now have a new champion supporting their right to legal quotas.

The Western Province Fish Processors and Trawlers Association was launched this week and instantly leapt to the defence of the Hawston perlemoen poachers.

This follows the deployment of the tough Internal Stability Unit police in the Hermanus and Hawston area to end the perlemoen war.

Interpol also has been called to help trace the far-Eastern smuggling syndicates suspected of buying from the poachers in a multi-billion-rand business.

Minister of Environmental Affairs Dawie de Villiers has refused to be pressured into giving ad-hoc quotas to the poachers.

But, the new association blames this month's perlemoen riots on the concentration of the entire fishing industry in the hands of "a few

■ A new fishing association has come to the defence of poachers accused of stripping the Cape coast bare to supply far-Eastern syndicates.

white-owned companies and individuals".

"It is sad, yet necessary, that the situation has developed to the extent where decent, honest people are forced to retaliate in the way they did," says the association, expressing "sympathy" with the poachers.

The association's aim is to redress "apartheid imbalances" by restructuring the Quota Board and granting interim quotas to "deserving communities".

Chairman of the new association Ishaam Mullajee told Weekend Argus that many fishing communities other than Hawston's were in a desperate situation due to the imbalances of the past.

"People are struggling out there. They are starving. Our association is getting calls from people who don't have food to eat and are not allowed to go out to fish.

"We cannot sit back and allow it

to continue. Our national fishing resources belong to all the people of the land and have to be shared among all the people of South Africa."

He said towns such as Hawston were entirely dependent on fishing. Yet, those who enjoyed access to resources such as perlemoen, were all white and this excluded the local communities.

"Our association will campaign fervently among all the coastal communities and will embark on a programme to empower them and also help them in developing their own businesses in these small towns so they can become self-sufficient and enjoy the fruits of the sea."

Mr Mullajee said the controversial community trusts which were created recently were "a lame attempt by the (former) National Party government to somehow give communities access to quotas".

But, he said, the trusts did not en-

courage people to start their own industry. It merely gave them "paper quotas".

"It caused people to be beggars as opposed to being pro-active in terms of starting their own businesses."

In a related development, the major Oceana Fishing Group has thrown open its doors to black empowerment by making 26 percent of its stakeholding available to black investors in a R66 million deal.

But, Mr Mullajee said he did not know enough about the Oceana deal to comment on it.

He emphasised his new association was not affiliated to any political party or any other group. "Our sole interest is to protect deprived and oppressed communities and to ensure they are represented and receive a fair share of our fishing resources."

Mr Mullajee said that although the association aimed to end "apartheid legislation that favours the white-owned monopoly in the fishing industry," it was nonracial.

He said the rejection of white-owned monopolies did not exclude whites from becoming members of the association. "We are here to represent all the people of South Africa and we are definitely not there for the coloureds only or for any colour group," he said.

An example of the sort of issue the association was to take up was a recent move at Stompneusbaai to prohibit hawkers from cleaning fish there.

He said the harbour master had indicated that the company that collected the fish guts had refused to continue the service.

"This reason has no merit. It is a public harbour, the facilities there are to serve everyone. Fishing companies in Stompneusbaai are moving in to secure the entire snoek resource for themselves. It's a move to exclude the hawkers."

Mr Mullajee said the new association would represent everyone involved in making a livelihood from the sea — from fisherman to processors.

# Worst famine in SA history looms

③ ARG 19/12/94

PIETERSBURG. — South Africa is heading for the worst famine in its history, farmers warn.

Transvaal Agricultural Union president Dries Bruwer said today that government financial aid to farmers was needed to avert a catastrophe.

"If it doesn't rain within the next two weeks, South Africa will have to import food on a large scale," Mr Bruwer said.

He said nobody was to blame for the drought, but asked the government of national unity "to drop all political motives and heed the looming seriousness of the worst agricultural crisis in memory".

Mr Bruwer said he would negotiate with the government for financial and "other aid for all farmers".

Orange Free State Agricultural Union president Piet Gous said that at this stage farmers in the Transvaal and Free State would not be able to produce for local needs.

"It must rain within the next two weeks or South Africa will become another dependent third world country," Dr Gous said.

He said farmers in the Free State had lost hundreds of millions of rands because of the drought.

"I ask the government to aid existing farmers. We have to be kept in production to feed the population. Forget about establishing more subsistence farmers," Dr Gous said. — Sapa.

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Must rain  
soon to  
avert  
crisis —  
farmers

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## EU deal leaves SA farmers out in cold

BD20/12/94 JOHN FRASER (3)

BRUSSELS — SA's agricultural exporters face deep disappointment after European Union (EU) foreign ministers agreed yesterday to far fewer concessions than they had been promised.

The Europeans — led by the protectionist French, Italians and Spanish — voted to offer lower tariffs on just one fifth of the agricultural products which had been under negotiation.

The lower tariffs come under a system known as the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and SA will get benefits for all industrialised goods, except iron and steel and coal products, from next year.

This is a big improvement on the agreement in August in which only a limited list of industrialised goods was covered.

But the range of agricultural tariff cuts, which also come into force from next month, will be a blow to SA producers.

Cut flowers, tobacco, honey, fruit juices and many fruits and vegetables are excluded from the deal.

British Trade Minister Ian Taylor admitted that the deal fell far short of SA's expectations "but at least SA has finally been brought into the fold".

Britain, Denmark and Sweden argued passionately for an improved deal for SA — but they were outvoted. There is now fear that the protectionist tendencies shown by the likes of France, Italy and Spain will rear up again, when SA seeks integration into the Lomé Convention.

# Transkei Wild Coast hotels hit by boom festive season

BD 20/12/94

KATHRYN STRACHAN

THE Transkei Wild Coast has been hit by a boom festive season, with almost all hotels reporting full bookings over the Christmas period.

While reports of attacks on tourists last year left hotels all but empty, Cobb Inn could have been booked twice over this year, and Umgazi River Bungalows could have been booked three times over.

"It's like the old days again," a tourism industry source said.

Umgazi River Bungalows has been booked up for Christmas for the past six months.

The establishment in July of a tourism protection unit, with special emphasis along the coastline, has also helped to allay tourists' fears.

One resort, faxing directions to booked guests, gives a suggested route saying there has been no ambushes or hijackings along it for at least three months.

The bumper festive season has signalled the start of efforts to promote the appeal of the area to tourists and to begin controlled development. Officials are, however, aware of the need to protect one of the last unspoilt coastlines in the world.

"Uppermost in our minds is the intention that any development will be very, very sensitive to the environment," Eastern Cape tourism minis-

ter Smuts Ngonyama said. A number of groups were interested in leasing land to develop hotels and small chalets. Development would be in keeping with the natural surroundings, and only small "family-type" hotels would be permitted.

Transkei Tourism Board CEO Clive Berlyn said development would retain the beauty of the area.

"We don't want to repeat the mistakes made in other countries where development cannot be supported by the infrastructure, and where it destroys the natural beauty."

The first step of devising a coastal control development plan had been completed. The plan would demarcate areas and stipulate the type of development and included three projects. One was an upmarket camping site; the other two small resorts.

In the new year plans would begin to improve access to the area. Existing roads needed to be improved and 10 new airstrips would be built. The idea of a north to south coastal road was prohibitively expensive, and was resisted by most parties which regarded it as a threat to the remote appeal of the coastline.

Communication systems to hotels would also be improved.

# KwaZulu/Natal puts its case in land dispute talks

BD 20/12/94 SUSAN RUSSELL

DELEGATIONS from KwaZulu/Natal and Eastern Cape will resume discussions on the border dispute over East Griqualand when delegations from the two provinces meet for a second round of talks in Pretoria next month.

KwaZulu/Natal local government minister Peter Miller said yesterday the delegations had met under the chairmanship of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki last week to discuss the issue.

The KwaZulu/Natal delegation presented a memorandum containing historical, administrative, economic and logistical reasons for its claim that East Griqualand (Mount Currie) should remain part of the province while Umzimkhulu should be excised from the Eastern Cape and incorporated into KwaZulu/Natal.

Among the submissions put forward was that Umzimkhulu and East Griqualand residents already made extensive use of health and secondary and tertiary educational facilities in KwaZulu/Natal. Major financial institutions already dealing with both disputed areas were also based in KwaZulu/Natal and major road, rail and electricity links were with KwaZulu/Natal.

At last week's meeting, the Eastern Cape reserved its right to present argument on why East Griqualand should be incorporated into the province.

One of the main issues for discussion was whether a judicial commission of inquiry should be established to investigate how best and under which province the disputed areas would be governed. The question of how the will of permanent residents could best be tested after the facts had been determined by a commission would also be discussed.

Miller emphasised it had to be clearly understood that no decisions on the future of East Griqualand or any other district would be taken at the January meeting.



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# 'Land issue needs to be addressed to avert chaos'

3 (4) BD 21/12/94

**NOMAVENDA MATHIANE**

NEWLY-elected PAC deputy president Motsoko Pheko yesterday warned that SA risked being plunged into bloody chaos if the masses who had had their land taken away did not have it returned.

Pheko emerged as a strong contender for the PAC presidency at its congress in Mmabatho at the weekend. He was narrowly beaten by Clarence Makwetu.

Pheko, an academic, returned from exile in the US on Saturday, in time to take part in the PAC elections.

There were many in the PAC who hoped Pheko would win the presidency to breathe new life into the organisation. But his decades-long absence from SA seemed to have put him at a disadvantage. He was full of old-style political phrases and did not appear to have a feel for current problems.

In an interview yesterday, he maintained the liberation struggle was not about the vote. "It was about the land. This is the struggle that was started by our forefathers and the PAC continued with the fight."

However, he did not have a strategy to salvage the PAC from becoming irrelevant in the new political dispensation. And, while saying the PAC had inherited the difficult problem of redressing landlessness and homelessness, he also did not know how the issues should be dealt with.

In an apparent reference to the often-quoted failure of the ANC to deliver on its election promises, Pheko said the dispossessed needed to "look at issues and see if they are getting what they have been fighting for all along".

He attributed the failure of the PAC to deliver to the masses to the fact that "we are in Parliament, not in government".

He criticised the manner in which the government of national unity planned to handle land claims.

"The land claim courts procedure has defects because it places the responsibilities of producing documents to collaborate claims on the dispossessed. These are people, some of whom are illiterate and do not understand the legal system."

Pheko accused politicians of avoiding the land question. He also said that stability would return once the land issue had been resolved.

Sapa reports Pheko said the organisation might have financial problems, but it was not bankrupt. "Where could the PAC have got the money from because we represent the downtrodden people, the poorest people; those people haven't got money."

He said the party had been offered "millions" by overseas donors, but most offers were conditional on the PAC "not talking much about redistribution of land".

But even if it was forced to close its offices, it would not stop the struggle.

On the issue of foreign investment, Pheko said although he supported investment, he did not expect money to pour into the country because of social instability and the interim constitution which was "inadequate and controversial".

He also denied there was dissatisfaction in the PAC about Makwetu's leadership.

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# Bid to reverse Lebowa land deal <sup>3</sup>

LOUISE COOK 

A LAND Affairs committee has recommended the reversal of a deal made before the April elections by the former Lebowa government in a bid to transfer 60% of its land to tribal authorities in the former homeland. **BD 23/12/94**

The committee, set up by Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom, said the land deal was probably an attempt by the Lebowa and SA governments to "create a mechanism to prevent nationalisation of land". If allowed to stand, the deal "by insisting on freehold title, without taking into account the benefits of communal title", could undermine land reform.

The committee's report, handed to Hanekom this week, said the establishment of a trust to facilitate transactions was impermissible. While then Land and Regional Affairs Minister Andre Fourie had the power to transfer land to tribes, he should not have done this.

Between November 1993 and April 1994 — when there was a moratorium on transfer of state land — communities were granted private ownership of 400 farms covering 30% of Lebowa. Another 400 farms were to have been transferred, but transfer applications were lodged after April 27 and the deal fell through. The trust was created to facilitate the transfer and about R6m — obtained from central government for drought relief — was channelled into it by the Lebowa government.

To Page 2

# Lebowa <sup>3</sup>

**BD 23/12/94**  From Page 1

The committee said the transfer could discriminate against those who did not qualify for upgrading of their tribal rights to individual tenure. This would destroy "the coherence of that system of land occupation". The trust should be disbanded, the transfers reversed, Act 112 of 1991 amended, the degree of democracy in tribal decisions investigated and R6m paid to North-

ern Transvaal for drought relief.  
Reversing transfers would not deny tribes ownership, but would ensure security of tenure for all, the committee said. It recommended that this be explained to tribes at a special meeting.  
It is not known when Hanekom will make a decision on the report.



# SA goats exported to US

By WILLEM STEENKAMP

SOUTH AFRICA may have been getting their goat — more than 450 “emigrants” of a different kind left the country for ever yesterday aboard a DC-8 aircraft.

The 398 Boer goats, 14 Angora goats and 55 Dorper sheep are the first to be exported from South Africa to the US, and the first full load of livestock to be airfreighted out of the city.

Collected from all over the country, they first had to complete a 60-day quarantine period at Delft.

The flight was unusual as livestock were normally transported by sea, which is cheaper, but it was far quicker and much safer for the animals, export agent Mr Gerald Hagemann said at D F Malan Airport.

“The mortality rate from shipping is pretty high, up to 30%,” said Mr Hagemann.

CT 28/12/94